

# Graeme Blair

Department of Political Science  
University of California, Los Angeles  
4289 Bunche Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095

phone +1 310-570-6972  
e-mail [graeme.blair@ucla.edu](mailto:graeme.blair@ucla.edu)  
web [graemeblair.com](http://graemeblair.com)

## Appointments

Assistant Professor of Political Science, UCLA, 2016–

Pre/Post-Doctoral Fellow, Evidence in Governance and Politics & Earth Institute, Columbia University, 2014–16

## Education

Ph.D., Politics, Princeton University, 2016

A.M., Politics, Princeton University, 2010

B.A., Political Science, Reed College, 2006

Coursework, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 2004

Koobi Fora Field School, Kenya, 2001

## Research

### *Books*

2. Graeme Blair, Fotini Christia, Jeremy Weinstein, Eric Arias, Emile Badran, Robert A. Blair, Ellen Chapin, Ali Cheema, Ahsan Farooqui, Thiemo Fetzer, Guy Grossman, Dotan Haim, Zulfiqar Hameed, Rebecca Hanson, Ali Hasanain, Ben Kachero, Dorothy Kronick, Andrew Miller, Benjamin Morse, Robert Muggah, Fatiq Nadeem, Matthew Nanes, Tara Slough, Nico Ravanilla, Jacob N. Shapiro, Barbara Silva, Pedro C. L. Souza, and Anna Wilke. *Crime, Insecurity, and Community Policing: Experiments on Building Trust*. Under advanced contract, *Cambridge University Press*.
1. Graeme Blair, Alexander Coppock, and Macartan Humphreys. *Research Design: Declaration, Diagnosis, and Redesign*. Under advance contract, *Princeton University Press*.

### *Journal articles*

12. Graeme Blair, Darin Christensen, and Valerie Wirtschafter. 2020. “How does armed conflict shape investment? Evidence from the mining sector.” Forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*.
11. Graeme Blair, Darin Christensen, and Aaron Rudkin. 2021. “Do Commodity Price Shocks Cause Armed Conflict? Evidence from a Meta-Analysis.” *American Political Science Review* 115(2): 709–716.
10. Graeme Blair, Alexander Coppock, and Margaret Moor. 2020. “When to Worry about Sensitivity Bias: A Social Reference Theory and Evidence from 30 Years of List Experiments.” *American Political Science Review* 114(4): 1297–1315.
9. Graeme Blair, Winston Chou, and Kosuke Imai. 2019. “List Experiments with Measurement Error.” *Political Analysis* 27(4): 455–480.
8. Graeme Blair, Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, and Macartan Humphreys. 2019. “Declaring and Diagnosing Research Designs.” *American Political Science Review* 113(3): 838–859.
7. Graeme Blair, Rebecca Littman, and Elizabeth Levy Paluck. 2019. “Motivating the Adoption of New Community-Minded Behaviors: An Empirical Test in Nigeria.” *Science Advances* 5(3):1–8.

6. Robin Gomila, Rebecca Littman, Graeme Blair, and Elizabeth Levy Paluck. 2017. "The Audio Check: A Method for Improving Data Quality and Detecting Data Fabrication." *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. 8(4): 424-433.
5. Graeme Blair, Kosuke Imai, and Yang-Yang Zhou. 2015. "Statistical Analysis of the Randomized Response Technique." *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 110(511): 1304-1319.
4. Graeme Blair, Kosuke Imai, and Jason Lyall. 2014. "Comparing and Combining List and Endorsement Experiments: Evidence from Afghanistan." *American Journal of Political Science* 58(4): 1043-1063.
3. Jason Lyall, Graeme Blair, and Kosuke Imai. 2013. "Explaining Support for Combatants during Wartime: A Survey Experiment in Afghanistan." *American Political Science Review* 107(4): 679-705.
2. Graeme Blair, C. Christine Fair, Neil Malhotra, and Jacob N. Shapiro. 2013. "Poverty and Support for Militant Politics: Survey Evidence from Pakistan." *American Journal of Political Science* 57(1): 30-48.
1. Graeme Blair and Kosuke Imai. 2012. "Statistical Analysis of List Experiments." *Political Analysis* 20: 47-77.

