

# NAUNIHAL SINGH, Ph.D.

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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

### **Naval War College, Newport, RI**

Department of National Security Affairs  
Assistant Professor, 2016 - Present

### **Air War College, Montgomery, AL**

Department of International Security Studies  
Assistant Professor, Summer 2013 – 2016

### **University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN**

Department of Political Science  
Assistant Professor, Fall 2005 - Spring 2013  
Instructor, Spring 2004 - Spring 2005

## EDUCATION

### **Harvard University, Cambridge, MA**

Government Department, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Ph.D. in Political Science, October 2005, GPA: 3.85

Dissertation: *Making Facts: A theory of coup dynamics and outcomes*

Committee: Professors Robert Bates (Chair), Samuel Huntington, Jorge Dominguez, Bear Braumoeller

M.A. in Political Science, June 1997

Concentrations in Political Conflict, Comparative Politics, and International Relations

### **Yale University, New Haven, CT**

B.A./B.S. in Political Science and Computer Science, 1992

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- Seizing Power: The Strategic Logic of Military Coups, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- “Whose news do you trust? Explaining trust in private versus public media in Africa.” *Political Research Quarterly*, 2009

### Book Reviews

- Singh, Naunihal. 2018. Soldiers in Revolt: Army Mutinies in Africa. *The Journal of Modern African Studies*. 348-349
- Singh, Naunihal. 2006. Mexico's Military on the Democratic Stage. *Political Science Quarterly* 121:540.

### Research Reports

- Civil Military Relations in Ghana. 2001. CDD-Ghana Research Paper, no. 8. Accra, Ghana: The Center for Democracy and Development - Ghana. ISBN: 9988-8050-0-4.

### Software

- Honaker, James, Anne Joseph, Gary King, Kenneth Scheve, and Naunihal Singh. 1999. *Amelia: A Program for Missing Data (Windows version)* Cambridge, MA: Harvard University, <http://GKing.Harvard.edu/>

### General Interest Publications

- [Generals overthrew Sudan's president, Bashir, but they can't agree on what comes next.](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, April 16, 2019
- [Steven Bannon is wrong. The White House 'resistance' is the opposite of a coup.](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, September 11, 2018
- [What 'Black Panther's' Wakanda can teach us about Africa's history – and its future.](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, February 28, 2018
- Is Zimbabwe ready to move on without Mugabe? Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, November 18, 2017
- [Can Burkina Faso – Africa's most coup-prone state – become a stable democracy?](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, September 21, 2015
- [#BlackLivesMatter, the international papal edition](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, April 23, 2015
- [Why popular opinion can't predict a coup](#) Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog, September 15, 2014
- [How To Bring Back The Nigerian Schoolgirls, Three Months On](#) The New Yorker Online, July 10, 2014
- [Egypt's Ordinary Coup](#) The New Yorker Online, July 18, 2013

- [White Smoke And A Black Pope: Is Turkson The Church's Future?](#) The New Yorker Online, February 26, 2013
- [An American Tragedy](#) The New Yorker Online, August 13, 2012

### **Current Projects**

- Chapter in the “Oxford Encyclopedia of the Military in Politics”
- Journal article, “Sikhs in the US military: a study of changing understandings of unit cohesion and uniformity” to be submitted to *Armed Forces and Society*
- Book project on changes in US foreign policy towards Africa since the end of the Cold War

### **Grants, Fellowships AND academic honors:**

- Air War College Lecture Award
- Minerva R-Def Auxiliary Grant for \$10,000 (2016)
- Minerva R-Def Grant for \$25,000 (2014)
- Kellogg Institute Faculty Residential Fellowship (Fall 2008)
- Kellogg Faculty Fellows Grant for \$8,289 (summer 2008)
- Kellogg Faculty Fellows Grant for \$6,130 (summer 2006)
- Kroc Faculty Fellows Grant for \$2,500 (summer 2007)
- Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associate (2001 – 2003)
- Institute for the Study of World Politics Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (2001)
- John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies National Security Fellowship (2000 – 2001)
- Social Science Research Council International Predissertation Fellowship (1999 – 2000)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Competition, Honorable Mention (1996)
- Distinction in Political Science (Yale) - Thesis written under the direction of Prof. Robert Dahl.
- Cum Laude (Yale 1992)
- Tau Beta Pi ( $\tau\beta\pi$ ) – Inducted into the National Engineering Honors Society (1991)
- E. Francis Riggs Prize in the Humanities (Yale 1989)

## **SELECTED MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS**

### **Television /Radio / Podcasts**

- [The Center for Strategic and International Studies' Into Africa Podcast: Updating the Coup Playbook](#)
- [Trump and Africa: Rex Tillerson tours the continent](#) on France24 TV
- [The Lawfare Podcast: Naunihal Singh on Zimbabwe and the Strategic Logic of Military Coups](#)

