GUILLERMO TORAL

Research interests

Comparative politics and political economy of development, governance, corruption, education. Causal inference. Qualitative fieldwork. Regional focus on Latin America and Latin Europe.

Academic appointments

Vanderbilt University – Nashville, TN Assistant Professor of Political Science (tenure track)

2020 - present

Affiliations

Center for Latin American Studies (Vanderbilt), Faculty Affiliate

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (Vanderbilt), Faculty Affiliate

MIT GOV/LAB, Faculty Affiliate

Harvard Ash Center, Democracy Visiting Fellow

Universidade de São Paulo, Visiting Researcher

Fundação Getúlio Vargas (São Paulo), Visiting Researcher

February 2018 - January 2019

Fundação Getúlio Vargas (Rio de Janeiro), Visiting Research Scholar

January - March 2017

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, PhD in Political Science

2014 - 2020

■ Fields: Political Economy and Methods

University of Oxford, MPhil in Politics (Comparative Government), Distinction

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Masters in Immigration and Refuge, Distinction 2008 - 2009

Sciences Po Paris, International Program Diploma

2006 - 2007

2009 - 2011

Universidad Complutense, Licenciatura in Political Science & Public Administration 2004 - 2009

Book project

The political logics of patronage: Uses and abuses of government jobs in Brazil

- * Honorable Mention, Sérgio Buarque de Holanda Prize for Best Dissertation in Social Sciences, Latin American Studies Association's Brazil section
- * Lucian Pye Award for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis, MIT Department of Political Science

Peer-reviewed articles

"Competence versus Priorities: Negative Electoral Responses to Education Quality in Brazil" (with Taylor Boas and F. Daniel Hidalgo). *Journal of Politics*, forthcoming.

"Immigrant Organizations as Civil Society: A Three-Dimensional Analysis" (in Spanish). Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas 132: 105 - 130 (2010).

Chapters in books

In *Great Teachers: How to Raise Student Learning in Latin America and the Caribbean*, edited by Barbara Bruns and Javier Luque, World Bank (2015). Translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

- "Recruiting better teachers" (with Barbara Bruns, Javier Luque, David Evans, and Soledad de Gregorio), pages 139 178.
- "Grooming great teachers" (with Barbara Bruns, Javier Luque, David Evans, Noah Yarrow, and Soledad de Gregorio), pages 179 222.

Policy reports

"Information and Accountability: Evidence Syntheses of Within-Government and Citizen-Government Accountability Pathways" (with Lily Tsai, Benjamin Morse, and Varja Lipovsek). Transparency and Accountability Initiative (2019).

"Taxation and Accountability in Developing Countries" (with Lily Tsai, Blair Read, and Varja Lipovsek). Transparency and Accountability Initiative (2018).

"Effects of international standards on accountability behaviors" (with Lily Tsai, Benjamin Morse, and Varja Lipovsek). Transparency and Accountability Initiative (2018).

Papers

"Turnover: How electoral accountability disrupts the bureaucracy and service delivery." Under review.

* Media coverage: BBC News Brasil, Globo G1, MIT News

"The benefits of patronage: How the political appointment of bureaucrats can enhance their accountability and effectiveness"

"Political bureaucratic cycles: Public employment and service delivery around elections in Brazil"

"Information, oversight, and compliance: A field experiment on horizontal accountability in Brazil"

"Franchise reforms in the age of migration: Why do governments give voting rights to noncitizens?" MIT Working Paper 2015-12.

In progress

The political economy of oversight: Prosecutors and the control of corruption in Brazil

Selection and careers of elite civil servants in Spain (with Pablo Fernández Vázquez)

Teaching experience

Vanderbilt University - Nashville, TN

Instructor, Politics of Bureaucracies (graduate)	Spring 2021
Instructor, Political Economy of Development (undergraduate)	Spring 2021
Instructor, Political Economy of Corruption (undergraduate)	Fall 2020

Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Cambridge, MA

Teaching Assistant, Machine Learning & Data Science in Politics (undergraduate)	Spring 2020
Teaching Assistant, Making Public Policy (undergraduate)	Fall 2019
Co-Instructor, Political Science Laboratory (undergraduate)	Spring 2019
Teaching Assistant, Quantitative Methods I (graduate)	Fall 2017

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte - Natal, Brazil

IPSA-USP Summer School in Methods in Political Science, Public Policy and IR – São Paulo Teaching Fellow, Advanced Quantitative Methods for Public Policy Analysis January 2019