### *Invited contributions*

3. Graeme Blair and Gwyneth McClendon. "Experiments in Multiple Contexts." Chapter in *Handbook of Experimental Political Science*, James N. Druckman and Donald P. Green eds., forthcoming, Cambridge University Press.
2. Hilary Matfess, Graeme Blair, and Chad Hazlett. "Beset on all sides: Children and the Landscape of Conflict in North East Nigeria." In Siobhan O'Neil and Kato van Broeckhoven, eds. 2018. *Cradled by Conflict: Child Involvement in Contemporary Conflict*, New York: United Nations University.
1. Graeme Blair. 2015. "Survey Methods for Sensitive Topics." *APSA Comparative Politics Newsletter* 24(1): 12-16.

### *Under review*

3. Graeme Blair, Jeremy Weinstein, Fotini Christia, Eric Arias, Emile Badran, Robert A. Blair, Ali Cheema, Ahsan Farooqui, Thiemo Fetzner, Guy Grossman, Dotan Haim, Zulfiqar Hameed, Rebecca Hanson, Ali Hasanain, Dorothy Kronick, Benjamin Morse, Robert Muggah, Fatiq Nadeem, Matthew Nanes, Tara Slough, Nico Ravanilla, Jacob N. Shapiro, Barbara Silva, Pedro C. L. Souza, and Anna Wilke. 2020. "Does Community Policing Build Trust in Police and Reduce Crime? Evidence from Six Coordinated Field Experiments in the Global South." Revise and resubmit, *Science*.
2. Graeme Blair, Rebecca Littman, Elizabeth R. Nugent, Rebecca Wolfe, Mohammed Bukar, Benjamin Crisman, Anthony Etim, and Chad Hazlett. "Trusted Authorities Can Change Minds and Shift Norms during Conflict." Revise and resubmit, *Proceedings of the National Academies of Science*.
1. Biz Herman (✉) Amma Panin (✉) Nicholas Owlsley (✉) Graeme Blair (✉) Alex Dyzenhaus (✉) Elizabeth Iams Wellman (✉) Allison Grossman (✉) Ken Opalo (✉) Anisha Singh (✉) Hannah Alarian (✉) Lindsey Pruett (✉) and Yvonne Tan. "RCTs in the Global South: Assessing Risks, Localizing Benefits, and Addressing Positionality." (Author order randomized.)

### *Awards & fellowships*

Commendation (for DeclareDesign), Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science, 2020

Statistical Software Award for "developing statistical software that makes a significant research contribution," Society for Political Methodology, 2019

Leamer-Rosenthal Prize for Open Social Science, Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences,

\$10,000, 2016

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown (declined), 2014

Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper, Midwest Political Science Association, \$250, 2013, with Kosuke Imai and Jason Lyall

Graduate Fellow, Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton, 2013

Graduate Fellow, Program on Quantitative and Analytical Political Science, Princeton, 2012 – 2013

Prize Fellow (university-wide), Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Princeton, 2011

## Software

DeclareDesign, R statistical package for diagnosing and improving research designs, with Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, Macartan Humphreys, and Neal Fultz

fabricatr, R statistical package for simulating social science data before it is collected, with Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, Macartan Humphreys, and Aaron Rudkin

estimatr, R statistical package for fast estimators for social scientists, with Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, Macartan Humphreys, and Luke Sonnet

DesignLibrary, R statistical package for quick declaration of common social science research designs, with Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, Macartan Humphreys, Clara Bicalho, and Lily Medina

rr, R statistical package for analysis of randomized response technique survey items designed to elicit truthful answers to sensitive questions, with Yang-Yang Zhou and Kosuke Imai

list, R statistical package for analysis of survey “list experiments” designed to elicit truthful answers to sensitive questions, with Kosuke Imai

