

# TARA SLOUGH

Department of Political Science  
420 W. 118th St., 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10027

+1-269-492-4178  
✉ [tls2145@columbia.edu](mailto:tls2145@columbia.edu)  
🌐 <http://www.taraslough.com>

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

---

- 2018-2020 **Predocctoral Fellow, University of California, Berkeley**  
Evidence in Governance and Politics
- 2020- **Assistant Professor, New York University**  
Department of Politics

## EDUCATION

---

- 2019 **Ph.D., Political Science (expected), Columbia University**  
*Dissertation:* “Essays on the Distributive Politics of Bureaucracy”  
*Committee:* Michael Ting (Chair), John Huber, Macartan Humphreys, and John Marshall  
*Major:* Comparative Politics, with Distinction  
*Minor:* Political Economy (Formal Theory)
- 2016 **M.Phil., Political Science, Columbia University**
- 2014 **M.A., Political Science, Columbia University**
- 2012 **B.A., Political Science (with Honors), Rice University**  
**B.M., Music Performance (Violin), Rice University**  
*Magna cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa*

## RESEARCH

---

### REVISION REQUESTED

- 2018 “Public Policy under Limited State Capacity: Spatial Spillovers and Deforestation Control in the Brazilian Amazon,” with Johannes Urpelainen. Revise and Resubmit, *American Journal of Political Science*.
- 2018 “A Dynamic Model of Primaries,” with Erin York and Michael Ting. Revised and Resubmitted, *Journal of Politics*.

### WORKING PAPERS

- 2018 “Bureaucrats Driving Inequality in Access: Experimental Evidence from Colombia.”
- 2018 “Misgovernance and Human Rights: Experimental Evidence of Illegal Detention without Intent,” with Christopher Fariss.
- 2018 “After Defeat: Governing Party Response to Electoral Loss,” with Yotam Margalit and Michael Ting. (under review)

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

#### Book

- 2019 *Monitoring and Evaluation Manual in Fragile States* (with Alicia Cooperman, Alexander Hamilton, and Erin York). Forthcoming, The World Bank.

#### Articles

- 2015 “Light for All? Evaluating Brazil’s Rural Electrification Progress, 2000-2010.” *Energy Policy*, 86(C): 315-327 (with Johannes Urpelainen and Joonseok Yang.)

- 2013 “Electronic Medical Records System for Palliative Care in Low-Resource Settings.” *BioMed Central Palliative Care*, 12(31). (with Kamal Shah et al.)
- 2013 “Design, Evaluation, and Dissemination of a Plastic Syringe Clip to Improve Dosing Accuracy of Liquid Medications.” *Annals of Biomedical Engineering*, 41(9). (with Garrett Spiegel et al.)

#### POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 [“Midiendo el acceso a programas sociales en Colombia”](#) (in Spanish). Prepared with Innovations for Poverty Action.
- 2017 [“Impact Evaluation of USAID Haiti PROJUSTICE Program Pretrial Detention Component.”](#) Report for USAID. (with Christopher Fariss.)

#### ONGOING PROJECTS (WITH LINKS TO PRE-ANALYSIS PLANS, WHERE UNGATED)

- [“A Model of Bureaucratic Hiring in Plural Societies”](#)
- [“The Distributive Consequences of Bureaucratic Discretion”](#)
- [“A Model of Bureaucrats and Retrospective Electoral Accountability”](#)
- [“Rewards for Programmatic Reforms? Re-Assessing the Electoral Effects of Mexico’s Progresista Conditional Cash Transfer Program,”](#) with Horacio Larreguy and John Marshall.
- [“Endogenous Units of Analysis.”](#)
- [“Heterogeneous Treatments: Limits to Inference and Advice for Experimental Designs.”](#)
- [Metaketa-III: Natural Resource Governance.](#) Pre-Analysis Plan written with Miriam Golden, Daniel Nielson, Daniel Rubenson, and Donald Green.
- [Community Monitoring and Technology Transfer to Prevent Deforestation: A Field Experiment in the Peruvian Amazon.](#) Pre-Analysis Plan with Jacob Kopas and Johannes Urpelainen.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 [“The Promises and Pitfalls of Dyadic Data.”](#) *International Studies Quarterly* Symposium, June 2016. (with Allison Carnegie.)

