

# ERIKA L. VALLEJO

✉ vallejo@msu.edu

🌐 erikavallejo.com

## EDUCATION

---

### Michigan State University

Doctoral Candidate, Political Science

Expected July 2024

Area of Study: American Politics (major), Public Policy (minor)

Specializations: Chicano/Latino Studies & Women's and Gender Studies

- ❖ Dissertation Title: "Intersectional Approaches to Understanding Working-Class Candidates & Politicians"
- ❖ Dissertation Committee: Eric Gonzalez Juenke (Chair), Nazita Lajevardi, Sarah Reckhow, Ian Ostrander, Nick Carnes (Duke University)

### Michigan State University

Master of Arts, Political Science

May 2021

### University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and Philosophy

May 2016

Edinburg, TX. *Honors*: Cum Laude.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

**Erika Vallejo**<sup>1</sup>, Flores, Amanda, Angélica Ruvalcaba, and Dianey Leal. *Forthcoming*. "Midwest Tejanas: Navigating entre mundos juntas." In ¡Somos Tejanas!, edited by Jodi Marin and Norma Cantú. Austin, TX: *University of Texas Press*. Expected: Fall 2023.

Bartlett, Catalina, Everardo Cuevas, Wilfredo Flores, **Erika Vallejo**, and Néstor Espinoza. *Forthcoming*. "Pra(x)ical Lessons: Takeaways From Teaching A Chicax Rhetorics Graduate Seminar." *Latinx Writing and Rhetoric Studies*.

## WORKING PAPERS

---

Dickinson, Kesicia, Jamil Scott, **Vallejo, Erika**, and Kennia L. Coronado. 2023. "Urban Progress? Understanding the Impact of Black and Brown Leadership in Cities Today." *Book Project*.

**Vallejo, Erika**<sup>2</sup> and Gerson Guevara. 2023. "What Makes an Ideal Political Candidate?" *Article Project*.

**Vallejo, Erika** 2022. "Working-Class State-Level Legislative Campaigns: Are They Successful?" *Dissertation Chapter*.

<sup>1</sup>Shared authorship.

<sup>2</sup>Shared authorship.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

---

**Vallejo, Erika.** *Forthcoming.* “Gilberto y Orfelinda” In *Somos Xicanas Anthology, Somos en escrito Literary Foundation Press.* Expected: Summer 2024.

**Vallejo, Erika.** *Forthcoming.* “Book Review: Crimes of the Tongue Essays and Stories.” *NEXO: Official Newsletter of the Julian Samora Research Institute.* Expected: Fall 2023.

**Vallejo, Erika.** Fall 2021. “[A Conversation with Dr. Jamil Scott.](#)” MSU AGEP *Science Today* Bulletin.

**Vallejo, Erika.** 2021. “[The ‘Diploma Divide’: Does It Exist for Racial and Ethnic Minorities?’](#)” *Michigan Policy Wonk Blog.*

Juenke, Eric Gonzalez, Paru Shah, Bernard L. Fraga and **Erika Vallejo.** 2020. “[State legislatures likely to have more women and people of color next year.](#)” *Washington Post.*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

*Contributor,* Cooperative Election Study (CES). 2022 & 2023

*Research Assistant/Contributor,* “The State Legislators Dataset.” Fall 2022  
w/Professors Eric Hansen & Nick Carnes

*Contributor,* Candidate Characteristics Cooperative (C3) 2020 & 2022 Data. 2019-2022

*Research Assistant,* APSA Presidential Task Force on Systemic Inequalities in the Discipline. Summer 2021

*Research Fellow,* Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Fall 2020-Spring 2021

*Contributor,* 2020 Collaborative Multiracial Post-Election Survey (CMPS). 2020

*Research Assistant,* Professor Eric Gonzalez-Juenke. Fall 2019-Spring 2020

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor, Professor Mariana Medina. Present  
• PLS 201 Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis

Teaching Assistant, Professor Valentina Bali. Fall 2023  
• PLS 392 Special Topics in Applied Policy Research

Teaching Assistant, Professor Anthony Jesuale. Summer 2023  
• PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor, Professor Mariana Medina. Spring 2023  
• PLS 201 Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis

