

Ozlem Tuncel

CONTACT INFORMATION

Research Data Services &
Political Science Department
100 Decatur Street SE
Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA 30303

✉ otuncelgurlek1@gsu.edu
🌐 ozlemtuncel.github.io
🔗 github.com/ozlemtuncel
👤 [ozlem__tuncel](#) & [ozlemtuncel.bsky.social](#)
☎ +1 (404) 857 2212

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Substantive: electoral autocracies, political parties, opposition strategies, electoral coordination, democratic backsliding, reversal of autocratization, elite behavior, legislative politics, post-rebel parties, post-conflict governance, Middle East politics, Turkish politics.

Methodological: applied statistics, research design, GLM, panel regression models, survey methods and experiments, causal inference, text analysis & NLP & LLMs, mixed-methods, site-intensive methods, interviews, focus groups, archival research.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Affiliate Faculty, Department of Political Science, June 2025 – present
Lecturer & Data Services Specialist, Research Data Services, June 2024 – present

EDUCATION

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Ph.D., Political Science May 2024

- Subfields: Comparative Politics (major), Political Methodology (minor)
- Dissertation: Pre-electoral coalitions in electoral authoritarian regimes
- Committee: **Jennifer McCoy** (Chair), **Carrie Manning**, **Charles Hankla**

Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

M.A., Political Science and International Relations August 2019

- Thesis: Rethinking state and civil society: Two educational policies during the Justice and Development Party era
- Advisor: **Zeynep Kadirbeyoğlu**

B.A., Political Science and International Relations June 2016

BOOK

Carrie Manning, Ian Smith, & **Ozlem Tuncel**. (2023). *Parties, politics, peace: How former insurgent groups shape politics after war*. Routledge.

- [MPSA Blog Post on Parties, Politics, Peace](#)

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Ozlem Tuncel. (2026). Elite interviewing in political science: Insights from leading journals. *Perspectives on Politics*, Online Published First, [doi:10.1017/S1537592725104040](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592725104040).

Ozlem Tuncel. (2024). Talking to elites: A guide for novice interviewers. *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*, 22(1), 53-60. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11097657>.

Carrie Manning, Ian Smith, & **Ozlem Tuncel**. (2024). Rebels with a cause: Introducing the Post-Rebel Electoral Parties Dataset. *Journal of Peace Research*, 61(2), 294-303. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433221126552>.

Ozlem Tuncel. (2023). Selective inclusion under competitive autocratic regimes: An example from the Turkish educational civil society. *Journal of Civil Society*, 19(2), 232-250.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/17448689.2023.2206152>.

Ozlem Tuncel, & Carrie Manning. (2023). Building democracy after war? Post-rebel electoral parties and the construction of stable party systems. *Party Politics*, 29(6), 1039-1050. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13540688221124877>.

Ozlem Tuncel. (2017). *AKP dönemi eğitim politikalarına ilişkin bir örnek: Değerler eğitimi* (An example from education policies of the AKP period: Values education). *Kültür ve Siyasette Feminist Yaklaşımlar*, 33, 3-26.

BOOK
CHAPTERS

Jennifer McCoy, Juan S. Gomez Cruces, **Ozlem Tuncel**, & Levente Littvay. (2025). Reducing partisan animus in populist contexts: Limitations of shared common humanity and perspective-taking interventions. In Angelos Chrysosgelos, Eliza Tanner Hawkins, Kirk A. Hawkins, Levente Littvay, and Nina Wiesehomeier (Eds.) *The ideational approach to populism, Volume II: Consequences and mitigation*. Routledge.

Carrie Manning, & **Ozlem Tuncel**. (2023). Peacebuilding and democracy after war: Taking stock. In John W. Harbeson and Donald Rothchild (Eds.) *Africa in world politics: Sustaining reform in a turbulent world order*. 7th edition. Routledge.

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

Ozlem Tuncel. (2025). Teaching literature reviews in the age of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI). *Political Science Educator*, 28(2).

