

Isabel G. Laterzo-Tingley

University of Texas at Austin

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Appointments

University of Texas at Austin *Austin, TX*

Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs

Assistant Professor, 2025-

Fellow to the Wilbur J. Cohen Professorship in Health and Social Policy, 2026-

Postdoctoral Fellow, 2025-2026

Department of Government, Assistant Professor (courtesy), 2025-

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, Faculty Associate, 2024-

Center for Law and Democracy, Faculty Affiliate, 2025-

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Chapel Hill, NC*

Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, 2024

Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology

Awards: APSA Human Rights Section Best Dissertation Award (2025)

M.A., Political Science, 2020

Claremont McKenna College *Claremont, CA*

B.A., International Relations, *Cum Laude*, 2016

Book Manuscript

Uniformed Representation: The Electoral Rise of Law Enforcement Officers in Democratic Brazil (Book conference held May 2026)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- (7) García-Ponce, Omar and **Isabel G. Laterzo-Tingley**, “The Legacy of Mexico’s Drug War on Youth Political Attitudes,” *British Journal of Political Science*, 2026.
 - Published as a United Nations University WIDER Working Paper ([July 2023](#))
- (6) **Laterzo-Tingley, Isabel G.**, “The Public Security Issue Area,” *Political Research Quarterly*, 2026.
 - Honorable Mention, Best Qualitative Evidence Award, QMMR Section, APSA (2025)
 - Pi Sigma Alpha/Malcolm Jewell Best Graduate Student Paper Award, SPSA (2023)
- (5) **Laterzo-Tingley, Isabel G.** & Leah Christiani, “The ‘Tough-on-Crime’ Left: Race, Gender, and Elections of Law-and-Order Democrats,” *Research & Politics*, 2024.
- (4) **Laterzo, Isabel G.**, “Progressive Ideology and Support for Punitive Crime Policy: Evidence from Argentina and Brazil,” *Comparative Political Studies*, 2024.
 - Winner of the 2023 Prothro Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, UNC Political Science
 - Coverage: *The Washington Post* ([October 2022](#))
- (3) García-Ponce, Omar, **Isabel G. Laterzo**, Vivian Bronsoler, Elisa Lavore Fanjul, & Shahriar Kibriya, “Who is to Blame? Understanding the Justifications for Youth Crime in Urban Mexico,” *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 2023.
 - Coverage: *El Diario de Juárez* ([April 2022](#)), Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Priority Theme Spotlight ([August 2022](#))
- (2) Dunn, Claire E. and **Isabel G. Laterzo**, “State-Level Citizen Response to COVID-19 Containment Measures in Brazil and Mexico,” *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, 2021.

- Winner of the 2022 LASA Subnational Politics and Society Best Paper Award
- Coverage: *The Washington Post* ([November 2021](#))

- (1) **Laterzo, Isabel G.**, “Political Engagement and Victimization: A Causal Analysis,” *Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública (Latin American Journal of Public Opinion)*, 2021.

Working Papers

- “Institutional Accountability and Support for Democracy: Evidence from a Natural Experiment,” (with Ayelén Vanegas & Nicolás de la Cerda), Revised & Resubmitted, *British Journal of Political Science*
- Coverage: *Lawfare* ([May 2025](#)), *O Estado de São Paulo* ([June 2025](#)), *Folha de São Paulo* ([June 2025](#))
- “Do Experts Govern Better? Medical Mayors and Public Health in Brazil” (with Giancarlo Visconti)
- “Welfare and (Mis)Perceptions of Crime: Evidence from Public Housing in Brazil” (with Ayelén Vanegas)

In Progress

- “Music, Organized Crime, and Government Censorship: The Case of *Narcocorridos* in Mexico” (with Marco Alcocer)
- “Blocked Mobility and Violence Normalization: Gendered Pathways into Organized Crime in Mexico” (with Elena Barham & Omar García-Ponce)
- “Built on the Edge: Public Housing and the Politics of Urban Inequality in Brazil” (with Karin Vervuurt, Diego Romero, and Ayelén Vanegas)
- “Can Religious Appeals Counteract Punitive Criminal Justice Preferences?” (with Samuel Schmitt & Lucas Borba)
- “Digital Interventions to Strengthen Electoral Trust: A WhatsApp Field Experiment in Brazil” (with Karin Vervuurt, Daniel Nielson, David Wingate, Nathan Allred, Elizabeth Donaway)

