

# ROBERT VIDIGAL

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Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP)  
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Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37203

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

SENIOR STATISTICIAN, July 2024 - Current  
Latin American Public Opinion Project ([LAPOP](#)).  
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

RESEARCH DATA SCIENTIST, February 2022 - July 2024  
Center for Social Media and Politics ([CSMaP](#)).  
New York University, New York City, NY

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in POLITICAL SCIENCE, May 2022  
Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

M.A., POLITICAL SCIENCE, May 2016  
B.A., POLITICAL SCIENCE, August 2013  
University of Brasília, Brazil

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Psychology & Race and Ethnicity  
Comparative Political Behavior & Authoritarianism  
Experimental Research & Item Response Theory  
Computational Methods & Network-Analysis

## GRANTS & AWARDS

- [5] *YouGov's Scientific Research Group*, United States.  
Selected pre-registered research design on Web Survey Methods. March, 2024.
- [4] *National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)*, Brasília, Brazil.  
Research Grant (421077/2022-0), Co-PI (with A. Borges & M. Turgeon), R\$396,000. 2022-2024.
- [3] *Department of Political Science*, Stony Brook University, NY.  
Internal Departmental Funding: US\$9,300. Research Grant, 2021.
- [2] *Society for Political Methodology (POLMETH): John A. Garcia Award for Latino students*.  
ICPSR Summer Program Scholarship, registration fees \$3,800, University of Michigan. 2019.
- [1] *National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)*, Brasília, Brazil.  
Federal govt. two-year fellowship in Public Opinion & Political Behavior. 2014-2015.

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- [5] **VIDIGAL, Robert**. 2024. Measuring Belief Certainty in Political Knowledge. *Political Behavior*. [View here](#)
- [4] VITRIOL, J., SANDOR, J., FARHART, C. 2023. On the independent roles of Cognitive and Political Sophistication: Variation across attitudinal objects. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 37(2), pp.319-331. [View here](#)
- [3] **VIDIGAL, Robert**; JERIT, Jennifer. 2022. Issue Importance and the Correction of Misinformation. *Political Communication*, 39(6), pp.715-736. [View here](#)
- [2] **VIDIGAL, Robert**. 2022. Authoritarianism and Right-wing Voting in Brazil. *Latin American Research Review*. 57 (3), 554-572. doi:10.1017/lar.2022.32. [View here](#)
- [1] **VIDIGAL, Robert**. 2018. Affirmative Actions Attitudes of Whites: Evidence from a List-experiment Survey in Brazil. *Brazilian Political Science Review*. vol. 12, no 2. [View here](#)

<b>BOOK CHAPTERS</b>	<p>[3] BORGES, André; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2024. "Progressive Policy Change, Cultural Backlash and Party Polarization in Latin America." <i>In: The Recasting of the Political Right: Polarization and conservative reaction in Latin America</i>. Edited by: André Borges, Ryan Lloyd, and Gabriel Vommaro. Cambridge University Press (CUP). <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[2] COTTER, Ryan G.; LODGE, Milton, <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2020. When, How, and Why Persuasion Fails: A Motivated Reasoning Account. <i>In: The Oxford Handbook of Electoral Persuasion</i>. Edited by Elizabeth Suhay, Bernard Grofman, and Alexander H. Trechsel. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[1] COTTER, Ryan G.; LODGE, Milton, <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2020. The Boundary Conditions of Motivated Reasoning. <i>In: The Oxford Handbook of Electoral Persuasion</i>. Edited by Elizabeth Suhay, Bernard Grofman, and Alexander H. Trechsel. <a href="#">View here</a></p>
<b>EDITED VOLUMES</b>	<p>[1] BORGES, André; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2023. Understanding the New Brazilian Right: Polarization, Populism and Antipetismo. Zouk Publishing. ISBN: 9786557781234. <a href="#">View here</a></p>
<b>ONGOING RESEARCH</b>	<p>Spanish social media use predicts false political beliefs in U.S. Latinos. <i>Conditionally accepted at PNAS-NEXUS</i>. (with M. Abrajano and CSMAp colleagues)</p> <p>Issue Frames Under Multiple Information Environments. <i>Review &amp; Resubmit at Political Behavior</i>. (co-authored with W. Gramacho and M. Stabile)</p> <p>Latino Political Engagement and Activity on Social Media. <i>Under review</i>. (co-authored with Marisa Abrajano, Marianna Garcia, and CSMAp colleagues)</p> <p>Yay or Nay? Using Political Speech to predict the 2016 Brazilian Impeachment vote. <i>Under review</i>. (solo-authored)</p>
<b>PEER-REVIEWED WORKS IN PORTUGUESE</b>	<p>[6] PEREIRA FILHO, Álvaro; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2023. Lesser-of-two-evils? Partisan Identity and Ambivalence in the Brazilian Electorate. <i>OPINIÃO PÚBLICA, Campinas</i>, vol. 29, nro 3, sep.-dez. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[5] MUNDIM, Pedro S; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>; MICHELOTTI, Fernando C; JÁCOMO, André P. 2019. Cash-transfer programs, Information, and Prejudice: An Experimental Analysis. <i>Revista do Serviço Público</i> 70(4):551-575. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[4] BORGES, André; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2018. From Lulism to antipetism? Polarization, party identity and voting in the Brazilian presidential elections. <i>OPINIÃO PÚBLICA, Campinas</i>, vol. 24, nro 1, jan.-abr. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[3] <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>; PEREIRA FILHO, Álvaro João. 2017. Education and Political knowledge: two sides of the same coin or different currencies? <i>Revista em Tese</i>, v. 14, n. 1, jan.-jul. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[2] PORTO, Nathália F. F; <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2016. The Racial Democracy Myth and non-support for race-targeted policies in Brazil. <i>Encuentro Latinoamericano: Revista de Ciencia Política</i>. Vol. 3 No. 2. <a href="#">View here</a></p> <p>[1] <b>VIDIGAL, Robert</b>. 2015. Measuring Social Sensitive Issues: A List-Experiment on Affirmative Action. <i>Revista Eletrônica de Ciência Política - RECP</i>, v. 6, p. 205-219. <a href="#">View here</a></p>
<b>OTHER WRITING</b>	<p>[1] "Latinos who use Spanish-language social media get more misinformation." Marisa A. Abrajano, Marianna Garcia, Aaron Pope, <b>Robert Vidigal</b>, Joshua Tucker and Jonathan Nagler. <i>The Washington Post</i> (The Monkey Cage), November 8, 2022. <a href="#">View here</a></p>

