SEMRA SEVI

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Political Science	🌍 www.semrasevi.com
	University of Toronto	✉ semra.sevi@utoronto.ca
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	Toronto, ON M5S 3G3	

APPOINTMENTS

University of Toronto
Affiliated Faculty, Munk School of Global Affairs — 2024-
Faculty Fellow, Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society — 2024-
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science — 2023-

Columbia University
Banting Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science — 2021-2023

VISITING POSITIONS

McGill University
Visiting Fellow, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada — Feb.- June 2023

University of Toronto
Fellow in Residence, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy — Sept.- Dec. 2022

EDUCATION

Université de Montréal
Ph.D., Political Science — 2016-2021

University of Toronto
Master of Arts, Political Science — 2014
Honours Bachelor of Arts, Political Science & History — 2012

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Columbia University
Department of Political Science — 2020
Experimental Research: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation

University of Michigan
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods — 2019 & 2020
Courses: Regression Discontinuity Designs; Maximum Likelihood Estimation I: Generalized Linear Models; Regression Analysis II: Linear Models; Mathematics for Social Scientists; Categorical Data Analysis; Causal Inference for the Social Sciences; Matrix Algebra; R Statistical Computing Environment; and Python

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS
[*Shared lead author]; **Co-authored with students*

27. *Yamil R. Velez, Donald P. Green, and ***Semra Sevi** "Chatbot Voting Advice Applications Inform But Seldom Sway Young Unaligned Voters" In press at *PNAS*. [Replication Code]

26. **Semra Sevi** and Can Mekik. "Do Voters Support a Female President? Evidence from a List Experiment" In press at *American Politics Research*.

25. **Semra Sevi** and Donald P. Green. "Legislative reciprocity: Using a proposal lottery to identify causal effects" In press at *Political Science Research Methods*. [Replication Code]

24. **Semra Sevi** "The incumbency advantage in Canadian elections" In press at *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: UofT News

23. **Semra Sevi**, Charles Crabtree and André Blais. 2024. "Do Voters Punish Women Politicians More?" *American Politics Research*. 52(6): 701-708. [Replication Code]

22. *André Blais and ***Semra Sevi**. 2024. "Are feminine traits a liability in elections?" In press at *Acta Politica*. 1-15. [Replication Code]
Media coverage: L'actualité & UdeMNouvelles

21. **Semra Sevi**, **Marco Mendoza Aviña and Ruth Dassonneville. 2023. "Do incumbents gain from calling a snap election?" *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*. 1-13. [Replication Code]

20. **Semra Sevi** and André Blais. 2023. "Are women election averse?" *Electoral Studies*. 86: 102712 [Replication Code]

19. *Donald P. Green and ***Semra Sevi**. 2023. "The Effects of Proposal Power on Incumbents' Vote Share: Updated Results from a Naturally-Occurring Experiment" *Political Science Research Methods*. 11(2): 437-446. [Replication Code]

18. **Semra Sevi**. 2023. "Is Incumbency Advantage Gendered?" *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 48(1): 145-163. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: UofT News
[Animation Video]

17. **Semra Sevi** and André Blais. 2022. "Does voting in one election reduce the perceived cost of voting in subsequent elections?" *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. 55(2): 486-495. [Replication Code]

16. **Semra Sevi**, **Marco Mendoza Aviña and André Blais. 2022. "Reassessing Local Candidate Effects." *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. 55(2):480-485. [Replication Code]

15. André Blais, **Semra Sevi** and Carolina Plescia. 2022. "Are voters' views about proportional outcomes shaped by partisan preferences? A survey experiment in the context of a real election." *Political Science Research Methods*. 10(2):445-451 [Replication Code]

14. **Semra Sevi**. 2022. "Too Old to Be President?" *American Politics Research*. 50(6): 752-756. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: CBC & The Science of Politics Podcast

13. Erin Tolley, Randy Besco and **Semra Sevi**. 2022. "Who Controls the Purse Strings? A Longitudinal Study of Gender and Donations in Canadian Politics" *Politics and Gender*. 18(1): 244-272.

12. *André Blais, Carolina Plescia and ***Semra Sevi**. 2021. "Do people want smarter ballots?" *Research and Politics*. 8(4). [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: New America.

