

Matt Buehler
Department of Political Science, University of Tennessee
1001 McClung Avenue
(503) 341-4871 • mbuehle2@utk.edu
www.buehlermatt.com

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

08/2022 - present Chair, Middle East Studies, University of Tennessee
08/2021 - present Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Tennessee
01/2017 - 12/2017 Research Fellow, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Middle East Initiative
08/2015 - present Senior Fellow, Center for National Security and Foreign Affairs, Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs
08/2014 - 07/2021 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Tennessee
08/2013 - 08/2014 Post-doctoral Fellow, Georgetown University in Qatar, Center for International and Regional Studies

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

09/2020 - 08/2022 Vice Chair, American Political Science Association's Middle East and North Africa Politics Section
08/2020 - present Co-editor, *Edinburgh Studies on the Maghreb*, Edinburgh University Press book series
06/2019 - present Editor, *Mediterranean Politics*
03/2016 - 06/2019 Book Reviews Editor and Research Notes Editor, *Mediterranean Politics*

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government, 2013 - *Ph.D., Government*
Emphasis: International Politics (Comparative Politics and International Relations subfields)

University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government, 2009 - *M.A., Government*

University of Damascus, Syria, 2007 - *Certificate, Advanced-High Proficiency in Arabic*

Willamette University, 2007 - *cum laude, department honors*
Majors: Politics and History

AWARDS

2018 Early Career Excellence in Research and Creative Achievement Award. University of Tennessee, College of Arts and Sciences.

2019 SERMEISS Book Award (Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society) for *Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa*.

2019 SERMEISS Article Award (*honorable mention*) (Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society) for "The Autocrat's Advisors: Opening the Black-Box of Ruling Coalitions in Tunisia's Authoritarian Regime."

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK

Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa (Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2018), 304 pp.

Reviewed by *Perspectives on Politics, Politics and Religion, International Journal of Middle East Studies, Journal of North African Studies, Mediterranean Politics, and Revista de Estudios Internacionales Mediterráneos*.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Thy Neighbor’s Gendarme? How Citizens of Buffer States in North Africa View European Border Security Externalization.” (with Kristin Fabbe and Eleni Kyrkopoulou). *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*, Vol. 22, No. 2 (2024), pp. 371-385.

“Surveying the Landscape of Labor Market Threat Perceptions from Migration: Evidence from Attitudes toward Sub-Saharan African Migrants in Morocco.” (with Kristin Fabbe and Eleni Kyrkopoulou). *Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) Review*, Vol. 76, No. 4 (2023), pp. 748-773.

“Marxists of the Maghreb: Leftists Parties and Movements of North Africa.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History* (with Matthew R. Jones) (2023), pp. 1-22.

“The International Sources of Prejudice toward Shi‘a in the Middle East and North Africa: Original Survey Evidence from Morocco.” (with Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl). *Mediterranean Politics*. Vol. 28, No. 3 (2023), pp. 463-491.

“Who Would Trust a Nuclear Umbrella? An Original Survey Gauging Public Confidence in Future Nuclear Guarantees in Morocco.” (with Arjun Banerjee). *The Nonproliferation Review* Vol. 29, No. 4-6 (2022), pp. 267-288.

“Divergent Opposition to Sub-Saharan African and Arab Migrants in Morocco’s Casablanca Region: Prejudice from the Pocketbook?” (with Kyung Joon Han). *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 48, No. 3 (2021), pp. 492-514.

“Community-level Postmaterialism and Anti-Migrant Attitudes: An Original Survey on Opposition to Sub-Saharan African Migrants in the Middle East.” (with Kristin Fabbe and Kyung Joon Han). *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 64, No. 3 (2020), pp. 669-683.

“How Does Legalization Alter Islamists’ Electoral Strategies? A Comparative Study of Mauritania’s Tawassoul Party in the 2006 and 2013 Local Elections.” *L’Année du Maghreb*, Vol. 23 (2020), pp. 303-323.

“Judges, Bribes, and Verdicts: How Court Experience Reshapes Attitudes about Judicial Corruption among Morocco’s Most Marginalized.” *Mediterranean Politics*, Vol. 25, No. 3 (2020), pp. 650-672.

“Who Endorses Amnesty? An Original Survey from Morocco’s Casablanca Region Assessing Citizen Support for Regularizing Clandestine Migrants.” (with Kyung Joon Han). *Review of Middle East Studies (RoMES)*, Vol. 52, No. 2 (2018), pp. 283-298.

“The Autocrat’s Advisors: Opening the Black-Box of Ruling Coalitions in Tunisia’s Authoritarian Regime.” (with Mehdi Ayari). *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 70, No. 4 (2018), pp. 330-346.

