

Jesse Driscoll

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Current Position

2010- Assistant Professor of Political Science & Chair of the Global Leadership Institute, School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS), University of California, San Diego.

Interests

State-Building. Russia, Post-Soviet Central Asia, and The Caucasus. Coup-Proofing. Data Collection in Active War Zones. Current Project: The Ukrainian Civil War.

Education

2009-2013 Academy Fellow, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies

2009 PHD in Political Science, Stanford University
Dissertation: Exiting Anarchy: Militia Politics After the Post-Soviet Wars
Committee: David Laitin (Chair), James Fearon, Charles King, and Jeremy Weinstein

2001 MA in Security Studies, Georgetown University
Thesis: Whose Victory, Whose Price? The Financing of the Ethiopia-Eritrea War

2001 BS in Foreign Service, Georgetown University
Krogh Honors Scholar, Certificate in Arab Studies

Field Experience

Ukraine (2014-7), Tajikistan (2005-9), Georgia/Abkhazia (2006-8, 2014), Kyrgyzstan (2005, 2007), Russia (2005, 2014-5), Turkey (2003), Yemen (1999), Ethiopia (1999)

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Russian, Tajik

Additional Languages Studied: Arabic (3 Years – Intermediate); Yemeni Dialect – High Intermediate); Kyrgyz (Basic); Anatolian Turkish (Basic), Turkmen (Basic), Somali (Basic)

Scholarship

BOOKS

Warlords & Coalition Politics in Post-Soviet States, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, 2015.

Awards

Central Eurasian Studies Society, Best Book In The Social Sciences, 2014-2016

Furniss Book Award from the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 2017

Reviewed in

Foreign Affairs by Robert Levgold (November-December 2015), *Central Asian Survey* by John Heathershaw (Vol. 35, Issue 1, 2016), a special roundtable issue of *Central Asian Affairs* featuring Bernard Finel, Kimberly Marten, and Alexander Kupatadze (Fall 2016).

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Spies Like Us” (with Caroline Schuster), *Ethnography* (Accepted & Forthcoming, 2017).

“With Friends Like These: Brinkmanship and Chain-Ganging in Russia’s Near-Abroad” (with D. Maliniak), *Security Studies*, September 2016, Volume 25, No. 4, 585-607.

“Did Georgian Voters Desire Military Escalation in 2008? Experiments & Observations” (with D. Maliniak), *Journal of Politics*, January 2016, Volume 78, No. 1, 265-280.

“Language Hierarchies in Georgia: An Experimental Approach” (with T. Blauvelt and C. Berglund), *Caucasus Survey*, February 2016, Vol. 4, Issue 1, 44-62.

“Representative Surveys in Insecure Environments: A Case Study of Mogadishu, Somalia” (with N. Lidow), *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 2014, Vol. 2, No. 1, 78-95.

“Intended and Unintended Consequences of Democracy Promotion Assistance to Georgia After The Rose Revolution” (with D. Hidalgo), *Research and Politics*, April-June 2014, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1-13.

“Commitment Problems or Bidding Wars?: Rebel Fragmentation as Peace-Building” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, February 2012, Vol. 56, No. 1, 118-149.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

“Hobbesian Neopatrimonialism,” in M. Laurelle *Tajikistan: Approaches, Fieldworks, and Topics*, Lexington Press (Accepted & Forthcoming, 2018)

“Consolidating A Weak State After Civil War: A Tajik Fable” in J. Heathershaw and E. Schatz *Paradox of Power: Logics of State Weakness in Eurasia*, University of Pittsburgh Press

(Accepted & Forthcoming, July 2017).

“Prison States & Games of Chicken” in S. Desposato, *Ethics and Experiments: Problems and Solutions for Social Scientists and Policy Professionals*, 2015, Taylor and Francis.

PAPERS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

“How Frozen Conflicts Can Thaw: Bargaining Over Ukraine”

“Competing Narratives After State Failure”, with Z. Steinert-Threlkeld.

“Acute Fear & Telephone Survey Behaviors: Evidence From Mogadishu,” with E. Denny.

WORKING PAPERS & WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book Project (w/ D. Arel): Ukraine’s Civil War

Book Project (w/ D. Maliniak): Saakashvili’s War? Public Opinion and War Initiation in the South Caucasus

Book Project: Difficult Fieldwork: A Practitioner’s Guide

“Seeing Like A Subaltern: State-Building, Census Taking, & The Political Economy of Population Counts” with S. Naidu

“Rebel Anti-Air Capability As A Measure Of Civil War Conventionalization”

“Clans, Coalitions, and Civilian Welfare After State Failure”, with N. Lidow & M. Seese

“Are Targeted Sanctions On Russian Firms Hitting Their Targets?”