Ozlem Tuncel. (2024). Elite interviewing in political science: Insights from leading journals. *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*, 22(2). (Symposium: Emerging Methodologists Workshop) <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14062819>.

Murat Somer, Jennifer McCoy, and **Ozlem Tuncel**. (2022). Toward a new transition theory? Opposition dilemmas and how to resist and recover from democratic erosion. *APSA Preprints*.

Ozlem Tuncel, Carrie Manning, & Ian Smith. (2022). Political Integration and post-war elections. *Folke Bernadotte Academy*.

Jennifer McCoy, Ben Press, Murat Somer, and **Ozlem Tuncel**. (May 5, 2022). Reducing pernicious polarization: A comparative historical analysis of depolarization. *Carnegie*.

Ronay Bakan & **Ozlem Tuncel**. (July 4, 2019). Women's struggle in Turkey. *Yale Global*.

WORK IN
PROGRESS

Ousting an autocrat: Temporary alliances of opposition parties in electoral authoritarian regimes. (Working Book Project, book workshop scheduled for January 2027).

Uniting against autocracy: Opposition coalitions in electoral authoritarian regimes. (Job Market Paper, R & R)

Understanding opposition strategies against autocrats through opposition learning: Example of Turkish opposition parties under the AKP regime. (R & R)

Partisanship, political knowledge, and presidential impeachment attitudes in the US. (with Flavia Batista, the Year in C-SPAN Archives Research Book series, R & R)

Trustee appointments: An institutional tool for engineering local governance and electoral politics in Turkey. (with Elif Sari-Genc, R & R)

Removal of elected opposition mayors: Evidence from Turkey. (with [Elif Sari-Genc](#), presented at WPSA 2026, MPSA 2026, APSA 2026)

University expansion and political support in Turkey: Higher education's role in autocratic consolidation. (with [Felix Wiebrecht](#), presented at WPSA 2026, MPSA 2026, APSA 2026)

Unseating autocratizing leaders: Electoral success and opposition coalitions in backsliding democracies. (with [Jennifer McCoy](#), presented at APSA 2025)

Why do opposition coalitions endure? Persistence and coordination under electoral authoritarianism. (with [Oren Samet](#), *data collection stage*)

Outsider political status and opposition to democratic backsliding. (with [Benjamin Yoel](#), *data collection stage*)

Digital drama: TV-themed online engagement as oppositional discourse. (with [Lisel Hintz](#), *data collection stage*)

When democracy is suspended: Evaluating public support for trustee governance in Turkey. (with [Elif Sari-Genc](#), *data collection stage*)

Does symbolic leverage work? Impact of candidate appearance on voter preferences in Turkey. (with [Elif Sari-Genc](#), *data collection stage*)

Ideological diversity, cohesion, and voter perceptions of coalitions in Hungary. ([Pre-Analysis Plan available here](#), *data collection stage*)

Barely elected vs. safely elected: Parliamentary behavior of marginal and secure MPs in Turkey. (with [Burak Kazim Yilmaz](#) & [Hilal Sert](#), *data collection stage*)

Mapping impeachment worldwide: An original dataset of impeachment activity and executive removal (with [Flavia Batista](#) & [Gustavo Venturelli](#), *data collection stage*)

AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026. Anne Page Mosby Research & Professional Development Award. (\$1,000)

2026. Institute for Humane Studies – Expense Support

- with [Lisel Hintz](#) (\$3,530)
- with [Ben Yoel](#) (\$5,500)
- with [Elif Sari-Genc](#) (\$5,000)
- with [Flavia Batista](#) & [Gustavo Venturelli](#) (\$5,000)
- Book Workshop Grant (\$2,000)

2025. APSA Centennial Center (with [Felix Wiebrecht](#)). (\$2,000)

2025. Institute for Humane Studies – Expense Support

- with [Oren Samet](#) (\$4,000)
- with [Felix Wiebrecht](#) (\$4,000)

