

CURRICULUM VITAE

LAURA PARTAIN

The Ohio State University
School of Communication
College of Arts and Sciences
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.

Media Arts and Sciences, minor in Global Studies, Indiana University-Bloomington, 2021

M.A.

Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas-Austin, 2015

B.A.

Religious Studies, Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies, *Phi Beta Kappa*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2013

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

The Ohio State University

Assistant Professor in The School of Communication, 2022-Present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Lecturer in Civic and Global Media, 2020-2022

University of California, Davis

Muslim Women and the Media Training Institute Fellowship, 2020-2022

Indiana University-Bloomington

Dissertation Completion Fellow, 2019-2020

Indiana University-Bloomington

Research Assistant to Dr. Jennifer Midberry, 2020-2021

Indiana University-Bloomington

Research Assistant to Professor of Practice Elaine Monaghan, 2018

DISSERTATION

Dynamic Exchanges: A Mixed Method Analysis of Palestinians and Syrians in US News Media Cycles

Committee: Andrew Weaver (chair), Radhika Parameswaran, Jennifer Midberry, and David McDonald

PUBLICATIONS

Aswad, N. G. & **Partain, L.P.B.*** (2025). Gift or gilded cage? Performing gratitude and the “respectability politics of refuge.” *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, 22(2), 180-198. doi: 10.1080/14791420.2025.2505630

Peifer, J.T., **Partain, L.P.B.**, Midberry, J. (2024). Conversations on ‘Making the News’: A citizen journalism-oriented tool for empowering citizen advocates of journalism. *Journalism*.

Beard, J.H., Trombley, S., Walker, T., Roberts, L., **Partain, L.P.B.**, MacMillan, J., Midberry, J. (2024). Public health framing of firearm violence on local television news in Philadelphia, PA, USA: A quantitative content analysis. *BMC Public Health*.

Beard, J.H., Raissian, Roberts, L., **Partain, L.**, Midberry, J., Walker, T., Trombley, S., MacMillan, J., Morrison, N. (2024). Systemic disparities in reporting on community firearm violence on local television news in Philadelphia, PA, USA. *Preventive Medicine Reports*.

Midberry, J., **Partain, L.P.B.**, & Vaughn, Z. (2024). Un-Settling Stereotypes: Photo agency visual representations of Syrian refugee resettlement in the United States. *Journalism Practice*.

Peifer, J. & **Partain, L.P.B** (2023). Citizen Forums: Examining a Journalistic Transparency Initiative’s Capacity to Foster Understanding, Connection, and Trust. *Journalism Practice*.

Partain, L.P.B. & Weaver, A. (2022). Unveiling our biases: Activating religious, emotional, and contextual cues in news media representations of Syrian refugees. *International Journal of Communication*, 16, pp. 2410-2430.

Read, G., Yah, H.Y., Gonzales, A., Anderson, P.B., **Partain, L.P.B.**, Vaughn, Z., Semivolos, A., Kim, Y. (2021). Making stability dependable: Stable cellphone access leads to better health outcomes for those experiencing poverty. *Information, Communication, and Society*. Published online. DOI: 10.1080/1369118x.2021.1928263

Partain, L.P.B. (2020). Speaking Emissaries: Lebanese Women's Rights NGO KAFA and Its Media Use for Audience Mobilization. *Gender, Place, and Culture*, 28(2), pp. 253-256. DOI: 10.1080/0966369X.2020.1715350

Partain, L.P.B. (2020). Best of Both Worlds or Refusal to Comply?: The Rich Kids of Tehran on Instagram. *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, 13(3), pp. 216-237. DOI: 10.1080/17513057.2019.1611905

Partain, L.P.B. (2019). Role regulation and normative expectations: The discursive erasure of Middle Eastern forced migrants in U.S. news outlets. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 47(6), pp. 706-725. DOI: 10.1080/00909882.2019.1693609

Read, G. L., **Partain, L. P.B.***, Vaughn, Z., Semivolos, A. Anderson, P.B., and Gonzales, A.L., (2019). A critical approach to investigating communication practices of marginalized populations using longitudinal field experiments. *Communication Methods and Measures*, 14(1), pp. 55-70. DOI: 10.1080/19312458.2019.1572083

*The first and second author made equal contributions to the manuscript.

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

Dixon, G., **Partain, L.P.B.**, Stecula, D., Boyse-Peacor, A., Snelling, K. Minority belief, majority perception: How the overrepresentation of social media-fueled misogyny drives pluralistic ignorance among men. First round of review.

Partain, L.P.B. & Read, G.L. The positive effect of news media exemplars does not uniformly transfer to immigrant groups: An investigation of warmth and competence. First round of review.

Partain, L.P.B. & Grandjean, E. Image(in)ing Alternatives: Examining Instagram health messaging effects on Black and White US audiences' uses and gratifications during COVID-19. First round of review.'

*The first and second author made equal contributions to the manuscript.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Partain, L.P.B. & Weaver, A. Media effects of racial phenotype, nationality, and religion on US immigration attitudes: Syrian and Palestinian refugees in the news.

