

GIANCARLO VISCONTI

2111 Chincoteague, College Park, MD 20742
gvis@umd.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Maryland, College Park

Assistant Professor, Government and Politics, 2024 -

Faculty Affiliate, Interdisciplinary Lab for Computational Social Science (iLCSS), 2024 -

Pennsylvania State University

Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2022 - 2024

Purdue University

Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2018 - 2022

Core Faculty, Advanced Methods in the Social, Behavioral, and Health Sciences, 2019 - 2022

EDUCATION

Columbia University

Ph.D., Political Science 2018

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

BA Political Science 2010

RESEARCH

(Note: * indicates graduate student co-author at time of writing)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Representation Behind Closed Doors: The Effect of Electing Women Mayors on Domestic Violence” (with Maya Dalton*). Conditionally Accepted. *Journal of Politics*

“Causes and Consequences of Ideological Persistence: The Case of Chile” (with Pablo Argote). 2025. *Latin American Politics and Society*.

Prompted a **response** from Carlos Meléndez and a **rejoinder** by us in *LAPS*.

“Immigration Shocks and Unfounded Concerns about Crime: Evidence from Haitian Migration to Chile” (with Fernando Severino*). 2025. *Journal of Politics*

“Democratic Elections and Anti-Immigration Attitudes” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2025. *Journal of Peace Research*

“Exposure to Protests and Support for Violence: Evidence from the 2019 Social Outburst in Chile” (with Sebastian Rivera* and Fernando Severino). 2025. *Research & Politics*

“Chile 2024: The Resilience of Ideology and the Rise of Anti-Elite Attitudes” (with Pablo Argote). 2025. *Revista de Ciencia Política*.

“Money and Time in Access to Public Services: How do Citizens Evaluate Different Forms of Bureaucratic Corruption?” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2025. *Comparative Politics*

“The Effect of Different Extreme Weather Events on Attitudes Toward Climate Change” (with Kayla Young*). 2024. *PLOS One*

“Gender Stereotypes and Petty Corruption among Street-level Bureaucrats: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2024. *Research & Politics*

“Anti-Elite Attitudes and Support for Independent Candidates” (with Pablo Argote*). 2023. *PLOS One*

“Who Pays for Crime? Criminal Violence, Right-Wing Incumbents, and Electoral Accountability in Latin America” (with Miguel Carreras). 2022. *Electoral Studies*

“Can Political Alignment Reduce Crime? Evidence from Chile” (with Carla Alberti and Diego Díaz-Rioseco). 2022. *Political Science Research and Methods*

“After the Flood: Disasters, Ideological Voting and Electoral Choices in Chile.” 2022. *Political Behavior*

“Constructing Generalizable Geographic Natural Experiments” (with Owura Kuffuor* and Kayla Young*). 2022. *Research & Politics*

“The Trump Election and Attitudes Toward the United States in Latin America” (with Igor Acácio* and Miguel Carreras). 2021. *Public Opinion Quarterly*

“Who Does the Caring? Gender Disparities in COVID-19 Attitudes and Behaviors” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2021. *Politics & Gender*

“Gendered Bureaucracies: Women Mayors and the Size and Composition of Local Governments” (with Carla Alberti and Diego Díaz-Rioseco). 2021. *Governance*

“Does Issue Framing Shape Support for COVID-19 Lockdown Measures? Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Peru” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2021. *Research & Politics*

“Do Disasters Affect Policy Priorities? Evidence from the 2010 Chilean Earthquake.” 2021. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*

“A Tale of Two Pandemics: Economic Inequality and Support for Containment Measures in Peru” (with Miguel Carreras and Sofia Vera). 2021. *Journal of Politics in Latin America*

“Re-evaluating the Role of Ideology in Chile.” 2021. *Latin American Politics and Society*

“Does Immigration Increase Concerns about the Provision of Public Services? Evidence from Colombia” (with Catalina Vega-Mendez*). 2021. *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública*.

