

[Kathleen Searles](#)

Department of Political Science
University of South Carolina

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Olin D. Johnston Chair of Political Science, University of South Carolina, Fall 2024 –
- Professor of Political Science, University of South Carolina, Fall 2024 –
- Associate Professor, Political Communication, Louisiana State University, Fall 2020 – 2024
- Sheldon Beychok Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Fall 2021 –2024
- Faculty Affiliate of the Multidisciplinary Institute for Neuroscience Discovery, Louisiana State University, Fall 2018 – 2024
- Faculty Affiliate of the Media Effects Lab, Louisiana State University, Fall 2014 – 2024
- Assistant Professor, Political Communication, Louisiana State University, Fall 2014 – Spring 2020
- Assistant Professor, Political Science, Augusta University, Fall 2011 – Spring 2014

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Washington State University, Political Science, 2011.
- B.A., Elon University, *magna cum laude*, Political Science and International Studies, 2006.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Communication (partisan media, news, journalistic decision-making, information communication technology), Political Psychology (emotions, eye tracking, information processing), Political Behavior (public opinion, campaigns).

BOOKS

“[Constructing Political Expertise in the News.](#)” 2023. Cambridge University Elements (with Yanna Krupnikov, John Ryan, Hillary Styles).

“[News and Democratic Citizens in the Mobile Era.](#)” 2022. Oxford University Press (with Johanna Dunaway).

Reviewed in [Perspectives on Politics.](#)

Reviewed in [International Journal of Communication.](#)

PUBLICATIONS¹

Gunderson, Anna, Nichole Bauer, Elizabeth Lane, Kathleen Searles, and Belinda Davis. Forthcoming. “[Candidate Gender, Campaign Appeals, and Voter Support in Judicial Elections.](#)” *Journal of Politics.*

Brown, Danielle and Searles, Kathleen. 2023. “[‘New’ Methods, ‘New’ Challenges.](#)” *Political Communication Report.*

¹ *indicates co-author is current/former student

Searles, Kathleen and Jessica Feezell. 2023. "[Scrollability: A new digital news affordance.](#)" *Political Communication*.

Ohme, Jakob, **Kathleen Searles**, and Claes H. de Vreese. 2022. "[Information Processing on Smartphones in Public versus Private.](#)" *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*.

*Sui, Mingxiao, *Newly Paul, *Caley Hewitt, *Jessica Maki, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2022. "[Can increasing women in the news positively affect audience perceptions and behaviors?](#)" *Journalism*.

*Paul, Newly, *Mingxiao Sui, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2021. "[Look Who's Writing: How Gender Affects News Credibility and Perceptions of News Relevance.](#)" *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*.

Searles, Kathleen, Joshua Darr, *Mingxiao Sui, Nathan Kalmoe, Raymond Pingree, and *Brian Watson. 2021. "[Partisan Media Effects Beyond One-shot Experimental Designs.](#)" *Political Science Research Methods* 10(1), 206-214.

Klar, Samara, Yanna Krupnikov, John Barry Ryan, **Kathleen Searles** and Yotam Shmargad. 2020. "[Using Social Media to Promote Academic Research: Do the Benefits of Twitter Differ by Gender?](#)" *PLoS ONE* 15(4): e0229446.

Searles, Kathleen and Kevin Banda. 2019. "[But Her Emails! How Journalistic Preferences Shaped Election Coverage in 2016.](#)" *Journalism* 20(8): 1052-1069.

Darr, Joshua, Nathan Kalmoe, **Kathleen Searles**, Raymond Pingree, *Mingxiao Sui, *Martina Santia, *Kirill Bryanov and *Brian Watson. 2019. "[Collision with Collusion: Partisan Reactions to the Trump-Russia Scandal.](#)" *Perspectives on Politics* 17 (3): 772-787.

Pingree, Raymond, Brian Watson, *Mingxiao Sui, **Kathleen Searles**, Nathan Kalmoe, Joshua Darr, *Kirill Bryanov, and *Martina Santia. 2018. "[Checking facts and fighting back: Why journalists should defend their profession.](#)" *PLoS ONE* 13(12): e0208600.

Kalmoe, Nathan, Raymond Pingree, *Brian Watson, *Mingxiao Sui, Joshua Darr, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2018. "[Crime News Effects and Democratic Accountability: Experimental Evidence From Repeated Exposure in a Multiweek Online Panel.](#)" *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 31 (3): 506–27.

