

Isabel G. Laterzo

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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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, Political Methodology

Committee: Jonathan Hartlyn (Chair), Cecilia Martínez-Gallardo, Santiago Olivella, Evelyne Huber, 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), *Cum Laude, May 2016*

Academic Appointments

Getulio Vargas Foundation *Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil*

Visiting Researcher, Center for Science Applied to Public Security, *May-August 2022*

Federal University of Bahia *Salvador, BA, Brazil*

Visiting Researcher, Laboratory for Studies of Crime and Society, *August-October 2022*

Federal University of Minas Gerais *Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil*

Visiting Researcher, Center for Legislative Studies *October-December 2022*

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Dunn, Claire E. and **Isabel G. Laterzo**, “State-Level Citizen Response to COVID-19 Containment Measures in Brazil and Mexico,” *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, 2021.

- Covered in *The Washington Post* in [November 2021](#)

- Winner of the 2022 LASA Subnational Politics and Society Best Paper Award

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

Working Papers

“Progressive Ideology and Support for Punitive Crime Policy: Evidence from Brazil and Argentina” *Revise & Resubmit at Comparative Political Studies*

- Covered in *The Washington Post* in [October 2022](#)

“The Legacy of Mexico’s Drug War on Youth Political Attitudes” *Under Review, (With Omar García-Ponce)*

“Who is to Blame? Understanding the Justifications for Youth Crime in Urban Mexico” *Under Review, (With Omar García-Ponce, Vivian Bronsoler, Elisa Lavore Fanjul, & Shahriar Kibriya)*

- Covered in *El Diario de Juárez* in [April 2022](#)

- Covered by Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) in [August 2022](#)

“A New Typology of Political Positions on Public Security: Evidence from Brazil” (Dissertation Chapter)

Papers in Preparation

“Applications of Small Area Estimation Strategies for Non-Homicidal Crimes and Insecurity”

“The ‘Tough on Crime’ Left: Race, Gender, and Elections of Law and Order Democrats” (*With Leah Christiani*)

Technical Publications

Bronsolero, Vivian Nurko, Omar García-Ponce, Shahriar Kibriya, **Isabel G. Laterzo**, and Elisa Lavore Fanjul. “Performance Evaluation of USAID/Mexico’s Crime and Violence Prevention Activity.” Produced for the United States Agency for International Development by the Center on Conflict and Development, Texas A&M University

Presentations

Conference Presentations: Public Choice Society Conference (2023); Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2023); Latin American Peace Science Society Conference (2023); Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2021, 2023); Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress (2021, 2022, 2023); Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (2020, 2022); Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (2022); American Political Science Association (2021); REPAL (Network for the Study of Latin American Political Economy) (2021); UNC-Duke Latin American Working Group Conference (2020, 2021); North Carolina Conference on Latin American Studies (2019, 2020, 2022); Latin American PolMeth (2020); Society for Policy Scientists Annual Institute (2015, 2019, 2021)

Invited Presentations: Center for Legislative Studies & Center for Criminality and Public Security Studies (Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil) (2022); Laboratory for the Study of Crime and Society (LASSOS, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil) (2022); Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE, Mexico City) (2022); Danish Centre for Welfare Studies, Politics of Insecurity Workshop (2022)

Awards & Grants

2023: Director’s Fund for Excellence, Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC-Chapel Hill (\$400)
2023: Departmental Top-Up Grant, UNC Political Science (\$4,000)
2022: UNC Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship (approx. \$3,000)
2021-2022: Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant (approx. \$22,000)
2021: ARPA Graduate Degree Completion Grant, UNC-Chapel Hill (\$7,850)
2021: American Political Science Association Travel Award (\$300)
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, U.S. Department of State
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: Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship, Portuguese (\$7,500 + tuition)
2019: Departmental Top-Up Grant, UNC Political Science (\$2,000)
2019: Society of Policy Scientists Annual Institute Travel Award (\$850)
2019: Summer Program 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 130: Introduction to Comparative Politics, UNC-Chapel Hill (Spring 2022)

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, Intermed., & Adv. R: UNC-Chapel Hill's Odum Institute Short Course Series (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)

Guest Lectures:

Getulio Vargas Foundation School of Law (São Paulo, Brazil) (2022)

Research Assistant:

Jonathan Hartlyn, UNC-Chapel Hill (Dec 2018-Present)

Omar García-Ponce, George Washington 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

Brazil: 7 months of expert interviews and election observation

Mexico: Virtual and in-person survey consultation

Chile: 1 month of expert interviews

Uruguay: 5 months in-person exchange coursework

Professional Work Experience

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

Senior Research Associate (October 2020-November 2021)

EAB (Education Advisory Board), Washington, D.C.

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

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)

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, Overleaf

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

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

Additional Workshops & Training

2022: Version Control with Git and Github Material (UNC Odum Institute Short Course Series); Using Qualitative Research to Study Social Justice (UNC Odum Institute Short Course Series); Extracting Data from the Web: Web Scraping Using R (UNC Odum Institute Short Course Series)

2021: Text Analysis Using R (UNC Odum Institute Short Course Series)

2019: [Advancing Research on Conflict \(ARC\)](#) Summer Program

Professional Service

Departmental:

2022-present: Vice President, Graduate Student Executive Committee (UNC-Chapel Hill Political Science)

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

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

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

Discipline & Educational:

2022-present: Co-founder and Organizer, [Violence, Instability, and Peace \(VIP\) Workshop](#)

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

Referee: Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Politics in Latin America, Research & Politics, International Journal of Public Opinion Research, Revista Papel Político, Colombia Internacional

Related Skills & Memberships

Languages: English (native), Portuguese (fluent), 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