

Barry Steven Levitt

Chair, Dept. of Politics and International Relations

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs
Florida International University, MM Campus, SIPA 429, Miami, FL 33199
Office: (305)348-2227 Fax: (305)348-3765 Email: levittb@fiu.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Chair, Department of Politics and International Relations	2020-present
Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations	2013-present
Assistant Professor of Political Science	2007-2013
Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University	
Director of Graduate Programs – Political Science	2018-2019
Director of Undergraduate Programs – Political Science	2012-2013
Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University	
Director of Academic Programs, Latin American and Caribbean Center	2014-2015
Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University	
Assistant Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2003-2007
Emory University	
Acting Director, Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2004
Emory University	
Assistant Professor of Political Science	2002-2003
Reed College	

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science	1996-2002
University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill	
Master of Arts in Political Science	1993-1994
York University, Toronto, Canada	
Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Political Science	1988-1992
McGill University, Montreal, Canada	

BOOKS

PUBLISHED

Power in the Balance: Presidents, Parties, and Legislatures in Peru and Beyond. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2012.

IN PROCESS

'Confianza': Political Institutions and Public Trust in Latin America.

JOURNAL ARTICLES (peer reviewed)

“Disasters and Corruption: Public Expectations and Tolerance, Evidence from Mexico.” (with V. Gawronski and R. Olson). *Disasters* (forthcoming 2023). <https://doi.org/10.1111/disa.12585>

“Public Perceptions of Code Enforcement and Safer Buildings in Latin America and the Caribbean” (lead author; with V. Gawronski, R. Olson, G. Hoberman and V. Sandoval). *Natural Hazards Review* vol. 20, no. 4 (2019)

“Discrimination and the Distrust of Democratic Institutions in Latin America.” *Politics, Groups and Identities* vol. 3, no. 3 (2015).

“Introduction to the Symposium: New Research on Personalist Leadership” (with T. Kostadinova). *Politics and Policy* vol. 42, no. 4 (2014).

“Toward a Theory of Personalist Parties: Concept Formation and Theory Building” (with T. Kostadinova). *Politics and Policy* vol. 42, no. 4 (2014).

“Personalist Parties in the Third Wave of Democratization: A Comparative Analysis of Peru and Bulgaria” (with T. Kostadinova). *Politics and Policy* vol. 42, no. 4 (2014).

“Minority Group Strategies for Endogenous Institutional Change: Kurdish Parties and Voters in Turkey’s 2007 Referendum” (with B. Ciplak). *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* vol. 18, no. 4 (2012).

“Institutional Trust and Congressional Autonomy in Latin America: Expectations, Performance, and Confidence in Peru’s Legislature. *Journal of Politics in Latin America* vol. 3, no. 2 (2011).

“A Desultory Defense of Democracy: The OAS, Resolution 1080 and the Inter-American Democratic Charter.” *Latin American Politics and Society* vol. 48, no. 3 (Fall 2006).

“Political Culture and the Science of Politics.” (review essay). *Latin American Research Review* vol. 40, no. 3 (Oct. 2005).

BOOK CHAPTERS (peer reviewed)

“Populist and Nationalist Attitudes in Contemporary Latin America.” In *Populist Nationalism in Europe and the Americas*, Fernando López-Alves and Diane E. Johnson, eds. New York: Routledge, 2018.

“Ecuador, 2004-5: Democratic Crisis Redux.” In *Promoting Democracy in the Americas*, Legler, Lean and Boniface, eds. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 2007.

“Theorizing Human Rights ‘Accompaniment.’” In *Journeys of Fear: Refugee Return and National Transformation on Guatemala in the 1990s*, Liisa North and Alan Simmons, eds. Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 1999.

MAJOR WORKING PAPERS and REPORTS (not peer-reviewed)

Peru Elections 2000: Final Report of the National Democratic Institute / Carter Center Joint Election Monitoring Project (coauthor). Washington, DC: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, 2000.

“Pre- and Post-Election Activities: Institutional Learning and Organizational Linkages.” In “The 1994 Presidential and Congressional Elections in Mexico,” *CERLAC Report*, Nivaldo H. Galleguillos et al., eds. Toronto: CERLAC, York University, 1996.

