

# Tristan M. Hightower

## Curriculum Vitae

University of Maryland  
Department of Government and Politics  
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### Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Maryland, expected 2023.  
M.A. Government and Politics, University of Maryland, Dec. 2020.  
B.A. Political Science (with honors), University of Tennessee, Dec. 2017.  
*Summa Cum Laude*, Chancellor's Honors Program, Phi Beta Kappa (ΦBK).  
Thesis Advisor: Anthony Nownes, Professor of Political Science.

### Research Interests

American Politics (Congress, Interest Groups and Representation, Polarization).  
Political Methodology (Survey Design, Quantitative Methods).

### Teaching Positions

#### *Teaching Assistant*

GVPT 202: Politics, Constitutional Policy, and the Institution of the U.S. Supreme Court (Patrick Wohlfarth, Primary Instructor), Spring 2019.  
GVPT 473: The U.S. Congress (Ric Uslaner, Primary Instructor), Fall 2018.

### Research Positions

#### *Research Assistant*

Jóhanna Birnir, University of Maryland, Fall 2019-Fall 2020.  
Kris Miler, University of Maryland, March-May 2020.  
James Gimpel, University of Maryland, Summer 2019, February 2020.  
Hemant Sharma, University of Tennessee, Summer 2015.

### Publication

Hightower, Tristan M. 2019. "Tennessee's Promise: Education for All?" *Pursuit - The Journal of Undergraduate Research at the University of Tennessee*: 9(1), Article 4.

For works early in development, please visit my website's research page: [tristanhightower.com/research](http://tristanhightower.com/research).

## Grants, Honors, and Other Awards

Love of Learning Grant, The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, September 2020 (\$500).

Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Maryland College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, May 2020 (\$1000).

Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, 2019-22 (\$5000 per annum).

Nominee, Graduate Student Representative, Phi Kappa Phi National Board of Directors, 2018.

Delegate, Phi Kappa Phi Leadership Summit - Denver, Colorado, 2017.

Undergraduate Summer Research Grant, University of Tennessee, 2015 (\$1500).

## Service

### *To the Department*

Graduate Student Association, Technology Officer, University of Maryland, 2020-2021.

Graduate Student Association, Co-chair, University of Maryland, 2019-2020.

Graduate Student Association, First Year Representative, University of Maryland, 2018-2019.

### *To the University*

Student Vice President, Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 22CP, University of Maryland, 2019-present.

Student Vice President, Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 2, University of Tennessee, 2016-2017.

### *To the Profession and Academy*

Member, Phi Kappa Phi Council of Students, Aug. 2020-May 2022.

Advisor, Phi Kappa Phi Chapter Development (National Office), Aug. 2019-May 2020.

Leadership Consultant, Phi Kappa Phi Biannual Leadership Summit, Summer 2019.

### *To the Community*

Mentor, Strive for College (learn more here), Sep. 2020-Present.

## Conference Presentations

Gimpel, James G., **Tristan M. Hightower**, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2020. "Understanding the Geographic Origin and Concentration of Redistricting Cases Filed in U.S. Courts." Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. April 16-19. Chicago, IL.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Conference canceled due to COVID-19 outbreak of 2020.

## Other Work Experience

### *Professional*

Program Assistant, Chancellor's Honors Program, University of Tennessee, January - May 2018.

### *Internships*

U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Majority Staff, Summer 2017.

U.S. Senator Bob Corker, Constituent Services Office, Knoxville, TN, Spring 2017.

## Professional Associations

American Political Science Association, 2018 - present.

National Capital Area Political Science Association, 2018 - present.

The Phi Beta Kappa Society ( $\Phi\text{BK}$ ), elected April 2017.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi ( $\Phi\text{K}\Phi$ ), inducted November 2016.

## Relevant Skills

*Software:*  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , R, SPSS, HTML, GitHub, WordPress, Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat

Diplomatic Protocol

## References

### **Frances E. Lee**

Professor of Politics and Public Affairs  
Princeton University  
Frances.Lee@Princeton.edu

### **Kris Miler**

Associate Professor of Government and Politics  
University of Maryland, College Park  
Kmiler@umd.edu

### **Tony Nownes**

Professor of Political Science  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Anownes@utk.edu