

Ashleigh Smith Powers
Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Work:
Department of Political Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Campus Box 3265
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3265

Home:
101 Rock Haven Road #506
Carrboro, NC 27510

Phone: (919) 933-3758 | **Email:** ashleigh@unc.edu | **Web:** www.unc.edu/~ashleigh

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, expected August 2006
Comprehensive exams in American Politics and Social Psychology (minor field)

Dissertation Topic: "The Deliberating Woman: A Framework for Assessing Social Powers within Political Deliberation" Committee: Pamela Conover (chair), Marco Steenbergen, Donald Searing, John Transue (Duke), and Lawrence Sanna (Psychology).

M.A., Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2004
Thesis: "Access and Beyond: The Social Forces that Constrain Women's Role within Public Deliberation." Pamela Johnston Conover, Advisor

B.A., Political Science, Furman University, *magna cum laude*, 2001
Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society
Highest honors for academic achievement in Political Science

PUBLICATIONS

Smith, Elizabeth S., Powers, Ashleigh Smith, and Gustavo Suarez. (2005) "If Bill Clinton were a woman: The effectiveness of male and female politicians' account strategies following alleged transgressions." *Political Psychology*, 26: 115-134.

TEACHING INTERESTS

American Government
State and Local Government
Political Behavior
Elections and Campaigns

Public Opinion
Women and Politics
Undergraduate Research Methods/Design
Politics of Social Movements and Groups

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Learning, Civic Education, Politics of Gender, Political Deliberation and Discussion, Political Psychology, Political Cognition

Dissertation abstract:

My dissertation examines the psychology of social power within deliberative democracy, concentrating in particular on the role of women within public discourse. In recent years, the practice of *deliberative democracy* among citizens has increased exponentially (c.f. Fiskin's

work with deliberative polling and conventions). From an empirical standpoint, however, there remains much to be discovered about the internal dynamics of deliberation; questions of who has social power within deliberation remain particularly underexplored. Are all perspectives equally valued, or do the same social hierarchies and norms that constrain public life more generally lead to the systematic underrepresentation of social and political minorities?

Preliminary analysis of survey and experimental data suggests that, within public discourse, women's perspectives are less understood and influential than those of men. Further, this lack of voice does not stem entirely from personal ambition or choice, but can be traced to social and institutional constraints that advantage men during public discourse.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Traditional Classroom Courses:

Spring 2006 (anticipated course schedule)

Introduction to General Psychology, Alamance Community College

State and Local Government, Alamance Community College

Fall 2005

Introduction to American Government, Alamance Community College

State and Local Government, Alamance Community College

Spring 2005

Introduction to State and Local Government, UNC-Chapel Hill

Fall 2004

Introduction to State and Local Government, UNC-Chapel Hill

Spring 2004

Introduction to State and Local Government, UNC-Chapel Hill

Instructor, Distance Learning Courses:

Spring 2006 (anticipated course schedule)

Introduction to American Government, Carolina Courses Online, UNC-Chapel Hill

Fall 2005

Introduction to American Government, Carolina Courses Online, UNC-Chapel Hill

Summer 2005

Political Psychology, Electronic Correspondence Course, UNC-Chapel Hill

Guest Lecturer:

Summer 2005

Political Psychology, for Professor Marco Steenbergen, UNC-Chapel Hill

Campaigns and Elections, for Professor Marco Steenbergen, UNC-Chapel Hill

Experiential Learning:

Designed and implemented simulation experiences in introductory level courses, UNC-Chapel Hill, Spring 2003-present

Service-learning Intern for Dr. Sheila Mann, Director of Education Services, American Political Science Association, Spring 2000

Designed service-learning assessment tools in conjunction with Dr. Elizabeth S. Smith, Furman University, Fall 1999; Spring 2000

Attended Service-learning workshop facilitated by Dr. Edward Zlotkowski, Furman University, Fall 1999

Other Instructional Training (all at UNC-Chapel Hill):

Graduate Seminar in Teaching Political Science, Dr. Kevin McGuire, professor, Spring 2005
Teaching Assistant
State and Local Government for Dr Virginia Gray, Spring 2002-Fall 2003
American Government for Dr. George Rabinowitz, Fall 2002
Women and Politics for Dr. Pamela Conover, Spring 2002

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

“The Deliberating Woman: An examination of the social forces that govern women's participation (or lack thereof) in public political discussions.”

CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Osama, Saddam, and Inferred Justification” with Monica Prasad, Andrew Perrin, Kim Maturuk, Kieran Bezila, Steve Hoffman, and Kate Kindleberger. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005.

“Working-Class Republicans and the Presidential Election of 2004: Does Class Still Count?” with Monica Prasad, Andrew Perrin, Kim Maturuk, Kieran Bezila, Steve Hoffman, and Kate Kindleberger. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 13-16, 2005.

“Motivated Reasoning and Information Management in the 2004 U.S. Election” with Monica Prasad, Andrew Perrin, Kim Maturuk, Kieran Bezila, Steve Hoffman, and Kate Kindleberger. Presented at the 28th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology, Toronto, Canada, July 3-6, 2005.

“The Deliberating Woman: An examination of the social forces that govern women's participation (or lack thereof) in public political discussions.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7-10, 2005.

"Access and Beyond: The Social Forces that Constrain Women's Role within Public Deliberation." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January, 2004.

"If Bill Clinton were a woman: The effectiveness of male and female politicians' account strategies following alleged transgressions." with Elizabeth Smith and Gus Suarez. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, 2000.

"Political Knowledge and Political Trust: A Statistical Analysis." Presented at the First Richard W. Riley Center Symposium for Undergraduate Research, Furman University, Greenville, SC, May, 2000.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fall 2004-present

Research Consultant to Dr. Andrew Perrin, Department of Sociology, UNC-CH

Spring and Summer 2002

Research Assistant to Dr. Pamela Conover and Dr. Donald Searing, UNC-CH

Summer 2000

Research Assistant to Dr. John L. Sullivan, University of Minnesota

1999-2000

Research Assistant to Dr. Elizabeth S. Smith, Furman University

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

UNC American Politics Research Group Summer Research Grant Summer 2002 and 2004

UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Political Science Conference Travel Grant, Spring 2005

Furman University Advantage Research Fellowship for summer study at the University of Minnesota, matching funds provided by the Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota, Summer 2000

Honored by faculty as the top graduating senior in political science, Furman University, Spring 2001

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Political Psychology and *Women and Politics* sections

Midwest Political Science Association

International Society for Political Psychology

Southern Political Science Association

REFERENCES

Dissertation Advisor

Dr. Pamela Johnston Conover
Professor of Political Science
UNC-Chapel Hill
Campus Box 3265
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3265
(919)962-0424
conover@email.unc.edu

Teaching Mentor

Dr. Virginia Gray
Robert Watson Winston Distinguished Professor
Department of Political Science
UNC-Chapel Hill
Campus Box 3265
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3265
(919)843-5602
vagrays@email.unc.edu

General Reference

Dr. Marco R. Steenbergen
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
UNC-Chapel Hill
Campus Box 3265
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3265
(919)962-0406
msteenbe@email.unc.edu

General Reference

Dr. Elizabeth S. Smith
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
Furman University
3300 Poinsett Highway
Greenville, S.C. 29613
(864) 294-3674
Liz.smith@furman.edu

General Reference

Dr. Andrew Perrin
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
UNC-Chapel Hill
Campus Box 3210
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3210
(919) 962-6876
andrew_perrin@unc.edu

