

Claire Abernathy
Stockton University
Political Science Program
School of Social and Behavioral Sciences
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205
claire.abernathy@stockton.edu
609-626-3524

Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor, Political Science Program, Stockton University, Fall 2015–Present.

Corresponding Fellow, Institute for Democratic Engagement and Accountability, The Ohio State University, Summer 2019-Present.

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, Vanderbilt University, June 2015.

Dissertation: Legislative Correspondence Management Practices: Congressional Offices and the Treatment of Constituent Opinion.

Committee Members: Alan E. Wiseman (chair), Bruce I. Oppenheimer, Larry M. Bartels, John R. Wright.

M.A. in Political Science, The Ohio State University, May 2011.

B.A. *Magna Cum Laude* in Political Science, Furman University, May 2009.

B.A. *Magna Cum Laude* in Sociology, Furman University, May 2009.

Research and Teaching Interests

American Political Institutions
Legislative Politics and Policymaking
Constituent Communications
Congressional Capacity
Representation
Civic and Political Education

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Abernathy, Claire. 2018. "Understanding and Responding to Constituent Opinion on Capitol Hill," *Congress & the Presidency* 45(3): 254-278.

Abernathy, Claire and Jennifer Forestal. 2019. "Civics Across Campus: Designing Effective Extracurricular Programming." *Journal of Political Science Education*, Published online 1/9/2019

Abernathy, Claire, Kevin M. Esterling, Justin Freebourn, Ryan Kennedy, William Minozzi, Michael A. Neblo and Jonathan A. Solis. "Constituent Communication through Telephone Town Halls: A Field Experiment Involving Members of Congress." *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, Published online 5/10/2019

Manuscripts in Progress

"Demographics and (Equal?) Voice: Assessing Participation in Online Deliberative Sessions." *With Ryan Kennedy, Anand Sokhey, Kevin M. Esterling, David Lazer, Amy Lee, William Minozzi, and Michael A. Neblo.*
Under Review, *Political Studies*

"The Use of Debates in Political Science Courses." *With Jennifer Forestal*
Revise and Resubmit, *Journal of Political Science Education*

"Constituent Opinion and Legislative Activity in Congress"

Conference Presentations

"Constituent Opinion and Legislative Agendas in Congress."
Presentation at the 2019 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 4-7, 2019.

"Discerning Constituent Opinion on Capitol Hill: A Comparison of House and Senate Practices for Handling Correspondence."
Presentation at the 2018 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 5-8, 2018.

"Cultivating Project-Based Learning Opportunities in Political Science: A Deliberative Dialogue Issue Guide as a Course Project."
Presentation at the 2018 American Political Science Association Teaching & Learning Conference. Baltimore, MD. February 2-4, 2018.

"Effective Teaching for Civic Learning: Assessing Student Learning Outcomes Across Political Science Courses."
With Jennifer Forestal
Presentation at the 2018 American Political Science Association Teaching & Learning Conference. Baltimore, MD. February 2-4, 2018.

"Civic Engagement at Stockton University: From Elections to Evaluation." *With Jennifer Forestal and Jessie K. Finch*
Presentation at the 2017 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting. Baltimore, MD. June 7-10, 2017.

"Congressional Receptiveness to Constituent Contacts through Social Media."
Paper presented at the 2017 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 6-9, 2017.

“Civics Across Campus: Stockton’s Election 2016 Program and Civic Learning Outside the Classroom.” *With Jennifer Forestal*

Paper presented at the 2017 American Political Science Association Teaching & Learning Conference. Long Beach, CA. February 10-12, 2017.

“On Legislative Effectiveness and Attentiveness to Constituent Opinion.”

Paper presented at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA. August 31-September 3, 2016.

“Does School Board Turnover Affect School District Outcomes? Evidence from Ohio.” *with Jason Grissom and Marc Meredith*

Paper presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. September 3-6, 2015.

“Correspondence Management on Capitol Hill: Examining the Treatment of Constituency Opinion across Congressional Offices.”

Paper presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, D.C. August 28-31, 2014.

“Legislative Correspondence Management Practices: Explaining Variation in the Treatment of Constituency Opinion across Congressional Offices.”

Poster presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Chicago, IL. August 28-September 1, 2013.

“Legislative Correspondence Management Practices: Congressional Offices and the Treatment of Constituent Opinion.”

Paper presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL. April 11-14, 2013.

Campus and Other Invited Presentations

Alternatives to Opioids Series: Holistic Approaches to Address Opioid Addiction

Moderator of an interdisciplinary panel discussion about approaches to reduce dependency on opioids. November 15, 2018.

What Could Change on Capitol Hill? Midterm Elections in 2018

Lecture on the 2018 House and Senate races. September 26, 2018.

Election Security in the U.S. and Abroad

Panelist *with Sarah Bush and Lauren Balasco*. September 25, 2018.

Let’s Get Political! Student Clubs and Political Advocacy.

Presentation on political advocacy for Student Club Leader Training. September 15, 2018.

Stockton Votes: How RAs Can Facilitate Political Engagement on Campus.

Presentation on voter registration for Summer Resident Assistants Training. August 21, 2018.

Midterm Elections Already?

Lecture given at the Stockton Center on Successful Aging Successful Aging Festival. May 17, 2018.

Beyond Voting: Connecting with Elected Officials

Lecture given at the Stockton Center on Successful Aging Successful Aging Festival. May 17, 2018.

Assessing the State of American Politics in 2018

Lecture given at the Longport Public Library. March 2, 2018.

