# **Clayton Thomas Besaw**

CONTACTDepartment of Political ScienceOffice: +1-407-823-0113INFORMATIONUniversity of Central FloridaFax: +1-407-823-0051

4297 Andromeda Loop North E-mail: claybesaw@knights.ucf.

Howard Phillips Hall, Room 302 ed

Orlando, FL 32816 USA Website: cbesaw.com

RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Political Violence, Political Psychology, and Computational Methods:** Insurgency, Terrorism, Conflict Ecology, Organizational Behavior, Learning, Emotion, Beliefs, Experimental Design, Quasi-Experimental Design, Data Mining, Content Analysis.

EDUCATION University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Ph.D., Security Studies, 2017 (Expected)

Dissertation Title: Intergroup Conflict, Anger, and Costly Punishment.

B.A, Political Science, May 2011

Universität Wien, Vienna, Austria.

Certificate., German as a Foreign Language, July 2010

B1.2 EU Language Certification

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Visiting Lecturer** 

September 2016 - January 2017

Department of Political Science, Universität Mannheim

Einführung in die internationalen Beziehungen: Behavioral Approaches to Terrorism

**Graduate Assistant** 

November 2012 to August 2016

### **Research Assistant**

Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida Professor Mark Schafer, December 2014 to August 2016. Associate Professor Peter Jacques, November 2012 to April 2013

### **Teaching Assistant**

Department of Political Science (University of Central Florida)
INR2002 International Relations-Theory and Practice, Fall 2014
POS3703 Scope and Methods of Political Science, Fall 2014
POS6736 Conduct of Political Inquiry, Fall 2014

**START Summer Research Fellow on Illicit Networks** 

May 2014 to August 2014

National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of

Maryland

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Dolan, T., Butler, J., **Besaw, C.** Forthcoming. "Where the Insurgents Aren't: Rurality, Information, and Non-territorial Insurgency." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS Tezcür, G., **Besaw, C.** "Violence in Turkey is Increasingly Resembling Violence in Syria. Here's Data to Show Why". Political Violence @ a Glance., September, 2016.

**Besaw, C.,** Greene, K., Jacome, M. "Failure Points in Smuggling Networks: A Case Study of the Soto-Huarto Network." College Park, MD: START, 2014.

INVITED TALKS

- Tezcür, G., **Besaw**, C. (August, 2016). "Understanding Waves of Jihadism Recruitment." United States Central Command (CENTCOM), MacDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida.
- **Besaw, C.** (August, 2016). "Scientific Approaches to Terrorism: Group and Individual Analyses of Violent Extremism." United States Central Command (CENTCOM), MacDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida.
- **Besaw, C.**, Hofmann, D. (July, 2014). "The Role of Leadership in Terrorist-Organizations." National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

# CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Tezcür, G., **Besaw, C.** "Modeling Volatility in a Civil War: Political Processes and Violent Events." *Prepared for the International Studies Association Annual meeting*. Baltimore, Maryland. February, 2017
- Schafer, M., Walker, S., Besaw, C., Gill, P., Smith, G. "Psychological Correlates and U.S. Conflict Behavior: Introducing a New Data Set." Prepared for the International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting. Warsaw, Poland. July, 2016
- **Besaw, C.** "The Politics of Outbidding: Revisiting the Israel-Palestine Conflict Through Time-Series Analysis." *Prepared for the University of Central Florida 2016 Graduate Research Forum.* Orlando, Florida. April, 2016
- Dolan, T., Besaw, C. "The Determinants of Insurgency: A Study of Occupied France." Brown Bag Research Seminar, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida. *Prepared for De*partmental Brown-Bag Seminar. University of Central Florida. Orlando, Florida. February, 2016
- Semmelbeck, J., **Besaw, C.** "The Influence of Organizational Structure on Crime-Terror Cooperation." *Prepared for the International Centre for Comparative Criminology's Annual Illicit Networks Worskhop.* Montreal, QC. November, 2015
- **Besaw, C.,** Payne, J., Williams, J. "Personality, Beliefs, and the Use of Violence in Ethno-Political Organizations." *Prepared for the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* San Francisco, CA. September, 2015
- **Besaw, C.** "Personality of War: Social Dominance Orientation, Right Wing Authoritarian Personality, and War Behavior." *Prepared for the International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting.* San Diego, CA. July, 2015
- Besaw, C., Schafer, M. "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior." *Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting*. New Orleans, LA. February, 2015
- **Besaw, C.** "Deadly Premonition: Can Terrorist-Leader Psychology Predict Terrorist-Group Lethality?." *Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, LA. January, 2014.
- Williams, J., **Besaw, C.,** Payne, J. "The Terrorism Psychology Project: Leadership Psychology as a Potential Salilent Variable in Quantitative Terrorism Studies." *Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, LA. January, 2014.
- Payne, J., and **Besaw, C.** "Extremist Leaders: A Case Analysis of Velupillai Prabhakaran and Sri Lankan Violent Extremism." *Presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting.* Virginia Beach, VA. September, 2013.
- **Besaw, C.,** Payne, J., Williams, J. "What Drives Extremist Leaders? A Psychological Comparison of Terrorist-Leaders and State-Leaders." *Presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting.* Virginia Beach, VA. September 2013.

