

JONATHAN NGUYEN MARKOWITZ
University of Southern California. jonathnm@usc.edu
<https://www.jonathan-markowitz.com>
<https://www.uscspec.org/>

Faculty Positions

Associate Professor, University of Southern California	April 2022-Present
Assistant Professor, University of Southern California	August 2015-March 2022

Co-Founder and Co-PI, [Security and Political Economy \(SPEC\) Lab](#) August 2015-Present

Co-Founder and Co-PI, [U.S.-Asia Grand Strategy Pre-doctoral Fellows Program](#) August 2019-Present

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, San Diego, 2014.

M.A. Political Science, University of California, San Diego, 2010.

B.A. Political Science (Summa Cum Laude, College Honors, Departmental Honors), University of California, Los Angeles, 2008.

Fellowships

Distinguished Visiting Scholar, John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, 2023-24.

Research Fellow, Centre for International Security, Hertie School Berlin, Summer 2023.

Postdoctoral Fellow in U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security, Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, 2014-15.

Geopolitics of Energy Fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, 2012-14.

Dissertation Fellow (Non-Conventional Threats: Climate Change), UC Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation, 2012-13.

Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) on “Global Change, Marine Ecosystems and Society,” National Science Foundation, 2010-12.

Peer-reviewed Book

Perils of Plenty: Arctic Resource Competition and the Return of the Great Game? Oxford University Press, New York, 2020.

- Watch a six minute [video version](#) of the book.
- Watch a [video version](#) of the talk and Q&A at Notre Dame

Peer-reviewed Articles¹

- 12) Megan Becker, Jonathan N. Markowitz, Sarah Orsborn#, Isabelle Nazha#. Srividya Dasaraju#, Lindsay Lauder#, "[Replicating the Resource Curse: A Qualitative Replication of Ross 2004.](#)" *Recipient of the Kendra Koivu Award for Best Paper in Qualitative Methods Presented at APSA 2019. (Accepted at International Studies Quarterly)*
- 11) Miriam Barnum, Christopher J. Fariss, Jonathan Markowitz & Gaea Morales*. 2024 "[Measuring Arms: Introducing the Global Military Spending Dataset.](#)" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 00220027241232964.
- 10) **Jonathan N. Markowitz**. "Arctic Shock: Utilizing the Exogenous Shock of Climate Change to Test Competing Theories of Resource Competition" (*Forthcoming at Journal of Conflict Resolution*)
- 9) Christopher J. Fariss, Therese Anders*, **Jonathan N. Markowitz** and Miriam Barnum*. 2022 "[New Estimates of Over 500 Years of Historic GDP and Population Data](#)", *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 66(3), 553–591.
- 8) Andrew Coe and **Jonathan N. Markowitz**. 2021 "[Crude Calculations: Productivity and the Profitability of Conquest](#)", *International Organization*: 1-29.
- 7) **Jonathan N. Markowitz**, Suzie Mulesky*, Benjamin A. T. Graham, Christopher J. Fariss, 2020. "[Productive Pacifists: The Rise of Production-Oriented States and Decline of Profit-Motivated Conquest](#)" *International Studies Quarterly* 64(3):558–572.
- 6) Therese Anders*, Christopher J. Fariss and **Jonathan N. Markowitz**, 2020. "[Bread Before Guns or Butter: Introducing Surplus Domestic Product \(SDP\)](#)", *International Studies Quarterly* 64(2): 392–405.
- 5) **Jonathan N. Markowitz**, Christopher J. Fariss and Blake R. McMahon, 2019. "[Producing Goods and Projecting Power: How What You Make Influences What You Take](#)" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 63(6): 1368-1402.
- 4) Paul C. Avey, **Jonathan N. Markowitz** and Robert J. Reardon, 2018. "[Disentangling Grand Strategy: International Relations Theory and U.S. Grand Strategy](#)" *Texas National Security Review* 2(1).

¹ All co-authors contributed equally on publications in which author order is alphabetical. Otherwise, order is listed by author who made the greatest intellectual contribution. A * is used for graduate student co-authors and # is used for undergraduate student co-authors.