María Braun award for the best paper published in RLOP in 2021

“Voting for the Lesser Evil: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment in Romania” (with Isabela Mares). 2020. *Political Science Research and Methods*

“Policy Preferences after Crime Victimization: Panel and Survey Evidence from Latin America.” 2020. *British Journal of Political Science*

“Economic Perceptions and Electoral Choices: A Design-Based Approach.” 2019. *Political Science Research and Methods*

“Handling Limited Overlap in Observational Studies with Cardinality Matching” (with José R. Zubizarreta). 2018. *Observational Studies*

Cochran award for best paper published in Observational Studies between 2015 and 2019

“Electoral Reform Under Limited Party Competition: The Adoption of Proportional Representation in Latin America” (with Gabriel Negretto). 2018. *Latin American Politics and Society*

“Economic Performance and Incumbents’ Support in Latin America” (with M. Victoria Murillo). 2017. *Electoral Studies*

“Cross-Time Behavior of the Chilean Congress: Growth or Stagnation of its Influence?” 2011. *Revista de Ciencia Política* [In Spanish]

Editor-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Beyond Rejection: Ideological Belonging in a Weak-Party System” (with Pablo Argote). 2025. *Latin American Politics and Society*

Rejoinder to the response to “Causes and Consequences of Ideological Persistence: The Case of Chile”

Working Papers

“Immigration and Nationalistic Attitudes: Panel Evidence from Chile” (with Catalina Vega-Mendez*) *Revise & Resubmit, Political Behavior*

“The Limitations of Using Forced Choice in Electoral Conjoint Experiments” (with Yang Yang*)

“Elections under Contested Authority: Sustained Violence, Incumbent Punishment, and Challenger Mobilization in Colombia” (with Cecilia Caverro*)

“Thick and Thin Ideological Dimensions of Electoral Competition in Latin America” (with Pablo Argote and Nicolás de la Cerda)

“When Doctors Govern: The Impact of Medical Mayors on Public Health in Brazil” (with Isabel Laterzo-Tingley)

“Gendered Accountability: Crime Shocks and the Unequal Punishment of Women Incumbents” (with Carla Alberti and Diego Díaz-Rioseco)

“Ideological and Attitudinal Change in Two-Round Elections: Panel Evidence from Chile” (with Pablo Argote and Sofia Rivera-Sojo*)

“Equal Before the Law? Migrant Discrimination in Judicial Decisions in Colombia” (with Yuri Saldarriaga*)

“The Politics of Crime Coverage: Evidence from Latin America” (with Juan David Gelvez* and Yuri Saldarriaga*)

“Crime, Gun Ownership, and Political Behavior: Evidence from Buenos Aires” (Guadalupe Gonzalez*)

Book Project

“Ideology without Parties: Voting Behavior in Chile” (with Pablo Argote)

Book Chapters

“Stables but Without Roots? Political Parties in the Public Opinion.” 2010. In *Cultura Política de la Democracia en Chile*, edited by Juan Pablo Luna, Elizabeth Zechmeister, and Mitchell Seligson. Vanderbilt University: 167-195 (with Juan Pablo Luna, Héctor Bahamonde, German Bidegain and Roody Reserve) [In Spanish]

“The 2009-2010 Elections in Chile.” 2010. In *Cultura Política de la Democracia en Chile*, edited by Juan Pablo Luna, Elizabeth Zechmeister, and Mitchell Seligson. Vanderbilt University 197-227 (with Juan Pablo Luna, Héctor Bahamonde, German Bidegain and Roody Reserve) [In Spanish]

GRANTS AND AWARDS

External

María Braun Award for the best paper published in RLOP (2022)

William Cochran Prize for best paper published in the journal *Observational Studies* (2020)

International Cooperation, Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Científico y Tecnológico de Chile (FONDECYT), (2019 & 2026)

Travel grant, American Political Science Association (2017)

Travel grant, Latin American Studies Association (2017)

Prestage-Cook travel award, Southern Political Science Association (2016)

Dissertation proposal development fellowship, Social Science Research Council (2014)

Internal

Maryland Research Excellence Honoree, University of Maryland (2026)

CIDCM research grant, University of Maryland (2024 & 2025)
GVPT faculty support fund grant, University of Maryland (2024)
C-SoDA accelerator award program, Pennsylvania State University (2023)
Excellent teaching honorable mention, Pi Sigma Alpha, Purdue University (2021)
PRF supplementary summer grant, Purdue University (2020)
Dissertation development grant, Columbia University (2015 & 2017)
Giancarlo Doria research fellowship in comparative politics, Columbia University (2015)
Katerina Alevizaki Dracopoulos summer fellowship fund, Columbia University (2015)
Pre-dissertation travel grant, Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University (2014)
Dean's fellow, Columbia University (2012)

