

## C. MARA SUTTMANN-LEA

Assistant Professor | Department of Government and International Relations | Connecticut College | [csuttmann@conncoll.edu](mailto:csuttmann@conncoll.edu) | marasuttmannlea.com

### EDUCATION

*Northwestern University, Evanston, IL*

**Ph.D., Political Science**

**2017**

*Major: American Politics, Minor: Methodology*

Dissertation: *"Convenience at a Cost: The Unintended Consequences of Early Voting"*

Dissertation Committee: Daniel Galvin (Chair), James Druckman, James Mahoney, and Traci Burch

**M.A., Political Science**

**2013**

Master's Thesis: *"Towards More Equal Participation? How Battleground States Influence the Effectiveness of Electoral Reforms"*

First Reader: Daniel Galvin, Second Reader: James Druckman

*DePaul University, Chicago, IL*

**B.A., Summa Cum Laude, Political Science and Islamic Studies, Honors**

**2009**

Honors Thesis: *"Constructing a Political Spectacle: Peace and Violence in Cable News Coverage of The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict"*

First Reader: Cathy May, Second Reader: Khalil Marrar

### WORKS IN PROGRESS

*"Convenience at a Cost: The Unintended Consequences of Voting Reforms"*

Book Project

*"The Deserving Voter: Poll Worker Decision Making at the American Ballot Box"*

Book Project

Funded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Election Data and Science Lab and the Madison Initiative of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

*"Are You a Russian Agent? Working with U.S. Election Administrators in an Era of Electoral Mistrust"*

Manuscript

*"Towards More Equal Participation? Early Voting, Mobilization, and Turnout Biases"*

Manuscript

*"The Political Effects of Economic Inequality in Rich Democracies"* (First Author)

Co-Authored with Benjamin I. Page

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“Early voting in the 2017 Montana special congressional election.” 2017. *The London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog*.  
<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2017/06/07/profound-partisanship-rather-than-early-voting-may-have-guaranteed-greg-gianfortes-success-in-montana-amidst-assault-charges/>

“Prospects for Success in the Trump Presidency.” 2017. *The London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog*. <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2017/01/12/as-a-true-outsider-what-trumps-presidency-will-look-like-is-anybodys-guess/>

“An Overview of the 2016 Illinois Senate Race.” 2016. *The London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog*. <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2016/10/11/in-illinois-tammy-duckworths-better-funded-campaign-puts-mark-kirks-senate-seat-in-a-precarious-position/>

“The 1980s Republican roots of Hillary Clinton’s early voting strategy.” 2016. *The London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog*. <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2016/10/26/the-1980s-republican-roots-of-hillary-clintons-early-voting-strategy/>

**CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- “*The Deserving Voter: Poll Worker Decision Making at the American Ballot Box*”  
 American Political Science Association Annual Conference **2018**
- “*Are You a Russian Agent? Working with U.S. Election Administrators in an Era of Electoral Mistrust*”  
 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference **2018**
- “*Towards More Equal Participation? Early Voting, Mobilization, and Turnout Biases*”  
 Law in Motion Conference, Department of Legal Studies, Northwestern University **2017**
- “*Convenience at a Cost: The Unintended Consequences of Early Voting, Case Studies of Washington and California*”  
 Northwestern / Columbia / Science Po / Max Plank Political Economy Conference **2016**
- “*Towards More Equal Participation? The Performance of Electoral Reforms in Competitive Electoral Contexts*”  
 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference **2014**
- “*The Political Effects of Economic Inequality in Rich Democracies*”  
 Co-Authored with Benjamin I. Page (First Author)  
 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference **2014**

*“Towards More Equal Participation? How Battleground States Influence the Effectiveness of Electoral Reforms”*

Applied Quantitative Methods Workshop, Northwestern University **2013**

### INVITED TALKS

*“Early Voting and the 2016 Presidential Elections”*

Northwestern University Department of Political Science Elections Round-Up **2016**

*“Convenience at a Cost: The Unintended Consequences of Early Voting, Case Studies of Washington and California”*

Comparative Historical Social Sciences Workshop at Northwestern University **2016**

*“Early Voting: Politics, Process, and Participation”*

Winnetka Public Library Adult Education Series on Elections **2016**

*“The Political Effects of Economic Inequality”*

Co-Authored with Benjamin I. Page

New Directions for Research on the Effects of Rising Inequality at Harvard University **2013**

### RESEARCH GRANTS

M.I.T. Election Data and Science Lab Research Grant (\$10,000) **2017**

Minar Memorial Summer Award, Northwestern University (\$1000) **2016**

Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University (\$2524) **2015**

The Institute for Qualitative Methods Research at Syracuse University **2014**

(Methods training grant)

The Institute for Survey Research at the University of Michigan **2012**

(Methods training grant)

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Weinberg College Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award (\$1000) **2017**

Weinberg College Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Nominee **2016**

University Fellowship, Northwestern University **AY 2011-2012, AY 2014-2015**

Conference Travel Grant, Northwestern University (\$500) **2014**

Outstanding Student Scholar, DePaul University, Political Science Department **2009**

DePaul Senior Grant (\$5000), DePaul University **2008**

Pi Sigma Alpha **2007**

Centennial Scholarship (\$10,000 per academic year), DePaul University **2005 – 2009**

### TEACHING

*Connecticut College, Department of Government and International Relations, New London, CT*

Assistant Professor

Introduction to American Politics **Fall 2018**

Campaigns, Parties, and Elections  
The Politics of Voting Reforms

Fall 2018  
Spring 2018

*Skidmore College, Political Science Department- Saratoga Springs, NY*

Visiting Assistant Professor

Introduction to American Politics  
The American Presidency  
Congress and the Legislative Process  
Campaigns and Elections in American Politics

Fall 2017  
Fall 2017  
Spring 2018  
Spring 2018

*Northwestern University, Political Science Department- Evanston, IL*

Teaching Assistant

The American Presidency, Professor Daniel Galvin  
Congress and the Legislative Process, Professor Laurel Harbridge  
Urban Politics, Professor Reuel Rogers  
African American Politics, Professor Reuel Rogers

Spring 2016  
Spring 2013 and Winter 2015  
Fall 2012 and Fall 2015  
Winter 2013

Graduate Student Advisor for Undergraduate Honors Thesis Projects

AY 2013-2014

*Northwestern University, Searle Center for Advanced Learning & Teaching- Evanston, IL*

Teaching Certificate Program

AY 2015-2016

**RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

*Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research, Evanston, IL*

Research Assistant- Daniel Galvin

AY 2016-2017

*Center for Electoral Politics and Democracy, Fordham University- New York, NY*

Research Affiliate- Costas Panagopoulos

2015

**SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE**

*Discussant*

American Political Science Association Annual Conference  
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference

2018  
2018

*Reviewer*

State Politics and Policy Quarterly

*Northwestern University, Department of Political Science- Evanston, IL*

Teaching Committee  
Graduate Student Organization Co-Chair  
American Politics Graduate Student Working Group Chair

AY 2015-2016  
AY 2014-2015  
AYS 2012-2014

**MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association