Searles, Kathleen, *Sophie Spencer and, *Adaobi Duru. 2018. "[Don't Read the Comments: The Effects of Abusive Comments on Reader Perceptions of Women Authors' Credibility.](#)" *Information Communication Society* 23 (7): 947–62.

Krupnikov, Yanna, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2018. "[New Approaches to Method and Measurement in the Study of Political Communication Effects.](#)" *Political Communication* 36 (2): 209-213.

Searles, Kathleen, and Yanna Krupnikov. 2018. "[How Not to Get Ratioed and Other Advice for the Savvy Graduate Mentor.](#)" *Political Communication* 35 (4): 669-673.

Hitt, Matthew, and **Searles, Kathleen**. 2018. "[How Media Coverage Politicizes Perceptions of the U.S. Supreme Court.](#)" *Political Communication* 35 (4): 566-586.

Searles, Kathleen. 2018. "[In the Court of Public Opinion, the News Media Preside.](#)" *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Dunaway, Johanna, **Kathleen Searles**, *Mingxiao Sui, and *Newly Paul. 2018. "[Left to Our Own Devices: Political News Attention and Engagement in a Mobile Era.](#)" *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication* 23 (2): 107-124.

Winner of the 2019 Walter Lippmann Best Published Article Award, American Political Science Association's Political Communication Section.

Searles, Kathleen, Glen Smith and *Mingxiao Sui. 2018. "[Partisan Media, Electoral Predictions, and Wishful Thinking.](#)" *Public Opinion Quarterly Special Issue, Psychology of Elections* 82 (S1): 302-324.

Searles, Kathleen, Travis Ridout, Erika Franklin Fowler, Patricia Strach and Katie Zuber. 2017. "[The Effects of Men's and Women's Voices in Political Advertising.](#)" *Journal of Political Marketing* 19 (3): 301-29.

Searles, Kathleen, and Travis Ridout. 2017. "[The Use and Consequences of Emotions in Politics.](#)" *Emotion Researcher: ISRE's Sourcebook for Research on Emotion and Affect*, ed. Andrea Scarantino (ed.).

Beaulieu, Emily, Amber Boydston, Nadia Brown, Kim Yi Dionne, Andra Gillespie, Samara Klar, Yanna Krupnikov, Melissa R. Michelson, **Kathleen Searles**, and Christina Wolbrecht. 2017. "[Women Also Know Stuff: Meta-Level Mentoring to Battle Gender Bias in Political Science.](#)" *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50 (3): 779-783

Reprinted in *Navigating Political Science: Professional Advancement & Success in the Discipline*, edited by Kent Worcester, American Political Science Association, 2018.

Searles, Kathleen, Ginn, Martha, and *Jonathan Nickens. 2016. "[For whom the poll airs: Comparing Poll Results to Television Poll Coverage.](#)" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 80 (4): 943-963.

Searles, Kathleen, and Glen Smith. 2016. "[Who's the Boss? Setting the Agenda in a Fragmented Media Environment.](#)" *International Journal of Communication* 10: 2074-2095.

Searles, Kathleen. 2016. "Review of *Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism & Wrecked the Middle Class*, by Ian Haney Lopez." *The Forum* 14(1): 109-113.

Searles, Kathleen, and Kyle Mattes. 2015. "[It's a Mad, Mad World: Using Emotion Inductions in a Survey.](#)" *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 2 (2): 172-182.

Strach, Patricia, Katherine Zuber, Erika Franklin Fowler, Travis Ridout, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2015. "[In a Different Voice? Explaining the Use of Men and Women as Voiceover Announcers in Political Advertising.](#)" *Political Communication* 32 (2): 183-205.

Ginn, Martha, **Kathleen Searles**, and *Amanda Jones. 2015. "[Vouching for the Court? How High Stakes Affect Knowledge and Support of the Supreme Court.](#)" *Justice Systems Journal* 36 (2): 163-179.

Mellen, Robert, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2015. "[Midterm Mobilization: The President as Campaigner in Chief During Midterm House Elections, 1982-2006.](#)" *White House Studies* 13 (2): 187-199.

Searles, Kathleen. 2015. "[Symposium: Jennifer Stromer-Galley's Presidential Campaigning in the Internet Age.](#)" *Political Communication Report*, Vol. 25 (2). October 1.

