

James Anthony Piazza

Department of Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University
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Education

Ph.D. Politics (Comparative Politics and International Relations), New York University, 1999
M.A. Middle East Studies, University of Michigan, 1994
B.A. Political Science, Loyola University Chicago, 1992

Academic Positions Held

The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Political Science

- Liberal Arts Professor, January 2017 to present
- Professor, January 2016 to present
- Associate Professor, July 2010 to December 2016

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Department of Political Science

- Associate Professor, July 2009 to July 2010
- Assistant Professor, August 2004 to June 2009

Meredith College, Department of History and Politics

- Assistant Professor, August 2000 to July 2004

Publications

- 72) Khusrav Gaibullov, James A. Piazza, Todd Sandler. 2025. "Are Resident Terrorist Groups Productive in Weak States?" *Kyklos*. Published online. <https://doi.org/10.1111/kykl.12458>.
- 71) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Incel Beliefs and Support for Political Violence Among U.S. Males: The Mediating Effects of Masculinity Stress, Aggression, Outgroup Hate, and Illiberalism." *Crime and Delinquency*. Published online. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287241310820>.
- 70) James A. Piazza and Lauren O'Rourke. 2024. "Hostile Sexism, Social Dominance Orientation, Political Illiberalism, and Support for Political Violence in the United States." *Politics & Gender*. Published online. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X24000400>.

- 69) Khusrav Gaibullov, James A. Piazza, and Todd Sandler. 2024. "Do Failed or Weak States Favor Resident Terrorist Groups' Survival?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 68(5): 823-848.
- 68) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Populism and Support for Political Violence in the United States: Assessing the Role of Grievances, Distrust of Political Institutions, Social Change Threat, and Political Illiberalism." *Political Research Quarterly*. 77(1): 152-166.
- 67) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Demographic Change Threat, Preference for Nondemocratic Governance, and Support for Political Violence." *Social Science Quarterly*. 105(4): 1123-1139.
- 66) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Allegations of Democratic Election Fraud and Support for Political Violence among Republicans." *American Politics Research*. 52(6): 624-638.
- 65) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Foreign Military Interventions, Occupations, and Violent Extremism." In *Cambridge Handbook on the Psychology of Violent Extremism* (eds. Milan Obaidi and Jonas Kunst). Cambridge University Press. Accepted and Forthcoming.
- 64) James A. Piazza. 2024. "Intolerance of Non-Muslim Political Rights and Engagement in Political Violence: A Study of Public Opinion in 11 Arab Countries." *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*. 16(2): 212-226.
- 63) Ahmet Guler and James A. Piazza. 2024. "Online and Social Media News Usage, Conspiratorial Attitudes, and Fear of Terrorism." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. Published online. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2024.2336131>.
- 62) James A. Piazza. 2023. "Fear of Terrorism and Support for Nondemocratic Rule in Democracies." *International Interactions*. 49(4): 597-611.
- 61) James A. Piazza. 2023. "Political Polarization and Political Violence." *Security Studies*. 32(3): 476-504.
- 60) James A. Piazza. 2023. "Drivers of Political Violence in the United States." *Journal of Public Policy and Marketing*. 42(1): 11-14.
- 59) James A. Piazza. 2023. "White Demographic Anxiety and Support for Torture of Terrorism Suspects." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. 46(6): 769-797.
- 58) Katarzyna Jaśko, Gary LaFree, James A. Piazza and Michael H. Becker. 2022. "A Comparison of Violence by Left-Wing, Right-Wing and Islamist Extremists in the United States and the World." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*. 119(30)

