

APSA Political Communication Preconference 2021
Seattle, Washington, and Online (Synchronous)
Wednesday, September 29

Theme: “Communicating COVID”

The years 2020 and 2021 will forever be remembered for the COVID-19 pandemic that brought disease and death to even the most remote spots on the globe. Over 3 million people are estimated to have died, and the pandemic has challenged political and economic systems across the world. Political Communication as a discipline has much to contribute to our understanding of the political response to the pandemic and its impact on people’s relationship with politics.

For the 2021 Political Communication APSA Preconference, we invite paper submissions that deal with topics related to political communication and the COVID pandemic. How have media outlets covered the COVID-19 pandemic, and what have the impacts of this coverage been on citizens and governments? How have different groups or communities made sense of the pandemic on social and digital media platforms? What public health messaging has been, or could be, successful in changing behavior, mitigating the impacts of the virus, and encouraging vaccination campaigns? How have politicians used discussion of the pandemic strategically in political campaigns? What are the long-term impacts of governing and daily life acted out through Zoom?

Paper submissions not directly addressing COVID-19 but focusing on key topics in contemporary international political communication research are also welcome.

To be considered, please submit an abstract of no more than 500 words, plus 3-5 keywords, to https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8omgQkWQCsa2aSW. The **deadline for submissions is Friday, May 28**.

Proposals for panels can be sent directly to Travis Ridout (tnridout@wsu.edu).

The conference will be held on Wednesday, September 29th, at a to-be-determined venue in Seattle, Washington. We anticipate that the Political Communication section will make available several travel awards to allow section members to travel to Seattle. Conference sessions will also be available online (synchronously).

Please direct all inquiries to Travis Ridout (tnridout@wsu.edu).