

Gabriel Soyer
Department of International Affairs,
University of Georgia, Athens, USA
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EDUCATION

University of Georgia – Athens, Georgia, USA

Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science and International Affairs, 2021–2026 (*expected*)

- Minor: Quantitative Methods
- Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science (GIScience)
- Committee: Shane P. Singh (Chair), Gregory M. Thaler (University of Oxford), Laura V. Zimmerman, Joseph T. Ornstein
- Thesis: *Local Politics and its Consequences for Agricultural Lending, Deforestation, and Environmental Enforcement*
- Visiting Researcher, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford – Spring 2025

University of Brasília – Brasília, Brazil

Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in International Relations, 2015–2020

INTERESTS

Political economy; environmental politics; climate, rule of law; finance; trade; land use change; food systems; Latin America.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 & 2023 – Summer Intern, Program Evaluation, **University of Georgia Cooperative Extension**

2020–2021 – Advocacy Assistant, **FIAN Brazil – For the Right to Adequate Food and Nutrition**

2020 – Research Intern, **International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (UNDP)**

2018–2019 – Intern, **Brazilian Food Security and Nutrition National Council (CONSEA), Office of the President of Brazil**

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

Coca, Estevan, **Gabriel Soyer**, and Ricardo Barbosa Jr. 2023. “Matopiba’s Disputed Agricultural Frontier: Between Commodity Crops and Agrarian Reform.” *IDS Bulletin* 54 (1). <https://doi.org/10.19088/1968-2023.104>.

Barbosa, Ricardo, Estevan Coca, and **Gabriel Soyer**. 2023. "School Food at Home: Brazil's National School Food Programme (PNAE) during the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Social & Cultural Geography* 24 (3–4): 620–39.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14649365.2022.2115538>.

Under review

"Agrarian elites and non-programmatic politics: rural credit in Brazil's municipal elections" (solo-authored). *Submitted*

"Bridging bureaucratic politics and food policy: embeddedness across subnational school food pandemic response in Brazil". (with Ricardo Barbosa Jr and Estevan Coca). *Submitted*

Working papers

"Campaign donors and the politics of environmental enforcement: local elections in Brazil." (solo-authored).

"Does commitment to environment in the importer country matter? understanding deforestation at municipal level in the Legal Amazon, Brazil." (with Rodrigo Moura Karolczak).

"Nepotism beyond the entry-level: family dynasties in the Brazilian foreign service." (with Luis Soto Tamayo).

"Drivers of policy diffusion: bureaucratic entrepreneurs of school food." (with Marcela Alonso Ferreira).

"New Perspectives on Traditional Extractivism in Brazil." (with Gregory M. Thaler, Carlos Valério Gomes, Evandro Neves and Bruno Ubiali).

Policy Reports

Fabianna Bacil and Gabriel Soyer. 2020. "*Country Annex: Bangladesh.*" In *Socio-Economic Impacts of COVID-19, Policy Responses and the Missing Middle in South Asia*. Research Report No. 47. Brasília and Kathmandu: International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth and UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia.

Fabianna Bacil and Gabriel Soyer. 2020. "COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: India." *One Pager Series*. International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth and United Nations Children's Fund.

Fabianna Bacil and Gabriel Soyer. 2020. "COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Bangladesh." *One Pager Series*. International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth and United Nations Children's Fund.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia

Instructor (scheduled), *Inter-American Relations: U.S.–Latin America Foreign Policy*, Department of International Affairs, Spring 2026

Instructor, *Introduction to Global Issues (Honors)*, Department of International Affairs, Fall 2025

Teaching Assistant, *Women and World Politics*, Department of International Affairs, Fall 2025

Instructor, *Latin American Politics*, Department of International Affairs & Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute, Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to Global Issues*, Department of International Affairs, Fall 2023

University of Brasília

Teaching Assistant, *International Political Economy*, Institute of International Relations, 2018

CONFERENCES

“Access to Rural Credit as Non-Programmatic Politics: Municipal Elections in Brazil”

- *European Political Science Association Meeting*. Universidad Carlos III, Madrid, Spain, June 2025.
- *Rising Scholars Workshop in Comparative Politics of Latin America*, University of Oxford, UK, March 2025
- *Southern Workshop on Empirical Political Science*, Emory University, Atlanta, November 2024
- *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (MPSA)*, Chicago, April 2024
- *International Conference on Global Land Grabbing*, Universidad Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, March 2024

“Matopiba’s Agricultural Frontier as Informed by Agribusiness Elites’ Frames”

- *Network for Global Justice and the Environmental Humanities Conference*, Aarhus University, Denmark, November 2022 (*presented remotely*)

“Predatory Formation, Profit Extraction, and Expulsions: An Agrarian Political Economy of Current Brazilian Agriculture” (*with Roberto Goulart Menezes*)

- *6th International Conference of the BRICS Initiative for Critical Agrarian Studies (BICAS)*, University of Brasília, Brazil, November 2018

“Regional Impacts of Agrifood Globalization: Conflicting Development Models in Central-North Brazil” (*with Pedro Rocha and Ricardo Barbosa Jr*)

- *10th Latin American Association of Rural Sociology (ALASRU) Conference*, Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay, November 2018

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Languages

Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent)

Software

R (Advanced), ArcGIS (Advanced), Python and ArcPy (Intermediate)

AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONORS

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| 2024 | <i>Department of International Affairs Small Research Grant Program, from University of Georgia (USD \$1,900)</i> |
| 2024 | <i>PORT-LACSI Brazilian Studies Travel Grant, from University of Georgia (USD \$800)</i> |
| 2024 | <i>SPIA Dean's Professional Development Fund, from University of Georgia (USD \$900)</i> |
| 2024 | <i>Graduate School Travel Grant, from University of Georgia (USD \$750)</i> |
| 2024 | <i>Department of International Affairs Travel Grant, from University of Georgia (USD \$400)</i> |
| 2023 | <i>Department of International Affairs Small Research Grant Program, from University of Georgia (USD \$1,900)</i> |
| 2021 | <i>Earl F. Ziemke Graduate Fellowship, from University of Georgia (USD \$7,285)</i> |
| 2021 | <i>The University of Winnipeg Graduate Studies Scholarship, from The University of Winnipeg's Graduate School (CAD: 15,000) declined</i> |
| 2018 | <i>Travel Award, from the International Relations Institute to the IX Congress of Latin American Rural Sociology Association (R\$ 1,500)</i> |
| 2016 | <i>Scholarship Tutorial Education Program (PET), from the Ministry of Education of Brazil (R\$ 15,000)</i> |
| 2014 | <i>Academic Award, given to the three best students of each class by the State Government of Goias, Brazil (R\$ 1,000)</i> |

SERVICE

Peer-review

Comparative Political Studies (2x), Environment and Planning A.

MEMBERSHIP

Midwest Political Science Association

European Political Science Association

FIELDWORK

Brazil: April–June 2024, December 2024–January 2025

REFERENCES

Shane P. Singh

Joshua W. Jones Professor of Public and International Affairs
Department of International Affairs
University of Georgia
singh@uga.edu

Gregory M. Thaler

Associate Professor of Environmental Geography and Latin American Studies
Oxford School of Global and Area Studies and the School of Geography and the Environment
University of Oxford
gregory.thaler@lac.ox.ac.uk

Laura V. Zimmermann

Associate Professor of Economics and International Affairs
John Munro Godfrey, Sr. Department of Economics and the Department of International Affairs
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lvzimmer@uga.edu

Joseph T. Ornstein

Assistant Professor of Political Science
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