Teaching Assistant, Professor Ryan Black. Fall 2022  
• PLS 392 Special Topics in Political Science

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Facilitator/Mentor for Undergraduates, Steven Thomas.<br>• Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP) | Summer 2022 |
| Teaching Assistant, Professor Rachel Schutte.<br>• PLS 320 Judicial Politics                            | Summer 2022 |
| Teaching Assistant, Professor Eric Gonzalez-Juenke.<br>• PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics      | Spring 2022 |
| Teaching Assistant, Professor Ian Ostrander.<br>• PLS 325 The Presidency                                | Fall 2021   |
| Teaching Assistant, Professor Rachel Schutte.<br>• PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics            | Summer 2020 |

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

“What Makes an Ideal Political Candidate?”

Presenting with coauthor Gerson Guevara at the 81st Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. April 4-7, 2024. Chicago, IL.

“Working-Class State-Level Legislative Campaigns: Are They Successful?”

Presented at Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Chalk Talk. Both in-person and virtual. December 7, 2023.

“Working-Class State-Level Legislative Campaigns: Does Class-Based Rhetoric Work?”

Presented at Alumni Conference at Michigan State University. April 28, 2022.

“Working-Class State-Level Legislative Campaigns: Does Class-Based Rhetoric Work?”

Presented at the 79th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. April 7-10, 2022. Chicago, IL.

“Examining Working-Class State-Level Candidates & Elections.”

Presented at Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Chalk Talk. Both in-person and virtual. March 17, 2022.

“Working-Class Campaigns: Does Class-Based Rhetoric Work?”

Presented at the CREW/PSOC Joint Workshop hosted online by Michigan State University. December 3, 2021

“Examining Working-Class State-Level Campaigns.”

Presented at the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC) hosted by University of North Texas. Virtual Panel. November 19, 2021.

## WORKSHOPS AND INVITED TALKS

---

*Invited Guest Speaker* for Bowling Green State University,  
Department of Political Science. *Englehart Research Forum*.

Fall 2023

“Working-Class State Legislative Campaigns: Are They Successful?”

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <i>Invited Speaker</i> for MSU <i>Womxn of Color Initiatives (WOCI)</i> .<br>“Surviving Comps: Reading and Writing, Session, I” | Fall 2023 |
| <i>Invited Panelist</i> for MSU “Undergraduate Research Troubleshooting Panel.”   | Fall 2020 |
| <i>Invited Speaker</i> for UTRGV Undergraduate Orientation, <i>Vaquero Roundup</i> .  | Fall 2020 |
| <i>Invited Speaker</i> for UTRGV <i>The Political Science Association of Students (PSA)</i> .                                   | Fall 2019 |

## GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

---

### External

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| APSA Minority Fellows Program \$2,000. | Spring 2020 |
| ICPSR Diversity Scholarship. \$8,000.  | Summer 2018 |

### Internal

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Academic Achievement Graduate Assistantship (AAGA).               | Fall 2019-Present     |
| AGEP Scholar Award. \$2,000.                                      | Fall 2023             |
| Julian Samora Endowment Graduate Scholarship. \$2,000.            | Fall 2023-Spring 2024 |
| Dept. Summer Fellowship Award. \$5,000.                           | Summer 2023           |
| Graduate School Office Research Support Fellowship. \$1,920.      | Summer 2023           |
| Graduate School Office Support. \$276.                            | Fall 2022             |
| College of Social Science Support. \$276.                         | Fall 2022             |
| Graduate School Office Fellowship. \$750.                         | Fall 2022             |
| MSU Minority Politics Award. \$1,000.                             | Fall 2022             |
| College of Social Science Early Start Research Grant. \$3,000.    | Summer 2022           |
| Dept. UM Methods Support. \$625.                                  | Summer 2022           |
| Dept. Summer Fellowship Award. \$5,000.                           | Summer 2022           |
| Graduate School Office Fellowship MPSA Conference Support. \$500. | Spring 2022           |
| College of Social Science MPSA Conference Support. \$560.         | Spring 2022           |
| AGEP Scholar Award. \$2,000.                                      | Fall 2021             |
| Dept. Summer Fellowship Award. \$5,000.                           | Summer 2021           |
| College of Social Science Early Start Research Grant. \$2,500.    | Summer 2021           |
| Dept. Summer Fellowship Award. \$5,000.                           | Summer 2021           |
| Graduate School Office Fellowship Research Support. \$1,050.      | Fall 2020             |
| College of Social Science Early Start Research Grant. \$2,500.    | Summer 2020           |
| Dept. Summer Fellowship Award. \$5,000.                           | Summer 2020           |
| Dept. IQMR Program Support. \$310.                                | Summer 2020           |
| Pre-Dissertation Graduate School Office Fellowship. \$1,490.      | Spring 2020           |
| Pre-Dissertation Graduate School Office Fellowship. \$3,300.      | Spring 2020           |
| MSU Minority Politics Conference Travel Award. \$500.             | Fall 2019             |
| College of Social Science Early Start Research Grant. \$6,000.    | Summer 2019           |
| Chicano/Latino Studies Recruitment Award. \$2,500.                | Fall 2018             |