The Environment on the Ballot: A Panel about NJ'S Constitutional Amendment

Moderator of an interdisciplinary panel discussion about New Jersey's environmental damages spending constitutional amendment. October 2, 2017.

Age Out Loud: Being Heard By Your Elected Officials

Lecture given at the Stockton Center on Successful Aging Successful Aging Festival. May 18, 2017.

Trump's First 100 Days

Moderator of a student panel about the progress Trump has made toward campaign promises in his first 100 days. April 18, 2017. *With students in Trump's First 100 Days Independent Study.*

How to Series with the Political Engagement Project

Presenter, How to Contact Congress Workshop. March 29 & 30, 2017.

Presenter, How to Organize in Politics Workshop. April 11 & 12, 2017.

Transparency in Government.

Lecture given at the Ocean City Free Public Library, for meeting of local watchdog group Fairness in Taxes. April 5, 2017. *Representing Stockton through the William J. Hughes Center Speakers Bureau.*

Participation and Protest at the Trump Inauguration.

Moderator of a panel discussion with students who participated in the Women's March on Washington. February 7, 2017.

Talking Presidential Inauguration 2017.

Moderator of a panel discussion with students who attended the Washington Center Academic Seminar 2017. February 2, 2017.

The First 100 Days.

Lecture given at the Ocean County Library, Little Egg Harbor Township Branch. January 24, 2017.

Election 2016 Debriefing.

Facilitator of Democracy Café, in partnership with Stockton Office of Service Learning. November 10, 2016.

What Could Change on Capitol Hill? Congressional Elections in 2016.

Lecture on the 2016 House and Senate races. November 3, 2016.

270 to Win: Examining the Electoral College that Decides our Presidential Elections.

Lecture on the Electoral College. September 28, 2016.

The Stockton Delegation: A Panel with Students Who Attended the RNC and DNC.

Moderator of a panel discussion about the party conventions *with Michael Rodriguez*. September 15, 2016.

Election 2016: Super Tuesday.

Lecture on presidential nomination process at Stockton University. March 1, 2016.

Election 2016: The Iowa Caucuses.

Lecture on presidential nomination process at Stockton University. February 1, 2016.

The Presidential Campaign: Lecture & Discussion.

Lecture given at the Atlantic County Library, Galloway Township Branch. January 5, 2016.

Teaching Experience

Stockton University

Introduction to American Politics

President and Congress

Political Parties

Campaigns and Elections

Interest Group Politics

Voting in America

Trump's First 100 Days (Independent Study)

Internet and Social Change (General Studies course)

Health Politics and Policy (General Studies course)

Stockton Votes (General Studies course)

Vanderbilt University

The Politics of Public Policy, *Teaching Assistant*

The Legislative Process, *Teaching Assistant*

Introduction to American Government, *Teaching Assistant*

Political Parties, *Teaching Assistant*

Business and Public Policy, *Teaching Assistant*

University Service

Stockton American Democracy Project/Political Engagement Project

Faculty Co-Chair, Summer 2017–Present

Member, Fall 2015–Present

Member, Planning Committee for the Political Engagement Project's Election 2016 Series, Summer 2016–Fall 2016

Stockton University Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee

Member, Spring 2018–Present

Constitution Day Planning Committee

Member, Spring 2017–Present

Stockton Mock Trial Team

Advisor, Fall 2015–Spring 2018

Civic Education Teaching Circle with Institute for Faculty Development

Co-Chair, Fall 2017–Spring 2018

Hughes Center 2nd Congressional District Debate

Panelist, October 10, 2018

Hughes Center Neil Gorsuch Event Planning Committee

Member, Summer 2017–Spring 2018

Atlantic City Operations, Transportation Working Group
Member, Summer 2017–Present

Political Science Program Search Committee, Comparative Politics Position
Member, Fall 2016

Washington Internship Program
Coordinator and Campus Liaison for The Washington Center, Spring 2016

Stockton Day of Service
Leader for Civics Fair Project, Fall Day of Service September 2017 *with Jessie K. Finch and Jennifer Forestal*
Project Leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service January 2016

Other Service

The Washington Center’s Presidential Inauguration 2017 Academic Seminar
Faculty Leader, January 2017

The Washington Center Academic Seminars Advisory Group
Member, Fall 2017–Present

Stockton Federation of Teachers Union Workshop
Coordinator for Workshop and Presenter, August 23, 2018

Panel at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
Chair, April 2017 and April 2019

Reviewer, *Journal of Politics*, *Congress & the Presidency*, *Journal of Political Science Education*

Grants and Awards

Stockton Research and Professional Development Award (\$6100), Summer 2019

Stockton Research and Professional Development Course Release Award, Spring 2019

2020 Initiative Grant, Engagement (\$2500), Fall 2018

Stockton Research and Professional Development Award (\$6100), Summer 2018

Provost Faculty Opportunity Fund Award (\$1200), Spring 2017

2020 Initiative Grant, Engagement (\$8,000), 2016-2017
Project Leader, Experiencing the Presidential Inauguration

Research Experience for Undergraduates (\$4,000), 2016-2017
Faculty Sponsor, Public Policy in Trump’s First 100 Days

2013 Erwin Hargrove Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
Vanderbilt University, Department of Political Science

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Travel Grant, Spring 2014
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Travel Grant, Summer 2014
Vanderbilt Graduate School Travel Grant, Summer 2013
Vanderbilt Graduate School Travel Grant, Spring 2013
Vanderbilt Graduate School Travel Grant, Summer 2014
Vanderbilt Department of Political Science Travel Grant, Spring 2015

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association