

William Spaniel

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Pittsburgh. 2016–Present. Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.
Stanford University. 2015–2016. Stanton Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for International Security and Cooperation.

EDUCATION

University of Rochester

PhD, Political Science. Conferred August 2015.
MA, Political Science. May 2013.
Fields: International Relations, Formal Theory, and Political Methodology.

University of California, San Diego

BA, Political Science (International Relations). High Honors. September 2009.

BOOKS

Militant Competition: How Terrorists and Insurgents Advertise with Violence and How They Can Be Stopped. With Justin Conrad. Forthcoming September 2021, Cambridge University Press.

Bargaining over the Bomb: The Successes and Failures of Nuclear Negotiations. 2019. Cambridge University Press.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Shooting the Messenger: The Challenge of National Security Whistleblowing. With Michael Joseph and Michael Poznansky. Forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*.

When Technocratic Appointments Signal Credibility. With Despina Alexiadou and Hakan Gunaydin. Forthcoming, *Comparative Political Studies*.

Doubling Down: The Dangers of Disclosing Secret Action. With Jacob Otto. Forthcoming, *International Studies Quarterly*.

Do Nonproliferation Agreements Constrain? With Bradley C. Smith. Forthcoming, *Journal of Peace Research*.

Power Transfers, Military Uncertainty, and War. Forthcoming, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*.

Why Give Nuclear Assistance to Would-Be Proliferators? Forthcoming, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*.

High Valuations, Uncertainty, and War. With Iris Malone. 2021. *Research and Politics* 8 (1): 1–6.

Stall Wars: When Do States Fight to Hold onto the Status Quo? With Peter Bils and Gleason Judd. 2020. *International Studies Quarterly* 64 (3): 523–529.

Getting a Hand by Cutting Them Off: How Uncertainty over Political Corruption Affects Violence. With Paul Zachary. 2020. *British Journal of Political Science* 50 (2): 457–480.

Bad-Faith Cooperation. With Michael Poznansky. 2020. *International Interactions* 46 (4): 579–605.

Introducing ν -CLEAR: A Latent Variable Approach to Measuring Nuclear Capability. With Bradley C. Smith. 2020. *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 37 (2): 232–256.

The Uncertainty Trade-off: Reexamining Opportunity Costs and War. With Iris Malone. 2019. *International Studies Quarterly* 63 (4): 1025–1034.

Militarized Disputes, Uncertainty, and Leader Tenure. With Bradley C. Smith. 2019. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 63 (5): 1222–1252.

Rational Overreaction to Terrorism. 2019. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 63 (3): 786–810.

Credible Commitment in Covert Affairs. With Michael Poznansky. 2018. *American Journal of Political Science* 62 (3): 668–681.

Only Here to Help? Bargaining and the Perverse Incentives of International Institutions. 2018. *International Studies Quarterly* 62 (1): 14–22.

Terrorism, Wealth, and Delegation. 2018. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 13 (2): 147–172.

Slow to Learn: Bargaining, Uncertainty, and the Calculus of Conquest. With Peter Bils. 2018. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 62 (4): 774–796.

Policy Bargaining and Militarized Conflict. With Peter Bils. 2017. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 29 (4): 647–678.

How Uncertainty about the Legal Views of Judicial Nominees Distorts the Confirmation Process. With Maya Sen. 2017. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 29 (1): 22–47.

Multi-Method Research: A Case for Formal Theory. With Hein Goemans. 2016. *Security Studies* 25 (1): 25–33.

Sanctions, Uncertainty, and Leader Tenure. With Bradley C. Smith. 2015. *International Studies Quarterly* 59 (4): 735–749.

Arms Negotiations, War Exhaustion, and the Credibility of Preventive War. 2015. *International Interactions* 41 (5): 832–856.

UNDER REVIEW,
REVISION, OR
RESUBMISSION

Impossibility Dilemmas in Civil War Intervention. With Burcu Savun and Dongju Lee.

Issue Indivisibility as a Cause of Peace.

Institutional Design, Enforcement Problems, and War. With Michael Poznansky.

IN PROGRESS

What States Want: How Preferences and Power Shape War. Book manuscript with Peter Bils and Bradley C. Smith.

Atomic Uncertainty. Book manuscript with Rupal Mehta.

Credible Commitment and Wars of Economic Independence.

Bargaining over Costly Signals.

Stand Down or Stay Ready? Cheap Talk and Credible Domestic Signaling in Security Affairs.

Militant Messaging. With Kevin T. Greene.

Power to the People: Credible Communication in the Quotidian Use of Authoritarian Institutions. With Iza Ding.

Bribery and Fair Representation on the United Nations Security Council.

OTHER
PEER-REVIEWED
PUBLICATIONS

Responsible Sourcing, Corporate Citizenship, and Baseball: A Framework for Labor Procurement Negotiations in the Talent Supply Chain. With Adrien Bouchet and Mike Troilo. 2015. *Corporate Governance* 15 (2): 214–228.

Breaking Balls with a Runner on Third: A Game Theoretical Analysis of Optimal Behavior. 2012. *The Baseball Research Journal* 41 (1): 32–36.

