

# KENICIA WRIGHT

SCHOOL OF POLITICS, SECURITY, AND  
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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Central Florida, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, Assistant Professor  
2018-Present

## EDUCATION

University of Houston, PhD, Political Science, May 2018

Dissertation: *The Ties That Do Not Bind: Social Capital, Minority Female Representation, and Social Inequality in the United States*

Dissertation Chair: Professor Ling Zhu

Texas A&M University, B.A., Political Science, May 2012

Additional training:

- ICPSR, University of Michigan, Summer 2017 - Summer 2019
  - Teaching Assistant, *Race, Ethnicity, and Quantitative Methods*, Summer 2017 - Summer 2018
  - Co-instructor, *Race, Ethnicity, and Quantitative Methods II*, Summer 2019 - Summer 2021
- IDL 6543: Interactive Distributed Learning, University of Central Florida, Fall 2018
- *Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models*, University of Houston, Summer 2013 - Summer 2016

## PUBLICATIONS <sup>1</sup>

*Refereed Journal Articles*

1. Kenicia Wright. 2021. "Representative Bureaucracy, Intersectionality, and Female Health Outcomes in the US." Forthcoming, *American Review of Public Administration*.
2. Kenicia Wright and Ling Zhu. 2020. "When Social Capital Becomes Political Capital: Understanding the Social Contexts of Minority Candidates' Electoral Success." *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/rep.2020.12>
3. Kristen Carroll, Kenicia Wright, and Kenneth J. Meier. 2019. "Minority Public Administrators: Managing Organizational Demands While Acting as an Advocate." *American Review of Public Administration*. 49(7): 810-824.
4. Ling Zhu and Kenicia Wright. 2016. "Why Do Americans Dislike Publicly Funded Health Care? Examining the Intersection of Race and Gender in the Ideological Context." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 4(4): 618-637.

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<sup>1</sup> Author with greatest contribution is listed first.

*Book Chapters*

1. Ling Zhu and Kenicia Wright. "Public Administration and Racial Disparities in Health and Health Care: Toward a New Health Inequality Research." Forthcoming chapter in *Race and Public Administration*, edited by Amanda Rutherford and Kenneth J. Meier. Routledge.
2. Jason Casellas and Kenicia Wright. 2017. "Electoral Reform and Minority Representation." In *Changing How America Votes* edited by Todd Donovan. pp. 113-125. Lanham, Maryland. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers.

*Encyclopedia Entries*

1. Jason Casellas and Kenicia Wright. 2018. "Political Representation, Coalitions, and Gender." *Oxford Bibliographies in Latino Studies*, New York: Oxford University Press.
2. Kenicia Wright. 2016. "Power and Minority Representation." In *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance* edited by Ali Farazmand. Springer International Publishing.

**WORKING PAPERS**

1. Kenicia Wright. "Opinions at the Intersection: A Study of the Intersectional Effects of Race and Class on Female Public Opinion."
2. Kenicia Wright. "All Minorities Aren't the Same: Differences in the Opinions of Non-Hispanic Blacks and Latinx Americans."
3. Kenicia Wright. "Beyond Black and White: A Study of Latinx American Public Opinion."
4. Kenicia Wright. "Connections Clarify the Paradox? The Impact of Social Capital on Latinx Health Outcomes."
5. Kenicia Wright. "Women Impacted Unequally: The Effect of Social Capital on Minority Female Representation in the US."
6. Kenicia Wright. "'Bad Girls' or Something Else? A Study of The Theory of Representative Bureaucracy and the Discipline of Female Students."
7. Kenicia Wright. "Beyond Bowling? How Social Identities Shape Social Capital Development."

**GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS***External Grant Applications and Travel Awards*

- New Perspectives and New Questions in Legislative Studies, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University, 2nd place Five Minute Fiesta, Spring 2021.
- National Science Foundation Build and Broaden 2.0 Grant. "Diversity in Linked Fate: Political Behavior and Opinions of Latinx Americans." PI: Kenicia Wright, co-PI: Gunes Tezcur, February 2021. Pending.
- Best Paper on Race and Intersectionality Award, Women, Gender, and Politics section, American Political Science Association, Summer 2020.
- Discourse Initiative Research Grant, the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, May 2020, Application denied.
- Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) Research Grant. "Identifying and Addressing Barriers and Opportunities to Women's Political Power Application: "Focusing on the Intersection: An Assessment of the Factors that Impact Minority Female Candidates for State Legislatures in the US""", November 2020, Application denied.

National Science Foundation Accountable Institutions and Behavior Grant Proposal, "Saving Lives vs. Sacrificing Rights: How Multiple Values Influence Public Decision Making" (Co-PI), August 2020. Application denied.

