
Geoffrey L. Henderson

Dana 3506
University of Michigan

(240) 676-4357
geoffhen@umich.edu

CURRENT POSITION

University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, Assistant Professor Aug. 2024-

- Advancing research agenda on climate advocacy in the U.S., Canada, and the United Kingdom.
- Teaching courses on Environmental Advocacy and Energy Politics and Policy.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Colby College, Environmental Studies, Visiting Assistant Professor August 2023-June 2024

- Taught Senior Capstone course, Energy Politics and Policy, and Envisioning Climate Justice.

Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy, Postdoctoral Associate August 2022-July 2023

- Conducted research on U.S. climate politics and working-class representation in electoral democracies with Nicholas Carnes.

EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), Ph.D. September 2016-July 2022

- *Dissertation*: “Building a Bigger Team: Explaining Organized Labor’s Advocacy for Climate Policy in the American States.”
- *Committee*: Hahrie Han (Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science), Daniel Schlozman (Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science), Sarah Anderson (UC Santa Barbara, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management and Department of Political Science), Nelson Lichtenstein (UC Santa Barbara, Department of History)
- *Subfields*: American Politics, Environmental Politics.
- M.A. achieved 2018, Ph.D. achieved 2022.

Johns Hopkins University, Visiting Graduate Scholar September 2019-August 2021

- Recipient of pre-doctoral fellowship to conduct research with Hahrie Han.

Haverford College September 2010-May 2014

- Magna cum Laude with B.A. and Honors in Political Science.

BOOK

- *Getting to Work on Climate Policy: The Strategy of Labor-Environmental Coalitions*. Forthcoming. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Carnes, Nicholas and Geoffrey L. Henderson. 2025. [“Not Getting the Message on Climate? Attention as a Key Barrier to Mass-Marketing Experimentally-Validated Messages.”](#) *British Journal of Political Science* 55: e106.
- Henderson, Geoffrey, Matto Mildemberger, and Leah C. Stokes. 2025. [“The effect of environmental voter mobilization on voter turnout and environmental attitudes: Evidence from a field experiment in British Columbia, Canada.”](#) *Climatic Change* 178: 123.
- Drake, Henri F. and Geoffrey Henderson. 2022. [“A defense of usable climate mitigation science: how science can contribute to social movements.”](#) *Climatic Change* 172: 10.
- Henderson, Geoffrey, Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, Matto Mildemberger, and Leah C. Stokes. 2021. [“Conducting the Heavenly Chorus: Constituent Contact and Provoked Petitioning in Congress.”](#) *Perspectives on Politics*: 1-18.
- Henderson, Geoffrey and Hahrie Han. 2020a. [“If We Build It, Only Some Will Come: An Experimental Study of Mobilization for Seattle’s Democracy Voucher Program.”](#) *Journal of Experimental Political Science*: 1-16.
- Henderson, Geoffrey and Hahrie Han. 2020b. [“Linking Members to Leaders: How Civic Associations Can Strengthen Members’ External Political Efficacy.”](#) *American Politics Research*: 1-11.
- Sparks, Aaron C., Geoffrey L. Henderson, Shyam K. Sriram, and Eric R.A.N. Smith. 2020. [“Measuring Environmental Values and Identity.”](#) *Society & Natural Resources*: 1-20.

BOOK REVIEWS

Henderson, Geoffrey. 2023. [Review of America’s Energy Gamble: People, Economy and Planet. By Shanti Gamper-Rabindran](#) (2022, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press). *Environmental Politics*.

