

Curriculum Vitae

Erin Stamatia McAdams

Dickinson College
Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH **2009**

Dissertation committee: Herb Weisberg (chair), Paul Beck and Kathleen McGraw

Dissertation: “The Psychological Dynamics of Group-based Partisanship: A Case Study of Christian Conservatives and Conflict in the Republican Party”

This project investigates the ways in which group-based considerations shape partisanship to better understand the conditions under which individuals become disaffected with and defect from their political parties. Utilizing the current conflict within the GOP as a case study, the project specifically proposes that affective and cognitive reactions to subgroups within the party interact to shape partisans’ attitudes toward presidential primary candidates, partisan identity and strength of partisanship.

Research Interests:

American politics and government, voting behavior, political parties, public opinion, campaigns and elections, media and politics, religion and politics, political psychology, research methodology, survey research

M.A., Political Science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH **2004**

Major: American Politics; Minor: Political Methodology

B.A., Political Science, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA **1999**

Major: Political Science; Minors: Environment and Development, and Writing

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of Political Science, Dickinson College

Carlisle, Pa.

Visiting Assistant Professor

Current

- Teaching courses in American government (introductory), political behavior, religion and American politics, public opinion and research methods

Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University

Columbus, Ohio

Instructor

2006 to 2009

- Taught independent courses in American politics and government, American presidential elections and religion and American politics

Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant

2002 to 2006

- Assisted in research and classification scheme of open-ended questions from the 2000 and 2004 ANES for *The American Voter Revisited*
- Served as a teaching assistant for a “Survey Research in Political Science” course
- Conducted general data entry, editing and analysis
- Conducted secondary research and other assistance to professors as needed

Saperstein Associates, Inc. Survey Research Firm

Columbus, Ohio

Research Assistant

2004 to 2006

- Served as a project manager on various survey research projects, including assigning priorities to various aspects of the projects and organizing the completion of projects
- Assisted in the development of questions and questionnaire design for mail, CATI and web-based surveys
- Conducted coding and data entry of completed questionnaires
- Analyzed, interpreted and reported survey data results

Office of Public Affairs, Allegheny College

Meadville, Pa.

Manager of Media and Web Communications

1999 to 2002

- Coordinated media relations activities for the College, including an aggressive, image-building campaign with regional, national and trade media outlets and in new markets
- Developed and implemented strategic media campaigns on specific projects, including the College’s capital campaign in 2001-2002, new academic programs, faculty publications and major events
- Wrote and edited feature stories and press releases for the College web site and local and regional media outlets
- Managed on-going information dissemination; maintained relationships with various constituents, including external clients (such as regional, national and trade media reporters) and clients within the College
- Maintained various databases to track media contacts and coverage
- Analyzed information and wrote/presented reports of the College’s media coverage

RESEARCH PROJECTS AND EXPERIENCE

Co-principal Investigator, The 2008 Franklin County Election Panel Survey

2008

(with Herb Weisberg and Anand Sokhey)

- Managed all aspects of the collection of this original mail survey research project, which serves as the primary data source for my dissertation
- Created content (questions); designed questionnaire; conducted random sample of all registered voters in Franklin County, Ohio; disseminated survey; coded and entered data; conducted consistency checks of recoded variables; conducted data analysis and interpretation; organized administrative tasks for the survey (i.e., ordering envelopes, printing the survey, etc.)
- Earned an Alumni Grant for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS) to fund the research

- Investigator, SBS Graduate Student Summer Survey Research Award** **2008**
The Ohio State University
 “The Use of Cash-prize Raffles to Maximize Mail Survey Response Rates”
- Conducted an original survey experiment on the effectiveness of various types of raffles on increasing respondent participation
 - Analyzed and interpreted data results
- Survey research consultant, The Melton Center for Jewish Studies** **2007**
The Ohio State University
 “Outreach and Engagement Survey”
- Created all content (questions) and design for a mail questionnaire intended to gauge the religious beliefs and political opinions of two rare populations in Ohio: those of the Jewish and Muslim faiths
- Survey research consultant, Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy** **2006**
Brigham Young University
 “The 2006 Ohio Colleges Exit Poll”
- Assisted in the development of content (questions)
 - Trained interviewers in proper (standardized) interviewing techniques
- Co-principal Investigator , The Cooperative Congressional Elections Study** **2006**
Ohio State University Component (with Herb Weisberg and Anand Sokhey)
- Contributed to the collaborative creation of content for this telephone (CATI) survey
 - Conducted analysis and interpretation of the data
- Co-principal Investigator , The 2006 Ohio Political Survey (TOPS)** **2006**
 (with Herb Weisberg, Dino Christenson and Anand Sokhey)
- Assisted in the creation of content for this telephone (CATI) survey
 - Conducted extensive analysis and interpretation of the data