PROCEEDINGS

“Bargaining and North Korea.” In *Game Theory and Nuclear Stability in Northeast Asia* workshop proceedings, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

INVITED
TALKS/WORKSHOP
PRESENTATIONS

“The Uncertainty Trade-off: Reexamining Opportunity Costs and War.” Peace and Conflict Studies Institute, Cornell University. 2020.

“Moderation and Nuclear Deterrence.” Workshop on Formal Models of Nuclear Deterrence. Waseda University and Hiroshima Prefecture. March 2020 and August 2020.¹

“Designing Nonproliferation.” Politics of Nuclear Proliferation Workshop, NYU Abu Dhabi. January 2020.

“Why Give Nuclear Assistance to Would-Be Proliferators?” University of Texas. September 2018.

“Understanding What Happened with North Korea.” Game Theory Workshop, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. August 2018.

“Power to the People.” Workshop on Chinese Politics and Society, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. July 2017.

“Nuclear Proficiency and Defensive Alliances.” Nuclear Latency in International Relations Workshop, University of Nebraska. March 2017.

“Subsidizing Moderation? Terrorism, Signaling, and Principal-Agent Problems.” Formal Models of International Relations Conference, University of Southern California, February 2016.

“The Invisible Fist: How Potential Power Coerces Concessions.” University of Buffalo, October 2012.

TEXTBOOKS

Formal Models of Crisis Bargaining

Draft completed.

Game Theory 101: Bargaining

Published August 2014.

The Rationality of War

¹Canceled due to COVID-19.

Published August 2012.

Game Theory 101: The Complete Textbook

Published September 2011.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2017 MPSA Award for Best Paper in International Relations for “Competition, Government Enforcement and Political Violence,” with Justin Conrad.

2016 Outstanding Dissertation Award for the Social Sciences, University of Rochester.

Nominated for University of Rochester’s Professor of the Year Award, 2015.

2014 Edward Curtis Peck Award Winner for Excellence in Teaching.

2014 New Faces Fellow. Triangle Institute for Security Studies.

Charles E. Lanni Research Assistant Fellowship with Maya Sen. University of Rochester, 2014.

Graduate Student Association Conference Travel Award. University of Rochester, Spring 2014.

W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy Fellowship. University of Rochester, 2013–2014.

Prestage-Cook Travel Award. 84th Annual Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2013.

Charles E. Lanni Research Assistant Fellowship with Maya Sen. University of Rochester, 2012.

Charles E. Lanni Research Assistant Fellowship with Mark Fey. University of Rochester, 2012.

Charles E. Lanni Second Year Paper Fellowship. University of Rochester, 2012.

Teaching Assistant Fellowship. University of Rochester, Spring 2012.

TEACHING

Courses Taught

Introduction to International Relations. University of Pittsburgh: Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2021.

The Politics of Nuclear Proliferation. University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020.

Political Strategy in International Relations. University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2020.

Formal Political Theory II (Graduate). University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2018, Fall 2020.

International Organizations (Graduate). University of Pittsburgh: Spring 2021.

Introduction to International Relations. University of Rochester: Fall 2014 and Spring 2015.

Civil War and International Systems. University of Rochester: Spring 2014 and Spring 2015.

Game Theory 101

Creator of the [Game Theory 101 YouTube Channel](#). 73,000 subscribers, 13.2 million lifetime

video views.

ADVISING

Dissertation Committees: Matthew Jackson (current), Ryan Loomis (GSPIA, current), Jacob Otto (current)

Masters Qualifying: Merve Keskin, Jacob Otto, Hyunjung Park

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association: 2019, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2013

Midwest Political Science Association: 2020², 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

Peace Science Society: 2018, 2016, 2014, 2013

Peace Science Society Online Colloquium: 2016

International Studies Association: 2020³, 2019, 2017, 2014

Southern Political Science Association: 2014, 2013

Los Alamos National Laboratory: 2016

Exposing Secrets: 2019

SERVICE

International Interactions Editorial Board, 2019–2023

REFEREEING

Cambridge University Press, University of Michigan Press

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, The Baseball Research Journal, British Journal of Political Science, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Defense and Peace Economics, International Interactions, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, International Studies Review, International Theory, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Journal of Sports Economics, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Political Research Quarterly, Review of International Studies, Stability: International Journal of Security and Development, World Politics

OP-EDS

War on the Rocks

[National Security Whistleblower Reform Is a Sticky Wicket](#). September 2019.

Washington Post: The Monkey Cage

[Here's What Could Happen If a President Trump Tore up the Iran Nuclear Deal](#). July 2016.

MEDIA

Pittwire

[What's Out There?](#) May 2021.

APPEARANCES

Popular Science

[It's Time to Explain Some Game Theory](#). July 2020.

BBC World Service: The Why Factor

²Canceled due to COVID-19.

³Canceled due to COVID-19.

World War I: Sacrifice. September 2015.

BBC World News Television

Mathematician John Nash Dies. May 2015.

The New York Times: Freakonomics

Game Theory TV. May 2010.

Last updated July 11, 2021.