- 57) James A. Piazza and Natalia Van Doren. 2022. "It's About Hate: Approval of Donald Trump, Racism, Xenophobia and Support for Political Violence." *American Politics Research*. 51(3): 299-314.
- 56) James A. Piazza. 2022. "Fake News: The Effects of Social Media Disinformation on Domestic Terrorism." *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*. 15(1): 55-77.
- 55) James A. Piazza. 2022. "Sore Losers: Does Terrorism and Approval of Terrorism Increase in Democracies When Election Losers Refuse to Accept Election Results?" *Political Research Quarterly*. 75(4): 1201-1215.
- 54) Nazli Avdan, James A. Piazza, Michael J. Soules. 2021. "Silver Lining?: The Effects of Epidemics on Terrorist Groups." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 35(4): 908-925.
- 53) James A. Piazza. 2021. "The Impact of Rural-Urban Economic Disparities on Terrorist Organizations' Survival and Attacks." *Defence and Peace Economics*. 32(6): 726-741.
- 52) James A. Piazza and Michael J. Soules. 2021. "Terror After the Caliphate: The Effect of ISIS Loss of Control over Population Centers on Patterns of Global Terrorism." *Security Studies*. 30(1): 107-135.
- 51) James A. Piazza. 2021. "'Nondemocratic Islamists' and Support for ISIS in the Arab World." *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*. 13(2): 95-114.
- 50) James A. Piazza and Ahmet Guler. 2021. "The Online Caliphate: Internet Usage and ISIS Support in the Arab World." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 33(6): 1256-1275.
- 49) Brian Thiede, Matthew Hancock, Ahmed Kodouda and James Piazza. 2020. "Exposure to Armed Conflict and Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Demography*. 57: 2113-2141.
- 48) James A. Piazza. 2020. "Politician Hate Speech and Domestic Terrorism." *International Interactions*. 46(3): 431-453.
- 47) James A. Piazza. 2020. "Suicide Attacks and Hard Targets: An Empirical Examination." *Defence and Peace Economics*. 31(2): 142-159.
- 46) James A. Piazza and Scott Piazza. 2020. "Crime Pays: Terrorist Group Engagement in Crime and Survival." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 32(4): 701-723.
- 45) James A. Piazza and Gary LaFree. 2019. "Islamist Terrorism, Diaspora Links and Casualty Rates." *Perspectives on Terrorism*. 13(5) online.
- 44) James A. Piazza. 2019. "Democratic Skepticism and Support for Terrorism in the Palestinian Territories." *Public Choice*. 178(3-4): 417-443

- 43) James A. Piazza and Seung-Whan Choi. 2018. "International Military Interventions and Transnational Terrorist Backlash." *International Studies Quarterly*. 62(3): 686-695.
- 42) James A. Piazza. 2018. "Transnational Ethnic Diasporas and the Survival of Terrorist Organizations." *Security Studies*. 27(4): 607-632.
- 41) Cao, Xun, Haiyan Duan, Chuyu Liu, James A. Piazza and Yingjie Wei. 2018. "Digging the 'Ethnic Violence in China' Database: The Effects of Inter-Ethnic Inequality and Natural Resources Exploitation in Xinjiang." *The China Review*. 18(1): 121-154.
- 40) Gaibulloev, Khusrav, James A. Piazza and Todd Sandler. 2017. "Regime Types and Terrorism." *International Organization*. 71(3): 491-522.
- 39) Choi, Seung-Whan and James A. Piazza. 2017. "Foreign Military Interventions and Suicide Attacks." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 61(2): 271-297.
- 38) Piazza, James A. 2017. "The Determinants of Right-Wing Terrorism in the United States: Economic Grievance, Societal Change and Political Resentment." *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. 34(1): 52-80.
- 37) Piazza, James A. 2017. "Repression and Terrorism: A Cross-National Empirical Analysis of Types of Repression and Terrorism." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 29(1): 102-118.
- 36) Conrad, Courtenay, Justin Conrad, James A. Piazza and James I. Walsh. 2017. "Who Tortures the Terrorists? Transnational Terrorism and Military Torture." *Foreign Policy Analysis*. 13(4): 761-786.
- 35) Asal, Victor, Michael Findley, James A. Piazza and James I. Walsh. 2016. "Political Exclusion, Oil and Ethnic Armed Conflict." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 60(8): 1343-1367.
- 34) Piazza, James A. 2016. "Oil and Terrorism: An Investigation of Mediators." *Public Choice*. 169(3): 251-268.
- 33) Choi, Seung-Whan and James A. Piazza. 2016. "Internally-Displaced Populations and Suicide Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 60(6): 1008-1040.
- 32) Gill, Paul, James A. Piazza and John Horgan. 2016. "Counterterrorism Killings and Provisional IRA Bombings, 1970-1998." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 28(3): 473-796.
- 31) Arva, Bryan and James A. Piazza. 2016. "Spatial Distribution of Minority Communities and Terrorism." *Defence and Peace Economics*. 27(1): 1-36