PUBLICATIONS

- Weisberg, Herbert F. and Erin S. McAdams. 2009. “Change in the Components of the Electoral Decision: The Nature of Short-term Forces in Elections.”** *Electoral Studies*.
- Using a categorization scheme of the Basic Components Model from the National Election Studies, this paper examines the importance of short-term forces in the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections, augmenting this basic model by developing summary measures of the combined impact of these forces and analyzing the vote components for political Independents.
- “**Gender Gap**” (with Jan Box-Steffensmeier). *Forthcoming*
The International Encyclopedia of Political Science.
- “**Paul Allen Beck**” (with Jan Box-Steffensmeier). *Forthcoming*
The International Encyclopedia of Political Science.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Use of Cash-prize Raffles to Maximize Mail Survey Response Rates”

Under journal review

- This paper examines the effectiveness of cash-prize raffle incentives and pre-paid monetary incentives in increasing survey participation as well as the cost-effectiveness of these different types of incentives.

“The Changing Dimensionality of Partisan Attitudes”

- This paper examines the ways in which Americans’ attitudes toward the two major political parties have changed from a multidimensional structure to a unidimensional structure in a highly polarized system. The paper demonstrates that the changing dimensionality of partisan attitudes also differs for various groups.

Conflict from Within: The Group-based Nature of Partisan Change

- This book project investigates the role of group-based attitudes on partisan defection over time.

“Evangelicals in the U.S. and Brazil” (with Justin Lance)

- This paper examines the sources of divergent attitudes regarding the role of the state in the economy for Evangelical Protestants in the United States and Brazil.

“What’s in a Name? The Impact of Group Labels on Immigration Attitudes” (with Herb Weisberg and Anand Sokhey)

- This paper examines the ways in which different terms for immigrant groups impact voters’ affective evaluations of these groups and determines the consequences of these evaluations for opinions on immigrant deportation.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

McAdams, Erin S. 2008. “Partisan Attitudes and Perceptions of Group Influence: How Attitudes and Perceptions of Christian Conservatives Shape Attitudes toward the Republican Party.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

McAdams, Erin S., Herbert F. Weisberg and Anand Sokhey. 2008. “Group Labels, Group Affect and Immigration: What’s in a Name?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

McAdams, Erin S., and Anand Sokhey. 2007. “The Content and Electoral Purpose of ‘Moral Values.’” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

McAdams, Erin S., and Herbert F. Weisberg. 2006. “‘Moral Values’ in the Ohio 2004 Presidential Election.” Presented at The Wartime Election of 2004 Conference, Mershon Center/The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Research in American Politics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH	2006
Symposium on Religion and Politics, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI	2006

GRANTS AND AWARDS

SBS Graduate Student Summer Survey Research Award, The Ohio State University	2008
Alumni Grant for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS), The Ohio State University	2007
John L. Porter Prize, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA Awarded by the departments of political science and economics for best senior comprehensive written project	1999
Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Most Outstanding Paper, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA	1998

PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Anonymous reviewer, <i>Journal of Politics</i>	2007
Parallel Graduate Studies Committee, The Ohio State University <i>Elected Member</i>	2005-2006

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Political Science Association	Midwest Political Science Association
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METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

Programs: SPSS; STATA; STATPAC

Topics: research design and methods, probability theory, survey questionnaire design and execution, quantitative survey research analysis, regression, maximum likelihood estimation, event history analysis, experimental design and execution, and dimensional analysis (e.g., multi-dimensional scaling and factor analysis)

REFERENCES

Dr. Herbert F. Weisberg, Chair and Professor (*Dissertation Chair*)
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Dr. Paul Allen Beck, Professor
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Dr. Kathleen McGraw, Professor
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