

Elizabeth Zechmeister

Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Political Science and Director of LAPOP at Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN, US

Expert in Latin American political behavior and director of the world-renowned Latin American Public Opinion Project.

Biography

Zechmeister received her Ph.D. from Duke University in 2003. Her research focuses on comparative political behavior and public opinion, in particular in Latin America. Her work includes studies of voting, ideology, political parties, representation, charisma, and crisis. Zechmeister has received support from the National Science Foundation for investigations into the public opinion consequences of terrorist threat and natural disaster, respectively. She has published articles in the American Journal of Political Science, the Journal of Politics, Comparative Political Studies, and Political Behavior, among other outlets. She is co-author of Democracy at Risk: How Terrorist Threats Affect the Public (University of Chicago Press, 2009) and Latin American Party Systems (Cambridge University Press, 2010). She is co-editor of The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts (University of Michigan Press, 2015). In 2012, she was the recipient of the Vanderbilt A&S Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and in 2015 she received the Vanderbilt Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching. Her courses focus on Latin American politics, Mexican politics, research design, and comparative political behavior and public opinion.

Areas of Expertise

Democracy, Polling, Latin America, Comparative Politics, Latin America Democracy, Latin America Politics, Public opinion polling, Public Opinion, South America

Affiliations

Journal of Experimental Political Science : Associate Editor, Comparative Political Studies : Editorial Board Member, Journal of Politics : Editorial Board Member, Political Behavior : Editorial Board Member

Selected Event Appearances

The Political Culture of Democracy in the Americas, 2016/17: A Comparative Study of Democracy and Governance
Florida International University

How News Consumption Shapes the Security Agenda: Evidence from Latin America
Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship

News Consumption, Crime, and the National Agenda. Political Behavior Workshop
UC-Riverside

How Does Terrorism Affect the Way We Think About Politics?

Vanderbilt Alumni Chapter – North Carolina

Using Technology to Improve the Quality of Face-to-Face Surveys: LAPOP's FALCON

Conference on La Precision de las Encuestas Electorales

Education

Duke University

Ph.D. Political Science

University of Chicago

M.A. Latin American Studies

Loyola University Chicago

B.A.

Accomplishments

Vanderbilt Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

2012

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