- 30) Choi, Seung-Whan and James A. Piazza. 2016. "Ethnic Groups, Political Exclusion and Domestic Terrorism" *Defence and Peace Economics*. 27(1): 37-63.
- 29) Piazza, James A. 2015. "Terrorist Suspect Religious Identity and Public Support for Harsh Interrogation and Detention Practices." *Political Psychology*. 36(6): 667-690.
- 28) Piazza, James A. 2015. "Characteristics of Terrorism Hotspots." *CTX: Combatting Terrorism Exchange*. 5(3): 15-22.
- 27) Bell, Sam, Chad Clay, Amanda Murdie and James Piazza. 2014. "Opening Yourself Up: The Role of External and Internal Transparency in Terrorism Attacks." 2014. *Political Research Quarterly*. 67(3): 603-614.
- 26) Wilson, Matthew and James A. Piazza. 2013. "Autocracies and Terrorism: Conditioning Effects of Authoritarian Regime-Type on Terrorist Attacks." *American Journal of Political Science*. 57(4): 941-955.
- 25) Piazza, James A. 2013. "Regime Age and Terrorism: Are New Democracies Prone to Terrorism?" *International Interactions*. 39(2): 246-263.
- 24) Piazza, James A. 2013. "The Cost of Living and Terror: Does Consumer Price Volatility Fuel Terrorism?" *Southern Economic Journal*. 79(4): 812-831.
- 23) Piazza, James A. "Does Poverty Serve as Root Cause of Terrorism?" 2013. Invited book chapter for Stuart Gottlieb (ed.) *Debating Terrorism and Counterterrorism, 2nd Edition*. Washington D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press. Published earlier in 2009, 1st Edition.
- 22) Piazza, James A. 2012. "Types of Minority Discrimination and Terrorism." *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. 29(5): 521-546.
- 21) Piazza, James A. 2012. "The Opium Trade and Patterns of Terrorism in the Provinces of Afghanistan: An Empirical Analysis." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 24(2): 213-234. Republished in James J. F. Forest (ed.) *Intersections of Crime and Terror*. London: Routledge Press. 2012.
- 20) Findley, Michael, James A. Piazza and Joseph Young. 2012. "Games Rivals Play: Terrorism in International Rivalries." *Journal of Politics*. 74(1): 235-248.
- 19) Piazza, James A. 2011. "Illicit Drugs, Counternarcotics Strategies and Terrorism." *Public Choice*. 149(3-4): 297-314.
- 18) Piazza, James A. 2011. "Poverty, Minority Economic Discrimination and Domestic Terrorism." *Journal of Peace Research*. 48(3): 339-353.
- 17) Piazza, James A. and James I. Walsh. 2010. "Physical Integrity Rights and Terrorism." 2010. *PS: Political Science and Politics*. 43(3):411-414.

- 16) Piazza, James A. 2010. "Terrorism and Party Systems in the States of India." *Security Studies*. 19(1): 99-123.
- 15) Walsh, James I and James A. Piazza. 2010. "Why Respecting Physical Integrity Rights Reduces Terrorism." *Comparative Political Studies*. 43(5): 551-577
- 14) Piazza, James A. and James I. Walsh. 2009. "Transnational Terror and Human Rights." *International Studies Quarterly*. 53(1):125-148.
- 13) Piazza, James A. 2009. "Is Islamist Terrorism More Lethal?: An Empirical Study of Group Ideology, Organization and Goal Structure." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 21(1):62-88.
- 12) Piazza, James A. 2009. "Economic Development, Unresolved Political Conflict and Terrorism in India." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. 32:406-419.
- 11) Piazza, James A. 2008. "A Supply-Side View of Suicide Terrorism: A Cross-National Study." *Journal of Politics*. 70(1):28-39.
- 10) Piazza, James A. 2008. "Incubators of Terror: Do Failed and Failing States Promote Transnational Terrorism?" *International Studies Quarterly*. 52(3): 468-488.
- 9) Piazza, James A. 2008. "Do Democracy and Free Markets Protect Us from Terrorism?" *International Politics*. 45(1):72-91.
- 8) Piazza, James A. 2007. "Draining the Swamp: Democracy Promotion, State Failure and Terrorism in 19 Middle Eastern States." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. 30: 521-539.
- 7) Piazza, James A. 2007. "Global Poverty, Inequality and Transnational Terrorism: A Research Note." *Perspectives on Terrorism*. 1(4).
- 6) Piazza, James A. 2006. "Rooted In Poverty?: Terrorism, Poor Economic Development and Social Cleavages." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 18: 159-177.
- 5) Piazza, James A. 2005. "Globalizing Quiescence: The Effects of Globalization on Strikes in 14 Industrialized Countries." *Economic and Industrial Democracy*. 26(2): 289-314.
- 4) Piazza, James A. 2002. *Going Global: Unions and Globalization in the United States, Sweden and Germany*. Lanham, Md.: Lexington Books.
- 3) Piazza, James A. 2001. "De-Linking Labor: Labor Unions and Social Democratic Parties under Globalization." *Party Politics*. 7(4): 413-435.
- 2) Piazza, James A. 2000. "Peace as Social Dumping?: Regional Economic Integration and Labor Markets in Israel, Egypt and Jordan." *Southeastern Political Review*. 28(1):27-54.

