Alauna Safarpour, Ph.D.

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Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics & Public Policy
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
79 JFK St., Cambridge, MA 02138

Academic Appointments

Postdoctoral Fellow, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, & Public Policy. John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. 2021 - Present

Postdoctoral Fellow, Network Science Institute, Northeastern University. 2021 - Present

Education

Ph.D., Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, 2021

Dissertation Title: Taking Perspective: A Theory of Prejudice Reduction and Political Attitudes
https://doi.org/10.13016/5lnc-jrkq

Fields: American Politics, Political Methodology

Committee: Antoine J. Banks and Michael J. Hanmer (co-chairs), Stella M. Rouse, Lilliana Mason, Rashawn Ray.

Zürich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology, University of Zürich (UZH), 2019

Substantive Training: Writing functions, web scraping, text analysis, simulations, advanced graphics, and social network analysis.

M.A., Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, 2019

M.A., Political Science, American University School of Public Affairs, 2015

Certificate in Paralegal Studies, Duke University, 2014

B.A, Political Science and History, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, 2013

Research

Academic Articles

- Bayes, Robin, James N. Druckman, and **Alauna C. Safarpour**. *Forthcoming.*"Studying Science Inequities: How to Use Surveys to Study Diverse Populations." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.* Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3917898

- **Safarpour, Alauna C.,** SoRelle Wykcoff Gaynor, Stella M. Rouse, and Michele L. Swers. 2022. "When Women Run, Voters Will Follow (Sometimes): Examining the Mobilizing Effect of Female Candidates in the 2014 and 2018 Midterm Elections." *Political Behavior*.
https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11109-021-09767-x

- **Safarpour, Alauna C.,** and Michael J. Hanmer. 2022. "Information about Coronavirus Exposure Affects Attitudes Towards Voting Methods." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 9(1): 147 - 151.
https://doi.org/10.1017/XPS.2020.38

- Bryant, Lisa A., Michael J. Hanmer, **Alauna C. Safarpour**, and Jared McDonald. 2022. "The Power of the State: How Postcards from the State Increased Registration and Turnout in Pennsylvania." *Political Behavior* 44, 535-549. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11109-020-09625-2

- Perlis Roy H., Matthew D. Simonson, Jon Green, Jennifer Lin, **Alauna Safarpour,** Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Alexi Quintana, Nanyu Chwe, John Della Volpe, Katherine Ognyanova, Mauricio Santillana, James Druckman, David Lazer, and Matthew Baum. 2022. "Prevalence of Firearm Ownership Among Individuals With Major Depressive Symptoms." *JAMA Network Open* 5(3):e223245. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.3245

Other Publications

- Artiga, Samantha, Liz Hamel, Audrey Kearney, Mellisha Stokes and **Alauna Safarpour**. "Health and Health Care Experiences of Hispanic Adults." July 14, 2021. *Kaiser Family Foundation*.

- Hamel, Liz, Samantha Artiga, **Alauna Safarpour**, Mellisha Stokes, and Mollyann Brodie. "KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor: COVID-19 Vaccine Access, Information, and Experiences Among Hispanic Adults in the U.S." May 13, 2021. *Kaiser Family Foundation*.

- Hamel, Liz, **Alauna Safarpour**, Mellisha Stokes, and Mollyann Brodie. "KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor: Vaccine Attitudes Among Essential Workers." April 23, 2021. *Kaiser Family Foundation*.

- Weigel, David, Scott Clement, Emily Guskin, Kevin Uhrmacher, Ann Gerhart, Claudia Deane, **Alauna Safarpour** and Jocelyn Kiley. "Exit poll results and analysis for the 2020 presidential election." November 4, 2020. *The Washington Post*.

- Deane, Claudia, Jocelyn Kiley and **Alauna Safarpour.** "What exit polls tell us about the Latino vote." November 3, 2020. *The Washington Post*.

- Schneider, Gregory S., Laura Vozzella, Emily Guskin and **Alauna Safarpour.** "Post-Schar School poll: Majority of Virginia voters approve of Northam's job performance." October 23, 2020. *The Washington Post*.

