**THESSALIA MERIVAKI**

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**EDUCATION**

*University of Florida*

Ph.D., Political Science, expected Spring 2016

Research Fields: American Politics, Political Methodology, and Public Policy

Doctoral Dissertation: *America Registers at Different Speeds: The Differential Administration of Voter Registration Reforms across the American States*.

Committee: Daniel A. Smith (Chair), Michael Martinez, David Hedge, Michael McDonald, Larry Kenny

M.A., Political Campaigning, 2011

*University of Sheffield, UK*

M.A., International Studies, 2008

*University of Macedonia, Greece*

B.A., Political Studies and Diplomacy, 2006

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Election Reform

Election Administration

Election Data Transparency

Electoral Institutions

Policy Analysis

Direct Democracy

Political Behavior

**PUBLICATIONS**

Michael P. McDonald, and Thessalia Merivaki. “Voter Turnout in Presidential Nominating Contests,” *The Forum* 13(4): 597-622.

Thessalia Merivaki and Daniel A. Smith. “Casting and Verifying Provisional Ballots in Florida,” *Social Science Quarterly* (Forthcoming).

**BOOK CHAPTERS**

Thessalia Merivaki, “Initiative, Referendum, and Recall.” 2016. *American Governance*, Stephen L. Schechter et al. ed. Vol. 3. Farmington Hills, Michigan: Macmillan Reference USA/Cengage Learning: 71-76.

**RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

Thessalia Merivaki, “Beyond NVRA Compliance: State Responses to the Demand for Voter Registration.”

Thessalia Merivaki and Daniel A. Smith, “The Contributions and Conundrums of Technology: The Election Administration and Voting Survey and Data Reporting Consistency.”

Thessalia Merivaki,”Who Registers? Explaining the Differential Rates of Voter Registration Across the States.”

Thessalia Merivaki and Enrijeta Shino, “More than a Dummy?: Youth Voter Participation and State Election Reforms.”

Thessalia Merivaki, “Explaining Voter Registration Rejections.”

Thessalia Merivaki and Charles Dahan, “Shiny Happy People? The Effects of Celebrity Endorsements on Knowledge Retention by Youth Voters.”

Thessalia Merivaki, “How the Cases You Choose Affect the Theory You Get: A Pseudo-Theory of Recall.”

Thessalia Merivaki, “Surviving the Cut: Towards a Causal Explanation of Recall Success.”

**CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

“The Contributions and Conundrums of Technology: The Election Administration and Voting Survey and Data Reporting Consistency.” The Evolution of Election Administration since the VRA 1965-2015 Symposium, Auburn, September 15, 2015.

“Some Register Better: Assessing County Variation in Voter Registration Rates in Florida,” State Politics and Policy Conference, Sacramento, May 28-30 2015.

“Who Registers? Assessing County Variation in Voter Registration Rates in Florida,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 15-19 2015.

“Is ‘Young’ More than a Bracket? : Youth Voter Participation and State Election Reforms,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 15-19 2015 (with Enrijeta Shino).

“More than a Bracket?: Youth Voter Participation and State Election Reforms,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, January 15-17 2015 (with Enrijeta Shino).

“Explaining Voter Registration Rejections,” State Politics and Policy Conference, Bloomington, May 12-15 2014.

“Partisanship or Electoral Politics? Casting and Verifying Provisional Ballots in Florida,” Symposium on Regulation in the U.S. States, Florida State University, Tallahassee, February 21 2014 (with Daniel A. Smith).

“Surviving the Cut: Towards a Causal Explanation of Recall Success,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Orlando, January 3-5, 2013.

“Casting and Verifying Provisional Ballots in Florida,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Orlando, January 3-5, 2013 (with Daniel A. Smith).

“Surviving the Cut: Towards a Causal Explanation of Recall Success,” Poster Session, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, April 11-13, 2013.

**INVITED TALKS**

Invited Talk, “Selecting the Next American President,” University of Macedonia, Greece, May 17, 2010.

Invited Talk, “Limitations of Online Voter Registration and Implications for Future Reforms,” Future of Florida: Political Action Summit, Bob Graham Center for Public Policy at the University of Florida, Gainesville, February 22, 2015.

**AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONORS**

*University of Florida*

Department of Political Science Travel Grant (Spring 2013; Spring 2014; Spring 2015)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Travel Grant (Summer 2015)

Graduate Student Council Travel Grant (Spring 2013, Spring 2015)

Bob Graham Center for Public Service, Civic Challenge Award (Summer 2013)

Certificate of Outstanding Achievement, University of Florida International Center (Spring 2010)

*Gerontelis Foundation*

Graduate Fellowship (Summer 2010)

**NEWSPAPER OP-EDS**

“The big cost of using big data in elections,” *The Washington Post*, October 18, 2015 (with Michael McDonald and Peter Licari).

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant, University of Florida

* Professor Michael P. McDonald (Spring 2015)
* Professor Daniel A. Smith (Fall 2011, Summer 2014)
* Center for European Studies (Spring 2010, Summer 2013, Fall 2013-Summer 2014)

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, University of Florida

* PUP 3002- Current Controversies in Public Policy (Spring 2016)
* EUS 2003- The European Experience: A Social Science Perspective (Fall 2015)
* PUP 3002- Current Controversies in Public Policy (Fall 2014)
* POS 4931/EUS4930-Political Engagement Research (Summer A 2014)
* GRK 1130 - Modern Greek I (Fall 2009, Fall 2010)
* GRK 1131 - Modern Greek II (Spring 2010)

Teaching Assistant, University of Florida

* IUF 1000- What is the Good Life? (Fall 2015)
* POS 2112 – State and Local Government (Fall 2013)
* POS 6747 – Linear Models (Spring 2014)
* POS 3204 – Political Behavior (Fall 2012)
* POS 2041 – American Federal Government (Spring 2013, Summer B 2014, Summer A 2015)

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Project Manager, University of Florida

* Forum on Conducting Florida Elections, funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts and the Democracy Fund, Department of Political Science (Spring 2015)
* Trans-Saharan Elections Project, funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Center for African Studies (Spring 2010-Summer 2012)

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

*University of Florida*

Co-President, Graduate Assistants United (Spring 2015-)

International Student Chair, Graduate Assistants United (Fall 2014, Spring 2015)

Secretary, Political Science Graduate Student Council (Spring 2011)

Political Science Junior Fellows Program (Spring 2016)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

State Politics and Policy

**REFERENCES**Daniel A. Smith, Professor ([dasmith@ufl.edu](mailto:dasmith@ufl.edu))

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Michael P. McDonald, Associate Professor ([michael.mcdonald@ufl.edu](mailto:michael.mcdonald@ufl.edu))

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David Hedge, Professor ([dhedge@ufl.edu](mailto:dhedge@ufl.edu))

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