

# Tara P. Buss

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## Curriculum Vitae October 2017

Dept. of Political Science  
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### EDUCATION

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#### University of California – Berkeley

2018  
(Expected) Ph.D. in Political Science  
Dissertation: “*Not By Fear Alone: How Violence and Insecurity Shape Public Opinion in Mexico*”  
Fields: Comparative Politics, Latin American Politics, Political Behavior  
Committee: Ruth Berins Collier (Co-Chair), Laura Stoker (Co-Chair), David Collier, and Harley Shaiken

2010 M.A. in Political Science  
Thesis: “*The People's Participation in Mexican Democratization: A Story of Legitimacy, Collective Action, and Timing*”

#### University of California – San Diego (UCSD), Eleanor Roosevelt College

2008 B.A. Political Science: Comparative Politics, with High Honors  
2008 B.A. Latin American Studies, with Highest Distinction

### SELECTED ONGOING PROJECTS

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- Examining political determinants of perceptions of violence in Latin America
- Assessing changing support for the armed forces in Mexico
- Exploring the rise of citizen journalism and social media in spreading information about violence and insecurity in Mexico

### NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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2015 “[It Was The State](#)” *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*.  
2013 “[Pena Nieto's Inherited War](#)” *Center for Latin American Studies Blog*.  
2011 “[Reclaiming Mexico's Democracy](#)” *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*.

### RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

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2011 – 2012 Graduate Student Researcher for Professor Allison Post  
Project on policy drift and broad-based subsidies in Argentina.  
2009 – 2011 Graduate Student Researcher for Professor David Collier  
Project on qualitative methodology and multi-method research design.

### SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS

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2009 – 2014 Departmental Fellowship, UC Berkeley Dept. of Political Science (\$25,000/year)  
2012, 2013 Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley Graduate Division (\$3,500)  
2010, 2011 Summer Grant, UC Berkeley Department of Political Science (\$4,000)  
2009 Travel grant, UC Berkeley Center for Latin American Studies (\$5,000)

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## INVITED TALKS

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- 2014 “El Efecto de la Narco-Violencia en la Opinión Pública en México.” Salón OPI, Mexico City, Mexico. February 12.
- 2014 “Measuring Perceptions of Violence in Mexico.” Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Mexico City, Mexico. September 26.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

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- 2016 “Rethinking Democracy: The Consequences of Insecurity on Public Opinion in Mexico.” Southern Political Science Association (SPSA) Annual Conference.
- 2015 “Crowd-sourced Journalism: Digital Participation Under the Threat of Violence.” American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference.
- 2014 “Embracing the Military: Changing Support for Armed Forces in a Violent Mexico.” American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference.
- 2014 “Not by Fear Alone: Political Determinants of Perceptions of Violence in Mexico.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Conference.
- 2014 “Embracing the Military: Changing Support for Armed Forces in a Violent Mexico.” Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *As Primary Instructor at UC Berkeley*

- 2017 Mexican Politics  
Evaluations: Pending
- 2016 Introduction to Comparative Politics  
Evaluations: 6.54 out of 7

### *As Head Teaching Assistant, overseeing 4-6 other TAs, at UC Berkeley*

- 2016 Introduction to Comparative Politics with Prof. M. Steven Fish
- 2015 Introduction to Comparative Politics with Prof. M. Steven Fish
- 2012 Introduction to Comparative Politics with Prof. Pradeep Chhibber

### *As a Teaching Assistant at UC Berkeley*

- 2015 Economic History of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century with Prof. Calanit Kamala
- 2015 Russian Politics with Prof. M. Steven Fish
- 2012 Introduction to Comparative Politics with Prof. Lowell Dittmer
- 2011 Latinos in the U.S. Political System with Prof. Rodney Hero
- 2010 Introduction to Comparative Politics with Prof. Pradeep Chhibber

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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- 2013 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse, NY
- 2006 Lund University, Sweden “Critical Dialog on World Issues”

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE and AFFILIATIONS

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- 2014 Country Expert for Varieties of Democracy Project – focus on “Deliberation, the Judiciary, and Sovereignty in Mexico”
- 2010 – 2013 Co- President, UC Berkeley Political Science Graduate Student Association

Memberships: American Political Science Association (APSA), Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

## LANGUAGES

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- Native English
- Advanced written and spoken Spanish

## REFERENCES

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### **Ruth Berins Collier**

Heller Professor of the Graduate School  
UC Berkeley Department of Political Science  
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### **Laura Stoker**

Professor  
UC Berkeley Department of Political Science  
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### **David Collier**

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UC Berkeley Department of Political Science  
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### **M. Steven Fish** (Teaching Reference)

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Phone: +1 510 643-1943