

Michael D. Baggs, PhD.

Political Science Lecturer

Education

Doctorate of Philosophy, Political Science, 2015-2020

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

Dissertation: "If It Bleeds, It Leads: Accessing the Impact of Media Coverage of Human Rights Violations on Future Terrorism."

Advisor: Dr. Mariya Y. Omelichiva

Majors: International Relations and American Politics

Minor: Comparative Politics

Master of Arts, Political Science, December 2013

Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX.

Thesis: "The Fox and the Lion: Terrorist Mobilization and the Effects of Militarizing the Conflict."

Advisor: Dr. Steve Garrison

Master of Arts, History, May 2012

Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX.

Thesis: "Won by the Spear: Philip II of Macedonia and the Influences That Shaped His Army."

Advisor: Dr. James R. King

Bachelor of Arts, English and History, May 2010

Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX

Teaching Experience

Spring 2020-present

Lecturer: Political Science at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX.

American and Texas Government I (on-line and in-person): Introductory course to the American political system with a brief survey of the political dynamics of the state of Texas. This course examines the role of democracy in government; the historical

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influences on the federal and state constitutions; the structure of these constitutions; the impact of federalism; and how elections, political parties, public opinion, the media, and interest groups influence the political environment.

American and Texas Government II (on-line and in-person): This course introduces students to the political system of the United States and the state of Texas. In this course we study the institutions of American government including the three branches of government at the federal and state level; government and the economy, social and foreign policy; and civil liberties and rights.

Fall 2018-Fall 2019

Instructor History and Political Science at Highland Community College, Highland, KS
American History to 1865 and American History since 1865, Western Civilization I and II, U.S. Federal Government, and State and Local Government.

Fall 2015-Spring 2018

Graduate Teaching Assistant at University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
Introduction to Political Theory, Methods of Inquiry, Introduction to International Politics

Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Adjunct Professor at Midwestern State University, and Vernon College, Wichita Falls, TX.
American Government I, American Government II, Federal Government, Texas Government, American History to 1865, and American History Since 1865.

Fall 2010-Fall 2013

Graduate Teaching Assistant at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX.
American Government I, American History to 1865, and American History Since 1865.

Research Interests, Publications, & Presentations

The causes of terrorism (both domestic and foreign); effectiveness of counterterrorism policies; influence of militarized counterterrorism policies on terrorist targeting and tactics; cause and effect relationship between terrorism and counterterrorism policies; influence of terrorist activity before elections on electorates propensity to vote for extreme parties; influence of state violations of human rights on terrorist activity; the influence of media frames of human rights violations on terrorism; and the influence of online hate speech on terrorism activity.

Publications

Joslyn, Mark R., Donald P. Haider-Markel, Michael Baggs and Andrew Bilbo. 2017. "Emerging Political Identities? Gun Ownership and Voting in Presidential Elections." *Social Science Quarterly* 98(2): 382-396.

Selected Works in Progress

Ares and Ananke: War and Necessity in the Army of Philip II of Macedonia: A reexamination of the influences upon the Macedonian art of war during the reign of Philip II. This is a completed condensed version of my master's thesis.

If It Bleeds, It Leads: Accessing the Impact of Media Coverage of Human Rights Violations on Future Terrorism: Previous studies of terrorism have addressed the impact of human rights abuses on future terrorist activity and the role of mass media has played shaping public perceptions of terrorism and terrorist activity, yet little research has examined the relationship between the media's publicity of human rights abuses that occurred due to a state's counterterrorism policy and future terrorist attacks. This article seeks to close this gap. Focusing on the media's publicity of the U.S.'s usage of torture, extraordinary rendition, extra-judicial killings (drone strikes) and indefinite detention of suspected terrorists during its post-9/11 "War on Terror", it aims to answer the following question: What impact does media coverage of human rights abuses that occur due to a state's counterterrorism policies and how they frame them in published articles have on the propensity for future terrorist activity?

Stochastic Terrorism, Hate Speech, and the 1st Amendment: A theoretical examination of terms and their relationships to violence, real or imagined. This research is still in the data gathering stage.

Papers Presented

"A Delicate Balance: Security and Human Rights," Southern Political Science Association 2018 Conference, New Orleans, LA. January 5th.

"The Nexus Between Terrorism and Human Rights," Great Plains Political Science Association 20th Annual Meeting, Maryville, MO, October 2017.

"Analyzing the Role of Fear in The Prince, Leviathan, and The New Science," Phi Alpha Theta Northeast Texas Region Conference, Wichita Falls, TX., April, 2012.

"Richard I: The Knight Who Became King," Phi Alpha Theta Oklahoma Association of Professional Historians Conference, Lawton, OK., March, 2011.

Fellowships and Awards

Walter Thompson Scholarship in Political Science Summer 2017

Honors/Affiliations

Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, 2010 – Present

Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society, 2008 – Present

American Political Science Association, 2017-Present

Southern Political Science Association, 2017-Present