

# Elizabeth Suhay

American University, Washington, DC

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## Academic Appointments

### **Associate Professor, Government, School of Public Affairs**

American University

2018 – present

### **Assistant Professor, Government, School of Public Affairs**

American University

2014 – 2018

### **Assistant Professor, Government & Law**

Lafayette College, Easton, PA

2009 – 2014

## Administrative Positions & Research Affiliations

### **Vice-Director, Science Policy Fellows Program**

American University

2022 – present

### **Graduate Program Director, Political Science**

American University

2019 – present

### **Fellow, Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies**

American University

2017 – present

### **Visiting Scholar, Annenberg School for Communication**

University of Pennsylvania

2012 – 3

## Education

### **PhD in Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

American Politics; Political Theory; Methodology

2000-8

### **BA in Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

High Honors in Political Science; Distinction in History and Political Science

1991-5

## Edited Volumes

David Barker and **Elizabeth Suhay**, eds. 2021. *The Politics of Truth in Polarized America*. Oxford University Press.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Bernard Grofman, and Alex Trechsel, eds. 2020. *The Oxford Handbook of Electoral Persuasion*. Oxford University Press.

**Elizabeth Suhay** and James N. Druckman, eds. 2015. The Politics of Science: Political Values and the Production, Communication, and Reception of Scientific Knowledge. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 658.

## Research Articles

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Aparna Soni, Claudia Persico, and Dave E. Marcotte. 2022. Americans' Trust in Government and Health Behavior during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(8): 221-244.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Mark Tenenbaum, and Austin Bartola. 2022. Explanations for Inequality and Partisan Polarization in the U.S., 1980-2020. *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics* 20(1): 5-36.

Meri Long, Ryan Dawe, and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2021. Gender Attitudes and Candidate Preferences in the 2016 US Presidential Primary and General Election. *Politics & Gender*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X21000155>

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Marko Klasnja, and Gonzalo Rivero. 2021. Ideology of Affluence: Explanations for Inequality and Economic Policy Preferences among Rich Americans. *The Journal of Politics* 83(1): 367–380.

Winner 2018 APSA Class & Inequality “best paper” award

Karen L. Akerlof, Taryn Bromser-Kloeden, Kristin Timm . . . **Elizabeth Suhay** [multi-author publication]. 2021. Categorizing Professionals' Perspectives on Environmental Communication with Implications for Graduate Education. *Environmental Communication* 15(4): 447-464.

Sarah Croco, **Elizabeth Suhay**, Rachel Blum, Lilliana Mason, Hans Noel, Jonathan Ladd, and Michael Bailey. 2019. Student-Run Exit Polls 101. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 52(2): 361–366.

Benjamin Toff and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2018. Partisan Conformity, Social Identity, and the Formation of Policy Preferences. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 31(2): 349–367.

**Elizabeth Suhay** and Cengiz Erisen. 2018. The Role of Anger in the Biased Assimilation of Political Information. *Political Psychology* 39(4): 793–810.

**Elizabeth Suhay** and Jeremiah Garretson. 2018. Science, Sexuality, and Civil Rights: Does Information on the Causes of Sexual Orientation Change Attitudes? *The Journal of Politics* 80(2): 692–696.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Emily Bello-Pardo, and Brianna Maurer. 2017. The Polarizing Effects of Online Partisan Criticism: Evidence from Two Experiments. *International Journal of Press/Politics* 23(1): 95–115.

Alexandre Morin-Chasse, **Elizabeth Suhay**, and Toby Jayaratne. 2017. Discord over DNA: Politically Contingent Responses to Scientific Research on Genes and Race. *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 2(2): 260–299.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Mark Brandt, and Travis Proulx. 2016. Lay Belief in Biopolitics and Political Prejudice. *Social Psychological and Personality Science* 8(2): 173–182.

Jeremiah Garretson and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2016. Scientific Communication about Biological Influences on Homosexuality and the Politics of Gay Rights. *Political Research Quarterly* 69(1): 17–29.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Brian Calfano, and Ryan Dawe. 2016. Social Norms, Dual Identities, and National Attachment: How the Perceived Patriotism of Group Members Influences Muslim Americans. *Politics, Groups, & Identities* 4(1): 63–83.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Allyson Blackwell, Cameron Roche, and Lucien Bruggeman. 2015. Forging Bonds and Burning Bridges: Polarization and Incivility in Blog Discussions about Occupy Wall Street. *American Politics Research* 43(4): 643–679.

