

Kerri Milita

Assistant Professor, Department of Politics & Government
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Academic Employment

Assistant Professor, Illinois State University (August 2014-current)

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, Florida State University, May 2014

Fields: American Politics & Public Policy

M.S., Political Science, Florida State University, December 2010

M.A., Political Analysis & Policy, University of Central Florida, May 2009

B.A., Political Science, University of Central Florida, December 2006

Summa Cum Laude, Honors in the Major

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Piston, Spencer, Yanna Krupnikov, Kerri Milita, and John Barry Ryan. *Forthcoming*. "Clear as Black and White: the Effects of Ambiguous Rhetoric Depend on Candidate Race." *The Journal of Politics*.

Milita, Kerri, and Jaelyn Bunch. 2017. "Helicopter Parenting and the Policy Attitudes of College Students." *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

Milita, Kerri, Elizabeth Simas, John Barry Ryan, and Yanna Krupnikov. 2017. "Rhetorical Strategies in Congressional Elections." *Electoral Studies* 46 (April): 48-63.

Milita, Kerri. 2017. "Beyond Roll-Off: Individual Level Abstention on Ballot Measure Voting." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*.

Bunch, Jaelyn, Scott Liebertz, and Kerri Milita. 2017. "Outcomes and Outputs: Long-term Effects of TANF on Poverty and Caseload Enrollment." *Public Policy and Administration*.

Milita, Kerri. 2015. "Election Laws and Agenda Setting: How Election Law Restrictiveness Shapes the Complexity of State Ballot Measures." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 15 (2): 119-46.

Milita, Kerri, John Barry Ryan, and Elizabeth N. Simas. 2014. "Nowhere to Run, Nothing to Hide, or Nothing to Lose? Candidate Position-Taking in U.S. House Elections." *Political Behavior* 36 (2): 427-49.

Schraufnagel, Scot, and Kerri Milita. 2010. "Testing the Effects of Ballot Access Reform on Non-Major Party Electoral Fortunes: the Case of Florida's Revision 11." *American Review of Politics* 31 (1): 25-39.

Schraufnagel, Scot, and Kerri Milita. 2010. "The Partisan Duopoly in US House Elections: an Analysis of Minor Party Failure, 1976-2006." *Representation* 46 (2): 249-61.

Other Publications

Milita, Kerri, and Jaclyn Bunch. *Forthcoming*. "Scandal in the Post-Abramoff Congress." *Book Chapter*.

Milita, Kerri. 2015. "Restrictive ballot access laws reduce the technical complexity of initiatives and make them more likely to pass." USAPP. London School of Economics. Available at: <http://bit.ly/1ILtF7T>

Working Papers

Krupnikov, Yanna, Kerri Milita, Elizabeth Connors, and John Barry Ryan. "Gender Differences in the Quality of Political Discussion." *Under Review*.

Milita, Kerri and John Barry Ryan. "Making National Politics Local: Variation in Local News Coverage of Presidential Campaigns." *Under Review*.

Milita, Kerri. "Restricting Initiative: the Role of State Legislative Threat Perception."

Milita, Kerri, and Jaclyn Bunch. "Helicopter Parenting and the Decline of Political Ambition in Young Americans: Anxiety, Trust, and External Locus of Control."

Milita, Kerri, Jaclyn A. Bunch, and Sara Yeganeh. "It Could Happen to You: How Risk Exposure Shapes Policy Attitudes."

Ryan, John Barry, Yanna Krupnikov, Patrick Kraft, and Kerri Milita. "The Gatekeepers in Modern Media."

Berry, William D., Belinda Creel Davis, Lanny W. Martin, Charles J. Barrilleaux, and Kerri Milita. "Electoral Competition in the American States: A New Measure & Approach for Assessing its Impact on Public Policy."

Conference Presentations & Invited Talks

"Helicopter Parenting and the Decline of Political Ambition: Anxiety, Trust, and External Locus of Control." *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2017.

"Helicopter Parenting and Nascent Political Ambition." *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2017. (with Jaclyn Bunch)

"Sorry/Not Sorry: How Voters Respond to Questionable Candidate Statements." *Midwestern Psychological Association*. Chicago, IL. May 2016.

"Gender Differences in the Quality of Political Discussion." *Behavioral Models of Politics Conference*. Pittsburg, PA. May 2016. (with Yanna Krupnikov and John Barry Ryan).

