

Meredith Blank
Curriculum Vitae

5700 Haven Hall
505 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Phone: (314) 616-2298
Email: merblank@umich.edu

Education

- Ph.D. University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, Michigan *In Progress*
Political Science
First Field: World Politics
Second Field: Methodology
- M.A. University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, Michigan *May 2014*
Political Science
- B.A. University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, Michigan *May 2009*
Highest Honors in Political Science
Phi Beta Kappa

Additional Training

- Washington University of Saint Louis**, Saint Louis, Missouri *Fall 2009*
Graduate-level Global Political Economy coursework

Research in Progress

- “Managing with Militias: State Formation, War, and Government Sponsorship of Militias,” presented at the 2013 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference.
- “Deadly, Destructive and Decentralized: Security Organizations and State Repression,” with Christian Davenport and Ernesto Verdeja.
- “Organized Violence Against Organized Labor: Paramilitaries and Anti-Union Violence in Colombia,” with Laura Seago, presented at the 2014 Peace Science Society Annual Meeting.
- “Multinational Firms and the Economy of Conflict: A Winning Proposition,” with Laura Seago, presented at the December 2014 University of Michigan Ford Security Seminar.
- “Strategies of Intervention: Changing the Calculus of Civilian Killings,” with Isaac Jenkins, presented at the 2013 Peace Science Society Annual Meeting.

Non-Peer Review Publications

“Nigeria Oil Production: To Renege or To Reduce?” *University of Michigan Journal of International Affairs* 1:9 (2006). Print.

Research Experience

Research Manager, Minerva Research Initiative Grant (US Dept. of Defense). Principal Investigators: Dr. Phil Potter (University of Michigan), Dr. Michael Horowitz (University of Pennsylvania), and Dr. Erica Chenoweth (University of Denver), Summer 2013 – Winter 2014.

- Managed team of 10 undergraduates for coding of 2,400+ linkages between violent non-state actors.
- Developed, deployed and maintained electronic content management system.

Graduate Student Research Assistant, ‘Mass Murder, Incorporated: Understanding Security Forces and State Repression,’ Principal Investigators: Dr. Christian Davenport (University of Michigan) and Dr. Ernesto Verdeja (University of Notre Dame).

- Research on causes of and variation in state repression across 155 countries, 1981-2010.

2006 Trade Legislation Research Assistant, Fair Trade Federation, Ann Arbor, MI

Teaching Experience

“**Public International Law,**” Graduate Student Instructor to Dr. Barbara Koremenos, University of Michigan, Fall 2013.

“**Arab-Israeli Conflict,**” Graduate Student Instructor to Dr. Myron Aronoff, University of Michigan, Winter 2013.

“**Introduction to World Politics,**” Graduate Student Instructor to Dr. James Morrow, University of Michigan, Fall 2012.

Honors and Awards

William A. and Shirley P. Yolles Graduate Fund for Research on Humanitarianism, University of Michigan, 2014. Awarded for research on relationship between locally armed groups, government capacity and civilian killings (\$10,000).

New Era Foreign Policy Conference Scholar, American University, 2015.

John Kingdon Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of Michigan, 2013. Awarded for outstanding teaching (\$250).

Political Science Departmental Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2011-2012.

Department of Political Science William Jennings Bryan Prize, University of Michigan, Spring 2009. Awarded for showing the most promise in the field of political science (\$500).

Highest Honors awarded for Senior Thesis, “Hugging with Tactical Arms: What Motivates China to Export Weapons,” University of Michigan, Spring 2009.

James B. Angell Scholar, University of Michigan, 2007.

Professional Experience

Boeing Company, Integrated Defense Systems, Saint Louis, MO
F-15 Foreign Military Sales, June 2007 to August 2011

Capgemini U.S., LLC, New York City, New York
International Communications, Summer 2006

Department Service

Co-President, Women’s Caucus, University of Michigan Department of Political Science, 2013-2014.

Member, Peace and Conflict Workshop, University of Michigan Department of Political Science, 2013-present.

Professional Service

Reviewer for: *Journal of Conflict Resolution, Conflict Management and Peace Science*

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Peace Science Society (PSS)

International Studies Association (ISA)

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)