- 3) Paul C. Avey, **Jonathan N. Markowitz**, and Robert J. Reardon, 2018. "[Do US Troop Withdrawals Cause Instability? Evidence from Two Exogenous Shocks on the Korean Peninsula](#)" *Journal of Global Security Studies* 3(1): 72–92.
- 2) **Jonathan N. Markowitz** and Christopher J. Fariss, 2018. "[Power, Proximity, and Democracy: Geopolitical Competition in the International System](#)" *Journal of Peace Research* 55(1): 78-93.
- 1) **Jonathan N. Markowitz** and Christopher J. Fariss, 2013. "[Going the Distance: The Price of Projecting Power](#)" *International Interactions* 39(2): 119-43.

Peer-reviewed Book Chapter

1. **Jonathan N. Markowitz** "Prices or Power Politics: When and Why States Coercively Compete Over Resources" in *Coercion: The Power to Hurt in International Politics*. Greenhill, Kelly and Peter Krause eds. *Oxford University Press* 2018.

Book In-Progress

1. Jonathan N. Markowitz and Benjamin A.T. Graham. *Beyond Conquest: Pathways from Military Power to Profits*.

Articles In-Progress

1. Megan Becker, **Jonathan N. Markowitz**, and Sarah Orsborn#. "Which pathways are more prevalent in linking natural resources to civil conflict? Evidence from a large N qualitative analysis of the universe of 46 cases"
2. **Jonathan N. Markowitz** and Benjamin A.T. Graham "The Spoils of Coercion: Military Coercion and Economic Gain in the 21st Century"
3. Miriam Barnum*, Christopher J. Fariss, and **Jonathan N. Markowitz**. "Guns, Gains, and Growth: New estimates on how the relationship between military and economic power has changed over 200 years."
4. Miriam Barnum*, Christopher J. Fariss, and **Jonathan N. Markowitz**. "Measuring Threat and Military Burdens."
5. Miriam Barnum*, Christopher J. Fariss, and **Jonathan N. Markowitz**. "Appropriable Wealth, Autocracy and Human Rights"

Non-refereed Publications

“Climate Change Multiplying Threats to National Security.” A report written for and published by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography with Alyson Fleming, Emily Kelly, Summer Martin, and Lauren Franck. Fall 2011.

Grants and Funding

External

2022-23: Stanton Foundation, Nuclear Security Course Development Grant, \$50,000

2022-24: Charles Koch Foundation, “American Grand Strategy and East Asian Security,” \$700,000, Co-PI with David Kang.

2019-22: Charles Koch Foundation, “American Grand Strategy and East Asian Security,” \$1.2 million, Co-PI with David Kang.

2017-18: Charles Koch Foundation, “American Grand Strategy and East Asian Security,” \$150,000, Co-PI with David Kang.

2012: UC Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation Travel Grant—Funding for travel to China and Singapore for fieldwork on the South China Sea.

2012: UCSD Academic Senate Research Award, “War, Peace, and Nuclear Weapons,” with Erik Gartzke, Jeffrey Kaplow and Rupal Mehta.

2012: National Science Foundation IGERT Mini-Grant—Funding for Arctic fieldwork in Oslo, Norway, and Svalbard.

2011: National Science Foundation IGERT Travel Grant—Visiting Researcher at the Peace Research Institute of Oslo.

USC (Internal)

Center for International Studies

2023: Conference funding, “Security and Political Economy Conference” (\$15,000, with Benjamin Graham)

2020: Matching Conference Funding, “Bridging Asia: Is East Asia Ripe for Rivalry or Increasingly Stable? American Grand Strategy and East Asia in the 21st Century” (\$15,000)

2020-21: Graduate Research Assistantship Matching Funding (\$7,625, with Benjamin Graham)

2019-20: Graduate Research Assistantship Matching Funding (\$17,000)

2018-19: Graduate Research Assistantship Matching Funding (\$13,000)

2017-18: Graduate Research Assistantship Grant (\$22,000)

2016-18: Graduate Research Assistantship Grant (\$22,000)

2016: Conference funding, “Political Economy of Power Projection” (\$20,000)

2015-16: Graduate Research Assistantship Grant (\$22,000)

