

Isabel G. Laterzo

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Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Chapel Hill, NC, USA*

Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, *Expected 2024*

Subfields: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methodology

Dissertation: Progressive, Punitive, or Somewhere in Between: Political Responsiveness to Crime and Violence in Latin America

Committee: Dr. Jonathan Hartlyn (Chair), Dr. Cecilia Martínez-Gallardo, Dr. Santiago Olivella, Dr. Evelyne Huber, Dr. Omar García-Ponce (The George Washington University)

M.A., Political Science, *May 2020*

Claremont McKenna College *Claremont, CA, USA*

B.A., International Relations (Latin American Regional Focus), *May 2016*

Universidade do Sul de Santa Catarina *Florianópolis, Brazil*

Advanced Portuguese Extension Coursework (Virtual), *October 2020-November 2020*

Universidad ORT *Montevideo, Uruguay*

Exchange Coursework towards B.A., *August 2014 - December 2014*

Research Interests

Comparative Politics: Latin America, security, political participation, subnational politics

Political Methodology: Mixed methods opinion prediction (Bayesian and regression-based), survey design, causal inference

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Laterzo, Isabel G. “Political Engagement and Victimization: A Causal Analysis,” *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública*, 2021.

Working Papers

“State-Level Citizen Response to COVID-19 Containment Measures in Brazil and Mexico” (*With Claire Dunn*), *Revise & Resubmit*

“Progressive Ideology and Support for Tough-on-Crime Policy: Evidence from Brazil and Argentina”

“Who is to Blame? Understanding the Motivations and Justifications for Youth Crime in Urban Mexico” (*With Omar García-Ponce & Vivian Bronsoler*)

“Estimating Actual Crime Rates and the ‘Dark Figure’ of Crime Using Bayesian Additive Regression Trees Plus Poststratification (BARP)”

Papers in Preparation

“Partisanship & Electoral Cycle Effects in Latin America: Correction Measures and Implications” (*With Jonathan Hartlyn*)

“Youth Exposure to Violence and Political Attitudes: Evidence from Urban Mexico” (*With Omar García-Ponce*)

Data Science & Technological Skills

Languages: R (expert), JavaScript and html for survey programming (proficient), Stan (proficient), Python (basic)

Programs: Qualtrics (survey & experimental design), L^AT_EX

Data Visualization: Visualization in R (ggplot2, RShiny), GIS (R-based), Tableau

High Performance Computing: Linux-based computing systems

Statistical modeling: Frequentist and Bayesian modeling (linear regression, generalized linear models, multilevel/mixed models), sampling bias correction and small-area estimation (MRP, BARP), imputation

Conference & Workshop Presentations

“Who is to Blame? Understanding the Motivations and Justifications for Youth Crime in Urban Mexico” (*With Omar García-Ponce & Vivian Bronsoler*)

- *REPAL (Network for the Study of Latin American Political Economy)*, July 2021

- *UNC Political Science Methods and Design (MAD) Workshop*, April 2021

“Should I Stay (Home) or Should I Go? Citizen Response to COVID-19 Containment Measures in Brazil and Mexico” (*With Claire Dunn*)

- *Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress*, May 2021

- *UNC-Duke Latin American Working Group Conference*, April 2021

- *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, January 2021

“Youth Exposure to Violence and Political Attitudes: Evidence from Urban Mexico” (*With Omar García-Ponce*)

- *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Scheduled September 2021

“Progressive Ideology and Support for Tough-on-Crime Policy: Experimental Evidence from Brazil and Argentina”

- *Injustice and Justice Mini-Conference Poster (in conjunction with the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting)*, Scheduled September 2021

- *Latin American Politics and Party Competition Workshop at Duke University*, May 2021

“Estimating Actual Crime Rates and the ‘Dark Figure’ of Crime Using Bayesian Additive Regression Trees Plus Poststratification (BARP)”

- *Latin American PolMeth*, November 2020

- *Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting*, July 2020

- *UNC-Duke Latin American Working Group Conference*, February 2020

“Asking the Right Questions About Poverty Alleviation, Growth, and Distribution: A Case Study of Mexico” (*With William Ascher*)

- *The Annual Institute of the Society of Policy Scientists at The World Bank*, November 2015

