

**KATHRYN LYNDSEY OATES**  
University of Florida  
Department of Political Science  
PO Box 117325  
Gainesville, FL 32611

Phone: 352.284.3924  
Email: [oates@ufl.edu](mailto:oates@ufl.edu)  
Web: <http://plaza.ufl.edu/oates>

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## EDUCATION

**University of Florida, Gainesville** 08/2004-Present  
PhD Program, Political Science  
3.87 GPA  
Fields: American Politics, Methodology, Judicial Politics, Religion and Politics

**University of Florida, Gainesville** 08/2004-05/2006  
Masters of Arts, Political Science  
Defended two papers:  
    “*Social Movement Adaptation: The Case of the Christian Right and Stem-Cell Research*”  
    “*Presidential Rhetoric: Gay Marriage in the United States and France*”

**Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina** 08/2001-05/2004  
Bachelor of Science, Cum Laude  
Major Field: Political Science  
Minor Field: History  
Earned Bachelors degree in three years, 3.9 GPA in major, 3.5 overall GPA

## FELLOWSHIPS

*Grinter Fellowship*, University of Florida, Gainesville 08/2004-Present  
*Teaching Assistantship*, University of Florida, Gainesville 08/2004-Present

## AWARDS

*American Political Science Association Travel Grant* 09/2006  
*Graduate Student Council, University of Florida, Travel Grant* 09/2006  
*University of Florida, Inter-University Consortium for Political Science Research Summer Program Grant* 07/2006  
*Graduate Student Council, Dept. of Political Science, Travel Grant* 04/2006  
*Southern Political Science Association, Prestage-Cook Travel Award* 01/2006  
*Graduate Student Council, University of Florida, Travel Grant* 10/2005

## HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

*Most Outstanding Cabinet Member Award, 2003-2004*, Clemson University Student Government 05/2004  
*Dean's List*, Clemson University 12/2002, 12/2003  
*President's List*, Clemson University 08/2003

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lead Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, *State and Local Politics* 08/2006-present  
Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, *American Federal Government* 01/2006-05/2006  
Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, *State and Local Politics* 08/2004-12/2005

## WORK EXPERIENCE

*Data Analyst*, The Florida Survey Research Center 12/2005-present  
*Interviewer/Surveyor*, The New York Times (at the University of Florida Campus) 09/2004  
*Assistant to the Director of Governmental Affairs*, South Carolina Department of Transportation 05-08/2004  
*Assistant to the Executive Director*, South Carolina Department of Transportation 05-08/2002

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Religion and Politics in America
- Social Movements and Interest Groups
- Methodology
- Judicial Politics
- Women in Politics

## PUBLICATIONS

*Journal of Political Science* (Forthcoming in press)

“Social Movement Adaptation: The Case of the Christian Right and Stem-Cell Research”

## CURRENT RESEARCH

I am currently engaged in several papers at various stages. I have presented a working paper that examines gay marriage and the comparative differences of presidential rhetoric regarding the issue in France and the United States. An additional paper I've composed addresses the need for a more uniform methodology in measuring religion and utilizing survey data. Another paper that is still in its beginning stages compares two types of conservative women activists in America, the religious conservative and the fiscally conservative. A final paper looks at the expansion of judicial power and whether or not religious interest groups have effectively taken advantage of this branch of political power.

In a broader scope, my research examines interest groups and their corresponding social movements, the judiciary, and methodological concerns. In my upcoming dissertation, I intend to further the increasing use of the judiciary by religious interest groups, both conservative and progressive. I seek not only to study religion and politics but to show other scholars that this facet of politics should not be studied in isolation. Instead, it should be used in conjunction with broader, theoretical components of the larger discipline.

## COURSEWORK

Inter-University Consortium for Political Science Research (ICPSR)

Summer 2006

- Categorical Analysis
- Regression II
- Matrix Algebra

University of Florida

Fall 2004 – Spring 2006

Core and Methods:

- Scope and Epistemology
- Conduct of Inquiry
- Data Analysis
- Linear Models
- Maximum Likelihood Estimation
- Survey Research

American Politics and Religion:

- Seminar in American Politics
- Political Behavior
- Presidents, Prime Ministers and Legislatures
- Law, State and Society
- Judicial Politics
- Religion and Politics
- Religion and the Courts (Independent Study)
- Religion in North America
- Politics and Theory

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

Fluency with Microsoft/Windows Applications

Statistical programs: SPSS, Stata and SAS

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

American Association for Public Opinion Research

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Southern Political Science Association Conference 2007 (Upcoming),

“*Media, Religious Interests and the Courts*,” “*Decisive Housewives: Part II*”

American Political Science Association Conference 2006,

“*The Expansion of Interest Power: Religion in the Courts*”

Midwest Political Science Association Conference 2006, “*Decisive Housewives*”

University of Florida Graduate Symposium 2006, “*Religiosity Stinks*”

Southern Political Science Association Conference 2006,

“*Religion and Gay Marriage: Presidential Rhetoric in the United States and France*”

Georgia Political Science Association Conference 2005,

“*Social Movement Adaptation: Transformation of the Christian Right as Evidenced by the Fight Against Stem Cell Research*”

American Political Science Association Conference 2005, -Attendee

Pollsters and Parishioners Measuring Religion Workshop 2005

Midwest Political Science Association Conference 2005, -Attendee

## ORGANIZATIONAL PARTICIPATION

### Graduate Student Council, University of Florida:

- 11/2005-02/2006: Co-Director, University of Florida Graduate Symposium 2006
- 08/2005-04/2006: Treasurer
- 08/2005-04/2006: American Field Representative

### Undergraduate Student Government, Clemson University:

- 08/2001-05/2002: Student Senator, Freshman Representative
- 08/2001-05/2002: Finance and Procedures Committee
- 08/2002-05/2003: Finance Committee
- 04/2003-05/2004: Student Services Director, President's Cabinet
- 04/2003-05/2004: Director of MicroFridge/Loft Sales and Rentals
- 04/2003-05/2004: Bookstore Advisory Committee
- 08/2003-05/2004: Career Fair Planning Committee
- 08/2003-04/2003: Director, Campus Sweep
- 11/2003-12/2003: Excellence in Teaching Awards Committee

## REFERENCES

- Dr. Kenneth Wald, Distinguished Professor, Political Science, University of Florida:  
[kenwald@polisci.ufl.edu](mailto:kenwald@polisci.ufl.edu) PO Box 117325 Anderson Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-7325
- Dr. Laura Olson, Associate Professor, Political Science, Clemson University:  
[laurao@clemson.edu](mailto:laurao@clemson.edu) 212 Brackett Hall, Clemson, SC 29634
- Dr. Richard Scher, Professor, Political Science, University of Florida:  
[kingsch@polisci.ufl.edu](mailto:kingsch@polisci.ufl.edu) PO Box 117325 Anderson Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-7325
- Dr. Lawrence C. Dodd, Manning J. Dauer Eminent Scholar in Political Science, University of Florida:  
[ldodd@polisci.ufl.edu](mailto:ldodd@polisci.ufl.edu) PO Box 117325 Anderson Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-7325
- Dr. Lyman Kellstedt, Professor Emeritus, Political Science, Wheaton College:  
[charandbudk@juno.com](mailto:charandbudk@juno.com) 213 Woodboro Drive, West Chicago, IL 60185-2994