2024. APSA Democracy and Autocracy – [Best Fieldwork Award](#). (Honorable Mention)

2024. Emerging Methodologists Workshop Travel Grant. (\$800)

2023. ISA-South Best Graduate Student Paper Award. (\$150)

2023. APSA First Generation Scholars in the Profession Accessibility Grant. (\$145)

2023. APSA Comparative Politics Section Support Grant. (\$500)

2023. APSA Travel Grant. (\$150)

2023. MPSA Harrell Rodgers Travel Scholarship. (\$500)

2023. The Craigie International Security Fellowship. (\$20,000)

2023. [William A. Steiger Fund for Legislative Studies \(APSA Centennial Center\)](#). (\$2,500)

2023. [Georgia State University Library Dissertation Travel Award](#). (\$1,000)

2022. ISA-Midwest Travel Grant. (\$250)

2022. ISA-Midwest Emerging Scholars Grant. (\$250)

2022. GSU Political Science Department's Summer Research & Professional Development Fellowship for ICPSR Summer School. (\$2,600)

2021. [GSU Political Science Department](#) Best Graduate Paper Award.

2019. [Boğaziçi University](#): Dean's High Honors Degree.

2018. Northwestern University Buffett Institute for Global Studies for 2018 Keyman Conference: Education in Turkey, Chicago. (\$600)

ORIGINAL DATA

[Coalitions in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes \(CEAR\) Dataset](#).

[Post-Rebel Electoral Parties \(PREP\) Dataset](#) with [Carrie Manning](#) and Ian Smith.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

[Georgia State University](#), Atlanta, GA

Instructor

July 2024 – present

- POLS 3800: Introduction to Political Science Research (**Spring 2027**)
- Honors 1000: Introduction to Data Science with R: Exploring Democracy and Autocracy Worldwide (**Fall 2026**)
- *Selected other courses*: Introduction to R Programming Language, Linear Regression with R, Data Visualization with R, Introduction to Survey Research, Applied Data Analysis

Teaching Assistant

2020–2024

- *Spring 2024* – [POLS 8810: Uses of Intermediate Statistical Methods](#), [Michael Fix](#)
- *Fall 2023* – [POLS 8830: Advanced Quantitative Methods](#), [Ryan Carlin](#)
- *Spring 2023* – [POLS 8810: Uses of Intermediate Statistical Methods](#), [Michael Fix](#)
- *Fall 2022* – [POLS 8830: Advanced Quantitative Methods](#), [Ryan Carlin](#)
- *Fall 2022* – [POLS 8805: Introduction to Quantitative Analysis](#), [Michael Herb](#)

- *Fall 2020* – POLS 1101: Introduction to American Government, [Mike Evans](#)

Instructor

Spring, 2021

- POLS 1101: Introduction to American Government

University of Michigan, ICPSR Program in Quantitative Methods, Ann Arbor, MI

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2023

- Introduction to the **R** Statistical Computing Environment, [Kerem Ozan Kalkan](#)

Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2017 - Summer 2019

- *Selected courses*: Introduction to Political Science, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Seminar in Authoritarian Regimes

INVITED TALKS
& LECTURES

October 2026 – *Kennesaw State University*, AI for Data Analysis panel for the Department of Psychological Science

May 2026 – *University of Pennsylvania*, Opposition and Democratic Futures in Turkey and Beyond Workshop

April 2026 – *University of Pittsburgh*, Challenges to Democracy Speaker Series

April 2026 – *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*, Democracy Talk for Comparative Political Analysis course

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association (APSA): 2026, 2025, 2025 ([VRM](#)), 2024, 2024 ([VRM](#)), 2023

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA): 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022

Western Political Science Association (WPSA): 2026

[Virtual Workshop on Authoritarian Regimes \(VWAR\)](#): 2026

[Political Studies Association \(PSA\)](#): 2023, January 2024 ([Turkish Politics Specialist Group Research Colloquia](#)), October 2026 ([Democratic Reversals in Europe and Authoritarian Consolidation in Turkey Workshop](#))

[Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research \(SWMMR\)](#): 2025

