

Mario Villegas

Curriculum Vitae

Ann Arbor, Michigan — vmario@umich.edu — Website

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** *Expected May 2030*
University of Michigan
Department of Political Science
- M.A.** *May 2024*
University of Florida
Department of Political Science
Thesis: “Framing the Fight Against Cooperatives: Issue Frames and Worker Cooperative Acceptance.”
 - Committee: Dr. Michael Martinez (Chair), Dr. Beth Rosenson (Member), Dr. Suzanne Robbins (Member)
- B.A.** *May 2022*
University of South Florida
Department of Political Science

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political psychology, political participation, workplace socialization, and Latino politics.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Nguyen, N., Villegas, M., Lieu, C., McBrien, J., & Thornburg, D. (2025). The Dream Academy: Hope and community for doubly marginalised refugees and asylum seekers. In *A Modern Guide to Refugee Education* (pp. 380-398). Edward Elgar Publishing.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant

American National Election Studies Graduate Fellow *January 2026–Current*

- Conducted data analyses, created data visualizations, and produced research memos.

Graduate Research Assistant

Voting and Election Science Team *January 2024–August 2024*

- Collected precinct-level election data, conducted data analyses, and attended weekly meetings.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

The Dream Academy *July 2021–August 2024*

- Conducted qualitative research, coded transcriptions and videos, and presented research findings.

PRESENTATIONS

Midwest Political Science Association. “What Changed? Predictors of the Latino Vote Shift During the Trump Era,” with Franshelly Martinez-Ortiz, Francy Luna Diaz, and Nicholas Valentino, 2026.

Midwest Political Science Association. “Deaf Ears and Echo Chambers in Presidential News,” with Ben Goehring and Kenneth Lowande, 2026.

Florida Political Science Association. “Support for Florida’s \$15 Minimum Wage Amendment,” 2024.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Villegas, Mario. “Exploited and Indignant: How Resources and Emotions Shape Union Members’ Pursuit of Elected Office.” Working paper.

Villegas, Mario, Franshelly Martinez-Ortiz, Francy Luna Diaz, and Nicholas Valentino. “What Changed? Predictors of the Latino Vote Shift During the Trump Era.” Working paper.

Villegas, Mario, and Tyler Simko. “Teacher Mobilization in School Board Meetings.” Working paper.

Goehring, Ben, Kenneth Lowande, and **Mario Villegas.** “Deaf Ears and Echo Chambers in Presidential News.” Working paper.

FELLOWSHIPS

Rackham Merit Fellowship

August 2024

TEACHING

Graduate Student Instructor

University of Michigan
Course: Introduction to American Politics
Instructor: Dr. Kenneth Lowande

Fall 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of Florida
Course: American Government
Instructor: Dr. Suzanne Robbins

Fall 2023

SERVICE

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member

University of Michigan

Winter 2025

SKILLS

R, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, survey research, experimental designs.