

Joshua P. Darr

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Syracuse, NY 13244
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CURRENT POSITIONS

Syracuse University

Associate Professor of Communications and Magazine, News & Digital Journalism,
S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications
Senior Researcher, *Institute for Democracy, Journalism & Citizenship*
Director, *Local NExt Lab* (Local News Experimental Testing Lab)
Associate Professor of Political Science (by courtesy),
Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs
Senior Research Associate, *Campbell Public Affairs Institute*

2023 -

Carnegie Corporation of New York

Andrew Carnegie Fellow 2022 - 2025

PAST POSITIONS

Louisiana State University

Associate Dean for Research & Strategic Initiatives,
Manship School of Mass Communication
Associate Professor of Political Communication 2022 - 2023
Assistant Professor of Political Communication
Manship School of Mass Communication & Department of Political Science 2015 - 2022

Harvard University

Visiting Fellow, *Institute for Quantitative Social Science* 2014 - 2015

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D., Political Science; *Matthew Levendusky*, dissertation chair 2015
M.A., Political Science 2011

Boston College

B.A., Political Science; *Honors Program, College of Arts and Sciences* 2009

BOOKS

Storefront Campaigning. 2024. Cambridge University Press, *Elements in Campaigns and Elections*. With Sean Whyard.

Home Style Opinion: How Local Newspapers Can Slow Polarization. 2021. Cambridge University Press, *Elements in Politics and Communication*. With Matthew Hitt & Johanna Dunaway.

- Reviewed in *Public Opinion Quarterly*

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

22. Robinson, Sue, Margarita Orozco, and **Joshua P. Darr**. 2025. “How the engagement journalism movement is changing political news content: An applied-research study.” *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*.
21. Peterson, Erik, **Joshua P. Darr**, Maxwell Allamong, and Michael Henderson. 2025. “Can Americans’ trust in local news be trusted? The emergence, sources and implications of the local news trust advantage.” *American Journal of Political Science*.
20. **Darr, Joshua P.**, and Moriah Harman. 2025. “Leaving a legacy: Shifting media use and American democratic attitudes.” *Political Behavior*, 47(3): 1339-1362.

19. Feezell, Jessica, Kathleen Searles, John Wagner, **Joshua P. Darr**, Ray Pingree, Mingxiao Sui, and Brian Watson. 2025. "Scrolling headlines and clicking stories: Content differences and implications associated with increased scrollability of news." *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, 22(4): 417-433.
18. Whyard, Sean, and **Joshua P. Darr**. 2025. "Breaking new ground: Field office strategies in the 2024 presidential election." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 55(3): e70004.
17. **Darr, Joshua P.** 2023. "How sticky is pink slime? Assessing the credibility of deceptive local media." *ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 707(1): 109-124.
16. **Darr, Joshua P.**, and Robyn L. Stiles. 2022. "Should campaigns respond to electability arguments?" *Journal of Political Marketing*, 21(1): 41-55.
15. Searles, Kathleen, **Joshua P. Darr**, Mingxiao Sui, Raymond J. Pingree, Nathan P. Kalmoe, and Brian K. Watson. 2022. "Partisan media effects beyond one-shot experimental designs." *Political Science Research & Methods*, 10(1): 206-214.
14. Archer, Allison M.N., and **Joshua P. Darr**. 2022. "Gubernatorial elections change demand for local newspapers." *American Politics Research*, 50(1): 52-66.
13. **Darr, Joshua P.**, Brittany N. Perry, Johanna L. Dunaway, and Mingxiao Sui. 2020. "Seeing Spanish: The effects of language-based media choices on resentment and belonging." *Political Communication*, 37(4): 488-511.
12. **Darr, Joshua P.** 2020. "Abandoning the ground game? Field organization in the 2016 election." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 50(1): 163-175.
11. Padgett, Jeremy, Johanna L. Dunaway, and **Joshua P. Darr**. 2019. "As seen on TV? How gatekeeping makes the U.S. House seem more extreme." *Journal of Communication*, 69(6): 696-719.
 - 15th highest Altmetric score in *Journal of Communication*, out of 1,300+ articles published
10. **Darr, Joshua P.**, Sarah D. Cate, and Daniel S. Moak. 2019. "Who'll stop the rain? Repeated disasters and attitudes towards government." *Social Science Quarterly*, 100(7): 2581-2593.
9. Kalmoe, Nathan P., Raymond J. Pingree, Brian K. Watson, Mingxiao Sui, **Joshua P. Darr**, and Kathleen Searles. 2019. "Crime news effects and democratic accountability: Experimental evidence from repeated exposure in a multi-week online panel." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 31(3): 506-527.
8. **Darr, Joshua P.**, Nathan P. Kalmoe, Kathleen Searles, Mingxiao Sui, Raymond J. Pingree, Brian K. Watson, Kirill Bryanov, and Martina Santia. 2019. "Collision with collusion: Partisan reaction to the Trump-Russia scandal." *Perspectives on Politics*, 17(3): 772-787.
 - Named one of the most influential articles in *Perspectives on Politics* for 2019.
7. **Darr, Joshua P.** 2019. "Earning Iowa: Local newspapers and the invisible primary." *Social Science Quarterly*, 100(1): 320-327.
6. **Darr, Joshua P.**, Matthew P. Hitt, and Johanna L. Dunaway. 2018. "Newspaper closures polarize voting behavior." *Journal of Communication*, 68(6): 1007-1028.
 - Winner of the 2018 AEJMC Lynda Lee Kaid Award, awarded to the best published article in the field of political communication that year.
 - 3rd highest Altmetric score in *Journal of Communication*, out of 1,300+ articles published
5. Pingree, Raymond, Brian Watson, Mingxiao Sui, Kathleen Searles, Nathan Kalmoe, **Joshua P. Darr**, Kirill Bryanov, and Martina Santia. 2018. "Checking facts and fighting back: Why journalists should defend their profession." *PLoS ONE* 13(12): e0208600.
4. **Darr, Joshua P.**, and Johanna L. Dunaway. 2018. "Resurgent mass partisanship revisited: The role of media choice in clarifying elite ideology." *American Politics Research*, 46(6): 943-970.
3. **Darr, Joshua P.** 2018. "Reports from the field: Earned local media in presidential campaigns." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 48(2): 225-247.