WORKING PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS

- “Money, Memory, and the Vote: Advertising, Ambiguity, and Voter Decision-Making in the Maine Pine Tree Power Referendum.” With Robby Lundberg, Caleb Schmidt, and Nicholas Jacobs. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 5th, 2024.
- [“Particulates Matter: Policy Failures, Air Pollution, and Collective Political Participation in the United States.”](#) With Patrick Hunnicutt. Presented at the mini-conference on the Political Economy of the Environment and Climate, hosted by the University of California, Los Angeles, Wednesday, August 30th, 2023.
- “Cause and Consequence: Can Attribution Messages Motivate Political Participation to Address Air Pollution in California?” With Benjamin Bartlett and Patrick Hunnicutt.
- “Policymaking Under Uncertainty: The Case of Climate Coalitions.” With Alexander Gard-Murray.

IN PREPARATION

- “A Firm Hand or Laissez-Faire? Lessons from Renewable Energy Permitting Reform in Illinois and Indiana.” With Elisabeth Sinclair.
- “The Impact of Grassroots Climate Advocacy on Policy in the UK.” With Samantha Harman, Cassandra Maraz, Sarah Meadows, and Paula Perez Cassidy.
- “The Longevity of Climate Coalitions.” With Allysén Welty Peachey.
- “How Do Policymakers Interpret Elections? How Noisy General Election Signals Shape Possibilities for Specific Energy Policies.” With Devin Judge-Lord and Grace Baily.
- “How Does Political Opportunity Shape Student Climate Action?” With Sofia Consolati.
- “Long Term Impacts of Clean Energy Seed Grants in Minnesota.” With Allysén Welty Peachey, Daniella Gibson Colon, Karringtyn Johnson, Takayuki Terasawa, and Schumi Chen.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

- Assistant Professor, Environmental Advocacy, Fall 2025, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability
- Assistant Professor, Energy Politics and Policy and The Environmental Policy Implications of the 2024 Election, Winter 2025, Winter 2026, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Energy Politics and Policy, Envisioning Climate Justice and Senior Capstone (Environmental Studies), Fall 2023-Spring 2024, Colby College
- Completed three-day Course Design Institute, Colby College, August 2023
- Teaching Associate, Energy Politics (Political Science 176/Environmental Studies 176), Spring 2022, UC Santa Barbara
- Teaching Assistant, Congress (Political Science 155) and SIMCONG: A Simulation of the U.S. House of Representatives (Political Science 155L), Professor Eric Smith, Winter 2022, UC Santa Barbara
- Teaching Assistant, Environmental Theory (Political Science 110), Professor Chase Hobbs-Morgan, Fall 2021, UC Santa Barbara
- Teaching Assistant, Politics of the Environment (Political Science 175/Environmental Studies 178), Professor Heather Hodges, Winter 2018, UC Santa Barbara
- Teaching Assistant, Comparative Environmental Politics (Political Science 177/Environmental Studies 177), Professor Matto Mildemberger, Fall 2017, UC Santa Barbara

MEDIA COVERAGE

- [Vogue Business](#): “Can California’s Fashion Act push climate progress ahead under Trump?” Charlie Espinosa, February 11th, 2025.
- [The Guardian](#): “US voters hit hardest by climate crisis: ‘I need politicians to care about this.’” Maanvi Singh, Frida Garza, Gabrielle Canon, Oliver Milman, and Nina Lakhani, November 6th, 2022.
- [MarketWatch](#): “For EVs, solar tax breaks and climate change, here are the midterm elections that

matter.” Rachel Koning Beals. November 4th, 2022.

