

# Christopher Claassen

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## Academic Appointments

- 2023- Professor of political behaviour, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow
- 2019-23 Senior lecturer in politics, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow
- 2015-19 Lecturer in politics, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow
- 2013-15 Senior research officer (postdoc), Department of government, University of Essex

## Education

- 2016-18 Postgraduate certificate in academic practice, University of Glasgow
- 2007-13 PhD, political science, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2003-04 MPhil, political economy, University of Cape Town
- 1999 BA (honours), communication, University of Natal, Durban
- 1995-98 BA, psychology, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg

## Research Interests

political behaviour, public opinion, democratisation, intergroup conflict, survey design and analysis, Bayesian methods, latent variable models

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2025 Claassen C, Göbel S, Lang A, Ackermann K, Bankov P, Brookes K, Cappellina B, Carman C, Freitag M, García Del Horno R, Hernández E, Rico G, Rossteutscher S, Traunmüller R, Webb M, Zmerli S, Zumbunn A. Measuring Rural and Urban Consciousness in Europe. *Electoral Studies*
- 2024 Claassen C, Ackermann K, Bertou E, Borba L, Carlin RE, Cavari A, Dahlum S, Gherghina S, Hawkins D, Lelkes Y, Magalhães PC, Mattes R, Meijers MJ, Neundorf A, Oross D, Ozturk A, Sarsfield R, Self D, Stanley B, Tsai T, Zaslove A & Zechmeister EJ. Conceptualizing and measuring support for democracy: A new approach. *Comparative Political Studies*
- 2024 Claassen C, Carman C & Bankov P. Is there a rural-urban political divide in Britain? *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*
- 2023 Claassen C & Magalhães P. Public support for democracy in the United States has declined generationally. *Public Opinion Quarterly*
- 2023 Claassen C. Immigration and public support for political systems in Europe. *Perspectives on Politics*
- 2022 Claassen C & Magalhães P. Effective government and evaluations of democracy. *Comparative Political Studies*
- 2022 Claassen C & McLaren L. Does immigration produce a public backlash or public acceptance? Time-series, cross-sectional evidence from 30 European democracies. *British Journal of Political Science*
- 2021 Claassen C & McLaren L. Do threats galvanize authoritarians or mobilize non-authoritarians? Experimental tests from 19 European societies. *Political Psychology*
- 2020 Claassen C & Traunmüller R. Improving and validating survey estimates of religious demography using Bayesian multilevel models and poststratification. *Sociological Methods & Research*
- 2020 Claassen C. In the mood for democracy? Democratic support as thermostatic opinion. *American Political Science Review*

- coverage in *The Economist & Veja*.
- 2020 Claassen C. Does public support help democracy survive? *American Journal of Political Science* – listed in AJPS “top cited articles” virtual issue, 29 July 2020.
- 2020 Gibson JL, Claassen C & Barceló J. Deplorables: Emotions, political sophistication, and political intolerance. *American Politics Research*
- 2019 Claassen C. Estimating smooth country-year panels of public opinion. *Political Analysis*
- 2019 Claassen C & Gibson JL. Does intolerance dampen dissent? Macro-tolerance and protest in American metropolitan areas. *Political Behavior*
- 2016 Claassen C. Group entitlement, anger and participation in intergroup violence. *British Journal of Political Science*  
– Honourable mention, 2012 Otto Klineberg intercultural and international relations award, the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
- 2015 Claassen C. Measuring university quality. *Scientometrics*
- 2015 Claassen C, Tucker P & Smith SS. Ideological labels in America. *Political Behavior*
- 2014 Claassen C. Who participates in communal violence? Survey evidence from South Africa. *Research & Politics*
- 2011 Schofield N, Claassen C, Ozdemir U & Zakharov A. Estimating the effects of activists in two-party and multi-party systems: A comparison of the United States and Israel. *Social Choice and Welfare*
- 2010 Schofield N, Claassen C, Ozdemir U, & Zakharov A. Application of a theorem in stochastic models of elections. *International Journal of Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences*
- 2010 Gibson JL & Claassen C. Racial reconciliation in South Africa: Interracial contact and changes over time. *Journal of Social Issues*

### Book Chapters and Working Papers

- 2022 Claassen C. Including Measurement Uncertainty in Time-Series, Cross-Sectional Analyses: The Case of Mood and Democracy
- 2020 Gibson JL, Claassen C & Barceló J. Putting groups back into the study of political tolerance, in Borgida E, Federico C & Miller J (eds.) *At the Forefront of Political Psychology: Essays in Honor of John L. Sullivan*, Routledge.
- 2017 Claassen C. Explaining South African xenophobia. Afrobarometer working paper no. 173.
- 2011 Schofield N, Claassen C, Gallego M & Ozdemir U. Empirical and formal models of the United States presidential elections in 2000 and 2004, in Schofield N & Caballero G (eds.) *The Political Economy of Institutions, Democracy and Voting*, Springer.