## Extramural grants

International Growth Centre, \$25,800, 2019, co-PI with Darin Christensen and Michael Ross

Hewlett Foundation, \$1,400,000, 2018–2020. For Project on Resources, Governance, and Development, co-PI with Darin Christensen and Michael Ross

Peace and Recovery Fund, Innovations for Poverty Action, \$40,000, 2018, co-PI with Rebecca Littman and Rebecca Wolfe

Economic Development and Institutions Program (U.K. Department for International Development), \$30,000, 2018. For “Engaging Citizens to Address Company-Community Conflicts at South African Mines,” with Darin Christensen and Renard Sexton

Hewlett Foundation, \$600,000, 2017–2018. For Project on Resources, Governance, and Development, co-PI with Darin Christensen, Laura Paler, and Michael Ross

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, \$491,000, 2016–2018. Lead PI (\$322,839 award to UCLA). For “Declaring and Diagnosing Research Designs,” with Jasper Cooper, Alexander Coppock, and Macartan Humphreys

Evidence in Governance and Politics and U.K. Department for International Development, \$1,300,000 (\$109,978 award to UCLA), 2016–2020. For “*Metaketa* Initiative on Community Policing,” chair and lead author

Development Innovation Lab/USAID grant, \$5,000, 2017, with Darin Christensen and Renard Sexton

Amazon AWS Research Grant, \$3,000, 2014, with Kosuke Imai and Carlos Velasco

CAF-America Latina Crime and Policy Network Citizen Security in Latin America Grant, \$15,000, 2013, with

Kosuke Imai, Fabiana Machado, Carlos Velasco

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant (SES-1226228), \$17,640, 2012

International Growth Centre, LSE, \$116,000, 2010, with Kosuke Imai

## Internal grants

Center for Social Statistics, UCLA, \$20,000, 2017, with Chad Hazlett

Dean's Faculty Opportunity Fund, UCLA, \$1,500, 2017, with Darin Christensen and Chad Hazlett

California Center for Population Research Seed Grant, UCLA, \$17,200, 2016, with Chad Hazlett

Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton, 2010; 2012

Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, Princeton, 2010; 2011; 2011, with Kosuke Imai; 2011, with Carlos Velasco

## Field research

Nigeria: January, March 2020 (North East); March-April 2018 (North East); July 2017 (North East); March, September 2016 (North East); February, July 2015 (North East); November 2012 – February 2013 (Niger Delta); January, May, July 2012 (Niger Delta); July – August 2011 (North East, Niger Delta); July – August 2010 (Abuja); August 2009 (Lagos)

South Africa: September 2019; December 2018; August 2017; January 2006

Mexico: March, April 2012

Equatorial Guinea: January 2012

Ghana: June 2010; June 2009

Liberia: July 2009

## Teaching

PS 50. Comparative politics (undergraduate), UCLA

PS 200E. Experimental design for social science (graduate), UCLA

PS 292B. Research design for social science (graduate), UCLA

PS 240A-B. Comparative politics field seminar (graduate), UCLA

Research design short course. EITM Europe, 2019; Nigeria Ministry of Agriculture, 2015

## Professional service

Organizer, Southern California Workshop in Empirical Political Science conference, 2020

Nominating committee co-chair, African Politics Conference Group, 2019–20

Selection committee, Statistical Software Award, Society for Political Methodology, 2019–21

Section co-chair, African Politics Conference Group, American Political Science Association meetings, 2019

Selection committee, Southern California Workshop in Empirical Political Science conference, 2019

Selection committee, post-doctoral fellow, Evidence in Governance and Politics, 2016

Referee, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series A)*, *Journal of Peace Research*, National Science Foundation, *Nature Human Behaviour*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Behavior*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Research and Politics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Science Advances*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, University of California Press, and *World Politics*

## University and department service

Executive committee member, Department of Political Science, UCLA, 2019–20, 2020–21