Syrian American and Syrian refugee interviews. With Dr. Jennifer Midberry. Analysis in process.

Palestine and Israel in the news, May 2021 and October 2023. With Dr. Jennifer Midberry, Zachary Vaughn, Kallie Palm, Chris Bailey, Chelsey Sarante, and Yasmine Skalli. Analysis in process.

Changing the message on gun violence: Focus groups and recommendations for more ethical journalist representations of gun violence in Philadelphia. With Dr. Jennifer Midberry. Analysis in process.

Content analysis of 365 days of local tv news reporting on gun violence in Philadelphia. With Dr. Jennifer Midberry. Analysis in process.

Experimentally examining the role of sound in intergroup perceptions of Syrian refugee documentary messaging. Data Collection in Process.

Sounding off: Evaluating the effects of music on pro-sociality. Under IRB review. Data Collection in Process.

Improving serious illness care for international patients with cancer. With Daniel Partain at Mayo Clinic—Data Collection in Process.

AWARDS AND HONORS

SSCA Political Communication Top Paper Award	2025
ICA Information Systems Promising Papers Session	2023
ICA 2023 Top 3 Paper Award	2022
MIT SHASS Kelly Douglas Grant, \$400	2020
College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship, \$25,000	2019-2020
Grant-in-Aid of Doctoral Research Award, \$975	2019
College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award, \$300	2019
The Ogan Fund Fellowship, \$400	2019
The Ogan Fund Fellowship, \$500	2018
IU Graduate Fellowship GR, \$20,000	2018-2019
Media School Student Paper of the Year, \$300	2017
The Ogan Fund Fellowship, \$300	2017
Anna L. Homquest Fellowship, \$500	2017
Alex M. Doty Memorial Fellowship, \$500	2017
UT Austin Departmental Scholarship for Persian Summer Program, \$4,500	2015
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) program Arabic Scholarship, \$6,400	2014
Department of Middle Eastern Studies Scholarship, \$1000	2014
Phi Beta Kappa Award-University of Wisconsin Madison	2013

GRANTS

Developing Interventions to Boost Male Resilience and Promote Female Allyship in Digital Environments. The Jeffrey Schottenstein Program for Resilience and Nina and Ryan Day Fund. Dr. Graham Dixon (PI) and **Laura Partain (Co-PI)**. October 2024. Application accepted.

No Gun Zone: A Model for Non-Extractive, Community-Focused Gun Violence Coverage. Facebook Instagram request for proposals on Safety and Community Health. Dr. Jennifer Midberry (PI) and **Laura Partain (Co-PI)**. July, 2021. Application rejected.

Making nuance noticeable: Efficacy of intersectional representations on US immigration attitudes in news media exemplars. Russell Sage Foundation. Dr. Glenna Read (PI) and Laura Partain. May, 2020. Application rejected.

LUCE/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs Grant. Professor of Practice Elaine Monaghan (PI). 2017-2018.
Professor Monaghan used my research in the grant application. Upon receiving the grant, I assisted in program development for the implementation of this grant at IU's Media School.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"A World of Difference: Where ideology and mediated stereotypes collide." Cornell, Dec. 2021

"A World of Difference: Where ideology and mediated stereotypes collide." Ohio State University, Dec. 2021

"A World of Difference: Where ideology and mediated stereotypes collide." Roanoke College, Nov. 2021

"Mediating Muslim Women." Boston College, April, 2020

"(Mis)Representation of Middle Eastern and Muslim Communities in News and Entertainment Media." Boston College, Nov. 2020

"Race and representation of Syrian, Palestinian, and Norwegian refugees in the news." Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Oct. 2020

INVITED ON-CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

Focus Group Facilitator. Making the News grant project. April 2019.

Guest Panel. Gender and Media Course Workshop. March 2019.

Invited Panel Respondent at Indiana University Representing Religion Symposium. May 2018.

Invited Panelist at Media School Conference: Common Ground, “Doing Difference Differently” Workshop. Feb. 2018.

PEER REVIEWED PAPERS

Panel: Theorizing Refuge in Critical Cultural Studies. Sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division; International and Intercultural Communication Division. Chairs: Sneha Goswami and Marina Levina. Presenters: Oscar Mejia, **Laura Partain**, Noor Ghazal Aswad, Adedoyin Ogunfeyimi, Joshua Barnett, David Gore, Julia Khrebtan-Horhage, Evgeniya Psytovskaya, October 2025.

The Politics of Refuge: Communication, Power, and Asylum in the U.S. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern States Communication Association, April 2025. Won the Top Paper Award in the Political Communication Division.

“Making nuance noticeable: Efficacy of intersectional representations on US immigration attitudes in news media exemplars” International Communication Association, May 2023. Promising Papers Session.

“Changed frames? A content analysis of public health reporting on gun violence in local Philadelphia television news reports” International Communication Association, May 2023.

