

Emily Sydnor

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Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Southwestern University (2022-present)
Assistant Professor, Southwestern University (2018-2022)
Visiting Assistant Professor, Southwestern University (2015-2018)

Education

PhD, Politics, University of Virginia (2015)
Research areas: American Politics, Political Communication, Political Psychology
M.A., Politics, University of Virginia (2011)
B.A. *summa cum laude*, Political Communication, George Washington University (2008)

Publications

Monographs

Sydnor, Emily. (2019). *Disrespectful Democracy: The Psychology of Political Incivility*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Journal Articles

Santoro, Lauren Ratliff and Emily Sydnor (Forthcoming). "Blind Trust, Blind Skepticism: Liberals and Conservatives' Response to Academic Research" *American Politics Research*.

Pears, Emily and Emily Sydnor (2022). "COVID-19 and the Culture of American Federalism" *RSF: The Journal of the Russell Sage Foundation* 8 (8): 181-220.

Sydnor, Emily, Emily Tesmer* and Breely Peterson*. (2022). "Confronting Politics: The Role of Conflict Orientation in Shaping Political Debate" *Journal of Deliberative Democracy*.

Pears, Emily, and Emily Sydnor. (2022). "The Correlates and Characteristics of State Identity" *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 52(2): 173-200.

**Winner, John Kincaid Best Article Award from the Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations section of APSA (2023)

Sydnor, Emily, Margaret Commins and Veronica Reyna (2021). "Empowering and Engaging Students through Civically Engaged Research" *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 54(4): 730-733.

Sydnor, Emily. (2018). "Platforms for Incivility: Examining Perceptions Across Media" *Political Communication* 35 (1): 97-116.

**Reprinted as: Sydnor, Emily (2019). "Platforms for Incivility: Examining Perceptions Across Media" in *Studying Politics Across Media*, Leticia Bode and Emily K. Vraga, eds. New York: Routledge.

Sydnor, Emily and Danielle Psimas.* (2017). "Easing Political Digestion: The Effects of News Curation on Citizens Behavior." *Journal of Information Technology & Politics* 14(3): 189-213.

Sydnor, Emily and Nicole Pankiewicz. (2017). "Assessing Undergraduate Learning in Political Science: Development and Implementation of the PACKS Survey" *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50(1): 204-208.

Book Chapters

- Sydnor, Emily. (2021). "Look for the Motives Behind (Un)civil Speech" in *Fixing American Politics: Civic Priorities for the Media Age*, Roderick P. Hart, ed. New York: Routledge.
- Flores, Madison*, Megan Nair*, Meredith Rasmussen* and Emily Sydnor. (2021). "Civility through Comparative Lens: Challenges and Achievements" in *Crossing Boundaries: Political Incivility in the Parliamentary, Electoral and Media Arena*. Annemarie Walter, ed. New York: Routledge.
- Sydnor, Emily (2019). "Signaling Incivility: The Role of Speaker, Substance and Tone" in *A Crisis of Civility? Contemporary Research on Civility, Incivility and Political Discourse*. Robert G. Boatright, Timothy J. Shaffer, Sarah Sobieraj, and Dannagal Goldthwaite Young, eds. New York: Routledge.

Book Reviews & Reports

- Sydnor, Emily (2023). Review of *What Goes Without Saying: Navigating Political Discussion in America*. By Taylor N. Carlson and Jaime Settle. *Public Opinion Quarterly*.
- Sydnor, Emily (2021). "With Laughter and a Little Follow-Through: Moving from Hobbyist to Activist" *Journal of Politics*.
- Sydnor, Emily (2020). "Watching the 'Partisan Circus': Civility in the Texas Senatorial Debates." in *Civility and the 2018 U.S. Senate Debates*, Robert G. Boatright, ed. Tucson, AZ: National Institute for Civil Discourse.
- Sydnor, Emily (2020). "From 'Clown' to 'Community': The Democratic Potential of Civility and Incivility" in *U.S. Elections Analysis 2020: Media, Voters and the Campaign*, Danielle Coombs, Dan Jackson, Darren Lilleker, Einar Thorsen and Filippo Trevisan, eds. Poole, England: The Centre for the Study of Journalism, Culture and Community.

Working Papers & Ongoing Projects

Under Review

- "That's the Sound of the (Civility) Police: How Civility Serves as Political Strategy" (with Sam Gubitz)

Working Papers

- "Effects of Protest Coverage on American Attitudes" (with Adelaide Armen*, Andrew Parker*, and Abigail Skelton*)
- "Stressing Incivility: Physiological Arousal and Incivility" (with Erin Crockett, Emily Tesmer*, and Breely Peterson*)
- "'I Know You Won't Hate Me for It': The Role of Social Media in Young People's Political Discussion and Engagement" (with Emily Richmond Gilby*)

Manuscript in Progress

- "Uncivil Boundaries: Contesting the Civility of Protestors and Political Elites"
- "Fifty Nifty United States? Understanding Variation in State Identity across America" (with Emily Pears)

