



**The Exeter College Summer Programme
at Exeter College in the University of Oxford**

Individual Research Tutorial Proposal Form

Name: Megan Pagaduan

Home University: University of California, Berkeley

Home Degree Major: Political Science

Expected Graduation Date: May 2022

ECSP course you would like to substitute for the IRT: Histories of Migration

Title of your Proposal: “Legislative Quota Design and Its Potential Effects on Substantive Representation”

Subject Area of this Proposal: Political Science

Briefly describe your proposal in no more than 250 words.

Reserved seats and quotas in national legislatures are often used as a fast-track reform to increase the representation of different minority groups in government. There has been substantial literature on whether or not these quotas enhance the substantive representation of minority groups, or in other words, if these quotas actually allow minorities to advocate for and pass policies that benefit them once elected into office.

This research proposal aims to focus on the institutional design of quotas in different countries, specifically focusing on two types of quotas: single-dimension quotas and tandem quotas. While single-dimension quotas are broadly intended for one minority group, such as women or ethnic minorities, tandem quotas are multiple separate quotas set for different minority groups, such as one quota for women and another separate quota for ethnic minorities. Thus, given the different designs of these two quotas, I propose the following question: Is one quota design more successful at enhancing the substantive representation of minorities than the other? In response to this question, this research will draw evidence from countries with tandem quotas, such as Burundi and Tunisia, and compare their effects on substantive representation to countries with single-dimension quotas, such as those with quotas just for women or ethnic minorities. This project hopes to further the current research on different quota systems by analyzing their institutional designs and their potential effects on the substantive representation of minority groups.

Briefly describe any relevant study you have already completed in the area.

In Spring 2021, I took a seminar class titled “Representation and Distribution,” which has been critical to my understanding of different quotas and reserved seats systems in

different countries, and has actually inspired the topic of this proposal. I also have two years of research experience working on the National Elections Across Democracy and Autocracy (NELDA), an election database led by Professor Hyde at UC Berkeley. This has enhanced my knowledge on different electoral systems around the world.

On my own time, I have already begun researching different quota systems to narrow the scope of my work and select case-studies for my research.

List any books or other resources which may be relevant and/or necessary to your proposed research. Please limit your answer to no more than 10 entries.

1. Belschner, Jana and Marta Garcia de Paredes. 2021. Hierarchies of Representation: The Redistributive Effects of Gender and Youth Quotas, *Representation*, 57:1, 1-20, doi: [10.1080/00344893.2020.1778510](https://doi.org/10.1080/00344893.2020.1778510)
2. Chattopayhyay, Raghavendra and Esther Duflo. 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India," *Econometrica*, 72(5): 1409-1443.
3. Dimitrova-Grajzl, Valentina and Iyabo Obasanjo. 2019. "Do Parliamentary Gender Quotas Decrease Gender Inequality? The Case of African Countries." *Constitutional Political Economy* 30 (2). 149–176. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10602-018-09272-0>
4. Dovi, Suzanne. 2002. "Preferable Descriptive Representation: Will Just Any Woman, Black, or Latino Do?" *American Political Science Review* 96: 729-43
5. Eulau, Heinz & Paul D. Karps. 1977. "The Puzzle of Representation: Specifying Components of Responsiveness," *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 2(3): 233-254.
6. Hughes, Melanie. 2008. *Politics at the Intersection: A Cross-National Analysis of Minority Women's Legislative Representation* (thesis).
7. Jensenius, Francesca. 2016. Competing Inequalities? On the Intersection of Gender and Ethnicity in Candidate Nominations in Indian Elections. *Government and Opposition*, 51(3), 440–463. <https://doi.org/10.1017/gov.2016.8>
8. Pitkin, Hannah. 1967. *The Concept of Representation*. Berkeley: The University of California Press. All (except Chapter 2).

Important: *The IRT is subject absolutely to the Academic Director's approval and the availability of an expert in Oxford to guide your research. Submission of an IRT proposal and payment of the supplementary fee does not guarantee acceptance.*