- Bernstein, Lenny, and **Alauna Safarpour**. "Mask shortage for most health-care workers extended into May, Post-Ipsos poll shows." May 20, 2020. *The Washington Post*.

- Timberg, Craig, Drew Harwell, and **Alauna Safarpour**. "Most Americans are not willing or able to use an app tracking coronavirus infections. That's a problem for Big Tech's plan to slow the pandemic." April 29, 2020. *The Washington Post*.

Selected Reports

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, James Druckman, David Lazer, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Anjuli Shere, Matthew A. Baum, Katherine Ognyanova, Roy H. Perlis, Mauricio Santillana, Ata Uslu, Alexi Quintana, Jon Green, Caroline Pippert, Jennifer Lin. "Report # 80: Americans' Views on violence against the government." January 28, 2022. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, Alexi Quintana, David Lazer, Roy H. Perlis, Matthew A. Baum, Katherine Ognyanova, Anjuli Shere, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, James Druckman, Mauricio Santillana, Ata Uslu, Jon Green, Caroline Pippert, Jennifer Lin, Hong Qu. "Report # 78: American Mask Use and CDC Guidance." January 15, 2022. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, David Lazer, Jennifer Lin, Caroline Pippert, James Druckman, Matthew A. Baum, Katherine Ognyanova, Roy H. Perlis, Mauricio Santillana, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Ata Uslu, Alexi Quintana, Jon Green, Hong Qu, and Anjuli Shere. "Report # 73: American Attitudes Toward Critical Race Theory." December 23, 2021. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Ata Uslu, Alyssa Smith, David Lazer, Matthew A. Baum, Jennifer Lin, Katherine Ognyanova, Roy H. Perlis, James Druckman, Mauricio Santillana, Alexi Quintana, Jon Green, Hong Qu, Caroline Pippert, and Anjuli Shere. "Report # 72: School Board Elections." December 17, 2021. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, David Lazer, Matthew A. Baum, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Ata Uslu, Alexi Quintana, Katherine Ognyanova, James Druckman, Roy H. Perlis, Mauricio Santillana, Jon Green, Anjuli Shere, Jennifer Lin, Hong Qu, and Caroline Pippert. "Report # 70: MA Governor Charlie Baker's Approval." December 13, 2021. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

- **Alauna C. Safarpour**, Alexi Quintana, Matthew A. Baum, David Lazer, Katherine Ognyanova, Ata Uslu, Jon Green, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, Anjuli Shere, James Druckman, Roy H. Perlis, Mauricio Santillana, Jennifer Lin, Hong Qu, and Caroline Pippert. "Report # 66: September 2021 Update on Executive Approval." October 8, 2021. *The COVID States Project: A 50-State COVID-19 Survey*.

Working Papers & Papers Under Review

- "EPR: A Theory of Prejudice Reduction and Political Attitudes." Under review.

- "Taking Perspective: Prejudice Reduction and American Politics." Book project in preparation.

- "How Party Cues Shape Americans' Understanding of Institutional Racism." With Antoine Banks and Eric Groenendyk. In preparation (revising stage).

- "What Counts as Racism? How Conceptual Disagreement Fuels Social and Political Division." With Antoine Banks and Eric Groenendyk. In preparation (revising stage).

- "One of Us: Reducing anti-Latino Prejudice among White Evangelicals." With Janelle Wong. In preparation (writing stage)

- "Divisive or Descriptive?: How Americans Understand Critical Race Theory." With James Druckman, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, and Jon Green. In preparation (writing stage)

- "Framing A Supreme Court Nominee: The Impact of Race, Gender, and Intersectional Identity Frames of Katanji Brown Jackson on Attitudes Towards The U.S. Supreme Court." With James Druckman and Kristin Lunz Trujillo. In preparation (data collection stage).

- "An Empirical Test of Bell's (1980) Interest-Convergence Principle." With James Druckman and Sophie Trawalter. In preparation (design stage).