- [The Globe and Mail](#): “After U.S. midterms, how can Joe Biden resist the Republicans’ squeeze on Democratic policy plans?” Adrian Morrow, November 4th, 2022.
- [CBS News](#): “The 2022 midterms have ‘significant stakes for the climate.’ These are the state and local races to watch.” Li Cohen, November 4th, 2022.
- [Morning Consult](#): “Energy voters are becoming more plentiful—and more conservative.” Julia Martinez, November 3rd, 2022.
- [AZ Mirror](#): “Even as drought forces water cutbacks, climate gets short shrift in midterm election.” Jacob Fischler, October 31st, 2022.
- [WFAE](#): “Vote could affect climate policy, but it’s mostly not being discussed.” David Boraks, October 28th, 2022.
- [Duke Today](#): “Scholars: Midterm elections critical for progress on climate change.” Eric Ferreri, October 26th, 2022.
- [Duke University \(video\)](#): “Climate on the ballot – Media Briefing.” October 26th, 2022.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- “A Firm Hand or Laissez-Faire? Lessons from Renewable Energy Permitting Reform in Illinois and Indiana.” With Elisabeth Sinclair. To be presented at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 23, 2026.
- “One-Sided Advertising Spending Affects Vote Choice on Ballot Initiatives: The Case of Pine Tree Power.” With Robby Lundberg, Caleb Schmidt, and Nicholas Jacobs. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 5th, 2024.
- [“Particulates Matter: Policy Failures, Air Pollution, and Collective Political Participation in the United States.”](#) With Patrick Hunnicutt. Presented at the mini-conference on the Political Economy of the Environment and Climate, hosted by the University of California, Los Angeles, Wednesday, August 30th, 2023.
- “Building a Bigger Team: Explaining Organized Labor’s Advocacy for Climate Policy in Washington State.” Presented at the Consortium on the American Political Economy Summer Academy, hosted by the University of California, Berkeley, June 13th, 2023.
- “Getting the Message on Climate: Attention as a Key Obstacle to Translating Survey-Experimental Findings into Real-World Impacts.” With Nicholas Carnes. Presented at the Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 14th, 2023.
- “Policymaking Under Uncertainty: The Case of Climate Coalitions.” With Alexander Gard-Murray. Presented at a meeting of the Climate Pipeline Project, Harvard University, June 16th, 2022.
- “Air Pollution Decreases Mobilization for Environmental Advocacy.” With Patrick Hunnicutt. Presented at the 79th Annual Midwest Political Science Conference, hosted jointly in Chicago, IL and remotely, Saturday, April 9th, 2022.
- “Building a Bigger Team: Explaining Organized Labor’s Advocacy for Climate Policy in Washington State.” Presented at the Climate Pipeline Project’s virtual meeting, hosted by Harvard University, October 29th, 2021.
- “Conducting the Heavenly Chorus: Constituent Contact and Provoked Petitioning in Congress.”

With Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, Matto Mildenerger, and Leah C. Stokes. Presented at Research + Experimentation 9, hosted by the Climate Advocacy Lab, virtual conference, May 20th, 2021.

- “Linking Members to Leaders: How Environmental Associations Can Increase Members’ External Political Efficacy.” With Hahrie Han. Presented at Research + Experimentation 8, hosted by the Climate Advocacy Lab, virtual conference, May 7th, 2020.
- “Explaining Climate’s (Sun)Rise on the Democratic Party Agenda.” Presented at the 13th Graduate Climate Conference, Woods Hole, MA, November 8th, 2019.
- “The Role of Congressional Offices in US Representation.” With Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, Matto Mildenerger, and Leah C. Stokes. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 29th, 2019.
- “How elections shape environmental identity: A field experiment on environmentalists.” With Leah C. Stokes and Matto Mildenerger. Presented at the 5th Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance, University of California, Santa Barbara, June 29th, 2019.
- “‘Social Change is Possible:’ Association Leaders Develop Members’ External Efficacy.” With Hahrie Han. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, April 16th, 2019.
- “If We Build It, Only Some Will Come: An Experimental Study of Seattle’s Public Financing Program and its Impact on Political Inequality.” With Hahrie Han. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7th, 2019.
- “Measuring Environmental Values and Identity.” With Aaron C. Sparks, Shyam K. Sriram, and Eric R.A.N. Smith. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 31st, 2017.