INVITED TALKS AND SEMINARS

Universidad de Chile, Government and Public Management Seminar (May 2026)
Universidad Católica de Chile, Round Table on Methods (January 2026)
Chilean Political Science Conference (ACCP), Keynote Speaker (December 2025)
The Organization of American States (OAS/OEA), Migration Seminar (October 2025)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Comparative Politics Seminar (April 2024)
Universidad San Sebastian, Public Administration Seminar (December 2023)
Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, Political Science Seminar (May 2023)
Universidad Católica de Chile, CIGIDEN Seminar (November 2022)
Northwestern University, Comparative Politics Seminar (April 2022)
Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Political Science Seminar (March 2022)
McMaster University, Spark Talk (March 2022)
Purdue University, Parenting in Academia Mini Conference (April 2021)
Universidad Mayor, Social Science Seminar (December 2019)
Purdue University, AMAP Seminar (October 2018)
Universidad Católica de Chile, Political Science Seminar (April 2018)
Universidad de Chile, Political Science Seminar (August 2017)
Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Political Science Seminar (August 2017)
Universidad Autónoma, ICHEM Seminar (May 2017)
Universidad Católica de Chile, Political Science Seminar (April 2017)
Texas A&M University, Symposium Economic Voting (February 2017)
Science Po, Reims, Summer School (July 2016)
University of Maryland, Symposium Economic Voting (May 2016)
Universidad Diego Portales, Political Science Seminar (March 2012)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

APSA (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)
MPSA (2016, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025, 2026)
LASA (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2023)
REPAL (2016, 2017, 2019, 2024, 2026)
SPSA (2017, 2019, 2021)
Latin American Polmeth (2024, 2025)
Public Opinion Seminar UC (2024, 2025)
MWEPS (2020, 2024)
ACCP (2010, 2023)
SeLAB (2019)
Security and Criminality in the Americas, Oxford University (2019)
Columbia Sustainable Development (2015)
Politics and History, Columbia/Harvard/NYU/Princeton/Yale Network (2015)
Political Economy of Latin America, NYU/Columbia Network (2014)
SAAP (2011)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Purdue

Introduction to Political Methodology (graduate level)
Causal Inference (graduate level)
Challenges to Democracy (graduate level)
Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate level)
Comparative Politics Proseminar (graduate level)

Penn State

Research Design (graduate level)
Latin American Politics (undergraduate level)
Causal Inference (undergraduate and graduate level)

Maryland

Advanced Quantitative Methods for Political Science (graduate level)
Causal Inference (graduate level)
Latin American Politics (undergraduate level)

Universidad Católica de Chile – Summer School of Mixed Methods

Regression Discontinuity Designs (two-module course)
Causal Inference with Observational Data (one-module course)

Universidad Diego Portales – Summer School of Advanced Research Methods

Causal Inference (one-week course)

MENTORSHIP

Ph.D. Committee Chair/Co-Chair:

- Catalina Vega-Mendez (Purdue), Placement: Postdoc at Notre Dame
- Scovia Aweko (Purdue), Placement: Postdoc at American University
- Owura Kuffuor (Purdue), Placement: Data analyst in the Provost's Office at Purdue

Ph.D. Committee Member:

- Kayla Young (Purdue)
- Johnathan Dobben (Purdue)
- Bingxin Fa (Purdue)
- Philip Husom (Purdue)
- Sky Kunkel (Purdue)
- Yang Yang (Penn State - in progress)
- Ludmila Bandeira (Penn State - in progress)
- Juan David Gelvez (Maryland - in progress)
- Flavia Batista (Maryland - in progress)
- Juan Diego Alvarado (Maryland - in progress)
- Yuri Saldarriaga (Maryland - in progress)
- Guadalupe Gonzalez (Maryland - in progress)
- Xiuling Zhang (Maryland - in progress)
- Sofia Rivera-Sojo (Vanderbilt - in progress)

Senior Thesis:

- Karah Hughes (Penn State)
- Nicolas Cardenas-Miller (Penn State)
- Julianne Barros (Maryland)
- Isabella Wood (Maryland - in progress)