2016-21: Faculty Research Grant (Approx. \$2,000-\$4,000 per year)

Dornsife Faculty Development Award

2018-2021: \$2500-\$3500 per year

USC Zumberge Faculty Research and Innovation Fund

2018: Individual Research Grant (\$35,000)

VKI Funding Support (School of International Relations)

2016-2021: Conference Support and SPEC Lab Research Assistant Funding (Approx. \$2,000-\$2,500 per year)

Dornsife College Student Opportunities for Academic Research Program

2016-2021: Undergraduate Research Assistant Funding (Approx. \$3,000 per year)

Undergraduate Research Associates Program

2016-21: Undergraduate Research Assistant funding with SPEC Lab Co-PIs Benjamin Graham and Megan Becker (Approx. \$6,000-\$8,000 per year)

Invited Talks/Book Conferences

Spring 2023 UCLA Political Science Department; Global Environmental Leaders Program (GELP) Sungkyunkwan University; University of Texas Austin, Department of Government

Spring 2022: Lehigh University

Spring 2021: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Fall 2020: Notre Dame, Johns Hopkins (SAIS)

Spring 2020: University of Chicago

Spring 2019: Dartmouth College

Fall 2018: Vanderbilt University, Arctic Circle Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland

Fall 2017: Air War College; Book Conferences at USC, UCSD, Dartmouth College

Spring 2017: Briefed State Department and National Intelligence Council on Arctic Power Projection; Dartmouth College

Fall 2016: Northwestern University, Texas A&M (LBJ School), George Washington University, “Future Security in the Arctic Region” Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland

Fall 2015: Yale NUS (Singapore)

Spring 2015: Dartmouth College, Harvard Kennedy School of Government (Belfer)

Fall 2013: “New Faces Conference” at UNC Chapel Hill, Harvard Kennedy School of Government (Belfer)

Fall 2012: “Rich Region, Strong State Conference,” UCSD

Summer 2011: Peace Research Institute of Oslo

Conference Presentations

“Measuring Threat and Military Burdens” with Miriam Barnum and Christopher J. Fariss. (Peace Science 2022, EPSA 2023)

“Appropriable Wealth, Autocracy and Human Rights” with Miriam Barnum and Christopher J. Fariss. (USC Political Economy of Security Conference 2023)

“Guns, Gains, and Growth: New Estimates on How the Relationship between Military and Economic Power has Changed over 200 Years” with Miriam Barnum and Christopher J. Fariss. (ISA 2022)

“Arctic Shock: Utilizing Climate Change to Test a Theory of Resource Competition” (APSA 2021)

“Beyond Conquest: Four Pathways from Military Power to Profits” (APSA 2021)

“Author Meets Critics Roundtable: Jonathan Markowitz’s Perils of Plenty” (APSA 2020)

“The Spoils of Coercion: Military Coercion and Economic Gain in the 21st Century” with Benjamin A.T. Graham. (APSA 2020)

"Causal Mechanisms and the Resource-Conflict Connection: A Re-evaluation" with Megan Becker and Sarah Osborn. (Peace Science 2019, ISA 2020 [Canceled due to COVID-19], and APSA 2020)

"Replicating the Resource Curse: Ross (2004) and Prospects for Qualitative Replication" with Megan Becker, Srividya Dasaraju, Lindsay Lauder, Isabelle Nazha. (APSA 2019)

"Conquering Alone: Rent Addiction and Territorial Conquest" with Benjamin A.T. Graham, Suzie Caldwell Mulesky and Christopher J. Fariss. (APSA 2018, ISA 2020 [Canceled due to COVID-19])

"Powerful, Proximate and Potentially Threatening: Explaining Why States Arm and Project Power" with Therese Anders and Christopher J. Fariss. (Peace Science 2017, ISA 2018, and APSA 2018)

"Crude Calculations: When Does Conquest Pay" with Andrew Coe. (APSA 2017, Peace Science 2019)

"Arctic Power Projection: Using the Exogenous Shock of Climate Change to Test Theories of Resource Competition" (APSA 2014, ISSS-ISAC 2015, International Studies Association 2015, 2017, and 2020 [Canceled due to COVID-19])