Honors & Awards

- Craig L. Brians Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Mentorship, American Political Science Association (APSA) Political Science Education Section (2020)
- Jesse E. Purdy Award for Excellence in Scholarly and Creative Works, Southwestern University (2020)
- Southwestern University Award for Excellence in Teaching (2019)
- APSA Political Communication Section Outstanding Dissertation Award (2016)

Grants & Funding

External Sources

National Science Foundation: Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences Special Competition on Replication (*Applied*, 2023)
Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program (*Applied*, 2023)
COVID States Project In-Kind Survey Support (2022)
American Political Science Association Centennial Center Research Grant (with Lauren Santoro), \$2480 (2021-2022)
American Political Science Association Special Projects Grant: Civically Engaged Research In Political Science (with Margaret Commins, Doug Hess and Adriano Udani), \$25,000 (2020-2022)
American Political Science Association Institute for Civically Engaged Research (2019)
United Methodist Church General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Sam Taylor Fellowship, \$1,600 (2018)
National Institute for Civil Discourse Seed Grant (with Kate Kenski), \$2,500 (2017)
American Political Science Association Travel Grant, \$180 (2017)
Society for Personal and Social Psychology Teacher-Scholar Travel Award, \$500 (2017)
American Political Science Association Centennial Center Grant (with Erin Crockett), \$1,355 (2016)
National Science Foundation: Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences Special Competition for Young Investigators (2016)
MPSA Women's Caucus Graduate Student Travel Award, \$300 (2014)

Institutional Sources

Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$15,530 (2023)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$14,000 (2022)
Southwestern University Competitive Faculty Development Award, \$4,548 (2022)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$10,908 (2021)
Southwestern University Junior Sabbatical Support, \$5,100 (2021)
Southwestern University SCOPE (undergraduate research) Project Grant, \$13,966 (2020)
Southwestern University Course Redesign Fellowship, \$2,000 (2019)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$11,717 (2019)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$19,794.50 (2018)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$10,567 (2017)
Southwestern University Faculty Professional Development Support, \$2,100 (2016)
Southwestern University Competitive Professional Development Grant, \$4,500 (2016)
Southwestern University Faculty-Student Project Grant, \$11,392 (2016)
Southwestern University Faculty Professional Development Support, \$2,000 (2015)
UVA Political Psychology Working Group Small Elections Grant, \$800 (2014)
Bankard Pre-doctoral Fellowship, \$15,000 (2014)
Mellon Graduate Teaching Seminar for Excellence in the Humanities, \$500 (2013)
UVA Quantitative Collaborative Fellowship, \$2,000 (2012)
UVA Political Psychology Working Group Grant (with Nicole Pankiewicz), \$1,250 (2012)
Double Hoo Research Grant (with Edward Smith*), \$5,000 (2010)
UVA Presidential Fellowship, \$9,000 (2009-2012)

Teaching

Southwestern University

Instructor, Texas Legislative Internships (2023-)
Instructor, Paideia Seminar (2022: "The Art of Political Protest, 2023: "Equal Representation?")
Instructor, Political Science Capstone (Talking Politics, 2019-2022, Place & Political Identity, 2023-)
Instructor, American Politics (introductory course) (2016-)
Instructor, Governing Diversity: Race and Ethnicity in American Politics (2016-)
Instructor, Political Psychology (2015-)
Instructor, Public Opinion and American Democracy (2015-)
Instructor, Candidates, Campaigns and Citizens (formerly Electoral Behavior and Political Participation) (2015-)
Instructor, Mass Media and American Politics (2015-)

University of Virginia

Instructor, Electoral Behavior and Political Participation (Fall 2012)

Teaching Assistant, Race and Politics (Fall 2010, Spring 2012)

Teaching Assistant, Public Opinion and Political Behavior (Spring 2011, Spring 2013)

Teaching Assistant, Mass Media and American Politics (Fall 2012, Spring 2015)

Grader, Politics of Food (January Term 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, Summer 2012, 2013)

Grader, Farmers Markets, the Politics of Food, and Research Methods (Summer 2014)

Pedagogical Training

Integrative Learning Fellow, Southwestern University (2017-present)

- Collaborative faculty learning community focused on engaged pedagogy and scholarship.

Course Design Institute, University of Virginia (2015)

- Week-long intensive workshop run by the UVA Center for Teaching Excellence on designing courses that improve student learning.

Tomorrow's Professor Today, University of Virginia (2013-2015)

- Professional development program run by UVA's Center for Teaching Excellence that develops skills in research, teaching, and the profession

Research Assistant, Departmental Assessment, UVA Department of Politics (2012-2014)

- Developed and implemented the "Politics Assessment of Core Knowledge survey (PACKS) to measure effective learning and skill acquisition in undergraduate Politics and Foreign Affairs majors.

Assessment Coordinator, Darden Graduate School of Business, UVA (2011-2012)

- Developed course assessment materials on electronic platforms using Qualtrics, Questionmark Perception and other online assessment tools.