## Articles about my research / Articles with interviews with me

- [What Makes a Coup Succeed? Confidence, Consensus and a Sense of Inevitability](#), Max Fisher, The New York Times, May 2, 2019
- [Guaidó Is Stumbling Toward a Coup](#), Jefcoate O'Donnell, Foreign Policy, April 30, 2019

## PRESENTATIONS

### Invited Academic Talks and Presentations

- Talks to DIA Africa analysts (2018) and NIC (2019) on civil-military relations
- Air War College, 2019. Lecture on Public Diplomacy to entire student body.
- Air War College, 2018 & 2019. Lecture on Statebuilding to entire student body.
- Invited remarks at workshop on “Establishing Order” organized by Yale University and Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey on July 17th and 18th 2010
- Yale University Comparative Politics Workshop, New Haven CT November 3, 2009
- Invited remarks at the Conference on the Evolution of African Militaries, U.S. Africa Command Garmisch, Germany (2009) organized by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, National Intelligence Council, U.S. Department of State
- Guest Lecture, “Origins of Peace and Conflict in Modern Africa”, Boston University History 292, Boston (2003)
- Instructor, Higher Defense Management Briefing (Freetown, Sierra Leone) (2000)
- Guest lecturer, “The Military in Ghanaian History”, University of Ghana, Legon (2000)

### Conference Presentations

#### “Regulating the mobile miracle in Africa”

- 2015 American Political Science Association Conference
- 2015 Midwest Political Science Association Conference

#### “Civil-Military Relations, State Weakness and Civil Wars in Africa”

- 2011 American Political Science Association Conference
- 2008 American Political Science Association Conference
- Presentation at the Kellogg Institute, January 30, 2007
- 2007 Midwest Political Science Association Conference
- 2006 Midwest Political Science Association Conference

#### “The Ballot Box and the Banker’s Vault: explaining campaign finance regulation”

- 2011 Midwest Political Science Association Conference
- 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Conference

“Measuring The Domino Effect” (with Tim Carter)

- Presentation at the Kellogg Institute, April 27, 2006
- Peace Science Society (International) 2006 North American Meeting, Columbus OH
- 2006 Midwest Political Science Association Conference
- 2005 American Political Science Association Conference

“Seizure of power: why some military coups d'etat fail while others succeed,”

- Yale University Comparative Politics Workshop, New Haven CT November 3, 2009
- Presentation at the Kellogg Institute, October 2009
- 2009 American Political Science Association Conference
- 2009 Midwest Political Science Association Conference

“Don't Change That Dial: Citizen Trust of Public Versus Private Media in Africa” (with Devra Moehler)

- 2006 American Political Science Association Conference
- 2006 African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco CA

“Airtime for the Opposition: The Determinants of Party and Candidate Access to the Mass Media in Latin America and Africa” (with Alejandro Poire)

- 2006 American Political Science Association Conference

“Effects of Differing Patterns of Media Ownership in Africa”

- Workshop on the Media and Politics in Africa, Cornell University

“The Failed Soviet Coup Attempt of 1991”

- 2005 American Political Science Association Conference

“Do Failed Coups Affect Regime Stability?”

- 2005 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Comparative Politics (Transitions to Democracy) Section – Paper was nominated for the Robert H. Durr Award for the "best paper applying quantitative methods to a substantive problem in political science"

“Making Facts: Understanding Coup Dynamics and Outcomes”

- 2003 International Political Science Association Conference, Durban South Africa
- 2002 American Political Science Association Conference, Comparative Politics Section
- 2002 African Studies Association Conference

“Strategic Dynamics of Attempted Coups d'Etat”

- 2002 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Formal Models Section

“High noon in Africa: collective action and coup outcomes / dynamics”

- 2001 American Political Science Association Conference, International Security Section
- 2001 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Comparative Politics Section

## “Democracy and Human Rights”

- 1999 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Methods Section

## TEACHING

### Courses Taught at the Naval War College:

- TSDM Strategy (AY18, AY17)
- NSDM Policy (AY18, AY17)
- Elective: China and Africa (AY18)

### Courses Taught at the Air War College

- National Security and Decision Making (AY16, AY15, AY14)
- Global Security (AY16, AY15, AY14)
- Elective, War and Society in Post-War America (AY16, AY17), Research in Military History (AY15, as a two term elective)
- Regional and Cultural Studies, West Africa (AY16), Southern Africa (AY15), East Africa (AY14)

### Professional Studies Papers Supervised

- AY16. Lt. Col. Keith I. Crawford, United States Special Operation Forces in Africa
- AY16. Col. Robert A. Sylvester, The Importance of Building Trust Between The Nigerian Government and Northeastern Nigerians in Defeating Boko Haram
- AY16. Col. Jeremy S. Weber, The Disorderly, Undisciplined State Of The “Good Order And Discipline” Term (Commandant's award; Research Excellence Award reward)
- AY15. Lt. Col. Yancey S. Cowen, Brigadier General Donald R. Flickinger: Eclipsed Pioneer
- AY15. Col. Kathleen Jones, Moral Injury: A House Divided
- AY15. Lt. Col. Steven E. Lang, Recruiting Trip Wires: Reducing Risk Using Lessons From The Past
- AY15. Lt. Col. Julie R. Ostrand, Gender Differences In Combat Exposure And PTSD In Military Members Returning From OEF/OIF
- AY 14. Lt. Col. Dawn Alonso, Free Internet And Social Media: A Dual-Edged Sword (award winner)

