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Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science/
Global and Regional Studies Program
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Education

Ph.D. in Government, Georgetown University May 2013
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Andrew Bennett (chair), Dr. Thomas Banchoff, Dr. Daniel Nexon

B.A. in Political Science, Vassar College May 2005

Academic Appointments

University of Vermont 2016-Present
Burlington, VT

- Assistant Professor

Miller Center, University of Virginia 2012-2013
Charlottesville, VA

- Fellow, National Fellowship Program

Scholarly Publications

Books

Islamic Politics, Muslim States and Counterterrorism Tensions, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Peer Reviewed Articles

Published

"The Effect of Religious Restrictions on Forced Migration," (with Melanie Kolbe) *Politics and Religion*, 7.4, 2014

"The Domestic Politics of International Religious Defamation," *Politics and Religion*, 6.3, 2013

"The Two Swords: Religion-State Connections and Interstate Conflict," *Journal of Peace Research*, 49.6, 2012

"The Ancient Fire: Religion and Suicide Terrorism," *Terrorism and Political Violence* 24.1, 2012.
Included in *International Relations and Religion*, Hassner and Svensson (Eds.), London: Sage Publications, 2016.

Forthcoming

"Does the UN Human Rights Council Help or Hurt Religious Repression," *Journal of Church and State*

"Taming the Gods: How Religious Conflict Shapes State Repression," (with Jason Klocek) *Journal of Conflict Resolution*

In Revise and Resubmit

“Was it worth it? Counterterrorism Cooperation and Domestic Terrorism in Muslim Countries,” *Security Studies*

“Government interference in religious institutions and terrorism,” *Religion, state and society*

Chapters in Edited Volumes

“One Cheer for Classical Realism, or Toward a Power Politics of Religion,” (with Daniel Nexon) in Jodok Troy (ed.), *Religion and the Realist Tradition*, New York, NY: Routledge, 2013

“Interpret this Volume! What we’ve learned about *Battlestar Galactica*’s International-Relations scholar-fans,” (with Daniel Nexon) in Neumann, Iver and Nicholas Kiersey (Eds.) *Battlestar Galactica and International Relations*, New York, NY: Routledge, 2013.

“Is all Jihad Local? Transnational Contention and Political Violence in Somalia” chapter in Leonard, Emma & Gilbert Ramsay (Eds.). *Globalizing Somalia: Multilateral, International, and Transnational Repercussions of Conflict*. New York, NY: Bloomsbury Academic, 2013.

Fellowships and Awards

Faculty Research Support Award, University of Vermont College of Arts and Sciences, 2017

Selected to attend the Bridging the Gap Project’s International Policy Summer Institute, 2017

National Fellowship, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, 2012- 2013

Eliza Buffington Fellowship, Vassar College, 2012

Jill K. Hopper Memorial Fellowship, Georgetown University Department of Government, 2011-2012

Teaching

Assistant Professor, University of Vermont 2016-Present
Introduction to International Relations, Middle East politics

Instructor, Department of Government/School of Continuing Studies, 2010- 2011
Islam and World Politics

Teaching Assistant, Department of Government, Georgetown University 2008-2010
Contemporary US Foreign Policy, Introduction to International Relations

Presentations

Conference Presentations

“Religion as power in interstate crises,” to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2018

“Follow the leader: Symbolic obeisance, informal hierarchies and Middle East conflicts,” to be presented at the International Studies Association International Security Studies section/International Security and Arms Control section conference, 2017

“Religion-state ties and the contours of terrorism,” presented at the International Studies Association Conference, 2017

Discussant, “New Research on Terrorism,” panel at American Political Science Association conference, 2016

“Never Waste a Religious Crisis: How States Can Benefit from International Religious Crises,” presented at:

- American Political Science Association Conference, 2016
- International Studies Association Conference, 2013

“Reversing the Causal Arrow: Explaining Arab States’ Reactions to the Protests of Early 2011” (with John Owen), presented at the International Studies Association conference, 2016

“The UN Human Rights Council and Religious Freedom,” presented at the International Studies Association conference, 2016

“Taming the Gods: How Religious Conflicts Affect the Type and Level of State Repression,” (with Jason Klocek) presented at the International Studies Association conference, 2015

“Religion and Counterterrorism: What explains the difference in counterterrorism policies between Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates?” presented at the American Political Science Association Conference, 2014

“Do IMF and World Bank Agreements Affect Political Violence,” (with Corina Simmonelli), presented at a poster session of the American Political Science Association Conference, 2014

“Measuring Cooperation: A New Dataset on US-Muslim Counter-terrorism Cooperation,” presented at the International Studies Association Conference, 2013

