

ERIKA L. VALLEJO

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EDUCATION

Michigan State University

Doctoral Candidate, Political Science

Expected June 2025

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 Vallejo¹, Flores, Amanda, Angélica Ruvalcaba, and Dianey Leal. *Forthcoming*. "Midwest Tejanas: Navigating entre mundos juntas." In [¡Somos Tejanas! Chicana Identity and Culture in Texas](#), edited by Jodi Marin and Norma Cantú. Austin, TX: *University of Texas Press*. Expected: February 2025.

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

WORKING PAPERS

Vallejo, Erika 2024. "Overcoming Barriers and Running for Office as a Working-Class Person" *Dissertation Chapter*.

Vallejo, Erika 2024. "How Do Voters Evaluate Working-Class Candidates?" *Dissertation Chapter*.

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, Erika² and Gerson Guevara. 2023. "What Makes an Ideal Political Candidate?" *Article Project*.

Vallejo, Erika 2023. "Working-Class State-Level Legislative Campaigns: Are They Successful?" *Dissertation Chapter*.

¹Shared authorship.

²Shared authorship.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Vallejo, Erika. December 2024. “Gilberto y Orfelinda” In *Somos Xicanas Anthology, Riot of Roses Publishing House*.

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

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, Professor Mariana Medina. Spring 2025
• PLS 201 Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis

Course Instructor Fall 2024
• PLS 422 Gender and Politics

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor, Professor Mariana Medina. Spring 2024
• 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. • PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics	Summer 2023
Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor, Professor Mariana Medina. • PLS 201 Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis	Spring 2023
Teaching Assistant, Professor Ryan Black. • PLS 392 Special Topics in Political Science	Fall 2022
Facilitator/Mentor for Undergraduates, Steven Thomas. • Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP)	Summer 2022
Teaching Assistant, Professor Rachel Schutte. • PLS 320 Judicial Politics	Summer 2022
Teaching Assistant, Professor Eric Gonzalez-Juenke. • PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics	Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant, Professor Ian Ostrander. • PLS 325 The Presidency	Fall 2021
Teaching Assistant, Professor Rachel Schutte. • PLS 100 Introduction to American Politics	Summer 2020

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“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

<i>Invited Facilitator</i> for <i>MLK Commemorative Celebration</i> . MSU Libraries and WKAR Public Media. <i>Social Justice Film & Discussion: "Fannie Lou Hamer's America."</i>	Spring 2025
<i>Invited Guest Speaker</i> for Bowling Green State University, Department of Political Science. <i>Englehart Research Forum</i> . "Working-Class State Legislative Campaigns: Are They Successful?"	Fall 2023
<i>Invited Speaker</i> for MSU <i>Womxn of Color Initiatives (WOCI)</i> . "Surviving Comprehensive Exams Workshop Series- Part 1: "Reading and Writing for Comps"	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
Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship. \$7,500.	Summer 2024
2024 winner of the Graduate Teaching Award.	Spring 2024
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 <i>Student Advisory Council</i>	Fall 2022-Spring 2024
Editor, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) <i>Science Today</i> Bulletin	Fall 2021
<i>Volunteer Judge & Facilitator</i> for the AGEP Fall Conference	Fall 2021
AGEP <i>Panel Volunteer</i> for Eastern Michigan University Trio Programs	Fall 2019
<i>Volunteer Judge</i> for the Mid-Michigan Symposium for Undergraduate Research Experiences (Mid-SURE)	Summer 2019

Discipline Service

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

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- Qualitative Methods: Overview & Semi-Structured Interviewing	Summer 2022
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 (WOICI), 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, NVivo

Languages: Spanish (Intermediate)

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