

## Melissa K. Merry

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Department of Political Science  
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### EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy**, Political Science, University of Washington, Aug. 2008

- Committee: Mark Smith (chair), Peter May, and Bryan Jones
- Fields: American Politics, Public Policy Processes, Political Methodology
- Specialization: Interest Groups, Environmental Politics and Policy
- Dissertation: *Multi-Media Communication Strategies: Interest Groups, Information, and the Public*

**Master of Arts**, Political Science, University of Washington, June 2004

- Thesis: *Mature Versus Emergent Policy Areas: Comparing Point and Non-point Sources of Water Pollution*

**Bachelor of Arts**, Environmental Studies, Hampshire College, Feb. 2001

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Merry, Melissa K. 2023. "The Prospects for Gun Policy Change Following Mass Shootings." Forthcoming in *Politics and Policy*.

Merry, Melissa K., and Mattingly, Hailey. 2023. "Framing the Climate Crisis: Dread and Fatalism in Media and Interest Group Responses to IPCC Reports." *Review of Policy Research*, DOI: 10.1111/ropr.12539.

Merry, Melissa K. 2022. "Trump's Tweets as Policy Narratives: Constructing the Immigration Issue via Social Media." *Politics and Policy*, 50(4): 752-772.

Colville, Kathleen, and Melissa K. Merry. 2022. "Speaking from Experience: Medicaid Consumers as Policy Storytellers." In *Narratives and the Policy Process: Applications of Narrative Policy Framework*, Michael D. Jones, Mark K. McBeth, and Elizabeth A. Shanahan (eds.), Montana State University Library, <https://doi.org/doi.org/10.15788/npf6>.

Gainous, Jason and Melissa K. Merry. 2021. "Climate Change as a National Security Issue: Examining Framing Effects Across Party." *American Politics Research*, 50(2): 199-212. doi: 0.1177/1532673X211053213.

- Gainous, Jason, Rodger A. Payne, and Melissa K. Merry. 2021. "Do Source Cues or Frames Matter? Convincing the Public about the Veracity of Climate Science." *Social Science Quarterly*, 102(4): 1894-1906.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2020. "Interest Groups in Environmental Policy: Navigating Rocky Political Terrain." In *Handbook of U.S. Environmental Policy*, edited by David M. Konisky, 142-155. Northampton, MA: Edward Elger Publishing.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2020. *Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2019. "Narrative Strategies in the Gun Policy Debate: Exploring Proximity and Social Construction." *Policy Studies Journal*, 46(4): 747-770.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2017. "Angels Versus Devils: The Portrayal of Characters in the Gun Policy Debate." *Policy Studies Journal*, 47(4): 882-904.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2016. "Making Friends and Enemies on Social Media: The Case of Gun Policy Organizations." *Online Information Review*, 40(5): 624-642.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2016. "Constructing Policy Narratives in 140 Characters or Less: The Case of Gun Policy Organizations." *Policy Studies Journal*, 44(4): 373-395.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2014. "Broadcast Versus Interaction: Environmental Groups' Use of Twitter." *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, 11(3): 329-344.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2014. *Framing Environmental Disaster: Environmental Advocacy and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill*. New York: Routledge.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2013. "Tweeting for A Cause: Micro-Blogging and Environmental Advocacy." *Policy and Internet*, 5(3): 304-327.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2012. "Environmental Groups' Communication Strategies in Multiple Media." *Environmental Politics* 21(1): 49-69.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2011. "Interest Group Activism on the Web: The Case of Environmental Organizations." *Journal of Information Technology & Politics* 8(1): 110-128.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2010. "Blogging and Environmental Advocacy: A New Way to Engage the Public?" *Review of Policy Research* 27(5): 641-656.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2010. "Emotional Appeals in Environmental Group Communications." *American Politics Research* 38(5): 862-889.

May, Peter, Bryan D. Jones, Betsi E. Beem, Emily A. Neff-Sharum, and **Melissa K. Poague**. 2005. "Policy Coherence and Component-Driven Policymaking." *Policy Studies Journal* 33(1): 37-63.

May, Peter, Bryan D. Jones, Betsi E. Beem, Emily A. Neff-Sharum, and **Melissa K. Poague**. 2005. "Regional Policy Agglomeration: Arctic Policy in Canada and the United States." *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* 7(2): 121-136.

Authored sidebars on ethics and international issues in technical communication: Burnett, Rebecca E. 2005. *Technical Communication, Sixth Edition*. Boston, MA: Thomson Wadsworth.