11. **Semra Sevi**. 2021. "Do Young Voters Vote for Young Leaders?" *Electoral Studies* 69: 1-8. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: National Post & Toronto Star

10. **Semra Sevi**. 2021. "Who Runs? Canadian Federal and Ontario Provincial Candidates from 1867 to 2019" *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 54(2): 471-476.
Media Coverage: CBC, Hill Notes, UofT News
[Animation Video]

9. **Marco Mendoza Aviña and **Semra Sevi**. 2021. "Did Exposure to COVID-19 Affect Vote Choice in the 2020 U.S. Election?" *Research and Politics* 8(3): 1-4. [Replication Code]

8. Carolina Plescia, **Semra Sevi** and André Blais. 2021. "Who likes to vote by mail?" *American Politics Research* 49(4): 381-385.
Media Coverage: The Loop

7. Ruth Dassonneville, André Blais, **Semra Sevi** and **Jean-François Daoust. 2021. "How Citizens Want their Legislator to Vote." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 46(2): 297-321. [Replication Code]

6. **Semra Sevi**, **Marco Mendoza Aviña, **Gabrielle Péloquin-Skulski, **Emmanuel Heisbourg, **Paola Vegas, **Maxime Coulombe, Vincent Arel-Bundock, Peter John Loewen and André Blais. 2020. "Logarithmic vs. Linear Visualizations of COVID-19 Cases Do Not Affect Citizens' Support for Confinement." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 53(2): 385-390. [Replication Code]

5. **Semra Sevi**, André Blais and **Danielle Mayer. 2020. "Do Lawyers Get More Votes?" *American Review of Canadian Studies* 50(2): 216-228. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: UofT News

4. **Semra Sevi**, **Can Mekik, André Blais and **Semih Çakır. 2020. "How Do Turks Abroad Vote?" *Turkish Studies* 21(2): 208-230. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: Policy Options

3. **Semra Sevi**, Vincent Arel-Bundock and André Blais. 2019. "Do Women Get Fewer Votes? No." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 201-210. [Replication Code]
Media coverage: L'actualité, UdeMNouvelles, UofT News
[Animation Video]

2. André Blais, **Fernando Feitosa and **Semra Sevi**. 2019 "Was my decision to vote (or abstain) the right one?" *Party Politics* 25(3): 382-389.
Media Coverage: Université de Montréal News

1. **Semra Sevi**, Antoine Yoshinaka and André Blais. 2018. "Legislative Party Switching and the Changing Nature of the Canadian Party System, 1867-2015." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 51(3): 665-695. [Replication Code]
Media Coverage: Policy Options, CBC, the Star, UofT News, The Hill Times, CBC Power & Politics, CBC Ottawa Morning, CBC Cross Country Checkup, CBC

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

2. *Jacob Robbins-Kanter and ***Semra Sevi**. 2025. "Working-Class Descriptive Representation in Canada's Federal Parties" In Robbins-Kanter, Jacob, Royce Koop, and Daniel Troup, eds. *The Working Class and Politics in Canada*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

1. **Semra Sevi**, André Blais and Vincent Arel-Bundock. 2021. "Do Women Get Fewer Votes in Ontario Provincial Elections?" In Roosmarijn de Geus, Erin Tolley, Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant, and Peter Loewen, eds. *Women, Power, and Political Representation: Canadian and Comparative Perspectives*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

PEER-REVIEWED POLICY REPORTS

1. André Blais and **Semra Sevi**. 2021. "The burden of voting in the 2019 Canadian federal election" *Elections Canada*.
Media Coverage: Times Higher Education

DATASETS

Semra Sevi. 2021. "Who Runs? Canadian Federal and Ontario Provincial Candidates since 1867. Canadian Journal of Political Science 54(2): 471-476." Available on the *Harvard Dataverse*: https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ABFNSQ. First published on the Dataverse in April 2019.