“Land Tenure and Agrarian Transformation in Guatemala: Implications for Canadian Policy.” *CAPA Occasional Paper*. Toronto: CAPA, 1995.

“Review of Canadian Foreign Policy: 1994” (coauthor). *CAPA Occasional Paper*. Toronto: CAPA, 1994.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *New Constitutionalism in Latin America: Promises and Practices*, edited by Detlef Nolte and Almut Schilling-Vacaflor. In *Perspectives on Politics* vol. 11, no. 03 (September 2013).

Review of *Incomplete Democracy: Political Democratization in Chile and Latin America*, by Manuel Antonio Garretón. In *Estudios Interdisciplinarios de América Latina y el Caribe* vol. 17, no. 1 (Jan.-June 2006).

“Power, Conflict and the Environment: Recent Literature.” *Refuge*, v.13, no.10 (March 1994).

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

NATIONALLY or INTERNATIONALLY COMPETITIVE

National Science Foundation, Collaborative Research: Hazard Events, Risk Perception, and Public Support for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas: a 17-Country Study (\$524,999; awarded)	2020-23
National Science Foundation, RAPID: Public Support for Disaster Risk Reduction Policies in the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian (\$39,228; awarded)	2020-21
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Research Award for Faculty	2011
Canadian Studies Research Grant, Canadian Embassy (Washington, DC)	2007
Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Dissertation Fellowship	1998-00

VISITING AFFILIATIONS

Visiting Researcher/Scholar Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS), University of Texas – Austin	2016
Visiting Scholar Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Lima, Perú	1998-99

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN UNIVERSITY

Fellow, Extreme Events Institute (EEI), Florida International University	2019-20
Sabbatical Leave (competitive), Florida International University	2016
Teaching Pairs Fellowship, Emory Center for Teaching and Curriculum	2005
Research and Program Grant, ICIS, Emory University	2004-05
Teaching-Research Grant, Emory Center for Teaching and Curriculum	2004-05
Summer Course Development Grant, ICIS, Emory University	2004
Smallwood Award for Graduate Student Mentors, UNC	2001
Intellectual Life Grant, UNC Office of Distinguished Scholarship	2001
Ford Foundation / Red para el Desarrollo de las Ciencias Sociales en el Perú, Dissertation Research Grant	1998-99
National Science Foundation (NSF) Democracy Traineeship	1996-98
Ford Foundation / Red para el Desarrollo de las Ciencias Sociales en el Perú, Summer Research Grant	1997

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS and INVITED LECTURES

Panelist, “International Collaborations for Disaster Risk Reduction.” Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop, Natural Hazards Center, Univ. of Colorado - Boulder, July 11, 2023.

“Disasters as ‘Focusing Events’: Public Support for Disaster Risk Reduction Policies in Latin America” (with H. Sultana). Meeting of the International Public Policy Association (IPPA), Toronto, Canada, June 27, 2023.

“The Effects of Experiencing Disaster on Support for Disaster Risk Reduction Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean” (with E. Zechmeister, R. Olson, N.E. Ganapati, J.M. Cruz, A. Leon and H. Sultana). Annual Researchers’ Meeting, virtual, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado - Boulder, July 13, 2022.

“Public Policy, Perceptions of Risk, and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas” (with E. Zechmeister). Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Assoc., virtual, Sept. 28, 2021.

“Peru: Beyond a Bicentennial Celebration,” Peruvian Studies Virtual Conference, Latin American and Caribbean Center, FIU, Sept. 9, 2021.

“Public Support for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas: a 17-country study” (with E. Zechmeister, R. Olson, N.E. Ganapati, J.M. Cruz and A. Leon).” Annual Researchers’ Meeting, virtual, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado - Boulder, July 15, 2021.

“Support for Disaster Risk Reduction Policy in the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, virtual, Sept. 10-13, 2020.

“¿Soportando más y más? Public Perceptions and Expectations of Disaster Corruption in Mexico” (with Vincent Gawronski and Richard S. Olson). Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Guadalajara, Mexico (now online only), May 13-16, 2020.

