

## **JENNIFER L. REXROAT**

### Office

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### Home

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Chicago, IL 60626  
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### Employment

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Baker University, Department of History, Political Science, and Sociology, 2002-2003

### Education

- Ph.D. Political Science and Gender and Women's Studies,  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
5.0 G.P.A.  
Degree Expected Spring, 2005  
Examination Fields: American Politics, Methodology,  
Feminist Theory, Urban Politics  
Graduate Concentration in Gender and Women's Studies  
Subfield specialization in Public Policy Analysis
- B.A. Government and English, College of Saint Benedict  
All-College Honors and Departmental Distinction in Government  
Summa Cum Laude: May, 1994  
Undergraduate Honors Thesis title: "The United States Nonprofit Sector as an  
Alternative Delivery System"  
Undergraduate Honors Thesis advisor: Dr. James Murphy

### Dissertation

"Race, Class, and Feminist Identification"

This dissertation assesses the likelihood that women of low socioeconomic status and women of color will identify themselves as feminists. Through quantitative survey research and ethnographic interviews, two hypotheses are tested: 1) that a positive relationship exists between income and feminist affiliation; and 2) that a negative relationship exists between minority status and feminist affiliation. The dissertation explores the possibility that this theoretically expected relationship is absent in random and targeted samples. This dissertation stands to make an important contribution to the literatures of political science, public policy

analysis, and gender and women's studies because it proposes to answer the question of whether feminism, as a social movement, can directly assist and benefit women in poverty.

Dissertation Committee:

Co-chairs: Dr. Norma Moruzzi, Dr. Richard Johnson

Readers: Dr. Thomas Carsey, Dr. J. Scott Johnson, Dr. Kevin Lyles

### **Publications**

“I’m Everywoman’: Oprah Winfrey and Feminist Identification.” In Juliet E.K. Walker (ed.), *The Oprah Winfrey Enterprise: Race, Culture, and the Media*, forthcoming 2004, Praeger.

“Bridging Feminist Theory and Feminist Practice in a Senior Seminar.” In Nancy Naples and Karen Bojar (eds.), *Teaching Feminist Activism: Strategies from the Field*. New York: Routledge, 2002. Pages 95-107.

“The Impact of Low Socioeconomic Status on Feminism.” *3 Illinois Political Science Review* 3-26 (1997).

“Building a Teaching Portfolio.” *8 UIC Interactions* (Spring, 1998).

### **Awards, Honors, Commendations**

University of Illinois at Chicago Dean’s Scholar Award, 2001.

University of Illinois at Chicago Provost’s Award for Graduate Research, 2001.

University of Illinois at Chicago University Fellowship Recipient: 1995, 1996, 1997, 2000.

University of Illinois at Chicago University Fellowship Alternate: 1999.

University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Research on Women and Gender Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, 2002.

University of Illinois at Chicago Gender and Women’s Studies Program Graduate Studies Prize Honorable Mention, 2000.

University of Illinois at Chicago Chancellor’s Student Service Award Recipient: 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000.

University of Illinois at Chicago Graduate College Travel Grant Recipient: 1998, 2001.

University of Illinois at Chicago Graduate Student Council Travel Grant Recipient: 1998, 2001.

American Political Science Association Advanced Graduate Student Travel Grant Recipient, 2001.

American Political Science Association Political Organizations and Parties Organized Section

Elite Interviewing Short Course Stipend Recipient, 2001.

Christabel Pankhurst/Miss Ella Baker Award for Women and Politics Research, Harvard University, 1998.

Pass with Distinction, Feminist Theory and Urban Politics Comprehensive Exams: Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1998.

Honorary Member, Alpha Delta Sigma Honor Society, Baker University, 2002.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Inductee, 1996-present.

*Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* Award Recipient, 1999.

*Two Thousand Notable American Women* Award Recipient, 1999.

*American Journal of Political Science* Best Poster Competition Finalist, 1997.

### **Major Fields of Teaching and Research Interest**

American Politics: Public Policy Analysis, Gender and Politics, Feminist Theories, Feminist Methodologies, Welfare and Social Policy, Research Methods, Urban Politics, Political Behavior

### **Teaching and Research Experience**

Spring, 2000 Graduate Student and Teaching Assistant Coordinator, University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Political Science.

