Matt 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 (Edward S. Corwin Award, APSA)

University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst, MA
B.A., Political Science - B.A., Legal Studies (2018)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Political Science (August 2026–present)
University of South Carolina

Associate Director (July 2026–present)
Comparative Constitutions Project

- Co-lead research agenda, data infrastructure, and student training across UT Austin, University of Chicago, and University of South Carolina.

Postdoctoral Researcher (August 2025–July 2026)
Comparative Constitutions Project

- Joint postdoc funded by University of Texas at Austin and University of Chicago Law School.

Senior Research Analyst (Fall 2023–Summer 2025)
Comparative Constitutions Project

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

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Comparative constitutionalism; public participation; Latin American politics; immigration politics; indigenous constitutionalism.

PUBLICATIONS

Gardner, Roy, Matthew Martin, Ashley Moran, Zachary Elkins, Andrés Cruz, and Guillermo Pérez. "Expanding Your Vocabulary: A Framework for Topic Integration in Texts." *Social Science Computer Review* 0(0). doi: 10.1177/08944393261443513

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

Martin, Matthew. 2026. "From Citizen Input to Elite Legitimation: The Logic of Will-Confirmation in Constitution-Making." *Comparative Politics* 59(1), 27–62. doi: 10.5129/001041526X17731675177333

Martin, Matthew. 2026. "Deportation by Design: How Political Entrepreneurs Engineered Crime-Based Deportation in the United States." *Polity* 58(2), 362–394. doi: 10.1086/739835

Martin, Matthew. 2025. "Consultation Without Consensus: Lessons from Chile's Constitutional Convention (2021–2022)." *Política. Revista de Ciencia Política* 63(2), 81–112. doi: 10.5354/0719-5338.2025.81160

Martin, Matthew. 2025. "Elite Fractures, Public Capture: The Strategic Use of Public Consultation in Global Constitution-Making." *Journal of Law and Courts* 13(1), 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), e0295396. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0295396

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Martin, Matthew. "Show Your Work: AI Disclosure as a Transparency Norm."

* Invited contribution for Editor's Forum on AI and Pedagogy, *International Studies Perspectives*.

Heridia, Sara and Matthew Martin. "When Experience Meets Environment: Professional Backgrounds, Court Composition, and Decision-Making in Immigration Court." Under review.

* Presented at Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law (2026).

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

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

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

Assistant Professor (Fall 2026–present)
University of South Carolina

- POLI 391 World Constitutions: undergraduate course on the theoretical foundations of modern constitutionalism, the constitutional design process, and constitutional endurance.
- POLI 709 Qualitative Methods of Political Analysis: graduate seminar training students to design, conduct, and evaluate qualitative research in political science.

Research Internship Supervisor (Fall 2025–Spring 2026)
Emory University

- Co-supervised 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 Process and Behavior, 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 (Methods Camp website) for incoming graduate students in the Department of Government.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Edward S. Corwin Award (2026)
American Political Science Association

- Awarded for best doctoral dissertation in public law for "The People's Voice, The Drafters' Choice: The Politics of Public Consultation in Constitution-Making."

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (Fall 2024–Fall 2025)
American Political Science Association

- Awarded grant to conduct fieldwork interviews with constitution-makers 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.

TRAINING

Native Peoples, American Colonialism, and the U.S. Constitution (Fall 2025)
The New York Historical Society

- Participated in four-session seminar led by Maggie Blackhawk and Ned Blackhawk examining Indigenous dispossession and constitutional history in the context of the U.S.'s 250th anniversary.

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.

Public Engagement

South Carolina Forum (October 2026)
University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law

- Served as a moderator for a three-day civic assembly of 100 South Carolina residents, facilitating participant deliberation on policy proposals related to jobs and economic opportunity.

Discipline

Affiliated Researcher (Fall 2025–present)
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.

Model Constitutional Convention (May 2024, 2026)
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.

SKILLS

- **Languages:** English (native), Spanish (fluent)
- **Programs/technologies:** Git, LaTeX, NVivo, Python, Quarto, R, Stata