Amber Ellen Boydstun

Professor, Dept. of Political Science
Affiliated Faculty, Dept. of Communication
University of California, Davis

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Education

2008 Ph.D., Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University
1999 B.A., Philosophy/Mathematics, St. John's College (Annapolis, MD & Santa Fe, NM)

Appointments

Professor, University of California at Davis, 2020–present
Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 2020–2021
Associate Professor, University of California at Davis, 2015–2020
Marie Curie Fellow, University of Antwerp, 2010-2011
Assistant Professor, University of California at Davis, 2008–2015

Publications

Books

Boydstun, Amber E., Jill R. Laufer, Dallas Card, and Noah A. Smith. 2026. *Catching Fire in the News: The Necessary Conditions for Media Storms*. Elements in Politics and Communication. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Boydstun, Amber E. 2013. *Making the News: Politics, the Media, and Agenda Setting*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
Winner of the 2018 American Political Science Association Doris Graber Award for best book published on political communication in the last 10 years

Baumgartner, Frank R., Suzanna L. De Boef and Amber E. Boydstun. 2008. *The Decline of the Death Penalty and the Discovery of Innocence*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
Winner of the 2008 American Political Science Association Gladys Kammerer Award for best political science publication in the field of U.S. national policy

Refereed Articles

Pietryka, Matthew T., Amber E. Boydstun, and Taylor N. Carlson. In Press. "Do Political Discussion Partners Share Policy Priorities and Policy Frames?" Political Behavior.

Boydstun, Amber E., Hanna Wallach, Dannagal G. Young, and Joseph A. Allen. 2023. "The Role of Humor in Work Group Dynamics in Times of Crisis." *Small Group Research*, 53(6): 792-833.

Adams, James, Bjarnøe Jensen, Camilla, and Amber E. Boydstun. 2023. "'Our Issue Positions Are Strong, and Our Opponents' Valence is Weak': An Analysis of Parties' Campaign Strategies in Ten West-European Democracies." *British Journal of Political Science*, 53(1): 65-84.

Glazier, Rebecca A., Amber E. Boydstun, and Jessica T. Feezell. 2021."Self-Coding: A Method To Assess Semantic Validity and Bias when Coding Open-Ended Responses." *Research & Politics*, 8(3); 1-8.

Barberá, Pablo, Amber E. Boydstun, Suzanna Linn, Jonathan Nagler, and Ryan McMahon. 2020. "Automated Text Classification of News Articles: A Practical Guide." *Political Analysis*, 29(1): 19-42.

Boydstun, Amber E. and Regina G. Lawrence. 2019. "When Celebrity and Political Journalism Collide: Reporting Standards, Entertainment, and the Conundrum of Covering Donald Trump's 2016 Campaign." *Perspectives on Politics*, 18(1): 128-143.

Feezell, Jessica T., and Rebecca A. Glazier, and Amber E. Boydstun. 2019. "Framing, Identity, and Responsibility: Do Episodic vs. Thematic Framing Effects Vary by Target Population?" *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, 9(2): 347-368.

Boydstun, Amber E., Jessica T. Feezell, and Rebecca A. Glazier. 2018. "In the Wake of a Terrorist Attack, Do Americans' Attitudes Toward Muslims Decline?" *Research and Politics*, 5(4): 1-7.

Boydstun, Amber E., Benjamin Highton, and Suzanna Linn. 2018. "Isolating the Effects of Economic Performance and Economic Media Coverage on Economic Attitudes." *Political Research Quarterly*, 71(4): 989-1000.

Boydstun, Amber E. and Peter Van Aelst. 2018. "New Rules for an Old Game? How the 2016 US Election Caught the Press off Guard." *Mass Communication and Society*, 21(6): 671-696.

Van Aelst, Peter, Rens Vliegenthart, and Amber E. Boydstun. 2018. "The Whole World Is Watching: Comparing EU and U.S. News Coverage of the U.S. 2008 and 2016 Elections." *International Journal of Communication*, 12(23).

Acree, Brice, Amber E. Boydstun, Justin Gross, Yanchuan Sim, and Noah Smith. 2018. "Etch-a-Sketching: Evaluating the Post-Primary Rhetorical Moderation Hypothesis." *American Politics Research*. 48(1): 99-131.

Boydstun, Amber E., Alison Ledgerwood, and Jehan Sparks. 2017. "A Negativity Bias in Reframing Shapes Political Preferences Even in Partisan Contexts." *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 10(1): 53-61.

Walgrave, Stefaan, Amber E. Boydstun, Rens Vliegenthart, and Anne Hardy. 2017. "The Non-Linear Effect of Information on Political Attention: Media Storms and US Congressional Hearings." *Political Communication*, 34(4): 548-570.