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

- “Climate and Energy Policy Rollbacks.” Guest lecture delivered for University of Oregon course on Environmental Policy, February 3rd, 2026.
- “Advice for Early Career Researchers in Sustainability.” Presentation delivered for the Doctoral Organizing Committee, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, January 28th, 2026.
- “Interest Group Coalitions.” Guest lecture delivered for EAS 562, Environmental Policy, Politics, and Organizations, University of Michigan, October 15th, 2025.
- “The Resilient Environmentalist.” Panelist, 2025 Admitted Student Visit Day Fishbowl Panel, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, March 15th, 2025.
- “Climate Action in 2025 and Beyond: Creating a Resilient and Just Future in Michigan and Across the Globe.” Panelist, University of Michigan, January 14th, 2025.
- “Building an Inclusive Climate Movement.” Guest lecture delivered for the University of Michigan course on Climate Justice, November 18th, 2024.
- “Getting to Work on Climate Policy: Why Labor and Environmental Groups Build Coalitions.” Research presentation delivered for the External Advisory Board of the University of Michigan’s School for Environment and Sustainability and the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy’s seminar on Climate Change and Democracy, October 24th, 2024.
- “Interest Group Coalitions.” Guest lecture delivered for EAS 562, Environmental Policy,

Politics, and Organizations, University of Michigan, October 10th, 2024.

- “One-Sided Advertising Spending Affects Ballot Initiative Vote Choice: The Case of Pine Tree Power.” Talk delivered at the University of Pennsylvania’s Program on Opinion Research and Election Studies (PORES), April 12th, 2024.
- “Building Climate Coalitions: The Case of Washington State.” Guest lecture delivered for the Climate Politics seminar, University of Pennsylvania, April 11th, 2024.
- “How Can We Build a Cross-Class Climate Movement?” Talk delivered at the University of Michigan’s School for Environment and Sustainability, February 1st, 2024.
- “Rebuilding After Defeat: How Labor-Environmental Coalitions Emerge from Climate Policy Gridlock.” Talk delivered at Colgate University (October 26th, 2023), Cornell University (November 13th, 2023), and the City University of New York—Queens College (December 12th, 2023).
- “Economic Mobilization and the Just Transition.” Guest lecture delivered for a course on Environmental Politics, Duke University, February 23rd, 2023 and February 21st, 2024.
- “Federal Climate Policy.” Guest lecture delivered for Environmental Studies 102, Introduction to Environmental Policy, Chapman University, February 16th, 2023.
- “Rebuilding After Defeat: How Legislative Gridlock Promotes Labor-Environmental Coalitions.” Talk delivered at the University of Oregon (November 8th, 2022), Northwestern University (January 10th, 2023), and the University of Alberta (January 16th, 2023).
- “Environmental Policy Reform Efforts at the Federal Level.” Guest lecture delivered for Political Science 224, Environmental Policy, Elon University, November 1st, 2022.
- “Building Climate Coalitions: The Case of Washington State.” Guest lecture delivered for Political Science 176, Energy Politics, University of California, Santa Barbara, June 1st, 2021.
- Interview with course instructor Nazli Azergun on the environmental movement’s history, organizing strategies, and ideological commitments for Anthropology 101, Introduction to Anthropology, University of Virginia, April 8th, 2020.
- “Network Analysis of Social Movements.” Guest lecture delivered for Sociology 134N, Social Movements and Networks, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 21st, 2019.
- “Interest Groups and Social Movements.” Guest lecture delivered for Political Science 175, Politics of the Environment, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 27th, 2018.

SELECTED WRITINGS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

- Henderson, Geoffrey, Ranping Song, and Paul Joffe. [“5 Questions: What Does China’s New Five-Year Plan Mean for Climate Action?”](#) *WRI Insights*, March 18, 2016.
- Henderson, Geoffrey and Paul Joffe. [“China’s Climate Action: Looking Back, and Looking Ahead to the 13th Five-Year Plan.”](#) *WRI Insights*, March 3, 2016.
- Henderson, Geoffrey, Kristin Igusky, David Waskow, Athena Ballesteros, and Paul Joffe. [“US-China Climate Change Announcement Signals New Phase for Global Action.”](#) *WRI Insights*, September 29, 2015.
- Henderson, Geoffrey. [“China Is Raising Its Climate Ambition, Experts Say.”](#) *WRI Insights*, August 11, 2015.
- Joffe, Paul and Geoffrey Henderson. [“Stronger Commitments from China and US Are Breakthrough for International Climate Action.”](#) *WRI Insights*, July 22, 2015.

