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Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, 2006-present
Examination Fields: International Relations and Security Studies (High Pass)
Research Interests: Grand strategy and power transitions, military operations, energy security, political uses of history

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

B.A., summa cum laude, Departments of Politics and History, 2006

DISSERTATION

“Life on the Downward Slope: Exploitation, Restraint, and Great Power Decline”
Committee: Barry Posen (chair), M. Taylor Fravel, Richard Samuels

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Debating Decline.” *International Security* 37 (Winter 2012-2013) (forthcoming).

“A Crude Threat: The Limits of an Iranian Missile Campaign Against Saudi Arabian Oil,” with Miranda Priebe. *International Security* 36, no. 1 (Summer 2011), pp. 167-201.

“Civil-Military Relations in Israel and Turkey,” with Metin Heper. *Journal of Political and Military Sociology*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (Winter 2005/6), pp. 231-248.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“The Malta Summit: Missed Opportunity or Jockeying for Position? New Insight from American Archives,” *Cold War International History Project Research Note*, Fall 2012 (forthcoming)

Invited book review of Anthony D’Agostino, *The Rise of Global Powers: International Politics in the Era of the World Wars* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), for *H-Diplo: Diplomatic and International History Discussion Network* (online: <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=35703>)

“Much Ado About Decline,” *Precis*, MIT Center for International Studies (Fall 2010).

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

“Whither Command of the Commons? Choosing Security Over Control,” New America Foundation, *Policy Papers in Grand Strategy*, September 2011.

“RAND Yearly Warning Watchlist,” with Gregory Treverton. RAND National Security Research Division, PM 3393, September 2009. Co-editor and author of chapters on medium-term prospects for U.S.-Israeli relations, oil security in Iraq, and Arab-Kurdish relations in Iraq.

“The Kurds and Regional Security: Assessing Developments since the Iraq War,” Crown Center for Middle East Studies, *Middle East Brief*, No. 14 (December 2006).

WORKS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PROGRESS

“Alternatives for Commanding the Commons.” Forty page manuscript expanding on the New America Foundation report co-authored with Sameer Lalwani assessing threats to American “command of the commons” and alternative defense strategies to maintaining American command. *Currently being revised for submission.*

“Life on the Downward Slope: Lessons from the End of the Cold War for the American Decline Debate.” Working paper applying the theory and data on the decline of the USSR developed in the dissertation to debates surrounding American decline today.

“The End of the Soviet Union after Twenty Years.” Book review analyzing the second generation of scholarship on the diplomatic history surrounding the decline and collapse of the Soviet Union. Reviews work by Mary Sarotte, Jeffrey Engel, John Prados, and others.

“Out of Alignment: The Alliance Security Dilemma, and Alliance Termination.” Manuscript on why military alliances end before the threat causing alliance formation is eliminated.

“AirLand Battle Revisited.” Report discussing the military and strategic calculations underlying the U.S. Army’s efforts to revise its battle doctrine in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2012	GWU Institute for Security and Conflict Studies Predoctoral Fellowship
2012	Harvard Center for European Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship
2012	Harry Truman Library Research Grant
2012	Tobin Project National Security Fellowship (second-time recipient)
2012	O’Donnell Research Grant (second-time recipient)
2011	Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, International Security Program
2011	Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Eastern European Studies Title VIII Research Grant
2011	MIT Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant
2011	Tobin Project National Security Fellowship
2011	O’Donnell Research Grant (George H.W. Bush Library)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS (CONTINUED)

2008	High Pass on Ph.D. General Examination
2006-7	MIT Presidential Fellow
2006-11	MIT Graduate Fellowship
2006	Eugene C. Black Award for Excellence in History, Brandeis University
2005	Phi Beta Kappa, Brandeis University (junior-year selectee)
2004	Justice Louis C. Brandeis Award for an Outstanding Essay on Legal History
2002-06	Louis Brandeis Academic Scholarship, Brandeis University

