






Sky Kunkel

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Academic Appointments, Positions, and Affiliations

Su. 2024-	Postdoctoral Research Associate <i>Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> <i>Gender and Security Sector Lab</i>
AY 2023-24	Peace Scholar Fellow <i>United States Institute of Peace, Washington, DC</i>
AY 2023-24	Predoctoral Research Fellow <i>Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> <i>Gender and Security Sector Lab</i>






Education

May 2024	Ph.D. Political Science <i>Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN</i> <i>Fields: International Relations, Political Methodology</i> <i>Dissertation: The Local Effects of UN Peacekeeping</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Finalist for College-wide Distinguished Dissertation Award</i> <i>Committee Members: Kyle Haynes (Chair), Liana Eustacia Reyes, Giancarlo Visconti, Michael Greig</i>
May 2019	B.A. Political Science <i>Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN</i>

Research



* indicates a graduate student co-author; † indicates an external co-author

In-Progress

1. "Who Keeps the Peace? Gendered Effects in UN Peacekeeping." *Under Review.* 
 - ISA Midwest Best Graduate Student Paper Award
 - ISA IO Section Finkelstein Prize Special Mention
- *† 2. "Violence as a Condition: From Russia to the CAR, the Global Impact of the Wagner Group" (with Matthew Kyle Ellis). *Under Review.* 
 - Requested by United States Congressional Research Service for distribution.
- † 3. "The Dual Impact of Peacekeeping: Divergent Effects of Peacekeeping Operations on Rebel and Government Violence Against Civilians" (with Douglas B. Atkinson, Rebecca Dudley, and Zach Warner). *Under Review.* 
4. "Double Delegation: An Exploration and Construction of the UN Private Security Contractor Database." *Working Paper.* 
5. "All About that Base... No Trouble. The Gravity of Peacekeeping Bases." *Working Paper.* 

- *† 6. | “Beyond Negative Peace: Do UN Peacekeepers decrease security and trust concerns?” (with Catalina Vega-Méndez). *Work in progress*.
- *† 7. | “What’s in a Name? Implications of Overusing ‘Sub-Saharan Africa.’” (with Mitushi Mukherjee). *Work in progress*.
- *† 8. | “Alexander or Ozymandias?: Russia’s PMC Driven Foreign Policy in Africa.” (with Matthew Kyle Ellis). *Work in progress*.

Non Peer-Reviewed Publications

- *† 1. | “Moving Beyond Zero Tolerance: Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in UN Peace Operations,” 2024. Sabrina Karim, **Sky Kunkel**, DeAnne Roark, Angie Torres-Beltran, Cameron Mailhot, Sumin Lee, Radwa Saad, Priscilla Torres, and Emily Jackson. *GSS Lab Policy Brief*. 
- *† 2. | “The Transition Home: Key Challenges for African UN Peacekeepers Upon Return,” 2024. Sabrina Karim, Maggie Dwyer, Addison Barton, T. Debey Sayndee, **Sky Kunkel**, Mike Kriner, and Clair MacDougall. *GSS Lab Policy Brief*. 

Fellowships and Grants

External (\$24,393)

- 2024 | PolMeth Travel Grant, \$1000
- 2024 | URI Human Rights Workshop Honorarium, \$1000
- 2023 | USIP Peace Scholar Stipend, \$20,000 (declined)
- 2023 | MapleMeth Travel Grant, \$500
- 2023 | International Studies Association Midwest Travel Grant, \$250
- 2023 | APSA Conflict Processes Section Travel Award, \$143
- 2022/23 | American Political Science Association Travel Grant, \$300
- 2022/25 | International Studies Association Travel Grant, \$1,300

Internal - Purdue University (\$34,500)

- 2023-24 | Kruhe Fellow, \$28,000
| *University-wide Kruhe Fellowship* (declined)
- 2023 | Best Prospectus Award, \$1,000
- 2022/23 | PROMISE Research/Travel Award, \$3,750
- 2022/23 | Department Travel Grant, \$1,250
- 2020-21 | Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, \$500

Invited Talks and Workshops

- Fall 2024 | Gender and Peace Operations Conference (*Host: International Peace Institute*)
- Fall 2024 | Online Peace Science Colloquium
- PSS(I) 2024 | Consortium for Human Rights Analysis and Measurement