- "Minimizing Cultural Bias in International Web Sites" (pp. 44-45)
- "The Case of Nuclear Waste Disposal" (pp. 691-692)
- "Hard Facts or Mere Guesses? Ethics and Statistics" (pp. 721-722)

### **WORKS UNDER REVIEW**

Kaplan, Yael R., Melissa K. Merry, Michael D. Jones, and Shaul Shenhav. 2023. "Who We Are and How We Vote: A Macro Narrative Policy Framework Analysis of the Relationship between National Identity and the United Nations General Assembly Voting Patterns." Under review at *Journal of European Policy Policy*.

Merry, Melissa K., and Rodger A. Payne. 2023. Narrative Transportation and the Persuasive Power of the Film *Don't Look Up*." Under review at *Environmental Communication*.

### **NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Merry, Melissa K., and Aaron-Smith Walter. 2023. "Biden calls for assault weapon ban—but does focus on military-style guns and mass shootings undermine his message?" *The Conversation*, February 8. Available at <https://theconversation.com/biden-calls-for-assault-weapon-ban-but-does-focus-on-military-style-guns-and-mass-shootings-undermine-his-message-198770>

Jones, Michael D., Geoboo Song, Holly L. Peterson, Aaron Smith-Walter, Melissa K. Merry, Gwen Arnold, Creed Tumlinson, and Rachael M. Moyer. 2022. "Editorial Introduction: An Eclectic Collection." *Policy Studies Journal* 50(4): 731-733.

Jones, Michael D., Geoboo Song, Melissa K. Merry, Holly L. Peterson, Aaron Smith-Walter, Gwen Arnold, Creed Tumlinson, and Rachael M. Moyer. 2022. "Editorial Note: Improving Policy Process Theory: Policy Feedback, Punctuated Equilibrium Theory, and the Multiple Streams Framework." *Policy Studies Journal* 50(3): 479-482.

- Jones, Michael D., Geoboo Song, Melissa Merry, Gwen Arnold, and Aaron-Smith-Walter. 2022. "Editorial Introduction: Multidimensional Policy Spaces, Policy Actors and the Policy Process, and an Update to the Institutional Collective Action Framework." *Policy Studies Journal* 50(1): 6-8.
- Jones, Michael D., Geoboo Song, Melissa K. Merry, Gwen Arnold, and Aaron Smith-Walter. 2022. "Editorial Introduction: Multidimensional Policy Spaces, Policy Actors and the Policy Process, and an Update to the Institutional Collective Action Framework." *Policy Studies Journal*, 50(1): 6-8.
- Jones, Michael D., Melissa K. Merry, Geoboo Song, Gwen Arnold, and Aaron Smith-Walter. 2021. "Editorial Introduction: Policy Entrepreneurs, Science and Learning, Collaboration, and More." *Policy Studies Journal*, 49(4): 940-942.
- Jones, Michael D., Gwen Arnold, Melissa K. Merry, Geoboo Song, Aaron Smith-Walter. 2021. "Editorial Introduction: Dealing with *Changes* One Way or Another." *Policy Studies Journal*, 49(3): 670-674.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2021. Book review of *The Gun Gap: The Influence of Gun Ownership on Political Behavior and Attitudes* by Mark R. Joslyn, *Perspectives on Politics*, 19(1): 266-268.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2020. "Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy." Second Thoughts Blog, Duke Center for Firearms Law, January 29. Available at <https://firearmslaw.duke.edu/2020/01/warped-narratives-distortion-in-the-framing-of-gun-policy/>
- Merry, Melissa K. 2019. Book review of *The Six-Shooter State: Public and Private Violence in American Politics* by Jonathan Obert. *Political Science Quarterly*, Winter.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2017. "Creating Political Will Through Framing: Strategies for Environmental Communication." *Sustain* 37 (Fall//Winter): 25-29.
- Merry, Melissa. 2016. "Gun Policy Groups Use Twitter to Frame Issues on Their Own Terms and to Sway Public Opinion, All Within the Space of 140 Characters." London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog, February 11. Available at <http://bit.ly/1TaG1dP>.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

**Student Champion**, Fall 2020-Spring 2021, University of Louisville.

**Faculty Favorite Award**, 2015-2016, 2018-2019. Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Louisville.

**Prominent Public Affairs Scholar** award, School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado, Denver, 2018.

**Highly Commended Paper** award for “Making Friends and Enemies on Social Media,” *Online Information Review*. Emerald Literati Network, Awards for Excellence, 2017.

**Arnold Vedlitz Award, Best Book or Article on Environmental Politics of the American South** for *Framing Environmental Disaster: Environmental Advocacy and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill*. Southern Political Science Association, 2017.

