

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Shawn Patterson, Jr.  
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## Summary

Table 1: Teaching Experience & Evaluation Summary

Course	Term	Role	Evaluation	Enrollment
Politics in the Trump Era	Summer 2019	Lecturer	8.92 / 9	59
Introduction to American Politics	Summer 2019	Lecturer	8.23 / 9	68
Honors Thesis Seminar	Spring 2019	Lecturer	9.00 / 9	17
Political Parties	Spring 2019	Lecturer	8.33 / 9	113
Power, Politics, and Policy Change	Winter 2019	Lecturer	8.33 / 9	111
Campaigns & Elections	Winter 2019	Lecturer	8.56 / 9	120
The Presidency	Fall 2018	Lecturer	8.61 / 9	121
Congress	Summer 2018	Lecturer	8.78 / 9	35
Introduction to Data Analysis	Fall 2017	TA	7.82 / 9	36
Introduction to American Politics	Summer 2017	Lecturer	8.73 / 9	69
Rights and Liberties in the 1960s	Spring 2017	Lecturer	4.44 / 5	21
Introduction to American Politics	Summer 2016	Lecturer	8.77 / 9	42
Rights and Liberties in the 1960s	Spring 2016	Lecturer	5.00 / 5	21
Introduction to American Politics	Fall 2015	TA	8.91 / 9	58

- *Rights and Liberties in the 1960s* was an original seminar I designed as part of a team-taught course on the politics and culture of the 1960s that explored the lasting influence of the Warren Court.
- As a TA for *Introduction to Data Analysis* I taught the undergraduate methods labs to supplement the lecture with hands on statistical software training (R). This course took students from introductory probability through basic multivariate regression.
- *Power, Politics, and Policy Change* was an original course designed for the newly created Public Affairs program that serves as the introduction to the public policy making process.
- Because of my experience advising undergraduates, I was selected to supervise the *Honors Thesis Seminar*. This was a combination of skills workshops and research methods lectures to help rising juniors develop their senior thesis projects.

## Selected Comments

- “Professor Patterson is one of the best lecturers, certainly one of his strongest suits as a professor. He makes the lectures entertaining, easy to understand, relatable to the current political system, and in touch with the course goal. He always encourages office hours and takes the time to answer every single question you have. You can tell he cares about his students and genuinely wants you to succeed. The readings he provides, while a lot, are super interesting and applicable to the course. I would take another one of his courses in a heartbeat.”
- “I found Shawn’s personal stories about his political research experience to be interesting and felt that it really brought the concepts learned in lecture to life. He made section very open and comfortable which helped foster easy discussion. The pace of section was relatively quick and discussions never felt like they dragged or were repetitive. I think his strengths included being able to clarify the trickier concepts, making section welcoming enough so that students felt comfortable sharing opinions and ideas, and keeping things fun, interesting, and applicable.”
- “This instructor was extremely knowledgeable in American Politics and was very effective in teaching the material to the class. He also encouraged thoughtful and well organized class participation, and created a very comfortable classroom environment, which is important at a large university like UCLA. I hope to have him again as a TA in future Political Science courses.”
- “Shawn was a great teaching assistant, who demonstrated a genuine passion for American politics alongside a fantastic sense of humor. He helped facilitate interesting discussions in every section, and was very clear in explaining assignments. Shawn graded assignments very reasonably and frequently made himself available during office hours.”
- “Professor Patterson is one of the best professors I have had at UCLA. He is such an engaging lecturer that I look forward to his lectures every week. I’ve learned, and actually retained, so much useful information from this class. The class is incredibly well organized, I loved how at the outset of the quarter he taught us a philosophy with which to process the rest material we would learn – this helped me study so much more efficiently and greatly aided in my understanding of the material.”
- “I really liked reading about the different Supreme Court cases and discussing them. This was really helpful because before taking this seminar, I wasn’t aware of the slight differences in each case that caused the decision to completely change. I also liked talking about the cases because it allowed me to see things from a different perspective.”
- “Professor Patterson is a great professor. He’s very engaging with students and truly cares about student learning. He really broke down the fundamentals of American Politics in a way that made a subject I didn’t find too exciting actually pretty interesting. The workload was good, and the pace of the class was easy to follow along. He made the midterm pretty hard but it helped me study well for the course. I can come out of this class being able to say that I learned a lot.”
- “Shawn is a strong lecturer and never fails to try to make the material relevant to his students. I look forward to taking classes with him in the future!”