

# Miles D. Williams

Denison University, Data for Political Research  
Higley 401C · 11 Burt Ridge Rd SW · Granville, OH 43023

✉ [williamsmd@denison.edu](mailto:williamsmd@denison.edu) 🔗 [milesdwilliams15](https://milesdwilliams15.github.io) 🌐 [milesdwilliams15.github.io](https://milesdwilliams15.github.io)

## EMPLOYMENT

Denison University, Visiting Assistant Professor

2022-present

## EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ph.D. Political Science

2022

Dissertation: “International Aid and Strategic Interdependence: How Common and Conflicting Foreign Policy Goals Shape the Supply of Foreign Aid”

Exams: International Relations, International Political Economy

Committee: Matthew S. Winters (chair), Xinyuan Dai, Robert Pahre, Robert Carroll

Eastern Illinois University, M.A. Political Science

2016

Greenville University, B.A. History & Political Science, Philosophy (*Summa Cum Laude*, with honors)

2015

## RESEARCH

### Peer Reviewed Publications (Ordered by Publication Date)

[4] “Elusive Collaboration? The Determinants of Lead Donorship in International Development.” (Forthcoming) in *The Review of International Organizations*.

[3] “[How Reducing Documentation Burdens Impacts Equity in Program Access: The Case of Small Business Covid-19 Relief Funding](#).” (2023) With Elizabeth Bell and Heather Kappes in *Public Administration Review*: 1-22.

[2] “[Gender in the Pulpit: The Differences in Speaking Style for Men and Women](#).” (2019) With Ryan Burge in *The Journal of Communication and Religion* 42(1): 63-82.

[1] “[Is Social Media a Digital Pulpit? How Evangelical Leaders Use Twitter to Encourage the Faithful and Publicize Their Work](#).” (2019) With Ryan Burge in the *Journal of Religion, Media, and Digital Culture* 8(1): 309-339.

### Book Chapters (Ordered by Publication Date)

[2] “[World Bank](#).” (2023) With Matthew Winters in *Handbook of International Organizations: Theories, Concepts, and Empirical Insights*. Eds. Katja Freistein, Julia Leininger, and Silke Weinlich. De Gruyter Oldenbourg.

[1] “[Illinois 10th Congressional District: Re-rematch in Chicago Suburbs](#).” (2018) With Jeffrey Ashley in *The Roads to Congress 2016*. Eds. Sean D. Foreman and Marcia L. Godwin. Palgrave Macmillan]

### Works in Progress (Alphabetical Order)

“Aid for Nonaggression.” [Work in Progress]

“Aid, Migration, and Civil War.” [Work in Progress]

“Connect First, then Suppress: Do Communication Aid Projects Erode Internet Freedom?” With Xinle Jia, Lucie Lu, and Yujeong Yang. [Working paper]

“Do We Have to Use the Power-law to Study War Size? And Does it Matter?” [Working Paper]

“Foreign Aid and Investment Protection.” With Seung-Uk Huh. [Working Paper]

“Leveraging the Black Box: Regression Adjustment with Super Learners.” With Gustavo Diaz. [Work in Progress]

“Xinhua Coverage of Chinese Foreign Aid Allocations.” With Lucie Lu. [Under Review]

### Conferences (Ordered by Attendance Date)

“Connect First, then Suppress: Do Communication Aid Projects Erode Internet Freedom?” MPSA April 2024

“Foreign Aid and Investment Protection,” ISAM Nov. 2023

“Foreign Aid and Investment Protection,” APSA Aug. 2023

“Foreign Aid and Investment Protection,” MPSA April 2023

“A Strategic Political Economy of Aid,” PEIO July 2022

“Friends Get more Money, Attention, and Handshakes: Xinhua, Diplomacy, and Chinese Foreign Aid,” AidData Roundtable June 2022

“Competition and Buck-passing in the Political Economy of Aid,” MPSA April 2022

### Blogging

I have contributed to [Democracy Paradox](#).

“Can Washington and China Cooperate in Foreign Aid?”

I also have contributed to [Religion in Public](#).

“White, Conservative, Religious...and Aid Skeptical” (January 21, 2021)

“Do Women Preach Differently than Men?” (June 26, 2019)

“Welcome the Stranger? Evangelicals’ Views on Immigration Prior to Donald Trump” (February 20, 2017)

“Evangelical Leaders Are as Negative on Immigration and Islam as Donald Trump” (February 13, 2017)

I also write about various statistical and R-related things on [my personal blog](#) hosted on my professional website.

### SOFTWARE

#### Tools

**Expert:** R & RStudio

**Proficient:** GitHub & Latex

**Basic:** Stata & Python

## R Packages

[coolor](#) - Tools to make setting and applying custom color palettes with `ggplot` more streamlined.

[oesr](#) (with Ryan T. Moore) - For visualizing the results from randomized controlled trials using the Office of Evaluation Sciences' [recommended style guide](#).

[seerrr](#) - Tools that simplify the process of doing Monte Carlo and computational power analyses.

## TEACHING

### Denison University

DA 101: Introduction to Data Analytics  
DPR 101: Data Visualization for Political Research  
DPR 190: War, Wealth, and World Politics  
DPR 201: Data and Research Design for Social Impact  
DPR 390: Death, Destruction, and Data

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Intro to International Relations (Independent Instructor)  
Intro to Political Science (Teaching Assistant)  
UIUC Math Camp  
[Probability in R](#)  
[Integrals](#)  
[Linear Regression](#)  
[Loops](#)  
[Version Control](#)

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

### US OFFICE OF EVALUATION SCIENCES

Associate Fellow (methods specialist)	2020-2023
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### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### Research Assistant

Cara Wong	2020-present
Matthew S. Winters	2018-2020

### EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Research Assistant for Jeffrey Ashley	2016
Presidential Graduate Assistant	2015-2016

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

### *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Kathleen L. Burkholder Prize for Best Dissertation	2023
William Bernhard Award for Best Dissertation Prospectus	2021
Rita and Leonard Ogren Award for Academic Excellence	2018

### *Eastern Illinois University*

Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award	2018
Williams Travel Grant	2016

## SERVICE

### *Reviewer*

British Journal of Politics and International Relations  
Development Studies Research  
Journal of Politics  
Review of International Organizations

*International Relations Graduate Workshop, Coordinator* 2020-2021

### *Graduate Methods Committee*

Member	2019-2021
Chair	2020

*UIUC Political Science Graduate Student Association, Board Member* 2019-2020