### Media Articles

- 2021 McLaren L & Claassen C. Public backlash or public acceptance? Attitudes towards immigration. UK in a Changing Europe, 3 September
- 2019 Claassen C. Does public support for democracy defend a country from autocrats? Not necessarily. *Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 17 July
- 2018 Claassen C. Support for democracy is declining – but not in the U.S. or other Western democracies. *Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 5 July
- 2018 Claassen C & Gibson JL. This map shows where more Americans are willing to support free speech. *Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 15 February

### Research Grants and Prizes

- 2021 Philip Leverhulme Prize in politics and international relations (£100,000). “For researchers at an early stage of their careers whose work has had international impact and whose future research career is exceptionally promising”. Leverhulme Trust

- 2021-23 PI, Glasgow team: The rural-urban divide in Europe (€1.41 million total value, €271,609 for Glasgow team). New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE)
- 2019-21 Co-I: Do immigrant numbers inflame anti-immigrant opinion? A time-series cross-sectional analysis of European immigrant numbers and opinions, 1995-2017 (£9,761). British Academy / Leverhulme Trust
- 2018-19 PI: Does democracy require a supportive political culture? (£7,513). Carnegie Trust
- 2017-18 PI: Estimating democratic political culture in 100+ countries over 20+ years. (£4,393). Carnegie Trust
- 2016 PI: Estimating support for democracy in 100+ countries over 20+ years (£1,650). Adam Smith Research Foundation, University of Glasgow
- 2014 PI: Emotional pathways to participation in intergroup violence (£1,500). EssexLab experimental laboratory, University of Essex
- 2011 PI: The emotional logic of ethnic violence (\$1,700). Center for New Institutional Social Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis

### Invited Talks

- 2024 McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Pennsylvania State University
- 2024 School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Development Institute
- 2023 European studies department, University of Amsterdam
- 2023 Workshop on citizens' attitudes to democracy, University of Zurich
- 2022 Department of social science, Humboldt University Berlin
- 2022 Conference on 'What is democracy? theories, practices, values', University of Oxford
- 2022 Department of political science, University of Bergen
- 2020 Department of political science, Trinity College Dublin
- 2019 Department of government, University of Essex
- 2017 Symposium on 'Political tolerance and the new world disorder', Uppsala University  
Department of politics and international relations, University of Edinburgh
- 2016 British Council Newton Fund symposium on affirmative action, Brasilia  
Symposium on postcolonial legacies, Stellenbosch University;  
Department of politics and international relations, University of Edinburgh
- 2015 Department of politics, University of Glasgow
- 2013 Department of political science, Trinity College Dublin  
Department of government, University of Essex
- 2011 Forced migration studies, University of the Witwatersrand

### PhD Supervision

- Armin Seimel, 2020-2023
- Phannarai Sirisophonpong, 2017-2018
- Fatma Elsafoury, 2016-2019

### Teaching

- Comparative public opinion (PGT)
- The rise and fall of democracy (UG)
- Intergroup conflict and reconciliation (UG)
- Introduction to comparative politics (UG)
- Introduction to OLS (UG)
- The analysis of categorical and count data (UG)

Institutions of democracy (UG)

### **Leadership and Citizenship**

**Journal reviews:** *PNAS, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, World Politics, Journal of Politics, British Journal of Political Science, Political Analysis, Public Opinion Quarterly, Political Behavior, Perspectives on Politics, Democratization, Political Studies, Political Research Quarterly, Political Psychology, Electoral Studies, Social Forces, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, and others

**Grant reviews:** British Academy, National Science Foundation (United States), Carnegie Trust (UK), National Research Council Canada, Czech Science Foundation, and National Science Centre (Poland)

**External examination:** 3rd year Politics & IR, University of Bristol, 2021-2024

**University service:** University of Glasgow – Politics and international studies REF outputs lead, 2024; Politics and international studies impact lead, 2021-2024; Politics dissertations coordinator, 2016-2021; Politics REF review committee member, 2017-2021; School of social and political sciences ethics committee member, 2020-2023; University of Essex – Director, EssexLab social science experimental laboratory, 2014