

Tara Hein

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Education

Harvard University Ph.D. in Government	2025–
Presidential Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	
Stanford University B.A. Political Science, with Distinction	June 2023
<i>Interdisciplinary Honors in Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law</i>	
Honors Thesis: “Seeing Like a Citizen: Fragmented Citizenship in Santiago de Chile”	
Advisors: Beatriz Magaloni and Jeremy Weinstein	
Universidad de Chile , Facultad de Gobierno — Study Abroad	Jan–Mar 2022
University of Oxford , Latin American Centre — Study Abroad	Sep–Dec 2021

Academic Affiliations

External Affiliate, Poverty, Violence, and Governance Lab, Stanford University	2025–
Graduate Student Affiliate, Democracy Action Lab, Stanford University	2025–
Graduate Student Affiliate, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University	2026–
Graduate Student Affiliate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University	2026–

Working Papers

- “Seeing Like a Citizen: Fragmented Citizenship in Intermediate States.”
- “Democracy in Costa Rica.” In *Central America’s Democratic Crisis: Drivers of Backsliding and Sources of Resilience*, edited by Steve Levitsky and Manuel Meléndez-Sánchez. Book chapter in progress.
- “Trading Off Democracy for Security? Evidence from Six Latin American Countries.” With Beatriz Magaloni and Hanna Folsz.
- “Delivery or Democracy? Experimental Evidence from Six Latin American Countries.” With Beatriz Magaloni and Christopher Dann.
- “Political Consultants in Latin America.” With Joaquim Meira.

Teaching

Undergraduate TA, PUBLPOL 141: Monitoring the Crisis, Stanford University	2020–2021
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Presentations

- “Constraints on Executive Aggrandizement in Costa Rica.” Roundtable, “Democracy and Authoritarianism in Central America: Explaining Twenty-First Century Regime Trajectories,” LASA Central America Regional Symposium, 2026.
- “Fragmented Citizenship.” Symposium of Undergraduate Research, Stanford University, 2023.
- “Fragmented Citizenship.” National Student Research Conference, Pi Sigma Alpha, 2023.
- “Una Ciudadanía Desigual.” Facultad de Gobierno, Universidad de Chile, 2022.

Awards and Honors

Language Study Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard (\$6,000)	2026
Research Grant, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard (\$3,000)	2026
Research Grant, Weatherhead Research Cluster on Business and Government, Harvard (\$3,000)	2025
Presidential Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard	2025

Lassen Fellowship in Latin American Studies, Princeton — <i>Declined</i>	2024
Firestone Medal for Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Stanford	2023
Phi Beta Kappa, Stanford	2023
Rebele Journalism Internship Program, Stanford (\$7,700)	2023
Undergraduate Major Grant, Stanford (\$9,000)	2022
Large Research Grant, Freeman Spogli Institute, Stanford (\$6,400) — <i>Declined</i>	2022
Monica Walsh Grant, Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford (\$5,000) — <i>Declined</i>	2021
Halper International Public Service Fellowship, Haas Center, Stanford (\$7,500)	2021
Lunsford Honoree, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Stanford	2021

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Poverty, Violence, and Governance Lab, Stanford University	2022–2023
Visiting Researcher, Facultad de Gobierno, Universidad de Chile	2022
Research Assistant, Center on Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University	2020–2021

Professional Experience

Democracy Impact Coordinator, VélezReyes+	2024–2025
Policy Editorial Assistant, Americas Quarterly	2023
Columnist, The Tico Times	2023
International Democracy Project Assistant, Innovation for Politics Institute	2023
Program Assistant, Draper Hills Summer Fellows Program, Stanford CDDRL	2021
Summer Fellow, Observatorio de Desarrollo y Promoción Social (ODP), Mexico	2021

Community and Leadership

School Committee Member, Monteverde Friends School	2026–
Member of the Advisory Board, +ParaChile Democratic Leadership School	2025–
Project Advisor, Stanford Democracy Initiative	2022–2023
Co-Founder and Co-President, Stanford Society for Latin American Politics	2021–2023
Resident Assistant, Stanford Residential Education	2022–2023
Founding Member and Panel Director, Latin American Voices in Politics	2021–2022

Public Outreach

- “Meet the Candidates: Uruguay,” *Americas Quarterly*, 2024
- “From Hand to Hand: Reflections on the Antorcha de la Independencia,” *The Tico Times*, 2023
- “Democracy Amidst the Unearthly Tidings of Latin America,” *The Tico Times*, 2023
- “Costa Rican Democracy’s Silent Alarms,” *The Tico Times*, 2023

Skills

Languages: English (native), Spanish (native), German (native), Portuguese (intermediate)
 Software: R, NVivo, L^AT_EX
 Research Field Sites: Kerala, India (6 weeks, 2026); Santiago, Chile (3 months, 2022)
 Certifications: Stanford Certificate in Poverty and Inequality (2021); IRB Nonmedical Research Certification, CITI Program (2026)