

Robert J. Carroll

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Current appointment

2019– *Assistant Professor of Political Science*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Previous appointments

2015–2019 *Assistant Professor of Political Science*, Florida State University
2014–2015 *Visiting Fellow*, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

Education

2015 PhD in Political Science, University of Rochester
2014 MA in Political Science, University of Rochester
2009 MA in Political Science, Michigan State University
2007 BA in Government, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Publications

2024 Peter Bils, Robert J. Carroll, & Lawrence S. Rothenberg. “Strategic Avoidance & Rulemaking Procedures.” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 36(2): 156–185.
2021 Robert J. Carroll & Amy Pond. “Costly Signaling in Autocracy.” *International Interactions* 47(4): 612–632.
2019 Robert J. Carroll & Brenton Kenkel. “Prediction, Proxies, & Power.” *American Journal of Political Science* 63(3): 577–593.
2016 Robert J. Carroll, David M. Primo, & Brian Kelleher Richter. “Using Item Response Theory to Improve Measurement in Strategic Management Research: An Application to Corporate Social Responsibility.” *Strategic Management Journal* 37(1): 66–85.

Work under Review

Policy Devolution & Cooperation Dilemmas (with David Konisky & Chris Reenock)

Working Papers

The Shape of Possible States
A Theory of Force

Grants, honors, & awards

2023–2024	James H. Kuklinski Award for Excellence in Graduate Mentoring, Department of Political Science, UIUC
2021–2022	Clarence A. Berdahl Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, ΠΣΑ, UIUC
2020–2021	Peter Nardulli Award for Research, UIUC
2020–2025	List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, UIUC
2020–2021	Dina Zinnes Graduate Teaching Award, Department of Political Science, UIUC
2020–2021	Impact Award, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, UIUC
2015	First Year Assistant Professor Award, FSU
2014	Top 5 Paper, Annual Meeting of the Strategic Management Society
2013–2014	Honors Program Teaching Fellow, University of Rochester
2013–2014	The Star Lab Fellowship, University of Rochester
2012–2013	Departmental Teaching Award, University of Rochester
2012–2013	W. Allen Wallis Fellowship in Political Economy, University of Rochester
2007–2008	Departmental Teaching Award, Michigan State University

Conference participation & talks

APSA: 2014, 2018, 2019
MPSA: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019
SPSA: 2017
ISA: 2016, 2017
PEACE SCIENCE: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
POLMETH: 2013, 2015
SBE: 2014
INVITED TALKS: 2013 (SUNY-Buffalo), 2019 (South Carolina), Princeton (2023)

Courses taught

University of Illinois

Strategic International Relations
State Formation
Strategic Models
International Relations Seminar (G)

International Political Economy (G)
Game Theory I (G)
Game Theory II (G)
Mechanism Design (G)
Readings in the Political Economy of Authoritarian Regimes (G)
Readings in the Political Economy of International Environmental Institutions (G)

Florida State University

Civil Wars and Political Violence
Special Topics in War and Peace
Understanding Political Science Research
Politics and the Theory of Games
Theories of Conflict (G)
Probability and Statistics (G)
Game Theory (G)
Readings in the Political Economy of Human Capital (G)

Advising

Graduate Students

Xiaoli Guo (FSU, defended April 2018)
Matt Hauenstein (FSU, defended July 2018)
Phil Henrickson (FSU, defended November 2018)
Jordan Holsinger (FSU, defended June 2021)
Hyun Joo Cho (UIUC, defended May 2022)
Miles Williams (UIUC, defended June 2022)
Tolgahan Dilgin (UIUC, defended July 2023)
Jinwon Lee (UIUC, defended May 2025)
Do Young Gong (UIUC, defended March 2026)
Sydney Gann (FSU)
Faon Crystal (UIUC)
Seungmi Kim (UIUC)
Ji Soo Yoo (UIUC)
Paul Un (UIUC)

Undergraduate Theses Supervised

2025–2026	Sam Crutcher
2025–2026	Savannah Smith
2023–2024	Ethan Cooper
2023–2024	Chenyu Jiang
2022–2023	Sotis Gouriotis
2020–2021	Chris Buckley
2017–2018	Zachary Shuman

Service

Departmental Committee Work

2023–2024	Graduate Affairs Committee, UIUC Department of Political Science
2022–2023	Advisory Committee, UIUC Department of Political Science
2020–2021	IR Search Committee, UIUC Department of Political Science
2016–2017	Executive Committee, FSU Department of Political Science
2016–2017	IR Search Committee, FSU Department of Political Science

Refereeing

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Global Security Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, and Political Analysis

Last updated: February 10, 2026.