

# CARLA GARCIA

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| <b>Education</b>                | <b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> 2020 – Expected 2026<br><b>Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science</b><br>Subfields: Comparative Politics and Political Economy<br>Dissertation: “ <i>Who Said that All is Lost?</i> ” Essays on Student Movements<br>in Latin America<br>Dissertation Committee: F. Daniel Hidalgo (Chair), Evan Lieberman,<br>Ben Ross Schneider |
|                                 | <b>University of Central Florida</b> 2020<br><b>B.A. in Political Science</b><br><b>B.S. in Economics</b><br><i>Magna Cum Laude and University Honors</i>  |
| <b>Research Interests</b>       | Latin America, politics of higher education, student movements, social movement outcomes, public opinion, university autonomy and governance   |
| <b>Working Papers</b>           | “The Effects of Social Protest on Public Opinion: Evidence from Colombia”<br>“The Electoral Appeal of Social Movement-Inspired Political Candidates”<br>“Grievances, Framing Effects and Public Support for Protest Movements”<br>“Academic Democracy? The Politics of Guatemala’s Public University”  |
| <b>Awards &amp; Fellowships</b> | National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship 2020 – 2025<br>American Political Science Association Diversity Fellowship 2020<br>MIT Political Science Goldenberg Fund 2022 – 2023<br>UCF McNair Scholar 2018 – 2020<br>UCF National Hispanic Scholarship 2016 – 2020   |
| <b>Research Affiliations</b>    | MIT GOV/LAB Graduate Research Fellow 2022 – 2024   |
| <b>Conference Presentations</b> | “Academic Democracy? The Politics of Guatemala’s Public University”<br>NCORE (National Council on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education)<br>New York City May 2025<br><br>“The Effects of Social Protest on Public Opinion: Evidence from Colombia”<br>APSA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA Aug 2023  |

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