“Do You Have ‘Connections’ at the Courthouse? An Original Survey on Informal Influence and Judicial Rulings in Morocco.” *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 69, No. 4 (2016), pp. 760-772.

“Continuity through Co-optation: Rural Politics and Regime Resilience in Morocco and Mauritania.” *Mediterranean Politics*, Vol. 20, No. 3 (2015), pp. 364-385.

“Labor Demands, Regime Concessions: Moroccan Unions and the Arab Uprisings.” *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 42, No. 1 (2015), pp. 88-103.

“The Threat to ‘Un-Moderate’: Moroccan Islamists and the Arab Spring.” *Middle East Law and Governance*, Vol. 5, No. 3 (2013), pp. 1-27.

“Safety-Valve Elections in the Arab Spring: The Weakening (and Resurgence) of Morocco’s Islamist Opposition Party.” *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (2013), pp. 137-156.

“Beards, Mustaches, and Power: The Traits of Masculine Leadership in Morocco” in (eds., Kristen Kao and Ellen Lust), *Decentralization, Local Governance, and Inequality in the Middle East and North Africa* (with Freddy Gergis), University of Michigan Press, 2025, 242-270.

“The Functions of Authoritarian Elections: Symbolism, Safety Values, and Clientelism,” in Francesco Cavatorta and Valeria Resta (eds.), *Routledge Handbook on Elections in the Middle East and North Africa*. (with Calista Boyd). Routledge, 2023, pp. 13-25

“Urban Bias, Rural Embeddedness: Using the Rural-Urban Divide to Explain Political Party Organizational and Ideological Development in the MENA,” in Francesco Cavatorta, Lise Storm, and Valeria Resta (eds.), *Routledge Handbook on Political Parties in the Middle East and North Africa*. (with Allison Critcher). Routledge, 2021, pp. 307-318.

“Integrating African Migrants? Gauging Citizen Opposition to Migrant Resettlement in Morocco’s Casablanca region,” in Zahra Babar (ed.), *Mobility and Forced Displacement in the Middle East* (with Kyung Joon Han). Oxford University Press, 2020, pp. 165-186.

“Mauritania’s Uprisings and Aftermath,” in Stephen King and Abdeslam Maghraoui (eds.), *The Lure of Authoritarianism: The Maghreb after the Arab Spring*. (with Mehdi Ayari). Indiana University Press, 2019, pp. 283-307.

“Labor Protest in Morocco,” in Osama Abi-Mershed (ed.), *Social Currents in North Africa: Culture and Governance after the Arab Spring*. Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 51-72.

“Regime Resilience and the Arab Uprisings,” in Richard Gillespie and Frederic Volpi (eds.), *Handbook of Mediterranean Politics*. (with Amnah Ibraheem). Routledge, 2017, pp. 207-217.

REVIEW ARTICLES AND OTHER SCHOLARSHIP

Review of Erin Snider, *Marketing Democracy: The Political Economy of Democracy Aid in the Middle East, Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 21, No. 3, (2023), p. 1146-1148.

“Surveying Nuclear Attitudes in the Middle East: Perceptions, Misperceptions, and Future Research.” *APSA MENA Politics Section Newsletter*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (2019), pp. 27-30.

“Ruptures, Reconfigurations, and Revolutions: Political Change in North Africa after the Arab Uprisings.” *Mediterranean Politics*, Vol. 22, No. 4 (2017), pp. 522-530.

“International Politics and the Arab Uprisings: Survey of Recent Works.” *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 14, No. 4 (2016), pp. 1231-1233.

Review of Leon T. Goldsmith, *Cycle of Fear: Syria’s Alawites in War and Peace*, *Syrian Studies Association Bulletin*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (2020), pp. 1-2.

Review of Ostovar Afshon, *Vanguard of the Imam: Religion, Politics, and Iran’s Revolutionary Guards*, *International Studies Review*, Vol. 21, No. 1 (2020), pp. 169-170.

Review of Ann Wainscott, *Bureaucratizing Islam: Morocco and the War on Terror*, *Politics and Religion*, Vol. 12, No. 4 (2019), pp. 782-784.

Review of Laleh Khalili and Jillian Schwedler, *Policing and Prisons in the Middle East: Formations of Coercion, Terrorism and Political Violence*, Vol. 27, No. 2 (2015), pp. 380-381.

Review of Lise Storm, *Party Politics and the Prospects for Democratization in North Africa*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 47, No. 1 (2015), pp. 169-170.

Review of Lise Storm, *Party Politics and the Prospects for Democratization in North Africa*, *Middle East Journal*, Vol. 68, No. 1 (2014), pp. 210-212.

