

Brian F. Schaffner

Tufts University
Department of Political Science & Tisch College
Packard Hall
Medford, MA 02155

Phone: (617) 627-3467
Email: brian.schaffner@tufts.edu
Homepage: <http://www.brianfschaffner.com>

Education

B.A. Political Science, University of Georgia, 1997.

Ph.D. Political Science, Indiana University, 2002.

Employment

Tufts University

Newhouse Professor of Civic Studies, 2018-

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Professor, 2013-2018

Associate Professor, 2008-2013

Department Chair, 2012-2015

National Science Foundation

Rotating Program Officer for Political Science, 2008-2009

American University

Assistant Professor, 2004-2008

Western Michigan University

Assistant Professor, 2002-2004

Current Affiliations

Co-Principal Investigator, Cooperative Election Study, 2010-

Advisory Board, British Election Study, 2021-

Faculty Associate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard University, 2011-

Reviewing Editor, PNAS Nexus, 2022-

Publications

Books

7. Schaffner, Brian F., Jesse H. Rhodes, and Raymond J. La Raja. 2020. *Hometown Inequality: Race, Class, and Representation in American Local Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2021.
6. Schaffner, Brian F. 2020. *The Acceptance and Expression of Prejudice During the Trump Era*. Elements in American Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
5. La Raja, Raymond J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2015. *Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
Winner of the 2016 Virginia Gray Best Book Award for the best political science book published on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy in the preceding three calendar years.
4. Barakso, Maryann, Daniel M. Sabet, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2013. *Understanding Political Science Research: The Challenge of Inference*. New York: Routledge.
3. Sellers, Patrick J., and Brian F. Schaffner, eds. 2009. *Winning with Words: The Origins and Impact of Framing*. New York: Routledge.
2. Schaffner, Brian F. 2011. *Politics, Parties, and Elections in America*. 7th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
1. Bibby, John F., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2007. *Politics, Parties, and Elections in America*. 6th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Refereed Journal Articles

59. Blatte, Scott, and Brian F. Schaffner. Forthcoming. "Surviving the Screens: The Problem of Hidden Inattentive Respondents in Online Surveys." *Political Science Research and Methods*. DOI.
58. Schaffner, Brian F., Thomas Hershewe, Zoe Kava, and Jael Strell. 2025. "Do Conservatives Really Have Better Mental Well-Being than Liberals?" *PLOS ONE* 20(4): e0321573. DOI.
57. Schaffner, Brian F., Jesse H. Rhodes, and Raymond J. La Raja. Forthcoming. "Are Local Policy Attitudes Distinct?" *Political Science Research and Methods*. DOI.
56. Deshpande, Pia, Scott Blatte, Yonatan Margalit, Carolina Olea Lezama, Brian F. Schaffner, Aadhya Shivakumar, and David Wingens. 2024. "Critical Race Theory and Asymmetric Mobilization." *Political Behavior* 46: 1677–1699. DOI.
55. Yair, Omer, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2023. "Response Decoupling and Partisans' Evaluations of Politicians' Transgressions." *Political Behavior* 45: 1711–1733. DOI.
54. Binelli, Chiara, Matthew Loveless, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2023. "Explaining Perceptions of Climate Change in the U.S." *Political Research Quarterly* 76(1): 365–380. DOI.
53. Green, Jon, Brian F. Schaffner, and Sam Luks. 2022. "Strategic Discrimination in the 2020 Democratic Primary." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 86(4): 886–898. DOI.
52. Cuevas Molina, Ivelisse, Tatishe Nteta, Brian F. Schaffner, and Wouter Van Erve. 2022. "The Conditional Effects of Latino Candidates and Partisanship on Latino Turnout." *American Politics Research* 50(5): 723–730. DOI.

