

# Mary Layton Atkinson

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## Education

- Ph.D., May 2013.** Political Science. UNC-Chapel Hill.  
Major Field: American Politics, Minor Field: Methodology.
- M.A., May 2008.** Political Science. The American University.
- B.A., May 2004.** Economics and Political Science. Guilford College.

## Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, July 2020–present.  
Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, July 2013–June 2020.

## Research and Teaching Interests

The politics of policymaking, public opinion, agenda setting, political communication, issue framing, women in politics, text as data.

## Publications

### Refereed Books and Chapters

**Atkinson, Mary Layton, K. Elizabeth Coggins, James A. Stimson, and Frank R. Baumgartner.** 2021. *The Dynamics of Public Opinion*. Elements in American Politics. Cambridge University Press.

Press Coverage: The New York Times

**Atkinson, Mary Layton.** 2017. *Combative Politics: The Media and Public Perceptions of Lawmaking*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Reviewed in: *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Perspectives on Politics*, and *Congress and the Presidency*.

Press Coverage: Five Thirty Eight, The Science of Politics Podcast

Schaffner, Brian F. and **Mary Layton Atkinson.** 2009. "Taxing Death or Estates? When Frames Influence Citizens' Issue Beliefs," In *Winning With Words: The Origins and Impact of Political Framing*, Edited by Brian F. Schaffner and Patrick J. Sellers. Routledge Press.

## Refereed Articles

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**, Reza Mousavi, and Jason Harold Windett. “Detecting diverse perspectives: using text analytics to reveal sex differences in congressional debate about defense” *Political Research Quarterly*. Forthcoming.

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**. 2020. “Gender and Policy Agendas in the Post-War House.” *Policy Studies Journal*. 48(1): 133-156.

**Atkinson, Mary Layton** and Jason Harold Windett. 2019. “Gender Stereotypes and the Policy Priorities of Women in Congress.” *Political Behavior*. 41(3): 769–789.

Press Coverage: The New York Times, LegBranch Blog.

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**, John Lovett and Frank R. Baumgartner. 2014. “Measuring The Media Agenda,” *Political Communication*, 31(2): 355-380.

Summary article featured on Harvard’s Shorenstein Center website.

## Essays and Book Reviews

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**. 2020 *Fox Populism: Branding Conservatism as Working Class*, by Reece Peck and *Framing Inequality: News Media, Public Opinion, and the Neoliberal Turn in U.S. Public Policy*, by Matt Guardino for *Perspectives on Politics*. 18(2): 621-623.

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**. 2020. *A Nation Fragmented: The Public Agenda in the Information Age*, by Jill A. Edy and Patrick C. Meirick for *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 84(1): 171-174.

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**. 2018. “Real News, Fake News: For Lawmakers, No News is Good News.” *Extensions: A Journal of the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center*. Winter 2018.

## Works in Progress

Christensen, Scott and **Mary Layton Atkinson**. “Sex, Race, and the 2020 Democratic Primary Debates.” (Article manuscript in preparation.)

**Atkinson, Mary Layton**. “Gender, Race, and News Coverage of the 2020 Democratic Primaries.” (Article manuscript in preparation.)

Windett, Jason H., Samira Shaikh, Ben Radford, Zhuo Cheng, **Mary Layton Atkinson**, Stephanie Moller, and Nathaniel Birkhead. “The Impact of Gender on Responses to Covid-19: Evidence from the U.S.” (Article manuscript in preparation.)

**Mary Layton Atkinson** and Ben Radford. “Measuring the Ideology of Major Laws.”

**Atkinson, Mary Layton** and Jason H. Windett. “Descriptive Representation on the House Floor: How Women and Men Debate Masculinized Issues.”

## Conference Presentations Since 2012

Christensen, Scott and Mary Layton Atkinson. “Sex, Race, and the 2020 Democratic Primary Debates.” Presented at the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

Atkinson, Mary Layton, Reza Mousavi and Jason H. Windett. "Detecting diverse perspectives: using text analytics to reveal sex differences in Congressional debate about defense." Accepted to the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago IL. Paper accepted but conference canceled due to pandemic.

Atkinson, Mary Layton, Reza Mousavi, and Jason H. Windett. "Women at War: How Gender Shapes Congressional Debate on Defense and Foreign Affairs." Presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago IL.

Atkinson, Mary Layton. "Diversity and Policy Agendas in the Post-War House." Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 1-4, 2016 in Philadelphia, PA.

Atkinson, Mary Layton. "Broken Politics: How Perceptions of Process Influence Policy Support." Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Jan 7-9, 2016 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Atkinson, Mary Layton and Jason Harold Windett. "Preemptive Masculinity? Electoral Security and the Strategic Legislative Behavior of Women in Congress." Mentoring Conference for New Research on Gender in Political Psychology. Oct 9-12, 2014 in Wooster, OH.