Review of Leila Piran, *Institutional Change in Turkey: The Impact of European Union Reforms on Human Rights and Policing*, *Turkish Studies*, Vol. 15, No. 1 (2014), pp. 156-157.

EDITORSHIP OF SPECIAL ISSUES

“Survey Research on International Relations and Security Affairs in the Middle East and North Africa.” (with Holger Albrecht). Themed section. *Mediterranean Politics*.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The Lost Colonies: American Power in North Africa
(Second book manuscript)

Russia’s Disinformation War and Weapons of Mass Destruction. In preparation for submission to *Cambridge Elements* series.

“US-Moroccan Counterterrorism Cooperation,” (with Ihssan el-Hafidi). In preparation for submission to *British Journal of Middle East Studies*.

“Moroccan Foreign Policy Responses to Russian Aggression.” (with Kacper Grass). In preparation for submission to *Journal of North African Studies*.

FUNDRAISING

Total Number of Fundraising Projects: 4

Total Fundraising: \$222,898

“November 2025 reception for new study abroad program, UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” UT Middle East Studies formal fundraiser with the

Ramallah, Palestine Club of Knoxville for my new UT study abroad program in Jordan focused on career prep in professions related to refugee aid and peacebuilding.

Amount: \$32,898 – UT Experiences Palestine Fund/Endowment

“2025 Melodies of the Middle East: Concert Fundraiser with Classical Arabic Music Composer Ramzi Aburedwan.” UT Middle East Studies formal fundraiser with Arab American Club of Knoxville (AACK) for study abroad endowment for travel scholarships to Arab countries.

Amount: \$18,000 – Middle Eastern Cultural Engagement Endowment

Role: Gala Co-Chair and Primary Organizer

“2023 Middle East Gala.” UT Middle East Studies Formal Fundraiser for study abroad endowment for travel scholarships to Arab countries with Arab American Club of Knoxville (AACK).

Year: 2023-24

Amount: \$122,000 – Middle Eastern Cultural Engagement Endowment

Role: Gala Co-Chair and Primary Organizer

“UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” Fund created for new UT study abroad program in Jordan focused on career prep in professional related to refugee aid and peacebuilding.

Amount: \$50,000 – UT Experiences Palestine Fund/Endowment

Role: Primary Organizer and Faculty Director

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Total Number of Grants and Contracts: 25 (Funded: 14)

Total Funding Requested: over \$2.3 million (Funded: \$535,633.00)

EXTERNAL GRANTS AS A FACULTY MEMBER (2013-present)

“UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” Rotary International Peace Fellowship program. *Funded.*

Year: 2024-25

Amount: Nonmonetary fellowship - full tuition, travel, and housing for training in a professional midcareer degree program in Peace and Development Studies at the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Role: Sabbatical fellowship spring 2026 (nominated by the Downtown Rotary Club of Knoxville)

“Sentiment and Content Analysis of Russian WMD Disinformation in the US and Allies.” Strategic Trends Research Initiative, US Defense Threat Reduction Agency. *Funded.*

Year: 2024-25

Amount: \$158,516

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Elis Vllasi, Lead-PI, and Krista Wiegand, Co-PI)

“UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine, Palestine Fellowship Travel Grant. *Unfunded.*

Year: 2023-24

Amount: \$5,000

Role: Principal Investigator

“War and Peace in the Middle East: Israel and its Neighbors.” Israel Institute, Faculty Course Development Grant. *Funded.*

Year: 2023-24
Amount: \$10,000.00

“Three-year Visiting Israeli Post-doctoral Fellow.” Israel Institute, Post-doctoral program. *Unfunded* (matching funding from University of Tennessee unavailable).

Year: 2023-24
Amount: \$120,000.00

Role: Lead Principal Investigator

“Virtual Exchange and ESL Training to Promote Global Learning for US and Palestinian Youth.” US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, J. Christopher Stevens Virtual Exchange Initiative. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2023-24
Amount: \$416,806.00

Role: Lead Principal Investigator (with Samara Akpovo, Todd Beard, and Rachel Rui)

“Who Wants a Nuclear Umbrella? Exploring Public Support for Extended Nuclear Deterrence in Major Non-NATO Allies.” Carnegie Corporation of New York’s Understanding the Politics of Nuclear Weapons program. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2022-23
Amount: \$300,000

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Brandon Prins, Krista Wiegand, Gary Uzonyi, Kelly Morrison, and Elis Vllasi)

“Atomic Alliances: US Military Bases and Democratization in Morocco, Libya, and Portugal.” Harry S. Truman Foundation Research Grant. *Funded*.

