

OSCAR POCASANGRE

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EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York

PhD in Political Science, 2015 – expected May 2022

Dissertation: The Political Consequences of Chronic Violence in Mexico

Major in comparative politics, minor in quantitative methods

MPA, Economic and Political Development, 2015

YALE UNIVERSITY, New Haven, CT

BA, Economics and Psychology, 2011

Master's Prize, Berkeley College at Yale

EXPERIENCE

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York | Graduate Student Researcher, 2015 – present

Campaigns and Elections in Mexico

- + Created a data set of over 30,000 campaign ads using web-scraping and text analysis tools to understand how crime influences patterns of political communication among political parties.
- + Designed a research study that exploits differences in radio wave coverage to estimate the impact of crime-related ads on party vote shares.
- + Tested the effects of different types of crime policies on public perceptions of politicians using an original survey experiment.

Vaccine Hesitancy and Diplomacy in Latin America

- + Collaborated with a team of six researchers on the design, implementation, and analysis of survey and conjoint experiments that tested messages aimed at reducing vaccine hesitancy.
- + Analyzed experimental and observational survey data to measure how receiving a vaccine from a particular country changes levels of trust in that country.

Government Transparency

- + Collected and analyzed data from an audit experiment of Mexico's Freedom of Information system to detect bureaucratic bias.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York | Teaching Fellow for courses in statistics, data analysis, comparative politics, and Latin American Politics. 2016 – present

- + Led discussion sections and guest lectured for undergraduate and masters level classes.
- + Collaborated in revamping a class on Latin American politics and adapting it to online teaching.

ACADEMY FOR THE ANALYSIS OF SECURITY, San Salvador, El Salvador | Consultant, Summer 2017

- + Developed impact evaluation strategies for security policies together with policymakers from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

HOTSPOT POLICING IMPACT EVALUATION, Bogotá, Colombia | Research Assistant, Summer 2016

- + Interviewed police officers regarding their experience with a new hotspot policing strategy and identified areas of improvement for the program as part of a field experiment of hotspot policing.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, Washington D.C. | Intern, Summer 2014

- + Supported the development and updating of key performance indicators for the bank's Corporate Results Framework.

MIT POVERTY ACTION LAB (J-PAL), Santiago, Chile | Policy & Training Analyst, 2011-2013

- + Developed and taught courses on randomized trials for policymakers in Latin America.
- + Participated in the coordination of government and university partnerships to identify policy problems and develop evidence-based solutions.
- + Authored policy briefs and op-eds summarizing research findings for policymakers.

PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

"The Shot, The Messenger, and the Vaccine: Covid-19 Vaccine Acceptance in Latin America" (2021). *Nature Partner Journal: Vaccines*. With Pablo Argote, Elena Barham, Sarah Daly, Julian Gerez, & John Marshall.

"Messaging Interventions that Increase Covid-19 Vaccine Willingness in Latin America" (2021). *PLoS One*. With Argote, Barham, Daly, Gerez, & Marshall.

"Vaccine Diplomacy: How Covid-19 Vaccine Distribution in Latin America Increases Trust in Foreign Governments." (Under Review). With Barham, Daly, Gerez & Marshall.

"Dynamic Transparency: An Audit of Mexico's Freedom of Information Act." (2019). *Public Administration*. With Paul Lagunes.

"Crime, Electoral Campaigns, and Credibility." (In Progress).

"When Do Anti-Crime Policies Help Politicians? Evidence From a Survey Experiment in Mexico." (In Progress).

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

"What We Learned About Vaccine Hesitancy and How to Overcome It." (2021). *Columbia News*.

"Why El Salvador's Multi-Party System is on the Brink of Collapse." (2021). *El Faro*.

"Conditional Cash Transfers: International Experience and Policy Implications." (2013). Book chapter with Francisca de Iruarrizaga & Francisco Gallego.

SKILLS

TECHNICAL AND QUANTITATIVE SKILLS

- + R, Stata, GIS, basic Python, Qualtrics, web-scraping.
- + Methods of causal inference, experimental designs, survey design and analysis, text analysis.

LANGUAGES

- + Spanish (native), Portuguese (conversational), French (conversational).