# Connor Stitt

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The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Political Science

## Research interests

Network methodology; public opinion and political behavior; ideology (elite and mass); international political economy; political violence

## Education

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| 2025 – Present | **The Pennsylvania State University** – State College, PA<br>PhD Student in Political Science and Social Data Analytics (Expected 2030) |
| 2021 – 2025 | **North Carolina State University** – Raleigh, NC<br>B.S. in Political Science, *magna cum laude*; Minors in Mathematics and Statistics<br>Thesis: *Individual Determinants for the Excusal of Islamophobic Violence* |

## Honors and scholarships

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| May 2021 | Eagle Scout (Boy Scouts of America)<br>*Organized a multi-week AP Calculus tutoring service during the COVID-19 pandemic.* |
| Apr 2024 | NCSU Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Grant ($2,000) |
| Oct 2024 | John W. Pope Foundation Undergraduate Research Grant ($2,000) |

## Research experience

**Working Papers**
1. Individual Determinants for the Excusal of Islamophobic Violence
2. Moving Beyond Aid: Political Leverage in Syndicated Lending in Chinese Development Finance

**Works in Progress**
3. Structured, Stable, and Separable: How Do Mass and Elite Ideologies Differ?
4. Legislator Logrolling Networks Project

| Aug 2024 – May 2025 | **Research Assistant, North Carolina State University** |
| | Advisor: Dr. Jessica Liao |
| | Curated large-N datasets on Chinese FTAs; engineered automated pipelines for co-financed loan categorization; produced data visualizations for Chinese energy investments in ASEAN. |

| Mar 2024 – May 2025 | **Independent Undergraduate Research, North Carolina State University** |
| | Advisor: Dr. Zlatin Mitkov |
| | Designed factorial survey on predictors of excusing Islamophobic violence; implemented design improvements from political violence scholars; conducted 2 surveys (funding: $4,000; 3,400 respondents). |

| Jan 2026 – Present | **Research Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University** |
| | Advisor: Dr. Bruce Desmarais |
| | Logrolling; TBA |

## Teaching experience

| Mar 2024 – Jul 2025 | **Academic Coach, Sylvan Learning** |
| | Tutor grades 1–12 in mathematics, reading, and writing enrichment; tailor instruction for SAT/ACT, AP Precalculus, AP Calculus, and AP Statistics; advise on college applications. |

| Aug 2024 – Dec 2025 | **Teaching Assistant** |
| | PLSC 10: Scientific Study of Politics |

## Industry experience

| May 2024 – Sep 2024 | **Biasly (Political Analyst Intern)** |
| | Analyzed news articles for misinformation and bias to train AI tools on media integrity. |

| Mar 2024 – Aug 2024 | **WeVote (Political Data Analyst)** |
| | Collected and stored endorsement data in proprietary API; attended weekly election tracking meetings. |

## Conferences

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| Apr 2025 | MPSA Annual Conference |
| Sep 2024 | APSA Annual Meeting |
| Jul 2024 | NCSU Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium |
| Apr 2024 | Harvard China Forum |
| Mar 2024 | Duke-UNC China Leadership Summit |

## Technical skills

**Programming languages**
Proficient in: R, Stata, LaTeX
Familiar with: HTML, SAS, Python

**Software**
Qualtrics, Amazon MTurk, MS Office

**Languages**
English (native)
Korean (beginner)

## References

**Dr. Zlatin Mitkov**
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North Carolina State University
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Additional references available upon request