Methods field chair, Department of Political Science, UCLA, 2019–20, 2020–21

Comparative politics field chair, Department of Political Science, UCLA, 2017–18

Faculty leader, Improving Designs in the Social Sciences (weekly graduate workshop), UCLA, 2016–17, 2017–18, with Darin Christensen, Erin Hartman, and Chad Hazlett

Co-organizer, Comparative Politics Workshop, Department of Political Science, UCLA, 2016–17, 2017–18

Deputy director of graduate placement, Department of Political Science, UCLA, 2016–17

## Conferences and invited talks

2021: Montréal Methods Workshop

2020: Berkeley Africa Colloquium; NYU Center for Experimental Social Science conference; EGAP, Addis Ababa\*; OECD Responsible Mining meeting\*; Stanford Comparative Politics Workshop\*; Innovations for Poverty Action Measurement meeting\*; Empirical Studies of Conflict Conference; Berkeley Center for Effective Global Action; APSA; BITSS RT-2 Workshop; U.K. Dept. for International Development; Stanford Political Science Workshop; Evidence in Governance and Politics; FHI 360; Innovations for Poverty Action; USAID Development Innovations Venture. \* cancelled due to COVID-19

2019: Strategy and the Business Environment Conference; Empirical Studies of Conflict Conference; Northwestern Experiments Conference; APSA; BITSS RT-2 Workshop, World Bank; Workshop in Experimental Social Sciences, Florence; EGAP, Geneva; UBC Vancouver School of Economics

2018: Northwestern University, Q-Center; APSA; Facebook; PRG, Washington; PRG, Accra, Ghana; BITSS RT-2 Workshop, Los Angeles

2017: U.K. Dept. for International Development, London; BITSS Annual Meeting; Project on Resources and Governance Conference, UCLA

2016: U.S. Dept. of State; Southern California Methods Workshop, UCSD; APSA, EGAP, New Haven

2015: APSA

2014: Polmeth; APSA

2013: MPSA; Polmeth; APSA

2012: International Studies Association; Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); Contemporary African Political Economy Research Seminar; Polmeth; APSA; Harvard-MIT-Yale Civil Conflict and Political Violence Conference

2011: NYU Center for Experimental Social Science conference; Princeton Conference on New Methods and Applications in Comparative and IR; Society for Political Methodology (Polmeth); American Political Science Association (APSA)

## Policy advisory (unpaid)

Managing Exits from Conflict Nigeria (UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, UN University), 2019–20

Mercy Corps Nigeria, 2018–20

UNICEF Nigeria and UN University, 2016–17

Office of the Special Adviser to the President on Petroleum Matters, Nigeria, 2010–11

## Policy and popular publications

“Pakistan’s Middle Class Extremists: Why Development Aid Won’t Solve Radicalism,” *Foreign Affairs*, online edition, July 11, 2011, with C. Christine Fair, Neil Malhotra, and Jacob N. Shapiro

“Broke and Dangerous? Poor Logic,” *Times of India*, May 28, 2011, with C. Christine Fair, Neil Malhotra, and Jacob N. Shapiro.

“Drivers of Change in the Pakistan Army Corps: What the Data Say,” Santa Clara: RAND Corporation, 2009, with Christine Fair, Claude Berrebi, and Jacob N. Shapiro.

## Affiliations

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Social Statistics, UCLA, 2018–

Steering Committee (founding member), Project on Resources and Governance, 2017–

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Global Action, 2017–

Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics, 2016–

Faculty Affiliate, African Studies Program, UCLA, 2016–

Faculty Affiliate, California Center for Population Research, UCLA, 2016–

Researcher, International Growth Centre, 2012–

## Professional memberships

African Politics Conference Group, American Political Science Association, Society for Political Methodology

## Non-academic employment

Econsult Corporation, Philadelphia (urban economics statistical analyst), 2007–2008.

Grove Insight, Portland, Oregon (political survey research analyst), 2006.

References available upon request.

Last updated May 2021