

Bethany Lee Albertson

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University of Texas at Austin
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EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Government, University of Texas. (2016-present)
Assistant Professor, Government, University of Texas. (2009-2016)
Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Washington. (2006-2009)
Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University. (2005-2006)

EDUCATION

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2006 Ph.D., Political Science
2006 Certificate of Graduate Study, Social Psychology
2001 M.A., Social Science.
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA
1999 B.A., Political Science

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Psychology, Public Opinion, Political Participation, Experimental Methods.

BOOK

Albertson, Bethany L. and Shana Kushner Gadarian. *Anxious Politics: Democratic Citizenship in a Threatening World*. Cambridge University Press. 2015.

- Awarded 2016 APSA Robert E. Lane Award (Best book in political psychology)
- Awarded 2021 APSA Doris A. Graber Award (Outstanding book in political communication published in the last decade)

ARTICLES

Craig, Alison and Bethany Albertson. 2024. Congressional Support for Democratic Norms. *Political Science Research and Methods*. DOI:10.1017/psrm.2024.51

Haenschen, Katherine, Bethany Albertson and Sharon Jarvis. 2024. Tweet No Harm: Offer Solutions when Alerting the Public to Voter Suppression Efforts. *Communication and the Public*. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.utexas.edu/10.1177/205704732412706>

Albertson, Bethany and Stephen Jessee. 2022. Moderator Placement in Survey Experiments: Racial Resentment and the “Welfare” vs. “Assistance to the Poor” Question Wording Experiment. *Journal of Experimental Political Science*. 1-7.

Webster, Stephen and Bethany Albertson. 2022. Emotion in Politics: Non-Cognitive Biases in Public Opinion. *Annual Review of Political Science*. 25.

Albertson, Bethany and Kimberly Guiler. 2020. Conspiracies, Election Rigging, and Support for Democratic Norms. *Research & Politics*. 7 (3).

Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2016. Did That Scare You? Tips on Creating Emotion in Experimental Subjects. *Political Analysis*. 1-7.

Albertson, Bethany L. and Joshua W. Busby. 2015. Hearts or Minds? Identifying Persuasive Messages on Climate Change.” *Research and Politics*. 2(1).

Albertson, Bethany L. 2015. Dog Whistle Politics: Multivocal Communication and Religious Appeals. *Political Behavior*. 37: 3-26.

Roberts, Margaret E., Brandon M. Stewart, Dustin Tingley, Christopher Lucas, Jetson Leder Luis, Shana Kushner Gadarian, Bethany Albertson, David Rand. 2014. Structural Topic Models for Open-Ended Survey Responses. *American Journal of Political Science*. 58: 1064-1082.

- Awarded 2014 Gosnell Prize for Political Methodology

Gadarian, Shana Kushner and Bethany Albertson. 2014. Anxiety, Immigration and the Search for Information. *Political Psychology*. 35: 133-164.

Albertson, Bethany L. 2011. Religious Appeals and Implicit Attitudes. *Political Psychology*, 32: 109-130.

Albertson, Bethany and Adria Lawrence. 2009. After the Credits Roll: Evaluating the Long Term Effects of Educational Television. *American Politics Research*, 37: 275-300.

Harris-Lacewell, Melissa and Bethany Albertson. 2005. Good Times? Understanding African Americans’ Misperceptions of Racial Economic Fortunes. *Journal of Black Studies*. 35:5.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Albertson, Bethany, Overgaard, Christian Staal Buun, Haenschen, and Sharon Jarvis. 2024. Reporting on Risk Using Constructive Journalism: The Effects of Solutions Content and Sources in Stories Covering Threats to American Elections. *The Press and Democratic Backsliding*, Thomas J. Johnson, Aaron S. Veenstra, eds. Lexington Books.
- Albertson, Bethany and Ben White. 2022. Emotion in Politics: The Relevance of Groups. *Handbook on Politics and Public Opinion*, Thomas J. Rudolph, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Albertson, Bethany. Use Emotion Wisely. 2022. *Fixing American Politics: Civic Priorities for the Media Age*, Roderick P. Hart, ed. Routledge.
- Albertson, Bethany, Lindsay Dun and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2020. Emotions and Political Persuasion. *Oxford Handbook of Electoral Persuasion*, Bernard Grofman, Elizabeth Suhay, eds. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2012. Who’s Afraid of Immigration? The Effects of Pro- and Anti-Immigrant Threatening Ads among Latinos, African Americans and Whites, in *Immigration and Public Opinion in the Liberal Democracies*. Gary Freeman, Randall Hansen, and David Leal, editors. Routledge.

