

MATTHEW MARTIN

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Ph.D., Government (2025)

- **Subfields:** Public Law, Comparative Politics
- **Committee:** Zachary Elkins (chair), Daniel Brinks, Wendy Hunter, Ran Hirschl (external)
- **Dissertation:** The People's Voice, The Drafters' Choice: The Politics of Public Consultation in Constitution-Making

University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst, MA

B.A., Political Science - B.A., Legal Studies (2018)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Researcher (August 2025–)

Comparative Constitutions Project

- Joint postdoc funded by University of Texas at Austin and University of Chicago Law School.
- Conduct research on constitutional design, public participation in constitution-making, and comparative constitutional development, and develop natural language processing tools.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Constitutional design; public participation in constitution-making; Latin American politics; immigration politics; quantitative methods; text analysis; elite interviews; mixed methods

PUBLICATIONS

Martin, Matthew. "Deportation by Design: How Political Entrepreneurs Engineered Crime-Based Deportation in the United States." *Polity*, forthcoming.

Martin, Matthew. 2025. "Elite Fractures, Public Capture: The Strategic Use of Public Consultation in Global Constitution-Making." *Journal of Law and Courts*, 1-34, doi: 10.1017/jlc.2024.9

* Presented at American Political Science Association (2024), Law and Society Association (2024), and Northern Political Science Association (2023).

Cruz, Andrés, Zachary Elkins, Roy Gardner, Matthew Martin, and Ashley Moran. 2023. "Measuring Constitutional Preferences: A New Method for Analyzing Public Consultation Data." *PLOS ONE* 18 (12), doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0295396

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Martin, Matthew. "From Data to Demos: Public Consultation and the Logic of Will-Confirmation in Constitution-Making." Under review.

Martin, Matthew. "Constitutional Cherry-Picking: How Drafters Leverage Public Input in Constitution-Making." Under review.


* Presented at American Political Science Association (2025) and Law and Society Association (2025).


Gardner, Roy, Matthew Martin, Andrés Cruz, Zachary Elkins, and Ashley Moran. "Expanding Your Vocabulary: A Framework for Topic Integration in Texts." Under review.

* Presented at Latin American Political Methodology Meeting (2024).

Heridia, Sara and Matthew Martin. "From Prosecutor to Judge: How Professional Backgrounds Shape Asylum Decision-Making in U.S. Immigration Courts."

REPORTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Elkins, Zachary, Matthew Martin, Ashley Moran, Guillermo Pérez. 2023. “12 Core Attributes of the Chilean Constitutional Proposal.”  Constitute Project.

Martin, Matthew and Guillermo Pérez. “Chile 2023 - Draft of 30 Oct 2023.”  Translation of Chilean constitutional proposal. Constitute Project.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Research Internship Supervisor (Fall 2025)

Emory University

- Co-supervise five undergraduate research interns, training them in data collection and coding for research project on immigration judges’ professional backgrounds.

Instructor (Spring 2024)

University of Texas at Austin

- Instructed upper-level undergraduate course GOV 357L Judicial Behavior and Process, exploring models of judicial decision-making, judicial process in the U.S., court impact, and other themes.

Research Internship Supervisor (Spring 2023–Fall 2024)

University of Texas at Austin

- Supervised eight undergraduate research interns across four semesters, training them in data collection and coding for global dataset on public consultations in constitution-making.

Methods Camp Instructor (Summer 2022, 2023)

University of Texas at Austin

- Co-organized an introduction to methods for political science with Andrés Cruz (website  [here](#)) for incoming graduate students in the Department of Government.

Teaching Assistant (Fall 2020–Fall 2023)

University of Texas at Austin

- Graduate-level courses: Statistical Analysis in Political Science I & II
- Undergraduate-level courses: U.S.-Mexico Relations, Civil Rights and Liberties, Human Rights and World Politics, U.S. Politics in Comparative Perspective, Introduction to Latin American Politics

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (Fall 2024–Fall 2025)

American Political Science Association

- Awarded grant to conduct dissertation fieldwork in Chile and Cuba.

Departmental Fellowship (Fall 2024–Summer 2025)

UT Austin Department of Government

- Awarded fellowship for full academic year to complete dissertation research.

Summer Writing Fellowship (Summer 2024)

UT Austin Graduate School

- Awarded fellowship to advance dissertation research.

Tinker Field Research Grant (Summer 2023)

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies

- Awarded grant to conduct pre-dissertation field research for two weeks in Havana, Cuba.

ICPSR Summer Program Sponsorship (Summer 2022)

UT Austin Department of Government

- Awarded sponsorship to participate in ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods.

TRAINING

Embedded Scholars Program (Summer 2023)

UT Austin Department of Government, International IDEA

- Interned at the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) in Panama City and Santiago de Chile, supporting democracy assistance projects.

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods (Summer 2022)

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research

- Participated in courses on categorical data analysis and text analysis in political science.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Department

Methods Fellow (Fall 2023–Spring 2024)

UT Austin Department of Government

- Assisted graduate students in the Department of Government with methods-related questions, organized methods workshops, and coordinated weekly co-working hours.

Visit Day Graduate Student Committee (Spring 2021, 2022)

UT Austin Department of Government

- Organized welcome events, student panels, poster sessions, and campus tours for students accepted to our department's Ph.D. program.

Discipline

Affiliated Researcher (Fall 2025–)

UT Austin Center for Law and Democracy

- Participate in interdisciplinary research community, contributing to scholarly initiatives that bridge public law and political science in the study of law and democracy.

Senior Research Analyst (Fall 2023–Summer 2025)

Comparative Constitutions Project

- Contribute to CCP projects on the constituent process in Chile and the development of natural language processing tools for the analysis of constitutional texts.

Model Constitutional Convention (May 2024)

Arizona State University

- Served as a mentor at the first national student-led Model Constitutional Convention in the United States, helping students propose, debate, and adopt amendments to the Constitution in a three-day simulation.

Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law (2022, 2024, 2025)

University of Texas at Austin

- Organized and moderated three iterations of the conference, which was attended by 30 graduate students and junior scholars every year.

Community

Organizer and Legal Administrator (2021–)

Trans Asylum Seeker Support Network

- Track court dates and conduct lawyer searches for our mutual aid collective of transgender and queer asylum seekers.
- Organize fundraisers, fill out forms, translate documents from Spanish to English, etc.

SKILLS

- **Languages:** English (native), Spanish (fluent)
- **Programs/technologies:** Excel, Git, L^AT_EX, Markdown, Quarto, Python, R