

LAURA D. YOUNG

Curriculum Vitae

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Purdue University, Department of Political Science
Beering Hall of Liberal Arts & Education
100 N. University Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907

Telephone: 901-270-7993

Email: ldyoung@purdue.edu

Website: <http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~ldyoung/index.html>

EDUCATION

2013, Ph.D., Political Science, Purdue University

2008, MA, Political Science

1998, BA, International Studies – American Foreign Policy, University of Memphis

Major Fields: International Relations: Security Studies, U.S. Foreign Policy

Dissertation Title: “The Evolution of Society and the Modern State”

Advisor: Dr. Daniel Aldrich, Chair

Abstract: Scholars agree the modern territorial state first appeared in Europe despite man's origins in Africa. Why societies in Europe first developed high capacity political organizations remains a critical question for social science to answer. Doing so provides clues as to why Europe dominated the international system for most of the modern era and why states in Africa failed to develop political organizations with the same capacity. Qualitative case studies and quantitative results confirm states with the greatest capacity formed in the areas that faced the harshest environmental conditions and, thus the gravest threat from issues of competition and scarcity. Evolving societies expanded beyond the safety of their initial buffer zones and began closer contact with rivals. Increased contact typically resulted in war, which in turn increased the need for an administration with the capacity to ensure survival. The modern territorial state emerged as the most efficient organizational structure for achieving this goal. Resource abundant areas, on the other hand, escaped this cycle of interaction, decreasing the frequency of war significantly. Under such conditions, states either failed to form until foreign intervention or formed with little institutional capacity. The findings not only give us insight into the evolution of society and the modern territorial state but also provide state builders with concrete policies to help increase institutional capacity in semi-sovereign nations. Additionally, it demonstrates a link exists between resource scarcity and conflict adding credence to claims regarding the importance of achieving sustainability.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS/EMPLOYMENT

2013 - Present Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Purdue University

PUBLICATIONS

2013, “Unilateral Presidential Policy Making and the Impact of Crises.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly*. (June) 43:2, 327-351.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2013 Associate Fellow, Teaching Academy, Purdue University
- 2013 Committee for the Education of Teaching Assistants Award
- 2012 Outstanding Independent Instructor Award

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2012 Purdue Research Fellowship Summer Research Grant

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2013, “Presidential Rhetoric and Unilateral Power,” Northeast Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Delaware, November 15.
- 2013, “Let’s Talk Crisis,” APSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 30.
- 2013, “Making the Most out of Disasters: The Power of Presidential Disaster Declarations,” APSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 29.
- 2011, “Economic Crises and Changing Trade Preferences,” MPSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 31-April 3.
- 2010, “Unilateral Presidential Policymaking and the Impact of Crises: An Examination of the Rise of Neo-Conservatism after September 11,” MPSA Annual Meeting, Chicago

CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2014, “The Research Journey,” Phi Sigma Alpha, Purdue University, October 2.
- 2014, “Environmental Policy and Sustainable Communities,” Environmental and Ecological Engineering, Purdue University, April 18 and 20.
- 2014, Panel Discussant, *Pandora’s Promise*, Purdue American Nuclear Society, Purdue University, March 25.
- 2013, “How the Environment Shaped the Modern State System,” Political Science and Law Society, Purdue University, Nov. 7.
- 2013, “Competition-Scarcity: Then & Now,” Purdue Environmental Science Club, Purdue University, Sept. 26.
- 2013, “Graduate Student Professionalization,” Department of Political Science, Purdue University, April 29.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2014 Advisor, Student Sustainability Council, Purdue University
- 2014 Advisor, Environmental Policy Think Tank, Purdue University

2014 Faculty Fellow, Residential Life, Purdue University
 2014 Committee Member, *Ethel Documentarian*, Office of University Sustainability, Purdue, University
 2014 Judge, “Effective Interdisciplinary Communication Symposium,” *Ecological and Sustainable Engineering*, Purdue University
 2011, 2013, 2014 Learning Community, Purdue University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer – Purdue University

Global Green Politics	2013 - 2014
Directed Readings: Comparative Domestic Water Management Policy	2014
Introduction to Environmental Policy	2011 - 2014
Introduction to International Relations	2013
Communicating Technical Information	2013
Undergraduate Research Experience	2012
Fundamentals of Public Speaking	2010 - 2014
Introduction to Public Policy	2010

Distance Learning Courses

Global Green Politics	2014
Introduction to Environmental Policy	2013-2014

Honors Courses

Honor’s Contract Research Project: The Environment: Casualty of War	2014
Introduction to Environmental Policy	2014
Fundamentals of Public Speaking	2014

Instructor, Johns Hopkins’ University – Center for Talented Youth

Global Politics: Human Rights and Justice	2009-2014
International Politics	2012

Teaching Assistant, Purdue University

Introduction to International Relations	2008 - 2010
Environmental Policy	2009

Instructor, DeNeuille Learning Center

History	1996
Microsoft Office Certification	1996

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2009 International Disasters Project, PI: Daniel Aldrich, Purdue University

2009 Multilateral Agreement Negotiations, PI: Nicole Simoneli, NYU

WORKSHOPS AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING

The Student Activities and Organizations Office (SAO)

2014 Student Advisor Training

The Sloan Consortium

2013 New to Online: The Essentials Certification

Purdue Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE) Certification

2013 Graduate Teacher Certification

Purdue Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE) College Teaching Workshops

2012 Teaching with Intention

2010 Classroom Observation, Consultation, and Self-Analysis

2008 Teaching Ethics, Diversity, and Effective Teaching Strategies

2008 Teaching Ethics and Expectations

2008 Giving Students Feedback

Departmental Workshops and Professionalization

2013 Effective On-line teaching: Strategies for a successful course

2010 Effective Strategies for Structuring New Courses

2010 Micro-Teaching Evaluation

2010 Effective Grading Strategies

2009 Strategies for working with Gifted and 'Twice-Exceptional' Students

METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

STATA, SPSS, Multivariate regression analysis, negative binomial, logit/mlogit and probit models, time series and panel data, content analysis, and qualitative comparative case studies. I also have considerable experience working with undergraduates as research assistants or through independent study.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2006 – Present American Political Science Association

2010 – Present Midwest Political Science Association

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

1998-2008 Litigation Paralegal, Davis Law Firm, P.C., Memphis, Tennessee

REFERENCES

Dr. Daniel Aldrich
Purdue University
Department of Political Science
Beering Hall of Liberal Arts
100 N. University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: (765) 494-4190
Fax: (765) 494-0833
daniel.aldrich@gmail.com

Dr. Aaron Hoffman
Purdue University
Department of Political Science
100 N. University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: (765) 494-4190
ahoffman@purdue.edu

Dr. Mathias Kaelberer
University of Memphis
Department of Political Science
423 Clement Hall
Memphis, TN 38152
Phone: (901) 678-4879
mkaelbrr@memphis.edu

Teaching References:

Dr. Bert Rockman
Purdue University
Department of Political Science
100 N. University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: (765) 494-4190
barockma@purdue.edu

Dr. Rosalee Clawson
Purdue University
Department of Political Science
100 N. University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: (765) 494-4190
clawsonr@purdue.edu