

AILEEN CARDONA-ARROYO

Department of Political Science
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Academic Appointments and Affiliations

Pace University- NYC Campus

Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies, Department of Political Science, 2017-present.

Southern Methodist University (SMU)

Tower Center Fellow, J.G. Tower Center for Political Studies, 2017-present.

Latino Politics Post-Doctoral Fellow, J. G. Tower Center for Political Studies, 2016-2017.

Latino Center for Leadership Development (LCLD)

Latino Politics Fellow, LCLD Policy Institute, 2016-2017.

Education

Cornell University

Ph.D. Government, 2017.

MA. Government, 2013.

Major Field: American Politics, Minor Field: Comparative Politics

University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus

BA. Political Science, *Summa cum Laude*, 2009.

Thesis: Latino Economic Voting in the United States

Additional Training

- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods (CQRM) at Syracuse University, Program in Mixed-Methods Research, 2012.
- Training in Teaching, Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University, 2012.

Dissertation

Title: Framing Matters: Immigration, the Media, and Public Opinion

Committee: Michael Jones-Correa (chair), Suzanne Mettler, Adam Levine

Summary: My dissertation bridges scholarship on immigration and group threat with research on media framing and public opinion. I use a multi-methods approach drawing on original survey experiment data, survey data, and content analysis to examine and compare the strength of media frames used by immigration advocates and opponents in the United States. I identify three types of frames: (1) group-level frames, (2) individual-level frames, and (3) political frames. Overall, I argue that anti-immigrant advocates portray immigrants at the group-level, while immigrant supporters primarily use individual-level frames; and that both sides of the immigration debate use political frames, which focus on immigrants' political power and rights. I pose that this competitive media environment creates a narrative that is distinct from the sum of its parts – where negative group frames coupled with individual positive

frames communicate an overall negative view of immigrants, while allowing for individual exceptions to the general rule. I further suggest that “political frames” add to this narrative by heightening feelings of “threat” among non-Latinos and simultaneously tapping into Latinos’ feelings of solidarity with immigrants. In Chapter one, I present my theoretical framework, which argues that people incorporate new information on immigration in relation to their perceptions of (Latino) immigrants as a group. Chapter two uses content analysis data of every immigration related article published in the New York Times and Washington Times in 2006, 2010 and 2015. Chapter three presents original survey experiment data comparing the effect of group-centric frames with personal narrative frames on immigration policy attitudes. Chapter four uses original survey experiment data and survey data to compare the effect of political frames on Latinos and non-Latinos’ policy opinions on immigration. Finally, Chapter five considers the political implications of my research findings for scholarship on immigration, the media and public opinion, as well as media framing strategists and political activists.

Research and Publications

Manuscripts in Preparation

“Police or Pol-ICE? Texas SB4 and competing expectations of the role of local law enforcement in keeping people safe,” in preparation. (with Alicia Reyes-Barrientez)

“Passive or Active Substantive Representation? Examining Variability in Latina/o State Legislators’ Engagement in Undocumented Student Policy Development,” in preparation. (with Denisa Gándara and Alicia Reyes-Barrientez)

“Immigration Protests and Public Opinion: How Public Demonstrations Shape the Policy Attitudes of Latinos and Non-Latinos,” in preparation.

“The Ideological Context of Place and its Role in Shaping Latino Partisanship,” in preparation. (with Michael Jones-Correa)

“Are Individual Narratives of Immigrants Compelling? Comparing the Effectiveness of Personal Narratives with Group-Centric Frames on Immigration,” in preparation.

“The Policy Spillover of Undocumented Immigration: How the Stereotyped Behavior of Undocumented Immigrants Shapes Opinions on Non-Immigration Issues,” in preparation.

Book Chapters and Contributions

“The Puerto Rican Diaspora in the 2016 Elections: comparing the electoral behavior of Puerto Ricans in older northeast settlements with those in the new southern destination of Florida,” book chapter for Gabe Sanchez’s edited volume *Latinos and the 2016 Elections*, in preparation.

Encyclopedic entries for “Jones Act” and “Balzac v Porto Rico” in Jessica Lavariega’s edited volume *Latinos in the American Political System: An Encyclopedia of Latinos as Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders*, in preparation.

Research Presentations and Conferences

Research Presentations

“The Puerto Rican Diaspora in the 2016 Elections.” Latinos in the 2016 Election: A National Symposium Sponsored by the Institute on Latinos Studies at the University of Notre Dame, 2016.

“Persuasive News Coverage: Examining the Role of Media in Shaping Policy Opinions on Immigration.” Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies in the School of Public Affairs, American University, 2016.

“Immigration and Public Opinion: How News of Immigrant Protests Shape the Policy Attitudes of Latinos and non-Latinos.” Policy Forum on Immigration and Public Opinion, Southern Methodist University (SMU), 2016

“The Puerto Rican Vote in Central Florida and the 2016 Elections.” Roundtable on Latinos and the 2016 Elections, Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, PR, 2016.