- 1) Piazza, James A. 1994. "The Democratic, Islamic Republic of Iran in Exile: The Mojahedin-e Khalq and its Struggle for Survival." *Digest of Middle East Studies*. 3(4): 9-43

Grants, Fellowships and Sponsored Research Awards

"The Effects of Normalization of Political Violence on Americans' Democratic Values and Participation." PI: James Piazza. McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Penn State. May 2025. Amount: \$3,000.

"Misogyny, Anti-Democratic Attitudes, and Support for Political Violence." PI: James Piazza. McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Penn State. April 2023. Amount: \$3,750.

"Elite Incivility, Political Polarization, Trust in Political Institutions and Support for Political Violence in Democracies." PI: James Piazza. McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Penn State. May 2021. Amount: \$4,500.

"Climate Change, Demographic Pressures, and Sociopolitical Conflict." PI: Brian Thiede. Co-PI: James A. Piazza. Penn State Social Science Research Initiative. December 2017. Amount: \$17,666.

"Natural Resources and Armed Conflict." PI: James I. Walsh. Co-PI's: Victor Asal, Justin Conrad, Michael Findley, James Piazza, Beth Whitaker. U.S. Department of Defense, Minerva Research Initiative. June 2013 – May 2016. Amount: \$825,537.

"A Multi-Dimensional Investigation of the Operational, Temporal and Spatial Dynamics of IED Events." PI: John Horgan. Co-PI: James A. Piazza. Office of Naval Research. Jan 2012 – Dec 2012. Amount: \$320,061

"Terrorism Suspect Religious Identity and Public Support for Controversial Detention and Interrogation Practices." PI: James A. Piazza. Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences (TESS). Sponsored Research. 2012. Amount: \$19,000

"Testing the Neocon Hypothesis: Do Democracy and Free Markets Protect Us From Terrorism?" Faculty Research Grant, UNC Charlotte. Jan 2005 – Dec 2006. Amount: \$5,930
Recipient of College of Arts and Sciences Grant to Attend International Faculty Development Seminar "Civil Society, Politics and Religion in Turkey," Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE). Amount: \$3,500. (Spring-Summer 2007)

Ping Fellowship, Council for International Education Exchange (CIEE). Awarded for participation in International Faculty Development Seminar "Civil Society, Politics and Religion in Turkey." Amount: \$1,500. (Spring-Summer 2007)

Bradley Fellowship. Department of Politics, New York University. Amount: \$12,000. (Fall 1998 to Spring 1999)

Invited Talks

“Populism, Illiberalism, and Violent Extremism in the United States.” Harriet Elliot Lecture Series “Democracy in Crisis,” University of North Carolina Greensboro. April 2024.

“The Powder Keg of Elections: The State of Political Violence in the U.S.” Federal Agency for Civic Education, Ministry of the Interior, Dusseldorf Germany. February 2024.

“Right-Wing Terrorism, Hostile Sexism, and Attitudes about Political Violence.” American University. February 2024

“Social Media Disinformation, Political Polarization and Domestic Terrorism.” European Council for Political Research. May 2021

“Social Media Disinformation, Political Polarization and Domestic Terrorism.” San Jose State University. April 2021

“Islamist Terrorism, Diaspora Links and Casualty Rates.” Invited Paper for Conference on Political Violence and Terrorism. Washington University. October 2018.

“Democratic Skepticism and Support for Terrorism in the Palestinian Territories.” Invited Paper for Eight Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. May 2018.