[Purdue University Year in C-SPAN Archives Research](#): 2025

[Emerging Methodologist Workshop \(EMW\)](#): 2024

[POMEPS Virtual Research Workshop](#): 2024

[Authoritarian Political Systems Group \(APSG\)](#): 2023

[International Studies Association \(ISA\)](#): 2023 ([South](#)), 2022 ([Midwest](#)), 2021

	United Nations Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Meeting: 2022	
	Atlanta Symposium on Political Science (ASOPS): 2021, 2020	
	Helsinki Conference on Emotions, Populism and Polarisation (HEPP): 2021	
	Georgia Political Science Association (GPSA): 2021	
	Northwestern University Keyman Conference: 2018	
SERVICE	<i>Treasurer, APSA Democracy and Autocracy Section</i>	2026–2028
	<i>Host, MENA Writing Solidarity Group</i>	2026–present
	<i>Mentor, Midwest Political Science Association (×2)</i>	2025–present
	<i>Mentor, American Political Science Association (×4)</i>	2024–present
	<i>Committee Member, GSU AI in Research; Open Education</i>	2026–present
	<i>Co-Leader, APSA Dissertation Workshop Fieldwork Approaches in CP: MENA Region</i>	2025
	<i>Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Research Data Services, GSU</i>	2025
	<i>Country Expert, Chapel Hill Expert Survey for Turkey</i>	2024
	<i>Grant Reviewer, APSA Centennial Center Research Grants</i>	2024
	<i>Graduate Student Representative in Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Political Science, GSU</i>	2023
	<i>DEI Committee Graduate Student Representative, Department of Political Science, GSU</i>	October 2022 – October 2023
	<i>Reviewer: Perspectives on Politics (×2), Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics (×2), Democratization (×4), PS: Political Science & Politics, Party Politics, International Journal of Public Opinion Research (×3), Conflict, Security & Development (×2), Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Qualitative Research, Journal of Global Security Studies, Die Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft (ZfVP)</i>	
	<i>Discussant/Chair, APSA 2026 & 2025; MPSA 2026, 2024, & 2023; WPSA 2026, ISA-South 2023, ISA-Midwest 2022, ISA 2021, ASOPS 2021 & 2020</i>	
	Graduate Student Association, Georgia State University	
	• <i>Conference Chair, ASOPS</i>	May 2021 - May 2023
	• <i>International Student Delegate</i>	May 2020 - May 2021
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Party at the Mailbox, Atlanta, GA	
	<i>Data Analyst</i>	December 2020 - January 2021

	Center for European Studies Student Forum (CESSF) , Istanbul, Turkey <i>President</i>	2014-2016
	Sabancı University, Istanbul Policy Center , Istanbul, Turkey <i>Intern</i>	June 2016 – August 2016
ADDITIONAL TRAINING	Vanderbilt University – Center for Global Democracy • Summer School in International Survey Methods	June 2025
	Purdue University – Video Research Institute • Wav2Vec and Multimodal Classification • Convolutional Neural Networks	June, 2024
	ICPSR • (2022) <i>Panel data and longitudinal analysis</i> (received A), <i>Data science and text analysis</i> (received A) and <i>Causal inference for the social sciences</i> (audited). • (2023) <i>Machine Learning</i> (EITM Certification , received A).	2022 & 2023
SKILLS	• Certified the Carpentries Instructor • Software: R , Python, Stata, Qualtrics, QuestionPro, $\text{\LaTeX}$, NVivo, Tableau; experience with ArcGIS. • Languages: Turkish (native), English (fluent), Spanish (beginner).	
REFERENCES	Jennifer McCoy Regent's Professor of Political Science Georgia State University ✉ jmccoy@gsu.edu	Carrie Manning Professor of Political Science Georgia State University ✉ cmanning2@gsu.edu
	Mike Fix Professor of Political Science Georgia State University ✉ mfix@gsu.edu	Charles Hankla Associate Professor of Political Science Georgia State University ✉ chankla@gsu.edu
	Ryan Carlin Professor of Political Science Georgia State University ✉ rcarlin@gsu.edu	

updated October, 2026