**Elizabeth Suhay**. 2015. Explaining Group Influence: The Role of Identity and Emotion in Political Conformity and Polarization. *Political Behavior* 37(1): 221–251.

**Elizabeth Suhay** and Toby Jayaratne. 2013. Does Biology Justify Ideology? The Politics of Genetic Attribution. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 77(2): 497–521.

Marc Hetherington and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2011. Authoritarianism, Threat, and Americans' Support for the War on Terror. *American Journal of Political Science* 55(3): 546–560.

Ted Brader, Nicholas Valentino, and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2008. What Triggers Public Opposition to Immigration? Anxiety, Group Cues, and Immigration Threat. *American Journal of Political Science* 52(4): 959–978.

Reprinted in Howard Lavine, ed. 2010. *Political Psychology, Volume II: Public Opinion and Mass Political Behavior*. Sage.

### **Chapters, Commentaries, & Encyclopedia Articles**

**Elizabeth Suhay**. 2022. Human interaction, politics, and democratic reform: Integrating political science with an interpersonal systems approach. *Cognition and Emotion* 36(8): 1485–1490.

**Elizabeth Suhay**, Bernard Grofman, and Alex Trechsel. 2020. A Framework for the Study of Electoral Persuasion. In Suhay, Grofman, and Trechsel (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Electoral Persuasion*. Oxford University Press.

**Elizabeth Suhay**. 2017. The Politics of Scientific Knowledge. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication*, Jon Nussbaum, ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Elizabeth Suhay**. 2017. Genetic Essentialism. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Political Behavior*. Fathali M. Moghaddam, ed. Sage Publications: 323–325.

- Reports, Reviews, & Other Publications** Dave E. Marcotte and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2021. An Initial Evaluation of the Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN) 2020-2021. School of Public Affairs, American University.
- Elizabeth Suhay**, Emily Cloyd, Erin Heath, and Erin Nash. 2019. *Recommended Practices for Science Communication with Policymakers*. School of Public Affairs/American University and American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- Elizabeth Suhay** and Brianna Maurer. 2018. Authoritarianism in the Public. In *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*, Sandy Maisal, ed.
- Elizabeth Suhay**. 2017. Review of *Anxious Politics: Democratic Citizenship in a Threatening World* by Bethany Albertson and Shana Kushner Gadarian. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 81(1): 196–198.
- Elizabeth Suhay**. 2016. Review of *The Hidden Agenda of the Political Mind: How Self-Interest Shapes Our Opinions and Why We Won't Admit It* by Jason Weeden and Robert Kurzban. *Perspectives on Politics* 14(1): 36–38.
- Toby Jayaratne and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2015. Genetic, environmental, and choice causal attribution survey measures. Published in PsycTESTS database.
- Elizabeth Suhay**. 2011-12. Review of *Behind the Backlash: Muslim Americans After 9/11* by Lori Peek. *Political Science Quarterly* 126(4): 708–710.
- Scott E. Page and **Elizabeth Suhay**. 2006. *A Decision-Making Guide to the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan.
- Book Manuscript** Debating the American Dream: How Explanations for Inequality Polarize U.S. Politics
- Working Papers** Conducting Interview Projects in the U.S. Congress: Analyzing the Methods of Experts in the Field (with Daniel Steiman)
- The Strategic Selection of Qualified Contrarians in Congressional Testimony (with Nathan Lee, Sara Yeganeh, and Erin Nash)
- Evaluating New Technology Use: Are Americans Democratically Competent? (with Meredith Dost and Jennifer Hochschild)
- Bridging the Scientist-Policymaker Divide: Congressional Perspectives on Science Communication (with Kristen Munnely, Erin Heath, and Erin Nash)
- Unemployment, Benefits, and Trust in Government (with Claudia Persico, Dave E. Marcotte, and Aparna Soni)
- External Grants** Trust in Science Project/Harvard University grant for “Protesting Expert Authorities: Autonomy and the Democratic Challenge to Evidence-Based Policy” (\$100,000), with Jennifer Hochschild (PI). 2022.

