

Timothy Jones

Updated: December 18, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Political Science Duke University Durham, NC 27708	<i>Email:</i> timothy.jones@duke.edu <i>Website:</i> https://timothyleejones.github.io
RESEARCH INTERESTS	<i>Substantive:</i> international security, intra/inter-state armed conflict (causes, dynamics, termination), intelligence, terrorism, insurgency, special operations, irregular warfare <i>Methodological:</i> causal inference, spatial statistics, machine learning <i>Regional:</i> Middle East, Central Asia, North and East Africa	
ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT	Duke University , Program in American Grand Strategy, Durham, NC <i>America in the World Consortium Postdoctoral Fellow</i> , August 2025-Present Naval Postgraduate School , Department of Defense Analysis, Monterey, CA <i>Faculty Associate - Research AD-01</i> , April 2025-Present <i>Donald R. Beall Postdoctoral Defense Fellow</i> , August 2023-March 2025	
EDUCATION	University of Michigan , Ann Arbor, MI Ph.D., Political Science , 2023 University of California , San Diego, CA M.I.A., International Politics , 2017 National Intelligence University , Washington D.C. M.S. Strategic Intelligence , 2011 American Military University , Charles Town, WV B.A. International Relations , 2010 Indiana University , Bloomington, IN B.A., Political Science , 2005	
DISSERTATION	<i>Unraveling Rebel Strategies: Exploring Patterns of Violence in Civil War</i> Committee: James Morrow (chair), Christopher Fariss, Kevin Quinn, Yuri Zhukov	
PEER- REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES	“Frogmen and Fast Boats: The Future of Irregular Warfare in the Maritime Domain.” [co-author with John Willingham and Kenneth Walls] <i>Inter Populum Journal of Irregular Warfare and Special Operations</i> 3(2), (2025): pp.1-27. “Meta-Analysis & the Integration of Terrorism Event Databases” <i>International Journal of Cyber Warfare and Terrorism (IJCWT)</i> 13(1), (2023): pp.1-20.	

EDITOR- REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES	“Peace Agreements and the Persuasive Authority of International Law” <i>Minnesota Journal of International Law</i> 34(1), (2025): pp.1-86.
SUBMITTED PAPERS	<p>“Adapting Under Pressure: Diversification of Rebel Violence in Civil Wars” <i>Revise & Resubmit at Civil Wars</i></p> <p>“The Sequencing of Territorial Control and Wartime Aid.” [co-author with Daniel Karell] <i>Under Review</i></p>
SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS	<p>“Taking Out the Competition: Selective Targeting of Influential Civilians in Civil Wars” [co-author with Martin Macias-Medellin]</p> <p>“Securing Decision Dominance: The Role of Special Intelligence in Complex Environments”</p>
GENERAL AUDIENCE PUBLICATIONS	“What the candidates can learn from two former presidents about foreign policy” [co-author with David Dezso], <i>The Hill</i> , January 2024.
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<p>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2022-2025</p> <p>International Studies Association (ISA), 2023-2025</p> <p>Peace Science Society (International) Annual Meeting, 2023</p> <p>American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA) International Law Weekend (ILW), 2022</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2022</p>
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<p>Graduate Student Research Assistant</p> <p>Research Assistant, Christopher Fariss, 2022</p> <p>Research Assistant, Yuri Zhukov, 2019</p> <p>Research Assistant, Mai Hassan, 2018</p> <p>Policy Design and Evaluation Lab (PDEL) Research Assistant, Craig McIntosh & Jennifer Burney 2016-2017</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Intelligence Support to Special Operations (<i>graduate level</i>)</p> <p>Instructor of Record, Spring 2025</p> <p>Intelligence, Surprise, and Special Operations: Methods for Identifying Uncertainty and Forecasting the Future (<i>graduate level</i>)</p> <p>Instructor of Record, Fall 2024</p> <p>The Use of Social Science Computer Programs (<i>graduate level</i>)</p> <p>Instructor of Record, Fall 2022</p> <p>How to be an Autocrat (<i>undergraduate level</i>)</p> <p>Graduate Student Instructor. Course Head: Mai Hassan, Fall 2021</p>

