

# Karyn Amira

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## **Education:**

Ph.D, Political Science, Stony Brook University, August 2015

M.A, Political Science, Stony Brook University, 2012

B.A., Political Science and Psychology, Union College, 2007

## **Grants, Awards and Honors:**

\$8,667 from College of Charleston Faculty Research and Development Fund (\$1,667 for Southern Accent as a Heuristic project with Gibbs Knotts, Chris Cooper and Claire Wofford and \$3,000 for Celebritization of Candidates Project; \$4,000 for Donald Trump's Effect on the Perception of Conservatism Project)

\$2,250 from College of Charleston's Deans Discretionary Fund (\$750 for Ideology as a Social Identity Project and \$500 for Celebritization of Congressional Candidates Project; \$1,000 for Donald Trump's Effect on Who is Considered 'Conservative' Project)

SBU President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student 2014

Political Science Graduate Student Teaching Award 2014

Political Science Graduate Student Teaching Award (Honorable Mention) 2013

## **Research Interests:**

Political Behavior and Public Opinion (ideology, polarization, partisanship, participation, voting)

Political Psychology (political cognition, emotions and political identity)

Media and Political Communication (advertising, framing, priming, agenda setting, bias)

## **Peer-Reviewed Publications:**

"Donald Trump's Effect on Who is Considered 'Conservative'. 2022. *American Politics Research*

"How the News Media Uses the Phrase 'Identity Politics'" with Alec Abraham. 2022. *PS: Political Science and Politics*

"Allies or Adversaries? Donald Trump's Republican Support in Congress" with Jordan Ragusa, Lauren Johnson and Deon McCray. 2019. *Perspectives on Politics*

[Featured on the Niskanen Center's Science of Politics Podcast:](#)

"In-Group Love vs. Out-Group Hate: Which Is More Important to Partisans and When?" with Jen Cole Wright and Daniela Tocchetto. 2019. *Political Behavior*

[Article coverage in the New York Times](#)

"Does Negative Information Moderate Symbolic Ideology? An Experimental Test". 2019. *Social Science Quarterly*

“A Tale of Two Democrats: How Authoritarianism Shaped the Democratic Primary”. With Julie Wronski, Alexa Bankert, April Johnson and Lindsey Levitan. 2018. *The Journal of Politics*

[Article coverage at Heterodox Academy](#)

“Do People Assimilate and Contrast the Ideological Location of Candidates? An Experimental Test of the Projection Hypothesis”. 2018. *Journal of Experimental Political Science*

“The Southern Accent as a Heuristic in Campaigns and Elections” with Gibbs Knotts, Chris Cooper and Claire Wofford. 2018. *American Politics Research*

[Article coverage at PsyPost](#)

[Article coverage by the Post and Courier](#)

“The Decision Not to Furl the Confederate Flag in My Classroom”. 2017. *Journal of Political Science Education*.

Seltzer, Nicholas A., Johnson, April A. and Karyn A. Amira. “Revisiting Dynamic Social Impact Theory: Extensions and Applications for Political Science.” 2013. *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*

## **Other Publications:**

Book Review. Compromise in An Age of Party Polarization. 2021. *Perspectives on Politics*.

Book Chapter: “The Republican Resistance: #NeverTrump Conservatives and the Future of the Republican Party”. With April Johnson. Lexington Books. 2020.

## **Works in Progress:**

Support for Repeals Among Citizens with Sam DeLong, Nathaniel Birkhead and Jordan Ragusa *Manuscript in Preparation*

Perceptions of Liberalism and Conservatism Over Time *Data Analysis Phase*

“Black Candidates and the Southern Accent” with Claire Wofford, Gibbs Knotts and Chris Cooper *Data Collection Phase*

## **Unpublished Manuscripts:**

“The Celebritization of Congressional Candidates” with Elizabeth Sheldon

“Priming, Cognitive Dissonance, Social Reciprocity and Voting: Using Classic Social Psychology to Increase Voter Turnout in a Field Experiment” with Lindsey Levitan *Unpublished Manuscript*

## **Additional Media Attention:**

iOnGreenville story about whether the USA can unite after the 2020 election

<https://iongreenville.net/south-carolina-political-scientist-weigh-in-on-whats-next-for-america-politics/>

Live5 News Story on the demographic and political changes in the low country/Charleston area

<https://www.live5news.com/2020/11/02/researchers-expect-lowcountry-growth-lead-political-shift-state/>

Live5 News Story on Political Advertising:

<https://www.live5news.com/2020/10/30/report-suggests-political-media-spending-could-reach-billion/>

ABC News 4 Story on College Voting/Youth Vote

[https://twitter.com/rachel\\_ellisTV/status/1316594814301990913](https://twitter.com/rachel_ellisTV/status/1316594814301990913)

2020 Talks Public News Service Podcast on the South Carolina Primary

<https://directory.libsyn.com/episode/index/show/2020talks/id/13367033>

Post and Courier Mayoral Race Exit Polling Report (author)

[https://www.postandcourier.com/news/exit-poll-overdevelopment-flooding-motivated-charleston-mayoral-voters-most/article\\_f6692c3c-000f-11ea-8eac-e3ad9accab2c.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/news/exit-poll-overdevelopment-flooding-motivated-charleston-mayoral-voters-most/article_f6692c3c-000f-11ea-8eac-e3ad9accab2c.html)

State House report on gender and representation in the South Carolina legislature

<https://www.statehousereport.com/2019/05/24/gop-women-budget-morals/>

Channel 2 news on the SC Republican primary:

<http://www.counton2.com/news/local-news/how-allegiance-with-president-trump-influenced-arringtonsanford-primary-election/1237261379>

Atlanta Journal Constitution: Will High School Activists Make a Difference in the Gun Debate?

