Gideon Putnam

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) — **Los Angeles, CA**
B.A. Public Affairs, B.A. Study of Religion; Minor: Geography — *September 2024 - June 2028*

- **GPA:** 3.97 / 4.00
- **Coursework:** PA C277: Network Science Using R, PA 116: Quantitative Research Methods, RELIGN M178: Moral Philosophy

WORK EXPERIENCE

American Enterprise Institute (AEI) — **Washington, D.C.**
Research Intern — *June 2026 - August 2026*

- Selected by a renowned DC think tank for an intensive internship program, working under Senior Fellow Daniel A. Cox, Ph.D.
- Conducted public opinion research and wrote 6 short reads and 50+ tweets analyzing civic trends and policy decisions.
- Authored 30-page report about the intersection of race, social capital, and measurement error in AEI's survey research questions.
- Campaigned and selected for a publicized Intern Debate against the Cato Institute, debating foreign policy and drug legalization.

CVL Economics — **Los Angeles, CA**
Student Researcher (20 hrs/week) — *February 2026 - Present*

- Researcher at a California-based research consultancy working at the intersection of data analysis and policy development.
- Developed client-facing Digital Twin Platform to chart elasticities between spatial and social capital for local policy analysis.
- Managed stakeholder relationships and presented data-driven findings on regional arts and culture mobility patterns to clients.

UCLA Undergraduate Research Scholars Program — **Los Angeles, CA**
Research Fellow — *September 2025 - June 2026*

- Earned $4,500 in a < 5% acceptance rate fellowship to research year-on-year changes in urban opportunity structures in the US.
- Invited to present at 3 academic conferences in USA and UAE; headlined research symposium for UCLA undergraduates.

UCLA Department of Sociology — **Los Angeles, CA**
Quantitative Policy Research Intern — *September 2025 - April 2026*

- Designed quasi-experiments for Census and housing data in R with a 3-person team and Ph.D. candidate Katherine Smock.

ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

UCLA Alumni Association United Kingdom — **London, United Kingdom**
Board of Directors (Pending Appointment) — *Pending*

- Pending appointment to serve as the student representative to the British branch of the UCLA Alumni Association.

Aleph: UCLA Research Journal for the Humanities and Social Sciences — **Los Angeles, CA**
Editor in Chief • (formerly Finance Director) — *July 2025 - Present*

- President of a prominent student-run academic journal, evaluating 50+ article submissions for print-publication with editors.
- Launched Subtack (@alephjournal) and contributed academic commentary articles, professor interviews, and article reviews.

Geography Association at UCLA — **Los Angeles, CA**
President Emeritus • (formerly President) — *June 2026 - Present*

- Elected to serve as president of geography undergraduates at UCLA, directing 300+ students, faculty, and departmental staff.

CONFERENCES

Putnam, G., Foster, R. & Z. Steinert-Threlkeld. | Social Capital 2026 — **Dubai, United Arab Emirates**
In-Person Oral Presentation. Social Capital and Mobility stream. — *March 2026*
International Social Capital Association (ISCA).

Putnam, G., Foster, R., & Z. Steinert-Threlkeld. | AAG 2026 — **San Francisco, CA**
In-Person Oral Presentation. Causal Methodologies session. — *March 2026*
"Spatiotemporal Inequality among American Communities" Association of American Geographers (AAG).

AWARDS AND SKILLS

***Awards*:** Royal Geographic Society and *Financial Times* Essay Competition, UCLA College Dean's List

Skills: Academic Research, Policy Analysis, Academic Writing, Econometrics *(Software: R, Stata, ArcGIS Pro, Adobe Creative Cloud)*

Interests: Ironman Triathlon (*Social/Recruitment Chair*: UCLA Club Triathlon), *The New Yorker,* Debate, *Ezra Klein Show*