- Albertson, Bethany, John Brehm and Michael Alvarez. 2005. Ambivalence as Internal Conflict. *Ambivalence and the Structure of Public Opinion*. Stephen Craig and Michael Martinez, eds. New York: Palgrave.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Book Review: Political Rumors. 2024. Perspectives on Politics.
- Book Review: The Anger Gap: How Race Shapes Emotion in Politics. 2021. Perspectives on Politics.
- Albertson, Bethany. 2020. Emotions and Racial Differences, Moving Forward. *Politics, Groups and Identities*, Special Issue Commentary.
- Albertson, Bethany. 2020. Allegations of Fraud Weakened Voter Confidence in the 2016 Election. That Could Happen Again. *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*
- Albertson, Bethany. 2020. Trump's Appeals to White Anxiety are not 'Dog Whistles' – they're racism. *The Conversation*. (run in Salon, Yahoo News, the Milwaukee Independent.)
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2020. This is Who Americans Trust About Coronavirus Information. *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*.
- Albertson, Bethany and Sean Theriault. 2020. Pay Attention to Texas. Brookings.
- Albertson, Bethany. Race for the Senate 2018: Key Issues in Texas. Brookings.
- Albertson, Bethany, Cramer, Katherine, and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2017. Forum on *The Politics of Resentment: Rural Consciousness in Wisconsin and the Rise of Scott Walker*. (2016 University of Chicago Press) and *Anxious Politics, Political Psychology*.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2017. Emotion and Foreign Policy in the Trump Age. *International Security Studies Forum*. Roundtable on Public Opinion and the Trump Administration's Foreign Policy <https://issforum.org/roundtables/policy/2-1-public-opinion>
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2016. "Anxiety Over Terrorism Advantages Hillary Clinton" *Political Communication. The Forum*: 00:1-5. doi:10.1080/10584609.2016.1224419.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2016. "How Terrorism Could Affect the 2016 Election" *Society*. 53(5): 479. doi:10.1007/s12115-016-0052-2
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2016. "Emotions and Political Decision Making" *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Political Behavior*.
- Albertson, Bethany, Josh Busby and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2016. Will Anxiety about Terrorism Affect the 2016 Election? Clinton Has the Advantage for Now. *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Kushner Gadarian. 2015. How Anxiety about Terrorism Could Change our Politics. *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*
- Albertson, Bethany and Joshua Busby. 2015. Persuading Americans to Act on Climate Change. *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Gadarian. 2015. "Ebola, Anxiety, and Support for Protective Policies." *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 48(1): 8-9.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Gadarian. 2014. "Ebola will make Americans more likely to give up civil liberties." *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Gadarian. 2014. "Was the Facebook emotion experiment unethical?" *The Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*.
- Albertson, Bethany and Shana Gadarian. 2013. "An Anxious August for Immigration Reform." *The Monkey Cage*.
- Albertson, Bethany L. 2011. Public Attitudes Toward Climate Change Policy, in *Navigating*

Climate Change Policy: The Opportunities of Federalism. Edella C. Schlager, Kirsten H. Engel, and Sally Rider, editors. University of Arizona Press. (Research note).

- Book Review: Race, Republicans, and the Return of the Party of Lincoln. 2008. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 72(3): 554-557.
- Book Review: In Defense of Negativity: Attack Ads in Presidential Campaigns. 2007. *American Review of Politics*, 28: 249-251.
- Albertson, Bethany and John Brehm. 2003. Comments: Social Neuroscience in Political Psychology. *Political Psychology*. 24: 4.
- Rasinski, Kenneth A., Jennifer Berktold, Tom W. Smith and Bethany Albertson. 2002. *America Recovers: A Follow-Up to a National Study of Public Response to the September 11th Terrorist Attacks*. Chicago: NORC.

