

Brandon Merrell

Contact Information: University of California, San Diego
Department of Political Science
Social Sciences Building 301
9500 Gilman Drive, #0521
La Jolla, CA 92093-0521 USA
Phone: 425.328.8361
Email: bmerrell@ucsd.edu
Office: Social Sciences Building 341
Website: www.brandonmerrell.com

Education: **University of California, San Diego**
Ph.D., Political Science (2013-present)
Dissertation: *Wars for the People: Leaders, Audiences, and the Use of Force*
Committee: David Lake (co-chair), Branislav Slantchev (co-chair),
Eli Berman, Lauren Prather, Phil Roeder
M.A., Political Science (2015)
Southern Illinois University
B.A., Economics and Political Science, *Cum Laude* (2011)
Western Kentucky University
Undergraduate (2007-2009)

Academic Appointments: **Lewis & Clark College**
Debate Coach, College of Arts & Sciences (2011-2012)

Publications: Refereed Articles:

1. Debate across the Disciplines: Structured Classroom Debates in Interdisciplinary Curricula with Kevin Calderwood and Todd Graham
Forthcoming in *Contemporary Argumentation and Debate*
2. [Back to its Roots: Accuracy as the Litmus Test for Topicality](#)
with Todd Graham
Parliamentary Debate, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp. 21-68, November 2016.
3. [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.
4. [The Intersection of Competitions and Classrooms in Forensics Pedagogy](#)
with Kevin Calderwood and Richard Flores
Communication Studies, Vol. 66, No. 4, pp. 433-47, August 2015.

Chapters in Refereed Volumes:

- ["Denmark, 1940-1945: Armed Resistance and Agency Slippage in Germany's Model Protectorate"](#) in *Proxy Wars: Suppressing Transnational Violence through Local Agents*, edited by Eli Berman & David A. Lake. Cornell University Press. (Accepted)

Other:

- "Illegal Wildlife Trafficking – The Unseen Environmental Harms"
with Thomas Schally
in *Up for Debate: U.S. Foreign Policy Options Towards the Greater Horn of Africa*, edited by D. Cantrell & B. Brickey, pp. 1-24. La Mirada, CA: Picket Fence, 2009.

- Working Papers:**
- “The War Referendum”
 - “The Secrecy Gambit: Clandestine Power Shifts and Preventive Conflict”
(with Alexei Abrahams)
 - “Media Bias in Presidential Press Questions” (with Kevin Calderwood)
 - “Renaming and Credit Claiming in Federal Agencies” (with Richard Flores)
 - “Unprogrammed Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting”
(with Brian Engelsma and Gerry Mackie)
- Other Projects:**
- “The Agency Dilemma in Crisis Decision Making”
 - “The Vetoed Peace”
 - “Monopolies of Violence? A Theory of Civil Conflict and Statebuilding”
(with Alexei Abrahams)
- Presentations:**
- “The Vetoed Peace”
2018: ISA Annual Convention: Impact of Public Opinion on Foreign Policy
 - “The Secrecy Gambit” (with Alexei Abrahams)
2018: SPSA Annual Meeting: Intelligence and Secrecy
2017: APSA Annual Meeting: New Scholarship on Crisis Dynamics
 - “Media Bias in Presidential Press Questions” (with Kevin Calderwood)
2018: ICA Annual Meeting
2018: SPSA Annual Meeting: Media Bias – Perceptions and Reality
2017: APSA Annual Meeting: Media Bias in the Mainstream Media
 - “Renaming and Credit Claiming in Federal Agencies” (with Richard Flores)
2018: MPSA Annual Meeting: Agency Design, Transparency, and Reform
2017: APSA Annual Meeting: Agency Performance and Executive Leadership
 - “A Model Protectorate? Armed Resistance and Agency Slippage in Occupied Denmark”
2016: Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University
 - “Pandering to War: Military Escalation in Response to Public Demand”
2016: APSA Annual Meeting: Public Opinion and International Conflict
- Teaching:**
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|----------------------|---|
| Instructor: | Analyzing Politics
Applied Data Analysis for Political Science
Crisis Areas in World Politics
International Crisis Diplomacy
Introduction to American Politics
Mathematical and Statistical Foundations (graduate, x2) |
| Discussion Sections: | International Politics & Security (graduate)
Introduction to International Relations (x3) |
| Research Mentor: | Frontiers of Political Science (senior honors thesis course, x2)
Policy Responses to Global Problems (graduate research capstone)
Political Science Research Apprenticeship Program
Postwar Politics in Japan (graduate) |
| Grader: | East Asian Thought (x2), Insurgency and Terrorism,
Politics and Warfare, Supreme Court & Constitution,
U.S. Foreign Policy, War and Society (x2),
Weapons of Mass Destruction |

Related Experience: RA for Gerry Mackie & Population Council (2017)
RA for Eli Berman & David Lake (2014-2017)
RA for David Lake (2014)

Disciplinary & University Service: Reviewer – ICA, Political Communication & Public Diplomacy sections (2018)
Recruitment Co-Chair – UCSD Political Science Graduate Council (2016-2017)
Selected as U.S. Representative to China – NCA-CIDD (2012)
Adjudicator – Oregon State Penitentiary Debate (2011)
Speaker – Installation Ceremony of SIU Chancellor Rita Cheng (2011)
Course Selection Advisory Committee – SIU Honors Program (2009-2011)

Grants, Awards, & Honors: Research Grants and Fellowships:
IGCC Herb York Fellowship (2017)
Sanford-Lakoff Research Fellowship (2017)
PDEL / CGT Research Grant (2016)
UCSD Political Science Department Fellowship (2013)

Teaching:
TA Excellence Award – UCSD Political Science (2015; 2016)
WDI Fellow – University of Vermont (2014)
Beihang Exchange Fellowship – Beihang University, Beijing (2014)

Conference Funding:
ISA Annual Convention Travel Grant (2018)
SPSA Prestage-Cook Travel Award (2018)
UCSD Graduate Student Association Travel Grant (2017)
APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant (2016; 2017)

Undergraduate Scholarships and Awards:
Frank L. Klingberg Scholarship – SIU Political Science (2011)
Levina Micken Scholarship – SIU Communication Studies (2011)
SIU Multi-Ethnic Academic Student Excellence Award (2011)
National Parliamentary Debate Association All-American Award (2011)
SIU Scholastic Honor Award (2009-2011)
AT&T Foundation Academic Scholarship (2009-2011)
SIU Full-Ride Debate Scholarship (2009-2011)
#1 U.S. Debate Partnership – NPTE Season Rankings (2009-2010)
WKU Full-Ride Forensics Scholarship (2007-2009)