

# Amber Lusvardi

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## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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### University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science 2022-present

### Purdue University

Independent Instructor, Department of Political Science 2019–2022

Research Assistant, Feminist Mobilization and Economic Empowerment Project 2017–2020

Grant Funding: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, PI: S. Laurel Weldon

### Millikin University

Instructor, Department of History and Political Science 2016–2021

Lecturer, Department of History and Political Science 2014–2016

### Eastern Illinois University

Instructor, Department of Political Science 2008–2010

## EDUCATION

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### Purdue University

Ph.D., Political Science 2022

Dissertation: The End of the Child Bride: Social Movements, Strategic Actions, and State Level Policymaking on Underage Marriage

Fields: American Politics, Public Policy

### Eastern Illinois University

M.A., Political Science 2007

Master's thesis: Off the Welfare Rolls and Back into Poverty: A Look at 11 Years of Illinois Welfare Reform

Advisor: Melinda Mueller

B.A., Journalism 2003

## PUBLICATIONS

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### JOURNAL ARTICLES

**Lusvardi, Amber.** 2024. "‘Sorry that Happened to You’: Testifying, Trauma, and the Politics of Child Marriage in the United States." *Journal of Women, Politics, and Policy*

<https://doi.org/10.1080/1554477X.2024.2323757>

Kelly-Thompson, Kaitlin, **Amber Lusvardi**, Summer Forester, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2024. "Dimensions of Transnational Feminism: Autonomous Organizing and Agenda-Setting in Global Civil Society." *Perspectives on Politics* <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592724000677>

Weldon, S. Laurel, **Amber Lusvardi**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and Summer Forester. 2023. "Feminist Waves, Global Activism, and Gender Regimes: The Genealogy and Impact of a Global Wave." *Women's Studies International Forum* 99: 1-10.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2023. "Confronting *Femicidio* in Mexico: Pioneering Anthropologist and Activist Marcela Lagarde y de los Ríos." *Gender & Development* 31(1): 247-249

Hoewe, Jennifer, Janel Jett, **Amber Lusvardi**, and Eric Wiemer. 2022. "Selection, Trust, and the Effects of Cable News Consumption." *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* 100(2): 392-415

Forester, Summer, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, **Amber Lusvardi**, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2022. "New Dimensions of Global Feminist Influence: Tracking Feminist Mobilization Worldwide, 1975-2015." *International Studies Quarterly* 66(1): 1-12  
*Equal authorship*

Datta, Srijani, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, Summer Forester, **Amber Lusvardi**, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2022. "Domestic Workers from Margin to Center: Pandemic Politics, Protest, and Policy." *Journal of Cultural Research* 26(1): 39-64  
*Equal authorship*

### **REVISE AND RESUBMIT**

Kelly-Thompson, Kaitlin, and **Amber Lusvardi**. 2024. "Transgender Bodies are the Battleground: Backlash, Threat, and the Future of Queer Rights in the United States."  
*Equal authorship*

### **UNDER REVIEW**

Hoewe, Jennifer, Diana Zulli, Phillip Arceneaux, and **Amber Lusvardi**. 2024. "Political Pets: The Pawsitive Effects of Dogs in Politicians' Social Media Posts."

### **BOOK CHAPTERS**

**Lusvardi, Amber** and Terri Towner. 2020. "Twitter Engagement with C-SPAN Videos: A Wink and a Nod to Non-Verbal Cues." In *President Trump's First Term: The Year in C-SPAN Archives Research*, ed. Robert X. Browning. Purdue University Press.

Kelly-Thompson, Kaitlin, **Amber Lusvardi**, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2019. “[Transnational Opportunities for Activism against Gender Violence](#).” In *Handbook on Gender and Violence*, ed. Laura Shepherd. Edward Elgar Publishers.