Year: 2022-23
Amount: \$2,000.00

Role: Lead Principal Investigator

“NA-211 Nuclear Security Research Projects: Tracking China and Russia’s Nuclear Diplomacy Activities in North and sub-Saharan Africa,” Y-12 Complex, US Department of Energy. *Funded*.

Year: 2021-22
Amount: \$98,585.00

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Brandon Prins and Krista Wiegand)

“Atomic Alliances: US Military Bases and Democratization in Morocco, Libya, and Portugal.” Dwight D. Eisenhower Foundation Research Grant. *Funded*.

Year: 2020 - current
Amount: \$750.00

Role: Lead Principal Investigator

“Atomic Alliances: US Military Bases and Democratization in Morocco, Libya, and Portugal.” Gerald R. Ford Foundation Research Grant. *Funded*.

Year: 2020 - current
Amount: \$1500.00

Role: Lead Principal Investigator

“Beards, Mustaches, and Power: The Traits of Male Leadership in the Middle East.” Dr. Ellen Lust’s

Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD), University of Gothenburg. *Funded.*

Year: 2020-2021

Amount: \$7,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“University Engagement for Nuclear Nonproliferation Courses at the University of Tennessee for 2019-20.”

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US Department of Energy. *Funded.*

Year: 2019-2020

Amount: \$28,000.00

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Dr. Brandon Prins)

“University Engagement for Nuclear Nonproliferation Courses at the University of Tennessee for 2018-19.”

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US Department of Energy. *Funded.*

Year: 2018-2019

Amount: \$28,000.00

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Dr. Brandon Prins)

“University Engagement for Nuclear Nonproliferation Courses at the University of Tennessee for 2017-18.”

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US Department of Energy. *Funded.*

Year: 2017-2018

Amount: \$28,000.00

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Dr. Brandon Prins)

“Racism and Refugees: Exploring Xenophobia towards sub-Saharan African Migrants in Morocco.”

Harvard University, Middle East Initiative, Faculty Research Grant. *Funded.*

Year: 2017-18

Amount: \$44,682.00

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Kyung Joon Han and Kristin Fabbe)

“Residential Research Fellowship.” Middle East Initiative, The Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. *Funded.*

Year: 2017

Amount: \$60,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Residential Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.” Center for International and Regional Studies, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Georgetown University. *Funded.*

Year: 2013-2014

Amount: \$50,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“International Safeguards, Export Control, and Nonproliferation Course for Fall 2022.” Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US Department of Energy. *Unfunded.*

Year: 2021

Amount: \$12,846.26

Role: Principal Investigator

“University Engagement for Nuclear Nonproliferation Courses at the University of Tennessee for 2021-22.”

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US Department of Energy. *Unfunded.*

Year: 2020-2021
Amount: \$33,040.74
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Dr. Brandon Prins).

“Refugees and Racism: An Original Survey on Attitudes of Prejudice toward Arab and Black African Refugees in Morocco.” Georgetown University in Qatar, Center for International and Regional Studies. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2016
Amount: \$25,000.00
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Dr. Kyung Joon Han).

“Who Supports Authoritarianism? Individual Insecurity and Democratic Rollback in the Middle East.” National Science Foundation. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2015
Amount: \$149,353.00
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Jason Brownlee and Steven Brooke)

“Modeling the Behavior and Geography of Violent Non-State Groups using Arabic, Turkish, and Hindi Sources.” Minerva Research Initiative. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2016
Amount: \$494,797
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Brandon Prins, Krista Wiegand, and Hyun Kim)

“Modeling the Behavior and Geography of Violent Non-State Groups using Arabic, Turkish, and Hindi Sources.” Minerva Research Initiative. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2015
Amount: \$504,602
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Brandon Prins, Krista Wiegand, and Hyun Kim)

“Healthcare for All Gulf Citizens? Geospatial Mapping of Hospital Accessibility in Qatar and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States.” Qatar National Research Fund. *Unfunded*.

Year: 2013
Amount: \$225,413.00
Role: Co-Principal Investigator (with Drs. Mehran Kamrava and Curtis Bell)

INTERNAL GRANTS

“(Mis)managing Authoritarian Coalitions in Tunisia: Minister Survival from Colonial Independence to Democratic Revolution.” Summer Graduate Research Assistantship Grant, University of Tennessee. *Funded*.

Year: 2014
Amount: \$3,600
Role: Principal Investigator

“Exploring Citizen Attitudes toward the Weaponization of Peaceful Nuclear Technology in the Middle East and North Africa.” Institute for Nuclear Security, University of Tennessee. *Funded*.

