

Zuhaib S. Mahmood

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Education

Michigan State University

Ph.D., Political Science, (ABD).

Major Field: International Relations

Minor Field: Comparative Politics

Dissertation committee: Benjamin Appel (MSU; Chair); Michael Colaresi (Univ. Pittsburgh; co-chair); Christina Bodea (MSU); Robert Trager (UCLA); Shahryar Minhas (MSU)

Dissertation (ongoing): Communication of state interests via foreign policy speech: With application to the United Nations.

Graduate Certificate in Computational Modeling, Pending

Requirements completed: Spring 2017 (final paperwork pending)

Department of Computational Math, Science, and Engineering (CMSE)

M.A., Political Science, 2015.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

B.A. Political Science (*major*); Chemistry (*minor*). 2012.

Interests

Substantive

International conflict and cooperation; International diplomacy; The United Nations; International politics of civil wars

Methodological

Text-as-data/Text analysis (unstructured and structured); computational social science; forecasting and machine learning; Data visualization; Bayesian statistics

Formal Training

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

Empirical Modeling for Theory Evaluation; Advanced Game Theory (2014)

Intro Spatial Modeling (5-day workshop, 2015)

Bayesian Modeling for the Social Sciences (I: Introduction; II: Advanced) (2017)

Software Carpentry

Certified Instructor, March 2017.

Technical Skills

R; L^AT_EX; Python; bash; STATA; JAGS

Publications

Peer-Reviewed

- Colaresi, Michael & Mahmood, Zuhaib. 2017. "Do the robot: Lessons from machine learning to improve conflict forecasts." *Journal of Peace Research*. 54(2). 193-214.
- *Winner: 2017 Best Visualization Award, Journal of Peace Research*

Papers

Submitted or under preparation

- Grossman, Matthew & Issac, William & Mahmood, Zuhaib. "Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Unequal Class Influence in American Policy." *Revise & Resubmit at Journal of Politics*
- "UN Security Council action in interstate crises: Reassessment and a path forward."

Working papers

- "Babbling or communicating? Communicating foreign policy interests via statements of opinion at the UN General Assembly."
- "Tracking the content of major power foreign policy preferences using UN Security Council speeches" (With Michael Colaresi)
- "Machine readable text and the scientific study of diplomacy" (With Leah Windsor and Mark Nieman)
- "Revisiting where and when the rich rule" (With Matt Grossman & William Issac)
- "Information games: The UN's role in the international politics of civil wars"
- "Beyond the vote: Using speeches and reports to understand major power interests at the UN Security Council"
- "The docket of deliberation: Issue emergence at the UN Security Council."
- "Military intervention in the shadow of the United Nations."

Blog posts

["Donald Trump's speech to the UN General Assembly in context"](#), *Institute for Public Policy and Social Research*, October 2017

Work in progress

Data Projects

- Record of speeches delivered at the UN Security Council (1989-2014)
- Record of speeches delivered at the UN General Assembly (1950-2014)
- Record of institutional documents at the UN Security Council (1990-2014)
- Record of UNSC and UNGA resolutions (1945-2014)

Conferences *Invited workshops and talks*

2018. Advancing the Scientific Study of Diplomacy (Workshop). *Annual meeting of the Peace Science Society*. San Antonio, TX.

Conference presentations

American Political Science Association (2018)
International Studies Association (2018; 2017; 2016)
PoliInformatics of Lawmaking (2017, Seattle, WA).
Midwest Political Science Association (2017; 2015).
Peace Science Association (2016)

Teaching *Course assistance*

Assistant to Shahryar Minhas, Applied statistical programming, Graduate. (Spring 2018)

Assistant to Erik Juenke, Intro Research Methods, Undergraduate. (Spring 2014)
- Instructor of two 50-minute sections, composed of approximately 30 students per section. Tasks included section syllabus design; live instruction/lecturing; guided in-class projects; and student advising.

Workshops

Workshop on Social Science Methods, *Social Science Data Analytics*, MSU
- Workshop on theory and applications of forecasting in the Social Sciences. Includes lecture and applied code walkthrough, primarily using *Caret* package in R.
- Designed workshop and led instruction. January 2018. 2.5-5 hours.

Workshop on Git (with William Issac). *Social Science Data Analytics*, MSU
- 2 hours. February 2016.

Research *Assistant to Shahryar Minhas* (Fall 2018)

Assistant to Michael Colaresi. *Social Science Data Analytics* (Fall 2014 - Summer 2017)

Assistant to Matt Grossman. Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (Fall 2017)

Assistant to Jakana Thomas and Benjamin Appel (Fall 2013 - Spring 2014)

Service	<p>University Committee on Faculty Tenure, MSU</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association - Chair (2017); Discussant (2017)</p> <p>Workshop on Conflict, MSU Political Science - Discussant (2014; 2015; 2017); Organizer (2017)</p> <p>Reviewer - <i>International Interactions</i>; <i>Journal of Politics</i>; <i>International Studies Review</i>; <i>Political Analysis</i></p>
Funding and Grants	<p>College of Social Science, Michigan State University Dean's Fellowship. Summer (2014; 2015; 2016).</p> <p>International Studies Association Travel Grant. Spring 2016.</p> <p>Dept. of Political Science & The Graduate School, MSU Multiple travel grants (2016; 2017) Multiple performance fellowships (2015; 2017)</p>
Professional Development	<p>Odum Institute, UNC Chapel Hill <i>Managing big data; Introduction to Machine Learning (2014)</i></p> <p>Institute for Cyber-Enable Learning, MSU. <i>Multiple workshops including Command Line and Git.</i></p> <p>Social Science Data Analytics & Dept. of Psychology, MSU <i>Bayesian data analysis workshop</i></p>
Affiliations	<p><i>Peace Science Society; American Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association; International Studies Association.</i></p>
Non-academic Work history	<p>The Stimson Center <i>Future of Peace Operations.</i> Intern. Summer 2012.</p> <p>The Princeton Review Instructor. SAT course for approximately 30 students. Summer 2013.</p> <p>Translational Pathology Laboratory UNC Chapel Hill. Research Associate. 2010-2013. <i>Digital imaging of anti-body expression and DNA damage in cancerous cells.</i></p>