"Children of the 'Copter: How Helicopter Parenting Shapes the Policy Attitudes of College Students." *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2016. (with Jaclyn Bunch)

"The Modern Gatekeepers in Mass Media." *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2016. (with John Barry Ryan, Yanna Krupnikov, and Patrick Kraft)

"Too Close for [Dis]Comfort? An Experimental Study of Perceived Institutional Legitimacy." *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2016. (with Meghan Leonard and Carl Palmer)

“The Effects of Ambiguous Candidates and Social Networks on Casting Correct Votes.” *International Society of Political Psychology*. San Diego, CA. July 2015. (with Yanna Krupnikov and John Barry Ryan)

“Gender Differences in the Quality of Political Discussion.” *Political Networks*. Portland, OR. June 2015. (with Yanna Krupnikov and John Barry Ryan)

“Children of the ‘copter: How Helicopter Parenting Shapes College Students’ Policy Attitudes.” *Midwestern Psychological Association*. Chicago, IL. May 2015.

“The Determinants of Election Law Restrictiveness.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Proposed. Chicago, IL. April 2015.

“It Could Happen to You: How Risk Exposure Shapes Policy Attitudes.” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2015. (with Jaclyn Bunch)

“News Coverage of Campaign Issue Positions: Causes & Consequences.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2014. (with John Barry Ryan)

“Restricting Initiative: the Role of Legislative Threat Perception.” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2014.

“Predicting Media Coverage of Campaigns.” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2014. (with John Barry Ryan)

“Voter Perceptions of Candidate Ambiguity.” *American Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. September 2013. (with John Barry Ryan & Yanna Krupnikov)

“Candidate Position-Taking & Electoral Performance.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2012. (with John Barry Ryan & Beth Simas)

“Nowhere to Run, Nothing to Hide, or Nothing to Lose? Candidate Position-Taking in U.S. House Elections.” *American Political Science Association*. Seattle, WA. September 2011. (with John Barry Ryan & Beth Simas)

“Electoral Barriers & Participatory Bias in Direct Legislation.” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2011.

“Taking the Initiative: Exploring the Influence of Citizen Legislating on Substantive & Procedural Governance in the American States.” *Florida Political Science Association*. Orlando, FL. April 2009.

“The Politics of ‘Interference’: Direct Legislation in the EU-15, 1950-2008.” *Invited talk. Politics of Great Britain Seminar*. University of Central Florida. April 2009.

“The Partisan Duopoly in U.S. House Elections: An Analysis of Minor Party Failure, 1976-2006.” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2009.

Academic Service

WomenAlsoKnowStuff Editorial Board (June 2017-present)

Guest Lecture: Web Scraping & Text Analysis, Advanced Quantitative Methods (January 2017; March 2016)

APSA Best Paper Award Committee, State Politics and Policy Section (2016).

Chair Search Committee, Illinois State University (Fall 2016-Spring 2016)

Graduate Student Travel Award Committee, MPSA (2016).

Section Head: MPSA, Section 46, State Politics & Intergovernmental Relations (2015).

Member: APSA, MPSA, SPSA

Teaching Experience

Graduate

American Politics Seminar

Undergraduate

U.S. Congress	Direct Democracy
Interest Groups	Public Policy
Campaign Politics	American Government
Research Methods	US Political Parties

Fellowships, Awards, & Honors

Faculty Start-up Grant (2016). Illinois State University.

New Faculty Initiative Grant (2015). Illinois State University.

APSA Travel Grant (2013). American Political Science Association

Nominee, Best Graduate Instructor, 2011-2012 Academic Year.

Nominated by the Department of Political Science, Florida State University.

Nominee, Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Scholar (Fall 2012).

Nominated by the Department of Political Science, Florida State University.

Presidential University Fellowship (2009-2012). Department of Political Science, Florida State University.

Additional Training, Experience, & Skills

Software & Programming skills: STATA, R, Visual Basic, OutWit, Python.

Bayesian Analysis & Data Visualization Workshop. FSU. Summer 2013. With: Dave Armstrong (Wisconsin-Milwaukee) & Ryan Bakker (Georgia).

Survey Lab Administrator. FSU. Summer 2012-Summer 2014.
With Jennifer Jerit & John Barry Ryan.

Quantitative Methods Working Group. FSU. 2010-2013.

Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE). FSU. Teaching certificate granted: 2011.

Policy Research Analyst, Craig A. Smith & Associates, LLC. 2007

Research Interests:

Candidate rhetoric	Election laws	Public policy
Direct democracy	State politics	Web-scraping & Automated Text Analysis