Smith, Glen, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2014. "[Who Let the \(Attack\) Dogs Out? New Evidence for Partisan Media Effects.](#)" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 78 (1): 71-99.

Smith, Glen, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2013. "[Fair and Balanced News or a Difference of Opinion? Why Opinion Shows Matter for Media Effects.](#)" *Political Research Quarterly* 66 (3): 671-684.

Mellen, Robert and **Kathleen Searles**. 2013. "[Predicting Presidential Appearances During Midterm Elections.](#)" *American Political Research* 41 (2): 328-347.

Ley, Aaron, **Kathleen Searles**, and Cornell Clayton. 2013. "[The Mysterious Persistence of Non-Consensual Opinion-Writing Norms on the U.S. Supreme Court.](#)" *Tulsa Law Review* 49 (3): 99.

Fowler, Erika Franklin, Travis Ridout, and **Kathleen Searles**. 2011. "[Testing the Reliability of Electronic Newspaper Databases.](#)" *International Journal of Social Research Methodology* 15 (6): 451.

Ridout, Travis and **Kathleen Searles**. 2011. "[It's My Campaign I'll Cry if I Want to: How and When Campaigns Use Emotional Appeals.](#)" *Political Psychology* 32 (3): 439.

Searles, Kathleen. 2010. "[Feeling Good and Doing Good for the Environment: The Use of Emotional Appeals in Pro-environmental Public Service Announcements.](#)" *Applied Environmental Education and Communication* 9 (3): 173.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Searles, Kathleen. 2020. "[Beyond the horse race: voting process coverage in 2020.](#)" In *U.S. Election Analysis 2020: Media, Voters and the Campaign*, ed. Daniel Jackson, Danielle Sarver Coombs, Filippo Trevisan, Darren Lilleker, and Einar Thorsen.

Searles, Kathleen, and *Patrick Rose. 2019. "Presidential Nominations and the News Media." In *Making of the Presidential Candidates 2020*, ed. Jonathan Bernstein, Casey Dominguez. Rowman and Littlefield.

Dunaway, Johanna, **Kathleen Searles**, Erika Franklin Fowler, and Travis Ridout. 2019. "The Effects of Political Advertising: Assessing the Impact of Changing Technologies, Strategies, and Tactics." In *Mediated Communication: Handbooks of Communication Science, Volume 7*, ed. Phillip Napoli. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

Dunaway, Johanna, **Kathleen Searles**, *Mingxiao Sui, and *Newly Paul. 2018. "The Move to Mobile: What's the Impact on Citizen News Engagement?" In *New Directions in Media and Politics*, ed. Travis Ridout.

Searles, Kathleen, and Austin Jenkins. 2011. "Media and Politics in Washington State." In *Washington State Government and Politics*, eds. Cornell W. Clayton and Nicholas P. Lovrich. Pullman: Washington State University Press.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL GRANTS & AWARDS

List available upon request.

PUBLIC-FACING SCHOLARSHIP

List available upon request.

INVITED TALKS/CONFERENCES

List available upon request.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010

Future of Journalism: 2023

Election Science Reform and Administration Conference: 2023, 2020

Midwest Political Science Association Meeting: 2023, 2021, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2013, 2011

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2024, 2023, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2014, 2011, 2010, 2009

International Communication Association: 2022, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017

American Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Meeting: 2024, 2016, 2015

Society for Personality and Social Psychology: 2021, 2018

Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Southwest Annual Meeting: 2017

Political Methodology Society Annual Meeting: 2010

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE

Conference Organization

Section Chair, for Information Technology & Politics, Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting 2018.

Program Chair, Political Communication Pre-Conference, American Political Science Association annual meeting 2015.

Section Chair, Mass Media and Political Communication, Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting 2015.

Editorial

Editorial Board Member, *Political Communication*.

Editorial Board Member, *Political Psychology*.

Advisory Board Member, #WomenAlsoKnowStuff (2020-present).

Executive Council Member, #WomenAlsoKnowStuff (2016-2020).

Guest Editor, *Political Communication* Special Issue, “New Approaches to Method and Measurement in the Study of Communication Effects” (November 2018).

Guest Editor, *Public Opinion Quarterly* Virtual Issue, “[Media Coverage of Polls](#)” (August 2018).

Guest Editor, *Journalism and Media* Special Issue, “[Mobile Politics](#)” (January 2023).