51. Ansolabehere, Stephen, Bernard L. Fraga, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2022. "The CPS Voting and Registration Supplement Overstates Minority Turnout." *Journal of Politics* 84(3): 1850–1855. DOI.
50. La Raja, Raymond J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2022. "A Cash Lottery Increases Voter Turnout." *PLOS ONE* 17(5): e0268640. DOI.
49. Schaffner, Brian F. 2022. "Optimizing the Measurement of Sexism in Political Surveys." *Political Analysis* 30(3): 364–380. DOI.
48. Rhodes, Jesse H., Brian F. Schaffner, and Raymond J. La Raja. 2022. "The Conservative Bias in America's Local Governments." *Political Science Quarterly* 137(1): 125–154. DOI.
Reprinted in *Current Perspectives on American Politics* (eds. Marylena Mantas and Robert Shapiro), Published by the Academy of Political Science.
47. Schaffner, Brian F. 2022. "The Heightened Importance of Racism and Sexism in the 2018 U.S. Midterm Elections." *British Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 492–500. DOI.
46. Rice, Douglas, Brian F. Schaffner, and David J. Barney. 2021. "Political Ideology and Issue Importance." *Political Research Quarterly* 74(4): 1081–1096. DOI.
45. Lyon, Greg, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2021. "Labor Unions and Non-Member Political Protest Mobilization in the U.S." *Political Research Quarterly* 74(4): 998–1008. DOI.
44. Blinder, Scott, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2020. "Going with the Flows: Information that Changes Americans' Immigration Preferences." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 32(1): 153–164. DOI.
43. Rentsch, Anthony, Brian F. Schaffner, and Justin H. Gross. 2019. "The Elusive Likely Voter: Improving Electoral Predictions with More Informed Vote Propensity Models." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 83(4): 782–804. DOI.
42. Barney, David J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2019. "Reexamining the Effect of Mass Shootings on Public Support for Gun Control." *British Journal of Political Science* 49(4): 1555–1565. DOI.
41. Costa, Mia, Brian F. Schaffner, and Alicia Prevost. 2018. "Walking the Walk? Experiments on the Effect of Pledging to Vote on Youth Turnout." *PLOS ONE* 13(5): e0197066. DOI.
40. Rhodes, Jesse H., Brian F. Schaffner, and Raymond J. La Raja. 2018. "Detecting and Understanding Donor Strategies in Mid-term Elections." *Political Research Quarterly* 71(3): 503–516. DOI.
39. Schaffner, Brian F., and Samantha C. Luks. 2018. "Misinformation or Expressive Responding? What an Inauguration Crowd Can Tell Us about the Source of Political Misinformation in Surveys." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 82(1): 135–147. DOI.
38. Schaffner, Brian F., Matthew MacWilliams, and Tatishe Nteta. 2018. "Understanding White Polarization in the 2016 Vote for President: The Sobering Role of Racism and Sexism." *Political Science Quarterly* 133(1): 9–34. DOI.
Reprinted in *Perspectives on Presidential Elections, 1992–2020* (ed. Robert Shapiro), Published by the Academy of Political Science.
37. Hersh, Eitan, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2018. "Post-Materialist Particularism: What Petitions Can Tell Us about Biases in the Policy Agenda." *American Politics Research* 46(3): 434–464. DOI
36. Costa, Mia, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2018. "How Gender Conditions the Way Citizens Evaluate and Engage with Their Representatives." *Political Research Quarterly* 71(1): 46–58. DOI.