“Group Threat, Solidarity and Attitudes Toward Undocumented Immigration.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2015.

“Individuals and the Group: A Look at Opposing Media Frames on Undocumented Immigrants.” American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013.

“How Ideological Context Shapes the Partisanship and Political Orientation of Latino Movers and Settlers.” (With Michael Jones-Correa) Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, Hollywood, CA, 2013.

“The Satellite Policies of Undocumented Immigration.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013.

“The Ideological Context Of Place and its Role In Shaping Latino Partisanship And Political Orientations.” Graduate student workshop, Cornell University, 2013.

“Assessing the Effect of Foreign Language Skills on Attitudes Toward Immigration Issues in Congress.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2012.

Other Conference Participation

“Author Meets Critics: Latinas in American Politics.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2017. (Chair)

“Latinos and Federal Education Policy.” The State of Latino Education: A Policy Conference on Statewide and National Opportunities and Challenges, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, 2017. (Discussant)

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

LatinoCLD/SMU Research Grant (10,000), Southern Methodist University, 2016.

Graduate School Dean’s Scholar, Cornell University, 2015.

Sage Fellowship, Cornell University, 2009; 2015.

American Studies Research Grant, Cornell University, 2014.

Provost’s Diversity Fellowship, Cornell University, 2013.

Houston I. Flournoy Graduate Fellowship, Cornell University, 2013.

Graduate School Conference Travel Grants, Cornell University, 2012; 2013.

Supplemental grant for methods training at the Qualitative and Multi Method Research (IQMR), Consortium on Qualitative Research Method (CQRM), Cornell University, 2012.

Summa cum Laude, University of Puerto Rico, 2009.

Tuition exemption for academic achievement, University of Puerto Rico, 2006-2009.

Cordova & Fernós Congressional Internship Scholarship, University of Puerto Rico, 2008.

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Latino Politics, J.G. Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2016, 2017.

Latinos & the 2016 Elections, J.G. Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2016.

Latinos, Religion and the Electorate, Independent Study (with Masters Student), J.G. Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2016.

Teaching Assistance (Cornell University)

Politics and Policy: Theory, Research and Practice (Fall 2013 - Spring 2015);

Public Opinion and Representation (Spring, 2013); Campaigns and Elections (Fall 2012); The Cold War (Spring 2012); Introduction to American Politics (Head TA, Fall 2011); Government and Public Policy (Spring 2011); Race, Ethnicity and Politics (Fall 2010).

Teaching Areas

American Politics, Latino/a Politics, Race and Ethnic Politics, Immigration, Public Opinion, Political Communication, Political Behavior, Political Participation, Public Policy, Campaigns and Elections

Research Advising

Cornell University

Research Adviser, Cornell University's Washington, DC campus, 2013-2015.

- Supervised undergraduate research writing for approximately 40 students
- Provided training in quantitative and qualitative methods

Professional/University Service

Southern Methodist University

Co-Chair, Grant Committee, SMU Tower Center/LatinoCLD Research Partnership, 2016-2017.

Coordinator, Latino Politics Policy Forum Series, SMU Tower Center/LatinoCLD Research Partnership. 2016-2017.

Interview Panel, The DISD Mustang Scholarship, Southern Methodist University, 2016, 2017.

Honors Thesis Defense Committee for Tracy Nelson, J.G. Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2016.

Cornell University

Graduate-Faculty liaison, Department of Government, Cornell University, 2010-2011.

University of Puerto Rico

Representative of the University of Puerto Rico at the Association of University Honors Programs (AUPH in Spanish), 2006-2007.

Reviewer: *Political Research Quarterly*

Community Engagement

Invited Speaker, Leadership Academy Seminar, LatinoCLD, 2017.

Invited Speaker, Career Day, Bowman Middle School, 2016

Invited Speaker, Leadership Academy Seminar, LatinoCLD, 2016.

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

Western Political Science Association (WPSA)

Languages

Spanish (Native Speaker); English (Native Fluency)

Other Experience

Resident Advisor, Cornell University's Washington, DC campus housing, Spring 2014- Summer 2015.

Translation of Surveys, Cornell University, Assisted in the translation of survey instruments and documents (English to Spanish) for Professor Michael Jones Correa, 2013; 2014.

Assistant Researcher, University of Puerto Rico, Coded audit reports of Puerto Rico's Comptroller Office (OCPR) and tax returns forms of Puerto Rican mayors from 1990-2000, for Dr. Luis Cámara Fuertes' research project entitled: "Corruption, Political Responsibility and Elections in Puerto Rico's Municipalities," 2007-2009.

Assistant Researcher, University of Toronto, Conducted Archival work of historical land tenure information of PR municipalities from the 1850's-1860's and 1890's for Dr. Gustavo Bobonis' research project entitled "Bitter Coffee: Trade Winds, 19th Century Coffee Boom, and Historical Development," 2007.

Legislative Intern, Senator John Kerry, United States Senate, Spring 2008.

Academic References

Dr. Michael Jones-Correa

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Dr. Adam Levine

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