"Producing Goods and Projecting Power: How What You Make Influences What You Take" with R. Blake McMahon and Christopher J. Fariss. (APSA 2016)

"Measuring Power Projection" with Megan Becker, Therese Anders, Jacob Tucker, and Lauren Cholakian. (ISA West 2016)

"Disentangling Grand Strategy: The Promise and Perils of Grand Theory for Grand Strategy" with Paul Avey and Robert Reardon. (APSA 2015 & 2016, ISAC-ISSS 2015)

"American Troop Presence and International Stability" with Paul Avey and Robert Reardon. (ISA 2014, APSA 2014)

Service/Leadership (Discipline)

Conferences Organized:

The Political Economy of International Security April 20, 21, 2023, organized with Benjamin Graham and Andrew Coe

"Bridging Asia: American Grand Strategy and East Asia in the 21st century" November, 17-18 2022. Co-organized with David Kang

"Bridging Asia: After the US Presidential Election: American Grand Strategy and East Asia in 2021." January 29, 2021. Co-organized with David Kang

"Bridging Asia: Is East Asia Ripe for Rivalry or Increasingly Stable? American Grand Strategy and East Asia in the 21st Century." January 31, 2020. Co-organized with David Kang

"Bridging Asia: Double Down or Come Home? American Grand Strategy and East Asia in the 21st Century." March 19, 2018. Co-organized with David Kang

"Security and Political Economy Conference." USC Center for International Studies. Fall 2021.

"Political Economy of Security Conference." USC Center for International Studies. January 26-27, 2017. Co-organized with Benjamin Graham.

"Political Economy of Power Projection Conference" USC Center for International Studies. November 11-13, 2016.

Conference Panels Organized:

"Author Meets Critics: Jonathan Markowitz' Perils of Plenty." APSA 2020.

"The Political Economy of International Security." APSA 2020. Co-organized with Benjamin Graham.

"Political Responses to Energy Insecurity." APSA 2017. Co-organized with Jacques Hymans.

"Political Economy of Security." APSA 2016.

"Political Economy of Power Projection." ISA 2016.

"How Can Social Science Advance the Grand Strategy Debate?" ISA 2016. Co-organized with Paul Avey and Robert Reardon.

Journal Referee:

American Political Science Review, International Security, Journal of Conflict Resolution, International Interactions, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Security Studies, and International Studies Quarterly

Grants Referee:

National Science Foundation

Service/Leadership/Community Building (USC)

Inclusive Institution Building:

Fall 2019-Present. Co-PI (with David Kang) of the U.S.-Asia Grand Strategy Pre-doctoral Fellows Program. Our program currently serves 7 pre-doctoral fellows.

Fall 2015-Present. Co-PI (with Benjamin Graham and Megan Becker) of the Security and Political Economy (SPEC) Lab. Graduate and undergraduate research lab at USC with 30 undergraduates and 4 Ph.D. students currently working with us. Our lab has trained over 100 undergraduates and nearly a dozen Ph.D. students on how to conduct collaborative research.

Committee Work and Exams Committees:

2022-23 Political Science and International Relations Committee

2022-23 Center for International Studies Advisory Committee

2021-22 Center for International Studies Advisory Committee

2019-21 Faculty Advisory Committee U.S.-Asia Grand Strategy Predoctoral Fellows Program

2020-21 POIR Qualifying Committees

2019-20 POIR Qualifying Committees

2016-17 POIR Qualifying Committees

Fall 2016 Political Science and International Relations Committee

Working Paper Series and Workshops Organized:

Fall 2019-Present. Korean Studies Institute Working Paper Series. Co-organized with David Kang, Gloria Koo, and John Park.

Fall 2017-Spring 2019. Junior Faculty Working Paper Group for Political Science and International Relations.

Fall 2015-Spring 2017. Center for International Studies Working Paper Series. Co-organized with Benjamin Graham, Andrew Coe and David Kang

Community Building:

2016-2019. Organized the Interdisciplinary Junior Faculty Happy Hour. Met regularly to allow junior faculty from across the university to meet one another and find opportunities for collaboration.

2016-2018. Participated in the Center of International Studies' Professionalization Series for Graduate Students.