Spring, 2000 Graduate Instructor, University of Illinois at Chicago:  
American Government (Introduction to American Government and Politics).

Fall, 1999 Graduate Student and Teaching Assistant Coordinator, University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Political Science.

Fall, 1999 Graduate Instructor, University of Illinois at Chicago:  
American Government (Introduction to American Government and Politics).

Spring, 1999 Graduate Instructor, University of Illinois at Chicago:  
Gender and Women's Studies (Senior Seminar: The History of Women's Organizations).

Spring, 1999 Assistant to the Director, UIC Gender and Women's Studies Program.

Fall, 1998 Assistant to the Director, UIC Gender and Women's Studies Program.

- Summer, 1998 Program Coordinator, University of Illinois at Chicago Teaching Assistant Orientation.
- Spring, 1998 Graduate Instructor, University of Illinois at Chicago: American Government (Introduction to American Government and Politics).
- Spring, 1998 Graduate Assistant, University of Illinois at Chicago: Council for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.
- Fall, 1997 Graduate Instructor, University of Illinois at Chicago: Gender and Women's Studies (Senior Seminar: The History of Women's Organizations).
- 1995-1997 Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Illinois at Chicago: American Government (Constitutional Law: The Federal System, Judicial Politics and Policymaking, Civil Liberties, and African-American Politics).
- 1994-1995 Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Illinois at Chicago: American Government (Constitutional Law: The Federal System, Judicial Politics and Policymaking, Civil Liberties, African-American Politics, and Urban Politics).

Graduate Assistantships: I have served as a teaching assistant for the following courses: Constitutional Law: The Federal System; The Constitution and Civil Liberties; Courts, Color, and the Constitution; Black Politics in the United States; and The Future of Chicago. I have also conducted research on federal judicial selection and judicial policymaking as well as Chicago aldermanic elections and voting behavior.

Other Research Experience: Research Assistant, 1994 UIC Public Opinion Poll  
 Research Assistant, 1995 Illinois Voter Project, UIC  
 Policy Consultant, 1996 Susan Hynes 13th Congressional District Election Campaign  
 Research Assistant, *The Gatekeepers*, Dr. Kevin Lyles, UIC  
 Research Assistant, *Rogues, Rebels, and Rubber Stamps*, Dr. Dick Simpson, UIC

### **Courses Taught**

Introduction to American Politics, Baker University  
 State and Local Government, Baker University  
 American Presidency, Baker University  
 American Political Behavior, Baker University  
 Science, Technology, and Critical Values, Baker University  
 Introduction to American Government and Politics, University of Illinois at Chicago

Gender and Women's Studies Senior Seminar, University of Illinois at Chicago

**Participation at professional meetings, symposia, conferences, etc.**

- Discussant, Gender and Welfare Policy panel, at the 2003 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting: April 3-6, 2003, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois.
- Presented paper, "Race, Class, and Feminist Identification: Oprah Winfrey and De Facto Feminism" at the 2001 American Political Science Association annual meeting: August 30-September 2, 2001, San Francisco, California.
- Presented paper, "Race, Class, and Feminist Identification," at the 2001 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting: April 19-22, 2001, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois.
- Guest lecture, "Gender Issues in the Classroom," Preparing Future Faculty seminar, University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Political Science: April 9, 2001, Chicago, Illinois.
- Presented paper, "'Doing It For Themselves': Bridging Feminist Theory and Feminist Practice in a Gender and Women's Studies Senior Seminar," Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association Annual Conference: February 24, 2001, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware.
- Presented paper, "'Doing It For Themselves': Bridging Feminist Theory and Feminist Practice in a Gender and Women's Studies Senior Seminar," University of Illinois at Chicago Gender and Women's Studies Program Lecture Series: February 7, 2001, Chicago, Illinois.
- Moderator, "What Election 2000 Means for Democracy," panel sponsored by the University of Illinois at Chicago Office for Democracy Studies: January 17, 2001, Chicago, Illinois.
- Presented paper, "The 1996 Welfare Reform Bill and its Impact on States and Urban Areas," at the 1998 Southern Political Science Association annual meeting: October 28-31, 1998, Sheraton Colony Square, Atlanta, Georgia.
- UIC Gender and Women's Studies Program representative at the 1998 Illinois Women's Studies Consortium annual meeting: October 23-24, 1998, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.
- Presented paper, "The 1996 Welfare Reform Bill and its Impact on States and Urban Areas," at the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics annual conference: October 2-3, 1998, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.
- Seminar participant, Frontiers of Women and Politics Research Seminar for Advanced Graduate Students, at the 1998 American Political Science Association annual meeting:

September 2, 1998, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts.