“Transnational Ethnic Diasporas and the Survival of Terrorist Organizations.” START Center, University of Maryland. October, 2017

“Illiberal Democracies and the Consequences for Terrorism.” Keynote Address. Society for Terrorism Research, International Conference. New York City. August, 2017.

“Oil and Terrorism: An Investigation of Mediators.” Invited paper for Seventh Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. May, 2016

“The Determinants of Right-Wing Terrorism in the United States.” Invited paper for Sixth Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. May, 2014

“Foreign Military Interventions and Suicide Terrorism.” Department of Political Science. University of North Carolina at Charlotte. January 2014.

“Terrorism, Torture and Religion.” Invited talk for Pi Sigma Alpha, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. January 2014.

“Food Prices and Terrorism.” Invited Presentation for Energy, Security and Stability conference. (Penn State) International Center for the Study of Terrorism and the Institute for Energy and the Environment. October 2012.

“The Cost of Living and Terror: Do Rapidly Increasing Energy, Housing and Food Consumer Prices Fuel Terrorism?” Invited paper for Fifth Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. September, 2012.

“Unpacking the Terrorism – Failed State Relationship.” Department of Political Science. Binghamton University, SUNY. March, 2012.

“Illicit Drug Trade, Counternarcotics Strategies and Terrorism.” Invited paper for Fourth Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. May 2011.

“Revisiting Poverty and Terrorism: Economic Development, Inequality and Minority Economic Discrimination.” Invited paper for Third Annual Workshop on Terrorism and Policy. Center for Global Collective Action, University of Texas at Dallas. May 2010.

“Terrorism and Party Systems in the States of India.” Department of Political Science, University of Missouri at Columbia. May, 2009.

“The Challenge of Failed States in the War on Terror.” Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina at Pembroke. March, 2009.

“Terrorism, Economic Development and Unresolved Political Conflict: An Analysis of Terrorism in the States of India, 1998 to 2006.” Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs seminar *Development Cooperation as a Potential Instrument to Prevent Radicalization and Terrorism*. Stockholm, February 2007.

Recent Conference Papers (2010 to present)

“Threats to White Dominance, Intergroup Conflict Orientation, Illiberalism, and Support for Political Violence among American Whites.” (co-authored with Maya Kerr Coste). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, April 2025)

“Demographic Change Threat, Preference for Nondemocratic Governance, and Support for Political Violence.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, April 2024)

“It’s About Hate: Approval of Donald Trump, Racism, Xenophobia and Support for Political Violence.” (co-authored with Natalia Van Doren) Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. (Montreal, September 2022)

“Fear of Terrorism and Support for Nondemocratic Rule in Democracies.” Joint Penn State – University of Pittsburgh International Relations Conference. (State College, May 2022)

“International Military Interventions and Transnational Terrorist Backlash.” (with Seung-Whan Choi) Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference. (San Francisco, April 2018)

“Crime Pays: Terrorist Group Engagement in Crime and Longevity.” (with Scott Piazza) Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference. (Baltimore, February 2017)

“Will Economic Aid and Development Reduce Support for Anti-U.S. Political Violence in the Arab World?” Presented at the Peace Science Society – Asia conference, East China University of Political Science and Law, (Shanghai, June 2016) and Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. (Philadelphia, September 2016)

“Oil Rents and Civil War Intervention.” (with Emma Boyle and James Walsh) Presented at the International Studies Association annual conference. (Atlanta, March 2016)

“Regime Types and Terrorism.” (with Khusrav Gaibullov and Todd Sandler) Presented at the International Studies Association annual conference. (Atlanta, March 2016)

“Oil and Terrorism: A Test of Mediators.” Paper prepared for the American Political Science Association annual conference (Washington D.C., August 2014) and the Peace Science Society conference (Philadelphia, October 2014)

“Repression and Terrorism.” Paper prepared for the International Studies Association annual conference. Toronto, Canada. March 2014.

“Foreign Military Interventions and Suicide Terrorism.” (co-authored with Whan Choi) Under submission. Paper prepared for the American Political Science Association annual conference. Chicago, IL. August 2013.

“Terror Suspect Religious Identity and Support for Controversial Detention and Interrogation Practices.” Paper prepared for the American Political Science Association annual conference. Chicago, IL. August 2013.

“Repression and Terrorism.” Paper prepared for the European Political Science Association annual conference. Barcelona, Spain. June 2013.

