

James W. Prothro Student Paper Competition

The Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at UNC-Chapel Hill invites submissions to the 2025 James W. Prothro Student Paper Competition. The competition, held in conjunction with the Southern Association for Public Opinion Research (SAPOR) conference, recognizes excellence in student-authored social science research. One quantitative and one qualitative paper will be selected, and each winner will receive a \$250 award. The competition is named in honor of the late Dr. James W. Prothro, the noted political scientist who served as director of the Odum Institute from 1967 to 1973.

Papers using survey data or qualitative data collection to address theory, methods, or specific substantive issues in the areas of business, communication, economics, information and library science, journalism, marketing, political science, anthropology, psychology, sociology, survey methods, qualitative methods, or related fields are welcome. Any student research, undergraduate or graduate, including that derived from work on theses or dissertations, is eligible. Papers co-authored with faculty or other non-students, however, are not eligible.

From the papers submitted, up to two winners and as many honorable mentions as appropriate may be selected for presentation at the 2025 SAPOR Conference.

Questions about the Prothro competition should be directed to Jessica Grant (see below).

To submit your paper, please indicate whether you are a graduate or undergraduate student; include your name, academic department or program, school, postal address, and email address; and note whether your paper is being submitted in the survey research or qualitative track. You may submit your paper electronically by emailing Jessica Grant.

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Submissions due August 31, 2025