

Mark Berlin
The George Washington University
Department of Political Science
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Education

- The George Washington University (May 2024)
 - Ph.D., Political Science
 - **Dissertation Title:** Pledging Allegiance to al-Qaeda and the Islamic State: The Causes and Consequences of Rhetorical Cooperation
 - **Dissertation Committee:** Nathan Brown (chair), Celeste Arrington, Marc Lynch
 - **Fields:** Comparative Politics, International Relations
- Georgetown University 2018
 - Master of Arts, Arab Studies
 - **Field:** Politics
- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem 2016
 - Master of Arts, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
- Elon University 2014
 - Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

Research Interests

- Political violence, civil wars, international security, militant leaders, extra-lethal violence, proxy wars, discourse, gender and conflict, U.S. foreign policy, Middle East politics

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- (5) Nihad Aboud, Mark Berlin, Sam Biasi, and Tyler Parker, “[Frame Your Friends Close and Your Enemies Closer: How *al-Masra* Newspaper Imagines Individuals,](#)” *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression* (2023): 1-21.
- (4) Mark Berlin and Stephen Rangazas, “[Restrained Insurgents: Why Competition Between Armed Groups Doesn’t Always Produce Outbidding,](#)” *Texas National Security Review* 6, no. 4 (2023): 11-36.
- (3) Mark Berlin and Iris Malone, “[Go Arm Me: How Militant Fragmentation Affects External Support,](#)” *International Interactions* 49, no. 23 (2023): 1-30.
- (2) Mark Stephen Berlin and Anum Pasha Syed, “[The Middle East and North Africa in Political Science Scholarship: Analyzing Publication Patterns in Leading Journals, 1990-2019,](#)” *International Studies Review* (2022): 1-28.
- (1) Mark Berlin, Sam Biasi, and Tyler B. Parker, “[Jihadist Journalism: Exploring the Geographic Coverage of *al-Masra* Newspaper,](#)” *Terrorism and Political Violence* (2022): 1-21.

Public Scholarship

- (3) Mark Berlin, Sara Harmouch, and Vladimir Rauta, “[The Extremist Domino Effect of October 7,](#)” *Irregular Warfare Initiative*, November 14, 2023.

- (2) Nathan J. Brown and Mark Berlin, “[Steering the Wide Egyptian State: Ideology or Administration?](#)” *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace* (2022).
- (1) Mark Berlin, “[From Beijing to Jerusalem: Tourism and Israeli-Chinese Ties,](#)” CSIS Middle East Notes and Comment, *Center for Strategic and International Studies* (2017).

Articles in Progress

- Mark Berlin, “Pledging Allegiance to al-Qaeda and the Islamic State: Status, Leadership, and Rhetorical Cooperation” (dissertation research)
- Mark Berlin, “Why Armed Groups Behead: Evidence from the Jihadist Movement” (dissertation research)
- Sanjida Amin, Maria Amjad, Mark Berlin, Jared Pentz, and Regine Schwab, “Jihadism in Journals: Examining Trends in Scholarship on the Jihadist Movement, 2013-2022” (data collection phase)
- Mark Berlin and Stephen Rangazas, “Theorizing When Militants Turn to Extreme Violence” (data collection phase)
- Maria Amjad, Mark Berlin, Sara Harmouch, Julia Lodoen, Joshua Weiner, and Rithvik Yarlagaadda, “Biographies of Jihadist Leaders: Introducing a New Dataset” (data collection phase)

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- Civil War Paths Fellow, The Centre for the Comparative Study of Civil War 2023 - 2024
- International Studies Association Travel Grant 2023
- APSA – Comparative Politics Section Support Grant 2023
- Shirley H. and Robert L. Richards Scholarship, George Washington University 2023
- Dean’s Dissertation Completion Fellowship, George Washington University 2023
- University Fellowship, George Washington University 2022 - 2023
- Teaching Award, GWU Political Science Department 2022
- International Studies Association – Midwest Travel Grant 2022
- Presidential Merit Research Assistantship, George Washington University 2020 - 2022
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Morocco 2019
- Presidential Merit Research Assistantship and University Fellowship, George Washington University 2018 - 2020
- Summer Arabic Language Award, Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center 2018
- Merit-Based Graduate Scholarship, Georgetown University 2017 - 2018
- Ibn Battuta Scholarship for Summer Language Study (*declined*) 2014
- Athletic Scholarship, Men’s Soccer, Elon University 2010 - 2013
- Southern Conference All-Academic Athletic Team 2010, 2012, 2013

Teaching

- Instructor of Record, George Washington University 2023
 - PSC2993: Political Violence and the Jihadist Movement
 - Assessment of instructor: 5/5 (24 respondents)
- Instructor of Record, George Washington University 2022
 - PSC2993: Political Violence in the Middle East

- Awarded best class taught by a political science graduate student
- Assessment of instructor: 4.8/5 (22 respondents)
- English Language Teacher, The Excellence Center – Hebron 2014

Conference Presentations

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2023
 - Panel: Actors and Strategies of Violence in the Middle East
- International Studies Association Annual Meeting 2021, 2023
 - Panel: Terrorism and Counterterrorism in Africa
 - Panel: Variation in Terrorist Attacks and Tactics
- International Studies Association – Midwest 2022
 - Panel: Terrorists’ Targeting Decisions
 - Panel: Alliances (discussant)
- International Studies Association – Security Studies Section 2021
 - Panel: Human Security in Civil War
- Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2020, 2021
 - Panel: New Directions in the Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
 - Panel: Understanding Terrorism
- Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Student Conference 2019, 2021, 2022
 - Panel: Technology’s Role in the Changing Global Political Landscape (discussant)
 - Panel: Domestic and Foreign Policy Issues in the Middle East (discussant)
 - Panel: International Relations/Comparative Politics (discussant)

Workshop Presentations

- Comparative Politics Series, George Washington University (discussant) 2023
- Institute for Security and Conflict, George Washington University (discussant) 2022
- Junior Scholars in International Security 2022
- Institute for Security and Conflict, George Washington University 2021
- Comparative Politics Series, George Washington University 2019
- Institute for Middle East Studies, George Washington University 2019

Invited Talks

- The Modern Middle East, Baylor University (undergraduate) 2023
- International Relations of the Middle East, Georgetown University (graduate) 2022
- Young Women’s Peacebuilding Fellowship 2022
- Social Movements, George Washington University (graduate) 2022
- The Middle East, Baylor University (undergraduate) 2021
- History of the Modern Middle East, Baylor University (undergraduate) 2020

Research Support

- Research Assistant, Janet Lewis 2022
- Research Assistant, Iris Malone 2021
- Research Assistant, Nathan Brown 2018 - 2021
- Research Intern, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) 2017

Training

- New Era Workshop, Bridging the Gap 2022
- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research 2021

Intensive Arabic Language Study

- Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center, Morocco 2019
- Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center, Washington D.C. 2018
- Saifi Arabic Language Institute, Lebanon 2016
- Qasid Arabic Language Center, Jordan 2016
- Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center, Morocco 2014
- The Center for International Learning, Oman 2013

Service

- Graduate Student Mentor 2020 - 2021, 2022 - 2023
- George Washington University Graduate Student Caucus, Secretary of Policy 2020 - 21
- George Washington University Graduate Student Caucus, CP Representative 2019 - 20
- Graduate Student Symposium Organizer, Institute for Middle East Studies 2019
- Georgetown School of Foreign Service Graduate Council 2017 - 18

References

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