

# CHELSEA N. JONES

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## EDUCATION

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<b>University of California, Los Angeles</b> Doctor of Philosophy – Political Science Specialization: Race, Ethnicity and Politics	2023
<b>H. John Heinz III College of Information Systems and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University</b> Master of Science in Public Policy & Management – Washington, D.C. Track	2018
<b>The University of Texas at Austin</b> Bachelor of Social Work, Minor in African & African Diaspora Studies	2015
<b>University of California, Berkeley</b> Public Policy & International Affairs Fellowship	2015
<b>University of Ghana, Legon</b> Social & Community Development Fellowship	2014
<b>Beijing Foreign Studies University</b> Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship	2013

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Researcher | Democracy Program

Voting Rights, Representation and Redistricting  
Brennan Center for Justice

Aug. 2023 – Present

Devise and conduct statistical analyses on election results and the effects of electoral policy reforms. Write reports incorporating original quantitative and qualitative research for public and educational consumption. Examine maps and redistricting plans to ensure racial representation in elections.

### Senior Policy Fellow

Principal Investigator: Dr. Matt Barreto  
UCLA Voting Rights Project

Jun. 2020 – June 2023

Produce statistical analyses that support expert reports for legal suits against restrictive electoral policies. Utilize voter history files, census data, and other election and voting related data to identify gaps in access to in-person and mail in voting. Write legal briefs and conduct political geographical analyses to assess risks associated with and impacts of voting rights policies. Pilot Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding (BISG) analysis on behalf of California Secretary of State. Utilize the novel EI Compare statistical package to conduct racially polarized voting analyses across multiple counties in Texas.

### RAND Corporation; Summer Associate, Adjunct Policy Researcher

Principal Investigators: Dr. Benjamin Boudreaux, Dr. Jessica Paige  
Advancing Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience – Equity Team

Jun. 2022 – Jan 2023

Collaborate with interdisciplinary team to incorporate racial equity metrics in the identification of systemically important entities. Conduct a solo-authored case study on security risks of alternative financial services (payday loan stores, payment advance applications, etc). Develop mobilization project alongside the Center to Advance Racial Equity Policy and Fair Count.

**Graduate Research Assistant; *Proposal Development Summer Institute***

Directors: Dr. Lorrie Frasure, Dr. Michael Jones-Correa, Dr. Mignon Moore  
Russell Sage and Gates Foundation

Jan. 2020 – June 2022

Coordinate 2021 and 2022 virtual institute for nearly 30 junior scholars of color to provide publishing guidance, professional development and mentorship. Organize and facilitate Zoom operations, external communication with scholars and speakers, video editing and production, as well as creation of all published event materials.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Principal Investigator: Dr. Lorrie Frasure  
Bunche Center for African American Studies

Sept. 2020 – Jun. 2020

Created and programmed 2020 election survey for in-person voters in Los Angeles County on behalf of the Los Angeles Lakers Racial Equity division. Administered and analyzed survey data for research reports and publications. Oversaw survey administration team and multiple research sites.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Principal Investigator: Dr. Natalie Masuoka  
UCLA Political Science Department

Jul. 2019 – Jun. 2020

Collect, clean, and geocode polling location data for future study on polling closures. Work with various GIS software programs to map polling locations in 9 states along with census demographic data. Work as external communicator, bringing in multi-disciplinary partners to assist with research logistics.

**Policy Research Fellow**

Urban Leaders Fellowship  
Dallas Independent School District & Dallas Afterschool

Jun. 2018 – Aug. 2018

Conducted in-depth interviews and systemic data analysis on teen pregnancy in Dallas, to provide recommendations for targeted, evidence-based health curriculum and co-curricular interventions. Researched options for citywide funding stream to expand afterschool programs for low-income students.