PRESENTATIONS

- 2011. “Whither Command of the Commons? Choosing Security over Control,” presentation for the New America Foundation’s Great Powers Initiative, September 2011.
- 2011. “Life on the Downward Slope: Explaining State Decisions to Exploit or Support Declining Great Powers,” presentation at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, September 2011.
- 2011. “Power Shifts: Problems, Prospects, and Lessons from the End of the Cold War,” briefing to David Miliband, member of the British Parliament and formerly British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, April 11.
- 2011. “Power Shifts: Problems, Prospects, and Lessons from the End of the Cold War,” presentation at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, March 18.
- 2010. “How Secure is Saudi Arabian Oil? Analyzing a Worst-Case Iranian Attack on Saudi Arabian Oil Infrastructure,” presentation at Arizona State University’s “Breaking Down the Walls” conference in Phoenix, AZ, April 2. Presentation with Miranda Priebe.
- 2010. “How Secure is Saudi Arabian Oil? Analyzing a Worst-Case Iranian Attack on Saudi Arabian Oil Infrastructure,” presentation at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, February 20. Presentation with Miranda Priebe.
- 2009. “Assessing an Iranian Missile Attack on Saudi Arabian Oil Infrastructure,” briefing to William Rammell, British Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, MIT Center for International Studies, Cambridge, MA, May 6. With Miranda Priebe.

RESEARCH AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Dr. Cindy Williams, Winter, MIT, Winter 2011

Working with Dr. Cindy Williams and colleagues at Science Po University in Paris, France, tracked the evolution of military recruit quality, retention rates, and changes in military budgets following the transition to an all-volunteer force in the United States and several European countries. Directed four-person research team in support of this task.

RESEARCH AND RELATED EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Research Assistant, Professor M. Taylor Fravel, MIT, 2009-present

Investigated the evolution of Japanese, Soviet, and American military doctrine since the mid-1970s using primary and secondary sources. Analyzed the main military and political lessons of major international conflicts since 1945. Drafted reports analyzing existing work and compiled annotated bibliographies.

Research Assistant, Professor Barry Posen, MIT, Summer 2010.

Provided editorial and research assistance for a book-length manuscript assessing alternative U.S. grand strategies.

Summer Associate, RAND Corporation, Summer 2009

Working with Dr. Gregory Treverton and RAND's Intelligence Policy Center, compiled a report on threats over the medium-term to U.S. national security for the National Intelligence Council (NIC). Authored chapters relating to oil supply disruptions from the Middle East, Kurdish futures in Iraq, and prospects for the U.S.-Israeli alliance.

Research Assistant, Professor Barry Posen, MIT, 2008

Investigated Iran's ability to disrupt Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil production.

Research Assistant, Seminar XXI, MIT, 2007-2008

Assisted preparation for a series of conferences bringing academics and policy practitioners together to address U.S. national security.

Research Assistant, Dr. Cindy Williams, MIT, Summer 2007

Compared DHS and DOD budget processes and decision-making structures.

Research Assistant and Summer Fellow, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, 2006-2007

Conducted independent research on regional security and the Kurds, leading to publication of a *Middle East Brief*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, "U.S. Military Power," Professor Barry Posen, MIT, Spring 2009 & Spring 2011

Led two undergraduate sections. Assisted students with understanding the nature and use of conventional military forces. Teaching evaluations available upon request.

Teaching Assistant, "Causes of War," Professor Seyom Brown, Brandeis, Fall 2005

Directed a classroom simulation of world politics. Developed political scenarios to spur student thought while helping them with theories on the causes of war and use of force.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Reviewer, International Security

Coordinator, MIT Political Science Graduate Student Work in Progress Group, 2010-present

Co-Coordinator, MIT International Relations Work in Progress Group, 2009-2010

Student Representative, MIT Department of Political Science Graduate Committee, 2007-2008

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Member, International Studies Association, 2007-present

Member, American Political Science Association, 2006-present

OTHER

Languages: Spanish (intermediate); German (reading only – intermediate); Arabic (rudimentary).

Specialized Training:

Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research (SICAR), May 2011;

An Introduction to Archival Research, Summer 2010;

USAF Institute for National Security Studies Strategic Seminar on “Countering Nuclear Proliferation,” Summer 2010;

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR, with focus on archival research and case study design), Summer 2009

Archival Research:

Princeton University Archives

George H.W. Bush Presidential Library

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

Hoover Institution Archives

U.S. National Archives

GWU National Security Archive