HONOURS

Early Researcher Award,
Government of Ontario: $190,000   2025-2030

SSHRC Talent Award,
Government of Canada: $50,000 CAN   2023-2025

Finalist SSHRC Talent Award,
Government of Canada: $50,000 CAN   2020

SELECTED RESEARCH AWARDS	CIFAR AI Catalyst Grant: $140,000 CAD	2026-2028

<table>
<tr><td>SELECTED
RESEARCH
AWARDS</td><td>CIFAR AI Catalyst Grant: $140,000 CAD
Project: "Repetition, Resistance, and Reinforcement: Longitudinal Effects of Conversational AI on Political Attitudes"
PI: Semra Sevi & Can Mekik</td><td>2026-2028</td></tr>
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SSHRC Partnership Grant–Stage 2: $2,499,979 CAN   2025-2032
Project: "The Political Accountability, Transparency, and Representation Oversight Network"
Directors: Christopher Cochrane and Rohan Alexander
Co-investigators: Angela Misri, April Lindgren, Harold Jansen, Holly A. Garnett, Jacob Robbins-Kanter, Laks V.S. Lakshmanan, Lisa M. Birch, Lisa Young, Michelle Alexopoulos, Monica Alexander, Nicole S. Blanchett, Robert Schertzer, Sara J. Bannerman, Semra Sevi, Shurui Zhou, Sophie Borwein, Tiffany A. Timbers, Vincent Arel-Bundock, Yannick Dufresne, Zachary T. Taylor, and Zane Schwartz.

Faculty of Arts & Science Collaborative Research Fund,   2025-2027
University of Toronto: $70,000 CAN
PI: Semra Sevi
Collaborators: Yang Xu & Can Mekik

Connaught New Researcher Award,   2024-2026
University of Toronto: $25,000 CAN

SSHRC Insight Development Grant: $63,589 CAN   2024-2026
Project: "Do Chatbot Voting Aid Applications Help Young Independent Voters Embrace a Party?"
PI: Semra Sevi
Collaborators: Donald P. Green & Yamil R. Velez

SSHRC Insight Grant: $306,610 CAN   2024-2029
Project: "Gender and Political Representation"
PI: Semra Sevi

Schwartz Reisman Institute Faculty Fellowship Award,   2024-2026
University of Toronto: $25,000 CAN

SSHRC Partnership Development Grant: $172,511 CAN   2024-2026
Project: "Transparency in Governance: Enhancing Data Integrity for Analyzing Conflicts of Interest and Lobbying in Canadian Politics"
Co-leads: Rohan Alexander and Zane Schwartz
Co-applicants: Holly Ann Garnett and Semra Sevi
Collaborators: April Lindgren, Chris Cochrane, Jacob Robbins-Kanter, and Randy Besco.

Fellow in Residence,
Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy: $25,000 CAN   2022

Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship,
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council: $140,000 CAN (Rank 2)   2021-2023

Bourse postdoctorale, (Declined)
Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture: $110,000 CAN (Rank 1)   2021-2023

Postdoctoral Fellowship, (Declined)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council: $90,000 CAN   2021-2023

"Do Voters Punish Women Politicians More?"   2021
Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior, APSA: $1,000 USD
Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship: $1,000 CAN

"How do citizens evaluate ranking?" Political Reform Program, New America,   2020
(with Carolina Plescia and André Blais): $11,400 USD

"The Impact of Visual Data on Canadians' Views about COVID-19"	2020
Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship,	
(with Marco Mendoza-Aviña, Gabrielle Péloquin-Skulski,	
Emmanuel Heisbourg, Paola Vegas, Maxime Coulombe,	
Vincent Arel-Bundock, Peter Loewen, and André Blais): $3,000 CAN	

Bourse Jacqueline Avard,
Université de Montréal: $2,500 CAN   2020

Doctoral Fellowship,
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council: $40,000 CAN   2019-2021

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Methods Certificate   2019

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Methods Scholarship,
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods: $5,000 USD   2019

Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship Methods Grants,
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods: $3,000 CAN   2019 & 2020

Richard J. Schmeelk Fellowship: $40,000 CAN   2017-2019

Doctoral Fellowship,
Fonds Québécois de la Recherche sur la Société et la Culture: $40,000 CAN   2017-2019

Alma Mater Scholarship,
Université de Montréal Excellence Entrance Fellowship: $5,000 CAN   2016

Université de Montréal Departmental Scholarship: $10,000 CAN   2016-2017

Finalist for 3 Minute Thesis (3MT),
Canadian Political Science Association annual conference at Calgary, AB   2016

Canadian Friends of Hebrew University of Jerusalem Award: $10,000 CAN   2014

University College Graduating Year Awards:
Anna and Alex Beverly Scholarship: $2,500 CAN   2013

University College Merit Award, University of Toronto   2013

Dora Burke Playfair Leadership Scholarship, University College: $2,500 CAN   2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

Experiments in Politics: Application (University of Toronto)	2026-
Experimental Thinking: Foundation (University of Toronto)	2025-
Political Representation (University of Toronto)	2025-
Canadian Government (University of Toronto)	2024-2025
Elections & Voting (University of Toronto) Experiential learning at Global News	2023-
Political Participation: Who gets Elected? (University of Toronto)	2023-2025
Political Behaviour (Queens University)	2021