Boydstun, Amber E., Rens Vliegenthart, and Marshall Baker. 2017. "The Conditional Nature of Presidential Agenda Influence on TV News: The Case of Education." *International Journal of Communication*, 11: 2540-2561.

Beaulieu, Emily, Amber E. Boydstun, 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.

Lawrence, Regina G. and Amber E. Boydstun. 2017. "What We Should Really Be Asking About Media Attention to Trump." *Political Communication: The Forum* 34(1): 150-153.

Card, Dallas, Justin H. Gross, Amber E. Boydstun, and Noah A. Smith. 2016. "Analyzing Framing Through the Casts of Characters in the News." In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods for Natural Language Processing (EMNLP).

Card, Dallas, Amber E. Boydstun, Justin H. Gross, Philip Resnik and Noah A. Smith. 2015. "The Media Frames Corpus: Annotations of Frames Across Issues." In Proceedings of Association for Computational Linguistics Conference (ACL).

Boydstun, Amber E., Shaun Bevan and Herschel Thomas III. 2014. "The Importance of Attention Diversity and How to Measure It." *Policy Studies Journal*, 42(2): 173-196.

Boydstun, Amber E., Rebecca A. Glazier, Matthew T. Pietryka, and Philip Resnik. 2014. "Real-Time Reactions to a 2012 Presidential Debate A Method for Understanding Which Messages Matter." *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 78: 330-343.

Boydstun, Amber E., Stefaan Walgrave, and Anne Hardy. 2014. "Two Faces of Media Attention: Media Storm vs. Non-Storm Coverage." *Political Communication*, 31(4): 509-531.

Boydstun, Amber E., Jessica Feezell, Rebecca A. Glazier, Timothy P. Jurka, and Matthew T. Pietryka. 2014. "Colleague Crowdsourcing: A Method for Incentivizing National Student Engagement and Large-N Data Collection." *PS: Political Science & Politics.* 47(4): 829-834.

Yoon, Jiso and Amber E. Boydstun. 2014. "Dominating the News: Government Officials in Front-Page News Coverage of Policy Issues in the United States and Korea." *Journal of Public Policy*, 34(2): 207-235.

Ledgerwood, Alison and Amber E. Boydstun. 2014. "Sticky Prospects: Loss Frames Are Cognitively Stickier than Gain Frames." *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 143(1): 376-385.

Jurka, Timothy P., Loren Collingwood, Amber E. Boydstun, Emiliano Grossman and Wouter van Atteveldt. 2013. "RTextTools: A Supervised Learning Package for Text Classification." *The R Journal*, 5(1): 6-12.

Boydstun, Amber E. and Rebecca A. Glazier. 2013. "A Two-Tiered Method for Identifying Trends in Media Framing of Policy Issues: The Case of the War on Terror." *Policy Studies Journal*, 41(4): 706-735.

Boydstun, Amber E., Rebecca A. Glazier and Claire Phillips. 2013. "Agenda Control in the 2008 Presidential Debates." *American Politics Research*, 41(5): 863-899.

Boydstun, Amber E., Rebecca A. Glazier and Matthew T. Pietryka. 2013. "Playing to the Crowd: Agenda Control in Presidential Debates." *Political Communication*, 30(2): 254-277.

Pietryka, Matthew T. and Amber E. Boydstun. 2012. "The Benefits of Going Maverick: How Candidates Can Use Agenda-Setting to Influence Citizen Motivations and Offset Unpopular Issue Positions." *Political Behavior*, 34(4): 737-763.

Glazier, Rebecca A. and Amber E. Boydstun. 2012. "The President, the Press, and the War: A Tale of Two Framing Agendas." *Political Communication*, 29(4): 428-446.

Dardis, Frank E., Frank R. Baumgartner, Amber E. Boydstun, Suzanna De Boef and Fuyuan Shen. 2008. "Media Framing of Capital Punishment and Its Impact on Individuals' Cognitive Responses." *Mass Communication and Society* 11(2): 115-140.

Book Chapters

Boydstun, Amber E. 2023. "Quantitative Content Analysis: A Primer and Call for Robustness." In Box-Steffensmeier, Janet M., Dino Christenson, and Valeria Sinclair Chapman (eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Engaged Methodological Pluralism in Political Science*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Walgrave, Stefaan and Amber E. Boydstun. 2019. "The Comparative Agendas Project: The Evolving Research Interests and Designs of the CAP Scholarly Community." In Baumgartner, Frank R., Christian Breunig, and Emiliano Grossman (eds.), *Comparative Policy Agendas: Theory, Tools, Data.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lawrence, Regina G. and Amber E. Boydstun. 2017. "Celebrities as Political Actors and Entertainment as Political Media." In Van Aelst, Peter and Stefaan Walgrave (eds.), *How Political Actors Use the Media*. New York: Palgrave.

