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University of Florida
Department of Political Science
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Education

- PhD - University of Florida - August 2018 (expected)
- Major field: American Politics and Political Institutions
- Minor fields: Comparative Politics, Public Policy
- Supervisory committee: Lawrence C. Dodd (chair); Beth Rosenson (co-chair); Leslie Anderson; Richard Conley; Julie Dodd (external member, College of Journalism and Mass Communication)

- MA - University of Florida - 2014
- Examination fields: American Politics and Political Institutions (completed Fall 2013); Comparative Politics (completed Spring 2014)

- BA - West Virginia University - 2010 (summa cum laude)
- Major field: Political Science (course focus: Public Policy, Comparative Politics); Minor field: Spanish

Research Areas

- United States Congress; Congressional Record analysis; Framing, language, and rhetoric in politics; political communication; media and politics; political institutions and institutional organization

Teaching Experience

- University of Florida
- Instructor of Record:
 - POS 4424, Legislative Politics: Fall 2015; Spring 2016; Spring 2017
 - POS 2112, American State and Local Government: Summer 2016; Fall 2017
 - POS 4275, Modern Political Campaigns: Fall 2016
- Graduate Teaching Assistant:
 - POS 2112, State and Local Government: Spring 2015
 - POS 2041, American Federal Government: Fall 2012; Spring 2013 (online course); Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014

Conference Presentations

- “Negotiation, Impasse, and Crusade: Processes of Elite Framing in Congress” - Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2017)
- “(No?) Past Experience Needed: Explaining Governors’ Conciliatory and Confrontational Uses of Power” (with Mitchell Sellers) - Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2016); American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2015)
- “Processes of Elite Frame Framing in Congress: The Case of ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’” - Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2016)
- “The Decline of Unions and Working Class Access to Government” (with Robert L. Mermer II) - Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2016)
- “Evolutionary Perspectives on Message and Conflict Frames in Legislative Debate” (Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2016)
- “Processes of Congressional Frame Selection, Adaptation, and Taxonomy: Theory and Methods” - Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2015)

- “Immigration Policy Frames in Congress and Partisan Media, 2009-2014” - Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2015)
- “On the Origins of Issue Frames: Adoption of News Media Frames in the U.S. Congress,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meetings (2015)
- “Flunking the Electoral College? Comparing Normative Critiques with Empirical Analysis of Alternative Models, 1952-2012,” (with Richard S. Conley) - Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2014)
- “Debating ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’: A Critical Analysis of Elite Discourse in the Congressional Record” - Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2014)

Selected Working Papers

- Dissertation working title: “The Rhetorical Congress: The Evolution of Message and Conflict Frames in Legislative Debate”
- “Parties in Peril: Toward an Organizational Learning Theory of American Political Party Development” (2013)
- “Media Influence in American Interventions: Exploring Action and Inaction in Haiti, 1991-1994, and Honduras, 2009-2010” (2013)

Activities and Service

- Conference Participation
 - Discussant, “Policy-Making in the U.S.: History and Politics,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2017
 - Discussant, “Identity Formation and Mobilization: GLBT Politics,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2017
 - Discussant, undergraduate research panel on media and politics, Midwest Political Science Association (2015)
 - Panel participant, “Directions in LGBT Rights Research,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2014)
- University of Florida
 - Graduate Assistants United: Chief Steward (2015-2016); Communications Chair (2016 - Present)
 - Political Science Graduate Student Council: President (2014-2015); American Politics Field Chair (2013-2014); Social Chair (2012-2013)
- West Virginia University
 - The Daily Athenaeum (WVU student newspaper): columnist and opinion editor (2008-2010)

Awards and Grants

- Douglas M. Price Award (for outstanding graduate student in American Politics), University of Florida, 2016
- University of Florida Graduate Student Council Travel Grant (2014, 2016)
- University of Florida Graduate School Fellowship (2011 - 2015)
- Society of Professional Journalists Award (Region IV) (2010)

Professional Memberships

- American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Southern Political Science Association