Introduction to World Politics (*undergraduate level*)

Graduate Student Instructor. Course Head: James Morrow, Fall 2018, 2020

Modern Warfare (*undergraduate level*)

Graduate Student Instructor. Course Head: Yuri Zhukov, Fall 2019

Economics, Politics & International Change (*undergraduate level*)

Graduate Student Instructor. Course Head: Stephen Haggard, Fall 2016

PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE

Naval Special Warfare Development Group (DEVGRU)

Tactical Development & Evaluation Squadron One

Senior Targeting Officer, GG-0132-13-10

August 2012-August 2015

Defense Intelligence Agency

Joint Intelligence Task Force Combating Terrorism (JITF-CT)

Senior Intelligence Analyst, GG-0132-14-03

April 2008-August 2012

Senior NCO All-Source Analyst (SFC/35F30)

November 2001-November 2002; February 2005 - April 2008

U.S. Army Reserves

Senior NCO All-Source Analyst (SFC/35F30)

November 1999-November 2011

JOINT-DUTY
ASSIGNMENTS
AND
DEPLOYMENTS

CIA Counterproliferation Center

Liaison Officer, 2014-2015

Special Operations Task Force - Afghanistan

J2 - Director of Intelligence, 2013-2014

Special Operations Task Force - East Africa

Senior Intelligence Analyst, 2011

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff - J2

Subject Matter Expert Briefer - Terrorism, 2009-2010

Inter-Agency Intelligence Task Force - Arabian Peninsula

Embassy Targeting Officer, 2009

Special Operations Task Force - Iraq

Senior Intelligence Analyst, 2008

Special Operations Task Force - Iraq

Intelligence Analyst, 2007

Special Operations Task Force - Iraq

Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Analyst, 2005

ACADEMIC
AWARDS

Donald Beall Defense Fellow Research Grant, \$8000

Political Science Research Grant, University of Michigan, 2023 \$1600

American Political Science Association Conference Travel Grant, 2022 \$150

Davis Fellows for Peace, Middlebury Institute of International Studies \$9600

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), University of Michigan, \$5500

Hewlett Foundation Merit Fellowship, University of California, \$48000

Robinson Summer Graduate Research Fellowship, University of California, \$5000

Friends of the International Center Award, University of California, \$1500

Education Abroad Summer Study Award, University of California, \$1000

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS	American Political Science Association Peace Science Society–International Midwest Political Science Association
DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATION AND SERVICE	Security, Peace, and Conflict (SPC) Workshop, Duke University (Participant 2025-present) Intelligence Failures and Strategic Surprise (Reading Workshop), Naval Postgraduate School (Coordinator 2023-2025) Conflict & Peace, Research & Development (CPRD) Workshop , University of Michigan (Participant 2017-present; Coordinator 2021-2023)
EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD	<i>Combating Threats Exchange</i>
PEER REVIEWER	<i>International Studies Quarterly, Combating Threats Exchange, Peace and Conflict Studies</i>
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING	Fundamentals of Deep Learning (NVIDIA) Writing for Presidential Daily Brief (DNI) Advanced Defense Intelligence Writing (DIA) Advanced Defense Intelligence Briefing (DIA) Critical Thinking Structure Analysis (DIA) Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE) 215 & 245 Introduction to ArcGIS I & II, Proton, IC Reach, Palantir, Analyst Notebook (ESRI, DIA) HUMINT Online Tasking & Reporting Consumer Course (DIA) Basic Geospatial Metadata Analysis Course (NSA) Joint Intelligence Task Force – Combating Terrorism 101 High-Threat Environment Travelers Course (JSOC) Collection Management for Analysts Course (DIA) Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course Primary Leadership Development Course
SKILLS	<i>Technical:</i> R, Python, GIS (ESRI ArcGIS Suite, Google Earth Engine, R), Stata, \LaTeX <i>Language:</i> German (intermediate), Persian (intermediate), Chinese-Mandarin (basic), Arabic (MSA) (basic)