Committees

Chair of Social Media & Promotion Committee, #WomenAlsoKnowStuff 2016-2020.

Best Graduate Paper Award Committee for the Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association 2019.

Ad hoc Research Awards Committee for the Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association 2018.

Best Conference Paper Award Committee for the Information Technology and Politics Section, American Political Science Association 2018.

Joint Publications Committee for the Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association 2015-2020, 2023-

Best Dissertation Award Committee for the Experimental Section, American Political Science Association 2016.

Career Award Committee for the Political Psychology Section, American Political Science Association 2015.

Best Paper Award Committee for the Political Psychology Section, American Political Science Association 2015.

Best Graduate Paper Award Committee for the Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association 2015.

Reviewer

PNAS, TESS, National Science Foundation, Advances in Political Psychology, Public Opinion Quarterly, Oxford University Press, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Communication, Political Communication, British Journal of Political Science, Political Psychology, New Media & Society, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Political Research Quarterly, Human Communication Research, Political Behavior, American Politics Research, Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly, International Journal of Communication, Research and Politics, Current Psychology, The Forum, Journal of Political Marketing, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties, Communication Research Reports, International Journal of Press & Politics, Journalism Studies, Social Media & Society, Information, Communication & Society, W.W. Norton.

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY/COMMUNITY (LSU)

- Ph.D. Committees: Newly Paul (2015-2016), Mingxiao Sui (Co-Chair, 2015-2017), Adaobi Duru (Chair, 2014-2016), Robyn Stiles (2015-2018), Stacey Terrio (2017-), Stephanie Whitenack (2017-2019), Brian Watson (2017-2019), Patrick Rose (Co-Chair, 2018-), Lisa Matthias (Freie Universitat Berlin, 2018-), Robert Wood (Stony Brook University, 2019), Tryfon Boukouvidis (Co-Chair, 2020-), Conrad Sharpe (2021-), Erica Russell (2021-2023), Sean Whyard (Chair, 2022-), Sydney Clough (Chair, 2022-), Natalie Kaczynski (2024-).
- M.A. Committees: Ashley Staszak (2018-2020), Tryfon Boukouvidis (2017-2018), Andrea Briscoe (2016), Andrew Abad (2015-2016), Lauren Goodman (2015-2016), Margo Jolet (Chair, 2015-2016), Jessica Maki (Chair, 2020-2022), Caley Hewitt (2020-2022), Kaitlan

Darby (2020-2022), Mary Alice Waddell (Chair, 2021), Ivory Bibbins (Chair, 2022-), Carly Watts (2023-).

- Honors Thesis Committees: Zach Roubein (2020), Isabelle Fischer (2018), Chloe Singer (2018), Kira Schuette (Chair, 2015-2015), Grace Reinke (2015), Valencia Richardson (Chair, 2014-2016), Christopher Handy (Chair, 2014-2016; LSU Discover Award winner), Kylie Shae Keyser (2015-2016), Lindsey Spillman (Chair, 2014-2016).
- Certified Louisiana Foster Parent, 2021-2024.
- Trauma-Based Relational Intervention Intro and Overview training, 2021.
- Lighthouse Advocate, 2021.
- Manship School of Mass Communication Dean Search, 2020-2021.
- LSU Core Committee, 2020 – 2024.
- Subcommittee on Communication, LSU Core Committee, 2020-2022.
- LSU ADVANCE Committee, 2020-2022.
- Chair and Founder, Women in Political Science Group, 2020-
- Chair, Subcommittee on Faculty, Manship School of Mass Communication Diversity Committee, 2020-2023.
- Manship School of Mass Communication Diversity Committee, 2020-2023.
- Department of Political Science Graduate Committee, 2019-2021.
- Department of Political Science Research Committee, 2014-2019, 2021-2023.
- Department of Political Science Undergraduate Committee, 2023-
- Chair, Political Communication Search Committee, 2019.
- Political Theory Search Committee, 2023.
- Political Communication Search Committee, 2024, 2023, 2017, 2016, 2015.
- Judicial Politics Search Committee, 2018.
- Presenter at the McKinley High School Humanities Amped 10th/12th grade Fall Conference, 2018.
- Presidential Symposium Steering Committee, 2018.
- Manship School of Mass Communication Accreditation Scholarship Committee, 2014-2016.
- Faculty adviser, Society of Politics, Communication & Law, 2014-2016.