2. **Darr, Joshua P.** 2016. “Presence to press: How campaigns earn local media.” *Political Communication*, 33(3): 503-522.
1. **Darr, Joshua P.**, and Matthew S. Levendusky. 2014. “Relying on the ground game: The placement and effects of campaign field offices.” *American Politics Research*, 42(3): 529-548.

UNDER REVIEW

The Politics of Local Journalism: Building Democracy Through News Practice. *With Sue Robinson*. Book proposal under review.

Assessing the effectiveness of civic local journalism training. *With Sue Robinson*. **Invited to revise and resubmit, third round.**

The potential of participatory journalism for AI-assisted local news. (part of the **Knight First Amendment Institute symposium**, “Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Freedoms.”) **Revised and resubmitted.**

Causality and conjoint experiments in applied and cooperative contexts. *With Sue Robinson, Margarita Orozco, and Wil Dubree*. **Invited to revise and resubmit.**

WORKING PAPERS

Locally sourced? Asymmetric partisan responses to federalism cues.

Restoring trust: Lessons from journalism. *With David Scales*.

EDITING

Media Policy for an Informed Citizenry: Revisiting the Information Needs of Communities for Democracy in Crisis. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 707(1), May 2023. *With Nik Usher, Philip Napoli, and Michael Miller*.

- **Introductory essay.** *With Nik Usher, Philip Napoli, and Michael Miller*.

INVITED
MANUSCRIPTS

Whyard, Sean, and **Joshua P. Darr**. 2024. “Who won the ground wars? Trump and Harris field office strategies in 2024.” *U.S. Election Analysis 2024: Media, Voters, and the Campaign*. Bournemouth, U.K.

HONORS AND
AWARDS

University of Vermont: Center for Community News **Faculty Champion**, 2025. [\$1,000]

LSU: **Presidential Laurel Award**, 2022.

ICA: **Top Interactive Paper Award**, Political Communication Division, 2022. (with Jessica Feezell, Kathleen Searles, John Wagner, Ray Pingree, Mingxiao Sui, and Brian Watson.)