National Science Foundation RAPID Grant Program, "Saving Lives vs. Sacrificing Rights: How Multiple Values Influence Public Decision Making" (Co-PI) . Application denied. May 2020.

Mercatus Center of George Mason University - Emergent Ventures Grant. "Saving Lives vs. Sacrificing Rights: How Multiple Values Influence Public Decision Making", May 2020, Application denied.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Policy and Law Research program, "A Study of the Impact of Medicaid Expansion, Social Capital, and Community Contexts on Health Outcomes and Health Disparity in the US", November 2019. Application Denied.

Artinian Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, January 2019, \$500

American Political Science Association Centennial Grant, "An Intersectional Approach to Improving Social Capital Measurement in Contemporary Latino Communities", 2018 (Application Denied)

Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, 2018

#### *Internal Awards*

Pegasus Chapter National Residence Hall Honorary "Of the month" (OTM) Awardee recognizing exceptional students, staff, faculty, programs, or initiatives (nomination required), November 2020.

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs/COS Research Support Grant, "Saving Lives vs. Sacrificing Rights: How Multiple Values Influence Public Decision Making" (Co-PI), November 2020, \$4,000.

College of Science Research Dissemination and Travel Award, PI, March 2020, \$662.

Women's History Month Honoree, February 2020

The Women's and Gender Studies Program Gloria Anzaldua Research Excellence Award, "'Bad Girls' or Something Else? A Study of The Theory of Representative Bureaucracy and the Discipline of Female Students" (PI), February 2020, Application denied

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs/COS Research Support Grant, "Focusing on the Intersection: Improving Understanding of the Minority Female Experience in the US" (PI), November 2019, \$4,000

VPR Advancement of Early Career Researchers (AECR) Program, "AECR: An Intersectional Approach to Studying Social Capital in Contemporary Latino Communities" (PI), October 2018, Application denied

Department of Political Science/COS Research Support Grant, "An Intersectional Approach to Improving Social Capital Measurement in Contemporary Latino Communities" (PI), November 2018, \$4,000

ORC Research Mentoring Opportunity (with Gunes Tezcur), University of Central Florida, 2018-2019

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Houston - College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, 2017-2018

Harrell Rodgers Graduate Student Travel Scholarship, Midwest Political Science Association, 2017

Cullen Graduate Fellowship Travel Grant, University of Houston, 2016

Research Assistantship, University of Houston, Summer 2017

Research / Teaching Assistantship, University of Houston, 2012-2017

Carlos Cantu Research Fellow, Texas A&M University, 2014-2015

Graduate Student Travel Grant, University of Houston, Department of Political Science, 2014-2016

## TEACHING

### COURSES TAUGHT

*University of Central Florida*

*Graduate Courses*

POS6736 Conduct of Political Inquiry (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

*Undergraduate Courses*

PUP3314 Minorities in American Politics (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Summer 2021), POS3703 Scope and Methods (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021 (Research Intensive Designation, with undergraduate HIP coaches)), PUP4323 Women and Public Policy (Spring 2019), POS3233 Public Opinion (Spring 2020), POS3273 Voting and Elections (Spring 2021, Summer 2021)

*ICPSR, University of Michigan*

Race, Ethnicity and Quantitative Methods II (co-instructor, Summer 2019, Summer 2020, Summer 2021)

*University of Houston*

Houston Early Research Experience (HERE, Summer Undergraduate Research Program, 2018), POLS3314 Introduction to Public Administration (Undergraduate course, Co-instructor, Spring 2016)

## STUDENT SUPERVISION

*Undergraduate Students*

Chair, Enia Levis, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "An Intersectional Approach to exploring the Voting Behavior of Women Immigrants", Spring 2021-Current

Committee member, Hannah Anton, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "A Woman of Power", Fall 2020-Current

Chair, Kaitlyn Kelly, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "A Study Exploring Asian American Public Opinion, Fall 2020 (Incomplete)

Chair, Enya Brackins, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "A Study Exploring Public Opinion on Abortion through an Intersectional Lens", Graduated Spring 2021

Chair, Rebecca Jaffe, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "Systematic Racism and Voting Rights", Graduated Spring 2021

Chair, Calissa Jones, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "A Comparison of Abortion across Red and Blue States in the US" (Graduated, Incomplete)

Chair, Saphronia Carson, Honor's Undergraduate Thesis, "An Examination of Oppression Through Anti-Abortion Legislation", Defended Fall 2019

*Publications with Students*

Carson, Saphronia and Kenicia Wright. 2021. "An Examination of Oppression Through Anti-Abortion Legislation". *The Pegasus Review* University of Central Florida Undergraduate Research Journal.

