

# BRANDON MERRELL

*Global Development & Inequality, Political Economy, and Political Violence*

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Office: Sturgis Hall 101  
Phone: (501) 683-5226  
Email: [bmerrell@clintonschool.uasys.edu](mailto:bmerrell@clintonschool.uasys.edu)  
Website: [www.brandonmerrell.com](http://www.brandonmerrell.com)

University of Arkansas  
Clinton School of Public Service  
1200 President Clinton Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72201 USA

## POSITIONS

<b>Distinguished Professor</b> Clinton School of Public Service University of Arkansas	2022-Present
<b>Visiting Professor</b> School of Public Policy & Sam Nunn School of International Affairs Georgia Institute of Technology	2021–2022
<b>Henry A. Kissinger Fellow</b> Jackson Institute for Global Affairs & International Security Studies Yale University	2019–2021
<b>Herb York Predoctoral Fellow</b> 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

- Unprogrammed Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting.**  
with Brian Engelsma and Gerry Mackie  
*World Development*, Vol. 129, May 2020.
- 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.**  
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.**  
with Todd Graham  
*Parliamentary Debate*, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp. 21–68, November 2016.  
Abridged and reprinted in *The Parliamentary Debate Prepbok*, ed. Kyle Dennis. Liberty, MO: NPTE.

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

## 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

## 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](mailto:dlake@ucsd.edu)

Branislav Slantchev  
Professor of Political Science  
UC San Diego  
[bslantchev@ucsd.edu](mailto:bslantchev@ucsd.edu)

Lauren Prather  
Associate Professor, School of Global Policy and Strategy  
UC San Diego  
[lprather@ucsd.edu](mailto:lprather@ucsd.edu)

Philip Roeder  
Professor of Political Science  
UC San Diego  
[proeder@ucsd.edu](mailto:proeder@ucsd.edu)

Arne Westad  
Elihu Professor of History and Global Affairs  
Yale University  
[arne.westad@yale.edu](mailto:arne.westad@yale.edu)

Eli Berman  
Professor of Economics  
UC San Diego  
[elib@ucsd.edu](mailto:elib@ucsd.edu)