Sky Kunkel

January 19, 2026

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Academic Appointments, Positions, and Affiliations

Su. 2024- | **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Gender and Security Sector Lab

AY 2023-24 | **Peace Scholar Fellow**
United States Institute of Peace, Washington, DC

AY 2023-24 | **Predoctoral Research Fellow**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Gender and Security Sector Lab

Education

May 2024 | **Ph.D. Political Science**
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Fields: International Relations, Political Methodology
Dissertation: The Local Effects of UN Peacekeeping
- *Finalist for College-wide Distinguished Dissertation Award*

Committee Members: Kyle Haynes (Chair), Liana Eustacia Reyes, Giancarlo Visconti, Michael Greig

May 2019 | **B.A. Political Science**
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Research

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

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

†1. | "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Dynamics of Peacekeeper Entry and Exit on Violence Against Civilians" (with Douglas B. Atkinson, Rebecca Dudley, and Zach Warner). *Accepted at the International Political Science Review*. 📄

In-Progress

*†2. | "Violence as a Condition: Structure, Composition, and the Use of Lethal Force" (with Matthew Kyle Ellis). *R&R at the Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 📄
- Requested by United States Congressional Research Service for distribution.

*†3. | "What's in a Name? Implications of Overusing 'Sub-Saharan Africa.'" (with Mitushi Mukherjee). *R&R at International Studies Perspectives*.

4. | "Who Keeps the Peace? Gendered Effects in UN Peacekeeping." *Under Review*. 📄
- ISA Midwest Lynne Rienner Award
- ISA IO Section Finkelstein Prize Special Mention

5. "Double Delegation: An Exploration and Construction of the UN Private Security Contractor Database." *Working Paper*. 🗎

6. "All About that Base... No Trouble. The Gravity of Peacekeeping Bases." *Working Paper*. 🗎

*†7. "Beyond Negative Peace: Do UN Peacekeepers decrease security and trust concerns?" (with Catalina Vega-Méndez). *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*. 🗎

Other Publications

1. "Women, Peace, and Participation," in the *Handbook on Gender and Development: Critical Engagements with Gender and Social Justice*, Edited by Nitya Rao, Jasmine Gideon, Ulrike Theuerkauf, Shannon Philip. Forthcoming 2027, Palgrave Macmillan London.

2. "More Than Presence: Gendered Dynamics of Interpreting and Negotiating Trust," (with DeAnne Roark and Hatti Sellers) in the *Oxford Handbook of Interpreting UN Peacekeeping*, Edited by Vanessa Newby and Chiara Ruffa. Forthcoming 2027, Oxford University Press.

Fellowships and Grants

External ($24993)

2024/25	PolMeth Travel Grant, *$1500*
2024	URI Human Rights Workshop Honorarium, *$1000*
2023	USIP Peace Scholar Stipend (declined), *$20000*
2023	MapleMeth Travel Grant, *$500*
2023	ISA Midwest Travel Grant, *$250*
2023	APSA Conflict Processes Award, *$143*
2022/23	APSA Travel Grant, *$300*
2022/25	ISA Travel Grant, *$1300*

Internal - Purdue University ($34500)

2023-24	Kruhe Fellow (declined), *$28000*
2023	Best Prospectus Award, *$1000*

2022/23	PROMISE Research/Travel Award, *$3750*
2022/23	Department Travel Grant, *$1250*
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) 24/25	Consortium for Human Rights Analysis and Measurement
2024/2025	Human Rights Measurement Workshop (*Host:* University of Rhode Island Consortium for Rights Analysis and Measurement)
ISA 2024	Contractors in Great Power Competition: Challenging World Order in an Age of Privatization
PSS(I) 2023	New Research about Preventing Mass Atrocities (*Host:* United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)
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**
	Foundations of College Teaching Purdue University

Teaching Awards

AY 2020-21	**Outstanding Teaching Assistant**
	Department-wide award

Conference Participation

(C)=Chair, (D)=Discussant, (O)=Panel organizer, (P)=Panel participant, (R)=Roundtable, (Wo)=Workshop Organizer, (Wp)=Workshop Participant.

APSA	2022 (P), 2023 (D, P), 2024 (P, C), 2025 (P)
EGEN	2023 (P)
PolMeth	2022 (P), 2024 (P), 2025 (P)
Peace Science	2022 (P), 2023 (P, Wp), 2024 (Wp), 2025 (P, Wp)
ISA	2022 (P), 2023 (P), 2024 (O, P, R, Wp), 2025 (C, O, P), 2026 (P, Wo)
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**
	First-year Graduate Student Mentor
AY 2023-24	**Graduate Student Government**
	Mentorship and Recruiting Chair
Fall 2023	**First-Year Welcome Week Orientation**
	Organizer
AY 2022-23	**Technology and Politics Faculty Search Committee**
	Member
AY 2022-23	**Graduate Student Government**
	Social Science Mechanics Chair
AY 2020-22	**Graduate Student Government**
	Treasurer
Fall 2019	**Devin Roberson Memorial Award Selection Committee**
	Member

University - Purdue

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

Discipline

Su. 2022-2025	**Junior IO Scholars Workshop** *Executive Council Member*
Fall 2022	**International Studies Association - Northeast** *Panel Moderator*
Summer 2022	**Junior IO Scholars Workshop** *Founding Member*

Reviewer: *The Journal of Politics, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, International Interactions, International Peacekeeping*

Skills and Experiences

Fieldwork: Fiji (2025)

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

Learning Management Systems: Blackboard, Brightspace