

Matthew J. Geras

University of Illinois Springfield

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Academic Positions

- Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Illinois Springfield, August 2020 - present

Education

- Ph.D., University of Oklahoma, Political Science, July 2020
 - Graduate Fellow, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
 - Dissertation: The Role of State Political Parties in Congressional Elections
- M.A., University of Oklahoma, Political Science, December 2017
- B.S., Florida Southern College, Political Science, December 2014

Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. Rhinehart, Sarina, Matthew J. Geras, and Jessica M. Hayden. Forthcoming. “Appointees Versus Elected Officials: The Implications of Institutional Design on Gender Representation in Political Leadership” *Journal of Women, Politics, & Policy*.
2. Geras, Matthew J. 2020. “Women Running the Party and Women Running for Congress: An Examination of State Party Diversity and Candidate Emergence in the 2018 Midterm Elections.” *Party Politics* OnlineFirst.
3. Rhinehart, Sarina, and Matthew J. Geras. 2020. “Diversity and Power: Selection Method and its Impacts on State Executive Descriptive Representation.” *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 20(2): 213-233.
 - See our blog post on this article: [LSE USAPP](#).
4. Geras, Matthew J., and Michael H. Crespin. 2019. “Gaining Access and Constituent Correspondence in the U.S. House of Representatives.” *Congress and The Presidency* 46(2): 253-279.
 - See our blog post on this article: [LegBranch.com Blog](#).
5. Geras, Matthew J. 2018. “The Implications of Apportionment on Quality Candidate Emergence and Electoral Competition.” *Political Research Quarterly* 71(2): 467-481.
6. Hayden, Jessica M., Matthew J. Geras, Michael H. Crespin, and Nathan Gerth. 2017. “Land, Wood, Water, & SPACE: Senator Robert S. Kerr, Congress, and Selling the Space Race to the American Public.” *Social Science Quarterly* 98(4): 1189-1203.

Book Chapters

1. Geras, Matthew J. and Michael H. Crespin. 2018. "The Effect of Open and Closed Primaries on Voter Turnout." In *Routledge Handbook of Primary Elections*, ed. Robert G. Boatright. Routledge.
2. Anderson, R. Bruce and Zachary Baumann with Matthew J. Geras. 2017. "Florida: The South, Border State, or Wild Frontier?" In *New Politics of the Old South: An Introduction to Southern Politics, 6th edition*. ed. Charles S. Bullock III and Mark J. Rozell. Rowman & Littlefield.

Other Publications

1. Geras, Matthew. 2021. "Why Presidents Use Executive Action to Pursue their Policy Goals." *The Capitol Connection*.
2. Geras, Matthew. 2020. "Election Day 2020: More than a Presidential Election." *The Capitol Connection*.

Working Papers

- "Gendered Traits and Political Leadership: Are Voters Biased in Evaluating Women in Stereotypically Masculine Policy Areas?" with Sarina Rhinehart and Jessica M. Hayden
- "Supporting Veterans: Source Cues, Issue Ownership, and the Electoral Benefits of Candidate Veteran Status" with Peter McLaughlin and Sarina Rhinehart
- "Do Party Rules Matter?: An Examination of State Party Bylaws and Congressional Nominations"
- "Engaging the Next Generation: An Exploration of State Party Membership and Youth Participation"
- "Family Guy: An Analysis of Family Dynamics and Congressional Voting Behavior" with H. Benjamin Ashton, III, Sarina Rhinehart, and Charles J. Finocchiaro

Teaching Experience

University of Illinois Springfield

- PSC 402: Legislative Politics
- PSC 406: The American Presidency
- PSC 451: Empirical Political Analysis
- PSC 502: Methods of Inquiry
- PSC 511: Seminar in American Politics

University of Oklahoma

- PSC 1113: American Federal Government
- PSC 3143: U.S. Congress

Teaching and Research Interests

- Campaigns and Elections, Congress, Political Parties, American Federal Government, Representation, The Presidency, State Politics, Research Methods, Research Design

Recent Conference Presentations

- Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Online, 2021
- Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2020
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2019
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, 2018
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 2018
- State Politics and Policy Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, 2017
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 2017
- Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Lakeland, Florida, 2016
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2016

Media and Invited Talks

- Panelist, “[Reflections on the Inauguration: Student, Faculty, and Alumni Panel](#)”, Recorded for Illinois NPR, January 2021
- Panelist, What Does It All Mean? Post-Election Panel, Women’s Center and American Association of University Women, November 2020
- Panelist, Election 101: What Do You Need to Know, UIS, November 2020
- Kudzu Vine Radio, invited to discuss Oklahoma politics, August 2020
- Guest Speaker, PSC 501: Introduction to the Graduate Study of Politics at University of Illinois Springfield, August 2020

Awards and Grants

- University of Oklahoma, John W. Wood Award, 2020
- SPSA, Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2020
- University of Oklahoma, Nancy L. Mergler Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2019
- University of Oklahoma, Robberson Travel Grant, 2019
- APSA Travel Grant, 2018, 2019
- University of Oklahoma, John Halvor Leek Memorial Scholarship, 2016, 2018, 2019

- University of Oklahoma, Graduate Senate Travel Grant, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018
- Thomas M. Carsey State Politics and Policy Research Grant, 2017
- University of Oklahoma, Richard C. Kearney Endowed Fellowship, 2017
- University of Oklahoma, V. Stanley Vardys Award, 2017
- University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences Travel Grant, Spring 2017
- University of Oklahoma, Provost's Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

Seminars, Special Training, and Professional Experience

- Election exit pollster, University of Oklahoma Community Engagement Experiments Lab, 2016, 2018
- ICPSR, University of Michigan, 2016
- Congressional Intern, Office of Representative Illeana Ros-Lehtinen, Fall 2012

Professional Service

- Manuscript Reviewer:
 - American Politics Research, Election Law Journal, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Behavior, Politics and Gender, Public Integrity
- Panel Chair:
 - APSA 2019
- University of Oklahoma Graduate Student Senate, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Advising- MA Closures

Theses

- Joseph Solis-Mullen (2021, chair)

Comprehensive Exam

- Elizabeth Blickhan (2021), Michelle Shaver (2021)

References

- Michael H. Crespín
 - Director of Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
 - Professor of Political Science, University of Oklahoma
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- Charles J. Finocchiaro
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- Tyler Johnson
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 - Email: tylerjohnson@ou.edu
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- Samuel Workman
 - Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Oklahoma
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 - Phone: (405) 325-5297