

MARA CECILIA OSTFELD

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
mostfeld@umich.edu

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- 2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan
- 2013 – 2016 Post-Doctoral Fellow, Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2013 Ph.D, Political Science, University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: “One Vision: Spanish-Language Media and Latino Political Identity”
Committee: Dr. Diana Mutz (chair), Dr. Rogers Smith & Dr. Matthew Levendusky
- 2009 M.A., Political Science, University of Pennsylvania
- 2005 M.P.P., Harvard University
- 2003 B.A., Social Work, Rutgers University

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Revisiting The Effects Of Case Studies In The News.” (2014). *Political Communication* (with Diana Mutz).

“The Backyard Politics of Attitudes Toward Immigration.” (Forthcoming). *Political Psychology*.

“The Consequences of Priming Latino Political Identity on Self-Reported Survey Attitudes.” Under Review. (with Francisco Pedraza)

“Unity vs. Uniformity: Within-Group Effects of Targeted Political Media.” In Progress.

“Explicit Cues and Attitudes Toward Immigration Reform.” In Progress. (with Dan Hopkins)

“‘Nuestro Idioma’: Effects of Spanish-Language News Media on Images of Latinidad.” Paper in Progress.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2015 “Ethnic Filter Questions: The Political Implications of Priming Latino Identity,” (with Francisco Pedraza). Center for Political Studies Workshop, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2015 “Ethnic Filter Questions: The Political Implications of Priming Latino Identity,” (with Francisco Pedraza). American Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.

- 2015 “The Consequences of Priming Latino Political Identity on Self-Reported Survey Attitudes,” (with Francisco Pedraza). Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 “Unity vs. Uniformity: Within-Group Effects of Targeted Political Media,” Symposium on the Politics of Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2014 “Aprobando el Mensaje: Effects of Bilingual Campaign Ads on Non-Latinos,” Academia del Pueblo Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.
- 2014 “The Role of Race and Ethnicity in Social Science Research,” Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2013 “‘Nuestro Idioma’: Effects of Spanish-Language News Media on Latino Public Opinion,” The Coalition for Interdisciplinary Research on Latino/a Issues, November, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2013 “One Vision: Spanish-Language Media Effects on Latino Political Identity,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 “One Vision: Spanish-Language Media and Latino Political Identity,” Philadelphia-Area American Politics Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2012 “Shaping Attitudes Toward Immigration: Understanding the Role of Race and Assimilation,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 “Revisiting The Effects Of Personalization: American Attitudes Toward Immigration Policy,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2014 Office of Research Faculty Grants and Awards Program, University of Michigan Office of Research
- 2014 Center for Public Policy in Diverse Societies Research Grant, University of Michigan
- 2011-12 Democracy, Constitutionalism and Citizenship Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
- 2011 Institute for the Study of Citizens and Politics Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2009 Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS) Research Grant
- 2007 & ‘08 Presidential Prize Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2014 The Circle Award (La Celebración Latina Teaching Award), The University of Michigan Office of Academic and Multicultural Initiatives
- 2013 Janet A. Harkness Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, World Association of Public Opinion Research/ American Association of Public Opinion Research
- 2012 Harrell Rodgers Graduate Student Travel Scholarship, Midwest Political Science Association
- 2005 First annual Kennedy School of Government Spirit Award, Harvard University, 2005 (Award to honor the graduating student best demonstrating the schools mission of public service)
- 2003 Class of 2003 Recipient of Dean's Award for Excellence, Rutgers University

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012 – Present Exit Poll Analyst, NBC/ Telemundo, (2012 – present)
Analyze exit poll data for Telemundo's news coverage of primary and general elections; Assist Telemundo news producers contextualize election data for Latino audience; Use exit poll data to prepare MSNBC stories on the opinion and behavior of Latino voters; Review Spanish translations of English exit polls to ensure they have comparable meanings
- 2005 - 07 Deputy Press Secretary , Governor Jon S. Corzine (2005-07)
Oversaw the communications staff and managed press inquiries for 11 government departments; Developed media statements on behalf of the Governor; Appointed to the Governor's Working Group on Latino Affairs' education sub-committee to develop policy proposals relating to educational issues of particular concern to Latinos in New Jersey

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2009 Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Global Communication Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Worked in partnership with the Center for Global Communication Studies on research seeking to measure and document shifts in government regulation of the Cuban media system.
- 2005 Research Associate, Dr. Juan Carlos Echeverry, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
Helped develop a paper on the cyclical political dynamics of coalitions, purges, and hegemony surrounding 20th century internal armed conflicts in Colombia.

2004 – 06 Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Kim Williams, Harvard University
Contributed to research examining the political context, leadership, and opposition group strategy surrounding the diffusion of California’s Proposition 209 and the failure of California’s Proposition 54; Examined contemporary Latino leadership through the lens of Du Bois’ “Talented Tenth” concept, and assisted Dr. Williams develop a quantitative measure to compare demographics of Latino leadership to the larger U.S. Latino community; Analyzed data on interracial marriage trends, attitudes towards other races, and evolving definitions of race for Dr. Williams’ book, *Mark One or More: Civil Rights in Multiracial America*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2014 & ‘15 Lecturer, University of Michigan
- “The Politics of Identity” (Mixed Graduate and Undergraduate)

2009 – ‘11 Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania
- “Introduction to American Politics” (Dr. John DiIulio, Fall 2008 & Fall 2011)
- “Public Policy” (Dr. Matthew Levendusky, Spring 2009)
- “Constitutional Law” (Dr. Rogers Smith, Fall 2010)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Communication
Political Behavior
Political Psychology
Experimental Design
Latino Politics/ Racial and Ethnic Politics

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2014 Reviewer, American Journal of Political Science
2014 Review, Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association

OTHER SKILLS

Competent in English and Spanish