

ISABELLA CARO MONTINI

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D. in Political Science — Fields: Comparative Politics and Political Methodology

Berkeley, CA

Aug 2022 – present

- *M.A. in Political Science (with distinction)*, May 2024

Stanford University

M.A. in Latin American Studies (with distinction)

Stanford, CA

Sep 2021 – Jun 2022

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

B.A. in Political Science and Sociology

Berlin, Germany

Oct 2018 – Sep 2021

DISSERTATION PROJECT

Contested Governance, Contested Claims: *The Politics of Claim-Making in Urban Peripheries*

Committee: Alison Post (chair), Scott Straus (chair), Thad Dunning and Hillel Soifer

PUBLICATIONS

1. Pantaleão, B., **Montini, I. C.** (2025). When Elections Empower Crime: Political Protection and Milícia Expansion in Rio de Janeiro. *FirstView at Latin American Politics and Society*.
2. Farag, M., **Montini, I. C.**, Fontenay, J., Jung, H. R., Ladhar, S. (2023). Modalities of Power Sharing: Consociationalism after 50 Years - A Scoping Review (1969-2018). *Government and Opposition*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

1. Size Matters: Pork Politics and State Presence in Brazilian Municipalities. *Under Review* (with Alison E. Post).
 - *In the News*: **O Estado de S. Paulo** (August 2025).
 - *Featured in*: **Folha de S. Paulo** (June 2025).
2. To Impeach Or Not To Impeach: Elite Polarization, Mass Mobilization and Corruption Scandals. *Revise and Resubmit at the European Review of Political Science* (with Mahmoud Farag and Philipp Schemm)
3. Under the Radar: Estimating Underreporting of Gender-Based Violence to the Police. *Working Paper*. (with Jessie Trudeau)
4. Electoral Rules and the Provision of Public versus Targeted Goods: Evidence from Mayoral Elections in Brazil. *Working Paper*.
5. The Paradox of Protection: Patterns of Gender-Based Violence Under Criminal Rule. *In Progress*. (with Johanna Reyes Ortega)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

IPA's Peace and Recovery Initiative Exploratory Grant (with Jessie Trudeau) <i>Innovations for Poverty Action ~ \$10,000</i>	2025
APSA/NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant <i>American Political Science Association ~ \$15,000</i>	2025
APSA Centennial Center Research Grant <i>American Political Science Association ~ \$2,000</i>	2025
Peter H. Odegard Award for Outstanding Performance in Political Science <i>Department of Political Science, UC Berkeley ~ \$3,000</i>	2025
Simpson Research Grant in International Studies for ABDs <i>Institute for International Studies at UC Berkeley ~ \$15,000</i>	2025
Global Metropolitan Studies Summer Funding Competition <i>Center for Global Metropolitan Studies at UC Berkeley ~ \$5,000</i>	2025
CAF Policy Grant (with Jessie Trudeau) <i>Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina Y El Caribe ~ \$12,000</i>	2025
CEGA Development Economics Challenge (with Johanna Reyes Ortega) <i>Center for Effective Global Action ~ \$5000</i>	2025
John L. Simpson Pre-Dissertation Fellowship <i>Graduate Institute for Area Studies at UC Berkeley ~ \$5000</i>	2024
Political Economy Research Grant <i>BESI Network UC Berkeley ~ \$5000</i>	2024
Jim Fahey Safe Homes for Women Fellowship <i>Graduate Division at UC Berkeley ~ \$1000</i>	2024
Outstanding Teaching Award <i>UC Berkeley</i>	2024
UC Berkeley Diversity and Community Fellowship <i>Graduate Diversity (UC Berkeley ~ \$7500)</i>	2023
Path To Professoriate Fellow <i>Graduate Diversity (UC Berkeley)</i>	2022
Excellence Award for Academic Performance <i>Center for Latin American Studies (Stanford University)</i>	2022
Ayacucho Fellowship <i>Center for Latin American Studies (Stanford University ~ \$80,000)</i>	2021-22
Full 3-year DAAD scholarship for Undergraduate Students <i>Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service ~ \$42,000)</i>	2018-21

TEACHING

Graduate Student Instructor

University of California, Berkeley

- Math Camp for incoming Political Science Graduate Students, Summer 2025
- PS 231b: Causal Inference (Graduate), Spring 2025
- PS 148A: Latin American Politics, Fall 2024
- PS 147G: The Welfare State in Comparative Perspective, Fall 2023

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Policy Consultant for the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF)	2025
Statistical Consulting for Honors Thesis Seminar	Fall 2025
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Visiting Scholar	May - July 2025
<i>FGV - CEPESP</i>	<i>São Paulo, Brazil</i>
Research Associate at the Center on the Politics of Development	June 2022 - present
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Research Fellow PovGov Lab	Oct 2021 - present
<i>Stanford University, Department of Political Science</i>	<i>Stanford, CA</i>
Quantitative Methods Tutor (Mathcamp)	May 2023 - May 2024
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Getting into Grad School (GiGS) Mentor	June 2022 - June 2023
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Research Assistant	Sep 2019 - July 2021
<i>Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Department of Social Sciences</i>	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Women in Political Science Representative	May 2024 - August 2025
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	
President of the Political Science Graduate Students' Association	Jan 2024 - Jan 2025
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	
Center on the Politics of Development Workshop Coordinator	August 2023 - May 2024
<i>UC Berkeley</i>	

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Guest Lecturer at the Department of Political Science and Metropolitan Studies at the University of São Paulo (2025)

Authors' Seminar for Policy Documents: Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the World Bank (2025)

REPAL (2025)

Center for the Politics and Economics of the Public Sector, *CEPESP - FGV* (2025)

Midwestern Political Science Association (2025)

Guest Lecturer, *Latin American Politics: Understanding Criminal Governance*, UC Berkeley (2024)

Urban Politics in the Global South (2024, 2025)

American Political Science Association (2024, 2025)

Latin American Studies Association Conference (2022, 2025)

European Consortium for Political Research (2021)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent), German (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent), Italian (Beginner)

Programming: R, Stata, \LaTeX , Markdown, QGIS, Git

FACULTY REFERENCES

Alison E. Post, Associate Professor of Political Science and Global Metropolitan Studies, UC Berkeley

Scott Straus, Professor of Political Science and Department Chair, UC Berkeley

Thad Dunning, Robson Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center on the Politics of Development, UC Berkeley

Beatriz Magaloni, Graham Stuart Professor of International Relations at the Department of Political Science, Stanford University