

Lucia Lopez, J.D.
PhD Candidate at the University of Houston
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Houston 2026 (Expected)

Dissertation Title: How Features of Policy Design and Misperceptions Shape Attitudes Toward Social Policy

Dissertation Committee: Scott Clifford (co-chair), Ling Zhu (co-chair), Allison Archer, Beth Simas, Emily Thorson.

Fields: American Politics and Public Policy

Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, Cleveland State University College of Law

Active Attorney License: New York

B.A., Journalism, Northern Michigan University

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

1. Artabe, Eugenia, Alex Badas, and **Lucia Lopez**. **Forthcoming**. Partisan Foundations of Attitudes Toward State Courts. *Political Research Quarterly*. [PDF](#).

2. Clifford, Scott, **Lucia Lopez**, and Lucas Lothamer. **Forthcoming**. "Reassessing Support for Political Aggression and Violence in the United States." *Public Opinion Quarterly*. [PDF](#).

- Media Coverage: [Good Authority](#)

Revise & Resubmit:

1. **Lopez, Lucia**. Signaling Effort through Policy Design: How Policy Features Affect Support for Welfare and Perceptions of Welfare Beneficiaries. [PDF](#). *Revise and Resubmit at Political Behavior*.

Law Review and Other Scholarly Publications:

Lopez, Lucia. 2020. "Land of the Free, If You Can Afford It: Reforming Mayor's Courts in Ohio." *Cleveland State Law Review* 68(3): 609–41. [PDF](#).

Working Papers & Ongoing Projects:

1. **Lopez, Lucia**. Designing Deservingness: How Institutional Cues Shape Racialized Policy Perceptions.
2. **Lopez, Lucia**. Correcting Misperceptions of Welfare Policy: Evidence from Nine State Experiments.
3. **Lopez, Lucia**. Misperceptions about Housing Vouchers: Evidence from Four Cities.
4. **Lopez, Lucia**. Administrative Burdens and Public Support for Access to Justice.
5. Clifford, Scott, and **Lucia Lopez**. Who Cheats? Public Perceptions of Fraud in Social Policy.
6. Clifford, Scott, **Lucia Lopez**, Lucas Lothamer, and Bradley Madsen. *Understanding the Nature of Support for Political Violence*. Book manuscript, preparing for submission to Cambridge Elements.
7. Artabe, Eugenia, and **Lucia Lopez**. Linked Legitimacies? State and U.S. Supreme Court Legitimacy.
8. **Lopez, Lucia**. Signaling Effort or Creating Barriers? Elite Rhetoric on Policy Design and Deservingness.
9. Badas, Alex and **Lucia Lopez**. Latino Racism-Ethnicism and Attitudes towards the U.S. Supreme Court.

AWARDS AND FUNDING

External Grants

2025 [Russell Sage Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant](#) (*Housing Policy Design*, \$15,000)

2024 [Rapoport Family Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant](#) (*Welfare Policy Design*, \$14,941)

Internal Grants

- 2025** University of Houston Summer Fellowship for Research Excellence (\$6,000)
- 2024** Department of Political Science Dissertation Grant (\$2,000)

Awards & Honors

- 2025** APSA EPOVB Section Early-Career Fellow (\$500)
APSA Experimental Research Section Early-Career Fellow (\$500)
- 2024** Comprehensive Exams with Distinction: American Politics & Public Policy
- 2022** [APSA Diversity Fellow](#) (\$2,000)

Travel Grants

- 2025** [APSA Lee Ann Fujii Diversity Fellowship Travel Grant](#) (\$500)
APSA Political Communication Travel Grant (\$600)
APSA Inequality and Redistribution Travel Grant (\$500)

TEACHING

Instructor of Record:

- Federal and Texas Government, University of Houston *Instructor Rating: 4.88/5.0*
- Federal Government, Lone Star Community College *Instructor Rating: 4.63/5.0*

SERVICE

- 2025-2027** **Communications Director**, APSA EPOVB Section
- 2023-2024** **Treasurer**, Political Science Graduate Student Association
- 2022-2023** **Advocacy Director**, Graduate and Professional Student Association
Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Senate Subcommittee
- Ongoing** **Reviewer**: Journal of Experimental Political Science (3)

PRESENTATIONS

- 2025** Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (scheduled)
Texas American Behavior Conference (scheduled)
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver
Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Conference at Stony Brook
Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science at the University of Kentucky
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting
Junior American Workshop Series
Junior Law and Politics Research Community
- 2024** Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Conference at Florida State University
- 2023** Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Junior American Workshop Series

REFERENCES

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