

## **Jessica D. Blankshain**

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### **Academic Employment and Positions**

U.S. Naval War College, National Security Affairs Department  
Assistant Professor July 2014 – Present

### **Education**

Ph.D. Political Economy & Government, Harvard University, May 2014  
Dissertation: “Essays on Interservice Rivalry and Civil-Military Relations.”  
Committee: Daniel P. Carpenter (chair), Graham T. Allison, Martin Feldstein

B.S.E. Operations Research and Financial Engineering, Princeton University, June 2006  
*magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi  
Certificates in Finance, Engineering and Management Systems, and the Princeton  
School of Public and International Affairs

### **Books**

*Decision Making in American Foreign Policy: Translating Theory into Practice* (with  
Nikolas K. Gvosdev and David A. Cooper), Cambridge University Press, 2019.

### **Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters**

“Who has ‘Skin in the Game’? The Implications of an Operational Reserve for Civil-  
Military Relations,” in *Reconsidering American Civil-Military Relations: The Military,  
Society, Politics, and Modern War*, ed. Lionel Beehner, Risa Brooks, and Daniel Maurer,  
Oxford University Press, Forthcoming November 2020.

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

“[Applying Method to Madness: A User's Guide to Causal Inference in Policy Analysis](#)”  
(with Andrew L. Stigler), *Texas National Security Review*, 3 no. 3, Summer 2020.

“Bridging the *Other* Side of the Gap: Teaching ‘Practical Theory’ to Future Practitioners” (with David A. Cooper and Nikolas K. Gvosdev), *International Studies Perspectives*, Forthcoming.

### Invited or Editor-Reviewed Articles

[“A Primer on U.S. Civil-Military Relations for National Security Professionals,”](#) *Wild Blue Yonder*, 6 July 2020: 1-30.

[“Foreign Policy Decision-Making,”](#) in *Oxford Bibliographies in International Relations*, ed. Patrick James, 25 September, 2019. [peer-reviewed]

[“Deconstructing the ‘Deep State’: Subordinate Bureaucratic Politics in US National Security”](#) (with David A. Cooper and Nikolas K. Gvosdev), *Orbis*, 62(4), 2018.

[“Trump’s Generals: Mattis, McMaster, and Kelly,”](#) in Policy Roundtable “Civil-Military Relations Now and Tomorrow,” *Texas National Security Review*, 27 March, 2018.

### Working Papers

“Citizen-Soldiers: Mobilization, Cost Perceptions, & Support for Military Action” (with Lindsay P. Cohn and Douglas L. Kriner). *Preparing for submission*.

“I’m From the Government and I’m Here to Help: Public Perceptions of the Use of Coercive State Power” (with Lindsay Cohn and Danielle Lupton). *Survey instrument fielded July 2020*.

“Thank You For Your Service? Militaristic Framing and Public Support for COVID-19 Essential Workers” (with David Glick and Danielle Lupton). *Finalizing survey instrument*.

“Politicians in Robes, Politicians in Uniforms: Politics, Politicization, and Institutional Legitimacy” (with David Glick). *Finalizing survey instrument*.

“Called to Testify: Congressional Oversight of the Armed Forces” (with Derek S. Reveron). *Presented at APSA 2019*.

“Who Serves in the Reserves? The Puzzle of Shifting Perceptions of Reserve Component Mobilization” (with Lindsay P. Cohn). *Presented at APSA 2019*.

“Officers or Office Space? Perceptions of Military Professionalism by the Public” (with Doyle Hodges). *Presented at APSA 2019*.

## Commentary

[“This is the problem with calling it a ‘war’ against coronavirus”](#) (with Danielle Lupton), *Washington Post, The Monkey Cage Blog*, 20 April 2020.

[“Should Elected Officials Be Allowed to Serve in the Military? It's Complicated,”](#) Military.com, 8 March 2019.

[“Some thoughts on the problem of politicians in the National Guard”](#) (with Lindsay P. Cohn), foreignpolicy.com Best Defense Blog, 11 Dec 2014.