“The Mexican Government’s and Civil Society’s Lessons Learned and Unlearned from the 1985 Mexico City Earthquake” with Vincent Gawronski and Richard S. Olson. Conference of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS), Austin, TX March 4-8, 2020.

“Disasters as Reform Opportunities: Windows Open (but Also Close)” (with Richard Olson). Conference on Challenges to Democracy in the Americas: Evidence from the 2019 AmericasBarometer, FIU, Feb. 4, 2020.

“Experiences and Perceptions of Ethno-Racial Discrimination in Latin America.” Interdisciplinary Faculty Colloquium, Latin American and Caribbean Center, FIU, April 17, 2019.

“The Political Culture(s) of Disaster Risk Reduction in Mexico, Before and After the Sept. 2017 Earthquake.” Brigham Young University, Dept. of Political Science, Provo, UT, March 26, 2019.

“Perceptions of Discrimination in Latin America.” Brigham Young University, Kennedy Center for International Studies / Program in Latin American Studies, Provo, UT, March 26, 2019.

Roundtable on “The Bolsonaro Administration: Domestic and Regional Implications.” Latin American and Caribbean Center, FIU, January 17, 2019.

“Up to Code? The Political Culture of Disaster Risk Reduction in Mexico.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Assoc., Boston, MA, Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 2018 (also panel organizer).

“Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria: The Challenges of Disaster Risk Reduction.” *Nuestro Futuro* symposium (Puerto Rican Alliance of Florida), Miami, FL, June 30, 2018.

“Populist and Nationalist Attitudes in Contemporary Latin America: Exploratory Analysis.” Congress of the Latin American Studies Assoc., Barcelona, Spain, May 2018 (also panel chair).

“Public Support for Disaster Risk Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean: Cross-National and Intra-National Differences” (with Vincent Gawronski and Richard Olson). Southeastern Council on Latin American Studies, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, March 8-11, 2018.

Chair and Discussant, “What Difference does Institutional Reform Make?” XXXV Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima, Peru, April 29-May 1, 2017.

Discussant, “Gender Equality in Government.” Symposium on Gender Equality Post Millennium in Latin America, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, March 2, 2017.

“*Desconfianza*: The Consequences of Political (Dis)trust for Policy Preferences in Latin America.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, Sept. 1-4, 2016 (also panel organizer).

“Experiences of Discrimination in Latin America and the Caribbean: Untangling Ethnic-Racial Socialization and Perceptions of Discrimination.” 4th Conference on Ethnicity, Race, and Indigenous Peoples in Latin America & the Caribbean (ERIP), Richmond, VA, Oct. 15-17, 2015.

“Discrimination and Democratic Discontent: Racism, Ethnic Discrimination and Political Culture(s) in Latin America.” XXXIII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, PR, May 2015 (also panel organizer).

Discussant, “Peace and Support for Democracy in Colombia,” LAPOP AmericasBarometer 2014 Conference, Miami, FL, Dec. 2014.

Invited Lecture on Latin American elections, Latin American and Caribbean Ctr., FIU, Oct. 2014.

Invited Lecture on President Alan García (Peru), LACC Andean Studies Program, FIU, Jan. 2014

Roundtable presentation, “Constitutionalism in Latin America in Comparative Perspective.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Aug. 2013.

Discussant, “Changing International Roles in Latin American Elections,” XXXI Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Washington, DC; May-June 2013.

Discussant, “Constitutional Democracy in Latin America,” XXXI Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Washington, DC; May 2013.

Panelist, “Venezuela After Chávez,” LACC / SIPA, FIU, March 2013.

“Towards a Theory of Personalistic Parties: Concept Formation, Validation and Theory-Building” (with Tatiana Kostadinova). Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, Sept. 2012 (also panel organizer).

“At the Margins of Representation: Discrimination and Support for Democratic Institutions in the Americas”—substantially revised—(with María Fernanda Boidi). XXX Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, May 2012.

“At the Margins of Representation: Discrimination and Support for Democratic Institutions in the Americas” (with María Fernanda Boidi). AmericasBarometer 2012 Conference, “Discrimination, Gender, and Marginality in the Americas,” Miami, FL, Oct. 2011.