35. Costa, Mia, Kaylee Johnson, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2018. "Rethinking Representation from a Communal Perspective." *Political Behavior* 40(2): 301–320. DOI.
34. Rhodes, Jesse H., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2017. "Testing Models of Unequal Representation: Democratic Populists and Republican Oligarchs?" *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 12(2): 185–204. DOI.
33. Schaffner, Brian F., and Cameron Roche. 2017. "Misinformation and Motivated Reasoning: Responses to Economic News in a Politicized Environment." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 81(1): 86–110. DOI.
32. Ansolabehere, Stephen, Samantha Luks, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2015. "The Perils of Cherry Picking Low Frequency Events in Large Sample Surveys." *Electoral Studies* 40: 409–410. DOI.
31. Ansolabehere, Stephen, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2015. "Distractions: The Incidence and Consequences of Interruptions for Survey Respondents." *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology* 3(2): 216–239. DOI.
30. Desmarais, Bruce A., Vincent G. Moscardelli, Brian F. Schaffner, and Michael S. Kowal. 2015. "Measuring Legislative Collaboration: The Senate Press Events Network." *Social Networks* 40: 43–54. DOI.
29. Eckles, David L., Cindy D. Kam, Cherie Maestas, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2014. "Risk Attitudes and the Incumbency Advantage." *Political Behavior* 36(4): 731–749. DOI.
28. Ansolabehere, Stephen, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2014. "Does Survey Mode Still Matter? Findings from a 2010 Multi-Mode Comparison." *Political Analysis* 22(3): 285–303. DOI.
27. La Raja, Raymond J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2014. "The Effects of Campaign Finance Spending Bans on Electoral Outcomes: Evidence from the States." *Electoral Studies* 33: 102–114. DOI.
26. Schaffner, Brian F. 2013. "Support at Any Distance? The Role of Location and Prejudice in Public Opposition to the 'Ground Zero Mosque.'" *PS: Political Science & Politics* 46(4): 753–759. DOI.
25. Hersh, Eitan D., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2013. "Targeted Campaign Appeals and the Value of Ambiguity." *Journal of Politics* 75(2): 520–534. DOI.
24. Nteta, Tatishe, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2013. "Substance and Symbolism: Race, Ethnicity, and Campaign Appeals in the United States." *Political Communication* 30(2): 232–253. DOI.
23. La Raja, Raymond J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2011. "Explaining the Unpopularity of Public Funding for Congressional Elections." *Electoral Studies* 30(3): 525–533. DOI.
22. Schaffner, Brian F. 2011. "Racial Salience and the Obama Vote." *Political Psychology* 32(6): 963–988. DOI.
21. Eckles, David L., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2011. "Risk Tolerance and Support for Potential Military Interventions." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 75(3): 533–544. DOI.
20. Eckles, David L., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2011. "Priming Risk: The Accessibility of Uncertainty in Public Policy Decision Making." *Journal of Insurance Issues* 34(2). LINK
19. Barakso, Maryann, Jessica Gerrity, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2011. "Assessing the Importance of Financial and Human Capital for Interest Group Sector Strength across American Communities." *British Journal of Political Science* 41(3): 557–580. DOI.
18. Ansolabehere, Stephen, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2010. "Residential Mobility, Family Structure, and the Cell-Only Population." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 74(2): 244–259. DOI.

17. Prevost, Alicia, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2008. "Digital Divide or Just Another Absentee Ballot? Evaluating Internet Voting in the 2004 Michigan Democratic Primary." *American Politics Research* 36(4): 510–529. DOI.
16. Barakso, Maryann, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2008. "Exit, Voice, and Interest Group Governance." *American Politics Research* 36(2): 186–209. DOI.
15. Sellers, Patrick J., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2007. "Winning Coverage in the U.S. Senate." *Political Communication* 24(4): 377–391. DOI.
14. Schaffner, Brian F. 2007. "Political Parties and the Representativeness of Legislative Committees." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 32(3): 475–497. DOI.
13. Schaffner, Brian F., Matthew J. Streb, and Gerald C. Wright. 2007. "A New Look at the Republican Bias in Nonpartisan Elections." *Political Research Quarterly* 60(2). DOI.
12. Schaffner, Brian F. 2006. "Local News Coverage and the Incumbency Advantage in the U.S. House." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 31(4): 491–511. DOI.
11. Barakso, Maryann, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2006. "Winning Coverage: News Media Portrayals of the Women's Movement, 1969–2004." *Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics* 11(4). DOI
Winner of the Marian Irish Award for the Best Paper on Women & Politics presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association.
10. Schaffner, Brian F. 2006. "The Political Geography of Campaign Advertising in U.S. House Elections." *Political Geography* 25(7): 775–788. DOI
9. Schaffner, Brian F., and Nenad Senic. 2006. "Rights or Benefits? Explaining the Sexual Identity Gap in American Political Behavior." *Political Research Quarterly* 59(1): 123–132. DOI.
8. Schaffner, Brian F. 2005. "Priming Gender: Campaigning on Women's Issues in U.S. Senate Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 49(4): 803–817. DOI
7. Schaffner, Brian F., Michael W. Wagner, and Jonathan Winburn. 2004. "Incumbents Out, Party In? Term Limits and Partisan Redistricting in State Legislatures." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 4(4): 396–414. DOI
6. Schaffner, Brian F., and Mark Gadson. 2004. "Reinforcing Stereotypes? Race and Local Coverage of U.S. House Members." *Social Science Quarterly* 85(3). DOI.
5. Schaffner, Brian F., Wendy J. Schiller, and Patrick J. Sellers. 2003. "Tactical and Contextual Determinants of U.S. Senators' Approval Ratings." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 28(2): 203–223. DOI
4. Schaffner, Brian F., and Patrick J. Sellers. 2003. "The Structural Determinants of Local Congressional News Coverage." *Political Communication* 20(1): 41–57. DOI.
3. Wright, Gerald C., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2002. "The Influence of Party: Evidence from the State Legislatures." *American Political Science Review* 96(2): 367–379. DOI.
Winner of the 2002 State Politics & Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award for the best paper on state politics and policy presented at any professional meeting in the previous calendar year.
2. Schaffner, Brian F., and Matthew J. Streb. 2002. "The Partisan Heuristic in Low-Information Elections." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 66(4): 559–581. DOI.
1. Schaffner, Brian F., Matthew J. Streb, and Gerald C. Wright. 2001. "Teams Without Uniforms: The Nonpartisan Ballot in State and Local Elections." *Political Research Quarterly* 54(1): 7–30. DOI.

