

# Laura García Montoya

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## EDUCATION

### Northwestern University, USA

PhD, Political Science

June 2020 (expected)

Fields: Comparative Politics, Methodology

Dissertation: *Trapped by Inequality: The Politics of Redistribution in Latin America*

M.S in Statistics

June 2020 (expected)

Thesis: *Measuring Essentially Contested Concepts*

M.A in Political Science

December 2018

### Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

M.A in Economics

March 2013

Thesis: *Evaluating the Symptoms of Rent-seeking in Colombian Municipalities.*

B.A in Economics

March 2012

## RESEARCH

### Articles

**García-Montoya, Laura** and James Mahoney “The Logic of Critical Event Analysis”  
[Under Review]

### In Preparation

Measuring Essentially Contested Concepts

“Violence and Voting in the U.S.: School Shootings Increase the Vote Share of the Democratic Party” (With Ana Arjona, and Matt Lacombe)

The Pacifying Role of Education: the case of Radio Sutatenza in Colombia (with Natalia Garbiras)

The Impact of Political Killings on Local Democracy and Governance: Evidence from Colombia (With Ana Arjona and Mario Chacón)

Machine Learning and Feasible Regression in Social-Science Causal Inference (With Jason Seawright and Sarah Bouchat)

### Other Publications

**García-Montoya, Laura** and James Mahoney “The Logic of Critical Event Analysis”. *Trajectories, Newsletter of the ASA Comparative and Historical Sociology Section*, Vol 30 No 2-3. Winter/Spring 2019.

## GRANTS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- 2019 Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Dissertation Summer Research Grant, Northwestern University  
Presidential Fellowship Department Nominee, Northwestern University  
Travel Conference Award, Political Science Department, Northwestern University
- 2018 Dissertation Research Travel Award, Buffett Institute, Northwestern University  
Travel Conference Award, Political Science Department, Northwestern University  
CHSS Global Partnership grant to attend Conference in Florence  
Travel Conference Award, The Graduate School, Northwestern University  
Travel Conference Award, Buffet Institute, Northwestern University
- 2017 Travel Conference Award, The Graduate School, Northwestern University  
Political Science Department Grant to attend IQMR, Northwestern University  
Comparative Historical Social Sciences Workshop Travel Research Grant, Northwestern University
- 2016 Dissertation Research Travel Award, Buffett Institute, Northwestern University

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “The pacifying role of education: the case of Radio Sutatenza”. Annual Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, ITAM, Mexico City. October 24-25  
  
“Measuring essentially contested concepts”. Comparative Historical Social Sciences Workshop - Northwestern University. Fall  
  
“The pacifying role of education: the case of Radio Sutatenza”. Latin American Studies Association. Annual Meeting, Boston. May 24-27  
  
“Paths of Economic Inequality in Latin America: The State and The Politics of Distribution” V Seminario Desigualdad y Movilidad Social en América Latina. Annual meeting, Santiago de Chile. May 6-8  
  
“The Impact of Selective Violence during War on the Quality of Local Government.” Midwest Political Science Association. Annual Meeting, Chicago. April 4-7
- 2018 “Relative Power of the State: A Theory of Economic Inequality”, Presented at the EDGS series at Buffet Institute. Fall.  
  
“The Logic of Critical Event Analysis.” American Political Science Association. Annual meeting, Boston. August 30 - Sep 2  
  
“The Logic of Critical Event Analysis.” American Sociological Association. Annual meeting, Philadelphia. August 11-14

“Paths of Economic Inequality: The Relative Power of the State” Summer Conference on Economy and Society. Annual meeting, European University Institute, Florence, Italy. July 1 - 4.

“Paths of Economic Inequality: The Relative Power of the State”. Comparative Politics Workshop, Political Science Department, Northwestern University

“Paths of Economic Inequality: Parasitism in Colombia.” Chicago area Comparative Historical Social Sciences Conference. Chicago. May 10 - 11.