“Who Tortures the Terrorists?” Paper prepared for the International Studies Association annual conference. San Francisco, CA. April 2013.

“Regime Age and Terrorism: Are New Democracies Prone to Terrorism?” Paper prepared for the International Studies Association annual conference. San Diego, CA. April 2012.

“Types of State Failures and Future Terrorism Hotspots.” Paper prepared for the Future of Terrorism II conference. Hosted by the Penn State International Center for the Study of Terrorism. State College, PA. October 2011.

“Dictatorships and Terrorism: Conditioning Effects of Authoritarian Regime-Type on Terrorist Attacks.” (co-authored with Matthew Wilson) Paper prepared for the Peace Science Society annual conference. Los Angeles / University of Southern California. October 2011.

“Transnational Minority Communities and Terrorism” (co-authored with Bryan Arva) Paper prepared for the American Political Science Association annual conference. Seattle, WA. September 2011.

“Types of Minority Discrimination and Terrorism.” Paper prepared for the International Security Studies Section / International Security and Arms Control of the International Studies Association. Providence, R.I. October 2010.

“Does the International Illicit Drug Trade Fuel Terrorism?” Paper prepared for the Annual Convention of the *International Studies Association*. New Orleans, February 2010.

“Regime Age and Terrorism: Are New Democracies Prone to Terrorism?” Paper prepared for the Annual Convention of the *International Studies Association*. New Orleans, February 2010.

Blog Posts, Online Commentary

K. Gaibullov, J. Piazza, T. Sandler. 2025. [Terrorism and the Threat of Weak States](#). Just Security.

J. Piazza. 2024. [“Republican Claims of Fraud Could Stoke Violence – Again.”](#) 360info.org.

J. Piazza. 2022. [“The ‘Sore Loser Effect’: Rejecting Election Results Can Destabilize Democracy and Drive Terrorism.”](#) The Conversation.

J. Piazza. 2020. [“White Demographic Anxiety Fuels Support for Torture of Terrorism Suspects.”](#) Lawfare.

J. Piazza. 2020. [“When Politicians Use Hate Speech, Political Violence Increases.”](#) The Conversation.

J. Piazza. 2019. [“How Diaspora Communities Influence Terrorist Groups.”](#) Lawfare.

J. Piazza. 2017. [“What Drives Far-Right Terrorism in the United States?”](#) Sustainable Security.

C. Conrad, J. Conrad, J. Piazza, J. Walsh. 2017. [“Preparing for Terrorism – and Potential Torture – Under President Trump.”](#) openDemocracy.

J. Piazza. 2016. “[Muslim Terrorism Suspects and Public Support for Harsh Interrogation and Detention](#).” Just Security.

J. Piazza. 2015. “[Islam, Religiosity, Politics and Support for Anti-U.S. Violent Extremism in the Arab World](#).” Political Violence at a Glance.

C. Conrad, J. Conrad, J. Piazza, J. Walsh. 2015. “[When Do Countries Respond to Terrorism with Torture?](#)” Washington Post Monkey Cage.

J. Piazza. 2014. “[Democracy and Terrorism: A Complex Relationship](#).” ETH Zurich, Center for Security Studies.

Doctoral Students Supervised (all at Penn State)

Finished advisees

Kayla Kahn. Ph.D. 2025

- Kayla’s current position: Data Scientist, Verasight (U.S. based survey company)

Ilayda Onder. Ph.D. 2024

- Ilayda’s current position: Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University.

Christopher Willis. Ph.D. 2023

- Christopher’s current position: Visiting Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University
- Previous position: Textor Postdoctoral Research Associate, Lehigh University

Michael J. Soules. Ph.D. 2022.

- Michael’s current position: Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Houston.
- Previous position: Donald R. Beall Defense Fellow, Naval Postgraduate School.

Bryan Arva. Ph.D. 2019.

- Bryan’s current position: Director of Counterterrorism and Homeland Security Master’s Program and Professorial Lecturer, Department of Justice, Law and Criminology, American University.
- Previous position: Research Associate, Center for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Center of Excellence), University of Maryland

Emma Leonard Boyle. Ph.D. 2016.

- Emma’s current position: Associate Professor and Director of Homeland Security M.P.S. Program, School of Public Affairs, Penn State Harrisburg
- Previous position: Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, LaSalle University.