Peer Refereed Proceedings

1. Nithyanand, Rishab, Brian F. Schaffner, and Phillipa Gill. 2017. "Measuring Offensive Speech in Online Political Discourse." Proceedings of the 7th USENIX Workshop on Free and Open Communications on the Internet (FOCI '17).

Book Chapters & Other Publications

17. Schaffner, Brian F., and Caroline Soler. 2025. "Pocketbook Voting in a Polarized Era: Economic Vulnerability and Anti-incumbent Voting in Presidential Elections." *The Forum* 22(2-3): 325-341. DOI.
16. Schaffner, Brian F., and Kaitlyn Gaus. 2023. "Donald Trump and the Democratic Shift among College-Educated Suburban White Voters." *The Forum* 21(1): 75-96. DOI.
15. Schaffner, Brian F. 2020. "QAnon and Conspiracy Beliefs." Report. London: Institute for Strategic Dialogue.
14. Edwards, Margaret, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2020. "Sexism Among American Adults." *Contexts* 19(4): 72-74. DOI.
13. Schaffner, Brian F., Matthew MacWilliams, and Tatishe Nteta. 2017. "Hostile Sexism, Racism Denial, and the Historic Education Gap in Support for Trump." In *The 2016 Presidential Election: The Causes and Consequences of a Political Earthquake*. New York: Lexington Books.
12. Ansolabehere, Stephen, and Brian F. Schaffner. 2017. "Taking the Study of Political Behavior Online." In *The Oxford Handbook of Polling and Polling Methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
11. Rhodes, Jesse H., Brian F. Schaffner, and Sean McElwee. 2017. "Is America More Divided by Race or Class? Race, Income, and Attitudes among Whites, African Americans, and Latinos." *The Forum* 15(1): 71-91. DOI.
10. McElwee, Sean, Brian F. Schaffner, and Jesse H. Rhodes. 2016. "Whose Voice, Whose Choice? The Distorting Influence of the Political Donor Class in Our Big-Money Elections." Report. New York: Demos.
9. Clark, John A., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2012. "Losing Voice, Losing Trust." In *Broken Government? American Politics in the Obama Era*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.
8. Schaffner, Brian F. 2011. "Party Polarization." In *The Oxford Handbook of Congress*, edited by Eric Schickler and Frances E. Lee. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
7. Schaffner, Brian F. 2011. "Polling: Innovations in Survey Research." In *New Directions in Campaigns and Elections*, edited by Stephen K. Medvic. New York: Routledge.
6. Eckles, David L., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2010. "Loss Aversion and the Framing of the Health Care Reform Debate." *The Forum* 8(1). DOI.
5. Schaffner, Brian F., and Mary Layton Atkinson. 2009. "Taxing Death or Estates? When Frames Influence Citizens' Issue Beliefs." In *Winning with Words: The Origins and Impact of Framing*, edited by Brian F. Schaffner and Patrick J. Sellers. New York: Routledge.
4. Schaffner, Brian F., and Jennifer Segal Diascro. 2007. "News Coverage of State Supreme Court Elections." In *Voting for Judges*. New York: New York University Press.
3. Schaffner, Brian F. 2004. "Media Coverage: The Local Effects of Deregulation." In *Election Law and Electoral Politics*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner.

