

Calvin Thrall

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Appointments

Columbia University • 2023 -

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.

—Faculty Member, Saltzman Institute for War and Peace Studies.

Past:

Princeton University • 2022-2023

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance.

Education

The University of Texas at Austin • 2022

Ph.D., Government.

Temple University • 2017

B.A., Political Science.

Book project

- **Thrall, Calvin.** *The Atomizers: Multinational Firms and the Fragmentation of Global Economic Governance.*
 - [Brief summary](#)
 - [Book proposal](#)
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Publications—Peer-reviewed

Preprints = same content, but free.

8. **Thrall, Calvin,** and Nathan M. Jensen. 2025. [Does Transparency Improve Public Policy? Evidence from a Tax Incentive Transparency Initiative.](#) [TJ] *Economics & Politics* 37(3): 1058-1075.
 - [Preprint](#)
 - Commentary: [The Monkey Cage](#)
7. **Thrall, Calvin.** 2025. [Informational Lobbying and Commercial Diplomacy.](#) *American Journal of Political Science* 69(3): 1147-1162. [T4]
 - [Preprint](#)
 - [500 word summary @ AJPS blog](#)
 - Mentions in [Phenomenal World](#), [National Affairs](#), [European Parliament briefing paper](#)
6. **Thrall, Calvin.** 2025. [Spillover Effects in International Law: Evidence from Tax Planning.](#) *International Studies Quarterly* 69(1). [T2]
 - [Preprint](#)
 - David A. Lake Award for best paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Political Economy Society (2020).

- Mentions: [The Price of Power](#), [OECD discussion paper](#), [Veblen Institute brief](#)
- 5. Wellhausen, Rachel L., Donn Feir, and **Calvin Thrall**. 2024. [Stakeholder Cues, National Origin, and Public Opinion Towards Firms: Evidence in the Context of the First Bank in an American Indian Nation](#). *Business and Politics* 26(1): 1-26. [WFT]
 - [Preprint](#)
- 4. Moehlecke, Carolina, **Calvin Thrall**, and Rachel L. Wellhausen. 2023. [Global Value Chains as a Constraint on Sovereignty: Evidence from Investor-State Dispute Settlement](#). *International Studies Quarterly* 67(1). [MTW]
 - [Preprint](#)
- 3. Jensen, Nathan M., and **Calvin Thrall**. 2021. [Who's Afraid of Sunlight? Explaining Opposition to Transparency in Economic Development](#). *Business and Politics* 23(4): 474-491. [JT]
 - [Preprint](#)
 - Nominated for the 2022 David P. Baron Award for best article published in *Business and Politics* in 2021.
 - Associated commentary: [New York Times](#), [ProMarket](#), [The Conversation](#), [Austin American-Statesman](#)
 - Mentions/coverage: [Axios](#), [Texas Standard](#), [Austin Business Journal](#), [Texas Public Policy Foundation](#)
- 2. **Thrall, Calvin**. 2021. [Public-Private Governance Initiatives and Corporate Responses to Stakeholder Complaints](#). *International Organization* 75(3): 803-836. [T1]
 - [Preprint](#)
- 1. Johns, Leslie, **Calvin Thrall**, and Rachel L. Wellhausen. 2020. [Judicial Economy and Moving Bars in International Investment Arbitration](#). *Review of International Organizations* 15(4): 923-945. [JTW]
 - [Preprint](#)

Publications—Other

1. Feir, Donn, Rachel L. Wellhausen, and **Calvin Thrall**. 2021. [Ownership and Trust in Banks: Evidence from the First Bank in an American Indian Nation](#). *American Economic Association: Papers and Proceedings* 111: 227-232. [FWT]
 - [Preprint](#)

Working Papers

^R indicates under review.

6. Lindsey, David, Matt Malis, and **Calvin Thrall**. [Representation Without Influence: Evidence from Gender Disparities in the U.S. Foreign Service](#). [LMT]
5. **Thrall, Calvin**. [Industrial Diversification and the Rise of the Local Chamber](#).^R [T5]
4. Malis, Matt, and **Calvin Thrall**. [Diplomatic Capacity and International Cooperation](#). [MT]
3. Singh, Simran, **Calvin Thrall**, and Noah Zucker. [Greener Pastures? A Labor Market Theory of Climate Governance](#). [STZ]
2. Berliner, Daniel, Nikhil Kalyanpur, and **Calvin Thrall**. [Transnational Information Shocks](#). [BKT]
1. Kalyanpur, Nikhil, and **Calvin Thrall**. [Exporting Capital, Importing Law](#). [KT]
 - Previous title: “The Oligarch’s Offshore Dilemma”

Works in Progress

5. Chung, Seewoo, David Lindsey, Matt Malis, and **Calvin Thrall**. Revolving Door Diplomats. [CLMT]
 4. Steel, Reilly S., and **Calvin Thrall**. Common Ownership and Political Competition. [ST]
 3. Mussell, Samantha, and **Calvin Thrall**. Doing Business with China. [MuT]
 2. **Thrall, Calvin**, and Noah Zucker. Global Governance by Invitation Only. [TZ]
 1. Meng, Anne, and **Calvin Thrall**. Measuring Academic Prestige. [MeT]
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Teaching