**Master's Systems Synthesis (Applied Thesis Project)**

U.S. Small Business Administration – Veteran's Affairs  
Carnegie Mellon University

Aug. 2017 - May 2018

Conducted program evaluation of national veteran's entrepreneurship program, analyzing census and program data to uncover data collection shortcomings, barriers to access and participation. Provided recommendations on program implementation, technology usage and marketing strategies.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### UCLA Department of Political Science

Teaching Assistant	Politics of American Suburbanization – Lorrie Frasure	Fall 2019
Teaching Assistant	World Politics – David Wilkinson	Winter 2020
Teaching Assistant	Intro to American Politics – Ajax Peris	Spring 2020

## PROFESSIONAL/POLICY EXPERIENCE

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### National League of Cities Aug. 2017 - Aug. 2018

#### *Race, Equity and Leadership Team (REAL) – Policy Fellow*

- Provided technical assistance to Mayors and city councils devising racial equity plans for their cities
- Consulted local leaders on management of racial tension, government mistrust and community disengagement
- Assisted curriculum development for racial equity trainings, facilitated trainings for local government officials

### Consumer Financial Protection Bureau May. 2017 – Aug. 2017

#### *Policy Assistant – Office of Community Affairs*

- Engaged the non-profit sector to promote dialogue on consumer issues and inform the CFPB's policy work
- Facilitated community roundtables, townhalls and individual stakeholder meetings with consumer advocates
- Developed outreach toolkit including a digital resource guide for organizations, one-pager for mass distribution and presentation kit for external engagements

### Office of Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett Jan. 2016 – May. 2016

#### *Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Intern*

- Advised legislative team on issues relevant to the Oversight & Government Reform and Agriculture committees
- Conducted research for fact sheets and congressional hearing documents, drafted letters to constituents
- Drafted and submitted programmatic funding requests for the Fiscal Year 2017 federal appropriations process

### Texas Health & Human Services Commission Sep. 2015 – Dec. 2015

#### *Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality & Disparity – Equity Specialist Intern*

- Facilitated diversity trainings for government agencies and community organizations
- Conducted analysis of practices for reducing racial disparities to advise various Texas government agencies
- Aided mobile home community in advocating for affordable housing in state legislature and evaluating policies

## PUBLICATIONS & FEATURES

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### Academic

Jones, Chelsea, (2023) "*Taking Back the Ballot: Black Socio-cultural Institutions and the Contemporary Fight Against Voter Suppression*". UCLA eScholarship, Dissertation

Jones, Chelsea, Robertson Crystal & Frasure, Lorrie, (2022) "London Breed" in *Historic Firsts in US Elections*

Jones, C. (2017). *Preying on Poverty; An Analysis of Predatory Lending Services in Dallas, Texas*. ESRI Press. <http://arcg.is/2p2fBUZ>

Jones, C. (2015). *The Emergence of Community Based Literature as a Result of Police Misconduct on African American Communities*. University of Texas McNair Scholars Journal.

Jones, C. (2015). *The Emergence of Community Based Literature*, University of Texas Research Showdown <https://youtu.be/bvrhVKf4I8M>