“(Image)ning Alternatives: The differential effects of Instagram health messages during covid-19 between Black and racially representative US audiences.” International Communication Association, May 2023.

“Picturing Resettlement: A content analysis of visuals of Syrian refugees in the United States.” International Communication Association, May 2022. Top 3 Paper Award.

“Citizen forums: Examining a journalistic transparency initiative’s capacity to foster understanding, connection, and trust.” International Communication Association, May, 2022.

“Media effects of racial phenotype and nationality on US immigration attitudes: Syrian, Palestinian, and Norwegian refugees in the news.” National Communication Association, Nov. 2020.

“(Un)Veiling our biases: Activating religious, emotional, and contextual cues in news media representations of Syrian refugees.” National Communication Association, Nov. 2019

“Speaking Emissaries: Lebanese Women’s Rights NGO KAFA and Its Media Use for Audience Mobilization.” National Communication Association, Nov. 2018.

“A critical approach to investigating communication practices of marginalized populations using longitudinal field experiments.” International Communication Association, May, 2018.

“WWJD in the 2016 Primaries: US Evangelicals’ and Politicians’ Christian Nationalist Rhetoric Demonizing Syrian Refugees.” National Communication Association, Nov. 2017.

“(Not) Enough Said: Lebanese Women’s Rights NGO KAFA and Its Media Use for Audience Mobilization.” IU Cultural Studies Conference, Oct. 2017.

“Best of Both Worlds or Refusal to Comply?: The Rich Kids of Tehran on Instagram.” International Communication Association. May, 2017.

“A Dance of Destruction with Ari Folman: On ‘Working Through,’ ‘Empathetic Unsettling,’ and ‘Cinematic Reverse Shots’ in Dual Perpetrator and Victim Trauma.” UT Graduate Student Conference in Comparative Literature. Sept, 2014.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

2022 Mediation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis. University of Calgary.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record, Ohio State University

Comm 1100: Media and Society

Autumn 2023

Autumn 2024

Autumn 2025

International Perspectives on Communication

Autumn 2022

Spring 2023

Spring 2024

Instructor of Record, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Networked Social Movements

Fall 2021

Introduction to Media Studies

Fall 2021

Current Debates in Media
Fall 2021

Networked Social Movements
Spring 2021

Current Debates in Media
Spring 2021

Intro to Civic Media
Fall 2020

Assistant Instructor, Indiana University-Bloomington
Media 101
Spring 2016, Spring 2018

Introduction to Media and Society
Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017

Audience Analysis
Spring 2017

Assistant Instructor, University of Texas-Austin
The United States of America since 1865
Spring 2015

The Scientific Revolution of the 17th Century
Fall 2014

On-Campus Guest Lectures

Media Representations of Middle Eastern Communities
In the course “Race, Prejudice and Media”
Spring 2018

Race and the Media
In the course “Media and Society”
Fall 2017

Qualitative Methodologies
In the course “Audience Analysis”
Spring 2017

Race and the Media
In the course “Introduction to Media and Society”
Fall 2016

Media Campaigns

In the course “Introduction to Media and Society”

Fall 2016

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Ad Hoc Reviewer:

Media Psychology, Reviewer (2025)

Journal of International and Intercultural Communication (2025)

Nature Human Behaviour, Reviewer (2024)

Journal of Children and Media, Reviewer (2024, 2025)

Journal of Health Communication, Reviewer (2023, 2024)

International Journal of Communication, Reviewer (2020, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Journalism Practice, Reviewer (2022, 2023)

Mass Communication and Society, Reviewer (2020).

Social Media and Society, Reviewer (2019).

IU Media School Incoming-Graduate Student Orientation Panel “Media, Difference, and Inequality,” Fall, 2020

NCA Conference Panel Chair “Immigration, Stigma, and Politics in the Media,” Fall 2020.

NCA Conference Submission Reviewer, Mass Communication Division, Spring 2020.

NCA Conference Submission Reviewer, Mass Communication Division, Spring 2018.

IU Media School’s Representing Religion Symposium, CO-Organizer, Spring 2018.

Media School Faculty Search Committee for Environmental Communication, Fall 2017.

Media School Graduate Association, Co-President—Internal Voice Chair, Fall 2016-Spring 2017.

Graduate Affairs Committee, Graduate Student Representative, Fall 2016-Spring 2017.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

International Communication Association

National Communication Association:

Activism and Social Justice Division, International and Intercultural Communication Division, Political Communication Division

Modern Language Association

Religious Communication Association

REFERENCES

Professional References

Eric Klopfer
Professor; Head of CMS/W
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
klopfer@mit.edu

Andrew Weaver
Associate Professor
Indiana University, Bloomington
weaveraj@indiana.edu

Jennifer Midberry
Assistant Professor
Lehigh University
jem519@lehigh.edu

Radhika Parameswaran
Herman B Wells Endowed Professor
Indiana University, Bloomington
rparames@indiana.edu

Teaching Reference

Suzannah Evans Comfort
Assistant Professor
Indiana University, Bloomington
comfort@indiana.edu