Columbia University

- The Politics of Multinational Enterprises (U)
- Business and Politics in a Globalized World (U)
- Firms in (International) Political Economy (G)

University of Texas at Austin

As Instructor:

2. “Math Camp” for incoming Ph.D. students, Aug. 2020, w/ Jiseon Chang
1. “Math Camp” for incoming Ph.D. students, Aug. 2019, w/ Julie Phillips

As TA:

6. Statistical Analysis in Political Science II (Grad) for Alison Craig, Spring 2020
 5. Statistical Analysis in Political Science I (Grad) for Stephen Jessee, Fall 2019
 4. US Military Conflicts after the Cold War for Jason Brownlee, Spring 2019
 3. Globalization and the Nation State for Di Wang, Fall 2018
 2. American and Texas Government for John McIver, Spring 2018
 1. Civil Wars and Ethnic Violence for Michael Findley, Fall 2017
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Conferences, Workshops, Talks

Conference/Institution [paper ID]

As Organizer

Diplomats and Bureaucrats in International Relations: June 02-03, 2023

- Sponsored by the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance at Princeton
- Co-organized with Matt Malis

Invited

2026: Stanford

2025: MIT [MT], Columbia Center for Political Economy [STZ], Columbia Political Methodology Colloquium [MT], UT-Austin [Atomizers], GRIPE [T5]

2024: UCSD [MT], Georgetown-Glasgow Corporate Accountability Workshop [other]

2023: Temple University [T4], Princeton University [T4], ETH Zurich Econ + Data Science [T4], Columbia History Lab [T4], Junior Scholars in IR Conference (UPenn) [T4], NYU [T4], Harvard University [T4]

2022: NBER conference on Interjurisdictional Tax Competition [TJ], **Reinvent Albany** Business Subsidy Forum [JT], Text and IOs Conference (UPenn) [T4]
2021: Global Research in IPE (GRIPE) Webinar [T2]

Other

2025: CBS-Princeton Money in Politics [T5], APSA [T5], IPES [LMT, STZ]
2024: CU $\frac{1}{2}$ -bakers [MeT], CBS-Princeton Money in Politics [disc], APSA [MT, LMT]
2023: Diplomats & Bureaucrats @ Niehaus [MT], IPES [MT], CU $\frac{1}{2}$ -bakers [BKT]
2022: ISA [Roundtable], APSA [KT, CLMT], IPES [CLMT]
2021: ISA [T2], UT-Austin IR Workshop [T2], IPES [T3]
2020: Texas Triangle [T1], PEIO [MTW], IPES [T2]
2019: SPSA [JT]

Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

Grants:

Faculty Grant, Columbia University Center for Political Economy, 2024 (\$47,850) [STZ]
Research and Impact Support Fund Grant, London School of Economics, 2024 (£20,000) [STZ]
Research and Impact Support Fund Grant, London School of Economics, 2022 (£20,000) [BKT]

Awards:

Nominated for David P. Baron Award for best paper published in *Business and Politics* in 2021 [JT]
David A. Lake Award for best paper presented at IPES, 2020 [T2]

Fellowships:

University Graduate Continuing Fellowship, AY 2021/2022
Clyde Rabb Littlefield Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, AY 2020/2021

Other Positions & Affiliations

Co-director, **Measuring American Diplomacy (MAD)**.

Service

External

- **Discussant/Panelist**, Online Peace Science Colloquium, 2025
- **Discussant/Panelist**, Virtual IPES, 2024
- **Section Head**, MPSA International Organizations and Cooperation section, 2024

Internal

- **Faculty Co-chair**, Columbia University International Politics Seminar (CUIPS), 2023-2024, 2025-2026
- **Admissions Committee**, Columbia Political Science PhD, 2025-
- **Admissions Committee**, Columbia Political Science MA, 2023-2025

PhD advising (placement):

—Dissertation committee member: Lisa Fan (Oxford postdoc), Marnie Ginis (U Toronto postdoc), Samuel Houskeeper (Princeton postdoc → Oxford), Giulia Leila Travaglini (in progress), Jenny Xiao (Leonis Capital), Yujin Zhang (in progress)
—Prospectus committee member: Seowoo Chung, Simran Singh, Sally Son, Giulia Leila Travaglini, David Vilalta

MA-level advising: Josephine Hebling

Undergraduate thesis advising: Ashfah Alam, Sophia Lander, Ben Mizrahi, Theodore Zaritsky

Reviewer: American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Applied Economics, Asia Pacific Law Review, British Journal of Political Science, Business and Politics, Economics & Politics, International Interactions, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of International Development, Journal of Politics, PLoS ONE, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), Review of International Organizations, Review of International Political Economy, World Politics.

References

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