### Policy Media and Legal Writing

- Jones, C. (2023) "How Equity Centered Design Can Put Voter Mobilization into Overdrive — A Case Study of Fair Count", *Journal of Engaged Research*, <https://medium.com/journal-of-engaged-research/how-equity-centered-design-can-put-voter-mobilization-into-overdrive-a-case-study-of-fair-count-5816780901f9>
- Jones, C., Slaughter, C., (2022) "Why Black women will be especially affected by the loss of Roe", *The Washington Post*, Politics <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/06/25/dobbs-roe-black-racism-disparate-maternal-health/>
- Jones, Chelsea, (2022) "Polling Place Closures Affect Marginalized Voters and Hurt Democracy", *The Washington Post*, Politics, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/06/17/vra-black-voting-rights-georgia-texas-suppression/>
- Pico Neighborhood Association v. City of Santa Monica. Brief Amicus Curiae of UCLA Voting Rights Project. 11 June 2021. *CA Supreme Court*. [https://www.santamonica.gov/Media/Default/Attorney/Election/2021.6.11\\_Amicus%20Br\\_UCLA%20Voting%20Rights%20Project.pdf](https://www.santamonica.gov/Media/Default/Attorney/Election/2021.6.11_Amicus%20Br_UCLA%20Voting%20Rights%20Project.pdf)
- Texas League of United Latin American Citizens v. Abbott. 05 October 2020. US District Court for the Western District of Texas Austin Division. <https://latino.ucla.edu/research/texas-league-of-united-latin-american-citizens-v-abbott/>
- Black Voters Matter Fund Et Al. V. Raffensperger. 30 June 2020. US District Court for the Northern District of Georgia Atlanta Division. <https://acluga.org/black-voters-matter-v-raffensperger/>
- Jones, C., Wasserman A. (2018). *How Austin, Texas is Addressing Racial Equity*. National League of Cities CitiesSpeak Blog.
- Onyenaka, B., Jones, C. (2017). *Why Natural Disasters Hit Vulnerable Groups Hardest*. National League of Cities CitiesSpeak Blog.
- Wasserman, A., Jones, C. (2017). *Racial Equity Municipal Action Guide for City Leaders*. National League of Cities.

### SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

#### Research Presentations

- 2023: National Conference of Black Political Scientist Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA
- 2022: Politics of Race, Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC), Austin, TX
- 2022: American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Canada
- 2022: National Conference of Black Political Scientist Annual Conference, Virtual
- 2022: Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, Virtual\*
- 2022: Politics of Race, Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC), Virtual
- 2021: American Political Science Association - Religion & Politics Section Summer Workshop, Virtual
- 2021: Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, Virtual
- 2021: National Conference of Black Political Scientist Annual Conference, Virtual
- 2020: American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Virtual
- 2020: Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA\*

### Public Speaking & Invited Symposia

2021: McNair Research Scholars National Conference, Virtual  
2021: Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Program, Managing the Research Process Workshop, Virtual  
2021: Fearless Leadership Institute, Women's Empowerment Session, Virtual  
2020: Public Policy and International Affairs Alumni, Social Policy Panel, Virtual  
2019: McNair Alumni, Success as a PhD Student Panel, Los Angeles, CA  
2018: Teen Pregnancy Management and Prevention Research Findings, Dallas ISD, Dallas, TX  
2017: Carnegie Mellon MLK Student Keynote Address, "Toward a Beloved Community"

### SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS

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#### **Research Grants & Scholarships**

American Political Science Association Travel Grant	2022
Political Psychology Laboratory, Summer Research Grant	2021
Institute for American Cultures – Racial & Social Justice Seed Grant (on behalf of the UCLA Voting Rights Project)	2021
Marvin Hoffenberg Fellowship in American Politics & Public Policy	2021
Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship	2020 - 2021
American Political Science Association Diversity Fellowship	2019 – 2020
Dallas Jewish Foundation Graduate Scholarship	2019
Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship	2018 – Present
Heinz College Full Tuition Scholarship & Stipend	2016 – 2018
James L. Hill Challenge Grant	2011 – 2015
Longhorn Distinguished Scholar	2011 – 2015
Bonfire Unity, Endowed Presidential Scholarship	2014

#### **Honors & Awards**

Swarr Prize (Best Unpublished Political Science Research Paper)	2021
Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship – Honorable Mention	2019, 2020
Otto A. Davis Racial & Social Justice Award	2018
Heman Sweatt Student Legacy Award	2015

#### **Scholarly Memberships**

National Conference of Black Political Scientists	2020
American Political Science Association	2019
Western Political Science Association	2019
Public Policy and International Affairs Berkeley JSI Alumni	2015
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Alumni	2014

### SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

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Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Alumni Council	2021 - Present
Russell Sage Foundation's Proposal Development Summer Institute	2021 - 2022
Political Science Department Graduate Student Recruitment	2020
Minority Health Conference	2018 – 2019
Co-Chair - Center for the Study of Racism, Social Justice and Health	