

Elliott Ash

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Research Appointments

ETH Zurich

Assistant Professor of Law, Economics, and Data Science, 2018-.

University of Warwick

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, 2017-2018.

Princeton University

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, 2016-2017.

Education

Columbia University

Ph.D. 2016

Economics

J.D. 2010

Law

University of Amsterdam

LLM 2010

International Criminal Law

University of Texas at Austin

B.A. 2007

Plan II Honors, Economics, Government, and Philosophy

Research Interests

Law and Economics, Political Economy, Applied Microeconomics, Machine Learning, Text Data

Publications

“Comment: Emerging tools for a ‘driverless’ legal system,” *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* (2018).

“Elections and divisiveness: Theory and evidence” (with Massimo Morelli and Richard Van Weelden), *Journal of Politics* (2017).

“New Policing, New Segregation: From Ferguson to New York” (with Jeffrey Fagan), *Georgetown Law Journal* (2017).

“Intrinsic motivation in public service: Theory and evidence from state supreme courts” (with Bentley MacLeod), *Journal of Law and Economics* (November 2015).

“On the behavioral economics of crime” (with Frans van Winden), *Review of Law and Economics*, vol. 8 no. 12 (June 2012).

Working Papers

“How do governments implement tax policy? Evidence from U.S. states” (job market paper).

“The performance of elected officials: Evidence from state supreme courts” (with Bentley MacLeod).

“Sequential decision-making with group identity” (with Jessica Van Parys).
“Ideas have consequences: The impact of law and economics on American justice” (with Daniel Chen and Suresh Naidu).
“Religious freedoms and religiosity: Evidence from randomly assigned judges” (with Daniel Chen).
“Aging and retirement in a high-skill group: The case of appellate judges” (with Bentley MacLeod).
“Local public finance and discriminatory policing: Evidence from traffic stops in Missouri” (with Jeffrey Fagan and Allison Harris).
“Property taxes and local labor markets: Evidence from staggered property reassessments.”
“The making of international tax law: Empirical evidence from treaty text” (with Omri Marian).
“Civil service reform in U.S. states: Structural causes and impacts on delegation” (with Massimo Morelli and Matia Vannoni).
“Legislative information extraction: Methods and an application to U.S. state session laws” (with Massimo Morelli and Matia Vannoni).
“Electoral systems, polarization, and party cohesion: Evidence from New Zealand’s electoral reform” (with Massimo Morelli and Moritz Osnabrugge).
“Judge Embeddings: Toward Geometric Representations of Legal Beliefs” (with Daniel Chen).
“A Research-Based Ranking of Public Policy Schools” (with Miguel Urquiola).

Grants

Princeton University Center for Health and Wellbeing Seed Grant (with Bentley MacLeod), “Aging and Work: The Health Consequences,” \$39,680 (2018-2020).
European Research Council Extension Grant (PI: Massimo Morelli), “Bureaucracy, Populism, and Political Stability: Theory and Evidence,” €224,374 (2017-2019).
Washington Center for Equitable Growth Research Grant (with Bentley MacLeod and Suresh Naidu), “Language, Laws, and Labor Contracts,” \$80,000 (2017-2019)
National Science Foundation Grant SES-1459932 (PI’s: Bentley MacLeod and Suresh Naidu), “Language, Laws, and Labor Contracts in the 20th Century,” \$160,000 (2015-2017)
Columbia University Program for Economic Research Seed Grant (with Suresh Naidu), “Laws, Contracts, and Performance: Evidence from Collective Bargaining Agreements,” \$6,500 (2014-2015).
National Science Foundation Grant SES-1260875 (PI: Bentley MacLeod), “A Study into the Effect of Employment Conditions upon Judicial Behavior and Performance,” \$228,000 (2013-2016)
Columbia University Program for Economic Research Seed Grant (with Bentley MacLeod), “Employment Conditions and Judge Behavior,” \$6,000 (2012-2013).
Columbia University Experimental Lab in the Social Sciences Research Grant (with Jessica Van Parys), “Bayesian Communication with Group identity,” \$1,000 (2013).