National Science Foundation grant for “Societal Trust and Health amidst COVID-19, and an Evaluation Framework for the Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN)” (\$200,000). 2020.

National Science Foundation grant for “Developing Approaches to the Study of Information” (\$40,500), with David Barker. 2018.

National Academy of Sciences (with support from Rita Allen Foundation) grant for “Evidence-Based Science Communication to Policymakers” (\$37,500). 2017.

Russell Sage Foundation grant for “The Politics of Genetic Explanations for Social Inequality” (\$40,800). 2016.

Time-Sharing Experiments for Social Sciences (TESS) award, with Jeremiah Garretson. 2013.

Time-Sharing Experiments for Social Sciences (TESS) award, with Ted Brader & Nicholas Valentino. 2003.

### **Internal Grants**

Excellence with Impact grant for “Improving Science Communication with Policymakers” event, School of Public Affairs, American University. 2019.

Junior Faculty Research Grant, School of Public Affairs, American University. 2017 & 2018.

Excellence with Impact grant for “Politics of Science” event, School of Public Affairs, American University. 2015.

Academic Research Committee Grant, Lafayette College. 2012 & 2013.

Thesis Grant, Political Science & Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan. 2006 & 2007.

### **Awards & Fellowships**

Outstanding Teaching by a Tenured Faculty Member, School of Public Affairs, American University. 2020.

Excellence with Impact Faculty Award, School of Public Affairs, American University. 2015.

Richard King Mellon Research Fellowship, Lafayette College. 2010.

Roberta Sigel Early Career Scholar Paper Award, Int'l Society of Political Psychology. 2008.

Rackham Graduate School One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan. 2008.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Political Science, University of Michigan. 2006.

Gerald R. Ford Fellowship, Political Science, University of Michigan. 2005–7.

Connelly Award Fellowship, Political Science, University of Michigan. 2004.

Summer Awards for Faculty/Student Collaboration, with Professor Donald R. Kinder, Political Science, University of Michigan. 2003 & 2004.

Angus B. Campbell Research Fellowship, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. 2002–3.

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention. 2002.

Horace H. Rackham Regents Fellowship, University of Michigan. 2000–2.

**Invited Lectures, Talks,  
Webinars (last 10 years)**

“Debating the American Dream: How Explanations for Inequality Polarize U.S. Politics.” How People Think About the Economy Conference, University College London, April 2023.

“Belief Polarization & the U.S. Congress.” American Political Science Congressional Fellows Program orientation, Washington, DC, Nov 2022.

“The Politics of American Explanations for Inequality.” Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale University, Sept 2021.

“Recommendations for Science Communication with Policymakers Based on a U.S. Research Study.” Science Communication online course, CampusIL (Israel), 2021.

“How and Why Genetic Explanations Correlate with Political Attitudes.” Thinking Morally about Genetics & Agency Conference, Columbia University, Dec 2019.

“Opportunities & Risks in Commercial Science Communication with the Public.” Reconceptualizing the Challenges of Direct-to-Consumer Health Products, Banbury Center, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, Oct 2019.

“Evidence-based Science Communication with Policymakers” (with Emily Cloyd, Erin Heath, & Erin Nash). Sage Webinar, July 2019.

“How Parties Influence Science Communication in Congress.” School of Media & Public Affairs, George Washington University, April 2019.

“Ideology of Affluence: Explanations for Inequality and Political Attitudes among Rich Americans.” Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, April 2019.

“Communicating Science with Policymakers in a Polarized Environment.” Communicating Science Seminar, American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., Feb 2019.

“Communicating Science in a Politically Polarized Environment.” Stem Cell Research Center, University of California, Irvine, Jan 2019.

“How Americans on the Left & Right Explain Socioeconomic Inequality.” Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland, Nov 2018.

“How Americans on the Left & Right Explain Socioeconomic Inequality.” Center for the Study of Democratic Citizenship, McGill University, Nov 2018.