### Courses Taught at Notre Dame

Average evaluation: 4.6 out of 5 (new evaluation system) and 3.72 out of 4 (older system)

- Introduction to Comparative Politics TCE scores: 3.95 (Fall 04); 3.89 (Spring 05). 3.7 (Spring 06)
- Democracy, Development and Conflict in Africa (300 level) TCE scores: 3.67 (Fall 04); 3.32 (Fall 05); 3.72 (Fall 06); 3.83 (Spring 08)
- Democracy, Development and Conflict in Africa (300 level) CIF scores: 4.5 (Spring 2010); 4.5 (Spring 2012)
- Aid & Development CIF scores: 4.8 (Spring 2010); 4.5 (Spring 2012)

- Aid & Development TCE scores: 3.85 (Spring 07); 3.6 (Spring 08)
- Theories of Civil War TCE scores: 3.8 (Spring 07); 3.73 (Fall 07)
- Theories of Civil War CIF scores: 4.7 (Fall 2009); 4.7 (Fall 2011)
- Studying Genocide (Senior Seminar) TCE scores: 3.6 (Fall 06)
- Studying Genocide (University Seminar / Freshmen) TCE scores: 3.7 (Fall 07)
- Studying Genocide (University Seminar / Freshmen) CIF scores: : 4.8 (Fall 2009); 4.6 (Fall 2011)
- Introduction to Game Theory (Senior Seminar) TCE scores: 3.73 (Spring 04); 3.49 (Fall 05)
- Armies and Politics (Graduate Seminar) TCE scores: 4.0 (Spring 04); 3.7 (Spring 06)
- 3 directed readings with 2 graduate students each
- Advised senior theses for Cassidy Blair (2009-10), Colleen Moran (2009-10), Katherine Cessar (2011-12), Lily Hough (2011-12)
- On dissertation committees for Stephanie Ahern (defended 08), Ozlem Kayhan (defended 09), Kunle Owalabi (ABD), Andy Bramsen (ABD), Javier Osorio (ABD) and Chris Sullivan (ABD). Participated in proposal defenses for Linda McCabe and John Stringer.

## **SERVICE**

### **Service to the profession:**

- External reviewer for American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, International Studies Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, Comparative Political Studies, Security Studies, Journal of Race Ethnicity and Politics, Journal of Global Security Studies, European Journal of International Relations

### **US Naval War College**

- Faculty Senate (2019- present)
- Judge CJCS/SECDEF Essay competition (2018,2019)

### **Service to previous institutions**

- Academic Prep Week working group, Air War College, Air University (AY16, AY17)
- Air University Press Editorial Board (AY16, AY17)
- Air War College DEI Departmental Search Committee (AY17)
- Air War College Grand Strategy Program Comps panel member (AY14, AY15, AY16)
- Air War College Language Class Coordinator (AY16, AY17)
- Air War College Electives Committee (AY16)
- Air War College PSP Awards Committee (AY14, Y15)
- Advisor Notre Dame undergraduate group "International Development Research Council" (2009- present)
- Book Review Editor, American Political Science Association Comparative Politics Newsletter (2004 - 2009)
- Co-Coordinator, Notre Dame Africa Working Group (2007-2009)
- Member, IR Faculty Search Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2009)

- Member, Mission, Diversity & Target of Opportunity Search Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2007-2008)
- Member, American Politics Faculty Search Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2007-2008)
- Member, Graduate Policy Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2007-2008, 2011-12)
- Member, Kellogg Center Grants Committee, Notre Dame University (2006-2008)
- Member, IR Faculty Search Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2006)
- Member, Kroc Center Admissions Committee, Notre Dame University (2005-2009)
- Member, Notre Dame Political Science Publicity Committee (2005 - 2006)
- Member, Graduate Policy Committee, Notre Dame Political Science Department (2004-2005)
- Member, Methodology Faculty Search Committee, Notre Dame Political Science (2004)
- Graduate Student Representative, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Executive Committee, Harvard University (2002-2003)
- Executive Secretary of the Harvard-MIT Joint Faculty Seminar on Political Development (2001-2002)
- Coordinator, Harvard Comparative Politics Seminar, Government Department (2001 - 2002)
- Organizer, African Studies Association panel on “Evolving Civil-Military Relations in Africa” (2002)
- Organizer, APSA panel on “New Currents in Civil-Military Relations” (2001)
- Member, Graduate Student Advisory Committee, Government Department (1998 - 1999)