AEJMC: **Lynda Lee Kaid Award**, Best Published Article in the Field of Political Communication in 2018. (With Matthew P. Hitt and Johanna L. Dunaway). [\$100]

LSU: **Tiger Athletic Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Award**, 2018 [\$2,000]

University of Pennsylvania: **Dissertation Completion Fellowship**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2014-2015 [\$25,000; only 25 awarded]

Boston College: **Order of the Cross and Crown**, 2009

GRANTS AND
RESEARCH
SUPPORT

External:

Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, 2022. [\$200,000]

Knight Foundation, 2023: Signal Akron - A Case Study in Building New Local Journalism. [\$45,000]

neo4j, 2024: Illuminating Misinformation in the 2024 U.S. Presidential Election. (with Margaret Talev, Jennifer Stromer-Galley, Johanna Dunaway, and Jodi Upton). [\$250,000]

Hearken & Solutions Journalism Network, 2022-23: DemocracySOS Evaluation (with Sue Robinson). [\$30,000]

Hayek Fund for Scholars, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University. 2022. [\$5,000]
Research Support, Center for Media Engagement, University of Texas-Austin. 2019. [\$5,000]

Internal:

Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, Syracuse University: Course Redesign Institute 2025. [\$1,500]

Office of Research, Syracuse University: Book Proposal Support [\$395]

Center for Collaborative Knowledge, LSU, 2023: Collaborative Symposium Grant. [\$2,000]

Doris Westmoreland Darden Professorship #5, Manship School, LSU. 2022-23. [\$19,000]

D. Jensen Holliday Professorship, Manship School, LSU. 2018-2023. [\$32,800]

Research Projects on Diversity, Equity, and Media, Manship School, LSU. 2020-2021. [\$3,024]

Darlene and Thomas O. Ryder Professorship #3, Manship School, LSU. 2017-2018. [\$8,000]

Scripps Howard Professorship, Manship School, LSU. 2016-2017. [\$8,000]

Scripps Howard Professorship in Media and Politics, Manship School, LSU (with Ray Pingree, Kathleen Searles, and Nathan Kalmoe). 2017-2018. [\$6,000]

George D. Nelson Professorship, Manship School, LSU (with Ray Pingree and Kathleen Searles). 2016-2017. [\$6,000]

Dissertation Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania. Used for the ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods. 2010. [\$2,500]

Faculty Travel Grant, LSU. 2017-18 [\$750], 2018-19 [\$750], 2019-20 [\$750], 2022-23 [\$1000].

Not funded:

[Press Forward: Open Call on Infrastructure, 2025.](#)

[Internet Society Foundation, 2024.](#) With Tiny News Collective and Trusting News. [\$500,000]

Discourse Initiative Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University. 2021. [\$24,372]

Facebook: Misinformation and Polarization Call for Proposals, 2021: [\$90,973.76]

SSRC: Rapid-Response Grants on Covid-19 and the Social Sciences. 2020. [\$4,950]

Tow Center for Digital Journalism, Columbia University. 2019. [\$9,300]

RESEARCH
PRESENTATIONS &
INVITATIONS

Conferences *[* Indicates conference was cancelled]*

American Political Science Association: 2014, 2015, 2016 (2), 2017, 2018 (2), 2020 (3), 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

Midwest Political Science Association: 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (2), 2018, 2020* (2), 2021, 2022, 2023 (2)

Southern Political Science Association: 2016, 2017, 2018 (2), 2019, 2020 (2)

International Communication Association: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2025

State Politics and Policy Conference: 2020*, 2025

Northeastern Political Science Association: 2021

APSA Preconference on Political Communication: 2013, 2019, 2024

Computation + Journalism Symposium: 2021

PRIEC (Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium): 2018, Houston, TX

Invited talks

2025: [Philanthropy Southeast Annual Meeting \(New Orleans\)](#), Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, American Journalism Project AJPalooza (New Orleans)

2024: [Akron Roundtable](#), Carnegie Corporation of New York, [American Public Square \(Kansas City\)](#), Sciences Po Journalism School (Paris)

2023: University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Notre Dame, Salve Regina University, Marquette University, Syracuse University, Boston College

2022: [National Society of Newspaper Columnists Annual Meeting \(Birmingham, AL\)](#); [Suffolk University Law School](#); [Harvard Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy](#); [American Journalism Project](#).

2021: [New York Press Association](#), [California News Publishers Association](#), University of Massachusetts - Lowell, [Boston University](#), [Boston College](#), [University of Connecticut](#)

2020: Wesleyan University

2019: [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#)

2014: University of Maryland Baltimore County, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Harvard University

2012, 2013: Philadelphia Region American Politics Conference

Public panel moderation

[Truth, News, and Opposing Views](#), Harvard Kennedy School New England Alumni Association, Oct. 27, 2022.

[Common Ground: Local News and Political Coverage](#), Reilly Center, LSU, Feb. 8, 2022.

