



[ Faculty Fellow through December 2017 ]

## EDUCATION



Stanford University, Political Science,  
Ph.D., 2003

Stanford University, Political Science,  
M.A., 2000

University of Arkansas, Political Science,  
M.A., 1998

University of Arkansas, Political Science and  
Spanish, *summa cum laude*, B.A., 1996

## TOPICS



Civic and political engagement

Campaigns and elections

Survey methods

Influences on public opinion

Information technology and politics

## LINKS



[sites.duke.edu/hillygus](https://sites.duke.edu/hillygus)

[dism.ssri.duke.edu](https://dism.ssri.duke.edu)

# D. SUNSHINE HILLYGUS

Professor of Political Science and Public Policy

Director, Duke Initiative on Survey Methodology

## BIOGRAPHY



How do voters make up their minds in political campaigns? What is the role of surveys and statistics in American politics and society? Can we trust public opinion polls? What is the role of emerging communication technologies in electoral politics? Can we increase civic engagement among America's youth? These and other important questions about the American voting population and democratic processes in the United States are the focus of Sunshine Hillygus's research.

Professor Hillygus has published widely on topics of American political behavior, campaigns and elections, survey methods, public opinion, and information technology and politics. She is co-author of *The Persuadable Voter: Wedge Issues in Political Campaigns* and *The Hard Count: The Social and Political Challenges of the 2000 Census*.

Earning her PhD from Stanford in 2003, Hillygus taught at Harvard University, where she was the Frederick S. Danziger Associate Professor of Government and founding director of the Program on Survey Research. She joined Duke University in 2009 as an associate professor and became director of The Duke Initiative on Survey Methodology in 2010 at the Social Science Research Institute (SSRI). Hillygus's work at the SSRI connects researchers with interests in numerous social and behavioral science areas, promotes collaboration across the Duke campus, and facilitates research teams' activities to create cutting-edge work on some of the most complex and urgent questions facing social scientists today. She is the recipient of numerous grants from the National Science Foundation in support of her research.

Although a professor of political science, Hillygus doesn't try to hide her passion for her alma mater, the University of Arkansas. She proudly displays her Arkansas pride with descriptions of her favorite memories on her Duke University website.

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