

CARLA GARCIA

30 Wadsworth Street, MIT Building E53, Cambridge, MA 02142
ckgarcia@mit.edu | carlakgarcia.com

Education	Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2020 – Expected 2026 Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science Subfields: Comparative Politics and Political Economy Dissertation: “ <i>Who Said That All Is Lost?</i> ” Essays on Student Movements in Latin America Dissertation Committee: F. Daniel Hidalgo (Chair), Evan Lieberman, Ben Ross Schneider
	University of Central Florida 2020 B.A. in Political Science B.S. in Economics <i>Magna Cum Laude and University Honors</i>
Research Interests	Latin America, politics of higher education, student movements, social movement outcomes, public opinion, university autonomy and governance
Awards & Fellowships	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship 2020 – 2025
	American Political Science Association Diversity Fellowship 2020
	MIT Political Science Goldenberg Fund 2022 – 2023
	Ronald E. McNair Scholar (UCF) 2018 – 2020
Professional Experience	Graduate Community Fellow, MIT PKG Public Service Center Sept 2025 - Present
	Pod Leader Liaison, MIT Summer Research Program Summer 2024
Research Affiliations	MIT GOV/LAB Graduate Research Fellow 2022 – 2024
Conference Presentations	“Framing Social Movement Grievances: Evidence from Argentina’s University Protests” APSA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Can Sept 2025
	“The Effects of Social Protest on Public Opinion: Evidence from Colombia” APSA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA Aug 2023
	“The Effects of Social Protest on Public Opinion: Evidence from Colombia” LAPOP Public and Democracy in the Americas Conference Antigua, Guatemala Sept 2022

Conference Attendance	Panel Chair/Discussant, APSA 2024 Annual Meeting	Sept 2024
	Exhibitor/Mentor, LANS (Leadership Alliance National Summit)	July 2024
Fieldwork	Guatemala City, Guatemala: Interviews, site research	January - March 2025
	Mexico City, Mexico: Interviews, site research	October - November 2023
Research Experience	Research Assistant, Ben Ross Schneider (MIT)	Summer 2021
	Research Assistant, Evan Lieberman (MIT)	January 2021
	Research Assistant, Cristina Bodea (MSU)	Summer 2019
	Research Assistant, Jonathan Powell (UCF)	2018
Teaching Experience	Grader, How Dictatorship Works (MIT)	Spring 2023
	Undergraduate TA, Principles of Microeconomics (UCF)	2019 – 2020
Mentorship & Outreach	President, Latinx Graduate Student Association at MIT	2025 – 2026
	Social & Cultural Chair, Latinx Graduate Student Association at MIT	2024 – 2025
	Co-Chair, MIT Latino Graduation Ceremony Planning Committee	2024 – 2025
	Graduate Diversity Ambassador, MIT Office of Graduate Education	2024 – 2025
	Alumni Mentorship, UCF McNair Scholars Program	2024 – 2025
	Press Coordinator, Bridging Talents and Opportunities Forum	2024
	Pod Leader Liaison, MIT Summer Research Program (MSRP)	2024
	Pod Leader, MIT Summer Research Program	2023, 2025
Department Service (MIT Political Science)	Member, MSRP Application Review Committee	2023, 2024
	Diversity Co-Chair, Political Science Graduate Student Council	2024 – 2025
	Co-Organizer, Political Science Application Mentorship Program (PS-AMP)	2024
	Organizer, MIT Latin American Working Group	2023 – 2024
	Co-Organizer, MIT Latin American Working Group	2022 – 2023
Methods Training	Co-Organizer, Women in Political Science Coffee Hour	2021 – 2022, 2024 – 2025
	Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University	2024
Skills	APSA Pre-Conference Short Courses on Process Tracing	2023
	Technical Skills: R, LaTeX, Qualtrics	
	Research Skills: Survey experiments, natural experiments and causal inference, interviews, participant observation	
	Languages: English (native), Spanish (heritage)	