

Luca Alioto

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts Political Science & Bachelor of Science Community Development

University of California, Davis • June 2026 • 3.8

Study Abroad: Housing & Urbanism in Barcelona, UC Davis Quarter Abroad

Undergraduate Coursework

Urban and Regional Planning, Introduction to GIS, Quantitative Methods in Community Research, Applied Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Principles and Techniques of Data Science, Political Science Research Methods, Probability Theory (Projected)

Graduate Level Coursework

Research Methods in Political Science (Linear Models, MLE), Computational Text Analysis, Causal Inference, Transportation Equity & Policy

EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow - Advisor Dr. Jamey Volker

National Center for Sustainable Transportation

June 2024– PRESENT

- Conducted empirical analysis on housing and transportation policy using R, Python, and ArcGIS for statistical and spatial modeling.
- Created unique quantitative and qualitative datasets to apply regression and geospatial techniques to assess policy outcomes.
- Designed and administered a survey to 335 permit recipients, using findings to analyze data that generated policy-relevant insights.
- Co-authored a manuscript through the *Journal of the American Planning Association* and presented research findings at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (2025) Conference.

Policy Fellow and Leadership

Underground Scholars

September 2022 – PRESENT

- Collaborated with doctoral researchers to analyze the carceral system and higher education access.
- Secured \$5,000 in grants and coordinated multi-stakeholder events with UC Davis Law, the Aoki Center, and Yolo County Public Defenders to disseminate research and policy findings.
- Authored Associated Students UCD resolution directed to the UC Office of the President, Regents, and Administration.
- Facilitated meetings between students and university leadership to integrate student feedback into institutional planning and budget management for a new campus center now serving 100+ students.

Legislative Director - Campaign Coordinator

University of California, Student Association

September 2022 – PRESENT

- Conduct policy analysis and stakeholder outreach to advance the *Opportunity4All* campaign.
- Led advocacy training and workshops for 30+ students, strengthening skills in public speaking and policy communication.
- Organized lobbying visits of ~50 students in Sacramento & DC.
- Developed and evaluated legislative proposals on environmental justice, housing, and land use in collaboration with Dr. Catherine Brinkley and local policymakers.

PROJECTS

Honors Thesis - Advisor Dr. Juan Telles

Political Science Department • September 2025 - Present

- Writing an empirical thesis on political violence and democratic backsliding in El Salvador.
- Developing a research design and theoretical framework, conducting literature reviews, and applying quantitative methods to analyze institutional and social dynamics.

Research Assistant - Dr. Hanno Hilbig

Political Science Department • October 2024 - Present

- Conduct literature reviews and assist in theory development for projects on political behavior.
- Clean and analyze survey data in R, applying OLS regression and machine learning techniques.

INVOLVEMENT

Volunteer & Translator NorCal Resist • September 2022 - Present

Model United Nations Head Delegate • September 2022 – Present

MCLA DII Lacrosse • Sept 2022 – Present

SKILLS

Proficient in Microsoft Suite, Adobe

R Studio, ArcGIS, JavaScript, Python, SQL, MATLAB, LaTeX, Git

Spanish Speaker - California Seal of Biliteracy