Rob Williams

CONTACT INFORMATION	Weidenbaum Center Washington University in St. Louis One Brookings Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63130	✉ rob.williams@wustl.edu 🌐 jayrobwilliams.com ⌂ jayrobwilliams 🆔 0000-0001-9259-3883

APPOINTMENTS Washington University in St. Louis

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Weidenbaum Center   2020

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Political Science 2019-2020

EDUCATION The University *of* North Carolina *at* Chapel Hill

Ph.D., Political Science   2019
- Dissertation: "The Geography of Secession"
- Committee: Mark J.C. Crescenzi (chair), Navin A. Bapat, Stephen E. Gent, Patricia L. Sullivan, and Santiago Olivella
- Concentrations: *International Relations* and *Political Methodology*

M.A., Political Science   2016

Haverford College

B.A., Political Science, Departmental Honors   2012

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS Williams, Rob. "The Curse of Geography: How Governments Preempt Secession Attempts" conditionally accepted at *Conflict Management and Peace Science*

Oswald, Christian, Melanie Sauter, and Sigrid Weber, and Rob Williams.[*] 2020. "Under the Roof of Rebels: Civilian Targeting After Territorial Takeover in Sierra Leone." *International Studies Quarterly* 64(2): 295–305. doi:10.1093/isq/sqaa009.

Scogin, Shana, Johannes Karreth, Andreas Beger, and Rob Williams. 2019. "BayesPostEst: An R Package to Generate Postestimation Quantities for Bayesian MCMC Estimation." *Journal of Open Source Software* 4(42): 1722. doi:10.21105/joss.01722.

Williams, Rob, Daniel J. Gustafson, Stephen E. Gent, and Mark J.C. Crescenzi. 2021. "A Latent Variable Approach to Measuring and Explaining Peace Agreement Strength." *Political Science Research and Methods* 9(1): 89-105. doi:10.1017/psrm.2019.23.

UNDER REVIEW "PASS: Peace Agreement Strength Scores"

"Unsettled Borders in a Market Context" *with Bailee Donahue and Mark Crescenzi*

WORKING PAPERS	"Non-Combatants or Counter-Insurgents? The Strategic Logic of Violence against UN Peacekeeping" *with Patrick Hunnicutt and William G. Nomikos*
	"Terrorism, Repression, and Stealth Aggression" *with Navin Bapat and Daniel Gustafson*
PAPERS IN PREPARATION	"Border Walls, Cooperation, Illicit Trade" *with David Carter and Bailee Donahue*
	"Mapping Extremist Networks with Visual Imagery"
	"Gaussian Process Models for Spatial Data"
OTHER WRITING	Nomikos, William G., Melanie Sauter, Rob Williams, and Patrick Hunnicutt. 2020. "The military has ousted Mali's president. That raises questions about the country's ongoing security challenges." *Washington Post*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS		
American Political Science Association		2020
International Studies Association Midwest		2019
Peace Science Society (International)		2019, 2018, 2016
Politics and Computational Social Science		2019
Society for Political Methodology		2019, 2018
International Studies Association		2019, 2017
Midwest Political Science Association		2018

INVITED TALKS	University of Missouri Kansas City, Spring 2020
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Conflict preemption, low level political violence, micro-level conflict dynamics, conflict resolution, Bayesian inference, measurement models

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS		
Thomas M. Uhlman Summer Research Fellowship, $6,000		2019, 2018, 2016
Earle Wallace Award for Graduate Student Teaching, $2,500		2019
Dean's Graduate Fellowship, $5,000		2018-2019
Graduate Student Transportation Grant, $1,000		2019
Graduate and Professional Student Federation Travel Award, $400		2018
ISA Annual Conference Travel Grant, $180		2017
Whit Ayres Travel Award, $160		2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	**Washington University in St. Louis**	
		Instructor
	• PS 3090: The Scientific Study of Civil War	2020
	• PS 3171: International Conflict Management & Resolution	2019

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*Equal authorship

The University *of* North Carolina *at* Chapel Hill

Instructor

- Poli 281: Quantitative Research in Political Science   2019
- Poli 891: Advanced Topics in Political Data Science Lab   2018, 2017

Teaching Assistant

- Poli 150: International Relations and World Politics   2018, 2017, 2016, 2015
- Poli 203: Race, Innocence, and the Decline of the Death Penalty   2016

ICPSR Summer Program

Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Applied Bayesian Modeling   2017

TEACHING INTERESTS	Conflict processes, terrorism and political violence, conflict management and resolution, quantitative methodology, spatial modeling
SOFTWARE	`RWmisc: Miscellaneous Spatial Functions`. Williams, Rob.
	`BayesPostEst: Generate Postestimation Quantities for Bayesian MCMC Estimation`. Karreth, Johannes, Shana Scogin, Rob Williams, and Andreas Beger.
TECHNICAL SKILLS	Statistical computing in R and Python; Bayesian inference with Stan and JAGS; reproducible research with R Markdown; GIS in R; Shiny; webscraping; high performance computing; containerization with Singularity and Docker; git; Bash

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Odum Institute for Research in Social Science

- **Data Verification:** Performed replication and verification of author submitted R, Python, and Stata code for manuscripts accepted for publication in *The American Journal of Political Science* and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, contributed to the development of best practices for authors (2016-2019)
- **Teaching Assistant** Assisted faculty instructors in a weeklong course targeted towards working data science professionals (2015)

ITS Research Computing

- **Support Specialist:** Assisted users of high performance clusters and virtual computing resources on campus, taught introductory R course to research community at UNC (2019)

SERVICE

Workshop Organization

- "Measuring and Conceptualizing Rebel Governance," 2019 PSS(I) Annual Meeting, with Amelia Hoover Green
- "Advancing Measurement in the Study of Conflict and Political Violence," 2018 PSS(I) Annual Meeting, with Johannes Karreth & Elizabeth Menninga

Panel Organization

- "Measuring the Less Violent Tools of Statecraft," 2019 ISA Midwest Annual Conference
- "Measuring Strategic Interaction in Conflict with Event Data," 2019 APSA Annual Conference, with Johannes Karreth

Discussant

- "Rebel Group Organization and Formation," 2020 APSA Annual Conference

Departmental Service

- Graduate student peer mentor (2019)
- Coordinator, Methods and Design Workshop (2018-2019)
- Coordinator, Spatial Methods Working Group (2016-2018)

Reviewer
International Studies Quarterly, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Civil Wars*, *Oxford University Press*, *Princeton University Press*, *Journal of Open Source Software*

AFFILIATIONS   Peace Science Society (International), International Studies Association, Society for Political Methodology, American Political Science Association

REFERENCES

Mark J.C. Crescenzi
Nancy Hanes White Distinguished Professor and Chair
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Washington University in St. Louis
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