**ADDITIONAL METHODS TRAINING** APSA Political Networks Workshop, University of Exeter, Summer 2023 (15h)  
 Web interfaces with HTML, CSS and JavaScript, IME-USP Winter School 2022 (30h)  
 Computational Social Science, Université de Montréal, SICSS Summer School 2020 (30h)  
 Advanced Network Analysis, University of Michigan, ICPSR 2019 (60h)  
 Structural Equation Modeling, University of Michigan, ICPSR 2019 (60h)  
 Social Networks, RECSM-UPF Barcelona 2018 (15h)  
 Machine Learning for Social Sciences, RECSM-UPF Barcelona 2018 (15h)  
 Social Media and Big Data Research, RECSM-UPF Barcelona 2018 (15h)  
 Predicting Elections, IPSA-USP Summer School 2017 (20h)  
 Pooled Time Series Analyses, IPSA-USP Summer School 2016 (20h)  
 Introduction to Big Data, CPEQS-UFGM Winter School 2015 (15h)  
 Game Theory and Applications for Political Science, IPSA-USP Summer School 2015 (20h)  
 Causality and Experimental Analysis, CPEQS-UFGM Winter School 2014 (15h)  
 Categorical Data Analysis, CPEQS-UFGM Winter School 2014 (15h)

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE** *Stony Brook University*  
 Instructor POL-103: Introduction to Comparative Politics, Spring 2021, 2022.  
 Instructor POL-344: American Pol. Ideology & Public Opinion, Spring-Summer 2020, 2021  
 Instructor POL-504: Research Design (Masters in Political Psychology), Fall 2020  
 Teaching Assistant POL-604: Maximum likelihood estimation (PhD Level), Fall 2019, 2021

*University of Brasília, Brazil*  
 Instructor IPO-0029: Introduction to R for Political Scientists, Winter 2021  
 Instructor IPO-185205: Research Methods in Political Science, Winter 2015

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** *Stony Brook University*  
 Research Assistant, Prof. Vittorio Merola, Fall 2018 to Spring 2019  
 Research Assistant, Prof. Milton Lodge, Fall 2017 to Spring 2018

*University of Brasília, Brazil*  
 Research Assistant, Prof. André Borges, Spring 2016 to Spring 2017  
 Dataset of Parties, Elections and Ideology in Latin America (DPEILA).

*Université de Montréal, Canada*  
 Lab Assistant, Prof. Patrick Fournier, Summer 2016  
 Negativity Biases in Reactions to Network News: A Cross-National, Psychophysiological Pilot Study

**INVITED TALKS** *Measuring Belief Certainty in Political Surveys.* University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Survey Research Seminar, Prof. Alexander Theodoridis. April, 2024.

*Measuring Uncertainty in Political Behavior.* University of Santa Catarina. Núcleo Interdisciplinar em Políticas Públicas (NIPP). October 2022.

*Advancing the Measurement of Political Knowledge.* University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). Centro de Estudos de Comportamento Político (CECOMP). November 2022.

*2022 Brazilian Elections: Presidential Runoff Overview.* Stony Brook University. Institute for Globalization Studies (IGS). October 2022.

*Progressive Policy Change, and Party Polarization in Latin America.* University of Brasília (UnB). Department of Political Science. August, 2021.

*Measuring Socially Sensitive Topics in Public Opinion.* University of Santa Catarina (UFSC). Undergraduate Program Debate: Affirmative Action in Brazil. March, 2016.

**STUDENT COMMITTEES** Dissertation Committee, Member, Miaofang Guan (University of São Paulo, 2022)  
 Undergraduate Honor's Thesis, Member, Isabela Dantas (University of Brasília, 2023)

**LANGUAGES** PORTUGUESE (native), SPANISH (fluent), ENGLISH (fluent).

**REFEREE** Public Opinion Quarterly; Political Communication; Communication Methods and Measures; Computational Communication Research; British Journal of Political Science; PLOS ONE; Social Science Research; Brazilian Political Science Review; Revista Brasileira de Ciência Política; Opinião Pública; Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública; PADEIA.

## REFERENCES

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Stanley Feldman  
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