<https://www.myajc.com/news/crime-law/will-high-school-activists-make-difference-gun-debate/7rgTRGawDKBZhhNceEivWI/>

## **Conference Participation:**

*Southern Political Science Association 2022*

*Section Organized: Campaigns and Elections*

*Southern Political Science Association 2019*

“Does Negative Information Moderate Ideological Identity? An Experimental Test”

*Southern Political Science Association 2018*

“Does Negative Information Moderate Ideological Identity? An Experimental Test”

*Discussant: In-Groups and Out-Groups*

*Midwest Political Science Association 2017*

“Does Negative Information Moderate Ideological Identity? An Experimental Test”

*Discussant: Candidate Evaluations*

*Midwest Political Science Association 2016*

“Do People Assimilate and Contrast the Ideological Location of Candidates? An Experimental Test of the Projection Hypothesis”

*Midwest Political Science Association 2015*

“Left Shift: An Experimental Test: Does the Public Perceive Democrats to be More Extreme than Equally Ideological Republicans?”

*American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2014*

“Priming, Cognitive Dissonance, Social Reciprocity and Voting: Using Classic Social Psychology to Increase Voter Turnout in a Field Experiment” with Lindsey Levitan

*South West Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2014*

“Broken Vows, Broken Democracy: The Political Consequences of Divorce” with April Johnson

*Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference 2013*

“Social Welfare Attitudes, Racial Attitudes and Economic Locus of Control” with David Martin

*Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference 2012*

“Revisiting Dynamic Social Impact Theory: Extensions and Applications for Political Science” with Nick Seltzer and April Johnson

*Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2012*

“The Decline in Microfinance Loans to Women: What is To Blame? A Look at Commercialization and Economic Indicators”

**On Campus Presentations:**

Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art: Technologies of the Everyday Panel 2021

Reflections on the 2020 Election and the Future of Democracy Panel

2020 Presidential Election Panel (Pre and Post-Election Panels)

Impeachment Panel 2019

Bonner Leadership Program Parties and Media in Elections Presentation

Spring 2019: Polarization and the State of Partisan Hostility in America

2018 Midterm Postmortem Panelist

2016 Election Postmortem Panelist

Guest Lecturer: Experimental Design for Dr. Gibbs Knotts’ POLI 205 Research and Politics class

Guest Lecturer: “Fake News” for Dr. Adam Domby’s FYE 121 “History in the News” course

Guest Lecturer: “Media and Presidential Campaigns” for Dr. Claire Wofford’s POLI 101 Intro to American Politics course

**Off Campus Presentations:**

Populism and Donald Trump. David Slucki’s Global Rise in Populism course (Monash University, Zoom)

**Teaching Experience:**

POLI 101: Intro to American Politics

POLI 205: Doing Research in Politics (face-to-face and online format including Summer courses)

POLI 367: Media and Politics (face-to-face and online format)

POLI 346: Political Psychology

POLI 344: Political Ideology and Public Opinion  
POLI 327: Political Parties  
POLI 405: Senior Capstone Seminar: The Politics of Identity  
POLI 405: Senior Capstone Seminar: The 2016 Election in Hindsight  
POLI 499: Bachelors Essay Advisor (UG): Lauren Johnson, Ellie Thompson, Stephanie Selker, Yuki Yamasaki, William Meis, Alec Abraham, Erika Golden  
Masters Thesis Advisor (G): Bridget Knutson  
New Teaching Assistant Orientation Panelist (Summer 2014)

### **Additional Teaching Interests:**

Campaigns and Elections (UG/G)  
Social Media and American Politics (UG/G)  
Voting Behavior and Political Participation (UG/G)  
Race in American Politics (UG/G)  
Political Cognition and Decision Making (UG/G)

### **Service:**

Reviewer for *Nature: Human Behavior*, *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Politics and Gender*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Social Science Journal*, *Journal of Political Science Education*

Distance Education Committee (Summer 2020- Present)  
Exit Polling for Charleston Mayoral Election 2019 (with undergraduate students)  
Program Coordinator for NEW Leadership SC at Winthrop University 2019  
Advisor to the Political Science Club (2018- present)  
Assessment: Gen Ed Assessment Committee Dept of Political Science Assessor (2018-present)  
College of Charleston IT Liaison Committee  
Award Committee Member: Fisher Parker and HSS Travel Abroad Award  
Award Committee Member: NEH Summer Stipend Award  
Advisor for Academic Magnate High School Senior Research Thesis 2016, 2017  
Mentoring Matters Program Faculty Mentor 2016, 2017

### **Professional Memberships:**

American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Southwest Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association, Women Also Know Stuff  
Heterodox Academy Member