**Lucia Lopez**

**PhD Candidate at the University of Houston**

[lucia-lopez.com](https://www.lucia-lopez.com/) | [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=d7CRjrIAAAAJ&hl=en)

[llopezhi@cougarnet.uh.edu](mailto:llopezhi@cougarnet.uh.edu)

**EDUCATION**

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

*Fields***:** American Politics and Public Policy

*Dissertation Title:* How Features of Policy Design and Misperceptions

Shape Attitudes Toward Social Policy and Its Beneficiaries

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

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

Admitted to Practice: New York

**B.A., Journalism**, Northern Michigan University

**RESEARCH**

**Peer-Reviewed Articles:**

Clifford, Scott, **Lucia Lopez**, and Lucas Lothamer. “Reassessing Support for Political Aggression and Violence in the United States.” *Public Opinion Quarterly (conditionally accepted).* [**PDF.**](https://scottaclifford.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/CliffordLopezLothamer_measuring-violence.pdf)

**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.**](https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4094&context=clevstlrev)

**Papers Under Review:**

**Lopez, Lucia.** Signaling Effort through Policy Design: How Policy Features Affect Support   
for Welfare and Perceptions of Welfare Beneficiaries.

**Working Papers:**

**Lopez, Lucia.** Correcting Misperceptions of Section 8 Housing Vouchers and the Impact on Policy Support and Perceptions of Beneficiaries.

**Lopez, Lucia.** From Frivolous to Fair: The Role of Administrative Burdens on   
Support for Access to Justice and Perceptions of Civil Litigants.

**Conference Presentations:**

2025 Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Conference; Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science; MPSA; Junior Americanist Workshop (JAWS); Junior Legal Scholars Workshop.

Prior Years Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Conference; MPSA; Junior Legal Scholars Workshop.

**AWARDS AND FUNDING**

**External Grants**

2025[Russell Sage Foundation Doctoral DissertationGrant](https://www.russellsage.org/) **($15,000)**

*Housing Voucher (Section 8) Policy Design and Public Opinion*

2024[Rapoport Family Foundation Doctoral DissertationGrant](https://www.rapoportfamilyfoundation.com/) **($14,941)**

*Welfare (TANF) Policy Design and Public Opinion*

[APSA Lee Ann Fujii Diversity Fellowship Travel Grant](https://apsanet.org/diversity/diversity-fellowship-program/travel-grant-application/) **($500)**

**Internal Grants**

2025[University of Houston CLASS Research Fellowship](https://uh.edu/class/students/graduate/graduate-student-grants/) **($6,000)**

2024 Department of Political Science Dissertation Grant **($2,000)**

**Awards & Honors**

2024Comprehensive Exams with Distinction: American Politics & Public Policy

2022 [APSA Diversity Fellow](https://politicalsciencenow.com/meet-dfp-spring-fellow-lucia-lopez-university-of-houston/) **($2,000)**

**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**

2023-2024Treasurer, Political Science Graduate Student Association

2022-2023Advocacy Director, Graduate and Professional Student Association

Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Senate Subcommittee

Reviewer Journal of Experimental Political Science (3)

**RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**REFERENCES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Scott Clifford**  Associate Professor  Texas A&M University  [scottaclifford@gmail.com](mailto:scottaclifford@gmail.com) | **Ling Zhu**  Professor  University of Houston  [lzhu4@central.uh.edu](mailto:lzhu4@central.uh.edu) |
| **Allison Archer**  Assistant Professor  University of Houston  [amarcher3@uh.edu](mailto:amarcher3@uh.edu) | **Beth Simas**  Associate Professor  Texas A&M University  [ensimas@central.uh.edu](mailto:ensimas@central.uh.edu) |