*MA Students*

Chair, Kenneth Green, Non-thesis MA Graduate Research Paper, "Creating Terrorism: How Racism in Democracies Motivates Terrorist Events", Defended Fall 2020

Committee member, Tiffeni Russo, "The Winds of Change are Blowing: Assessing Opinions towards Transgender Individuals.", Completed Spring 2021

Committee member, Alexander Aders, "Immigration and the French far-right", Joined committee in Summer 2020

Committee member, Devyn Escalanti, "In Sickness of in Health?: The Impact of Disease Burdens on the

Likelihood of Violent Conflict", Defended Summer 2020

Chair, Molly Ambrose, Non-thesis MA Graduate Research Paper, "A Study on the Relationship between the Undocumented Immigrant Population and Crime Rates in the US", Graduated Summer 2019

Committee member, Caitlyn Czech, Non-thesis MA Graduate Research Paper, "Cyber Terrorism: Public Perceptions of Threats and Security", Graduated Summer 2019

#### *PhD Students*

Advisory Dissertation Chair, Pleasant Ogedengbe, Title TBD, Joined committee: Spring 2021

Dissertation Committee member, T. Augustine Larmin, "'Terrorism during civil war in Africa': Why do groups resolve to use terrorism during different stages of civil war in Africa?", Joined committee: Summer 2020

Dissertation Committee member, Sara Belligoni, "Politics of Emergency Management: How Political and Security Issues Influence Coordination during Emergency Response Operations", Joined committee: Spring 2020

Advisory Dissertation Committee member, Jennifer Joel, "Cash Transfers, Violence, Climate Change and Economic Rebuilding in Conflict Contexts", Joined committee: Spring 2020

Advisory Dissertation Committee member, Kinnari Doke, Title TBD, Joined committee: Spring 2020

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

Kenicia Wright. "The Theory of Representative Bureaucracy and the Discipline of Female Students." Accepted to the 2021 American Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, Washington. September 2021.

Kenicia Wright. "Opinions at the Intersection: A Comparison of the Spending Preferences of Women Based on Race and Ethnicity." Presented at the 2021 Midwest Political Science Association conference. Virtual. April 2021.

Kenicia Wright. Panel chair and discussant, "Not A Monolith: An Investigation of In-Group Differences." 2021 Midwest Political Science Association conference. Virtual. April 2021.

Kenicia Wright. "All Women Not Impacted The Same: Social Capital and Minority Female Representation in the US." The 11th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference African, African American, and Diaspora (AAAD), Harrisonburg, VA. February 2021.

Kenicia Wright. "More like a Minority, a Woman, or a Mix of the Two? Reassessing "Women's Issues" Using the Intersectional Approach." Presented at the 2020 Virtual Gender and Political Psychology Mentoring Conference. October 2020.

Kenicia Wright. "'Bad Girls' or Something Else? A Study of The Theory of Representative Bureaucracy and the Discipline of Female Students." Accepted to the 2020 Public Management Research Conference, Honolulu, Hawai'i. June 2020. (Canceled due to COVID-19.)

Kenicia Wright. Discussant, "Campaign Style, Strategy, and Success across Gender and Race" panel. Accepted to 2020 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2020. (Canceled due to COVID-19.)

Kenicia Wright. "More like a Minority, a Woman, or a Mix of the Two? Reassessing "Women's Issues" Using the Intersectional Approach." Accepted to the 2020 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2020. (Canceled due to COVID-19.)

Kenicia Wright. "Women Impacted Unequally: The Effect of Social Capital on Minority Female Representation in the US." Presented at the 10th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference African, African American, and Diaspora (AAAD), Harrisonburg, VA. February 2020.