- **Besaw, C.** "An Organizational model of Crime-Terror Cooperation." *Presented at the Florida Political Science Association Annual Conference*. Florida International University. Miami, FL. March, 2013.
- **Besaw, C.** "An Empirical Analysis of the Criminal-Based Strategies of Terrorist and Insurgent Organizations." *Presented at the Globalization, Information, Policy & Knowledge Production (GIP & KP) Conference.* University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. February, 2013.

# GRANTS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2015 ICPSR Travel Grant, Political Science Department, University of Central Florida (Tuition, Travel, and Housing funded).
- Best MA Thesis (Departmental, 2013-2014), **Besaw**, C.,"Deadly Premonition: Does Terrorist-Leader Psychology Influence Violence Lethality?" (Committee members Drs. Mark Schafer (Chair), Peter Jacques, and Michael Mousseau).
- **Besaw, C.** ISA New Orleans Travel Grant Award, "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior.", International Studies Association, 2015 (\$300 Funded).
- **Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior.", UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2014-2015 (\$500 Funded).
- **Besaw, C.** START Summer Fellowship on Illicit Networks, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2014. (\$4,000 Funded).
- Botts, G., Priest, D., Cintron, R., Cox, T., Owens, T., **Besaw, C.**, Theiss, E. Title: *Increasing Research Fluency for SLS Faculty*. Information Fluency Grant, 2013-2014. (\$3,000 Funded).
- Priest, D., Stinard, C., **Besaw, C**. NASPA Excellence Award (Category Silver), "Transferring to Success: The Role of Transfer Orientation on Transfer Student Success." January 2014.
- Besaw, C. Terrorism Studies Research Fellowship, Global Perspectives, 2013. (\$500 Funded).
- **Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, Terrorist-leader psychology project. UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2013-2014. (\$300 Funded).
- **Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, Crime-terror cooperation. UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2012-2013. (\$250 Funded).

### PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

#### **Programming:**

• R, Stata, WinRATS, Python, Jekyll, BUGS(open/win), JAGS, TeX (LATeX, BIBTeX)

# Quantitative Methods

- Liner and Generalized Linear Regression modeling
- Time Series Analysis: Vector Autoregression, Box-Jenkins, ARCH/GARCH, Dynamic Conditional Correlation, Panel/Time Series-Cross Sectional, Event History/Survival Analysis, Fractional Integration (Δ<sub>f</sub>).
- Machine Learning: Lasso, Random Forest, Naive Bayes, Latent Factors, Clustering, Logistic Regression.
- Text Analysis: Content Analysis Design, Sentiment Analysis and Library Creation, Latent Dirchlet Allocation, Neural Network/Deep Learning, Deductive at-a-distance psychological analysis (Operational Code, Leadership Trait Analysis, Big-five Traits).
- Matching: Propensity, CEM, Mahalanobis.

#### Language

• English (Native), German (Working), Dutch (Conversational), Spanish (Basic)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP American Political Science Association, Member, 2013–present International Studies Association, Member, 2011–present

International Society of Political Psychology, Member, 2013-present

Peace Science Society, Member, 2014-present

ADDITIONAL TRAINING **2015** ICPSR Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, Michigan (University of Michigan).

- Causal Inference Workshop
- Advanced Maximum Likelihood Workshop
- Text Analysis with Statistical Learning Workshop

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

## **ICCAE Program Assistant**

December 2014 to August 2016

UCF Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence

Aided in programming and planning for national-security and intelligence community related speaker events.

#### **Graduate Student Mentor**

May 2015 to August 2015

UCF Preparing Future Researchers Program/NSF REU Program Served as a mentor to selected REU undergraduate student.

# **Data Analysis Consultant and Project Manager**

May 2014 to August 2014

Student Development and Enrollment Services, University of Central Florida

#### **Graduate Assistant**

May 2013 to May 2014

Student Development and Enrollment Services, University of Central Florida

### Researcher & Assistant

November 2012 to April 2013

Political Ecology Lab (UCF), University of Central Florida

VOLUNTEERING

Science Fair Judge (December, 2014)

- Leaders Preparatory School Orlando, Florida
- Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science

STEM Day UCF (January, 2015)

• Helped to promote STEM and social science careers to K - 12 students from the Orlando public school system.

REFERENCES

Available on request.