Additional Training

Summer 2013: SITC Summer Training Workshop on the Relationship Between National Security and Technology in China, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, UCSD.

Summer 2012: Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University.

Summer 2012: Hertog Summer Study, U.S.-China Relations, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University.

Summer 2011: Visiting Researcher at Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), affiliated with the CSCW Environmental Factors and Civil War Program.

Summer 2010: Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, 10-week interdisciplinary course on climate change, Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Summer 2009: Public Policy and Nuclear Threats Program, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, UCSD.

Summer 2009: DACOR (Development and Conflict Research) Conference on the Political Economy of Terrorism and Insurgency, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, UCSD.

Summer 2009: Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University.

Mentoring

Graduate Students: I have mentored all of the students on the following list, providing multiple rounds of detailed feedback on their research and professional guidance.

Graduate Co-Authors

Therese Anders
Miriam Barnum
Gaea Patrice Morales
Suzie Caldwell Mulesky

SPEC Lab Graduate Research Directors

Alex Ziff
Kelebogile Zvobgo

Graduate Research Assistants

Rod Albuyeh
Therese Anders
Miriam Barnum
Evgeniia Iakhnis
Stephanie Kang
Gaea Patrice Morales

Comprehensive Exam Committee Member

Yuji Idomoto
Brian Knafou

Stephanie Kang
Na Young Lee
Suzie Caldwell Mulesky
Kyle Rapp
Jenn Rogla
Anne Van Wijk

East Asia Grand Strategy Pre-Doctoral Fellows

I met with these graduate student fellows every two weeks during our working paper series to provide feedback on working papers, job talks, and policy briefings, as well as to provide professional guidance. I also met with each of the graduate students regularly one-on-one to provide more individually tailored guidance and feedback.

Jonathan Baron - Yale University
Justin Key Canfil - Columbia University
Adam Frost - Harvard University
Edward Goldring - University of Missouri
Carl Huang - University of Virginia
Stephanie Kang- USC
Ellen Kim - USC
Na Young Lee - USC
Bridget Martin - UC Berkeley
Paul Orner - USC
Kyuri Park - USC
Stuart Pike - UCLA

Undergraduate Mentees and Research Collaborators I have trained, offered professional guidance, and written letters of recommendation for over 30 students who have worked with me as research assistants in the SPEC Lab. Below, I have listed a subset of these students that I've had the opportunity to work with, mentor, and train for multiple years. I have added # for students I have co-authored with and/or who I have taken to conferences to present our research.

Anbar Aizenman
Carlotta Dalal Alaai
Shawn Anderson
Grace Bandeen
Ryan Barr
Alexander Bosch
Lauren Cholakian #
Srividya Dasaraju #
Hunter Hinson
Clio Klapsis
Lindsay Lauder #
Jordan Lee
Douglass Luo
Gavin Michaels #
Isabelle Nazha #
Sarah Orsborn #
Clara Parkus
Johanna Reyes Ortega
Hailey Robertson

Mia Rudd
Amanda Scott
Madison Seeley
Elizabeth Squires
Akhil Thadani
Nicholas Tinoco
Jacob Tucker
Tyler Gallagher
Jocelyn Zhao

Courses Taught at USC

Undergraduate:

IR 422 Ecological Security and Global Politics (Spring 2016, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)
IR 422 Maymester Version (Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2022)
IR 326 U.S. Foreign Economic Policy (Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)
IR 332 Guns, Oil, and Money (Spring 2020, Spring 2021)
IR 210 International Relations: Introductory Analysis (Fall 2021, Spring 2023)
IR 342: Nuclear Weapons, Great Power Competition, and Grand Strategy (Spring 2023)

Graduate:

POIR 612 Ph.D. Seminar on Qualitative Research Design (Fall 2015,² Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2023)

References

Stephen Brooks (Stephen.G.Brooks@dartmouth.edu)

David Kang (kangdc@usc.edu)

² Because it was a new course at the time, this course was numbered POIR 599 the first time I taught it in the Fall of 2015.

David Lake (dlake@ucsd.edu)

William Wohlforth (William.Wohlforth@dartmouth.edu)