- "Participation Incentives in an Elite Survey." With Sarah Bush and Jennifer Hadden. Revise and Resubmit at *Research and Politics.*

- "Evaluating the Generalizability of the COVID States survey - a large-scale, non-probability survey ." With Jason Radford, Jon Green, Alexi Quintana, Matthew Simonson, Matthew Baum, David Lazer, Katherine Ognyanova, James Druckman, Roy Perlis, Mauricio Santillana, and John Della Volpe. In preparation (revising stage).

Conference Papers

- "EPR: A Theory of Prejudice Reduction and Political Attitudes." Scheduled for Presentation at the American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. May 11-14, 2022.

- "Divisive or Descriptive?: How Americans Understand Critical Race Theory." With James Druckman, Kristin Lunz Trujillo, and Jon Green. Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 7-10, 2022.

- "How Party Cues Shape Americans' Understanding of Institutional Racism." With Antoine Banks and Eric Groenendyk. Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2021.

- "Incentivizing Vaccines: The Efficacy of COVID-19 Vaccination Appeals by Pre-existing Intent and the Drivers of Vaccine Resistance." With Ashley Kirsinger (KFF). Presented at the APSA Political Communication Pre-Conference. Seattle, WA. Sept. 29, 2021.

- "The Impact of Perspective Taking on Prejudice Reduction and Political Attitudes." Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC, Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 2019.

- "A Field Experiment to Examine States' Efforts to Increase Registration & Turnout." With Lisa A. Bryant, Michael J. Hanmer, and Jared A. McDonald. Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA, Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 2018.

Honors, Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

- DC-AAPOR Student Paper Award for "EPR: A Theory of Prejudice Reduction and Political Attitudes"
American Association for Public Opinion Research (DC Chapter)   2021

- Summer Centennial Center Research Grant
Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs,
American Political Science Association (APSA)   2021

- Shorenstein Center Research Grant
Shorenstein Center for Media, Politics, and Public Policy.
Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.   2021

- George M. Phillips Public Service Initiative Award
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland   2021-2022

- Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
American Political Science Association (APSA)/ National Science Foundation (NSF)   2020-2021

- Conley H. Dillon Memorial Award (Dissertation Award)
Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland   2020-2021

- Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship
The Graduate School, University of Maryland   2020-2021

- Graduate Student Award
Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland   2020

- Public Opinion Polling Fellowship
The Washington Post and Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement   2020

- The Roger H. Davidson Award (Best Paper in American Politics)
Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland   2019-2020

- Summer School Fellowship
Department of Political Science (IPZ), University of Zürich (UZH), Switzerland   2019

- Dean's Research Initiative
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland   2019

- Summer Research Fellowship
The Graduate School, University of Maryland   2019

- Jean Elizabeth Spencer Award
  Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland   2018

- BSOS College Award
  College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland   2018, 2019

- Dean's Fellowship
  The Graduate School, University of Maryland   2017, 2019

- Graduate Assistantship
  Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland   2016-2021

Research Experience

Postdoctoral Fellow
    Harvard University and Northeastern University   September 2021-Present

    Conducted public opinion research in support of the COVID States Project. Pursued individual
    research projects on prejudice reduction and civic participation.

Survey Researcher
    Kaiser Family Foundation   Spring 2021-Winter 2022

    Contracted to provide analytic support to KFF's public opinion and survey research program.
    Analyzed data, wrote reports based on polling data, number-checked reports in preparation for
    public release. Consulted on questionnaire design and sampling.

Fellow in News Polling
    The Washington Post   Spring 2020, Fall 2020

    Contributed to *The Washington Post* polls through questionnaire design, data preparation, data
    analysis and writing. Conducted data analysis in support of stories, wrote blogs and stories
    based on poll results, number-checked polling stories, and produced charts based on polling
    data. Worked on the 2020 presidential election night team evaluating exit polling.
    Co-authored or contributed to 20 polling articles on issues concerning the coronavirus pandemic,
    the 2020 Presidential election, and state politics (list and additional details available on request).