Fellowships and Awards

CAGE Research Associate

Ronald H. Coase Best Dissertation Award (2017)
Russell Sage Foundation Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (2017)
Research Fellowship, Columbia University Department of Economics (2015–2016)
C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (2014–2015)
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2011–2014)
Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University Department of Economics (2010–2011, 2014–2015)
Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, Columbia Law School (2008–2010)

Teaching Appointments

International Max Planck Research School
Instructor, Text Analysis and Machine Learning for Social Science (Summer 2017)
New York University. Center for Data Science
Project Advisor, Machine Learning and Computational Statistics (Spring 2017)
Columbia University. Department of Economics
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Master of Arts Thesis Course (Spring/Summer 2017)
Instructor, Law and Economics (undergraduate) (Summer 2014)
TA, Perspectives on Economic Studies (PhD), Profs. Joe Stiglitz and Jeff Sachs (Spring 2013)
TA, Political Economy (undergraduate), Prof. Massimo Morelli (Fall 2012)

Referee Service

Association for Computational Linguistics, Economica, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Legal Studies, Journal of Politics, Journal of Public Economics, Law & Society Review, Macroeconomic Dynamics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics

Seminar and Conference Presentations

2017: Santa Fe Institute Computational Study of the Law Working Group, CAGE Research Workshop, National Tax Association, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, American Political Science Association, Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics, World Bank Workshop on Data and Evidence for Justice Reform, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics (discussant), American Law and Economics Association, Princeton CSDP Conference on Real-World Impacts of Legal Text (organizer), Israel Law and Economics Association, Princeton Public Law Working Group, Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture, Northwestern University Colloquium on Law and Economics, ETH Zurich Center for Law & Economics
2016: Bocconi University Department of Economics, Princeton Center for Study of Democratic Politics, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies in Europe, American Law and Economics Association
2015: Southern Economics Association, Georgetown Symposium on Race and Policing, Columbia Frontiers of Urban Economics Conference, NYU Colloquium on Law, Economics, and Politics, American Political Science Association, Society of Labor Economists, Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics, American Law and Economics Association, Princeton CSDP Workshop on the Political Economy of Bureaucrats

2014 and earlier: Latin-American Workshop in Law and Economics, NBER Law and Economics Summer Institute, LSE-NYU Conference on Political Science and Political Economy, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, American Law and Economics Association, International Atlantic Economic Conference, Heidelberg “Beyond the Economics of Crime” Conference

Expert Testimony

Statistical Analysis for DOJ Civil Rights Investigation into Ferguson Police Department, 207-42-6 (2015).

Professional Licenses

Attorney at Law, State of New York (2010-)

Administrative Service

Organizer, Columbia University Political Economy Seminar (2013-2014).

President, Columbia University Association of Graduate Economics Students (2012-2013).

Undergraduate Curriculum Adviser, Columbia Economics Department (2011-2014).

Representative, Columbia Law School Student Senate (2007-2009).

References

W. Bentley MacLeod (dissertation sponsor), Professor of Economics, Law, and International/Public Affairs, Columbia University, +1 (310) 571-5083, bentley.macleod@columbia.edu

Suresh Naidu, Assistant Professor of Economics and International/Public Affairs, Columbia University, +1 (212) 854-0027, sn2430@columbia.edu

Massimo Morelli, Professor of Political Science and Economics, Bocconi University, +39 02 5836 5495, massimo.morelli@unibocconi.it

Jeffrey Fagan, Professor of Law, Columbia University, +1 (212) 854-2624, jfagan@law.columbia.edu

Advisees

Yisehak Abraham, Research Scholar, Harvard University

Jakob Brounstein, PhD Candidate in Economics, UC Berkeley

Dan Deibler, PhD Candidate in Economics, Columbia University

Gohar Harutyunhan, PhD Candidate in Management, Rutgers Business School

Vidushi Jayathilak, Pre-doctoral Research Assistant, University of Pennsylvania.

Shawn Shi, PhD Candidate in Accounting, Stanford Graduate School of Business

Anthony Tuckwell, PhD in Economics, University of Warwick

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