

SEO-YOUNG SILVIA KIM

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Academic Positions

2020– Assistant Professor, Department of Government, School of Public Affairs,
American University

Education

2015–2020 CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

– *Ph.D. in Social Sciences* (2020).

Committee: R. Michael Alvarez (chair), Jonathan N. Katz, Michael Gibilisco, Matt Shum

– *M.S. in Social Sciences* (2017).

2009–2014 SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

– *B.A. in Economics, B.A. in Sociology, cum laude* (2014).

Research Interests

American politics, quantitative methods, public policy

— Political behavior, elections, election administration, campaign finance

Book

Alvarez, R. Michael, Nicholas J. Adams-Cohen, Seo-young Silvia Kim, Yimeng Li. 2020. "Securing Elections: How Data-Driven Election Monitoring Can Improve Democracy." *Cambridge University Press*.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Kim, Seo-young Silvia, R. Michael Alvarez, and Christina M. Ramirez. 2020. "Who Voted in 2016? Using Fuzzy Forests to Understand Voter Turnout." *Social Science Quarterly*. 101(2): 978–988. doi: [10.1111/ssqu.12777](https://doi.org/10.1111/ssqu.12777).

R. Michael Alvarez, Katz, Jonathan N., and Kim, Seo-young Silvia. 2020. "Hidden Donors: Analyzing the Censoring Problem in U.S. Federal Campaign Finance Data." *Election Law Journal*. 19(1): 1–18. doi: [10.1089/elj.2019.0593](https://doi.org/10.1089/elj.2019.0593).

Kim, Seo-young Silvia, Spencer Schneider, and R. Michael Alvarez. 2020. "Evaluating the Quality of Changes in Voter Registration Databases." *American Politics Research*. 48(6): 670–676. Article first published online: Sep 9, 2019. doi: [10.1177/1532673X19870512](https://doi.org/10.1177/1532673X19870512).

Kim, Seo-young Silvia. 2015. "Can Franchisor Efforts Discourage Its Franchisees? Evidence from South Korea." *The Comparative Economic Review* 22(1): 1–40.

Book Chapter

Alvarez, R. Michael, and Seo-young Silvia Kim. 2019. "Computational Social Science." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*. Ed. Sandy Maisel. New York: Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/obo/9780199756223-0285.

Working Papers

"Getting Settled in Your New Home: The Costs of Moving on Voter Turnout." (*job market paper*)

"When Do People Give? Detecting Critical Events in Campaigns."

"The Divided (But Not More Predictable) Electorate: A Machine Learning Analysis of Voting in American Presidential Elections." (*with Jan Zilinsky*).

"Heterogeneity in Voter List Maintenance Practices: A Study of Florida Counties." (*with Jian Cao and R. Michael Alvarez*).

"How Much To Ask? Fundraising Platforms and Choices of Suggested Amounts in Political Donation Solicitations."

"Building a Bigger Table: Networking 101 For Graduate Students." (*with Hannah Lebovits and Sarah Shugars; invited for a revise and resubmit*).

Other Writings

Kim, Seo-young Silvia and Syngjoo Choi. 2015. "Game Theory and the Rational Man." *Physics and High Technology* 24(2): 12-17. doi: 10.3938/PhiT.24.003 (*in Korean*).

Translation

Korean translation of Gelman, Andrew et al. 2013. *Bayesian Data Analysis, Third Edition*. CRC Press. (e-Book publication at [BookCube](#), 2020; one of eight translators).

Teaching

American University

Introduction to Political Research (*GOVT-310-003*): Fall 2020 (Undergraduate);
Voting Behavior, Elections, and Campaigns (*GOVT-656-002*): Fall 2020 (Master's).

Caltech

Teaching assistant, *Ps 121b* A History of Budgetary Politics in the U.S., 1913-2019 (2020);
Guest lecturer, *Ps 120* American Electoral Behavior and Party Strategy (2019, 2020);
Teaching assistant, *An 22* Introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology (2016).

Seoul National University Teaching assistant, Behavioral Economics (2015).

Professional Activities and Service

- Reviewer *Science Advances*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Analysis*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Political Research Quarterly*
- 2021– Review Editor, Elections and Representation Section, [Frontiers in Political Science](#).
- 2021– Faculty Fellow, [Center for Data Science](#), American University
- 2021– [Software Carpentry](#) and [Data Carpentry](#) certified instructor.
- 2019–2020 Graduate research assistant, *Monitoring the Integrity of Elections in Southern California: The 2020 Elections*, The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation. PI: R. Michael Alvarez, Caltech.
- 2019 Researcher, *Performance Audit and Polling for Oregon Elections Division*. PI: Paul Gronke, Reed College.
- 2017–2019 Graduate research assistant, *Assuring Election Integrity: A Comprehensive Ecological Framework for Evaluating Elections in Southern California*, The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation. PI: R. Michael Alvarez, Caltech.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2021 Faculty fellowship, Center for Data Science, American University. Summer research grant, American University.
- 2020 Lance Davis fellowship, California Institute of Technology.
- 2019 Lance Davis fellowship, California Institute of Technology. Travel grants: ESRA NSF, PolMeth NSF travel, Caltech, and Connect Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- 2018 Travel grants: PolMeth NSF and APSA NSF.
- 2017 Travel grant: PolMeth NSF.
- 2014–2015 Brain Korea 21 Plus Scholarship, Ministry of Education, South Korea.

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2021 78th Annual MPSA Conference; 2021 APSA Annual Meeting (scheduled).
- 2020 PolMeth XXXVII; ESRA 2020 (Election Sciences, Reform, & Administration Conference); 2020 WPSA Annual Meeting (canceled due to COVID-19); 78th Annual MPSA Conference (canceled due to COVID-19); 2020 Iowa Caucus Conference.
- 2019 77th Annual MPSA Conference; ESRA 2019; PolMeth XXXVI; 2019 Securing Elections pre-APSA conference; 2019 APSA Annual Meeting.

- 2018 Money and Politics II, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE; 76th Annual MPSA Conference; PolMeth XXXV; 2018 APSA Annual Meeting; Southern California Methods Conference 2018, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES.
- 2017 PolMeth XXXIV; 13th Annual California Graduate Student Conference, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE.

References

Jonathan N. Katz (primary advisor)
Kay Sugahara Professor of Social Sciences and Statistics
California Institute of Technology
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R. Michael Alvarez (committee chair)
Professor of Political Science
California Institute of Technology
rma@hss.caltech.edu

Matthew Shum
J. Stanley Johnson Professor of Economics
California Institute of Technology
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