

Frank Wyer

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Current position

PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, UCLA
Comparative Politics • International Relations

Dissertation

Title: “Defending the Peace: Understanding Threats to Peace Agreement Implementation and Postconflict Stability”

Description: My dissertation focuses on threats to peace in conflict-affected societies, focusing on the problem of rebel fragmentation and the emergence of dissident factions that reject peace. The first chapter of the dissertation addresses the question of why such factions emerge and how they expand, using the case of dissident FARC factions that rejected Colombia’s 2016 peace agreement. The second chapter focuses on the consequences of rebel fragmentation for demobilization programs, showing how dissident FARC factions recruitment and retention strategies resulted in violence against demobilized combatants. The final chapter addresses public responses to these threats to peace, leveraging survey and experimental data to understand how ordinary Colombian citizens have reacted to setbacks to the peace agreement.

Committee: Chad Hazlett (Co-Chair), Darin Christensen (Co-Chair), Barbara Geddes, Leslie Johns

Education

2022	PhD in Political Science (Expected), University of California, Los Angeles
2020	C.Phil. in Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles
2019	MA in Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles
2015	BA in International Politics and Economics, Middlebury College

Grants, honors & awards

2019	Summer Research Travel Grant, \$4,000, UCLA Department of Political Science
2018	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program, \$6,000, UCLA Graduate Division Graduate Research Mentorship Program, \$20,000, UCLA Graduate Division
2017	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program, \$6,000, UCLA Graduate Division
2015	<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>
2011	National Merit Scholarship (finalist)

Papers & talks

REVIEW ARTICLES

- 2019 Johns, Leslie and **Wyer, Frank** (2019), “When Things Fall Apart: The Impact of Global Governance on Civil Conflict”, *Journal of Politics* 81 (4): e80-e84

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 Otlán, Yana and **Wyer, Frank** (2017), “Rebel Learning and Civil War Contagion”, *WPSA; MPSA*

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

- Wyer, Frank. “The Role of Leadership Targeting in Counterinsurgency Campaigns”
Wyer, Frank. “Regime Type, Leader Tenure, and the Costs of Defeat”

Teaching Assistantships

- 2020 “Experimental Design for Social Science” (graduate level), with Graeme Blair at UCLA
“US Foreign Policy” (undergraduate level), with Deborah Larson at UCLA
“Globalization: Governance and Conflict” (undergraduate level), with Eric Min at UCLA
2019 “World Politics” (undergraduate level), with Robert Trager at UCLA
2018 “International Law” (undergraduate level), with Leslie Johns at UCLA

Additional Experience

- 2018-2019 Research Assistant, Associate Professor Robert Trager, UCLA
2015 Teaching Fellow, 8th Grade English, Breakthrough San Juan Capistrano
2012-2015 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs
2013 Undergraduate Intern, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies

Field Experience

- 2019 Colombia (Antioquia, Bogotá, La Guajira, Tolima)

Skills

Languages: English; German (conversational); Spanish (intermediate); French (elementary)
Software: R, QGIS, \LaTeX , Qualtrics

Academic Service

Lead Organizer: Pieces of the Craft Workshop Series, UCLA (2020-)
Co-Chair: International Relations Reading Group, UCLA (2018-2019)
Peer Mentor: Graduate Mentorship Program, Department of Political Science, UCLA (2018-)
Alumni Volunteer: Alumni Admissions Program, Middlebury College (2017-)

Last updated: January 7, 2021