- Discussant, Gender Studies panel, at the 1997 Illinois Political Science Association annual meeting: October 25, 1997, Elgin Community College, Elgin, Illinois.
- Presented paper, “The Impact of Low Socioeconomic Status on Feminism,” as a poster session at the 1997 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting: April 10-12, 1997, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois.
- Discussant, Race and Gender panel, at the 1997 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting: April 10-12, 1997, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois.
- Presented paper, “The Impact of Low Socioeconomic Status on Feminism,” at the 1997 Midwest/Mid-Atlantic Feminist Graduate Student Conference annual meeting: February 14-16, 1997, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois.
- Presented paper, “The Impact of Low Socioeconomic Status on Feminism,” at the 1996 Illinois Political Science Association annual meeting: November 9, 1996, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.
- Presented paper, “The United States Nonprofit Sector as an Alternative Delivery System,” at the 1995 Chicago Students’ Symposium: February 25, 1995, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- Coordinator of 1994 annual meeting of the Illinois Political Science Association: November, 1994, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

### **Academic Service and Activism**

Faculty Moderator, Political Science Club, Baker University, 2002-2003.

Member, Faculty Discussion Group, Baker University, 2002-2003.

President and Spokesperson, Graduate Employees Organization, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1997-2000.

Graduate Student Council Representative, UIC Department of Political Science, 1995-1999.

Member, Graduate Advisory Committee, UIC Graduate Student Council, 1997.

Member, UIC Gender and Women’s Studies Committee, 1997-1999.

Moderator, UIC Gender and Women’s Studies Program Undergraduate Discussion Group, 1998-1999.

Member, UIC Gender and Women's Studies Program Dissertation Writing Group, 1997-2001.

Member, UIC Deans' Task Force on Graduate Education, 1997.

Teaching Assistant Consultant, University of Illinois at Chicago Teaching Assistant Orientation: 1995, 1996, 1997.

Member, University of Illinois at Chicago Teaching Assistant Focus Group, 1995.

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Political Science Association

American Political Science Association Women and Politics Research Section

American Political Science Association Public Policy Research Section

American Political Science Association Undergraduate Education Research Section

American Political Science Association Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Research Section

Women's Caucus for Political Science

Midwest Political Science Association

American Association of University Women

American Association of University Professors

National Organization for Women

National Women's Studies Association

### **References**

Associate Professor Norma Moruzzi, Department of Political Science and Gender and Women's Studies Program, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 276, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 996-2794. Fax: (312) 413-0440; E-mail: nmoruzzi@uic.edu

Professor Emeritus Richard Johnson, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 276, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 996-5156. Fax: (312) 413-0440; E-mail: rjohnson@uic.edu

Associate Professor Kevin Lyles, Department of Political Science and Department of African-American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 069, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 413-5118. Fax: (312) 996-5799; E-mail: lyles@uic.edu

Associate Professor Thomas Carsey, Department of Political Science, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2230, (850) 645-0083. Fax: (850) 644-1367; E-mail: tcarsey@garnet.acns.fsu.edu

Associate Professor J. Scott Johnson, Department of Political Science, St. John's University, Collegeville, MN 56321, (320) 363-2530. Fax: (320) 363-3298; E-mail: sjohnson@csbsju.edu  
Professor Stephanie Riger (former Director of the Gender and Women's Studies Program), Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 285, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 413-2300. Fax: (312) 413-4122; E-mail: sriger@uic.edu

Professor Dick Simpson, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 276, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 413-3780. Fax: (312) 413-0440; E-mail: simpson@uic.edu

Professor Gerald Strom, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 276, Chicago, IL 60607-7137, (312) 996-4421. Fax: (312) 413-0440; E-mail: gstrom@uic.edu

Susan Pevery, Ph.D. (former Resource and Policy Analyst, Council for Excellence in Teaching and Learning), Assistant Dean, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago, M/C 874, Chicago, IL 60612, (312) 996-1521. Fax: (312) 996-3272; E-mail: slpev@uic.edu