Andrew Boutton. Ph.D. 2014.

- Andrew's current position: Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida.

Current advisees

Maya Dalton. Ph.D. expected 2027.

Maya Kerr Coste. Ph.D. expected 2031.

Teaching and Instructional Activities

(Courses Taught)

Political Violence in the United States. (PLSC 497) – Penn State
Introduction to International relations. (PLSC 14) – Penn State
International Relations: Theory and Methods. (PLSC 560) – Penn State
Terrorism (PLSC 597, Ph.D. Seminar) – Penn State
Root Causes of Terrorism (Masters-level, online, PL SC 597) – Penn State
Writing and Professionalization (PLSC 513) – Penn State
International Relations of the Middle East (PL SC 467) – Penn State
The Politics of Terrorism (PL SC 439) – Penn State
International Politics (POLS 1150 and 1151 writing-intensive) – UNC Charlotte
Political Science Methods (POLS 2220) – UNC Charlotte
Special Topics: Europe, Muslims and the Islamic World (POLS 3030) – UNC Charlotte
Middle East Politics (POLS 3133) – UNC Charlotte
Politics of the Islamic World (POLS 3166) – UNC Charlotte
Senior Seminar: US and Middle East (POLS 4600) – UNC Charlotte
Senior Seminar: Terrorism (POLS 4600) – UNC Charlotte

Service (since 2010)

(Service to Discipline)

Section Head, Terrorism, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.
Fall-Spring 2024-25.

Chair, Professional Ethics Policy Drafting Committee, Midwest Political Science Association.
Spring 2017.

External Program Reviewer. Department of Political Science, UNC Charlotte.
Fall 2016.

Grant Proposal Reviewer: National Science Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Editorial Board Member: *Terrorism and Political Violence*

Editorial Board Member: *Defence and Peace Economics*

Faculty Host and Mentor to Cem Duran Uzun, visiting Ph.D. Candidate from the Faculty of Public Law, Çankaya University, Ankara Turkey. January to December 2007.

Faculty Mentor to Ms. Kristen Wiegand, Ph.D. Student in the Department of Political Science, Duke University. Preparing Future Faculty Program. Fall 2003.

(Government and Professional Service)

Invited Keynote Speaker. “Right-Wing Extremism in 2024 and Beyond.” Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung (German Federal Agency for Civic Education). Dusseldorf, Germany. March 2024.

Invited Panelist. “Developments in Transnational Racially and Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremism (REMVE).” Central Intelligence Agency. Arlington, VA. January 2020.

Invited participant. “Blue Skye Exercise.” Future of Global Jihadist Movement. U.S. National Intelligence Council and Carnegie Mellon University. April 2019.

Invited panelist. “Next Generation of Islamist Terrorists: Structural Factors.” U.S. Department of State Analytic Exchange. Washington, D.C. November 2018.

Invited panelist. “Economics-Countering Violent Extremism Nexus: Drivers and Solutions” workshop. The Aspen Institute / U.S. Department of State. Washington, D.C. September 2015.

Invited participant. “Green Workshop.” Net Assessment Project, National Counterterrorism Center. Washington, D.C. January 2015.

Expert Consultation. Net Assessment Project, National Counterterrorism Center. Washington, D.C. November 2014

Invited Panel Speaker. “Militant Motives for Pursuing and Abandoning Violence.” RAND Corporation. Washington, D.C. January 2013.

Invited participant to Expert Meeting “The Prediction of Terrorist Attacks” convened by the Netherlands Police Agency, hosted by the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law. Freiburg, Germany. March 2009.

(Department and University Service)

Member (elected). Promotion and Tenure Committee. Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall-Spring 2018-2019.

Member. AC-14 Committee on Reappointment of Department Head. College of the Liberal Arts, Penn State University. Fall-Spring 2018-2019.

Member. Online Teaching Committee. Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall-Spring 2018-2019.

International Relations Comprehensive Examiner. Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall-Spring 2018-2019.

Director, Counterterrorism Option, Masters of Professional Studies in Homeland Security program (online), Penn State University, Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall 2014-Spring 2017.

Member, Department Head Search Committee, Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall 2013

Member, Graduate Recruitment Committee, Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall-Spring 2013-2014

Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Spring 2013

Chair, Teaching Improvement Committee, Dept. of Political Science, Penn State University, Fall-Spring 2012-2013