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Academic Appointment

University of Pennsylvania 2017-
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Program on Identity and Conflict

Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison Ph.D., 2017
International Relations, Comparative Politics
University of Wisconsin-Madison M.A.
Political Science
University of Chicago M.A.
International Relations Honors
Ohio State University B.A.
Middle East Studies and French *magna cum laude*

Dissertation

“International Politics by Other Means: Interstate Rivalries and the Escalation of Civil Conflicts”
Committee: Andrew Kydd (chair), Jon Pevehouse, Jonathan Renshon, Scott Straus, Jessica Weeks

Dissertation summary: My dissertation argues that we cannot understand variation in the occurrence of civil wars across space and time if we don't account for how conflict and cooperation between states shapes the incentives of actors in civil conflicts to escalate or compromise. I provide a systematic account of how conflict between interstate rivals increases the risk of civil war in nearby states. I use a formal model of intrastate bargaining with two potential interveners to generate predictions that I test using novel data on the spatial distribution of interstate conflict and rivalry. I present two Middle-Eastern case studies—Lebanon in 1958 and Syria in 2011—that explore in greater detail how geopolitical conflict can increase states' risk of civil war.

Works in progress

“International Politics by Other Means: External Sources of Civil War.” (Revise and resubmit at *Journal of Peace Research*).

- Winner of the Patricia Weitsman Award for best graduate student paper in security studies at the 2016 International Studies Association Annual Conference.

“Outside Options: The Effect of External Intervention on Inclusion and Autonomy

after Civil War.” With Nicholas Sambanis and Nils-Christian Bormann.
“Torn Between Enemies: Interstate Competition and Rebel Group Fragmentation.”
“The International System and the Rise of Rebellion: How Constraints on Interstate War Increased the Prevalence of Civil War.”

Invited Talks

“International Politics by Other Means: Interstate Rivalries and the Onset of Civil Conflicts”, University of Pennsylvania, March 2017

Presentations

American Political Science Association, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
European Political Science Association, 2016
Midwest Political Science Association, 2015, 2016, 2017
International Studies Association, 2016
UW-Madison International Relations Colloquium, 2013
Guest lecture, “Connecting theory to analysis,” UW-Madison, 6/13/2015
Guest lecture, “The political economy of civil war,” UW-Madison, 12/8/2014

Teaching

Teaching Assistant, Terrorism, Fall 2015
Teaching Assistant, Analysis of IR (introductory game theory), Spring 2015
Teaching Assistant, Social Science Research Design (Applied economics), Summer 2015
Teaching Assistant International Political Economy, Fall 2014, Summer 2016, 2017
Teaching Assistant, Global Governance, Summer 2014
Teaching Assistant, Nuclear Weapons and World Politics, Fall 2012
Teaching Assistant, U.S. Foreign Policy, Summer 2011, Spring 2012
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to International Relations, Fall 2010; Spring and Fall 2011; Spring 2013

Awards and Honors

ISA Patricia Weitsman Award, best graduate student paper in security studies, 2016
UW Vilas travel award, 2016
UW Political Science Summer Initiative, 2014, 2015, 2016
Departmental Teaching Award, 2012
Trustees Scholarship, Ohio State, 2002–2006
Phi Beta Kappa

University and Professional Service

Reviewer, *International Organization*, *American Journal of Political Science*

Discussant, American Political Science Association 2013, 2016

Graduate student mentor, UW-Madison Visiting International Student Program, 2015, 2016

Co-Coordinator, UW International Relations Colloquium, 2014–2015

Coordinator, UW Big Data and Death Conference, 2014

Research Assistance

Project assistant for Lisa Martin, 2014

Project assistant for Jon Pevehouse, 2013

Employment

Project assistant, *International Organization*, 2014–2017

Research Assistant, Institute for Palestine Studies, 2006–2007

Languages and Skills

Software: R, Stata, Python, L^AT_EX

Languages: French (advanced proficiency), Arabic (beginning proficiency)

References

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Jon Pevehouse, UW-Madison,

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Scott Straus, UW-Madison,

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