Su. 2024	Human Rights Measurement Workshop (<i>Host: University of Rhode Island CRAM</i>)
ISA 2024	Contractors in Great Power Competition: Challenging World Order in an Age of Privatization
PSS(I) 2023	New Research about Preventing Mass Atrocities (<i>Host: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum</i>)
Spring 2023	Junior Scholars in International Security Workshop
Fall 2022	Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science
2021/22/23	How to Research and Use the Purdue Libraries: Workshop and Presentation

Teaching Experience, Training, and Awards

Instructor of Record

Summer 2023	POL 430 - UN Peacekeeping
Summer 21/22	POL 237 - Modern Weapons and International Relations

Teaching Assistant - Graduate Courses/Workshops

Summer 2024	CCSE Video Research Institute (Dr. Bryce J. Dietrich)
Spring 2023	POL 605 - Advanced Causal Inference (Dr. Tara Grillos)
Fall 2022	POL 501 - Political Science Methodology (Dr. Joan Timoneda)
Spring 2022	POL 605 - Advanced Causal Inference (Dr. Giancarlo Visconti)

Teaching Assistant - Undergraduate Courses

Fall 2022	POL 130 - Introduction to International Relations (Dr. Kyle Haynes)
Spring 2022	POL 130 - Introduction to International Relations (Dr. Reed Kurtz)
Sp. 20/21/23, Fa. 20/21	POL 237 - Modern Weapons and International Relations (Dr. Keith Shimko)
Summer 2020	POL 237 - Modern Weapons and International Relations (Dr. Toby Lauterbach)
Fall 2019	POL 237 - Modern Weapons and International Relations (Clinical Professor Melissa Will)

Pedagogical Training

Summer 2021	Certificate in Foundations of College Teaching <i>Foundations of College Teaching Purdue University</i>
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Teaching Awards

AY 2020-21	Outstanding Teaching Assistant <i>Department-wide award</i>
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Conference Participation

(C)=Chair, (D)=Discussant, (O)=Panel organizer, (P)=Panel participant, (R)=Roundtable, (W)=Workshop.

APSA	2022 (P), 2023 (D, P), 2024 (P, C)
EGEN	2023 (P)

PolMeth	2022 (P), 2024 (P)
Peace Science	2022 (P), 2023 (P, W), 2024 (W)
ISA	2022 (P), 2023 (P), 2024 (O, P, R, W), 2025 (C, O, P)
ISA Virtual	2023 (D, P)
ISA-MW	2023 (P)
BISA	2023 (P)
MPSA	2023 (D, P)
MapleMeth	2023 (P)

Service

Department - Purdue

AY 2020-24	Political Science Mentorship Program <i>First-year Graduate Student Mentor</i>
AY 2023-24	Graduate Student Government <i>Mentorship and Recruiting Chair</i>
Fall 2023	First-Year Welcome Week Orientation <i>Organizer</i>
AY 2022-23	Technology and Politics Faculty Search Committee <i>Member</i>
AY 2022-23	Graduate Student Government <i>Social Science Mechanics Chair</i>
AY 2020-22	Graduate Student Government <i>Treasurer</i>
Fall 2019	Devin Roberson Memorial Award Selection Committee <i>Member</i>

University - Purdue

Sp. 2023	Queer Graduate Student Association <i>Co-Founder, Inaugural President</i>
AY 2021-2023	LGBTQ+ Center <i>Undergraduate Tutor - Political Science, Methods/Statistics, R, Stata, HTX</i>
Summer 2022	Liberal Arts Space Planning Committee <i>Graduate Student Representative</i>
Fall 2021	Undergraduate Research Conference <i>Judge/Reviewer</i>
Fall 2021	Interdisciplinary Symposium in Liberal Arts <i>Reviewer</i>

Discipline

AY 2022-	Junior IO Scholars Workshop <i>Executive Council Member</i>
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Fall 2022 | **International Studies Association - Northeast**
Panel Moderator

Summer 2022 | **Junior IO Scholars Workshop**
Founding Member

Reviewer: *International Studies Quarterly, International Peacekeeping*

Skills

Software: R, Stata, Python, Git, \LaTeX , Qualtrics, Docker

Learning Management Systems: Blackboard, Brightspace