

PAUL A. ATWELL

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Columbus, OH *website:* pa-surveys.xyz

RESEARCH INTERESTS Comparative political behavior, governance & accountability, political economy, misinformation, causal methods, social psychology, network analysis

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science - The Ohio State University
2025-Present

Post-doctoral Researcher, Juan March Institute - Universidad Carlos III, Madrid
2023-2025

EDUCATION **University of Michigan–Ford School of Public Policy**, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Ph.D. in Public Policy & Political Science, 2017-2023
Committee: A. Hicken (co-chair), N. Nathan (MIT, co-chair), C. Cavaillé, T. Brader

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
B.S. Political Science (Distinction), 2013
Certificate of African Studies, 2013

JOURNAL ARTICLES Atwell, Paul and Noah L. Nathan. 2022. “Channels for Influence or Maps of Behavior? A Field Experiment on Social Networks and Cooperation.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 66(3), 696-713 [Link](#)

Armand, Alex, Paul Atwell, and Joseph F. Gomes. 2020. “The Reach of Radio: Defection Messaging and Armed Group Behavior.” *American Economic Review*. 110(5):1395-1429. [Link](#)

WORKS IN-PROGRESS Reducing Falsehoods at the Source: An experiment incentivizing Brazilian political elites to avoid online misinformation. With Simon Chauchard and Fernando Mello

Mayors, Media, and Messaging: A field experimental study of mitigating local elites’ role in the spread of misinformation. With Simon Chauchard and Fernando Mello.

Positive and negative partisanship as drivers of misinformation engagement in African politics.

Who is a non-partisan in African democracies? Evidence from a survey experiment in Ghana.

Broadcasting Equality: Media Narratives and the Rise of Civil Rights *Submitted, WP Link*. With Joseph Gomes, Alex Armand, and Yannik Schenk.

Gendered mobilization and party structures: Explaining female broker remuneration in Ghana. *In progress*. With Sarah Brierley and Noah Nathan.

GRANTS AND AWARDS Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan, 2021
Research Support Award, African Studies Center, University of Michigan, 2021
International Policy Center Research Scholar, Ford School of Public Policy, 2021-2022
Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Graduate Student Research Grant, 2020
Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, 2020
Eckstein Prize for Interdisciplinary Research, 2019
International Policy Center Research Scholar, Ford School of Public Policy, 2018-2019
Roy Pierce Scholar, Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan, 2018
University Bookstore Award for Independent Undergraduate Research, 2013

PRESENTATIONS *WGAPE (Working Group in African Political Economy)*, Columbus, 2025. ***UC - Louvain Economics (Invited)***, Feb 2025. *EPSA*, 2024, 2025. *Madrid Empirical Social Science, Madrid 2024*. *Juan March Institute Conference, Madrid 2024*. *MPSA*, Chicago, 2019, 2023. *Political Parties in Africa*, 2023. *Stanford Grad. School of Business (Organizational Behavior seminar guest lecture)*, Palo Alto, 2023. *MWEPS XI*, Urbana-Champaign, 2022. *Comparative Politics Workshop*, University of Michigan, 2022. ***Federal Communications Commission (Invited) Sociology of Development***, Notre Dame University, 2019. *International Policy Center Seminar*, Ford School of Public Policy, 2019. *WGAPE (Working Group in African Political Economy)*, UBC, 2018. *Pacific Development (PacDev) Conference*, UC Davis, 2018. *Conflict & Peace, Research & Development*, University of Michigan, 2018.

SERVICE **Reviewer**
American Political Science Review. *World Development*. *Political Behavior*. *Comparative Political Studies*. *Studies in Comparative International Development*. *Economics of Governance*.

Committee Member
OSU Political Science Awards Committee, 2025-2026
OSU Admissions Committee, 2025-2026
UM Graduate Association of Political Scientists, Co-President, 2018-2019
UM Political Science Graduate Admissions Committee, 2x

TEACHING / TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS *POLIT SCI 7264 - Comparative Political Behavior (grad)*, OSU, SP26
POLIT SCI 4250 - African Politics, OSU, AU25
Evolution of Societies, R. Inglehart, UM
Modern Warfare, Y. Zhukov, UM
Is Democracy Dying?, R. Inglehart, UM
Introduction to Comparative Politics, M. Gallagher, UM
Electoral Politics of the Developing World, N. Nathan, UM
Democracy and Development in Africa, A. Pitcher, UM

SOFTWARE Proficient: R, QGIS, ArcGIS (arcpy), LaTeX
Familiar: Stata, Python, Postgres

LANGUAGES English: Native
Spanish: High written and verbal proficiency
German: Written and verbal proficiency

FIELD EXPERIENCE Ghana, Uganda, Kenya