Invited public lecture on “Presidential Elections in Peru,” FIU, April 2011.

Invited colloquium (with Jose Miguel Cruz) on the Latin American Public Opinion Project, Florida International University, April 2011.

Chair and Discussant, panel on “Elections, Constitutions and Democracy,” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, March-April 2011.

“Presidentialism and Endogenous Institutional Change: the Case of Turkey” (with Bilal Ciplak). Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, March 2011.

“Institutional Trust in Peru and Beyond: Expectations, Performance, and Confidence in Legislatures.” XXIX Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Toronto, Oct. 2010 (also panel chair and organizer).

Discussant, “The Quality of Elections and Political Representation in New Fragile Democracies.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, Sept. 2010.

Chair, “US-Latin American Relations Under the Obama Administration,” Conference on Partnerships in U.S.-Latin American Relations in the Obama Administration: A National Security Colloquium, Florida International University, April 2010.

“The OAS and the Defense of Democracy.” Sigma Iota Rho Honor Society, Florida International University, Feb. 2010.

“Institutional Politics in the Andes and Beyond.” XXVIII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil June 2009 (also panel chair and organizer).

“Las instituciones políticas en las nuevas democracias de América Latina.” Invited presentation, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, May 2009.

“Y las reglas del juego? La política latinoamericana contemporánea.” Invited presentation, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, May 2009.

Discussant, “Current Trends in Andean Politics.” Southeast Conference on Amazonian and Andean Studies, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL September 19-20, 2008.

“True North: Canada, the OAS, and the Inter-American Defense of Democracy.” XXVII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Montreal, Canada, September 2007 (also panel organizer).

Discussant, “New Approaches to Conceptualizing and Measuring Political Discourse in Comparative Perspective.” XXVII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Montreal, Canada, September 2007.

“Traveling South: US Theories of Political Culture Go To Latin America” (with Paul Gronke). Workshop on “New Approaches to Democratic Culture: Bridging the Qualitative-Quantitative Gap,” Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), September 2007.

“Promise and Peril: Assessing the Inter-American Democratic Charter.” XXVI Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 2006.

“Delegative and Stealth Democrats: The Individual and Institutional Foundations of Political Confidence in Latin America” (with Paul Gronke). Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2005.

“Americanist and Latin Americanist Approaches to ‘Democracy With Adjectives’.” Mellon Seminar on New Institutionalism, Reed College, Portland, OR, April 2005.

“Delegative Democracy and Confidence in Legislatures: Explaining Institutional Authority and Trust in Latin America” (with Paul Gronke). XXV Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Las Vegas, NV, Oct. 2004 (also panel organizer).

“Ballots, not Bullets: Election Observation and the Practice of Non-Violence.” Emory Institute for Comparative and International Studies / Violence Studies Program, Series on War, Power and Non-Violence: Resolving Conflict in the Modern World, Feb. 2004.

“The Future of Peru’s Party System: Party Organization by Regulatory Fiat?” Duke/UNC/UNC-C Conference on Latin American Political Parties, Charlotte, NC, October 2003.

“The Strength of Weak Parties: ‘Electoral Movements’ and Presidential Power in Latin America.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2003.

“Capacity for Mischief: State Administration of Elections in Latin America.” XXIV Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Dallas, TX, March 2003.

Chair and Discussant, “The International Promotion of Democracy: Assessing the Inter-American Democratic Charter.” Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Portland, OR, February-March 2003.

Discussant, “The Diffusion of Policy Innovations in Contemporary Latin America.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2001.

“‘Elections with Adjectives’ in Contemporary Latin America.” XXIII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Washington, DC, September 2001 (also panel organizer).

“The OAS and Latin American Elections: Whither Resolution 1080?” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2001.

“Comparing the 2000 and 2001 Elections in Peru.” Duke-UNC Program in Latin American Studies, Working Group on Political and Economic Regimes, April 2001.

“The 2000 Elections in Peru: Lessons Learned.” Keynote Address, Summit of the Americas Center, Roundtable: Fujimori’s Tainted Third Term, Florida Intl. Univ., Miami, FL, June 2000.

