

**Maria J. Ovalle**  
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## **EDUCATION**

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**Florida International University** Miami, FL  
**Ph.D. Political Science** Expected Summer, 2026

- Research Interests: Latino political behavior, political communication, immigration policy attitudes, survey research.
- Dissertation: *“Latino Conversations: How Social Networks and Interactions Shape Latino Immigration Attitudes.”*
- Advisor: Dr. Eduardo Gamarra

**M.A. Political Science** Fall, 2023

**Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana** Medellin, Colombia  
**B.A. Political Science** Fall, 2020

## **EXTERNAL METHODS TRAINING**

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Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program for Quantitative Methods (ICPSR). University of Michigan, Summer 2024

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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John A. Garcia Scholarship Recipient Society for Political Methodology, 2024

- Used to attend the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Summer Program in Quantitative Methods at the University of Michigan.

Kevin A. Hill Research Travel Scholarship Recipient Florida International University, 2024

- Department of Political Science

Best Teaching Assistant Award Florida International University, 2023

- Department of Political Science

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

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- Casas, D & **Ovalle, M** (In progress) “Transnational Voting Patterns of Colombian and Ecuadorians living overseas.” To be submitted for publication Fall 2025.
- **Ovalle, M** & Quinn, G (In progress) “Challenging the Narrative: Latino Voting in Presidential Elections.” To be submitted for publication Fall 2025.
- **Ovalle, M.** (In progress) “Navigating Opposing Views: How Interpersonal Disagreement Shapes Immigration Attitudes among Latino Voters.” To be submitted for publication Spring 2026.
- **Ovalle, M.** (In progress) “Shared Identity, Framing, and Immigration Opinion Formation among Latinos.” Article manuscript in progress. To be submitted for publication Spring 2026.

- **Ovalle, M** (In progress). “Latino Political Discussions: How Patterns of Issue Contestation Shape Immigration Attitudes Among Latino Voters.” To be submitted for publication Spring 2026.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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American Government	<b>Florida International University</b> Fall, 2025 Summer, 2025
Latino Politics	<b>Florida International University</b> Spring, 2025

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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Latino Public Opinion Forum	<b>Florida International University</b> Fall 2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Working on survey design, analysis, and question translation to Spanish</li> </ul>	
International Protection Program (PPI)	<b>Universidad de Antioquia/ACNUR</b> Summer 2020-Spring 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research focused on identifying legislative shortcomings for the Venezuelan immigration crisis that took place in Colombia</li> </ul>	
Undergraduate Research Assistant	<b>Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana</b> Fall 2018-Fall 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conducted qualitative research on reintegration programs in Colombia, examining the historical political factors of the Colombian civil conflict and the resulting institutional developments.</li> </ul>	

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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**Ovalle, M** (2025). Latino Political Discussions: How Patterns of Issue Contestation Shape Immigration Attitudes Among Latino Voters.

- Paper presentation delivered at the American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Meeting, Vancouver Canada, September 2025.

**Ovalle, M.** & Quinn, G (2025). Challenging the Narrative: Latino Voting in Presidential Elections.

- Paper presentation delivered at the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC), Boulder CO, September 2025
- Paper presentation delivered at the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Annual Conference (AAPOR). St. Louis MO, April 2025.

**Ovalle, M** (2025). Visual Framing of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

- Paper presentation delivered at the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL, April 2025.

**Ovalle, M** (2024). The Transmission of Misinformation via Political Discussion Groups in the Latino community.

- Paper presentation delivered at the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC), Columbus OH, August 2024.

**Ovalle, M** (2024). Latino Partisanship in the United States: Influences on Changing Trends.

- Paper presentation delivered at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Bogotá Colombia, June 2024.

Gamarra, E & **Ovalle, M** (2024). Shifting Alliances: Are Hispanics Becoming More Republican?

- Paper presentation delivered at the Fourteenth Conference on Cuba and Cuban American Studies. Miami FL. February 2024.

## **INVITED PANELS.**

Participación Política y Electoral de los Migrantes. Universidad de Medellín. Medellín, Colombia. March 2024

Migraciones en la Diáspora Colombiana en el Sur de la Florida. Colombian Consulate in Miami, FL. May 2023.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Book Chapters***

- Restrepo, A; Cobaleda, S; & Ovalle M-J (2019). Capítulo Conclusiones Reintegración y resocialización en Colombia: Vulnerabilidad, reincidencia y comunidad. In *Reintegración y resocialización en Colombia Vulnerabilidad y prevención del delito*. Medellín: Editorial Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana.

### ***Academic Journals***

- Rodríguez Cabrera, N., & Ovalle Román, M. J. (2020). La condición del migrante irregular. Una reflexión de la noción “apátrida” desde Hannah Arendt y Giorgio Agamben. *Estudios De Derecho*, 77(169), 145-166.  
<https://doi.org/10.17533/udea.esde.v77n169a06>

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Academic Journal Reviewer**

- Political Behavior, 2025.

### **Session Chair**

- Participando aquí y allá: Debates sobre la participación política y electoral de los migrantes. Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Bogotá, Colombia, 2024.

## **LANGUAGES**

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- Spanish: Native
- English: Fluent
- French: Intermediate