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) - Cambridge, MA

Teaching Assistant, Course on Randomized Evaluation of Social Programs June 2017

Other training

MIT Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program – Cambridge, MA Spring 2019 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research – Syracuse, NY June 2017

J-PAL Certificate in Public Policy Impact Evaluation & Surveys - Santiago, Chile April 2013

Grants & fellowships

Astor Visiting Lectureship, University of Oxford	2021
European University Institute Max Weber Fellowship (declined)	2020 - 2022
New York University Abu Dhabi Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)	2020 - 2022
Kellogg Institute (U. of Notre Dame) Visting Fellowship (declined)	2020 - 2021

	NSF & Society Center for Int MIT GOV/LA Southeast Lat Lemann Foun MIT Internati MIT Departm MIT Presiden St Cross Colle La Caixa Four Spanish Gove Spanish Nation European Unit	Governance and Local Development Short-Term Research Grant by for Political Methodology Annual Meeting Grant ernational Studies Summer Study Fellowship AB Dissertation Grant Lin American Behavior Consortium Travel Award dation Fellowship onal Science and Technology Initiatives research grant ernt of Political Science PhD Fellowship tial Fellowship ege (Oxford University) Travel and Research Grant endation Fellowship for masters in the UK ernment Seneca Fellowship (declined) onal Research Council Introduction to Research Fellowship on & Spanish Government Erasmus-Socrates Fellowship enal Government Fellowship for Outstanding Students	2016 - 2 2015 - 2 2014 - 3	2016 2020 2015 2010 2011 2008 2008 2007
Awards		ention, Best Dissertation in Social Sciences, LASA Brazil Section ward for Outstanding Thesis, MIT Department of Political Science		2021 2020
Academic service	Reviewer Co-organizer Discussant Panel chair Committee	Economics & Politics, Journal of Politics, Latin American Resear Legislative Studies Quarterly, Perspectives on Politics, Revista In Sociología, Studies in Comparative International Development, UReview, World Development MIT Latin American Working Group MIT GOV/LAB Political Behavior of Development Conference American Political Science Association Annual Meeting MIT GOV/LAB Political Behavior of Development Conference Brown-Harvard-MIT South Asian Politics seminar Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science (SoWEPS) Admissions and Awards Committee, Center for Latin American S	oternacional Urban Affairs 2016 - 1 2018, 2	2018 2017 2020
Invited talks	WZB (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung), IPI seminar (scheduled) IE University, School of Global and Public Affairs (scheduled) University of Gothenburg, Quality of Government Institute (scheduled) Northwestern University, Comparative Politics Workshop ITAM (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México), Department of Political Science Yale-NUS College, Division of Social Sciences Rutgers University, School of Public Affairs and Administration CIDE (Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas), Public Administration Division NYUAD (New York University Abu Dhabi), Social Science Division Vanderbilt University, Department of Political Science Tecnológico de Monterrey, Department of Political Science and International Relations		2021 2021 2021 2021 2021 2021 2020 2019 2019	
Selected conference presentations	MPSA (Midw LASA (Latin NEWEPS (No	,		2015

REPAL (Latin American Political Economy Network) Annual Meeting
SeLAB (Southeast Latin American Behavior Consortium) Conference
2017

Professional experience

World Bank, Education Sector, Latin America Region – Washington, DC

Consultant (full time) December 2013 - June 2014
Junior Professional Associate July 2011 - July 2013

- Worked in the preparation, negotiation and supervision of education projects in Costa Rica, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico and Guyana. This contributed to the approval of 3 loans (US\$265 million) and progress of 9 projects (investments totaling US\$2.3 billion).
- Worked on evidence-based recommendations for the Government of Chile to reform its student aid programs and quality assurance system for higher education.

IT skills R, Stata, LATEX, ArcGIS, HTML, CSS, Qualtrics, QSR NVivo, JAGS

Languages Spanish native (grew up in Spain)

English fluent (TOEFL iBT 120/120; lived 2 years in the UK and 7+ years in the USA)

French fluent (DALF C2; lived 1 year in France)

Portuguese fluent (lived 1.5 years in Brazil)

References Ben Ross Schneider, Ford International Professor of Political Science at MIT ☑ brs@mit.edu
Lily Tsai, Ford Professor of Political Science at MIT ☑ I tsai@mit.edu

F. Daniel Hidalgo, Associate Professor of Political Science at MIT
☐ dhidalgo@mit.edu