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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science *University of Maryland* December 2014 (Defended 10/31/14)

Fields: International Relations (with Distinction), Political Theory (with Distinction)

Dissertation Title: Pirates, Anarchists, and Terrorists: Violence and the Boundaries of Sovereign Authority

Abstract: My dissertation examines how states combat episodes of violence that pose an ontological threat to the state. In my three cases – golden age piracy in the 18th century, anarchist ‘propagandists of the deed’ at the turn of the 20th, and al Qaeda – I demonstrate that the state develops creative solutions to concrete crises. My case studies show how states re-inscribe themselves by redrawing conceptual boundaries, such as between ‘international’ and ‘domestic’, in order to make sense of the threat and respond effectively. For instance, counterterror innovations devised to combat al Qaeda, such as targeted killing and bulk data collection, have transformed borders from sites of exclusion designed to keep out undesirables to sites of collection where they are tracked and controlled.

Committee: Prof. Virginia Haufler (Chair)

Prof. Paul K. Huth

Prof. David Cunningham

Prof. Daniel Green (University of Delaware)

Prof. Meyer Kestnbaum (Dean’s Rep, Sociology)

M.A. International Affairs *The New School* 2007

Graduate Program in International Affairs

B.A. History *Dickinson College* 2004

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2015 Adjunct Professor I, University of Maryland College Park
GVPT 409Q Globalization and the Future of Politics

Spring 2015 Instructor, American University
SISG 760 International Studies: History, Theory, Practice (Online)

Fall 2013 Instructor, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, Shady Grove
POLI 480 International Organization: The State and Sovereignty

2012-2015 Lecturer, University of Maryland College Park
GVPT 309D Drones, Data, and National Security in the 21st Century, Winter 2015 (Online)
GVPT 200 International Political Relations, Fall 2014

GVPT 306 Global Environmental Politics, Spring 2014, Fall 2014
GVPT 200FC International Political Relations, Fall 2013
GVPT 309E Warfare without Soldiers: Drones, Ethics, and Society, Winter 2013
(Online)
GVPT 309K Ethics and the Conduct of U.S. Foreign Policy, Summer 2012
(Online)

2009-2013 Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland College Park
GVPT 306 Global Environmental Politics – Prof. Jennifer Hadden
GVPT 170 American Government – Prof. Patrick Wohlfarth
GVPT 273 Introduction to Environmental Politics– Prof. Jennifer Hadden
GVPT 200 International Political Relations – Prof. Scott Kastner
GVPT 241 Ancient and Modern Political Philosophy – Prof. James Glass
GVPT 200 International Political Relations –Prof. Virginia Haufler
GVPT 200 International Political Relations – Prof. Bart Kaminski
GVPT 200 International Political Relations – Prof. Scott Kastner

2008 English Teacher, Weifang Foreign Language School, Weifang, China

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“When Does Violence Threaten the State?: Four Narratives of Piracy” Paper Submitted to Terrorism and Political Violence (Revise and Resubmit)

“Busting Blackbeard’s Ghost: Placing Somali Piracy in Historical Context,” Paper Submitted to Critical Studies on Terrorism (Under Review)

“Violence at the Margins: Propaganda of the Deed and State Formation” Paper to be Submitted to International Relation in February 2015

“Shifting Narratives of Violence and Threat: The Case of Captain Kidd,” Paper to be Submitted to International Historical Review in February 2015

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2013 Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Dissertation Grant 2013

2013 Harold D. Lasswell Award 2013, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy

2008 Graduate Fellowship, University of Maryland – College Park (2008-2009 Academic Year)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2009-2014 Research Assistant, Center for International Development and Conflict Management,
University of Maryland
Worked on USAID Measuring Fragility Alert List, cleaning and gathering data and
putting together report for 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 reports
Worked on background for CIDCM bid for FEWSNET (Family Early Warning System)
Worked on paper entitled “Monitoring Fragility and Risk of Instability: The Extent of
Convergence and Divergence Across Eight Watch Lists”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Quantitative Methods Training

GVPT 622: Quantitative Methods in Political Science – Fall 2008
GVPT 722: Advanced Quantitative Methods in Political Science – Spring 2010
GVPT 729A: Advanced Maximum Likelihood Estimation – Spring 2011

Qualitative Methods Training

Interpretative and Relational Research Methodologies Workshop
ISA Northeast regional annual meeting in Providence, RI, November, 2011

Teacher Training

GVPT 599 Teaching Political Science – Spring 2011
Conversation about Teaching Workshop – August 2013