## Book Reviews

[Review of Michael C. Desch \*Cult of the Irrelevant: The Waning Influence of Social Science on National Security\* \(Princeton UP, 2019\)](#), in *The Strategy Bridge*, 20 November 2019.

[Review of Rachel Maddow \*Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power\* \(Crown, 2012\)](#), in *Armed Forces and Society*, 45(3), 2019.

[Review of Eliot A. Cohen \*The Big Stick: The Limits of Soft Power and the Necessity of Military Force\* \(Basic Books, 2016\)](#), in *Armed Forces and Society*, 44(2), 2018.

## Dissertation

*Essays on Interservice Rivalry and Civil-Military Relations.*

- 1) “A Bureaucratic Politics Theory of Civilian Control: Interservice Rivalry and the Revolt of the Admirals”
- 2) “A Two-Stage Model of Civilian Control in Use of Force Decisions.”
- 3) “Does Budget Pressure Increase Interservice Rivalry?”

## Naval War College Faculty Papers and Internal Publications

Contributions to *A Policy Analysis Reader*, 2017

Chapter I: “Being at the Table—The Policy Analysis Framework” (with Nikolas K. Gvosdev and Richard Norton)

Chapter II: “Foreign Policy Analysis: Five Analytical Perspectives” (with Nikolas K. Gvosdev)

Contributions to the *Navigating the Theater Security Enterprise* e-Textbook, 2017 (Nikolas K. Gvosdev, editor)

Chapter 1: “An Introduction to Theater Security Policy Analysis” (with Stephen K. Knott, Nikolas K. Gvosdev, and Andrew L. Stigler)

Chapter 2: “Introducing the Organizational Process Perspective” (with Nikolas K. Gvosdev)

### **Other**

“Abandonment of Drug Development in Regulatory Equilibrium: Estimates from Asset Price Shocks Induced by FDA Action” (with Daniel Carpenter, Susan Moffitt and Genevieve Pham-Kanter)

### **Invited Conference Participation and Talks**

Colgate University Political Science Department “Called to Testify: Congressional Oversight of the Armed Forces.” *Originally April 2020, postponed due to COVID-19.*

Catholic University Center for the Study of Statesmanship “All-Volunteer Force Forum.” *Originally April 2020, postponed due to COVID-19.*

Young Turks Civil-Military Relations Workshop. Invited participant. Nov 2019.

Texas National Security Review Workshop. Invited “rising scholar” participant, presented research ideas to panel of senior scholars. April 2018.

Modern War Institute War Studies Conference, United States Military Academy. Invited member of panel titled “A Hammer in Search of a Nail? A discussion on the US Military’s Overextension.” March 2018.

Women, Peace & Security Conference, U.S. Naval War College. Invited moderator of panel titled “Media and Film Promoting the Power of Women.” August 2017.

Senior Conference 53, United States Military Academy. Invited participant. April 2017.

Senior Conference 52, United States Military Academy. Invited participant. April 2016.

Young Turks Civil-Military Conference. Invited participant, presented work on a bureaucratic politics theory of interservice rivalry and U.S. civil-military relations. Duke University. May 2015.

### **Conference Participation**

American Political Science Association, September 2019  
Three paper presentations (one as presenter, two as co-author)

International Studies Association, April 2018  
Paper presentation

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Biennial Conference, Nov 2017  
Paper presentation

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Canada, Oct 2016  
Paper presentation

Midwest Political Science Association, April 2016  
Two paper presentations; Panel discussant

International Studies Association, March 2016  
Paper presentation

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Biennial Conference, Nov 2015  
Paper presentation

American Political Science Association, Sep 2015  
Paper presentation

Midwest Political Science Association, April 2015  
Poster session discussant

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Biennial Conference, Oct 2013  
Paper presentation

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Biennial Conference, Oct 2011  
Panel discussant

### **Academic Awards and Fellowships**

Naval War College Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2020

Graduate Fellow, *The Rumsfeld Foundation*, 2013 – 2014 academic year, 2011 – 2012 academic year

