

BRANDON MERRELL

Global Development & Inequality, Political Economy, and Political Violence

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POSITIONS

Visiting Assistant Professor Fall 2021–Present
School of Public Policy & Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
Georgia Institute of Technology

Henry A. Kissinger Postdoctoral Fellow 2019–2021
Jackson Institute for Global Affairs & International Security Studies
Johnson Center for the Study of American Diplomacy
Brady-Johnson Program in Grand Strategy
Yale University

Herb York Fellow 2017–2018
Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation
UC San Diego

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, UC San Diego, 2019
Committee: David Lake (co-chair), Branislav Slantchev (co-chair)
Eli Berman, Lauren Prather, Phil Roeder
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.
3. **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.
4. **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

2022	PEIO (scheduled)
2021	ISA, SPSA, APSA, IPES
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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record	Applied Data Analysis for Political Science Crisis Areas in World Politics Government of the United States International Crisis Diplomacy Introduction to American Politics Introduction to Social Data Analytics Mathematical and Statistical Foundations (graduate) Science, Technology & International Affairs II (graduate) Statistical Analysis for Public Policy
Research Mentor	Frontiers of Political Science (senior honors thesis course) Policy Responses to Global Problems (graduate research capstone) Political Science Research Apprenticeship Program Postwar Politics in Japan (graduate)

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	Barbara and Paul Saltman Excellent Teaching Award, UCSD, 2018 TA Excellence Award, UCSD Political Science, 2015; 2016 WDI Fellow, University of Vermont, 2014 Beihang Exchange Fellowship, Beihang University, 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*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*; *New England Journal of Political Science*; ICA Annual Meeting (Public Diplomacy and Political Communication sections)
- Coordinator, Graduate Admission Weekend, 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
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Branislav Slantchev
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