“Eurasian Water Security (or: Downriver vs. Upriver In A Much Warmer World)”

SOLICITED BOOK REVIEWS

Russia’s Far East by Ruesselaer Lee & Artyom Lukin, *Russian Review*, July 2016.

Warlords: Strong-Arm Brokers in Weak States by Kimberly Marten, *Political Science Quarterly*, Summer 2013, Vol. 128, No 2, 352-353.

Teaching

2010-17 Geopolitics & Insurgency In Weak States (Formerly Titled “State-Building”)
2010-17 Debating U.S. National Security Policy
2013-17 Humanitarian Interventions
2011-16 Capstone: Critical Issues In International Politics

2013-17 Capstone: 21st Century Security Issues
2010-12 Nongovernmental Organizations (*no longer taught*)

PH.D. DISSERTATION COMMITTEES (ONLY SUCCESSFUL DEFENSES LISTED)

2016 David Lindsey, Political Science, Baruch College (CUNY)
2016 Will Hobbs, Political Science, Postdoctoral Fellowship, Northeastern-Harvard
2015 Kara Downey, Political Science (at Stanford University), Bay Area Private Sector
2015 Blake McMahon, Political Science, the U.S. Air Force Research Institute
2014 Cameron Brown, Political Science, AIPAC (in Jerusalem)
2013 Christopher Fariss, Political Science, University of Michigan
2011 Tiffany Chou, Economics, U.S. Department of Treasury

UCSD SENIOR HONORS THESIS ADVISEES (ONLY SUCCESSFUL HONORS GRANTEES LISTED)

2016 Yuki Narouka
2015 Mairelise Robinson

Service, Grants, & Outreach

RECOGNITION, GRANTS, HONORS, & FELLOWSHIPS (ONLY LAST 5 YEARS LISTED)

2016 Student Veterans Resource Center Recognition: “Best Professor For Military Students”
2015-16 Faculty Senate: Militant Trends in Ukrainian Public Opinion
2015-16 Program Design and Evaluation Lab: Militant Trends in Ukrainian Public Opinion
2014-15 Academic Mentorship/Teaching Award, UCSD Security Studies Group
2014-15 Program Design and Evaluation Lab: Using Cell Phones To Assess Somali Welfare
2013-15 UCSD Hellman Fellowship: Using Cell Phones To Assess Somali Welfare
2012-13 Resident Fellow, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies
2011-12 NSF RAPID SES-1216070: Service Provision and Security in Mogadishu, Somalia
2010-11 EMPAC Research Grant: Market Prices and Violence in Mogadishu, Somalia

SELECTED PUBLIC LECTURES & POLICY-RELEVANT OUTREACH

2016 Ambassadorial Briefing for Elizabeth Millard, Incoming U.S. Ambassador to Tajikistan.
Department of State, Washington, D.C.

2015 “Conceptualizing the War in Donbas,” Danyliw Seminar 11 Year Anniversary, University
of Ottawa. (Presentation Archived: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfQ9IgTNu-M>)

2015 “Sampling, Satellites, Cell-Phones, and Safety: Surveying Mogadishu.” Presentation at
the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings of the American Statistical Association, Seattle. (*Sci-
ence Daily* write-up: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150813092814.htm>)

2011 “Observations on Thoughtcrime & Thoughts on Observer Bias”, Counterinsurgency

and Counterterrorism in 2011, Oslo Peace Research Institute (PRIO) and the MIT Security Studies Program, Boston, MA.

2010 “That Girl In That Picture: What We Think We Are Fighting For When We Fight In Afghanistan”, Keynote Address For Afghan Students Association, UCSD.

2007 “Forgotten Frozen Conflicts: Explaining The Territorial Integrity of Tajikistan”, Presentation at Sukhumi State University. Sukhumi, Abkhazia.

GPS (FORMERLY IR/PS) & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2014-7 Faculty Chair of the Global Leadership Initiative
2012-5 Various IR/PS (now GPS) Faculty Search Committees
2014 Fulbright Selection Committee
2011 IR/PS Math Camp, Summer Session
2010-7 IR/PS (now GPS) Technology Committee
2010-7 IR/PS (now GPS) Committee on Gender

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Central Eurasian Studies Society
Association for the Study of Nationalities
Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies

PEER REVIEWER

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Sciences, Freedom House, IO (International Organization), International Security, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, National Science Foundation, Nationalities Papers, Nations and Nationalism, Perspectives on Politics, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Politics and Religion, Political Science Quarterly, Security Studies, Russian Review, Slavic Studies, World Politics

— Last updated: May 15, 2017