Year: 2015
Amount: \$15,000.00
Role: Principal Investigator

CONSULTING

“Asylum report: Country Conditions of Black Arabs and Afro-Mauritanians in Mauritania.”

Partners: Law firm anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Year: Anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Role: Author of report for law firm staff representing multiple Mauritanian asylum cases

“Cultural Sensitivity Training for Law Firm Representing Guantanamo Bay Detainee #2.”

Partners: Law firm anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Year: Anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Role: Instructor of Arab and Islamic cultural sensitivity modules for law firm staff

“Cultural Sensitivity Training for Law Firm Representing Guantanamo Bay Detainee #1.”

Partners: Law firm anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Year: Anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Role: Instructor of Arab and Islamic cultural sensitivity modules for law firm staff

“Asylum report: Black Arab and Afro-Mauritanian civil rights and anti-slavery activists.”

Partners: Law firm anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Year: Anonymized for attorney-client privilege

Role: Author of report for law firm staff representing a Mauritanian activist’s asylum case

EXTERNAL GRANTS BEFORE FACULTY STATUS (pre-2013)

Total Number of Grants and Contracts: 8 (Funded: 8)

Total Funding Requested: \$81,600 (Funded: \$81,600).

“Mauritania fieldwork in 2012 for *Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa*.”

Project for Middle East Political Science. *Funded*.

Year: 2011

Amount: \$1,500.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Mauritania fieldwork in 2012 for *Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa*.”

American Institute for Maghrib Studies. *Funded*.

Year: 2011

Amount: \$4,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Elections Monitor for the 2011 Tunisian Constituent Assembly Elections.” Jimmy Carter Presidential Center. *Funded*.

Year: 2011

Amount: \$0.00 (non-monetary award)

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

“Intensive Arabic Study and Morocco and Tunisia fieldwork for 2010-2011 for *Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa*.” David L. Boren Fellowship, US Institute of International Education. *Funded*.

Year: 2010-2011

Amount: \$27,100.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Graduate Dean Prestigious Fellowship Award Supplement for Boren Fellowship.” College of Arts and Sciences, University of Texas. *Funded*.

Year: 2010

Amount: \$1,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Doctoral-level Arabic literature, culture, and politics courses.” Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) at University of Texas, US Department of Education. *Funded*.

Year: 2009

Amount: \$30,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“Intensive Arabic Study in Damascus, Syria for 2006-2007.” David L. Boren Scholar Award, US Institute of International Education. *Funded*.

Year: 2006

Amount: \$18,000.00

Role: Principal Investigator

“3-month Intensive Arabic Study at the American University of Dubai, United Arab Emirates.” Clinton Foundation Scholars Program. *Funded*.

Year: 2011

Amount: \$0.00 (non-monetary award)

Role: Principal Investigator

SKILLS

Modern Standard Arabic, *Fluent* - reading, writing, speaking

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, advanced-high certificate

French, *Advanced* - reading, speaking

Fieldwork, archival research, and Language Training in the Middle East and North Africa:

Jordan - Three week trip in February, 2025 for planning new study abroad program

Morocco - Shorter annual trips for regular fieldwork research from 2013 to 2024; Arabic-based fieldwork interviews and archival research in the Moroccan National Archives and Tangier American Legation Museum for second book (February/March 2022; summer 2022; summer 2023; summer 2024)

Morocco, Tunisia, Mauritania (Summer 2009; November 2010 - March 2012 for first book fieldwork)

Qatar (August 2013 - July 2014 for post-doctoral fellowship)

Syria (August 2006 - October 2007) (intensive Arabic study)

United Arab Emirates (May 2006 - August 2006; January 2017)

Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Turkey (travel)

Archival research experience in US archives:

U.S. National Archives at College Park, Maryland - November 2025

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Archives - August 2019; January 2023; April 2024

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Archives - November 2022

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Archives - October 2022; October 2023; May 2023

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Archives - October 2019

Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Archives - June 2013

Harry S. Truman Presidential Library - April 2024

Methods Training:

Winter Experimental Social Sciences Institute - New York University - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research - Syracuse University, New York
University of Texas Summer Statistics Institute

Other Professional Training:

Certificate, Nuclear Nonproliferation and International Safeguards 2020 Summer Course - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, US Department of Energy

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES (partial)

Discussant for ***TITLE*** by Professor Mehrenegar Rostami (University of Tennessee), 2026 Denbo Center for the Humanities and Arts book workshop, University of Tennessee, 2026.

