# Brandon Merrell

Global Development & Inequality, Political Economy, and Political Violence

Office:	Sturgis Hall 101	University of Arkansas
Phone:	(501) 683-5226	Clinton School of Public Service
Email:	bmerrell@clintonschool.uasys.edu	1200 President Clinton Avenue
Website:	www.brandonmerrell.com	Little Rock, AR 72201 USA

Positions	
Professor Clinton School of Public Service University of Arkansas	2022-Present
Visiting Assistant Professor School of Public Policy & Sam Nunn School of International Affairs Georgia Institute of Technology	2021–2022
Henry A. Kissinger Fellow Jackson Institute for Global Affairs & International Security Studies Yale University	2019–2021
Herb York Predoctoral Fellow Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation UC San Diego	2017–2018

# **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Political Science, UC San Diego, 2019 M.A. Political Science, UC San Diego, 2015 B.A. Political Science and Economics, Southern Illinois University, 2011

# REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

1. Unprogrammed Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting. with Brian Engelsma and Gerry Mackie World Development, Vol. 129, May 2020.

#### 2. Denmark, 1940-45:

Armed Resistance and Agency Slippage in Germany's Model Protectorate.

in Proxy Wars: Suppressing Violence Through Local Agents, edited by Eli Berman & David A. Lake. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, pp. 53-79, 2019.

Debate Across the Disciplines: Structured Classroom Debates in Interdisciplinary Curricula. 3. with Kevin J. Calderwood and Todd Graham Contemporary Argumentation and Debate, Vol. 37, pp. 57-74, 2017.

Back to its Roots: Accuracy as the Litmus Test for Topicality. 4.

with Todd Graham

Parliamentary Debate, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp. 21-68, November 2016. Abridged and reprinted in The Parliamentary Debate Prepbook, ed. Kyle Dennis. Liberty, MO: NPTE.

September 2023 Merrell 1 5. Contrasting Structures, Conditional Strategies:

Designing Format-Specific Theories for Competitive Debate.

with Todd Graham

Parliamentary Debate, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp. 1-37, May 2016.

Abridged and reprinted in The Parliamentary Debate Prepbook, ed. Kyle Dennis. Liberty, MO: NPTE.

6. The Intersection of Competitions and Classrooms in Forensics Pedagogy.

with Kevin J. Calderwood and Richard Flores

Communication Studies, Vol. 66, No. 4, pp. 433-47, August 2015.

# OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. Illegal Wildlife Trafficking—The Unseen Environmental Harms.

with Thomas J. Schally

in Up for Debate: U.S. Foreign Policy Options Towards the Greater Horn of Africa,

edited by Danny Cantrell & Brandy Brickey, pp. 1-24. La Mirada, CA: Picket Fence, 2009.

# CURRENT RESEARCH

# Papers Submitted / Under Review:

1. Education For All?

The Gender Literacy Gap and the Distributional Effects of World Bank Assistance.

2. The Gendered Legacies of Wartime Trauma:

Bombing, Domestic Abuse, and Political Participation in Cambodia.

3. Monopolies of Violence? How Insurgent Threats Can Motivate Accountable Governance.

with Alexei Abrahams

4. King Makers and Peace Breakers: International Intervention and Post-War Violence.

with Alexei Abrahams

5. The Secrecy Gambit: Clandestine Power Shifts and Preventive Conflict.

with Alexei Abrahams

6. Why Do Leaders Fight Futile Wars?

Optimistic Constituents and Agency Dilemmas in Crisis Decision-Making.

# Other Working Papers:

1. Are Reporters More Hostile Toward Female Officials?

with Kevin J. Calderwood

2. Renaming and Credit Claiming in Federal Agencies.

with Richard Flores

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# Conferences & Talks

2023 SPSA

2021 APSA, IPES, ISA, SPSA, SOWEPS

2020 APSA, ISA (canceled)

2019 ESOC, ISA, MPSA, Ohio State University, SPSA

2018 APSA, ICA, ISA, MPSA, SPSA, University of Chicago, U.S. Institute of Peace

2017 APSA

2016 APSA, George Washington University

# **COURSES TAUGHT**

Clinton School Program Planning and Development (graduate)

Program Evaluation (graduate)

Georgia Tech Government of the United States

Science, Technology & International Affairs II (graduate)

Statistical Analysis for Public Policy

UC San Diego Applied Data Analysis for Political Science

Crisis Areas in World Politics International Crisis Diplomacy Introduction to American Politics Introduction to Social Data Analytics

Mathematical and Statistical Foundations (graduate)

# ADVISING

• Dissertation Committee Member for Michael Ceci (Georgia Tech School of International Affairs)

• Research Mentor for Frontiers of Political Science (UCSD senior honors thesis course)

• Research Mentor for *Policy Responses to Global Problems* (UCSD graduate research capstone)

• Supervisor for Research Assistants in UCSD's Political Science Research Apprenticeship Program

# GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Grants and Fellowships IGCC Herb York Dissertation Fellowship, 2017

Sanford-Lakoff Research Fellowship, 2017

PDEL / CGT Research Grant, 2016

UCSD Political Science Department Fellowship, 2013

Teaching Recognition Georgia Tech Excellent Teacher Award, 2021

UCSD Barbara and Paul Saltman Excellent Teaching Award, 2018

UCSD Political Science TA Excellence Award, 2015; 2016

University of Vermont WDI Fellow, 2014 Beihang University Exchange Fellowship, 2014

Conference Funding ISA Annual Convention Travel Grant, 2018; 2020

APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant, 2016; 2017; 2018

SPSA Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2018

UCSD Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, 2017

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# SERVICE AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

- Referee: American Political Science Review; British Journal of Political Science; International Interactions; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; New England Journal of Political Science; International Communication Association Annual Meeting (Public Diplomacy and Political Communication sections)
- University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service
  - Faculty Affairs & Assessment Committee, Clinton School of Public Service, 2022-2023
  - MPS Admissions Committee, Clinton School of Public Service, 2022-2023
  - Program Evaluation & Data Analytics Committee, Clinton School of Public Service, 2022
- Previous Institutions
  - Data Analysis Curriculum Committee, Georgia Tech School of Public Policy, 2021-2022
  - Graduate Admission Weekend Coordinator, UCSD Political Science Graduate Council, 2017
  - Debate Coach, Lewis & Clark College, 2011–2012
  - Course Selection Advisory Committee, SIU Honors Program, 2009–2011

#### REFERENCES

David Lake

Jerri-Ann and Gary E. Jacobs Professor of Social Sciences

UC San Diego

dlake@ucsd.edu

Branislav Slantchev

Professor of Political Science

UC San Diego

bslantchev@ucsd.edu

Lauren Prather

Associate Professor, School of Global Policy and Strategy

UC San Diego

lprather@ucsd.edu

Philip Roeder

Professor of Political Science

UC San Diego

proeder@ucsd.edu

Arne Westad Eli Berman
Elihu Professor of History and Global Affairs Professor of Economics
Yale University UC San Diego
arne.westad@yale.edu elib@ucsd.edu

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