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Education

Ph.D. Candidate in Government, Georgetown University 2013 –

M.A. in Government, Georgetown University 2015

Major field: International Relations. Minor field: Quantitative Methods.

*Dissertation: The Dictator's Half-Life – Autocratic Durability
and Nuclear Proliferation*

International Security & Intelligence Program, 2013
University of Cambridge

A.B. in Government (Magna cum Laude), Harvard University 2013

Minor: Russian, Eastern European, and Central Asian Studies.

Language citation: German.

Scholarship

Working Papers

Back to Basics: A Bayesian Analysis of the Determinants of Nuclear Proliferation

*Presented at ISA 2016 in Atlanta, invited CSIS PONI Conference 2016
at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque.*

The Logic of Leadership Succession: Legitimation and Balancing during Executive Transitions

Presenting at ISA 2019 in Toronto.

The Exit Dilemma: Golden Parachute Offers to Embattled Dictators

Presented at ISA 2017 in Baltimore, ISA 2018 in San Francisco (Junior Scholar Symposium).

The Crying Game: Signaling Dynamics in Triadic Patron-Client Interactions

Presented at the 2016 Georgetown Political Science Working Group, ISA 2017 in Baltimore.

Guardians, Experts, and their Networks: Understanding Leadership Succession in Iran

*Presented at the 2016 Surveying Iranian Social Research Conference in Budapest, Hungary.
Recipient of Annenberg School research grant, ASL19 Iran Cyber Stewards research grant,
UPenn Center for Global Communication Studies' Iran Media Program grant.*

Hegemonic Spheres and Orbital Partnerships: Strategic Magnanimity under Great Power Competition

Presenting at ISA 2019 in Toronto.

Other Publications

Diagnose and Deliver: Assessing the Determinants of World Bank Project Performance

Working paper: World Bank Global Delivery Initiative.

Non-linear Stratagems in Theory and Practice: an Examination of Iranian Cyber Policies

White paper: Center for Global Communication Studies, University of Pennsylvania.

Tightening the Net: The Iranian National Internet Project

White paper: Article 19.

Tightening the Net: The Soft War and Cyber Tactics in Iran

White paper: Article 19.

Iranian Interests in Syria: Political Aspirations and Limitations

White paper: Syria Initiative, Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM).

Is Online Censorship in Iran Thawing or being Defrosted?

Blog post: Yale Journal of International Affairs

Being a Doctoral Student in the Age of Trump: Six Challenges (with Andrew Szarejko, Laila Wahedi)

Blog post: Duck of Minerva

Invited Talks & Symposia

Hoover Institution Winter Workshop on Authoritarianism & Democratic Breakdown, 2018, Stanford.

Milton Wolf Emerging Scholar Program, 2017, Vienna.

ASL19 Iran Cyber Dialogue Conference, 2017, Brussels.

Public Policy and Nuclear Threats Summer Boot Camp 2016, San Diego.

Surveying Iran: Conference on the Future of Social Research after the Nuclear Thaw, 2016, Budapest.

CSIS Project on Nuclear Issues 2016 Conference Series, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque.

Research Grants

Georgetown University Jill Hopper Memorial Fellowship (\$31'750). *September 2018*

ASL19 Iran Cyber Stewards Research Grant (\$5'000). *December 2016*

Annenberg School Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania (\$500). *November 2016*

UPenn/UCLA CGCS Iran Media Program Grant (\$4'000). *June 2016*

Georgetown University Research Grant (\$750). *March 2016*

Article 19 Research Grant co-recipient, with Peyman Majidzadeh (\$10'000). *May 2015*

Georgetown University Summer Research Grant (\$5'000). *April 2015*

Georgetown University ICPSR Research and Travel Grant (\$4'500). *April 2015*

Graduate Fellowship, Georgetown Department of Government (5 years). *2013-2018*

Harvard College Potter Prize for Outstanding Scholarship (\$2'000). *May 2013*

Teaching & Experience

Work & Research Experience

Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank

Methodological consultant on machine-learning applications and content analysis related to World Bank project performance evaluations.

Jan. 2019 –

Global Delivery Initiative, World Bank

Consultant, collaborating on two papers related to World Bank project effectiveness. Conducted ensemble learning and Bayesian analysis using a machine-coded taxonomy of delivery challenges.

May 2017 –

Iran Cyber Stewards, ASL19

Research and analysis on a network model of the Iranian Assembly of Experts. Empirical model used assess Iranian succession dynamics.

Dec. 2016 - Dec. 2017

Pioneer Academics Online Numeracy Project

Co-instructor with Prof. Irfan Nooruddin, established an open-source pre-college numeracy and statistical fluency project for students in seven countries.

Mar. - Sep. 2016

Georgetown University Department of Economics

Research assistant for Prof. Laurent Bouton.

Summer 2015

Georgetown University Department of Government

Research assistant for Prof. Nita Rudra.

Summer 2016

Research assistant for Prof. Avraham Sela.

Summer 2015

Research assistant for Prof. Michael Bailey.

Summer 2014

Teaching Experience

American University School of International Service

Adjunct professor: quantitative methods and econometrics.

Fall 2017

Georgetown University Department of Government

Instructor: leadership & succession.

Spring 2019

Co-instructor: advanced quantitative analysis (Ph.D-level causal inference).

Spring 2017

Teaching associate: quantitative political analysis (Ph.D-level econometrics).

Fall 2016

Teaching associate: advanced quantitative analysis (Ph.D-level causal inference).

Spring 2016

Teaching associate: quantitative political analysis (Ph.D-level econometrics).

Fall 2015

Teaching associate: advanced quantitative analysis (Ph.D-level causal inference).

Spring 2015

Teaching associate: contemporary US foreign policy.

Fall 2014

Teaching associate: introduction to international relations.

Spring 2014

Teaching associate: introduction to international relations.

Fall 2013

Professional Memberships & Service

Elected Member; Executive Committee of the GSAS, Georgetown University	<i>2016-2018</i>
President; Georgetown Quantitative Modeling	<i>2015-2016</i>
Co-Director; Georgetown Political Science Working Group	<i>2014-2015</i>
Member; GSAS Standing Committee on Academic Integrity	<i>2014-2015</i>

Relevant Skills

Languages: Native in English and Farsi; fluent in French and German

Software: R, STATA, SPSS, Python, Photoshop, L^AT_EX

Certification: Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) - Advanced Game Theory

Expertise: International security, autocratic politics, leadership successions, nuclear proliferation, Iranian politics, machine learning, causal inference, Bayesian analysis, advanced econometrics, game theory

Last updated: January 16, 2019