“2026 Peace Fellowship and UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan training program.” Knoxville Volunteer Rotary Club, 2026. (*invited*)

“2026 Peace Fellowship and UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan training program.” Downtown Knoxville Rotary Club, 2026. (*invited*)

“UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” New Study Abroad Program Presentation, Ramallah Club of Knoxville, 2025. (*invited*)

“UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Aid and Peacebuilding.” New Study Abroad Program Presentation with the Ramallah Club of Knoxville Executive Board. 8th Annual Engagement and Outreach Conference, Office of Community Engagement and Outreach, University of Tennessee, 2025.

“The Lost Colonies: American Power in Morocco and Libya.” Middle East Studies Associate, 2025.

“The Lost Colonies: American Power in Morocco and Libya.” American Political Science Association, 2025.

“Sentiment and Content Analysis of Disinformation of Russian WMD Disinformation in the US and Allies.” Strategic Tends Threats Initiative Briefing, US Defense Threat Reduction Agency, 2025.

“Historical Background to the Israel/Hamas Conflict.” Knoxville Messiah Lutheran Church, 2024. (*invited*)

“Memories of Empire: Politics of the US-Moroccan Alliance.” Utah State University, 2023. (*invited*)

“Memories of Empire: The Politics of the US-Moroccan Alliance.” Middle East Studies Association, 2023.

“Situational Tolerance for Migrants in Morocco: Acceptance on the Prayer Mat but Less Elsewhere.” American Political Science Association, 2023.

“Memories of Empire: The Politics of the US-Moroccan Alliance,” Center for Atlantic Studies, International University of Rabat, Morocco, 2023.

Discussant for *To Rig the Rule of Break the Rules: The Politics of Electoral Manipulation in Autocracies* by Professor Yuree Noh (Rhode Island College), 2023 Project on Middle East Political Science Junior Scholars Book Workshop.

“Morocco’s sub-Saharan Migrations and Labor Market Threat (Mis)Perceptions.” American Political Science Association 2022.

“Morocco’s sub-Saharan Migrations and Labor Market Threat (Mis)Perceptions.” American Political Science Association 2022.

“Shrunk Empire: The Politics of the US-Moroccan Alliance,” on the webinar panel Soft Power and Geopolitical stability: The New Era of Moroccan Diplomacy. 2022 Moroccan-American Commission for Educational Exchange, 40th Anniversary Program.

“Conclusion: An Editor’s Advice on Building Special Issues.” 2022 Spring Workshop “Travel, Mobility, and Cultural Conflict,” Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society (SERMEISS), University of Alabama.

“Racism and Labor Market Threat (mis)Perceptions: Surveying Moroccan Attitudes about sub-Saharan Migrants.” 2022 International Studies Association.

Discussant for *Islam, Justice, and Democracy* (Temple University Press, 2021) by Professor Sabri Ciftci (Kansas State University), Author Meets Critics Panel, 2022 Southern Political Science Association Conference.

“Racism and Labor Market Threat (mis)Perceptions: Surveying Moroccan Attitudes about sub-Saharan Migrants.” 2022 Southern Political Science Association Conference.

“Racism and Labor Market Threat (mis)Perceptions: Surveying Moroccan Attitudes about sub-Saharan Migrants.” 2022 Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) and *Industrial and Labor Relations Review* workshop.

“Racism and Labor Market Threat (mis)Perceptions: Surveying Moroccan Attitudes about sub-Saharan Migrants.” 2022 Rethinking Social and Political Dynamics in the Contemporary Mediterranean Region, University of Edinburgh’s Alwaleed Center and The Institute for Advanced Studies of Aix-Marseille University, France. (*Invited*)

“Publishing in Academic Journals: An Editor’s Perspective.” 2022 Middle East and Islamic Studies Aotearoa Network, New Zealand’s Middle East Studies Association, New Zealand. (*Invited*)

“The Maghreb Post-Arab Spring: Domestic and Regional Challenges.” 2021 The European Neighborhood Policy Chair keynote lecture, College of Europe in Natolin, Poland. (*Invited*)

Discussant, Project on Middle East Political Science, 2021 Research Workshop for Junior Scholars (Carolyn Barnett and Yasmina Abouzzohour).

“Who wants a Nuclear Umbrella? An Original Survey Gauging Public Support for Nuclear Guarantees in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).” 2020 Center for Technology and Strategy, Air War College, US Air Force. (*Invited*)

“Religious Traits and Leadership: Results from Elite Negotiations in Morocco’s Casablanca Region.” 2020 American Political Science Association Conference.

“Wither Anti-Westernism? Gauging Public Support for Introducing Nuclear Umbrellas into the Middle East.” (with Arjun Banerjee). 2020 Southern Political Science Association Conference.