"Evidence-based Science Communication with Policymakers." National Academy of Sciences Sackler Colloquium, Washington, D.C., Nov 2017.

"The Ideology of Affluence: How the Rich Explain Inequality, and Why It Matters." Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan, May 2017.

"The Politics of Causal Explanations for Inequality." Center for Neuroscience & Society, University of Pennsylvania, Jan 2017.

"Science, Ideology, & the Public." Consortium for Socially Relevant Philosophy of/in Science and Engineering, University of Texas, Dallas, May 2016.

"Bias, Research, and the Art and Science of Effective Communication." AcademyHealth National Health Policy Conference, Washington, D.C., Feb 2016.

"Science, Sexuality, and Civil Rights: Does Research on the Causes of Homosexuality Have a Political Impact?" Political Psychology Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA, Jan 2016.

"Political Conformity: Evidence & Mechanisms." Political Persuasion Conference, University of California, Irvine, Laguna Beach, CA, Jan 2016.

"Politics in Science/Science in Law: Consuming Science Responsibly in the Courtroom, Legislature, and Public Sphere" (with Dan Kahan & Francis Shen). Sage Webinar, May 2015.

"The Politics of Biology: Political Opinion & the Perceived Causes of Inequality." Department of Government, Georgetown University, Feb 2015.

"United in our Differences: Ideological Polarization in On-Line Posts about Occupy Wall Street." Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, Oct 2012.

**Conference Papers & Presentations  
(last 5 years)**

Unemployment, Benefits, and Trust in Government (with Claudia Persico, Dave E. Marcotte, and Aparna Soni)

- Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Washington, DC, Nov 17–19, 2022

Debating the American Dream: How Beliefs about the Causes of Inequality Polarize U.S. Politics.

- International Society of Political Psychology, Athens, Greece, July 14–17, 2022

Democratic Competence amid Scientific Advance: Stability and Structure in Americans' Views about Genetic Biobanks (w/ Meredith Dost and Jennifer Hochschild)

- International Society of Political Psychology, July 11–13, 2021
- American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, Sept 30–Oct 3, 2021

Communication between Congress and Outside Experts: Perspectives from Members of Congress, Congressional Staff, and Scientists (w/ Michael Heseltine)

- American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, Sept 10–Sept 13, 2020

How Americans Explain Inequality, and Why It Matters

- International Society of Political Psychology, July 14–16, 2020

How Partisan Politics Does and Doesn't Bias Scientific Communication in Congress (w/ Sara Yeganeh, Nathan Lee, Erin Nash)

- American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, Aug 29–Sept 1, 2019

How Americans on the Left and Right Explain Inequality

- American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, Aug 30–Sept 2, 2018
- Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Apr 4–7, 2019

The Politics of Scientific Communication in Congress: An Analysis of Congressional Expert Testimony on Climate Science (w/ Sara Yeganeh, Nathan Lee, Erin Nash)

- American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, Aug 30–Sept 2, 2018
- Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Apr 4–7, 2019

The Political Preferences of the Wealthy in the U.S. and the Netherlands (w/ Marko Klasnja, Paul Smeets, Gonzalo Rivero)

- Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Apr 5–8, 2018

## External Workshops

Trust in Science Project Workshop, Program on Science, Technology & Society and Harvard Data Science Initiative, Harvard University, Sept 8-9, 2022 (by invitation)

What is Belief? An Interdisciplinary Workshop on the Nature of Belief, Princeton University, June 13-15, 2022 (by invitation)

Social and Political Impact of Covid-19 in the United States, Russell Sage Foundation, June 10-11, 2021 (by invitation)

Encountering Science in Everyday Life, American Academy of Arts & Sciences, Cambridge, MA, June 1–2, 2017 (by invitation)

Integrating Biopolitics and Political Psychology, UC Merced, June 20, 2016

St. Louis Area Methods Meeting, American University, Washington, D.C., April 20, 2016

Understanding Science Denialism, Wake Forest, Winston-Salem, NC, July 9–10, 2015 (by invitation)

Methodology of Twin and Family Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, March 1–5, 2010 (competitive/NSF funded).