#### *FORTHCOMING*

**Lusvardi, Amber**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2024. “Transnational Perspectives on Gender Violence: Opportunities and Challenges.” In *Handbook on Gender and Violence*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., eds. Caitlin Biddolph, Sian Perry, Jihyun Kim, and Laura Shepherd. Edward Elgar Publishers.

#### *WEB-BASED PUBLICATIONS*

**Lusvardi, Amber** and Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson. 2023. “Interrogating Gender, Interrogating Girlhood: State Legislatures and the Battle for Trans Rights.” *Feminist Perspectives*

#### *BACKGROUND PAPER*

Weldon, S. Laurel, Shireen Hassim, Srijani Datta, Frederica de Sisto, Helia Doutaghi, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, **Amber Lusvardi**, and Summer Forester. 2020. “[Women’s Informal Participation in Political and Public Life and Space: Global Trends and Challenges](#).” UN Women. Expert Group Meeting. Sixty-Fifth Session on the Commission on the Status of Women.

#### *POPULAR PRESS*

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2021. “[Behind the Gaetz Scandal, There’s a Bigger Issue: Most States have Loopholes that Let Men Exploit Teenage Girls](#).” *Washington Post: The Monkey Cage*. (Top ten most read post of 2021)

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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Whitburn Center Community-Engaged Course Development Award	2024
Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership Research Grant	2023
Best Dissertation Award, American Political Science Association, State Politics and Policy Section	2023
Undergraduate Student/Faculty Collaborate Research Small Grants, UW Oshkosh	2022
CLA Distinguished Dissertation Award Finalist, Purdue University	2022
Graduate Peer-Reviewed Publication Award, Purdue University	2022
Carsey Scholar Travel Award, State Politics and Policy Conference	2022
Ross-Lynn Research Scholar Fellowship, Purdue University	2021
Clare De Cleene Scholarship, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Purdue University	2021
Exceptional Teaching and Instructional Support during Covid-19 Award, Purdue University	2021
Berenice A. Carroll Feminism, Peace, and Social Justice Award, Purdue University	2021
American Political Science Association Travel Award	2021
Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association	2019
PROMISE Award, Purdue University	2019, 2021

C-SPAN Archives Research Grant	2018
Advisor of the Year, Millikin University	2017
Forrest W. Howell Scholarship in Public Administration, Eastern Illinois University	2007

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

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Kelly-Thompson, Kaitlin, and **Amber Lusvardi**. 2024. "Protecting 'Girls,' Defining Girlhood: Anti-Trans Legislation in the U.S. States." European Conference on Politics and Gender. Ghent, Belgium.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Srijani Datta, **Amber Lusvardi**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and Summer Forester. 2024. "Domestic Workers at the Nexus of International Law and Civil Society." European Conference on Politics and Gender. Ghent, Belgium.

**Lusvardi, Amber** and Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson. 2024. "Protecting 'Girlhood': Framing Trans Issues in State Legislatures." Western Political Science Association Conference. Vancouver, BC.

Hoewe, Jennifer, Diana Zulli, Phillip Arceneaux, and **Amber Lusvardi**. 2024. "Political Pets: The Pawsitive Effect of Dogs in Politicians' Social Media Posts." International Communication Association. Gold Coast, Australia.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2024. "Citizen Representation in Wisconsin Energy Policy." Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Chicago, IL.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2024. "Representation of Wisconsin Energy Policy: Analysis of State Advocacy on the Line 5 Project." Southern Political Science Association Conference. New Orleans, LA.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Srijani Datta, **Amber Lusvardi**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and Summer Forester. 2023. "Intersectionality and the International Dimensions of Social Reproduction." American Political Science Association Labor Politics Workshop. Online.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Srijani Datta, **Amber Lusvardi**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and Summer Forester. 2023. "Intersectionality and the International Dimensions of Social Reproduction." Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Chicago, Illinois.

