

# Kalin (McKenzie) Bennett

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University of Notre Dame  
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## Research Interests

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### American Politics

- African American politics, voting behavior, political psychology, public opinion, political behavior

## Education

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August 2021 – Present                      University of Notre Dame                      Notre Dame, IN

### Ph.D. Student, Political Science

- May 2026, anticipated graduation
- Field: American Politics

### B.A. 2021 Winthrop University, Political Science

- Cumulative GPA: 3.99/4.0 – *summa cum laude*
- Minor: Psychology

## Honors and Engagement

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Fall 2021 – Present                      National Science Foundation (NSF)                      Alexandria, VA  
**Fellow, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program**

Spring 2020 – Present                      Winthrop University Inductee                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Member, Phi Kappa Phi**

Spring 2020 – Spring 2021                      Winthrop University                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Scholar, Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program**  
□ Mentor: Dr. Michael Lipscomb

Summer 2019                      The Fund for American Studies (TFAS)                      Washington, D.C.  
**Student, TFAS Public Policy and Economics Program**

Fall 2020 – Spring 2021                      Winthrop University                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Member, Gamma Beta Phi**

Spring 2020 – Spring 2021                      Winthrop University                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Member, Phi Sigma Alpha**

Fall 2018 – Spring 2021                      Winthrop University                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Member, National Society of Leadership and Success**

Spring 2017 – Spring 2021                      Winthrop University                      Rock Hill, SC  
**Member, National Society of Collegiate Scholars**

## **Presentations and Publications**

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Bennett, K. (2021). The Effect of Political Culture on Voter Personality Preferences for Political Leaders: A South Carolina Case Study. *Winthrop McNair Research Bulletin*, 7, 9-28.

Bennett, K. (2021, April 16). The Effect of Political Culture on Voter Personality Preferences for Political Leaders: A South Carolina Case Study [conference presentation]. Showcase of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors Conference, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC, United States.

Bennett, K., Escoto-Diaz, C., and Alexander, K. (2021, April 3). *McNair Scholars' Perspectives on Summer Research and Graduate Admissions* [Invited panel]. Winthrop McNair Annual Spring Meeting, Rock Hill, SC, United States.

Bennett, K. (2020, June 29). *Constituent Personality Preferences for South Carolinian Political Leaders* [conference presentation]. Winthrop University McNair Research Symposium, Rock Hill, SC, United States.

## **Academic Achievement and Awards**

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- President's List: Fall 2017, 2018 & 2020, Spring 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021
- Inez Bell Caskey Student Scholar Award Finalist: Spring 2021
- Charles B. Rangel Graduate Fellowship Program Finalist: Fall 2020
- Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) Honorable Delegation Award: Fall 2020
- Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) Position Paper Award: Fall 2020
- Dean's List: Fall 2019
- Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) Distinguished Delegation Award: Fall 2019
- The Carolinas Model United Nations Conference Position Paper Award: Fall 2019
- The Carolinas Model United Nations Conference Outstanding Delegation Award: Fall 2019
- Winthrop University Student Marshall: Fall 2019

## **Professional Experience**

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February 2020 – July 2021      Winthrop Office of General Counsel      Rock Hill, SC  
**Intern**

- Responsible for refining the university's policy and procedure repository database
- Duties consisted of creating concept maps for university policies and participating in meetings with department chairs.

January 2019 – January 2020      Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System      Rock Hill, SC  
**Caller**

- Responsible for calling SC constituents to examine their opinions on state-wide health topics
- Duties consisted of conducting surveys focused on regional health objectives and recording constituent survey responses

October 2018 – January 2020      The Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research      Rock Hill, SC  
**Caller**

- Responsible for calling SC constituents to examine their opinions on political and social phenomena
- Duties consisted of conducting surveys focused on state-wide political and social topics and recording constituent survey responses

June 2019 – August 2019      Mil Mujeres Legal Services      Alexandria, VA

### **Paralegal Intern**

- Responsible for reviewing and verifying client visa applications
- Duties consisted of sending completed applications to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

### **Other Relevant Experience**

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Fall 2019                                      Winthrop University College Democrats                                      Rock Hill, SC

#### **Volunteer, Rally in Rock Hill with Bernie Sanders**

- Responsible for communicating with the Sanders campaign to promote the event
- Duties consisted of distributing flyers around campus, setting up venues, and checking in attendees for the event

Spring 2018                                      Winthrop University College Democrats                                      Rock Hill, SC

#### **Volunteer, Kamala Harris Town Hall Event**

- Responsible for communicating with the Harris campaign to promote the event
- Duties consisted of distributing flyers around campus, setting up venues, and checking in attendees for the event

Summer 2018                                      Harris YMCA                                      Charlotte, NC

#### **Camp Counselor**

- Certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Duties consisted of monitoring, conducting activities, and teaching lessons to K-5 children