- Fransen, Taryn, Ranping Song, Fred Stolle, and Geoffrey Henderson. [“A Closer Look at China’s New Climate Plan \(INDC\).”](#) *WRI Insights*, July 2, 2015.
- Fransen, Taryn, Paul Joffe, Ranping Song, and Geoffrey Henderson. [“What to Look for in China’s New Climate Proposal.”](#) *WRI Insights*, June 15, 2015.
- Joffe, Paul and Geoffrey Henderson. [“China’s Climate Action Is Well Underway.”](#) *WRI Insights*, April 16, 2015.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- National environmental association, Research Consultant, 2019-Present
- Rewiring America, Research Consultant, 2022
- Global environmental association, Research Consultant, 2018-2019
- P3 Lab, UC Santa Barbara, Research Assistant, 2018
- Win/Win Network, Research Consultant, 2017
- Hillary for America, Research Assistant, 2017
- Ford Foundation and Open Society Foundations, Research Assistant, 2017
- Environment and Energy Transitions (ENVENT) Lab, UC Santa Barbara, Research Assistant, 2016-2017
- P3 Lab, UC Santa Barbara, Research Assistant and Lab Manager, 2016-2017
- World Resources Institute, Research Analyst, 2015-2016
- World Resources Institute, Research Assistant, 2014-2015
- Democracy: A Journal of Ideas, Intern, 2013
- U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, Intern, 2012
- Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership Program for Congressional Interns, 2012
- Center for Student Opportunity, Intern, 2011

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Michigan Road Scholars Tour, University of Michigan, 2025
- Year of Democracy Research Grant, University of Michigan, 2024-2025
- Greenhouse Fellow, Greenhouse Institute, 2023-Present
- Visiting Graduate Scholar, Johns Hopkins University, 2019-2020, 2020-2021
- Manzer-Wesson Award for best seminar paper of the academic year, UC Santa Barbara Political Science Department, Spring 2018
- Chancellor’s Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara, 2016-2022
- Phi Beta Kappa, Haverford College
- Graduated Haverford College Magna Cum Laude
- Ambler Award (for the 15 scholar-athletes with the highest GPAs in the senior class), Haverford College
- Political Science Department Honors, Haverford College
- Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll (for intercollegiate athletes with high GPAs), Haverford College

REFEREE REPORTS

- *American Journal of Political Science*
- *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*
- *Climate Policy*
- *Climatic Change*
- *Energy Research and Social Science*
- *Environmental Politics*
- *Journal of Health Policy, Politics, and Law*
- *Journal of Public Policy*
- *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*
- *Political Research Quarterly*
- *Public Opinion Quarterly*
- *Social Theory and Practice*
- *The Journal of Politics*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Scholarship Committee, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, 2025-Present
- Secretary, Political Science Graduate Students Association (PSGSA), Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, Winter-Spring 2022
- Coordinator, Social Movements Workshop, Department of Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara, Spring 2019
- Secretary, Political Science Graduate Students Association (PSGSA), Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, Fall 2018-Spring 2019

LANGUAGES

- Native English speaker
- Fluent in written and spoken Spanish

COMPUTER SKILLS

Data analysis and visualization: R, STATA, SPSS, Tableau, Jamovi.

Misc.: Microsoft Office, Google apps, Adobe (Acrobat, InDesign), Box, Dedoose, Dropbox, HTML, Mendeley, Moodle, Overleaf, Qualtrics, Social Explorer, VAN, Workday, Zoom.