“Religion and the War on Terror,” presented at the American Political Science Association conference, 2013

“Religion-State Connections and US-Muslim Counter-Terrorism Cooperation,” presented at the International Studies Association Conference, 2013

“A Qualitative Framework for Analyzing Temporal Effects on Sudden Foreign Policy Changes,” scheduled for a poster session of the American Political Science Association, 2012

“Hostage Crises and US Foreign Policy,” (with Andrew Bennett) presented at a poster session of International Studies Association Conference, 2012

“The Relationship between Religious Freedom and Socioeconomic and Political Development,” (with Brian Grim) presented at the International Studies Association Conference, 2012

“The Politics of Religious Defamation,” presented at:

- American Political Science Association Conference, 2011
- International Studies Association Conference, 2011
- Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2011

“The Two Swords: Religion-State Connections and Interstate Conflict,” presented at:

- Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2011
- Poster session of the American Political Science Association conference, 2010

“The Ancient Fire: Religion and Suicide Terrorism,” presented at:

- Georgetown University International Theory and Research Seminar, 2010
- Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2009

Invited Presentations

“Islam and counterterrorism: What’s the connection” National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Response to Terrorism, 2017

“Religious Freedom and Violent Extremism: What do the data tell us?” Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, 2016

“Global Religion and Demographics,” part of US Department of State Foreign Service Institute’s Religion and Policy Course, 2015, 2016

“Understanding and tracking global religious freedom,” part of “Multinational Efforts to Promote Freedom of Religion and Belief” conference, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2015

“Religious Freedom and Foreign Policy,” Newseum Institute’s Religious Freedom Center, 2015

“Global religious restrictions,” Rumi Forum, 2015

“Varieties of Hesitation: Religion-State Connections and US-Muslim Counterterrorism Cooperation,” as part of the University of Virginia’s Miller Center of Public Affairs’ Spring Conference, 2013

“Religious Freedom and Violent Extremism,” (with Timothy Shah), for a policy briefing by the Berkley Center’s Religious Freedom Project and United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, 2012

“Is all Jihad Local? Transnational Contention and Political Violence in Somalia,” for the “The Globalisation(s) of the Somalia Conflict,” conference, the University of St. Andrews, 2009

Works in Progress

“Practice, religion and world politics”

“Status hierarchies, networks, and Middle East politics”

“Religion as power in interstate crises”

Reviewer

Journals:

American Journal of Political Science; Conflict Management and Peace Science; International Interactions; International Journal of Media, Culture and Politics; International Studies Quarterly; Journal of Peace Research; Journal of Politics; Politics and Religion; Politics, Religion and Ideology; Religions, Theory and Society; Security Studies; St. Anthony’s International Review; Terrorism and Political Violence

Books:

Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge Taylor and Francis Group

Professional Society Membership and Service

American Political Science Association

International Studies Association

Vice Chair, Religion and International Relations section 2018-Present

Secretary, Religion and International Relations section 2016-2018

University Service

Political Science Department representative to the University of Vermont 2016-2017

College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Meetings

Appointed member, Political Science Department chair search committee 2017

Recent Policy Publications and Media Appearances

Appearances on *WCAX News*:

- “What’s the next step in relations with Iran,” May 2018
- “Assessing the Impact of Airstrikes on Syria,” April 2018
- “Local lawmakers react to military strikes on Syria,” April 2018
- “What will Trump’s Jerusalem announcement mean,” December 2017

“Is Trump v. Hawaii about religious liberty? An international perspective,” *Berkley Forum*, May 2018

“Integrating and restoring religious minority communities in Iraq,” *Center for American Progress*, April 2018

Interviewed for “Senate tables Sanders-led effort to withdraw from Yemen,” *VT Digger*, March 2018

Interviewed for “Current events in Pakistan,” *WION News*, December 2017

“Trump says Pakistan harbors terrorists. The real story isn’t so simple,” *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, August 2017

Quoted in “5 Faith Facts about Sam Brownback,” in *Religion News Service*, July 2017

“What effect does religious freedom promotion have on counterterrorism?” *Religious Freedom Institute Cornerstone Blog*, June 2017

“How Trump’s budget may hurt counterterrorism,” *Political Violence at a Glance*, March 2017

Professional Experience

Research Associate, Pew Research Center	2014- 2016
Senior Researcher, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of Maryland	2013-2014
Research Associate, Religious Freedom Project, Berkley Center For Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University	2012
Senior Consultant, Booz Allen Hamilton	2004-2009

Language, Travel Experience and Software Skills

Basic reading and conversation capability in Arabic, French and Turkish

Field work in: Qatar, Turkey, United Arab Emirates

Software: Python, R, SPSS, Stata