- Kenicia Wright. "Who Cares Matters! How Social Capital and Female Bureaucrats Improve Health." Presented at the 2019 American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, DC. August 2019.
- Kenicia Wright. "Who Cares Matters: Why (Minority) Female Health Bureaucrats are Key to Reducing Female Health Inequality in the US." Presented at the 2019 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2019.
- Kenicia Wright. "The Puzzle of the Over-Representation of Minority Women in State Legislatures." Presented at the 2019 Southern Political Science Association Meeting, Austin, TX. January 2019.
- Kenicia Wright. "Substantive Representation? How Minority Female Representation Effects Health Care Inequality." Presented at the 76th Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2018.
- Kenicia Wright. "What about Active Representation? The Effects of Minority Female Bureaucratic Representation on US Health Inequality." Presented at the 2018 Southern Political Science Association Meeting, New Orleans, LA. January 2018.
- 2017 Women of Color in Political Science (WCPS) Workshop, Prelude to American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2017.
- Kristen Carroll, Kenicia Wright, Kiyadh Burt, and Kenneth J. Meier. "Black, White, and Shades of Gray: Minority Managerial Behavior and Organizational Context." Presented at the 75th Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2017.
- Kenicia Wright and Ling Zhu. "When Social Capital Becomes Political Capital: Understanding the Social Contexts of Minority Candidates' Electoral Success in the American States." Presented at the 75th Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2017.
- Saba Siddiki, Ling Zhu, Shilpi Goel, and Kenicia Wright. "Designing Effective Policy: Evidence from a Longitudinal Study of School District Wellness Programs in Florida." Presented at the 74th Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2016.
- Devon Arnold and Kenicia Wright. "The Conditional Effects of Efficacy on Mobilization: An American Voter's Perspective." Presented at the 73rd Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2015.
- Andrea Eckelman and Kenicia Wright. "Crossing the Divide: The Intersection of Gender Roles and Ideology in Health Care Preferences." Presented at the 2015 Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. January 2015, and the 73rd Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2015.
- Ling Zhu and Kenicia Wright. "Why Do Americans Dislike Public Healthcare?: Examining the Intersection of Race and Ideology in Healthcare Preferences." Presented at the 72nd Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2014.

#### *Invited Conferences*

- "All Women Not Impacted The Same: Social Capital and Minority Female Representation in the US." New Perspectives and New Questions in Legislative Studies Virtual Conference, American University, April 2021. (Invitation only)
- Conference on Gender Representation and Equity at the University of Houston. Houston, TX. May 7-8, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
- American University Mini-conference on Race, Gender and Public Administration. Washington, D.C. May 21 and 22, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)

## Service

### PROFESSIONAL

- Member, Best Paper on Intersectionality Award Committee, American Political Science Association, Women, Gender, and Politics Research Section. 2020-21.
- Member, Best Public Policy Poster Award Committee, American Political Science Association, Public Policy Section. 2020-21.
- Member, Herbert Kaufman Award Committee, American Political Science Association, Public Administration Section. 2020-21.
- Mentor, Virtual Gender and Political Psychology Mentoring Conference Follow-up, Jan. 2021.
- Member, Scholars Strategy Network, Florida Chapter, 2020-Current.
- Referee for *Public Administration Review*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, and *Journal of Women's Health*
- Discussant, "Campaign Style, Strategy, and Success across Gender and Race." 2020 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2020.
- Panel Chair, "Representation at the Frontline: Local Policing and Enforcement." 2019 American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, DC. August 2019.
- Panel Chair and Discussant, "Gender and Politics - Race, Ethnicity, and Gender" panel. 2019 Southern Political Science Association Meeting, Austin, TX. January 2019.
- Panel Chair, "New Insights and Contexts: Public Administration" panel. 2019 Southern Political Science Association Meeting, Austin, TX. January 2019.
- Discussant, 2018 Southern Political Science Association Meeting, New Orleans, LA. January 2018.
- Graduate Fellow, Scholars Strategy Network, Texas Chapter, 2017-2018
- Discussant, 75th Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2017.

### DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

Member, UCF Women Faculty Mentoring Community, Fall 2020  
 Committee member, MA Program and Planning committee, 2019 - Current  
 Committee member, Survey Research Ad Hoc committee, 2018 - Current  
 Committee member, Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity committee, 2018 - Current  
 Faculty Mentor, Monitoring Advising Analytics to Promote Success (MAAPS), Fall 2018-Spring 2019  
 Committee member, Department Peer Evaluation committee (elected, Summer 2019)  
 Committee member, MA Student Success, Fall 2018 - Fall 2019  
 Discussant, Health Care Politics at the Crossroads, University of Houston, October 2017  
 Graduate Student Representative, Provost Office's Rockwell Lecture Series Oversight Committee, 2017-8  
 Graduate Student Mentor, University of Houston, Fall 2016-Spring 2017  
 Vice-President, Political Science Graduate Student Association, University of Houston, 2014-2015  
 Treasurer, Political Science Graduate Student Association, University of Houston, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

### MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

1. Kenicia Wright. Panelist. "The Power of the Minority Vote" Town Hall with WKMG-TV News 6 in Orlando, FL. Panelist. October 2020.

2. Kenicia Wright. Panelist. Orange County Bar Association and Central Florida Association for Women's Lawyers Joint Luncheon on Women's Suffrage. October 2020.
3. Kenicia Wright. Stringr Interview on Joe Biden's Potential Vice-President Candidates. June 2020.