“Análisis de las Elecciones en el Perú.” Conference on Elections and the Rule of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Faculty of Law, Lima, Peru, March 2000.

“Continuity and Change in Peru’s Political Parties: 1985-2000.” XXII Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Miami, FL, March 2000.

“El Papel de Los Observadores Internacionales en el Proceso Electoral.” Meeting of Mujeres por la Democracia, Foro Democrático, Lima, Peru, March 2000.

“Partidos políticos y movimientos electorales: ¿cambio o continuidad?” Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Mesa Verde Lecture Series, Lima, Peru, September 1999.

“Parties and Politicians in Contemporary Peru: Exploring New Forms of Electoral Representation.” XXI Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, IL, September 1998 (also panel chair).

“The Possibilities for Reconstruction of the Peruvian Political Party System.” Northeast Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 1997.

“Human Rights Observation and Political Change in Guatemala.” Conference on Refugee Return, Power and Transformation in Guatemala, York University, Toronto, Canada, October 1995.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Chair, Department of Politics and International Relations Florida International University	2020-present
Faculty Advisory Board, Florida International University, Latin American and Caribbean Center	2016-2020
Director of Graduate Programs – Political Science Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2018-2019
Chair, Committee on Graduate Student Development, Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2016-2018
Director of Academic Programs, Florida International University, Latin American and Caribbean Center	2014-2015
Personnel Committee, Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2009-11; 2013-2015.
Director of Undergraduate Programs, Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2012-2013
Coordinating Committee, Certificate in North American Studies Florida International University, Jack D. Gordon Institute	2011-2013
Web Site Coordinator Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2007-2010
Library Liaison Florida International University, Dept. of Politics and IR	2007-8; 2010-11
Admissions Committee, MA in Latin American and Caribbean Studies Florida International University, Latin American and Caribbean Center	2008-2011
Director of Undergraduate Studies & Member, Executive Council Emory University, Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2005-2007
Panel Member, Undergraduate Committee, Fulbright Program Emory University	2006
Coordinator, Faculty Course Development Grant Program Emory University, Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2005-2006
Organizer, Andean Studies Symposium, Emory University	2004-2005

Acting Director Emory University, Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2004
Honors Program Coordinator Emory University, Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2004-2006

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/EXPERIENCE

Board Member, Office of Research Assessment, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP)	2011-pres.
Member, Consultative Group on the Inter-American Democratic Charter The Carter Center	2004-2006
Recall Election Petition Observer The Carter Center (Observer Mission to Venezuela)	Nov.-Dec. 2003
Project Leader, “Profiles in Democracy and Governance” The Carter Center, Atlanta, GA	Aug.-Dec. 2001
Election Observer The Carter Center/National Democratic Institute. Lima, Peru	April 2001
Rapporteur, Conference on “Challenges to Democracy in the Americas” The Carter Center, Atlanta, GA	Oct. 2000
Director of Political Analysis The Carter Center/National Democratic Institute Election Observer Mission, Lima, Peru	Jan.-July 2000
Human Rights Observer Proyecto Acompañamiento, Guatemala	Jan.-May 1995
Election Observer Alianza Cívica (México)	Aug. 1994
Working Group Member Canada-Americas Policy Alternatives (CAPA)	1993-1995
Founding Editor <i>Latitudes: The McGill Journal of Developing Areas Studies</i>	1991-1992

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate

- Intro. to Comparative Politics
- Politics of Latin America
- Politics of South America
- Political Violence and Revolution
- Political Humor

Graduate

- Foundations of Political Science
- Core Seminar in Comparative Politics
- Democratic Institutions in Latin America
- Political Culture(s)
- Survey of Latin American Studies
- Approaches to Area Studies
- Policy and Politics of Disaster

DOCTORAL ADVISEES GRADUATED / PLACED

- Adam Howe (2019). Assistant Professor, Manhattan College, 2023-pres.
- Nicole Warmington-Granston (2014). Assistant Professor, Governors State Univ., 2015-2021; Associate Professor, Governors State Univ., 2021-pres.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

References available upon request.