“Paths of Economic Inequality: Parasitism in Colombia.” Midwest Political Science Association. Annual Meeting, Chicago. April 5 - 8

2017 “State Formation and Power: Production and Reproduction of Inequality in Latin America”. Latin American Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Lima. April 29 - May 1.

“State Building and Inequality in Latin America: A Critical Juncture Approach”. Comparative Historical Social Sciences Workshop - Northwestern University. Spring

“State Building and Inequality in Latin America: A Critical Juncture Approach” Midwest Political Science Association. Annual Meeting, Chicago. April 6 - 9.

“A Dynamic Approach to the Relationship between Inequality and Civil War” Midwest Political Science Association. Annual Meeting, Chicago. April 6 - 9.

2013 “Evaluating the symptoms of rent-seeking in Colombian municipalities.” Latin American Association of Political Science. Annual meeting, Bogota. September 26-28.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Northwestern University:**

**Lecturer, Department of Political Science**

- Politics of Latin America (Spring 2020)

**Teaching Assistant**

Graduate level courses:

- Introduction to Probability and Statistics (Fall 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)
- Linear Models (Winter 2016)
- Quantitative Methods for Causal Inference (Spring 2016, Spring 2018)

Undergraduate level courses:

- Honors Thesis (Fall 2019, Winter 2019)
- Topics in Managerial Analytics: Analytics for Strategy (Applied econometrics for Kellogg Certificate) (Winter 2019)
- Drugs and Politics (Spring 2017)

- Global Development (Winter 2017)

### **Invited Lectures/Workshops**

- Introduction to R for Stata Users, (Summer 2019)
- Lecture on Data Visualization, Linear Models (Winter 2019)
- Data Science Research Consultant, Research Computing Services Team (2019)
- R Workshop: Selected among graduate students to develop and teach a series of 10 R workshops (Summer, Fall 2018)
- Math Camp - R instructor (September 2017, 2018)
- Recipient, Teaching Certificate, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, 2017

### **Universidad de Los Andes**

#### **Teaching Assistant in the Department of Economics**

- Competition and Regulation (Master's course)
- Introduction to the Colombian Economy
- Introduction to Microeconomics

## **SERVICE**

### **Northwestern University**

Graduate Student Coordinator, Comparative Historical Social Science Workshop (2016-2017)

Graduate students association (Commune) Co-Chair, Department of Political Science (2017-2018)

### **Reviewer**

*Latin American Research Review*

*Revista Cuadernos de Economía, Universidad Nacional de Colombia*

### **Professional Associations**

American Political Science Association

Latin American Studies Association

Midwest Political Science Association

REPAL

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

- European Consortium for Political Research, Summer School in Methods and Techniques - Central European University, July 2017
  - Process Tracing Methodology: Foundations and Guidelines
  - Introduction to Machine Learning

- The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research - Syracuse University, June 2017
  - Qualitative Methods for Causal Analysis
  - Designing and Conducting Field Research
  - Within-Case and Small-N Analysis
  - Interpretative/Ethnographic Methods (Introduction)
- Teaching Certificate Program, Political Science Department, Northwestern University. Academic year 2016-2017.

## SKILLS

Languages: Native Spanish, Fluent English

Software: R (advanced), Stata (advanced), Python (Beginner)

## REFERENCES

Ana Arjona  
Associate Professor  
Political Science  
Northwestern University  
[ana.arjona@northwestern.edu](mailto:ana.arjona@northwestern.edu)

Jason Seawright  
Professor  
Political Science  
Northwestern University  
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James Mahoney  
Professor  
Political Science and Sociology  
Northwestern University  
[james-mahoney@northwestern.edu](mailto:james-mahoney@northwestern.edu)

Jean Clipperton  
Assistant Professor of Instruction  
Political Science and Sociology  
Northwestern University  
[jean.clipperton@northwestern.edu](mailto:jean.clipperton@northwestern.edu)

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