

Curtis Bell, Ph.D.

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Last Updated: DECEMBER 2021

RELEVANT WORK HISTORY

U.S. Naval War College

Associate Professor of Maritime Security and Governance JAN 2021 - PRESENT
Co-Director, Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course

- Co-designing the new Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course (MSGSC).
- Leading curriculum development and course assessment
- Assisting with international engagements for the International Programs department.
- Producing academic and non-academic maritime security and governance research.

Stable Seas Program, One Earth Future

Director DEC 2018 - JAN 2021
Acting Director OCT 2017 - DEC 2018

- Designed, created, and scaled a new and impactful global research NGO.
- Conceptualized and produced the *Maritime Security Index* and *Violence at Sea Maritime Terrorism Atlas*.
- Led a global team of up to nine researchers and veterans on complex maritime security projects.
- Managed an annual budget of ~\$1 million with direct reports spread across 14 time zones and four continents.
- Advised the United Nations (UNODC), African Union, International Maritime Organization, and others.
- Supervised and intentionally recruited a diverse team that represented the regions where we worked.
- Traveled to brief senior political and military leaders of more than 50 countries.
- Worked with foreign governments to advance multilateral maritime security strategies in the Gulf of Guinea, Indian Ocean, Caribbean, and Indo-Pacific.

Research Department, One Earth Future

Associate Director of Research NOV 2017 - DEC 2018
Senior Research Associate MAR 2017 - NOV 2017
Research Associate JUL 2015 - MAR 2017

- Designed and built an innovative political event forecasting system that has appeared on the cover of *The Economist*, in the *New York Times*, and elsewhere.
- Authored academic research, popular pieces, and policy briefs, on the politics of fragile states.
- Supervised political conflict researchers ranging from interns to recent PhDs.
- Promoted quickly as research projects gained international traction.

University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Assistant Professor of Political Science JUL 2012 - MAY 2016

- Published peer-reviewed research on international security, political violence, democracy, and international development at leading academic journals.
- Demonstrated proficiency in a wide range of quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Taught hundreds of BA, MA, and PHD students in classes of 5 to 200 students.
- Recognized for excellent course design and evaluations that placed me above 90th percentile of instructors.

EDUCATION

PH.D. in Political Science

University of Colorado at Boulder

MAY 2011

M.A. in Political Science

University of Colorado at Boulder

MAY 2008

B.A. in Politics (with Honors)

Willamette University

MAY 2005

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Non-Resident Fellow

Brute Krulak Center for Innovation and Creativity, Marine Corps University

2020 - PRESENT

Research Fellow

Security Institute for Security and Governance in Africa (SIGLA), Stellenbosch University

2019 - PRESENT

Expert & Network Member

Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime

2018 - PRESENT

ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Substantive Areas of Expertise

maritime security and governance, terrorism, insurgency, democratic backsliding, authoritarian politics, political risk forecasting and early warning systems, African politics, transnational organized crime, coups d'état

Additional Training

project management, remote staff management, workplace diversity and inclusion, gender mainstreaming

Research Methodologies and Proficiencies

Quantitative research methods, including: regression, generalized linear models, survival models, time-series cross-sectional analysis, machine learning, event forecasting, survey design, and multidimensional scaling

Large dataset creation, cleaning, documentation, visualization, and maintenance; supervision of large and diverse teams of coders, checkers, analysts, developers, designers, and communications specialists

Best practices related to research design and ethics, treatment of human subjects, and replicability/transparency

International Experience

Since 2017 I have done field research and/or given invited talks to political, military, and maritime industry audiences in Argentina, the United Kingdom, Malta, Egypt, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Seychelles, South Africa, Gabon, Nigeria, Cambodia, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Level (University of Tennessee & University of Colorado)

Introduction to International Relations, Problems in International Relations, African Politics, International Organization, Civil War and Ethnic Conflict

Graduate Level (University of Tennessee)

International Relations Field Seminar, Civil War and Ethnic Conflict, Interstate Conflict Processes

Professional Military Education (U.S. Naval War College)

Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Major Stable Seas Publications (Authored and Managed)

- [*Pirates of the Gulf of Guinea: A Cost Analysis for Coastal States*](#). Published by Stable Seas. 2021. Lead Author. Authored with Jay Benson, Jon Huggins, Lydelle Joubert, Ifesinachi Okafor-Yarwood, and Tarila Marclint Ebiede.
- [*Violence at Sea: How Terrorists, Insurgents, and Other Extremists Exploit the Maritime Domain*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2020. Authored with Christopher Faulkner (University of Central Florida) and Meghan Curran, Tyler Lycan, Michael Van Ginkel, and Jay Benson (all of Stable Seas).
- [*Stable Seas: The Caribbean*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. Forthcoming in 2020. Authored with Ian Ralby (I.R. Consilium) and Laura Burroughs and Lydelle Joubert (both of Stable Seas).
- [*Stable Seas: The Gulf of Guinea*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2020. Managed the Project. Authored by Team of Direct Reports.
- [*Stable Seas: The Bay of Bengal*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2020. Managed the Project. Authored by Team of Direct Reports.
- [*Stable Seas Maritime Security Index*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2018-2020. Lead Author and Project Creator. Codebook Authored with Sarah Glaser.
- [*Soft Targets and Black Markets: Terrorist Activities in the Maritime Domain*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2019. Managed the Project, Authored by Meghan Curran (Direct Report).
- [*Stable Seas: Sulu and Celebes Seas*](#). Published by Stable Seas, One Earth Future. 2019. Authored with Alexandra Amling, Asyura Salleh, Jay Benson, and Sean Duncan (all of Stable Seas).

Academic Peer-Reviewed Publications

- **"Oil Discoveries, Civil War, and Preventive State Repression."** Forthcoming in *Journal of Peace Research*. Authored with Peter Carey (University of California, Merced), Emily Ritter (Vanderbilt University), and Scott Wolford (University of Texas).
- **"ViEWS 2020: Revising and Evaluating the ViEWS Political Violence Early Warning System."** Forthcoming in *Journal of Peace Research*. Contributor.
- **"The Rise Predicts the Fall: How the Method of Leader Entry Predicts the Method of Leader Removal in Dictatorships."** 2018. Published in *International Studies Quarterly*. Authored with Jun Koga Sudduth (University of Strathclyde).
- **"Minority Languages in Dictatorships: A New Measure of Group Recognition."** 2018. Published in *Political Science Research and Methods*. Authored with Amy Liu (University of Texas) and Jennifer Gandhi (Emory University).
- **"Conditional Relationships Between Drought and Civil Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa."** 2018. Published in *Foreign Policy Analysis*. Authored with Patrick W. Keys (Colorado State University).
- **"Can the Red Queen Help? A New Approach to Explaining the Formation of Interest Groups in the USA."** 2018. Published in *Interest Groups & Advocacy*. Authored with Anthony J. Nownes (University of Tennessee).
- **"Coup d'Etat and Democracy."** 2016. Published in *Comparative Political Studies*. Author.
- **"The Causes and Outcomes of Coups During Civil Wars."** 2015. Published in *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. Authored with Jun Koga Sudduth (University of Strathclyde).
- **"Oil Discoveries, Shifting Power, and Civil Conflict."** 2015. Published in *International Studies Quarterly*. Authored with Scott Wolford (University of Texas).
- **"Buying Support and Buying Time: The Effect of Regime Consolidation on Public Goods Provision."** 2011. Published in *International Studies Quarterly*. Author.

Forecasting, Political Risk, and Leader Data Projects

- [*CoupCast: Forecasting Future Coups d'État*](#). 2016-Present. Published by One Earth Future. Project Creator and Lead Author (until 2018).
- [*REIGN: The Rulers, Elections, and Irregular Governance Dataset*](#). 2016-Present. Published by One Earth Future. Project Creator and Lead Author (until 2018).
- [*What Happens After Glass Ceilings Shatter? The Influence a First Female Leader Has on Women's Representation in Elected Offices*](#). 2016. Published by One Earth Future. Author.