SERVICE

Reviewer: American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Austrian Journal of Political Science, Brazilian Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Colombia Internacional, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Ecological Economics, East European Politics, Economics & Politics, eLife, European Journal of Political Research, FONDECYT-Chile (Economics and Management Sciences), FONDECYT-Chile (Political Science), Governance, International Journal of Public Opinion Research, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties, Journal of Latin American Studies, Journal of Medical Internet Research, Journal of Political Ideologies, Journal of Politics, Journal of Politics in Latin America, Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, Latin American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, Migration Studies, Nations and Nationalism, Oxford University Press, PLOS One, Politics, Groups, and Identities, Political Science Research and Methods, Policy Studies, Political Research Exchange, Political Research Quarterly, Political Studies, Political Studies Review, Political Psychology, Politics, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, PS: Political Science & Politics, Public Administration Review, Race and Justice, Representation, Research & Politics, Revista de Ciencia Política, Revista de Estudios Sociales, Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública, Revista Uruguaya de Ciencia Política, and World Politics

Discussant: LASA 2016, ICHM 2017, SPSA 2019, LASA 2019, SeLAB 2019, SPSA 2021, MPSA 2021, APSA 2021, PSRW 2022, LASA 2022, APSA 2023, MWEPS 2024, MPSA 2024, Latin American PolMeth 2024, MPSA 2025, Latin American PolMeth 2025, MPSA 2026

Department (selection):

- Member, Computational social science search committee, Purdue University (2019)
- Chair, Comparative politics search committee, Purdue University (2021)

- Member, Computational social science search committee, Penn State University (2023)
- Coordinator, Methods workshop, University of Maryland (2025-)

Discipline:

- Member, Tenemos que hablar de Chile, Universidad Católica and Universidad de Chile (2021)
- Member, Executive committee, Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science, MWEPS (2023-2024)
- Chair, Comparative Political Behavior section, Midwest Political Science Association, MPSA (2023-2024)
- Member, Editorial board, Revista de Ciencia Política (2023–)
- Member, Best paper committee, APSA Democracy & Autocracy (2024–2025)
- Co-founder, DC-Maryland-Virginia Workshop in Empirical Political Science, DMV-WEPS (2025)
- Chair, Latin American Politics section, Midwest Political Science Association, MPSA (2025-2026)
- Member, Best poster committee, Latin American PolMeth (2025)
- Chair, Comparative Political Behavior section, Southern Political Science Association, SPSA (2026, scheduled)
- Member, Leon Weaver Award Committee, APSA Representation and Electoral Systems (2026, scheduled)

Panel Organizer/Co-organizer:

- LASA 2016 Causal Inference and Elections
- LASA 2017 Responsiveness and Accountability in Latin America
- LASA 2020 Political Attitudes in Latin America (canceled due to COVID-19)
- WAPOR 2020 Crime and Political Behavior in Latin America (canceled due to COVID-19)
- LASA 2022 Participation and Representation in Chile post October 2019
- LASA 2023 Democracy and Political Attitudes in Latin America
- APSA 2023 Bureaucracies and Corruption in the Global South
- ACCP 2023 Political Preferences and Electoral Behavior
- MPSA 2024 Political Attitudes in Latin America
- APSA 2024 Political Violence in Latin America
- MPSA 2025 Immigration and Latin American Politics
- APSA 2025 Political Economy of Development in Latin America
- APSA 2026 Crime, Punitive Politics, and Democratic Accountability

Conference Organizer/Co-organizer:

- Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science, MWEPS (Purdue, Spring 2021)
- Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science, MWEPS (Penn State, Spring 2024)
- DC-Maryland-Virginia Workshop in Empirical Political Science, DMV-WEPS (GWU, Fall 2025)
- Southeast Latin American Behavior Consortium, SeLAB (UMD, Fall 2026)

Service Recognitions:

- Super Reviewer, American Journal of Political Science (2018)
- Reviewer of the Year, Revista de Ciencia Política (2023)

Academic Affiliations:

- Visiting Scholar, Instituto de Ciencia Política, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (2017-2018)
- Adjunct Researcher, Núcleo Milenio para el Estudio de la Política, Opinión Pública y Medios en Chile (2025-)

Last updated: April 2026