**Research Grant**, Nancy Bell Evans Center on Nonprofits & Philanthropy, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington, 2006-2007.

Donald R. Matthews **Fellowship** in American Politics, Center for American Politics and Public Policy, University of Washington, 2002-2003.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Merry, Melissa K., and Rodger A. Payne. 2023. “Climate Fatalism, Partisan Cues, and Support for the Inflation Reduction Act.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Merry, Melissa K., and Rodger A. Payne. 2023. “Narrative Transportation and the Persuasive Power of the Film *Don't Look Up*.” Paper presented at the Conference on Public Policy Research, Denver, CO.

Merry, Melissa K., and Mattingly, Hailey. 2022. "Climate Dread and Fatalism in the Policy Process: Analyzing Media and Interest Group Responses to IPCC Reports." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Colville, Kathleen and Melissa K. Merry. 2021. *Using the Narrative Policy Framework and Social Construction of Target Populations Theory to Understand Strategic Characterization in Medicaid Advocacy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Colville, Kathleen and Melissa K. Merry. 2020. *Speaking from Experience: Medicaid Consumers as Policy Storytellers*. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

- Gainous, Jason and Melissa K. Merry. 2020. *National Security Frames and Attitudes about Climate Change: Examining Effects of Variation in the Type of Frame across Party*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2019. *Trump's Tweets as Policy Narratives: Constructing the Immigration Issue via Social Media*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Austin, TX.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2018. *Trump's Tweets as Policy Narratives: Constructing the Immigration Issue via Social Media*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2017. *Narrative Strategies in the Gun Policy Debate: Exploring the Role of Proximity and Social Construction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2016. *Angels versus Devils: The Portrayal of Characters in the Gun Policy Debate*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2016. *Making Friends and Enemies on Social Media: The Case of Gun Policy Organizations*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2015. *Constructing Policy Narratives in 140 Characters or Less: The Case of Gun Policy Organizations*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2014. *Just Another Mass Shooting: Interests and the Rhetoric of Gun Control Politics*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2013. *Broadcast Versus Interaction: Environmental Groups' Use of Twitter*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2012. *Framing a Disaster in Multiple Media: Environmental Groups' Responses to the Gulf Oil Spill of 2010*. Paper accepted on a panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2012. *Tweeting for a Cause: Microblogging and Environmental Advocacy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

- Merry, Melissa K. 2012. *Framing a Disaster in Multiple Media: Environmental Groups' Responses to the Gulf Oil Spill of 2010*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2011. *Framing Disaster: Environmental Groups' Responses to the Gulf Oil Spill*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2010. *Blogging and Environmental Advocacy: A New Way to Engage the Public*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2009. *Environmental Group Websites: Exploring the Democratizing Potential of the Internet*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Vancouver, B.C.
- Merry, Melissa K. 2008. *Communicating Complexity: Do Environmental Groups "Dumb Down" Issues for Public Consumption?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA.
- Poague, Melissa K. 2007. *Communicating Complexity: Interest Groups, Information, and the Public*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- May, Peter, Bryan D. Jones, Betsi E. Beem, Emily A. Neff-Sharum, and **Melissa K. Poague**. 2004. *In Search of Arctic Policy: Component Driven Policymaking in Canada and the United States*. Paper presented at the Fifth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, Fairbanks, AK.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant Professor**, University of Louisville, July 2009 to July 2015

**Associate Professor**, University of Louisville, July 2015 to present

- Fall 2009 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Graduate Seminar in Public Policy)
- Spring 2010 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2010 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Graduate Seminar in Public Policy)
- Spring 2011 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2011 courses: Political Science 201 (Fundamentals of American Government), Political Science 619 (Graduate Seminar in Public Policy)

- Spring 2012 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 326 (Honors Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2012 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Graduate Seminar in Public Policy)
- Spring 2013 courses: Political Science 201 (Fundamentals of American Government), Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2013 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Graduate Seminar in Public Policy)
- Spring 2014 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2014 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Spring 2015 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Seminar in Public Policy)
- Summer 2015 courses: Political Science 201 (Fundamentals of American Government)
- Fall 2015 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Spring 2016 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Seminar in Public Policy)
- Fall 2016 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Spring 2017 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 326 (Public Policy)
- Spring 2018 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 619 (Seminar in Public Policy)
- Fall 2018 courses: Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy), Political Science 507 (Digital Politics and Public Policy)
- Spring 2019 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 326 (Public Policy)
- Fall 2019 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 495 (Political Polarization and the Culture War)
- Spring 2020 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 619 (Seminar in Public Policy)
- Summer 2020 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics)
- Fall 2020 courses: Political Science 326 (Public Policy), Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Spring 2021 courses: Political Science 495 (Political Polarization and the Culture War), Political Science 507 (Digital Politics and Public Policy)
- Summer 2021 courses: Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy)
- Fall 2021 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 326 (Public Policy)



