

JALEN WARD, MA

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EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science

Expected June 2028

University of California, Davis, Davis, CA

- Awarded the Provost's Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences as an incoming first-year PhD student

Master of Arts, Political Science

May 2023

California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

- Won the Outstanding Graduate Student in Political Science Award for the 2022-2023 AY
- Fellow in the USC POIR Pre-Doctoral Cohort, Pa'lante Fellowship, and the Grad Equity Fellowship for 2022 - 2023
- Masters Thesis: "Political Applications of Agnotology and Constructed Ignorance"

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Minor in Political Science

May 2020

California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

- Thesis: Coattails Effect in the 2016 Presidential Election: Presidential Candidate Likeability & Down-Ballot Voting
- Capstone: Political Perception & Cognition: Prediction of Illusory Correlation and Political Ideology as a Social Category

A.A. in Psychology, Teacher Education, Natural Science/Math

July 2018

Irvine Valley College, Irvine, CA

- Member of the Psi Beta IVC Chapter

EXPERIENCE

California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

August 2021 - June 2023

Graduate Student Assistant - PAJ Division

- Create engaging course content for undergraduate students in the PAJ Division
- Advise current and prospective undergraduates enrolled in any of the nine degrees offered within the PAJ Division
- Collaborate with full-time faculty and professors to address student academic needs
- Grade exams, papers, and ad-hoc assignments
- Lectured Topics: CA 2021 Recall Election, Financial Incentive within Interest Groups & Parties, De Facto and De Jure Policy Diffusion during the Civil Rights Movement, Confirmation Process of a SCOTUS Nominee, and History of American Parties

Excelera Health (MacArthur Court Acquisition Company), Newport Beach, CA

April 2020 - Present

Sr. Corporate Development Analyst, Finance Project Manager

- Led as Dept Manager for the MAPD Enrollment & Eligibility and Prescription Drug Event Reconciliation Program
- Coordinate insurance & risk management portfolios across 5+ subsidiaries under the parent company
- Produce and curate Investor Deck Content for prospective private equity investors & SPACs
- Develop and implement workflows of care delivery within CMS/CMMI models including MAPD and GPDC
- Collaborate with the CFO and Clinical Pharmacist on MAPD Financial Operations including PDE Reconciliation, DIR, Medical Loss Ratio, Plan-to-Plan Part D Payment Reconciliation, and Financial Information Reporting (FIR & Nx)
- Auditor of multi-faceted ad hoc compliance guidelines including MAPD Claims Analysis, Part D Financials, Risk Adjustment Coding, CMS 1/3rd audits, laboratory financial compliance and CAP audits
- Manage accounts for B2B/B2C transactions including brokers, GPOs, 3rd party vendors, and aligned physicians

Radiant Health Centers, Irvine, CA

August 2019 - February 2020

Facility Intern & Advocate

- Aid the Services Coordinator in regulatory auditing under Ryan White Fund compliance
- Run booths at various conferences and fundraisers to advocate for HIV/AIDS policy awareness at the county-level

Orange County Registrar of Voters, Irvine, CA

October 2014 - November 2018

Poll Worker

- Support the Polling Inspector in the operation of four polling places in 6 county elections

HONORS AND AWARDS

- USC POIR Pre-Doctoral Institute for First-Gen Scholars of Color Fellowship 2022
- Project upGRADS META Scholar
- Open Door OC Black Community Heroes 2020

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society.

March 2020 - Present

- Planned events CSUF Annual Townhall, All Politics is Local speaker series, and the Annual Pi Sigma Alpha Banquet
- Serving as Secretary and Treasurer of the CSUF Chapter for the 2022-2023 academic year
- Led the creation and development of two campus fellowship programs targeting student scholars in the department IHO of retiring professor and advisor Dr. Valerie O'Regan

American Political Science Association

December 2019 - Present

- Awarded the prestigious American Political Science Association Diversity Fellowship
- Underwent training and PhD recruitment networking through the Diversity Student Recruitment Program

SKILLS

- Project Management for administrative process, mergers, go-lives, and vendor onboarding
- Software and application data validation, network analysis auditing, workflow and operations development
- Comprehension of statistical and research methodology in social science
- Other Skills: Microsoft Office, SPSS, G Suite, Power BI, Canva, ClientTrack, EZCAP, Epic, Python, R (novice), SQL (novice)