

Margarita M. Ramírez
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Education

Ph.D. candidate, Political Science, University of Houston, expected graduation spring 2017

Dissertation: “Why do legislators participate during COFs? Rethinking the relationship between electoral incentives and participation rates in Congressional Open Forums”

Committee: Eduardo Alemán (chair), Francisco Cantú, Susan Scarrow, Amanda Driscoll

Summary: I analyze the determinants of legislator participation during Congressional Open Forums (COFs) -- select periods of the legislative session dedicated to non-lawmaking speeches. Scholars expect chamber behavior to be individual or collective depending on electoral rules. My new theory of participation during COFs, however, expects to find a mixture of both individual and collective behavior rooted more in chamber disadvantages than electoral rules.

M.A., Political Science, University of Houston (Houston, TX, USA), 2014

Examination fields: Comparative Politics and Political Methodology

M.A., Political Science, Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), 2009

B.A., Political Science, Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), 2008

Publications

“¿Qué tanto se parecen las comisiones a las plenarias? El caso colombiano posterior a la Constitución de 1991.” (How much do committees resemble the whole? The case of Colombia after the Constitution of 1991) *Revista Latinoamericana de Política Comparada* No. 4: 75-98, 2011 (with Mónica Pachón).

Paper Under Review

“Party Strategies, Constituency Links, and Legislative Speech” (with Eduardo Alemán and Jonathan Slapin).

Working Papers

“Endogenous Ballot Types: The Selection of Open and Closed Lists in Colombia's Legislative Elections” (with Susan Achury and Francisco Cantú).

“The Hidden Electoral Connection: Analyzing Parliamentary Questions in the Chilean Congress” (with Eduardo Alemán and Juan Pablo Micozzi).

Teaching Experience

As Instructor:

American Legislative Processes

As Teaching Assistant:

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Introduction to Latin American Comparative Politics

Selected Topics in American Government

Conference Activity

Conference Paper, "Partisan and Electoral Incentives in Congressional Speeches," at MPSA 2016

Conference Paper, "The Hidden Electoral Connection: Analyzing Parliamentary Questions in the Chilean Congress," at MPSA 2016

Conference Paper, "Endogenous Ballot Types: Intra-Party Preferences for Electoral Rules in Colombia," at MPSA 2015

Conference Paper, "Non-Lawmaking Speeches as a Tool for Representation," at MPSA 2015

Conference Paper, "Party Strategies, Constituency Links, and Legislative Speech," at MPSA 2014

Conference Paper, "Party Strategies, Constituency Links, and Legislative Speech," at APSA 2014

Additional Training

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) workshop, University of Houston, 2013

Awards, Grants and Fellowships

UH, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Fall 2016

UH, Political Science Department, Conference Travel Grant for MPSA Annual Meeting, 2015

UH, Political Science Department, Conference Travel Grant for MPSA Annual Meeting, 2014

UH, Hobby Center for Public Policy, EITM Summer Institute Participation Fellowship, 2013

UH, Political Science Department, DSTF, Stipend and Teaching Assistantship, 2011- 2016

Professional Service and Memberships

Member, American Political Science Association

Member, Midwest Political Science Association

Languages

Spanish (Native)

English (Fluent)

Programming Languages

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