- Spring 2022 course: Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy), POLS 619 (Seminar in Public Policy)
- Fall 2022 courses: Political Science 201 (Introduction to American Government and Politics), Political Science 326 (Public Policy)
- Spring 2023 courses: Political Science 426 (Environmental Policy), Political Science 495 (Political Polarization and the Culture War)

**Visiting Professor**, Pacific Lutheran University, Sept. 2008 – June 2009

- Fall 2008 courses: Introduction to Political Science, Introduction to American Politics, Political Parties and Elections.
- Spring 2009 courses: Introduction to American Politics, Government and Public Policy, Politics and the Media.

**Adjunct Faculty**, Edmonds Community College, Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

- American Government, 3 quarters.

**Instructor**, University of Washington, June 2006 – July 2008

- Introduction to American Politics, 3 quarters.
- Environmental Politics and Policy, 1 quarter.

**Adjunct Faculty**, North Seattle Community College, Fall 2007

- Introduction to American Politics, 1 quarter.

**Adjunct Faculty**, Seattle University, Jan. 2006 – June 2007

- Introduction to American Politics, 3 quarters.
- The Policy Process, 2 quarters.

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Washington, Sept. 2004 – June 2008

- Introduction to American Politics, 6 quarters
- The Policy Process, 1 quarter
- American Elections and the Vote, 1 quarter
- Introduction to Political Theory, 1 quarter
- Introduction to Political Economy, 1 quarter

**DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Director of Graduate Studies**, Political Science Master of Arts Program, University of Louisville, July 2013-July 2022.

**Member, Faculty Salary Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Louisville, Fall 2021-present.

**Member, Faculty Search Committee**, Department of Political Science, University of Louisville, Fall 2021-Spring 2022.

**Personnel Committee**, Department of Political Science, University of Louisville, Fall 2010-Spring 2012, Fall 2018-Spring 2019, Chair (Fall 2019-Spring 2020), Fall 2021-present.

**Executive Committee**, American Association of University Professors, University of Louisville Chapter, July 2016-present.

**Vice President**, University of Louisville Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, May 2021-present.

**President**, University of Louisville Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, May 2018-May 2021.

**Curriculum Committee**, Department of Political Science, University of Louisville, Fall 2014-Spring 2016

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Associate Editor**, *Policy Studies Journal*, July 2021-present.

**Editorial Board member**, *Policy and Politics*, Feb 2021-April 2022.

**Editorial Board member**, *Policy Studies Journal*, April 2019-July 2021.

**Associate Editor**, *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, Fall 2020-July 2021.

**Invited Speaker**, “Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy.” Book Talk, University of Michigan Press, August 2020.

**Invited Speaker**, “Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy.” Book Talk, New Books Network podcast, July 2020: <https://newbooksnetwork.com/melissa-k-merry-warped-narratives-distortion-in-the-framing-of-gun-policy-u-michigan-press-2020>

**Invited Lecturer**, “Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy.” University of Massachusetts, Lowell, April 2019.

**Invited Lecturer**, “Warped Narratives: Distortion in the Framing of Gun Policy.” University of Colorado, Denver, April 2018

**Invited Speaker**, “Creating Political Will Through Framing: Strategies for Environmental Communication.” Sustainability Roundtable, University of Louisville, Sept. 15, 2017.

**Invited Speaker**, “Engaging People in Environmental Issues.” Louisville Sustainability Council, Louisville, KY, 2012.

**Invited Speaker**, “Online Political Democracy and Communication.” The Irish Institute, Boston College Center for Irish Programs, talk delivered at University of Louisville, 2012.

**Invited Speaker**, “Framing Disaster: Environmental Groups’ Responses to the Gulf Oil Disaster of 2010. Department of Urban and Public Affairs, University of Louisville, 2011.

**Lecturer**, “Public Bureaucracies in the American Political Order.” English for Heritage Language Speakers Program. University of Washington, 2008.

**Lecturer**, “Public Policy Formation,” English for Heritage Language Speakers Program, University of Washington, 2006.

**Research Assistant** for Peter May, Center for American Politics and Public Policy, University of Washington, June 2003 – Sept. 2004.

**Political Organizer** for the State Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs), 1999-2001

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Association of University Professors

Midwest Political Science Association

Narrative Policy Framework Working Group