

Thomas R. Vargas

Curriculum Vitae updated November 2022

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Current Behavioural Science Fellow, **Privy Council Office, Government of Canada**
Impact and Innovation Unit

2020-2022 Postdoctoral Fellow in Political Methodology, **McMaster University**
Department of Political Science

DEGREES

2014-2020 Ph.D. in Political Science, **University of Minnesota**
Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology
Dissertation: The Political Origins of Education Decentralization in Latin America

2012 Master of Public Policy, **The College of William & Mary**
Fields: Public Policy, International Development

2010 B.S. in Foreign Service, **Georgetown University**
Fields: International Politics, Latin American Studies

RESEARCH

David Samuels and Thomas R. Vargas. Forthcoming. "Democracy, Rural Inequality, and Education Spending." *World Development*. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2022.106136>

Michelle L. Dion, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and Thomas R. Vargas. 2022. "Closing the Gender Gap? How Altmetrics Influence Citation Counts for Political Science Journal Articles." *International Studies Perspectives*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isp/ekac009>.

Thomas R. Vargas. 2022. "Decentralization as a Political Weapon: Education Politics in El Salvador and Paraguay." *Comparative Politics* 55, 1: 23-45. <https://doi.org/10.5129/001041522X16382201562711>.
· Honorable Mention, Latin American Studies Association Subnational Politics Section Best Paper Award.

Thomas R. Vargas. 2020. "Flying Blind: Education Reform in Latin America in the 1990s." *International Journal of Education Reform*, 30, 1: 39-55. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1056787920931487>.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION FOR SUBMISSION TO PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

Michelle L. Dion and Thomas R. Vargas. "The Political Preferences of Prospective Homeowners: Evidence from Canada." Targeting *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, submission expected December 2021.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 Instructor of Record, Comparative Democratization, McMaster University.

2021 Instructor of Record, Development and Public Policy, McMaster University.

2020 - 2021 Editorial Assistant, *American Political Science Review*.

2019 - 2020 Visiting Scholar, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University.

2018 Instructor of Record, Political Economy of Development, University of Minnesota
 2016 - 2018 Managing Editor, *Comparative Political Studies*.
 2016 Teaching Assistant, Politics of the Middle East, University of Minnesota.
 2015 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Comparative Politics, University of Minnesota.
 2012 - 2014 Policy and Training Analyst, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, Chile.

AWARDS, GRANTS,
AND FELLOWSHIPS SSHRC Explore - Standard Research and Creation Grant, McMaster University - CAN\$7,000.
 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship 2019 (Top, University-Wide Prize), U of M - US\$25,000.
 Department of Political Science Dissertation Research Fellowship 2018, U of M - US\$6,000.
 Five-Year Department of Political Science Summer Fellowship, U of M - US\$40,000.
 Five-Year Department of Political Science Graduate Studies Fellowship, U of M - US\$113,000.

SKILLS AND
LANGUAGE Software: STATA, R, \LaTeX , JAGS, SQL, Git, Beginner Python
 Languages: Spanish and English (Native Proficiency), French B2 Level