GRADUATE TEACHING

Experiments in Politics: Application (University of Toronto)	2026-
Political Participation: Who gets Elected? (University of Toronto)	2023-2025

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Writing in LaTeX (Workshop, Université de Montréal)	2020
Designing surveys in Qualtrics (Workshop, Université de Montréal)	2020

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Maximum Likelihood Estimation I: Generalized Linear Models, University of Michigan	2021
R Bootcamp, McGill University	2020

Représentation politique, Université de Montréal	2016
Canadian Political Parties, University of Toronto	2014
Canada in Comparative Perspective, University of Toronto	2014

SUPERVISION

Masters committee member:
Inessa De Angelis "Torrential Twitter: Climate Change, Female Politicians, and Harassment" University of Toronto, 2024.

INVITED TALKS

Schwartz Reisman Institute, Toronto (2025)
Jackman Humanities Institute, Toronto (2024)
Kintore College, Toronto (2024)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Online (2023)
Network for Economic and Social Trends, University of Western Ontario, London (2023)
Policy, Elections & Representation Lab, University of Toronto, Toronto (2022)
University of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna (2022)
Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Online (2022)
Minority Politics, Online Seminar Series (2022)
Canada Vote Summit, Ryerson University, Toronto (2020)
Electoral Reform Research Group, Washington, DC (2020, 2021)
Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto, Toronto (2019)
Making Electoral Democracy Work Annual Meeting, Montreal (2017)
Samara Centre for Democracy, Toronto (2016)

CONFERENCES
[*Cancelled due to COVID-19]

The Politics of AI: Citizen Perceptions, Preferences, and Priorities (Oxford: 2025)
Prairie Political Science Association (PPSA) Annual General Meeting (Alberta: 2025)
American Political Science Association, (Washington: 2019, Montréal: 2022, Philadelphia: 2024, Vancouver 2025)
Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago 2022; 2023; 2025)
Canadian Political Science Association (Calgary: 2016, Vancouver: 2019, *London: 2020**, Online 2022, Toronto: 2023, Toronto: 2025)
Leuven-Montréal Winter School on Elections (Montréal: 2018, Leuven: 2019)
International Political Science Association, (Edinburg 2015)
Bell Chair in Canadian Parliamentary Democracy, (Ottawa 2015)

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Co-organizer, Department of Political Science Seminar Series at UofT	2025-
Ontario Graduate Scholarship Adjudication Committee at UofT	2025
Hahn-Sigelman Prize Committee for the Best Article Published in American Politics Research	2025
Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society's Fellowships Committee at UofT	2025
SSHRC Impact Awards Jury Member	2024-
SSHRC Talent Award Committee at UofT	2024
Search Committee for the Department of Political Science, UofT	2023

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS &ACTIVITIES

Associate Editor, Research & Politics	2024-
Junior Fellow, Network for Economic and Social Trends (NEST), Western University	2022-2023
Founder & Coordinator, Montréal Methods Workshops, Université de Montréal	2020-2021
Organizer, Weekly Seminars, Science Politique, Université de Montréal	2018-2020
Researcher, Canada Research Chair in Electoral Democracy, Université de Montréal	2017-2021
Researcher, Research Chair in Electoral Studies, Université de Montréal	2016-2021
Researcher, Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship, McGill University	2016-2021
American Political Science Association, Canadian Political Science Association & Midwest Political Science Association	2016-

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

American Politics Research; American Political Science Review; British Journal of Political Science; BMC Medical Research Methodology; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Electoral Studies;

European Political Science Review; Frontiers in Political Science; Government and Opposition; International Political Science Review; Journal of Elections Public Opinion and Parties; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; Legislative Studies Quarterly; Nature Communications; Political Behavior; Party Politics; Patterns; Politics & Gender; Political Research Quarterly; Research & Politics. See my Web of Science profile for more information on my reviews.

Selected Past Employment		
Research Consultant, Elections Canada, Ottawa	2020-2021
Research Assistant, Professor André Blais, Université de Montréal	2017-2021
Language Monitor, The Odyssey Language Assistant Program	2015-2016
Advocacy Intern, Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF)	2014
Speaker, University College Literary and Athletic Society, University of Toronto	2012-2013
Research Intern, The Agenda with Steve Paikin	2010-2011

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