### RESEARCH GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

---

#### EXTERNAL

2018	PI, Private donor grant to support project in the Peruvian Amazon, with Jacob Kopas, Johannes Urpelainen, and Rainforest Foundation US.	\$250,000
2017	Co-PI, NSF Law and Social Science (LSS) Dissertation Improvement Grant, with Michael Ting (advisor).	\$21,231
2017	PI, EGAP and DFID Metaketa-III Natural Resource Governance. Steering Committee Member with Daniel Nielson and Daniel Rubenson (since October 2017). Total excludes sub-award for Peru project listed below.	\$1,196,780
2017	PI, EGAP and DFID Metaketa-III Natural Resource Governance Sub-Award for Experiment in Peru. With Jacob Kopas and Johannes Urpelainen.	\$203,220
2016	J-PAL Governance Initiative Travel Grant	\$6,140
2015	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2015-2018)	\$138,000
2015	Co-PI, USAID Impact Evaluation Grant (AID-0AA-M-13-00013). With Christopher Fariss. (Grant administered by NORC.)	\$481,672

#### INTERNAL

2017	Columbia Center for the Study of Development Strategies Grant	\$5,000
2017	Department of Political Science Dissertation Development Fellowship	\$2,800
2016	Giancarlo Doria Research Fellowship in Comparative Politics	\$1,600
2016	Department of Political Science Dissertation Development Fellowship	\$2,750
2015	Columbia Center for the Study of Development Strategies Seed Grant	\$4,700
2014	Institute for Latin American Studies Summer Field Research Fellowship	\$1,800
2011	Rice University Parish Fellowship	\$3,000

## PRESENTATIONS

---

### INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 Yale Methods Seminar (scheduled)
- 2018 BITSS Forecasts of Social Scientific Results Conference, UC Berkeley; MIT GOV/LAB Political Behavior of Development Conference; Peace Science Mini-Conference on Haiti; University of Pennsylvania Comparative Politics Seminar; American University Political Science Seminar; Columbia Political Economy Seminar; Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS-11), NYU; Universidad del Rosario Economics Seminar; Universidad del Rosario Political Science Seminar; Universidad de los Andes Political Science Seminar; Harvard Experiments Working Group Conference; Yale Experiments Seminar; WZB Measurement of Political Inequality Workshop
- 2017 WZB Social Science Center; Political Economy of Development Conference, WZB; Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS-9), Princeton; Fifth Annual Formal Theory and Comparative Politics Conference, Emory; Harvard Experiments Working Group Conference
- 2015 Political Economy of Latin America Conference, Columbia

### ANNUAL MEETINGS

- APSA 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018  
MPSA 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 (scheduled)  
SPSA 2017  
LASA 2016

## TEACHING

---

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, TEACHING ASSISTANT:

- 2016 Game Theory and Political Theory, Graduate Level, Professor John Huber  
2015 Multivariate Political Analysis, Graduate Level, Professor Benjamin Goodrich  
2015 Advanced Topics in Quantitative Research, Graduate Level, Professor Greg Wawro  
2014 Math Methods for Political Science, Graduate Level, Professor Johannes Urpelainen

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, INSTRUCTOR:

- 2017, 2018 Math Refresher (Math Camp) for Incoming Graduate Students

### RESEARCH DESIGN WORKSHOPS FOR ACADEMICS, POLICYMAKERS:

- 2018 Instructor, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Learning Days IX  
Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 2017 Instructor, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Learning Days VI  
Salima, Malawi
- 2016 TA, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Learning Days IV  
Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile
- 2016 Academic Collaborator, Impact Evaluation Clinic  
USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, Washington DC
- 2015 Academic Collaborator, Impact Evaluation Clinic  
USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

### CONFERENCES ORGANIZED:

- 2017 Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science-8, Columbia University

2015 Political Economy of Latin America (PELA) Conference, Columbia University

SEMINARS COORDINATED:

2017-8 Coordinator, Columbia Graduate Student Seminar  
2015-6 Graduate Student Coordinator, Seminar on the Study of Development Strategies  
2014-6 Graduate Student Coordinator, Columbia Comparative Politics Seminar

WORKING GROUPS FOUNDED:

2014 Co-Founder, Political Economy of Latin America (PELA) series, with Maria Victoria Murillo, Pablo Querubin, and Eric Arias

## SKILLS/EXPERIENCE

---

LANGUAGES: Spanish

SOFTWARE: R, Mathematica, *L*<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Python, Stata

FIELD RESEARCH: Colombia (2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018); Peru (2017); Nigeria (2016); Haiti (2015, 2016); Argentina (2015); Malawi (2012); Venezuela (2011)