

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

Milita, Kerri, and John Barry Ryan. *Forthcoming*. "Battleground States and Local Coverage of American Presidential Campaigns." *Political Research Quarterly*.

Piston, Spencer, Yanna Krupnikov, John Barry Ryan, and Kerri Milita. 2018. "Clear as Black and White: the Effects of Ambiguous Rhetoric Depend on Candidate Race." *The Journal of Politics* 80 (2): 662-74.

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

Milita, Kerri, and Jaclyn Bunch. 2017. "Helicopter Parenting and the Policy Attitudes of College Students." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50 (2): 359-66.

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

Bunch, Jaclyn, 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. *Forthcoming*. "Review of *The Resilient Voter: Stressful Polling Places and Voting Behavior*." *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Milita, Kerri, and Jaclyn Bunch. 2017. "Legislative Scandals in the United States." In *Corruption, Accountability, & Discretion*, eds. Nancy Lind & Cara Rabe-Hemp. Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing.

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." *Invited to Revise & Resubmit*.

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

Simas, Elizabeth, Kerri Milita, and John Barry Ryan. "Candidate Rhetoric and Legislative Accountability." *Under Review*.

Milita, Kerri, and Jaclyn Bunch. "Helicopter Parenting and the Decline of Political Ambition: Anxiety, Trust, and External Locus of Control." *Under Review*.

Milita, Kerri. "Restricting Initiative: the Role of State Legislative Threat Perception." *Preparing for submission*.

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

Milita, Kerri. "Ambiguous Rhetoric & Credit Claiming: Stacking the Deck Against Women Candidates." *Data analysis*.

Milita, Kerri. "Does Direct Democracy Hinder Descriptive Representation in U.S. Congressional Delegations?" *Data analysis*.

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." *Data analysis*.

Grants & Awards

National Science Foundation. Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research. (July 2018). Project: The "Women Also Know Stuff" Initiative. Amount: \$269,602. *Awarded*.

Research Initiative Award. Illinois State University (July 2018). *Nominated*. [Winner Announced October 2018.]

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences, National Science Foundation (2017). *Fielded*. Project: Candidate Rhetoric and Legislative Accountability. Amount: \$15,000.

Pre-Tenure Faculty Initiative Grant. Illinois State University. (2017). Amount: \$3,500. *Awarded.*

Hibbert R. Roberts Teaching Excellence Award. Illinois State University (2018). *Awarded.*
[Note: Requires four years in-house teaching for initial eligibility.]

Faculty Start-up Grant (2016). Illinois State University. Amount: \$1,000. *Awarded.*

New Faculty Initiative Grant (2015). Illinois State University. Amount: \$3,500. *Awarded*

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.

Invited Talks

“Web-scraping & Text Analysis: a Very Gentle Introduction.” Graduate Seminar: Advanced Quantitative Methods. Illinois State University. Department of Politics & Government. Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016.

“Media & the Modern Candidate.” *Super Tuesdays*. Illinois State University. College of Arts & Science. October 2016.

“When You Say Nothing at All: How Candidates Win Elections by Shunning Issues.” *Main Street College*. Illinois State University. College of Arts & Sciences (Sponsored by Dean Greg Simpson). September 2016.

Conference Presentations

“Candidate Rhetoric and Legislative Accountability.” *American Political Science Association*. Boston, MA. September 2018. (with Elizabeth Simas and John Barry Ryan).

“It Could Happen to You: Risk Orientation and Attitudes Toward Welfare Spending.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2018.

“Helicopter Parenting and the Decline of Political Ambition: Anxiety, Trust, and External Locus of Control” *Southern Political Science Association*. New Orleans, LA. January 2018. (with Jaclyn Bunch)

“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.

Service to the Profession

WomenAlsoKnowStuff Editorial Board Member (June 2017-present)

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

MPSA Graduate Student Travel Award Committee (2016)

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

Referee: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Behavior*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Communication*, *Publius: the Journal of Federalism*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, *Political Studies*, *Research and Politics*, *Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences*

Service to the University

MA Thesis Chair (Illinois State University), Wei Hua (Summer 2018-Spring 2019)

Editor, *Critique: a Student Journal of Politics*, Illinois State University (Fall 2016-Fall 2018)
Manage student manuscript submissions, obtain anonymous peer reviewers for manuscripts, make final publication decision on submissions, and organize/format two journal issues per year. Maintain the journal website.

Institutional Review Board, Department Representative, Illinois State University (Fall 2017-Fall 2018)

Review faculty IRB proposals, offer methodological expertise, and recommend a review type to the IRB Executive Committee (full, expedited, or exempt).

Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University (Spring 2017-current)

Review student applications to Political Science MA program. Make final admission decisions and allocate funding to graduate assistants.

Faculty Advisor, Critical Politics Society, Illinois State University (Fall 2017-Fall 2018)

Organize weekly meetings of student organization whose goal is to provide a forum for non-partisan discussion of contemporary political issues. Propose weekly discussion and debate topics. Moderate weekly student debate.

Moderator, College Democrats vs. Turning Point Debate, Illinois State University (Fall 2017)

Worked with Dr. Jonathan Lackland (Office of the President) to organize the College Democrats vs. Turning Point Debate. Met with Dr. Lackland throughout the Fall 2017 semester to structure debate protocol, set timing rules for debate, and create debate questions to be asked. Moderated the debate with Dr. Lackland on October 23, 2017.

Member, Department Faculty Status Committee, Illinois State University (Fall 2015-August 2017)

Drafted annual productivity reports for Department faculty, evaluated three faculty tenure files, four sabbatical proposals, seven teaching awards, and eight internal grant applications.

MA Thesis Committee Member (Illinois State University), Nick Canfield (2016-2017), Steven Richardson (2015-2016)

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

Enrollment Committee, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University (Spring 2015-Fall 2016)

Three-person committee to study ways to increase the number of political science majors. Conducted a survey of majors and non-majors. Examined recruitment strategies of related departments at Illinois State (e.g. history, sociology). Made recommendations to Department on how to increase enrollment.

Teaching Experience

Graduate

American Politics Seminar

Undergraduate

U.S. Congress	Direct Democracy
Interest Groups	US Political Parties
Campaign Politics	American Government
Legislative Systems	Public Policy/Public Policy Analysis

Additional Training, Experience, & Skills

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

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

Research Interests:

Direct democracy	Candidate position-taking	Text analysis
Congressional elections	Public policy	Web scraping
Representation	Policy analysis	

References:

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Samara Klar
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