

Kerri Milita

Assistant Professor, Department of Politics & Government
Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790
www.kerrimilita.com
kmilita@ilstu.edu

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.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 Articles

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

Krupnikov, Yanna, Elizabeth Connors, John Barry Ryan, and Kerri Milita. *Forthcoming*. "Gender Differences in the Quality of Political Discussion." *Political Science Research & Methods*.

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, & Parties*.

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

Milita, Kerri. 2015. "Election Laws and Agenda Setting: How Election Law Restrictiveness Shapes the Complexity of State Ballot Measures." *State Politics & 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.

Book Chapters

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.

Other Publications

Milita, Kerri. 2018. "Review of *The Resilient Voter: Stressful Polling Places and Voting Behavior*." *Public Opinion Quarterly* (October).

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

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*.

Grants & Awards

National Science Foundation (NSF). Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research. July 2018. Project: The "Women Also Know Stuff" Initiative.

- Amount: \$269,602

Research Initiative Award. Illinois State University. November 2018. [Note: University-wide award given to junior faculty with promising research agendas.]

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), National Science Foundation. November 2017. Project: Candidate Rhetoric and Legislative Accountability.

- Amount: \$15,000

Pre-Tenure Faculty Initiative Grant. Illinois State University. September 2018.

- Amount: \$3,500

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

Faculty Start-up Grant. August 2016. Illinois State University.

- Amount: \$1,000

New Faculty Initiative Grant. June 2015. Illinois State University.

- Amount: \$3,500

Invited Talks

“Mind the Gap: Inequalities in Political Science.” Invited Talk. University of Chicago. Department of Political Science. February 2019. *Scheduled*.

“Direct Democracy in the US.” Invited Talk. Stony Brook University. Department of Political Science. Graduate class on Elections. November 2018.

“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.

Recent Conference Presentations

“Amplifying Underrepresented Voices in Political Science.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2019. *Scheduled Roundtable*.

“Initiatives without Engagement.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2019. *Scheduled Roundtable*.

“How Risk Orientation Shapes Support for Graduate Student Unionization.” *Midwest Political Science Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2019. *Scheduled*.

“Political Ambition in College Students.” *Southern Political Science Association*. Austin, TX. January 2019. (with Jaclyn Bunch) *Scheduled*.

“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*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *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 Office of the President to organize the College Democrats vs. Turning Point Debate. Met throughout the Fall 2017 semester to structure debate protocol, set timing rules for debate, and create debate questions to be asked. Moderated the debate 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

Software

ConferenceBit: online conference organization software. Includes ability of organizers to (i) solicit proposals for papers, posters, & roundtables, (ii) accept or reject proposals, (iii) assign section heads, (iv) vote/rank submissions, (v) sort submissions by section/keywords, (vi) drag and drop papers/posters to panels/sessions/times, (vii) create special functions such as luncheons, keynotes, workshops, etc., and (viii) automatically create a conference program. Software will automatically generate a conference URL (with free web hosting).

ExtraCredit.info: used to collect student names/class info for online surveys. Redirect surveys to a secure custom created URL to keep student responses separate from identifying information. Create lists of universities/faculty/classes participating in a survey. Responses are password locked so only PIs can download identifying information.

Research Interests:

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

Contact Information:

Kerri Milita	Web: www.kerrimilita.com
Email: kmilita@ilstu.edu	Twitter: @KerriMilita
Phone: 561-512-0482	