Awards & Grants

- 2021-2022:** Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant (approx. \$22,000)
2020: UNC-Chapel Hill Three Minute Thesis Competition, People's Choice Award (\$400)
2020: Graduate Research Award, Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC-Chapel Hill (\$1,500)
2020: Critical Language Scholarship Virtual Institute for Brazilian Portuguese (Fall), U.S. Department of State (full language course tuition)
2020: Pre-dissertation Field Research Grant, Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC-Chapel Hill (\$1,500, canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
2020: Brazil Initiation Scholarship, Brazilian Studies Association (\$1,500)
2020: UNC Political Science Uhlman Seminar Three Minute Thesis Presentation, 1st Place (\$1,000)
2019-2020: Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship, Brazilian Portuguese (stipend and full tuition)
2019: Departmental Top-Up Grant, UNC Political Science (\$2,000)
2019: Society of Policy Scientists Annual Institute Travel Award (\$850)
2019: Summer Program Partial Scholarship, Advancing Research on Conflict (ARC) Consortium (\$900)
2019: Uhlman Summer Fellowship, UNC Political Science (\$2,000)
2019-2023: Summer Funding Award, UNC Political Science (\$3,000/year)
2016: Society of Policy Scientists Undergraduate Student Prize for an Unpublished Paper (\$250)
2016: Society of Policy Scientists Annual Institute Travel Award (\$1,000)

Teaching & Research Experience

Instructor:

- Poli 281: Data in Politics I, UNC-Chapel Hill (Fall 2021)
 Poli 784 Lab: Intermediate Statistics (PhD Level), UNC-Chapel Hill (Spring 2021)

Teaching Assistant:

- Poli 180: Introduction to Comparative Politics, UNC-Chapel Hill, Rahsaan Maxwell (Fall 2020)
 Intro to R, Intermediate R, Advanced R: UNC-Chapel Hill's Odum Institute Data Matters Short Course Series (1 week, Summer 2019)

Grader:

- Poli 281: Quantitative Research in Political Science, UNC-Chapel Hill, Leah Christiani (Spring 2019)
 Poli 180: Introduction to Comparative Politics, UNC-Chapel Hill, Rahsaan Maxwell (Fall 2018)

Research Assistant:

- Jonathan Hartlyn, UNC-Chapel Hill (Dec 2018-Present)
 Omar García-Ponce, GW University (June 2021-August 2021)
 Ted Enamorado, UNC-Chapel Hill (April 2020-June 2020)
 William Ascher, Claremont McKenna College (Dec 2015-May 2016)

Field Experience

- Mexico:** Virtual and in-person survey consultation (through the Conflict and Development Foundation and USAID)
Brazil (Virtual): 2 months intensive language coursework
Chile: 1 month of fieldwork (elite, academic, and NGO interviews)
Uruguay: 5 months in-person exchange coursework

Additional Workshops and Training

Spring 2021: Text Analysis Using R, UNC Odum Institute Short Course Series

Summer 2019: Advancing Research on Conflict (ARC) Summer Program

Professional Work Experience

Conflict and Development Foundation, College Station, T.X. (Remote)

Senior Research Associate (October 2020-Present)

Researcher and statistical consultant for the evaluation of USAID/Mexico's Crime and Violence Prevention Activity implemented by the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M University

EAB, Washington, D.C.

Analyst (July 2017-May 2018); Research Associate (July 2016-July 2017)

Served as a researcher and consultant for higher education and primary school clients on issues related to academic program launch and faculty professional development; Conducted market research analysis and over 200 qualitative interviews for about 70 research reports

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, U.S. Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.

Western Hemisphere Affairs Intern (June 2015-August 2015)

Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Foreign Affairs and Defense Intern (June 2014-July 2014)

Professional Service

Departmental:

2020-2021: Coordinator, Duke-UNC Latin American Politics Working Group

2019-2020: Graduate Student Executive Committee Member, UNC-Chapel Hill Political Science

2019: Selection Committee for the Charles Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction, UNC-Chapel Hill Political Science

Discipline & Educational:

2021-Present: Academic Mentor for Students in Prison, UNC Correctional Education Program

Referee: Research & Politics, International Journal of Public Opinion Research

Related Skills & Memberships

Languages: Portuguese (advanced), Spanish (advanced)

Certifications: Mental Health First Aid for Higher Education

Memberships: American Political Science Association; Southern Political Science Association; The Society for Political Methodology; The Latin American Studies Association