Atkinson, Mary Layton. "Gender and Policy Agendas in the House of Representatives." Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 11-14, 2013 in Chicago, IL.

Chaqués-Bonafont, Laura and Mary Layton Atkinson. "Gender Differences in Policy Priorities: Analyzing Oral Questions in Spain and the United States." Presented at the European Conference on Politics and Gender, March 21-23, 2013 in Barcelona, Spain.

Atkinson, Mary Layton. "Broken Politics? The Influence of Partisan Debate on Individual Attitudes," Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 30–September 2, 2012 in New Orleans, LA.

Coggins, Elizabeth K., James A. Stimson, Mary Layton Atkinson and Frank R. Baumgartner. "Absolute and Relative Opinion Change," Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 14-16, 2012 in Reims, France.

Atkinson, Mary Layton. "Partisan Conflict and Policy Attitudes: Same-Sex Marriage Referenda and Increased Opposition to the Federal Marriage Amendment," Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 12-15, 2012 in Chicago, IL.

## **Courses Taught**

Introduction to American Politics, Women and Politics, Media and Politics, Senior Seminar: The Politics of Spin.

## **Professional Development Workshops Attended**

"Instructional Material, Universally Designed," UNCC CTL, Sep 12, 2018.

"Starting with a Fresh Canvas," UNCC CTL, Dec 14, 2017.

"Canvas Assignments and Grade Book," UNCC CTL, Nov 29, 2017.

"Transitioning to Turning Point Version 5," UNCC CTL, Aug 13, 2013.

"Teaching with Clickers," UNCC CTL, Aug 7, 2013.

“Text Classification with R Text Tools,” UNC-CH, Feb 6–7, 2012.

“Tools for Text Workshop,” The University of Washington, June 14–15, 2010.

## Service & Associations

### Service to the Discipline

Reviewer for the *American Journal of Political Science*, the *American Political Science Review*, *European Political Science*, the *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Oxford University Press*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Research and Politics*, and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*.

Committee Member, APSA Political Communication Section Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award Committee, 2021.

Member, Midwest Political Science Association, 2008–Present.

Member, American Political Science Association, 2008–Present.

### University Service

UNC Charlotte Liaison to the Free Expression and Constructive Dialogue Project, 2021/22 academic year.

Personally Speaking Selection Committee Member. Fall 2019–Spring 2021. (Chair for 2020/21 academic year).

Affiliated Faculty, Women and Gender Studies Program. Fall 2013–Present.

Affiliated Faculty, Public Policy Program. Spring 2019–Present.

Personally Speaking Series Speaker. November 1, 2018.

Research Committee Member, Women and Girls Research Alliance. Fall 2013–2016.

Charlotte Research Scholars Mentor. Summer 2020 and Summer 2016.

### Department Service

Department Review Committee Member: Fall 2020–Spring 2023.

Department Review Committee Junior Member: 2018/19 academic year.

POLS Undergraduate Assessment Committee: Fall 2020–Spring 2021.

Undergraduate Thesis Committees: Myia LeGrande (Chair, 2021/22 academic year), Ana Perez Ochoa (2021/22 academic year), Keelan Gobble (2020/21 academic year), Madison Tussey (Chair, 2019/20 academic year), Matthew Basal (Co-Chair, 2019/20 academic year), Oluwatobi Kalejaiye (2018/19 academic year), Hailey Sherman (Chair, 2016/17 academic year), Shea Hartley (2015/16 academic year).

Doctoral Thesis Committees (Public Policy): Samuel LaVergne (expected graduation date, spring 2021).

Political Science Brown Bag Coordinator. 2021/22 and 2019/20 academic years.

Member of Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Awards Nominations. Fall 2021 and Fall 2019.

Undergraduate Awards Committee Member. Spring 2018.

Search Committee Member: Political Theory. 2016/17 academic year.

Undergraduate Academic Advisor. Spring 2014–Spring 2016.

## Media Appearances

Guest on the *Science of Politics* podcast. “How Media Coverage of Congress Limits Policy-making.” March 10, 2021.

Guest on *Charlotte Talks* (NPR). “Analysis of the Presidential Debate.” Sept. 30, 2020.

Quoted in, “How the politically unthinkable can become mainstream” by Maggie Astor. The New York Times. February 24, 2019.

Quoted in, “President Trump heads to the Hill today to hammer home his agenda” by Kimberly Adams. Marketplace. October 24, 2017.

Quoted in, “There are 107 million single Americans. Why do politicians rarely mention us?” by Vicki Larson. The Washington Post. March 3, 2016.

## Honors & Awards

**Junior Faculty Development Award.** UNCC, Spring 2017. Competitive award that provides research leave for one semester.

**Political Research Quarterly’s 2012 Outstanding Reviewer Award.**

**Tools For Text Workshop Grant,** University of Washington. Summer 2010. Competitive NSF-funded travel award that covered all expenses associated with attendance of the workshop.