**Lusvardi, Amber**, and Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson. 2023. "Exclusionary Politics in the States: Anti-Trans Legislation and the Marginalization of Movement Voices." Southern Political Science Association Conference. St. Pete Beach, Florida.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2022. "Autonomy, Minors, and the Feminist Agenda: Gender Issues in the States." State Politics and Policy Conference. Tallahassee, Florida.

**Lusvardi, Amber**, and Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson. 2022. "Pandemic Policymaking and the Politics of Exclusion: Anti-Trans Legislation in the U.S. States during the Covid Pandemic." State Politics and Policy Conference. Tallahassee, Florida.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2021. "Ending the Child Bride: State Legislative Action on Low-Salience Gender Issues." American Political Science Association Conference, Seattle, Washington.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Srijani Datta, **Amber Lusvardi**, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and Summer Forester. 2021. "Intersectionality and the International Dimensions of Social Reproduction." American Political Science Association Conference, Seattle, Washington.

**Lusvardi, Amber**, Janel Jett, and Donald E. Snyder. 2021. "Diverging Narratives: Climate Change Issue Frames by Gender in the United States Congress." Networks 2021: A Joint Conference of Sunbelt and NetSci, Online.

Kelly-Thompson, Kaitlin, **Amber Lusvardi**, Summer Forester, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2021. "When and How Does Transnational Feminism Promote Gender Justice?" International Feminist Journal of Politics Conference, Online.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2021. "'Be the Hero We Need': Social Movements and Paternalistic Frames on Child Marriage." Southern Political Science Association Conference, Online.

Datta, Srijani, **Amber Lusvardi**, Summer Forester, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2020. "Domestic Workers from Margin to Center: Old Solidarities, New Solidarities, and Pandemic Politics in India." American Political Science Association, Online.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, **Amber Lusvardi**, and Summer Forester. 2020. "Transnational Feminist Politics: New Measures and Findings." Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Online.

**Lusvardi, Amber**. 2020. "'Altared' States: Group Representation, Women's Interests, and Child Marriage in the 50 U.S. States." Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Hoewe, Jennifer, **Amber Lusvardi**, Eric Wiemer, and Janel Jett. 2020. "The Influence of Fox News: A Lack of Counter-arguing and an Increase in Persuasive Effects." Southern Political Science Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Summer Forester, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and **Amber Lusvardi**. 2019. "Handmaidens or Heroes? Feminist Mobilization as a Force for Economic Equality around the World." European Conference on Politics and Gender, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Towner, Terri, **Amber Lusvardi**, Bruce Bimber, Shelley Boulianne, and Karolina Koc-Michalska. 2019. "Twitter as Presidential Communication: Public Perceptions of Trump's Tweets." International Communication Association, Washington D.C.

**Lusvardi, Amber,** and Terri Towner. 2019. “Nonverbal Cues in Congressional Speeches: A Wink and a Nod to Twitter Engagement.” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois.

Jett, Janel, **Amber Lusvardi,** and Eric Wiemer. 2019. “‘Believe Survivors’ or ‘Enough Already’: How Elite Discourse Shapes Public Understanding of Focusing Events.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

Weldon, S. Laurel, Summer Forester, Kaitlin Kelly-Thompson, and **Amber Lusvardi.** 2019. “Handmaidens or Heroes? Feminist Mobilization as a Force for Economic Equality around the World.” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois.

**Lusvardi, Amber,** and Terri Towner. 2018. “Nonverbal Cues in Congressional Speeches: A Wink and a Nod to Twitter Engagement.” C-SPAN Research Conference, West Lafayette, Indiana.