“Community-level Postmaterialism and Anti-Migrant Attitudes: An Original Survey on Opposition to Sub-Saharan African Migrants in the Middle East.” 2019 Middle East Studies Association Conference.

“Community-level Postmaterialism and Anti-Migrant Attitudes: An Original Survey on Opposition to Sub-Saharan African Migrants in the Middle East.” 2019 American Political Science Association Conference.

“Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa.” 2019 Project on Middle East Political Science book talk, George Washington University.

“Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa.” 2019 Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa/Middle East and North Africa program, Northwestern University. (*Invited*)

“Threat Perceptions and Public Support for Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East: Results from an Original Survey Experiment in Morocco.” 2019 Southern Political Science Association Conference.

“Prejudice from the Pocketbook? Exploring Xenophobia towards Arab and sub-Saharan African Migrants in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).” 2018 Middle East Studies Association.

“Prejudice from the Pocketbook? Exploring Xenophobia towards Arab and sub-Saharan African Migrants in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).” 2018 American Political Science Association.

“Threat Perceptions and Public Support for Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East: Results from an Original Survey Experiment in Morocco.” 2018 International Studies Association conference.

“Threat Perceptions and Public Support for Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East: Results from an Original Survey Experiment in Morocco.” 2017 American Political Science Association conference.

“Opening the Black-Box of Authoritarian Coalitions: Minister Retention and the Internal Politics of Tunisia’s Autocratic Ruling Elite.” 2016 University of Alabama workshop. (*Invited*).

“Verdicts, Bribes, Judges: An Original Survey on Citizen Perceptions of Bribe-Paying and Judicial Rulings.” 2016 Middle East Studies Association conference. (*Panel organizer*).

“manhajiyaat jadiida fi bahth al-ra’y al-‘aam” [New Methodologies in Public Opinion Research]. 2016 King Hassan II University workshop in Morocco. (*Invited, Arabic lecture*).

“Do You Have “Connections” at the Courthouse? An Original Survey of Perceptions of *Wasta* and Judicial Decision-Making.” 2016 Southern Political Science Association conference.

“Do You Have “Connections” at the Courthouse? An Original Survey of Citizen Perceptions of *Wasta* and Judicial Decision-Making in Morocco.” 2015 Alumni Conference, Winter Experiments Institute in the Social Sciences, New York University.

“Do You Have “Connections” at the Courthouse? An Original Survey of Citizen Perceptions of *Wasta* and Judicial Decision-Making in Morocco.” 2015 Middle East Studies Association conference. (*Panel organizer*).

“Continuity through Co-optation in Morocco and Mauritania.” 2013 American Political Science Association conference.

SERVICE

At University of Tennessee:

UT liaison with Arab American Club of Knoxville (AACK), Summer 2022 - current
Organizer, Arabic Spring Feast, (celebration of Arab food and culture; 200 attendees), 2025
Organizer, Arabic Friendsgiving, (celebration of Arab food and culture; 250 attendees), 2024
Organizer, Arabic Spring Feast (celebration of Arab food and culture; 25 attendees), 2024
Co-organizer, AACK Visiting Lecture Soiree with Dr. Graham Pitts talk, “Middle East Food History and Why It Matters” (100 attendees), 2024
Organizer, Arabic Friendsgiving (celebration of Arab food and culture; 170 attendees), 2023
Organizer, Arabic Spring Feast (celebration of Arab food and culture; 98 attendees), 2023
Organizer, Arabic Friendsgiving (celebration of Arab food and culture; 150 attendees), 2022
Organizer, Dr. Lihi Ben Shitrit Talk, “Bedouin Women’s Rights in Israel” (60 attendees), 2022

At the University of Tennessee Department of Political Science:

Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2024-25 and 2025-26
Member, Comparative Politics Comprehensive Exam Committee, Fall 2023
Search Committee Chair, Populism, Nationalism, and Identity Search Committee, 2022
Chair, Comparative Politics Comprehensive Exam Committee, Fall 2022
Member, Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) Director Search Committee, 2022
Chair, Comparative Politics Comprehensive Exam Committee, Fall 2021
Member, Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies committee, 2014-2022
Member, Advisory Committee for Political Science, 2016-2018
Member, Undergraduate Committee, 2017-2019
Member, Graduate Committee, 2017-2020
Member, VolCore Global Citizenship International general education subcommittee
Member, Undergraduate Council (Social Sciences representative), 2021-2024
Member, Undergraduate Advising committee, 2021-2024
Proxy Member, Graduate Council, 2022

In Political Science and Middle East Studies:

