

AMBER D. SPRY

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Predoctoral Fellow, 2015-2016.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. expected May 2017 (entered 2011).

Dissertation: *Identity in American Politics: A Multidimensional Approach to Study and Measurement*

Advisers: Donald Green, Robert Shapiro

Major: American Politics, Minor: Comparative Politics

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), B.A., 2010 (honors distinction).

Majors: Political Science, Media and Communications Studies.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American politics, race and identity studies, inequality and social justice, political behavior, political psychology. Quantitative and qualitative research methods, including experimental methods, interview research, and surveys.

PUBLICATIONS

Green, Donald P., and Amber D. Spry. "Hate Crime Research: Design and Measurement Strategies for Improving Causal Inference." *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*.

LaNoue, George R., and Amber D. Spry. "Ethnic Student Groups" in *Improbable Excellence: The Saga of UMBC* (forthcoming).

IN PROGRESS

Spry, Amber D. "Can Alternative Measurement Strategies Provide New insights for Our Understanding of Group Political Attitudes in the United States?"

Spry, Amber D. "Examining the Evidence for Linked Fate." Presented at International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting (July 2015).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology Predoctoral Fellowship, 2015-2016.
- Collaborative work funded by MIT Political Experiments Research Lab, 2015.
- Dissertation Development Grant, Columbia University, 2015.
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2012-2015.
- Teaching Fellow, Columbia University, 2011-2012.
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Strive For Excellence Award, 2010.
- Phi Beta Kappa, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), 2010.
- Pi Sigma Alpha Best Poster Presentation Award, UMBC, 2009.
- Leadership Alliance Mellon Fellow, 2009.
- Samuel I. Rosenberg Citizenship Award, UMBC, 2008.
- Maryland Gubernatorial Citation for Outstanding Commitment to Public Service, 2008.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

2016

- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (presenter).
- Penn Program on Democracy, Citizenship and Constitutionalism (presenter, forthcoming).

2015

- Columbia Inequality, Race and Ethnicity Workshop (coordinator and presenter), Columbia University.
- Political Experiments Research Lab Workshop (presenter), Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting (presenter).
- Political Science Graduate Student Workshop (presenter), Columbia University.

2014

- Creating Connections Consortium Summit (presenter), Center for Social and Institutional Change.
- Leadership Alliance National Symposium (panel moderator).

2012

- Leadership Alliance National Symposium (panel moderator).

2011

- Media and Communications Studies Advanced Seminar (guest lecturer), UMBC.

TEACHING

Judicial Politics, Spring 2013, Teaching Assistant, Columbia University.

Introduction to American Politics, Fall 2012, Teaching Assistant, Columbia University.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Consultant / New York, NY / 2010-present

- Work autonomously as a subject expert and with teams to monitor and evaluate progress, assess strategy, and advance goals of client organizations and agencies. Conduct detail-driven analyses and evaluate benchmarks for organizational success.
- Have worked with organizations including: United States Department of Justice, Austrian Cultural Forum, Neveesa Productions, Elevate New York, Maryland Higher Education Commission, and Maryland State Advisory Board for Juvenile Services.

Graduate Mentor / Columbia University Summer Research Program / New York, NY / 2012, 2014

- Developed research programming to support two summer cohorts of 3 to 5 undergraduate students equipping them with experiences needed to competitively apply to graduate degree programs in humanities and social sciences.
- Mentored students through all phases of their own research projects including conceptualization and design, analysis, writing, and presentation of their original work at a national research conference.
- Taught Principles of Quantitative Research, equivalent to the statistics course taken by first-year graduate students at Columbia.
- Managed students as research assistants for two dissertation research projects. Trained students on interviewing techniques, door-to-door survey sampling procedures, and implementation of fieldwork in New York City. Resulted in contribution to a national level dataset on public opinion.

Graduate Assistant / Empirical Reasoning Lab / Barnard College / New York, NY / 2012-2013

- Supported Barnard faculty with incorporating empirical skills into liberal arts curriculum. Provided programming to develop skills not typically taught in undergraduate social science and humanities courses such as research design and data analysis.
- Developed original material for workshops to teach quantitative skills to groups of up to twenty students using R, STATA, SPSS, and GIS.
- Regularly held walk-in office hours to provide support for students conducting research and completing course assignments across various disciplines. Provided administrative support for ERL including scheduling of events and outreach to academic departments.

Research Assistant / The Urban Institute / Washington, D.C. / 2010-2011

- Assisted Vice President for Research in conceptualization and execution of MetroTrends project. Created datasets of social and economic indicators across U.S. metropolitan regions providing citizens and policymakers access to timely, reliable information about nationwide trends told through the stories of individual cities.
- Curated online research library for D.C. Crime Policy Institute.

SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (language proficiency certified through Columbia University).

Programs and Quantitative Applications: R, STATA, SPSS, GIS, LaTeX, InDesign.