TEACHING/MENTORSHIP AWARDS

2020	Erika Fairchild Award, Southern Political Science Association
2019	President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award
2014	Josefina Paredes Endowed Teaching Award

HONORS & GRANTS

2021	Co-Winner of Doris A. Graber Award for Outstanding book in political communication published in the last decade (with Shana Gadarian).
2018	What Does Voting Mean? Perceptions, Barriers, and Opportunities. PI Sharon Jarvis, Co-PI Susan Nold; Bethany Albertson, Katherine Haenschen, Joe Cutbirth, and Jay Jennings. Awarded by the Democracy Fund to the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life (Summer 2018 - Spring 2019). (\$99,984.95).
2016	Co-Winner of Robert E. Lane Award for best book in Political Psychology (with Shana Gadarian)
2015	Subvention Grant, University of Texas, Austin. <i>Anxious Politics: Democratic Citizenship in a Threatening World</i> . (\$900)
2014	Co-Winner of Society for Political Methodology's Harold F. Gosnell Prize along with co-authors Margaret E. Roberts, Brandon M. Stewert, Dustin Tingley, Christopher Lucas, Jetson Leder-Luis, Shana Gadarian, and David Rand.
2011	Summer Research Assignment, University of Texas, Austin. <i>Anxious Politics: The Effect of Anxiety on Learning, Trust and Political Attitudes</i> . (2 months summer salary)
2010	National Science Foundation, Time Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences. <i>Anxious Politics: The Effect of Immigration Anxiety on Trust and Attitudes</i> . (with Shana Kushner Gadarian). (\$22,000)
2009	Special Research Grant, University of Texas, Austin. <i>Anxiety and Public Health</i> (\$750)
2008	Harrington Faculty Fellow, University of Texas, Austin.
2008	Royalty Research Fund, University of Washington. <i>Family Values in Political Campaigns</i> . (\$34,825)
2007	National Science Foundation, Time Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences. <i>Fear and Learning: How Do Anxious Voters Get Their News?</i> (with Shana Kushner Gadarian).

- 2007 Institute for Ethnic Studies in the United States, University of Washington. Fear and Learning in the Immigration Debate: How Do Anxious Citizens Get Their News? (with Shana Kushner Gadarian). (\$4,600)
- 2005 National Science Foundation, Dissertation Improvement Grant. (\$12,000)
- 2005 Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University.
- 2005 Honorable Mention, Seymour Sudman Student Paper Competition, AAPOR. (with Adria Lawrence).
- 2003 APSA Political Psychology Section Scholarship, Summer Institute in Political Psychology.
- 2002 Earl S. Johnson Prize for best M.A. paper, University of Chicago.

INVITED TALKS & KEYNOTES

- UC Merced, 2025.
- “What counts as protection in an age of insecurity?” PROTEMO, Emotional Dynamics of (In)security and Politics Conference Keynote. 2024
- BYU, 2023.
- University of Utah, 2023.
- Cornell University, 2022.
- Bucknell University. 2022.
- Georgetown American Politics Speaker Series. 2022.
- U.S. Department of State, Foreign Press Center. 2020.
- Southern Political Psychology Workshop, University of Georgia. Keynote Address. 2019.
- University of Houston, Political Misperceptions Conference. 2018.
- University of Chicago, Conference on Race & Place in the United States. 2018.
- Harvard Political Psychology Workshop. 2018.
- Texas A&M. 2017.
- American Elections Academic Symposium, St. Anselm. Keynote Address. 2017.
- SMU Tower Center Monthly Seminar. Dallas, TX. 2015.
- Texas A&M. Political Science. 2015.
- Political Psychology Pre-Conference, APSA. San Francisco, CA. 2015.
- Loyola Marymount University. 2012.
- University of Chicago, Political Psychology Workshop. 2010.
- Vanderbilt University, Political Science. 2010.
- Harrington Faculty Fellows Annual Research Symposium. Amarillo, TX. 2009.
- University of Washington, Race in American Politics: A 2008 Presidential Election Symposium. 2009.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- New Research on Gender and Political Psychology, 2024
- Women in Legislative Studies. 2022
- Texas American Politics Symposium. 2019
- Southern Political Science Association. 2020, 2019
- American Political Science Association. 2024, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013
- University of Delaware, Political Psychology Conference. 2019.
- Midwest Political Science Association. 2025, 2023, 2015, 2009-2012.
- Western Political Science Association. 2011, 2010.