[Where We Stand: One Week after the 2018 Midterm Elections](#), Annual Meeting: Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU), New Orleans, LA: Nov. 13, 2018

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Syracuse University

Undergraduate courses:

Real News, Fake News: News Literacy

Graduate courses:

Quantitative Methods for Mass Communication Research
Political Communications

Louisiana State University

Undergraduate courses:

Political Communication Research
Media and Policy Processes (in-person and LSUOnline)
Campaigns & Elections
Political Participation & the 2018 Midterms (Honors College)
Media & the 2020 Election
Case Studies in Campaigns & Media
Sports & Mass Communication

Graduate courses:

Public Opinion and Public Affairs
Seminar in Political Behavior
News Media and Governance

Undergraduate advising

Honors thesis chair: Lauren Guillot, 2017 (Winner, *Ogden Honors College Thesis Award*); Jacques Petit, 2017 (Winner, *LSU Discover Day Tigers Choice Award*); Colin Dailey, 2016.

Graduate advising

Ph.D.: Robyn L. Stiles (Manship); Kirill Bryanov (Manship); Martina Santia (Manship); Tatum Taylor (Political Science); Anthony Ciaramella (Manship); Sarah Carpenter (Manship); Levi Bankston (Wisconsin); Soheil Kafiliveyujeh (Manship); Natalie Kaczynski (Manship).

Masters: Murry Goldberg, 2022 (Manship, chair); Allyce Trapp, 2020 (Manship, chair); Jennifer Korth, 2018 (Manship, chair); Sirdaria Williams, 2018 (Manship, chair); Joshua Jackson, 2019

(Manship); Lunden Chenevert, 2017 (Manship).

University of Pennsylvania (as teaching assistant)

Introduction to American Politics (2x), Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, American Foreign Policy.

Certifications and Workshops

SSRC Workshop: Teaching Disinfo Studies in Higher Ed. 2021.

Safe Space Training, Office of Multicultural Affairs, LSU. 2018.

CxC (Communication across the Curriculum) Summer Institute Certificate, LSU. 2016.

Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate, University of Pennsylvania. 2013.

BOOK REVIEWS

Darr, Joshua P.; Nikki Usher. 2022. *News for the Rich, White, and Blue: How Place and Power Distort American Journalism*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2021. *Journal of Communication*, 72(3): E69-E71.

Darr, Joshua P.; Kenneth Newton. 2020. *Surprising News: How the Media Affect - and Do Not Affect - Politics*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2019. *Political Science Quarterly*, 135(4): 754-756.

Darr, Joshua P.; Kevin Arceneaux and Ryan Vander Wielen. 2018. *Taming Intuition: How Reflection Minimizes Partisan Reasoning and Promotes Democratic Accountability*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 82(2): 404-406.

SELECTED PUBLIC WRITING

FiveThirtyEight

Live blogs: *Iowa caucuses 2020*, *New Hampshire Primary 2020*, *Super Tuesday 2020*

“Local news coverage is declining – and that could be bad for American politics.” June 2, 2021.

“The 2020 candidates aren’t matching Obamas Iowa ground game (yet).” Dec. 16, 2019.

“Where Clinton is setting up field offices - and where Trump isn’t.” Oct. 7, 2016.

“Trump’s scorning of data may not hurt him, but it’ll hurt the GOP.” May 23, 2016.

“Wisconsin’s local media aren’t as Trump-obsessed as national outlets.” Apr. 5, 2016.

“Sanders’s ground game is good - but it ain’t Obama’s.” Jan. 22, 2016.

“Marco Rubio’s lousy ground game in Iowa will probably cost him votes.” Dec. 17, 2015.

The Boston Globe

“The future of opinion journalism is hyperlocal.” June 16, 2022.

The Washington Post: Monkey Cage Blog

“No, Trump isn’t Teflon. Scandals lower his approval among Republicans if they see the news.”

With Nathan Kalmoe, Kathleen Searles, Mingxiao Sui, Ray Pingree, Brian Watson, Kirill Bryanov, and Martina Santia. Sep. 10, 2019.

The Conversation

“Local newspapers can help reduce polarization with opinion pages that focus on local issues.”

May 27, 2021. *With Matthew Hitt and Johanna Dunaway*.

“46,218 news transcripts show ideologically extreme politicians get more airtime.” *With Jeremy Padgett and Johanna Dunaway*. Feb. 16, 2021.

“When newspapers close, voters become more partisan.” *With Matthew Hitt and Johanna Dunaway*. Feb. 11, 2019.

