

Rebecca Szper

Department of Political Science
University of Washington
101 Gowen Hall, Box 353530
Seattle, WA 98195-3530
rszper@u.washington.edu

Education

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

- Political Science Graduate Program specializing in Comparative Political Economy and Methodology, Prospective MA, 2009; Prospective Ph.D., 2013

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

- Bachelor of Arts, May 2005, GPA 3.86/4.0
- Major: Latin American Studies with a concentration in Political Science and a certificate in Environmental Studies, Graduated with Honors
- Senior Honors Thesis: Ecotourism in the Protected Areas of Ecuador - a Conservation Boom and Bust
- School for International Training, Comparative Ecology and Conservation in Ecuador, Spring 2004

Fellowships and Awards

- Davenport Summer Thesis Research Grant; 2004: Researched ecotourism and protected areas in Ecuador.
- Dana Summer Internship Grant; 2003: Interned with Fundación Jatun Sacha at two ecological reserves.
- Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa
- Recipient of the Levy-Spira Prize for Excellence in Latin American Studies, 2005
- National Merit Scholarship Recipient, 2001

Teaching Experience

- Teaching Assistant Spring 2008: Pol S 321 – American Foreign Policy
- Teaching Assistant Winter 2008: Pol S 249 – Introduction to Labor Studies
- Teaching Assistant Fall 2007: Pol S 368 – Politics and Law of International Human Rights

Research Experience

- Coordinated the “Challenges to Fair Trade” conference at the University of Washington for the Evan’s School of Public Affairs (Seattle: February 8-9, 2008)
- Discussant for “Overcoming International Security Rivalry: Argentine-Brazilian Rapprochement in Comparative Perspective” by Christopher Darnton (February 22, 2008)
- Discussant for *Colonialism and Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective* by James Mahoney (November 26, 2007)
- Research Assistant to Professor Margaret Levi: Formatted author chapters for *Mobilizing Democracy* volume

Professional Experience

Women’s Justice Program Coordinator, Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center
Seattle, WA; Jan. 2007 – September 2007

- Conducted community organizing with English & Spanish speaking populations throughout Washington State in order to carry out eight week programs aimed at empowering low-income women and creating systemic change.

AmeriCorps Intern/Consultant, Cascade Bicycle Club; Seattle, WA; Oct. 2005 – Jan. 2007

- Ran Bicycle Ambassador community outreach program, coordinated bicycle education program, maintained Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation (CBCEF) website, and wrote articles for the monthly newsletter. Logistics coordinator for Bike to Work Breakfast and other CBCEF events. Performed data entry. Some grant writing.

Writing Tutor, Wesleyan University Writing Workshop; Fall 2003

- Helped students at all writing levels plan and improve their essays for classes, applications, etc.

Marketing Assistant, Wesleyan University Press; Fall 2003

- Assisted the marketing manager in all tasks, including press releases, data recording, and mailings.

Volunteer Experience

ESL Tutor, Middletown High School; Middletown, CT; Oct. 2004 – May 2005

- Tutored all subjects in an ESL classroom, primarily with Spanish speaking students

Reforestation and Habitat Restoration, Fundación Jatun Sacha; Ecuador; Sept. – Dec. 2002

- Internship/volunteer experience. Worked with native Ecuadorians and international volunteers on reforestation, agro-forestry, organic farming, reserve start-up, building construction, and trail establishment.

Languages

- Spanish: fluent
- Italian: Conversational
- French: Basic Knowledge

Skills

- Proficient on PC and Macintosh with Microsoft and Corel programs, including Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access, as well as Adobe GoLive. Experience using databases.
- Experience using Stata statistical package and R.
- C# course: UW Extension (Summer 2007).
- Trained in HTML and CSS.
- Trained in grant writing and basic web design.

References

Margaret Levi
206 543-7947
mlevi@u.washington.edu

Jamie Mayerfeld
206 543-4717
jasonm@u.washington.edu

Tony Gill
206 543-4718
tgill@u.washington.edu