Boydstun, Amber E. and Annelise Russell. 2016. "From Crisis to Stasis: Media Dynamics and Issue Attention in the News." In Iyengar, Shanto (ed), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Resnik, Philip, Amber E. Boydstun, Rebecca A. Glazier and Matthew T. Pietryka. 2016. "Scalable Multidimensional Response Measurement using a Mobile Platform." In Schill, Dan, Rita Kirk and Amy E. Jasperson (eds.), *Political Communication in Real Time*. New York: Routledge.

Baumgartner, Frank R., Suzanna Linn (De Boef) and Amber E. Boydstun. 2009. "The Decline of the Death Penalty: How Media Framing Changed Capital Punishment in America." In Schaffner, Brian F. and Patrick Sellers (eds), *Winning with Words: The Origins and Impact of Framing*. New York: Routledge.

Popular Writing, White Papers, Book Reviews

Boydstun, Amber E. 2024. "Do Mass Media Really Matter for Elections?" UC Davis Magazine. https://www.ucdavis.edu/magazine/6-big-issues-in-the-presidential-election

Boydstun, Amber E. and Jill R. Laufer. 2023. "Frames as Information." MediaWell. https://mediawell.ssrc.org/articles/measuring-media-accuracy-essay-series/#frames-as-information

Kreiss et al. 2021. Recommendations to Journalists Covering the Pre- and Post-inauguration Period [White paper]. Election Coverage and Democracy Network. https://mediafordemocracy.org

Kreiss et al. 2020. Recommendations for Media Covering the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election [White paper]. Election Coverage and Democracy Network. https://mediafordemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ECAD-Recommendations.pdf

Lawrence, Regina F. and Amber E. Boydstun. 2017. "The Trump Conundrum." *Columbia Journalism Review.* https://www.cjr.org/special_report/trump-coverage-election-clinton.php

Beaulieu, Emily, Amber Boydstun, Kim Yi Dionne, Samara Klar, Yanna Krupnikov, Melissa Michelson, Kathleen Searles, and Christina Wolbrecht. 2016. "Here's a list of smart women political scientists. They know stuff, too." Monkey Cage post for *The Washington Post* (February 11, 2016). http://wpo.st/AxjG1

Boydstun, Amber E. 2015. Book Review: *After Broadcast News: Media Regimes, Democracy, and the New Information Environment*, by Bruce A. Williams and Michael X. Delli Carpini. *Political Communication*, 32 (2): 336-338.

Boydstun, Amber E. and Matthew A. Baum. 2013. "Syria vs. Cyrus." Op-ed article for HuffingtonPost.com (September 9, 2013). http://www.huffingtonpost.com/amber-boydstun/syria-vs-cyrus_b_3890493.html

External Grants and Fellowships

American Political Science Association for Women Also Know Stuff for "Broadening the Impact of Women Also Know Stuff." With Nadia Brown, Kim Yi Dionne, Samara Klar, Yanna Krupnikov, Melissa R. Michelson, Kerri Milita, Layna Mosley, Stella Rouse, Kathleen Searles, and Christina Wolbrecht. (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021): $25,000.

National Science Foundation EAGER Program, No. SES-1836072. "The Women Also Know Stuff Initiative." With Nadia Brown, Kim Yi Dionne, Samara Klar, Yanna Krupnikov, Melissa R. Michelson, Kerri Milita, Layna Mosley, Stella Rouse, Kathleen Searles, and Christina Wolbrecht. (September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019): $269,602.

Bloomberg Research Grant (2016–2017): $30,000.

National Science Foundation Social-Computational Systems Program, No. IIS-1211266. "Data-Driven, Computational Models for Discovery and Analysis of Framing." With Noah Smith, Philip Resnik, and Justin Gross. (September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015): $749,976 (UC Davis portion: $183,783 + $15,999 in Research Experience for Undergraduates funds).

National Science Foundation Political Science Program, No. SES-1211266. "The Asymmetric Sequential Effects of Gain and Loss Media Frames on Economic Attitudes." With Alison Ledgerwood. (September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2014): $150,000.

Amazon Web Services Education Research Grant (2011).

Awards

Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California, Davis (2018-2022).

Distinguished Teaching Award for Undergraduate Teaching, University of California, Davis (2019).

College of Letters and Science Teaching Award, University of California, Davis (2018).

Outstanding Advising Award for Faculty Academic Advising, National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) (2018).

Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award, University of California, Davis (2017).

Jane Mansbridge Award, American Political Science Association Women's Caucus (2016).

Faculty Development Award, University of California, Davis (2013–2014).

Invited Keynote Presentations

"Media Storms." UC Davis Chancellor's Club. Davis, CA, May 15, 2021.

"Simultaneous Truths." Visions in Methodology Conference. Athens, GA, May 3, 2019.

"The Consequences of Misinformation: A Symposium on Media and Democracy." Brookings Institute. Washington, DC, May 31, 2018.

"Text as Social Science Data." Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Berlin, Germany, August 8-10, 2016.

"Lessons from a Computational Political Scientist." The National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting Annual Reporting, Denver, CO, March 10, 2016.

"Getting Stuck in the Negatives." KDD Conference. Bloomberg News, August 24, 2014.

Teaching

Instructor, University of California, Davis (2008–present)

- FRS 3, Freshman Seminar
- POL 11A, America Decides
- POL 106, The Presidency
- POL 109, Policy Agenda Setting
- POL 165, Media and Politics
- POL 194HA & 194HB, Senior Honors Seminar
- POL 199, Independent Research
- POL 203A, Issue Framing (Graduate)
- POL 203A, Presidential Rhetoric (Graduate)
- POL 203A, Quantitative Content Analysis (Graduate)
- POL 203A, Computational Text Analysis (Graduate)
- POL 210, Research Design (Graduate)
- POL 214A & 214B, Research Design (Graduate)

Teaching Assistant, Stanford University: Summer Institute in Political Psychology (2007)

Instructor, The Pennsylvania State University: American Politics (2006)

Instructor, Native American Preparatory School, Rowe, NM: Mathematics and Drama (1999–2002)

Instructor, Santa Fe Indian School Evening Program, Santa Fe, NM: Mathematics (1997–1998)

Student Advising

Ph.D. Students
Rana McReynolds (Assistant Professor, California State Polytechnic, Pomona), Committee Chair
Spencer Kiesel (Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati), Committee Member
Hannah Dillman (Project Manager, Diversity Lab), Committee Chair
Philip Moniz (Postdoctoral Research Associate, Yale University), Outside Committee Member for the University of of Texas, Austin)
Alyt Damstra (University of Amsterdam), Outside Member for the University of Amsterdam
Kirsten Adams (Data Scientist, Pew Research), Outside Member for UNC Chapel Hill
Ross Butters (Adjunct Faculty, Sacramento State University), Committee Member
Xudong Yu (Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Pittsburgh)
Yul Min Park (Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Pittsburgh), Outside Member for the University of of Texas, Austin)
Sam Collitt (Research and Data Scientist, Committee of 100), Committee Member
Danielle Joesten (Associate Professor, California State University, Sacramento), Committee Member
Matthew Pietryka (Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin–Madison), Committee Member
Ryan Reed (Professor, Northwestern Missouri State University), Committee Member

M.A. Students
Stephen Ra (Machine Learning Lead, Pfizer R&D), Committee Chair
Timothy Jurka (Head of Feed AI, LinkedIn), Committee Chair

B.A. Students
Mckenzie Carling, Honors Thesis Advisor
Judy Shamshikh, Honors Thesis Advisor
Jameson Hammond, Honors Thesis Advisor
Shoshana Levy, Honors Thesis Advisor
McKenna Nolan, Honors Thesis Advisor
Alexis Peterson Honors Thesis Advisor
Allison Berkowitz, Thesis Advisor
Stephanie Bonham, Honors Thesis Advisor
Hannah Dillman, Thesis Advisor
Maraam Dwidar, Honors Thesis Co-Advisor
Saba Alemnew, Thesis Advisor
Adel Syed, Honors Thesis Advisor
Marshall Baker, Honors Thesis Advisor
Eric Spears, Honors Thesis Co-Advisor
Keval Patel, Honors Thesis Co-Advisor
Laura Britton, Honors Thesis Advisor
Claire Phillips, Honors Thesis Advisor
Kaitlin Gregg, Honors Thesis Co-Advisor

Editorial Positions

Editorial Board Member: *Political Communication*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, Text as Data Association.

Founding Board Member: Women Also Know Stuff

Former Associate Editor: *Public Opinion Quarterly* (2020-2024)

Referee: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Politics Research*, *Cognitive Systems Research*, *Collabra*, *Computers in Human Behavior*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *International Journal of Communication*, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Media and Communication Studies*, *Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Journalism*, *Mass Communication and Society*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *PLOS ONE*, *PNAS*, *Poetics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Communication*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Political Studies*,*Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Public Administration*, *Social Science Research*