Mischiefs of Faction

“In 2020, the ground game is all Trump.” Oct. 9, 2020.

“The incredible shrinking Democratic ground game.” Nov. 16, 2017.

Scientific American

“Why losing our newspapers is breaking our politics.” *With Matthew Hitt and Johanna Dunaway.* Mar. 26, 2019.

Trusting News

“How should journalists talk about polarizing statements by politicians? We tested it.” December 1, 2022.

“Research insights: What we learned testing an anti-polarization checklist with news consumers.” September 2, 2022.

Nieman Journalism Lab, Harvard University

“Covering Trump 2.0, now with less Trump.” Dec. 2024.

“Local news will adapt to low demand.” Dec. 2023.

“Local to live, wire to wither.” Dec. 2022.

“Government subsidies to save local news.” Dec. 17, 2021.

“Legislatures will tackle the local news crisis.” Dec. 18, 2020.

“All that campaign cash will make the media’s problems worse.” Dec. 30, 2019.

“The nationalization of political news will accelerate.” Dec. 12, 2018.

The Desert Sun (Palm Springs, CA)

“Survey shows Desert Sun readers approve of local-news-only editorial page in July.” *With Matthew Hitt and Johanna Dunaway.* Aug. 16, 2019.

MEDIA APPEARANCES SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

For an updated list of my media interviews, please click [here](#).

Editorial board member, *Political Communication*. 2020-present.

Joint Publications Committee, ICA/APSA Political Communication Sections. 2020-2023.

2019 APSA Annual Meeting: Program Chair, Political Communication Section.

Panel chair or discussant *[* Indicates conference was cancelled/delayed]*

APSA: 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024

MPSA: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020*, 2022, 2023

ICA: 2025

SPSA: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

SPPC: 2020*

APSA Pre-Conference on Political Communication: 2017, 2019, 2024

AEJMC Southeast Colloquium: 2016

Invited reviewer

American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, PNAS, PNAS Nexus, Political Analysis, Journal of Communication, Political Communication, Public Opinion Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, Political Science Research & Methods, Journalism, Journalism Studies, New Media & Society, Political Behavior, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Communication Research, Electoral Studies, American Politics Research, Palgrave Communications, International Journal of Press/Politics, Research & Politics, Urban Affairs Review, Local Government Studies, Publius, SAGE Open, Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media, Politics Groups & Identities, Digital Journalism, Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences (TESS), Journal of Information Policy

Professional association memberships: APSA, MPSA, ICA.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Syracuse University

Assessment Committee, Newhouse School, 2024 –
Toner Prize Award Committee, 2024 –
Doctoral Program Committee, Newhouse School, 2023-2024.

Louisiana State University

Diversity, Equity, and Media Grants committee (chair), 2023.
Coastal Policy Summit Planning Committee, 2022-23.
Manship School Admissions Standards Study Committee, 2022.
Co-organizer, Manship School Research Roundtable. 2021-22.
Graduate Committee, Manship School of Mass Communication, 2020-2023.
Search Committee in Political Communication, 2015, 2016, 2019.
Search Committee for Manship-Maynard Endowed Chair in Media Diversity, 2018.
Graduate Committee, Department of Political Science, 2018-2019.
Society for Politics, Communication and Law (SPCL) faculty advisor, 2016-2017.
Manship School Diversity Committee, 2015-2016.
Search Committee, Director of the Public Policy Research Lab (PPRL), 2016.
Organizer and Moderator, “Whats the matter with polling?” panel. Nov. 19, 2015.
Research Committee, Department of Political Science, 2015-2023.

University of Pennsylvania

Graduate student representative, American politics search committee: 2013.
SASgov Representative for the Political Science Department: 2010-2011.

SPECIALIZED
TRAINING

University of Houston. ICPSR Summer Workshop, Introduction to R. May 14-16, 2018.

University of Washington. Machine Learning, a 4-course specialization on Coursera. Specialization Certificate earned on May 13, 2017.

Northwestern University. Workshop on Research Design for Causal Inference. Chicago, IL. 2016.

University of Michigan. ICPSR Summer Program, Ann Arbor, MI. Regression II and Maximum Likelihood Estimation. 2010.

RELEVANT
EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Drs. Alan Wolfe and Erik Owens, Boston College. 2008.

Research Assistant for Drs. Kay Schlozman, Sidney Verba, and Henry Brady, Harvard University. 2007-2008.

STATISTICAL
LANGUAGES
REFERENCES

Stata, R

Available upon request.