

Benjamin Laughlin

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Academic Positions

Predoctoral Fellow, Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania, August 2017–present.

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Rochester, expected October 2018.

Dissertation: “Three Essays on the Political Economy of Violence and Forced Migration.”

Committee: Hein Geomans (co-chair), Gretchen Helmke (co-chair), Bethany Lacina, and Matthew Blackwell.

M.A. in Political Science, University of Rochester, 2014.

B.A. in Political Science and Economics, University of Washington, 2007.

Fields of Research Interest

Civil conflict and political violence, Refugees and immigration, Ethnic politics, Causal inference, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Research

Working Papers

“Border Fences and the Mexican Drug War”^{*}—Job Market Paper

“Information Cascades and Refugee Crises”^{*} (Under review)

“Technology and the Formation of National Identity: Evidence from Africa” (with Danny Choi and Anna Schultz)

“Cell Phones, Rumors, and Internal Displacement in Civil War”^{*} (Under review)

“Exposure to Immigrants and Anti-immigrant Sentiment” (with Barbara Piotrowska).

^{*} dissertation chapters

Work in Progress

“EU Border Security and Nationalism: A Natural Experiment in Ukraine.”

“Nationalistic Education and the Malleability of Ethnicity in Moldova.”

“Voting for Revenge: The Post-Conflict Effect of Forced Displacement and Civil War Violence.”

Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

Grant from the Peter D. Watson Center for Conflict and Cooperation to purchase data, University of Rochester, 2017.

Dean’s Post-Field Research Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2016-2017.

Travel Grant from the Comparative Politics Section of APSA, 2016.

Grant from the Goergen Fund to hire an Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Rochester, 2016.

University Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2011-2016.

University of Rochester Summer Seed Grant for International Field Research, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Conference Travel Grant, University of Rochester Graduate Organizing Committee, 2014, 2016.

Charles E. Lanni Summer Research Fellowship, University of Rochester, Summer 2012, 2013, 2014.

Department of Political Science Second-Year Paper Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2013.

Program in Empirical Policy Research (PEPR) Grant, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy, University of Rochester, 2012.

Teaching and Research Experience

Teaching

The Politics of Terrorism, University of Rochester, Fall 2014. Teaching Assistant for Alex Lee.

Introduction to International Relations, University of Rochester, Spring 2014. Teaching Assistant for Hein Geomans.

Ethnic Politics, University of Rochester, Fall 2013. Teaching Assistant for Bethany Lacina.

Identity, Ethnicity and Nationalism, University of Rochester, Spring 2013. Teaching Assistant for Bonnie Meguid.

Research

Research Assistant for Gretchen Helmke, Summer 2012, 2014-16.

Research Assistant for Avidit Acharya, Summer 2012.

Research Assistant for Randall Stone, Summer 2011.

Professional Activities

Reviewer, *Political Science Research and Methods*.

Member, American Political Science Association, 2011–present.

Member, European Political Science Association, 2014–present.

Member, Peace Science Society, 2013–present.

Field Experience, Languages, and Software

Field Experience:

Kosovo/Serbia, February-March 2015, June 2016.

Moldova, June-August 2014, January-February, March-April 2015.

Ukraine, August 2014, May, August, 2015.

Kyrgyzstan, June-July 2015.

Romania, May-June, August 2015.

Languages: English (native), Romanian (advanced), Russian (intermediate), Serbian (elementary).

Software: R, ArcGIS, Python.

References

Hein Goemans (dissertation co-chair)
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Beth Simmons (predoctoral fellowship advisor)
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