Policy Reports

- Bronsoler, Vivian Nurko, Omar García-Ponce, Shahriar Kibriya, **Isabel G. Laterzo**, and Elisa Lavore Fanjul. “Performance Evaluation of USAID/Mexico’s Crime and Violence Prevention Activity.” Produced for USAID by the Center on Conflict and Development, Texas A&M University, 2021.

Media & Popular Press

- “[Is Accountability Polarizing? What Bolsonaro’s Indictment Can Tell Us](#)” guest article for *Lawfare* on May 21, 2025
- “[Featured Q&A: Are High Profile Arrests a Blow to the Sinaloa Cartel?](#)” quoted in the *Latin America Advisor* a publication of the Inter-American Dialogue on August 9, 2024
- “[Why are so many police and military candidates running in Brazil?](#)” guest article for *The Washington Post* on October 2, 2022
- “[Priority Theme Spotlight: Omar García-Ponce and Isabel Laterzo](#)” research featured by Evidence in Governance and Politics on August 18, 2022
- “[Jóvenes normalizan la violencia](#)” (Children normalize violence) research covered by *El Diario de Juárez* (Mexico) on April 11, 2022
- “[A Brazilian Senate panel accused Bolsonaro of helping spread coronavirus. Our research shows his influence](#)” guest article for *The Washington Post* on November 7, 2021

External Affiliations

Notre Dame University *South Bend, IN*

Research Affiliate, Eliminating Violence Against Women Lab, 2024-

Fundação Getulio Vargas *Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

Research Affiliate, Laboratory for Political Studies (LEP), School of Social Sciences (CPDOC), 2024-
Visiting Researcher, Center For Applied Research to Public Security (CCAS), 2022

Universidade Federal da Bahia *Bahia, Brazil*

Visiting Researcher, Crime and Society Research Lab (LASSOS), 2022

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais Minas Gerais, Brazil

Visiting Researcher, Center for Legislative Studies, 2022

Selected Awards, Grants, & Fellowships**External:**

2025: Winner, Best Dissertation in Human Rights Award, APSA Human Rights Section
 2025: Honorable Mention, Qualitative Evidence Award, APSA QMMR Section
 2024: Expense Support Fund, Institute for Humane Studies (w. Ayelén Vanegas) (\$3,500)
 2024-25: Visiting Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame (declined)
 2023-24: [Harry F. Guggenheim Emerging Scholar Award](#) (\$25,000)
 2021-22: Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant (approx. \$22,000)
 2020: Critical Language Scholarship Virtual Institute for Brazilian Portuguese, U.S. Department of State
 2020: Brazil Initiation Scholarship, Brazilian Studies Association (\$1,500)
 2019: Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship, Portuguese (\$15,000 + tuition)
 2019: Summer Program Scholarship, [Advancing Research on Conflict \(ARC\) Consortium](#) (\$900)

Internal:

2026: Seed Grant, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (w. Diego Romero, Ayelén Vanegas, & Karin Vervuurt) (\$10,000)
 2025-26: Fellow, Center for Women and Gender Studies' Faculty Development Program (\$2,000)
 2025: UT-Austin LBJ School Policy Research Institute (\$18,500)
 2024: UNC Political Science Uhlman Seminar Three Minute Thesis Presentation, 1st Place
 2023-24: [UNC Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship](#) (\$25,000 + tuition, partially accepted)
 2020: UNC Political Science Uhlman Seminar Three Minute Thesis Presentation, 1st Place (\$1,000)