Invited Presentations & Conference Papers

Invited Presentations

"My State is the Best State: Understanding Individuals' State Identity" American University Government Speaker Series (2021)

"The Incivility Problem: Has Social Media Made Conversation Less Civil?" The English Speaking Union (2020)

"Disrespectful Democracy: The Psychology of Incivility" University of Texas at Dallas, November 15, 2019

"Signaling Incivility: The Role of Speaker, Substance and Tone" (with Grace Atkins*). National Institute for Civil Discourse 2nd Research Convening, Tucson, AZ (2017).

"The Interaction of Political Incivility and Psychological Conflict Orientation." University of Texas at Austin Moody College of Communication Political Communication Lecture Series, Jan. 23, 2017.

"Polite Racism and Democratic Outrage: Identifying Political Incivility and Its Effects." Southwestern University Race and Ethnicity Studies Symposium, Jan. 17, 2017.

"Civil Discourse." Colonial Williamsburg Connect Webcast (2012)

Conference Papers (Selected)

"Effects of Protest Coverage on American Attitudes," (with Adelaide Armen, Andrew Parker, and Abigail Skelton), Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (2023)

"Uncivil Boundaries: Contesting the Civility of Protestors and Political Elites," American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (2022)

"Destructive or Democratic? Perceptions of Civility and Protest Attitudes," Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (2022)

"COVID-19 and the Culture of American Federalism" (with Emily Pears), Russell Sage Foundation Conference on the Social and Political Impact of COVID-19 in the United States. Virtual Meeting (2021)

"The Antecedents of State Identity" (with Emily Pears). Midwest Political Science Association Virtual Meeting (2021)

"Stressing Incivility: Physiological Reactions to Incivility" (with Emily Tesmer *and Erin Crockett). Midwest Political Science Association Virtual Meeting (2021)

- “The Academic Source Cue” (with Lauren Santoro). Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico (2020)
- “Stressing Incivility: Physiological Reactions to Incivility” (with Emily Tesmer *and Erin Crockett). American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. (2109)
- “Confronting Politics: The Role of Conflict Orientation in Shaping Political Debate.” (with Emily Tesmer* and Breely Peterson*) Political Communication Preconference at the APSA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. (2109)
- “Creating Trust in Government” (with Emily Pears). American Political Science Association Political Communication Preconference, Boston, MA (2018)
- “What’s Your Excuse? Effects of Personal and Political Justifications for Flip-Flopping (with Daniel Folsom* and Boris Heersink). Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (2018).
- “Signaling Incivility: The Role of a Speaker’s Race and Use of Uncivil Language” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (2017).
- “The Emotional Consequences of Political Incivility and Psychological Conflict Orientation.” European Consortium of Political Research Joint Session Workshop on Political Incivility in Parliament, Party Competition and Political Communication, Nottingham, England (2017).
- “The Emotional Consequences of Political Incivility and Psychological Conflict Orientation.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (2017).
- “Signaling Incivility: The Role of Speaker, Substance and Tone.” (with Grace Atkins). Political Communication Preconference to the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (2016).

Conference Posters

- “Fifty Nifty United States? Understanding State Identity Across America.” American Political Science Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (2022)
- “The Interaction of Political Incivility and Psychological Conflict Orientation.” Annual meeting of the Society for Personal and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX (2017).
- “Conflict Resolution through Selective Exposure: The Effects of Conflict Orientation on Media Choice.” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (2013)
- “Assessing Student Learning in Political Science.” (with Nicole Pankiewicz and Lynn Sanders) Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (2013)

Institutional & Professional Service

Review Activity

Journal Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, *Communication Research*, *Communication Studies*, *Human Communication Research*, *International Journal of Communication*, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, *Journal of Political Science*, *Online Information Review*, *Politics*, *Groups and Identities*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Social Currents*, *Social Media + Society*, *Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences*

Manuscript Reviewer: *Columbia University Press*.

Disciplinary Committees

Chair, APSA Political Communication Thomas E. Patterson Best Dissertation Award Committee (2021-2022)

Member, APSA Political Communication Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee (2020-2021)

Member, APSA Political Communication Doris Graber Outstanding Book Award Committee (2018-2019)

At-large member, APSA Political Communication Executive Committee (2017-2018)

Member, APSA Political Communication Nominating Committee (2017)

Service at Professional Conferences

- Co-Chair, APSA Political Communication Pre-conference (2017)

- Panel Discussant:
MPSA (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2021, 2022), APSA (2015, 2022)
- Panel Chair:
APSA (2015, 2022, 2023), MPSA (2021, 2023)

Institutional (Southwestern University)

Department Chair, Political Science (2023- present)

Assessment Committee (2020- present)

Search Chair, Political Science Hire in Political Theory (2023)

Search Chair, Political Science Thematic Hire in Race, Ethnicity and Social Justice (2022)

Honors thesis advisor (Camille Martin '19, Emily Tesmer '20, Emily Gilby '21, Megan Kelly '23)

Awards and Honors Committee (2022-2023)

Institutional Review Board (2019-2020)

Academic Standards Committee (2018-2019)

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

International Society for Political Psychology