COURSES TAUGHT (At University of Texas unless otherwise specified)

Undergraduate:

American Government (traditional and on-line)
American Government – Honors
US Elections (traditional and on-line)
Political Psychology
Honors Thesis Writing
Sources of Evil – Honors (University of Washington)
Political Participation (Notre Dame)

Graduate:

Political Psychology
Public Opinion and Voting Behavior
Survey Design and Analysis (co-taught with Stephen Jessee)
Experiments in Political Science (co-taught with Mike Findley, Dan Nielson)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Editorial Boards: *American Politics Research; Journal of Experimental Political Science; Advances in Political Psychology, Politics and Religion, Politics, Groups & Identities (rotated off 2019)*
- Reviewer for: National Science Foundation, *American Journal of Political Science, American Politics Research, American Political Science Review, Electoral Studies, International Journal of Communication, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Journal of Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, Political Psychology, Political Research Quarterly, Political Science and Politics, Political Science: Research and Methods, Politics and Gender, Politics & Religion, Politics, Groups & Identities, Public Choice, Public Opinion Quarterly, Research and Politics, Time Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences.*
- Awards Committee:
 - ISPP Juliette and Alexander L. George Outstanding Political Psychology Book Award, Committee Chair, 2025
 - MPSA Best Graduate Student Paper Committee Chair, 2024
 - APSA Carey McWilliams Award Committee Chair, 2023. Member, 2024.
 - International Society for Political Psychology Award Committee Member, 2022.
 - American Political Science Association, Political Communication Section, Doris A. Graber Award Committee Member, 2022.
 - Journal Politics, Best Paper Award Committee Member, 2021.
 - Erika Fairchild Award Committee Member, 2021.
 - American Political Science Association, Experimental Methods Section. Dissertation Award Committee Member. 2011.
- Conference Chair:
 - International Society for Political Psychology (ISPP). San Antonio. 2018. (co-chair with Frank Asbrock).

- World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR). Austin. 2016 (co-chair with Talia Stroud).
- Section Chair:
 - Midwest Political Science Association (Political Psychology). 2019.
 - Southern Political Science Association (Political Psychology). 2016.
 - Western Political Science Association. (Public Opinion and Political Psychology). 2010.
- American Political Science Association
 - Communications Director, Elections, Public Opinion and Voting Behavior. 2017-2019.
 - Diversity Committee, Elections, Public Opinion and Voting Behavior. 2018-2020.
 - Communications Director, Political Psychology Section. 2008 to 2011.
- Midwest Political Science Association
 - Women’s Council, President-Elect (2024-present).
- International Society for Political Psychology,
 - Nominating Committee, 2024-present.
 - Governing Council, 2016-2019.
 - Junior Scholars Committee, 2009.

UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE SERVICE

Archer Fellowship Faculty Director for UT Austin (2021 – present)
 Assistant Director of Research, Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life (2020-2023)
 Archer Fellowship Program Selection Committee (2019-2021)
 Harrington Graduate Fellowship Committee (2019-present)
 Curriculum Design and Assessment (2022-present)
 Mentorship Facilitator, Launch Committee Program (2024-25)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

American Politics Field Chair (2019-present)
 Department IRB Coordinator (2014-2020)
 Search Committee Chair, Gender and Politics (2023-2024)
 Search Committee, American Politics (2021)
 Search Committee, American Politics (2019-2020)
 Search Committee, Methods FII (2017-2018)
 Search Committee, Latino Politics (2013-2014)
 Executive Committee (2017-2018, 2019-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025)
 Graduate Admissions (2009-2011, 2012-2013)
 Peer Teaching Review Committee (2009-2011; 2019-present)
 Graduate Financial Aid (2011-2012, 2018-2019)