## **COURSES TAUGHT (SELECTED)**

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**University of Wisconsin Oshkosh:** Introduction to American Government, Introduction to Comparative Politics, International Politics, Policy Analysis, American Public Policy, Sex, Power, and Policy

**Purdue University:** Women, Politics, and Public Policy

**Millikin University:** American Political System, State and Local Government, Campaigns and Elections, Media and Politics, Topics in Public Policy, Gender and Politics, Model Illinois Government

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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### **Reviewer**

*PS: Political Science and Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, European Journal of Women’s Studies, Media and Communication, Politics, Groups, and Identities, International Journal of Communication, Oshkosh Scholar*

### **Workshop organizer**

Co-organizer, Transnational Feminist Movement Conference, Simon Fraser University 2019

### **Chair**

Panel: Local and Urban Politics, SPSA 2024

Panel: LGBTQ Politics, SPSA 2023

### **Discussant**

Panel: Identity and Legislative Politics, Women in Legislative Studies 2024

Panel: Inequality and Public Policy, MPSA 2023

Panel: Race, Place, and Identity in State Politics and Policy, APSA	2021
Panel: Modes of Representation, APSA	2021
Panel: Understanding Gender and Opinions on Elite Behavior, CCSE	2020
Panel: Political Psychology and Gendered Interactions, SPSA	2020
Gender Politics in the U.S. Undergraduate Poster Session, MPSA	2017

### **Experiential Learning**

Model Illinois Government Executive Committee (faculty)	2021
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## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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### **University of Wisconsin Oshkosh**

Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Department of Political Science	2022–present
McNair Scholars Mentor	2024–present
Cooperative Academic Program Partnership Liaison, Political Science	2024–present
Advisor, Political Science Club	2022–2023
<i>Advance-Titan</i> Board of Directors, Faculty Representative	2023–present
Women and Gender Studies Steering Committee	2023–present
Steering Committee, Fox Cities Campus	2023–present
Dean’s Advisory Board	2023–present

### **Purdue University**

Search Committee Member, Assistant Professor, American Institutions	2021
Mentoring & Recruitment Director, Political Science Graduate Student Association	2018–2020

### **Millikin University**

Gender Studies Minor Committee Chair	2015–2018
Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha	2014–2018
Faculty Advisor, Sigma Lambda Gamma	2013–2018

## **COMMUNITY AND UNIVERSITY TALKS**

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- “Time’s Up: The Marginalization of Transgender Movement Voices in Legislative Debate.” 2024. University of Wisconsin Madison, American Politics Workshop.
- “The Dobbs Decision: One Year Later.” (Panel). 2023. University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.
- “Budgets, Ballparks, and Ballot Boxes: Why States Matter.” 2023. University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.
- “I (Heart) Feminist Research.” (Panel). 2023. University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.
- “Finding Civil Discourse in a Polarized World.” 2022. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur.
- “The Politics of Child Marriage in the United States.” 2021. Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Purdue University.
- “Child Marriage: An American Dilemma.” 2020. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur.
- “Reflecting on the Election.” (Panel). 2020. Purdue University.

“100 Years of Women’s Suffrage.” (Panel). 2019. Millikin University.  
“The Nine: Implications and Possibilities of a New Supreme Court.” 2019. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur.  
“Nevertheless, She Persisted:’ How Women Make a Difference in Government.” 2018. American Association of University Women, Decatur Branch.  
“Nevertheless, She Persisted:’ How Women Make a Difference in Government.” 2017. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur.  
“Alexander Hamilton: From Immigrant to American Icon.” 2017. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur.  
“American Politics and Leadership: Best Practices and Cautionary Tales.” 2016. Millikin University, Millikin Interdisciplinary Faculty Conference.  
Candidate Academy Panel Participant. 2016. Macon County Chamber of Commerce Academy of Political Leadership.  
“60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown v. Board Decision.” 2014. Millikin University.

## **RESEARCH SKILLS**

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### **Software**

STATA, SPSS, R, UCINet, NodeXL, Nvivo

### **Languages**

English (native), Spanish (intermediate)

### **Methods Training**

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

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United Training, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh	2022
ADVANCE-Purdue	2021
Online Learning, Purdue University	2020
Certificate, Understanding Diversity and Inclusion, Purdue University	2019
Safe Zone, basic and advanced, Millikin University	2016

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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American Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Southern Political Science Association