Presentations & Workshops**Invited Presentations & Workshops:**

2026: University of Maryland, Methods and Comparative Politics Seminars; UT-Austin Center for Women and Gender Studies Faculty Development Series; University of Gothenburg, Quality of Government Institute Seminar Series
 2025: Representation, Democracy, and the Economic Backgrounds of Politicians Workshop at Vanderbilt University; MIT Justice & Injustice Conference; SoWEPS (disc.)
 2024: Tulane University, Center for Inter-American Policy and Research (CIPR); UT-Austin, Brazil Center, LLILAS; Yale Justice & Injustice Conference
 2023: Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, University of Maryland
 2022: Center for Legislative Studies & Center for Criminality and Public Security Studies (Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil); Laboratory for the Study of Crime and Society (LASSOS, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil); Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (Mexico, virtual); Danish Centre for Welfare Studies, Politics of Insecurity Workshop (Denmark, virtual)

Conference Participation: REPAL (Network for the Study of Latin American Political Economy) (2021, 2025); Texas Comparative Politics Circle (2025, 2026); American Political Science Association (2021, 2023, 2024, 2025); Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (2020, 2022, 2023); Latin American Peace Science Society Conference (2023); Public Choice Society Conference (2023); Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2021, 2023); Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress (2021, 2022, 2023, 2026); Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (2022); UNC-Duke Latin American Working Group Conference (2020, 2021); North Carolina Conference on Latin American Studies (2019, 2020, 2022); Latin American PolMeth (2020)

Teaching**UT-Austin**

Crime & Violence in Latin America (Graduate), Fall 2026

The Politics of Public Service Provision in Latin America (Graduate), Fall 2025

UNC-Chapel Hill*Instructor:*

Introduction to Comparative Politics (Undergraduate), Sp 2022
 Data in Politics I (Undergraduate), Fall 2021
 Lab: Intermediate Statistics (Graduate), Sp 2021

Teaching Assistant:

Introduction to Comparative Politics (Undergraduate), Fall 2020
 Intro, Intermed., & Adv. R: The Odum Institute Short Course Series (Adult Learners), Summer 2019
 Intro to Effective Information Vis.: The Odum Institute Short Course Series (Adult Learners), Sp 2023

Guest Lectures:

UT-Austin Liberal Arts Honors Program (2025)
 Getulio Vargas Foundation School of Law (São Paulo, Brazil) (2022)

Professional Service

University & Departmental:

2025: Co-Organizer, Conference on Democratic Resilience and Backsliding in Latin America (LBJ School)
 2025-: Executive Committee for the Master's in Global Policy Studies (LBJ School)
 2024-: Executive Committee for the Undergraduate Curriculum (LBJ School)
 2024: Organizing Committee, Conference on Political Violence in Latin America (UT-Austin LLILAS)
 2023-24: President, Graduate Student Executive Committee (UNC-Chapel Hill Political Science)
 2022-23: Vice President, Graduate Student Executive Committee (UNC-Chapel Hill Political Science)
 2020-21: Coordinator, Duke-UNC Latin American Politics Working Group

Discipline & Educational:

2022-2024: Co-founder and Organizer, [Violence, Instability, and Peace \(VIP\) Workshop](#)
 2021: Academic Mentor for Students in Prison, UNC Correctional Education Program
 Referee: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, *Political Science Research & Methods*, *Political Behavior*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Research & Politics*, *Electoral Studies*, *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Theoretical Criminology*, *Colombia Internacional*

Advising & Mentorship

Doctoral:

Tomás Paixão Borges (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Political Science, Committee)

Masters:

Brittini Palkert (UT-Austin, Global Policy Studies & Latin American Studies, Adviser)
 Jeanett Ochoa Olivas (UT-Austin, Latin American Studies, Committee)
 João Felipe Marques Barros Da Silva (Universidade de Brasília, Political Science, Committee)

Undergraduate:

Lara Borges (UT-Austin, Plan II Honors Thesis, Committee)
 Sophie Mejia (UT-Austin, IPD & Gov Research Internship Supervisor)
 Marissa Gonzalez (UT-Austin, Gov Research Internship Supervisor)
 Jamie Dixon (UT-Austin, IPD Research Internship Supervisor)

Related Skills & Memberships

Languages: English (native), Portuguese (near fluent listening/reading/speaking/writing), Spanish (advanced listening/reading; intermediate speaking/writing)

Memberships: American Political Science Association; Southern Political Science Association; The Society for Political Methodology; Latin American Studies Association