Predocutorial Research Fellow, *Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs International Security Program*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2012 – 2013 academic year

Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching for Ec 970: Sophomore Tutorial: Economics of National Security, Spring 2012 and Spring 2011

### **Current and Recent Teaching and Advising**

Dissertation committee member (outside reader) for Thomas Spolizino at the University of Central Florida, Summer 2020 – Present

*At the U.S. Naval War College*

Policy Analysis, Theater Security Decision Making – Fall 2020

*An introductory-level US foreign policy/foreign policy analysis course taught as part of the National Security Affairs Department's regionally-focused security studies survey course*

Policy Analysis, National Security Decision Making – Winter 2019-20, '18-19, '17-18, '16-17, '15-16, '14-15

*An introductory-level US foreign policy/foreign policy analysis course taught as part of the National Security Affairs Department's security studies survey course*

Civil-Military Relations – Winter 2019-20, '18-19, '17-18, '16-17, '15-16; Spring 2015  
(all with Lindsay Cohn)

*A ten-week seminar developed by the instructors*

Decision Making, Theater Security Decision Making – Fall 2018

*An introductory-level individual and organizational decision-making course taught as part of the National Security Affairs Department's regionally-focused security studies survey course*

Leadership Concepts, Theater Security Decision Making – Fall 2017, 2016, 2015

*A leadership studies survey course taught as part of the National Security Affairs Department's regionally-focused security studies survey course*

Central Challenges of American National Security – Spring 2017; Spring 2016 (former with Sean Rich)

*A ten-week seminar developed by the instructors*

*At Boston University*

PO 520: Readings in Public Policy – Spring 2018

Topic: The Politics of National Security—Theory and Practice

*An undergraduate seminar in the political science department*

**Previous Teaching and Advising Experience**

Senior Resident Tutor, Fall 2012 – Spring 2014, Harvard College Mather House

Resident Tutor, Fall 2010 – Spring 2014, Harvard College Mather House

Teaching Fellow, Fall 2013, Harvard Kennedy School IGA-211/Faculty of Arts and Sciences Gov 1796 Central Challenges of American National Security, Strategy, and the Press (Head Instructors: Graham Allison, David Sanger, Derek Reveron)

Mentor, Mentoring in American Politics and Society, Harvard University Center for American Political Studies, Fall 2013

Head Course Assistant, Fall 2012 and Fall 2011, Harvard Kennedy School IGA-211/  
Faculty of Arts and Sciences Gov 1796 Central Challenges of American National  
Security, Strategy, and the Press (Head Instructors: Graham Allison, David Sanger)

Senior Thesis Adviser Fall 2011 – Spring 2012

Supervised two senior theses in the government department, including Sara  
Plana’s Hoopes Prize-winning project, “Civil-Military Criminals: An Analysis of  
Wartime and Postwar Violence Variation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, and  
Serbia”

Tutorial Leader, Spring 2012 and Spring 2011, Harvard College Ec 970 Sophomore  
Tutorial: Economics of National Security (Tutorial Program Supervisor: Jeffrey Miron)

Course Assistant, Fall 2010, Harvard Kennedy School IGA-201/Faculty of Arts and  
Sciences Gov 2790 Central Challenges of American National Security, Strategy, and the  
Press (Head Instructors: Graham Allison, David Sanger)

Teaching Fellow, Spring 2010, Harvard College Gov 1521 Bureaucratic Politics:  
Government, Economic, Social, and Military Organizations (Head Instructor: Dan  
Carpenter)

### **Selected Service**

To Institution

Coordinator, National Security Affairs Department Postdoctoral Fellows Program, July  
2017 – Present

Search Committee Member, Postdoctoral Fellow, Spring 2020 and Spring 2017

Issues in National Security series lecture on civil-military relations (with Lindsay Cohn),  
2017 – 2019

To Discipline

Reviewer for *American Political Science Review*; *Politics & Religion*; *Naval War  
College Review*.

### **Other Employment**

Associate Consultant, The Boston Consulting Group, September 2006 – July 2008