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

### Departmental Service

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| President, Graduate Student Association, MSU                          | Fall 2022-Spring 2023 |
| Professionalization Representative, Graduate Student Association, MSU | Fall 2020-Spring 2022 |

Graduate Student Union, Union Steward Fall 2019-Spring 2021  
First-Year Representative, Graduate Student Association, MSU Fall 2019-Spring 2020

### University Service

College of Social Science Dean's Graduate *Student Advisory Council* Fall 2022-Present  
Editor, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Fall 2021  
*Science Today* Bulletin  
*Volunteer Judge & Facilitator* for the AGEP Fall Conference Fall 2021  
AGEP *Panel Volunteer* for Eastern Michigan University Trio Programs Fall 2019  
*Volunteer Judge* for the Mid-Michigan Symposium for Undergraduate Research Experiences (Mid-SURE) Summer 2019

### Discipline Service

MPSA Conference Undergraduate Research standing E-panel *Discussant*. April 2022  
*Graduate Training and Graduate Student Experiences Working Group Member*, 2020-2021  
American Political Science Association (APSA) Presidential Task Force,  
"Examining Issues and Mechanisms of Systemic Inequality in the Discipline."

## CERTIFICATIONS/ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

---

Graduate Certificate, Women's & Gender Studies (MSU) May 2023  
Womxn of Color Initiatives (WOCI) Writing Retreat Fall 2022 & 2023  
Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques at UM- Summer 2022  
Qualitative Methods: Overview & Semi-Structured Interviewing  
Graduate Certificate, Chicano/Latino Studies (MSU) May 2022  
Institute for Qualitative & Multi-Method Research (IQMR) Summer 2021  
Process Tracing in Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research (ICPSR) Summer 2020  
Introduction to Mixed Methods Research (ICPSR) Summer 2020  
EITM certification for Race, Ethnicity, & Quantitative Methodology II 2020  
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer 2018, 2020

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

---

American Political Science Association Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics  
American Political Science Association Section on Race, Latino Caucus  
American Political Science Association Section on Economic and Social Class Inequality  
Minority Politics Lab, Michigan State University  
Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Michigan State University  
Womxn of Color Initiatives (WOCI), Michigan State University  
Rueda Latina, Michigan State University  
Research on the Economic Characteristics of Officeholders News (RECON)  
Scholars Strategy Network (SSN)

## INTERESTS

---

Race and Ethnicity Politics, Gender Politics, Latinx/o/a Politics, Intersectionality, Political Inequality, Campaigns, Political Elites.

## SKILLS

---

Statistical/Computer: R, Stata, LaTeX

## REFERENCES

---

Eric Gonzalez Juenke

Associate Professor of Political Science & Chicano/Latino Studies Program, Michigan State University

Nazita Lajevardi

Associate Professor of Political Science, Michigan State University

Sarah Reckhow

Professor of Political Science, Michigan State University

Ian Ostrander

Associate Professor of Political Science & Graduate Program Director, Michigan State University

Nicholas Carnes

Professor of Public Policy, Duke University