

Isabelle Z. Jensen

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Government and Political Science
University of Maryland
5107 Tydings Hall
College Park, MD 20742

Telephone: (708)310-5244
Email: ijensen@umd.edu
isabellejensen.com

Education

Ph.D. Candidate, Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD (Expected June 2027).

Dissertation: *Crippling Participation: Disability and the Boundaries of Political Participation*

Committee: Chryl Laird (Chair), Michael Hanmer, Kristina Miler, and Janelle Wong

M.A., Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2025.

B.A., Political Science, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY, 2021.

Research Interests

American Politics; Disability Politics; Political Participation; Political Behavior; Identity and Political Psychology; Survey Measurement

Publications

- Laird, Chryl, Amber Colquhoun, and **Isabelle Jensen**. 2025. "Case Study: Racial Attitudes, Racial Appeals and Messaging." In *Handbook of Innovations in Political Psychology*, edited by Ethan Busby, Christopher Karpowitz, and Cara Wong.

Manuscripts Under Review

- **Jensen, Isabelle**, April Johnson, and Sidney Agee. "Accommodating or Deflating? How University Disability Services Shape Student Perceptions of the Political System." Manuscript under review for the "Politics of Disability in Political Science Pedagogy" symposium at *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

Working Papers

- Jensen, Isabelle. "Nothing About Us Without Trust: The Politics of Autism Disclosure." *Manuscript in preparation for submission*.
- Jensen, Isabelle. "Beyond Functional Limitation: Measuring Disability Through Lived Experience." *Manuscript in preparation*. Methods paper passed with distinction.

Public Scholarship and Research Reports

- Jensen, Isabelle; Novey, Sam. 2025. "[Maryland counties with fewer young drivers struggle to serve 18-year-old voters](#)," Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement. Substack.
- Jensen, Isabelle; Novey, Sam. 2025. "[67.4% of New Jersey Democrats support Vote 16 for school board elections...](#)" Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement. Substack.
- Jensen, Isabelle. "[Democratic Calories: Nourishing Patience and Participation at the Polls](#)" A CDCE White Paper on Food in American Electoral Politics. 2026. CDCE Website and Pizza to the Polls Substack.

- **Research Contributor:** Wray-Lake, Laura, Nicole Mirra, and Julia Rottenburg. 2026. [“Newark’s Implementation of a Lower Voting Age.”](#) Center for Democracy and Civic Engagement. Conducted research interviews.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2026 APSA Status Committee on Disability, “Reimagining Accessibility in the Discipline” Travel Grant – \$1,000
- 2025 MDI-CDCE Grand Challenge Award, University of Maryland – \$5,000
- 2024 Applied Social Issues Internship Grant, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues – \$1,375
- 2024 APSA Diversity Fellowship – \$2,000
- 2022 Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland
- 2021 High Honors, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Hofstra University

Conference Participation

- “Nothing About Us Without Trust: The Politics of Autism Disclosure.” Midwest Political Science Association. April 25, 2026.
- “Nothing About Us Without Trust: The Politics of Autism Disclosure.” Southern Political Science Association. January 10, 2026.
- Rethinking Disability as a Universal Experience Roundtable. American Political Science Association, September 5, 2024
- “Mass Incarceration: Where We Are and How We Got Here Within a Theoretical Framework” Pi Sigma Alpha National Student Research Conference, March 15, 2022 (virtual)
- “Mass Incarceration: Where We Are and How We Got Here Within a Theoretical Framework” Hofstra Student Research Day, December 10, 2021

Teaching Experience

University of Maryland

- **Instructor of Record**, GVPT 379N: *Strange New Worlds: A Sci-Fi Exploration of American Politics*, Summer 2026
- **Instructor of Record**, GVPT 170: *American Government*, Winter 2026
- **Teaching Assistant**, GVPT 170: *American Government*, Fall 2025

Hofstra University

- **Teaching Assistant**, PSC 147: *Public Opinion and Political Communication*, Spring 2021

Research Experience

- Research Assistant, Center for Civic Democracy and Engagement, and Michael Hanmer, September 2024–Present
- Research Assistant, Amy D. D’Agati, TerpsEXCEED University of Maryland, September 2023–May 2024
- Research Assistant, Chryl Laird, University of Maryland, September 2022–May 2023

Methods

- Survey Research; Survey Experimentation; Scale Development and Validation; Factor Analysis; Regression Analysis; Quantitative Analysis in R

Professional and University Service

- Member of the 2026 Status Committee on Disability's Working Group on 'Reimagining Accessibility in the Discipline.'
- Graduate Student Association Co-chair, Government and Politics, University of Maryland, September 2024–May 2025
- Discussant and staffer for Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Research Conference, 2023–Present

References

Chryl Laird
Associate Professor, University of
Maryland
Email: cnlaird@umd.edu

Michael Hanmer
Professor, University of
Maryland
Email: mhanmer@umd.edu

Kristina Miler
Professor, University of
Maryland
Email: kmiler@umd.edu