2. Schaffner, Brian F. 2006. Review of *Congress, the Press, and Political Accountability*, by R. Douglas Arnold (Princeton University Press, 2004). *Perspectives on Politics* 4: 766–767.
1. Clark, John A., and Brian F. Schaffner. A series of election supplements for Cengage-Wadsworth American Politics Textbooks. Supplements written for 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, and 2012 elections.

Grants & Awards

External Grants/Fellowships

14. Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, 2024 class, Carnegie Corporation of New York. To support work on my collaborative book project with Stephen Ansolabehere, "American Mosaic: The Social Identities That Define Our Politics and a Path to Bridge the Divide."
13. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "2022 Cooperative Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$897,613.
12. PI (Co-PI: Stephen Ansolabehere and Sam Luks). "2020 Cooperative Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$480,000.
11. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "2018 Cooperative Congressional Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$844,784.00.
10. Co-PI (Co-PI: Jesse Rhodes). "Inequalities in Voter Turnout and Political Participation." Demos. 2017. Total amount: \$30,000.
9. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "2016 Cooperative Congressional Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$586,407. Subaward to UMass: \$99,931.
8. Co-PI. "The Demographics and Preferences of Political Donors." Demos. 2016. Total amount: \$30,000.
7. PI (Co-PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "Cooperative Congressional Election Study, 2010 to 2014 Panel Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$456,878.
6. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "2014 Cooperative Congressional Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$399,913. Subaward to UMass: \$52,815.
5. Co-PI (PI: Ray La Raja). "The Effect of Party-Centered Campaign Finance Laws on American Politics." Hewlett Foundation. Total amount: \$78,000.
4. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "2012 Cooperative Congressional Election Study." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$499,229. Subaward to UMass: \$39,982.
3. Co-PI (PI: Stephen Ansolabehere). "Cooperative Congressional Election Study, 2012 to 2016 Panel Survey." National Science Foundation. Total amount: \$510,145. Subaward to UMass: \$16,486.
2. Brian F. Schaffner. "Competing for Coverage: Legislators and the Local Press." Dirksen Congressional Center Congressional Research Award, 2000. Amount: \$1,470.
1. Brian F. Schaffner. "Competing for Coverage: Legislators and the Local Press." Goldsmith Research Award from the Joan P. Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy, 2000. Amount: \$1,470.

Internal Grants

2. University of Massachusetts Faculty Research Grant. "Pilot Study for NSF Proposal to Develop an Internet Panel for Field Experiments." Total amount: \$24,734 (including \$10,000 in matching funds from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences).
1. Western Michigan University College of Arts and Sciences. Summer 2003. To support research on the effects of local media coverage on citizens' evaluations of incumbents. Amount: \$250.

Awards

6. Best Paper Award, American Political Science Association's Section on Class and Inequality, for "Understanding Inequality and Representation in Local Politics," presented at 2016 meeting of APSA.
5. 2016 Virginia Gray Best Book Award for best political science book published on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy in the preceding three calendar years. For . *Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail* (with Raymond J. La Raja).
4. American University School of Public Affairs Award for Outstanding Scholarship, Research, and Other Professional Contributions, 2007.
3. American University Department of Government Elmer Plischke Award for Research in Political Science, 2007.
2. 2006 Marian Irish Award for the Best Paper on Women & Politics presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. For "Winning Coverage: News Media Portrayals of the Women's Movement, 1969-2004" (with Maryann Barakso).
1. 2002 SPPQ Best Paper Award for the best paper on state politics presented at any conference during 2001. For "The Influence of Party in State Legislatures: The Quasi-Experimental Case of Nebraska" (with Gerald C. Wright).