

# MICHELLE TORRES

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Employment **Rice University**, *Department of Political Science*  
Assistant Professor, 2019-Present

Education **Washington University in St. Louis**, St. Louis, MO  
Ph.D, Political Science, 2019.  
M.A., Statistics, 2019.  
M.A., Political Science, 2015.

**Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)**, Mexico City, Mexico  
B.A., Political Science & International Relations, 2010.  
*Degree with Honors.*

Articles Torres, Michelle, and Francisco Cantú. Forthcoming. *"Learning to See: Visual Analysis for Social Science Data."* *Political Analysis*.

Torres, Michelle. 2020. *"Estimating controlled direct effects through marginal structural models."* *Political Science Research and Methods* 28(3): 391-408 (Leading article).

Tucker, Patrick, Betsy Sinclair, Steven S. Smith, and Michelle Torres. 2019. *"Pathways to Trump: Republican Voters in 2016."* *Electoral Studies* 61: 102035.

Montgomery, Jacob M., Brendan Nyhan, and Michelle Torres. 2018. *"How controlling for post-treatment variables can ruin your experiment and what to do about it."* *American Journal of Political Science* 62(3): 760-75.

- One of the twenty most downloaded articles published in the journal from 2017–2018
- Featured in [the 2019 virtual issue](#) of twenty highly-cited articles from the journal.

Boston, Joshua, Jonathan Homola, Betsy Sinclair, Michelle Torres, and Patrick Tucker. 2018. *"The Dynamic Relationship between Personality Stability and Political Attitudes."* *Public Opinion Quarterly* 82(1): 257-79.

Butler, Ryden, Jacob M. Montgomery, Brendan Nyhan, and Michelle Torres. 2018. *"Revisiting White Backlash: How Race Affects Death Penalty Opinion Today."* *Research & Politics* 5(1): 1-9.

Torres, Michelle, and Steven S. Smith. 2018. *"Revisiting Bedrock Values: The Stability and Predictive Power of the Society Works Best Index."* *American Politics Research* 46(2): 308-35.

Books and book chapters Torres, Michelle, and Jeff Gill. Forthcoming. *"Flagship entries: Generalized Linear Models."* In *Methods Foundations*. SAGE Publications.

Gill, Jeff, and Michelle Torres. 2019. *Generalized Linear Models. A unified approach*. 2nd edition. SAGE Publications.

Working papers	Torres, Michelle. <i>"The Bag of Visual Words: Using computer vision to understand visual frames and political communication."</i> <i>Revise and Resubmit in the American Journal of Political Science.</i>
	Torres, Michelle. <i>"Framing a Protest: Determinants and Effects of Visual Frames."</i>
	Torres, Michelle, and Jonathan Homola. <i>"The shades and shapes of the pink wave: Visual perspectives of the Women's March."</i>
	Pugh, Alex, and Michelle Torres. <i>"The Colors of Politics: Color Based Emotion Retrieval from Visual Content"</i> .
	Homola, Jonathan, Jon Rogowski, Betsy Sinclair, Michelle Torres, and Patrick Tucker, <i>"Through the Ideology of the Beholder: Partisan Perceptions and Polarization Among the Mass Public."</i> . Under review.
Honors & Awards	<p>2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. Travel grant for the Political Methodology Summer Meeting, National Science Foundation.</p> <p>2018. Association of Women Faculty Graduate Student Award, Washington University in St. Louis.</p> <p>2017. Society for Political Methodology: Best Poster Award, 34th Annual Summer Meeting.</p> <p>2017. Three Minute Thesis Competition winner, Washington University in St. Louis.</p> <p>2013-2018. Academic Scholarship for International Graduate Students, National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT), Mexico</p> <p>2013. University Fellowship, Washington University in Saint Louis.</p> <p>2011. Honorable mention for Senior Thesis, Adviser: Lorena Ruano.</p> <p>2007. Academic Excellence Scholarship, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE).</p> <p>2006. Academic Excellence Scholarship, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE).</p>
Grants	<p><b>Race and Anti-Racism Research Fund</b>, 2020, <i>Rice University</i>: \$22,392.00</p> <p><b>Creative Venture funds</b>, 2019, <i>Rice University</i>: \$9,475.00</p>
Invited talks	<p><b>TAMU Program in Research Methods Speaker Series</b> 2020.</p> <p><b>LSU Research Colloquium Series</b> 2020.</p> <p><b>UC-Berkeley Research Workshop in American Politics</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>UW-Madison American Politics Workshop</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>UCLA Methods Workshop</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>Stanford Political Methodology Workshop</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>ISU Methods Speaker Series</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>Gender, Politics, and Quantitative Methods</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>Black &amp; Blue Conference</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>New Faces in Political Methodology</b> 2018.</p> <p><b>Harvard Applied Statistics Workshop</b> 2018.</p> <p><b>Northeast Political Methodology Program</b> 2017.</p> <p><b>Modeling Politics in Time and Space Conference</b> 2017.</p> <p><b>St. Louis Area Methods Meeting</b> 2015.</p>
Conference Presentations	<p><b>TexMeth</b> 2019.</p> <p><b>Latin America Polmeth</b> 2018.</p> <p><b>American Political Science Association Annual Conference</b> 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015.</p> <p><b>Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology</b> 2020 (Discussant); 2019 (Discussant), 2018 (Paper); 2017 (Poster), 2016 (Poster).</p> <p><b>St. Louis Area Methods Meeting</b> 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018.</p> <p><b>Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Student Conference</b> 2018, 2017.</p> <p><b>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</b> 2019, 2017, 2016, 2015.</p>

**Political Science Data Conference** 2016 (Discussant).  
**Behavioral Models of Politics** 2014.

Teaching

**Rice University**

*Graduate level*

"Advanced Topics in Political Methodology: Causal Inference" (Fall 2019)

"Advanced Topics in Political Methodology: Computational Social Sciences" (Fall 2020)

*Undegraduate level*

"Applied Research Methods" (Spring 2020)

**Washington University in St. Louis**

"Introduction to Python" (2017 Summer course).

Departmental  
Service

Undergraduate Studies Committee, *Rice University*, 2020.

Speaker in "Reflections on Juneteenth and America's Racial Legacy Lectures", *Rice University*, 2020.

Speaker Series Committee, *Rice University*, 2019.

American Politics Search Committee, *Rice University*, 2019.

Speaker in Minorities in Social Sciences panels, *Rice University*, 2019.

Service to the  
discipline

Member of the Diversity Committee of the Society for Political Methodology, 2020-2022.

Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Political Analysis*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Electoral Politics*, *Research & Politics*, *International Journal of Political Communication*, and *Political Research Quarterly*.

Non-academic  
experience

**Buendía & Laredo, Mexico City, Mexico**

Project Coordinator, June 2011 - August 2013.

Chief of Research Department, February 2011-May 2011.

Internship, October 2010-January 2011.

**Office of International Affairs of the Presidency, Mexico City, Mexico**

Social service, January 2009-June 2009.

Software

**weightTAPSPACK** (with Dave Carlson and Taeyong Park).

The **weightTAPSPACK** is an R package that subsets The American Panel Survey (TAPS) data by outcome and covariates, models the attrition rates, imputes data for attrited individuals, and finds weights for analysis. <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/weightTAPSPACK/index.html>

Computer Skills

Statistical Packages: R, STATA, MPlus, BUGS/JAGS, & SPSS.

Languages: Python, HTML.

Languages

Spanish: native

English: fluent

German: beginner

References

Betsy Sinclair

Jacob Montgomery

Jeff Gill