May 2007-August 2007 Foreign Policy Research Institute – Philadelphia, PA

Served as a research assistant/intern for Dr. James McGann. Researched think tanks in
Northeast Asia and worked on and presented a project on trends and comparisons of Think
Tanks in China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong

June 2006-August 2006 Youth Roundtable – Hong Kong SAR

Worked as a research intern for Youth Roundtable, a think tank/advocacy group for youth
issues in Hong Kong. Developed a report on democracy in Hong Kong for internal use and
worked on a database for corporate social responsibility. Planned events for young adults
interested in Hong Kong politics and social issues at local coffee shops

POLICY REPORTS

2010 Alert Lists: Fragility and Risk For Instability: Worldwide Rankings. United States Agency
for International Development. (Sensitive but Unclassified)

2011 Alert Lists: Fragility and Risk For Instability: Worldwide Rankings. United States Agency
for International Development. (Sensitive but Unclassified)

2012 Alert Lists: Fragility and Risk For Instability: Worldwide Rankings. United States Agency
for International Development. (Sensitive but Unclassified)

2013 Alert Lists: Fragility and Risk For Instability: Worldwide Rankings. United States Agency
for International Development. (Sensitive but Unclassified)

2014 Alert Lists: Fragility Fragility and Risk For Instability: Worldwide Rankings. United States Agency for International Development. (Sensitive but Unclassified)

Gathered data and created a code book for all five editions of the report. Worked on data analysis for 2010 and 2011 editions. Worked on graphics, creating color maps, charts, and handouts for 201-2014 editions of the report and the corresponding briefings.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PARTICIPATION

“State and Empire in the Golden Age of Piracy” Paper to be Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Feb. 18-21, 2015

“I Want to Kill the Capitalists!: Propaganda of the Deed at the end of the Long 19th Century,” Paper to be Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Feb. 18-21, 2015

“Violence at the Margins: Propaganda of the Deed and International Relations,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association – Northeast Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 7-8, 2014

“We are Watching You: Drones, Data, and Boundaries in the War on Terror,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association – Northeast Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 7-8, 2014

“Busting Blackbeard’s Ghost: Placing Somali Piracy into Historical Context,” Poster presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 28-31, 2014

“We are Watching You: Drones and the Changing Meaning of State Boundaries,” Paper presented as part of the Junior Scholar Symposium at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, March 26-29, 2014

“The Golden Age of Piracy and the Creation of an Atlantic World,” Paper Presented at the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies Annual Conference, Williamsburg, Va, March 20-22, 2014

“Documentation to Secure Borders: Anarchist Terrorism and the Rise of the Passport in Early 20th Century Europe,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association - Northeast Annual Conference, Providence, RI, November 8-9, 2013

“Beyond Pirates, Terrorists, and Mercenaries: A Relational Approach to Non-state and Transnational Violence,” Paper Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 29-September 1, 2013

“Consequences of Combating Transnational Violence: The Golden Age of Piracy and the State,” Poster Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 29-September 1, 2013

“Beyond Piracy?: Why We Should Move Beyond Action When Theorizing Episodes of Non-State Violence,” Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, April 3-6, 2013

“Sovereignty as Boundary Drawing Practices,” Paper to be presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, April 3-6, 2013

“Beyond Pirates, Mercenaries, and Terrorists: A Relational Typology of Non-State Violence,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association – North East Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2-3, 2012

“The Consequences of Dealing with Transnational Security Threats: The Golden Age of Piracy and the Creation of the ‘Atlantic World’,” Paper Presented at the George Washington University Graduate Student Conference, Washington, DC, October 12, 2012

Discussant for Panel “Transitions in Regimes,” George Washington University Graduate Student Conference, Washington, DC, October 12, 2012

“Measuring Fragility and the Risk of Instability: Explaining Convergence and Divergence Across Watch Lists,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, April 1-4, 2012

“The Consequences of Combating Transnational Violence: The Golden Age of Piracy and the creation of an ‘Atlantic World’,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA April 1-4, 2012

“The Consequences of Dealing with Transnational Security Threats: The Golden Age of Piracy and the Creation of the ‘Atlantic World’,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association – Northeast Annual Meeting, Providence November 4-5, 2011

“From Security to Opportunity: Foreign Policy Choice, the All-Volunteer Force, and Changes in the Practice of Sovereignty,” Paper Presented at the New England Political Science Association Annual Conference, Hartford, CT April 29-30, 2011

“From Security to Opportunity: The All-Volunteer Force and the Changing State,” Paper Presented at the International Studies Association – Northeast Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD November 5-6, 2010

REFERENCES

Prof. Virginia Haufler
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Prof. Paul K. Huth
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Prof. Daniel Green
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Prof. Patrick Thaddeus Jackson
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