Member, APSA MENA Section Leadership Nominating Committee
Elected to Executive Board, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society, 2018-2020
Member, 2022 book award committee, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society
Chair, 2020 book award committee, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society
Chair, 2020 article award committee, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society
Chair, 2020 best dissertation committee, APSA Middle East and North Africa section
Assessor, 2020 Leigh Douglas Memorial Prize, British Society for Middle East Studies
Member, 2019 program panel committee for APSA Middle East and North Africa section
Member, American Institute for Maghrib Studies
Member, Middle East Studies Association
Member, American Political Science Association

Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals:

American Journal of Political Science

Journal of Politics

Perspectives on Politics

Journal of Conflict Resolution

Comparative Politics

Comparative Political Studies

Political Research Quarterly

Journal of Global Security Studies

Journal of North African Studies

Contemporary Social Science

International Security

Electoral Studies

Governance

Third World Quarterly

Foreign Policy Analysis

World Politics

British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies

International Journal of Middle East Studies

Legislative Studies Quarterly

Journal of Politics

African Studies Review

Journal of the Middle East and Africa

Critical Research on Religion

International Studies Quarterly

Political Science Quarterly

Politics and Religion

Middle East Law and Governance

Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies

Mediterranean Politics

Rationality and Society

International Area Studies Review

Digest of Middle East Studies

Global Studies Quarterly

Globalizations

Centaurus (Journal of European Society for the History of Science)

International Journal of Press/Politics

Brookings Institution Papers

International Journal of Politics/Press

International Journal of Nuclear Security

Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History

Peer Reviewer for Academic Book Series:

American University of Cairo Press

Cambridge University Press

Columbia University Press

Duke University Press (assessment of *Middle East Journal* for potential publishing partnership)

Edinburgh University Press

Georgetown University Press
Indiana University Press
Lynne-Rienner Publishers
Palgrave Press
I.B. Tauris Press
Purdue University Press (Nuclear Nonproliferation and Security Series)
Routledge Press (Mediterranean Politics Series)
Syracuse University Press
University of Pennsylvania Press

Peer Reviewer for Granting Agencies:

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
European Research Council (ERC) of the European Commission

Mentoring of Junior Faculty:

Carolyn Holmes, Assistant Professor of Political Science (African politics), University of Tennessee
Jumana al-Ahmad (Visiting Assistant Professor of Arabic, Washington and Lee University)
Mohammed Ouhemmou (Assistant Professor, Ibn Zohr University in Agadir, Morocco) - APSA Middle East and North Africa faculty mentoring initiative
Hamzah Nidaazzi (Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech, Morocco) - APSA Middle East and North Africa faculty mentoring initiative

Mentoring of Doctoral Students:

Orhan Dogan (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Calista Boyd (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Elliott Fesler (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Kacper Grass (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Amnah Ibraheem (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Allison Critcher (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Arjun Banerjee (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Matt Jones (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Samantha Okowita (Political Science, University of Tennessee), Mallory Nischan (French and Francophone Studies, University of Tennessee), Michael Bufano (Political Science, University of Alabama), Kristian Dahle Kraft (Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway), and Jumana al-Ahmad (Religious Studies, Vrije Universiteit, Netherlands).

Courses taught:

POLS 410 - Politics and Power in the Middle East, undergraduate
POLS 465/595 - Nuclear Energy and Nonproliferation (i.e., entitled Nuclear Politics of the Middle East), undergraduate and graduate
POLS 462 - War and Peace in the Middle East: Israel and its Neighbors
POLS 371 - Terrorism and Political Violence
POLS 495/MEST 410 - UT Experiences Palestine in Jordan: Exploring Careers in International Refugee Aid and Peacebuilding (two week study abroad course in Jordan scheduled to be taught in May 2026), undergraduate and graduate
POLS 595 - Regional Studies and the Discipline of Political Science, graduate
POLS 574 - Comparative Government and Politics of the Middle East, graduate
POLS 570 - Comparative Government and Politics ('core' proseminar course for doctoral qualifying exams), graduate
POLS 610 - Authoritarianism, graduate
POLS 249 - Introduction to Comparative Politics, undergraduate
FYS 129 - Exploring the Middle East and Islam through Film, undergraduate
FYS 129 - World Politics in Film, undergraduate

FYS 129 - Careers in World Politics

POLS 370 - Contemporary International Problems (introductory international relations course)

FYS 101 - First Year Experience: Transitioning to College Life at the University of Tennessee

UNHOS 101 - Global Politics in Film, undergraduate, honors course

POLS 600 - Professionalization: From Dissertation to Book

Personal:

Boy Scouts of America - Eagle Scout Award, 2001