Research Assistant
    Dr. Stella Rouse, University of Maryland   Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020

    Collected U.S. congressional committee bill and member data. Collaborated on co-authored
    research. Performed analysis using the BSOS high performance computing cluster
    ("super-computer"). Provided support for NSF sponsored research project "ADVANCE
    Partnership: #MeTooPoliSci Leveraging A Professional Association to Address Sexual
    Harassment in Political Science." Assisted ADVANCE team in conducting focus groups.

Research Assistant
    Dr. Jennifer Hadden (UMD) and Dr. Sarah Bush (Yale)   Spring 2019

    Designed and analyzed survey research: Drafted pre-analysis plans, conducted power analyses,
    programmed conjoint experiment in Qualtrics using Javascript and HTML, and analyzed conjoint
    experiment.

Research Assistant
    Dr. Michael J. Hanmer, University of Maryland   Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017

    Managed and analyzed large state voter files; assisted in the design, implementation, and
    interpretation of large scale field experiments; co-authored reports.

Research Assistant, Center for American Politics and Citizenship
Dr. Stella M. Rouse and Dr. Michael J. Hanmer, University of Maryland   Spring 2018, Fall 2018

Provided support for undergraduate student research assistants in the CAPC internship program. Provided research and analytic support for Dr. Hanmer and Dr. Rouse.

Research Assistant, Critical Issues Poll
Dr. Shibley Telhami and Dr. Stella M. Rouse, University of Maryland   Fall 2018

Designed and analyzed public opinion surveys.

Research Assistant
Dr. N. Stephen Kane, U.S. Department of State (retired)   April 2015- September 2017

Conducted qualitative and archival research and copy-editing for N. Stephen Kane's (2018) book *Selling Reagan's Foreign Policy* .

Teaching

Instructor
GVPT 388: Research Assistantship Program   Spring 2019, Fall 2019

Teaching Assistant, Dr. Antoine J. Banks
GVPT 289O: Race and Ethnic Politics in the Obama Era   Fall 2017

Service

University of Maryland

- Graduate Student Representative, Senate Special Committee on University Finance   2020-2021

- Member, GVPT Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion   2020-2021

- Department Representative, Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Committee (DGSAC)   2019-2020

- Discussant, Comparative Politics Workshop   2020

- Discussant, American Politics Workshop   2018-2021

- Co-Chair, Women's Initiative Network Development Graduate Advisory Council (WGSAC) 2018-2021

- Co-Chair, GVPT Graduate Student Association   2018

Selected Media Coverage

- Lisa Kashinsky. "These Republicans torpedoed vaccine edicts - then slipped in the polls." *Politico.* October 17, 2021. Link

- Monique Beals. "Support for governors sliding in states without vaccine mandates: survey." *The Hill.* October 17, 2021. Link

- Eddie Burkhalter. "Study: Governors in states without COVID vaccine mandates see approval ratings fall." *AL Reporter*. October 19, 2021. Link

- "Sound ON" *Bloomberg Radio.* October 20, 2021. Link

- "There's a BSOS Team Taking the Pulse of American Opinion." March 17, 2022. *BSOS Communications.* Link

- "UMD Research Shows COVID-19 Risk Reduces Comfort with In-Person Voting, Does Not Increase Comfort with Mail Balloting." *BSOS Communications.* Link

Professional Memberships

- American Political Science Association (APSA)

- American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR)

- Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)

- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

Skills

- Quantitative research methods, experimental social science, public opinion research.

- Software: R, Stata, LaTeX, Qualtrics, SPSS, Datawrapper. Moderately proficient in HTML and Bash scripting.

References

Dr. Michael J. Hanmer
Professor and Research Director of the Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement
Department of Government and Politics
University of Maryland
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(301) 405-7379 | mhanmer@umd.edu

Dr. Antoine J. Banks
Professor, Associate Chair, and Director of the Government and Politics Research Lab
Department of Government and Politics
University of Maryland
College Park, MD
(301) 405-4114 | abanks12@umd.edu

Dr. Stella M. Rouse
Professor, Director of the Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement, and Associate Director of the
University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll
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Dr. James N. Druckman
Payson S. Wild Professor of Political Science and Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research
Department of Political Science
Northwestern University
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