## Teaching

### Courses

*American University*: Politics in the U.S. (BA); Inequality in the U.S. (BA/Complex Problems); Introduction to Political Research (BA); Political Opinion in the U.S.



(BA & MA); Capstone in Political Communication (MA); U.S. Politics Proseminar (PhD); Political Behavior (PhD); Research Design (PhD)

*Lafayette College*: Introduction to American Government; Campaigns & Elections in the U.S.; Political Parties and the Electoral Process; Political Opinion and Participation in the U.S.; Emotions and Politics

*University of Michigan*: Campaigns and Elections (Lecturer); Contemporary Issues in American Politics (GSI); Introduction to Political Theory (GSI)

### **Dissertation Committees**

Marcus Johnson (Chair); Em Bello-Pardo (Chair); William Jorgeson (Co-Chair); Michael Heseltine; Simon Heuberger; Cassandra Tai (Iowa); Sara Yeganeh (Stony Brook)

## **Service**

### **Association Leadership Roles**

Conference Co-Chair, Midwest Political Science Association (2024)

Program Chair, Social Inequality, Social Change, and Civic Development, ISPP annual conference (2022)

Member, Governing Council, ISPP (2020–)

Section Chair, Class & Inequality, APSA (2020–2022)

Program Chair, Public Opinion, APSA annual conference (2021)

Chair of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Class & Inequality, APSA (2019–20)

Program Chair, Political Psychology, MPSA annual conference (2013)

### **Association Committees**

Class & Inequality Best Paper Chair, APSA (2023); Franklin L. Burdette Pi Sigma Alpha Award Chair, APSA (2021); Warren Miller Prize, APSA EPOVB (2019); Nominations Committee, SPSA (2019, 2022); Program Committee, Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology Conference (2017); Best Dissertation, APSA Political Psychology (2016); Roberta Sigel Chair, ISPP (2014); Best Poster, MPSA (2014); Best Dissertation, APSA Experiments (2012)

### **Editorial Boards**

Journal of Experimental Political Science (2022–); Science, Values, and the Public series, University of Pittsburgh Press (2019–); Political Behavior (2019–22)

### **Conference Panel Discussant**

APSA (2022, 2021, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2011, 2010, 2008); MPSA (2015, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2007, 2006); ISPP (2012); NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference (2013, 2011)

### **Conference Roundtables**

APSA (2021, 2019, 2014)

## **Peer Reviewer**

Journals: *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *American Politics Research*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *British Journal of Social Psychology*; *British Journal of Sociology*; *Climatic Change*; *Cognition & Emotion*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Economics & Politics*; *Information, Communication, & Society*; *European Journal of Social Psychology*; *European Political Science Review*; *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*; *Journal of Communication*; *Journal of Conflict Resolution*; *Journal of Experimental Political Science*; *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*; *Journal of Homosexuality*; *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Public Policy*; *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*; *Journal of Risk Research*; *Journal of Women, Politics, & Policy*; *Latin American Research Review*; *Nature Climate Change*; *Nature Human Behaviour*; *Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *PLOS ONE*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Science Research & Methods*; *Political Psychology*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Political Studies Review*; *Politics, Groups, & Identities*; *Politics & Gender*; *Politics & Religion*; *Polity*; *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*; *Public Opinion Quarterly*; *Research & Politics*; *Royal Society Open Science*; *Social Problems*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Social Science Research*; *Sociological Forum*

Book Publishers: Oxford University Press; Princeton University Press; Routledge

Funders: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research; NSF; Russell Sage Foundation; Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences

## **American University Committees**

Gill Scholarship Committee, SPA (2019, 2021, 2023); Methods Field Committee, Government (2018–20); Academic Core Socio-Historical Subcommittee, AU (2018–19); Assessment, Government (2017–19); Faculty Development Leadership Cohort, AU (2017–18); Excellence with Impact, SPA (2017–18); Teaching Evaluation, SPA (2015–16); Honors Capstone Conference Selection, SPA (2015); Academic Integrity, SPA (2014–15)

## **Lafayette College Committees**

Task Force on Integrated Student Experience (2013–14); Faculty Academic Policy (2013–14); Curriculum & Educational Policy (2011–12); Student Life (2010–11)

Updated: April 26, 2023