

THOMAS EDWARD FLORES

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CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

George Mason University, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Arlington, VA

Associate Professor. August 2016 - Present.

Assistant Professor. August 2009 - August 2016.

George Mason University, Center for Global Studies, Arlington, VA

Associate Faculty Member. May 2010 - Present.

PREVIOUS AFFILIATIONS

New York University, Center for Global Affairs, New York, NY

Clinical Assistant Professor of Global Affairs. 2008–2009.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ph.D. in Political Science, September 2008.

Dissertation: *The Political Economy of Property Rights Discrimination*.

Committee members: Professors Robert J. Franzese, Jr. (Chair), James D. Morrow, William R. Clark, and Katherine Terrell (Cognate Member, Ford School of Public Policy).

Major fields: Political Economy and Development; World Politics; Quantitative Methodology.

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

B.A., *magna cum laude* in Government, June 1998.

Honors Thesis: *Congressional Foreign Policy Making: The Case of MFN for China*.

SELECTED HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Varieties of Democracy Institute, Visiting Fellow. February 2016.

International Studies Association, Catalytic Research Grant, 2014. \$4,500 (with Agnieszka Paczynska and Terrence Lyons).

George Mason University, Center for Global Studies, Research Workshop Grant, 2014. \$5,000 (with Agnieszka Paczynska and Terrence Lyons).

George Mason University Seed Grant Research Funds, 2010. \$10,000.

Visiting Scholar, American Political Science Association Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs, 2007.

Ford Foundation Diversity Dissertation Fellow, 2006–7.

United States Department of State J. William Fulbright Scholar to Colombia, 2006.

Horace Rackham Graduate School Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of Michigan, 2004.

Department of Political Science Kingdon Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Instructors, University of Michigan, 2003.

Horace Rackham Graduate School Merit Fellow, University of Michigan, 2001–2005.

RESEARCH

Books

2016. *Elections in Hard Times: Building Stronger Democracies in the 21st Century* (with Irfan Nooruddin). Cambridge University Press and Woodrow Wilson Center Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2016. “Instilling Hope for Peace During Intractable Conflicts” (with Adomi Leshem and Yechiel Klar). *Social Psychological and Personality Science* 7(4): 303-311.

2015. “Vote Choice and Legacies of Violence: Evidence from the 2014 Colombian Presidential Elections” (with Michael Weintraub and Juan Vargas). *Research and Politics*, April-June 2015, 1-8.

2014. “Vertical Inequality, Land Reform, and Insurgency in Colombia.” *Peace Economics, Peace Science, and Public Policy* 20(1): 5-31.

2012. “The Effect of Elections on Postconflict Peace and Reconstruction” (with Irfan Nooruddin). *Journal of Politics* 74(2): 558-570.

2009. “Democracy Under the Gun: Understanding Post-Conflict Economic Recovery” (with Irfan Nooruddin). *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53(3): 3–29 (lead article).

2009. “Financing the Peace: Evaluating World Bank Post-Conflict Assistance Programs”(with Irfan Nooruddin). *Review of International Organizations* 4(1): 1–27 (lead article).

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

2011. “Credible Commitments in Post-Conflict Recovery” (with Irfan Nooruddin). In *The Handbook on the Political Economy of War*, edited by Christopher J. Coyne and Rachel L. Mathers. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Work in Progress

“The Technocratic Advantage: Does Technocratic Leadership Attract International Financing?” (With Gabriella Lloyd and Irfan Nooruddin.)

“Elections in War and Peace: Understanding the Impact of Civil Conflict on the Conduct of Elections.”

“Bullets and Ballots: Understanding Party Militias in Sub-Saharan Africa” (With Alexandra Schaerrer and Irfan Nooruddin).

Book Reviews

2013. “Monitoring the Monitors: Understanding Election Observation in Today’s World” *International Studies Review*. 15(3): 432-437. Review of *The Pseudo-Democrat’s Dilemma: Why Election Observation Became an International Norm*, by Susan D. Hyde, and *Monitoring Democracy: When International Election Observation Works, and Why It Often Fails*, by Judith G. Kelley.

Blog Posts

2015. “How Did Guerrilla Violence Shape the 2014 Presidential Election in Colombia?” (with Michael Weintraub and Juan Vargas). *Political Violence @ a Glance*. Available at: <http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2015/03/25/how-did-guerrilla-violence-shape-the-2014-presidential-election-in-colombia/>

2014. “Voting under the gun: elections and conflict around the world.” Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), *Economists on Conflict*. Available at: <http://www.sipri.org/media/blogs/eps-blog/voting-under-the-gun-elections-and-conflict-around-the-world>

2013. “200 Years of Landlessness? Land Inequality and the Search for Peace in Colombia.” United States Institute of Peace (USIP), *International Network for Economics and Conflict*. Available at: <http://inec.usip.org/blog/2013/aug/28/200-years-landlessness-land-inequality-and-search-peace-colombia>

2013. “Never Mind the Generals, Here Come the Technocrats.” *Symposium Magazine*. September 2013. Available at: <http://www.symposium-magazine.com/never-mind-the-generals-here-come-the-technocrats/>

Media Appearances

“Predicting War.” *With Good Reason*. Available at: <https://soundcloud.com/withgoodreason/predicting-war>

Interview with City TV, Bogotá, Colombia. December 2015.

Selected Recent Presentations

Full list available upon request

“Democracy Promotion in the 21st Century: A Scholarly View.” United States Agency for International Development, Washington, DC, May 2016.

Author Meets Critics: *Elections in Hard Times*. With Irfan Nooruddin. Panel of critics: Emily Beaulieu, Susan Hyde, Nicolay Marinov, and Alberto Simpser.

“Elections in Hard Times.” Varieties of Democracy Institute. Gothenburg, Sweden, February 2016.

“Conflict Dynamics and Challenges to Building a Resilient Peace in Colombia.” Workshop co-organizer (with Juan Vargas). Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, Colombia. December 2015.

“Toward Common Indicators for Democratic Elections.” Workshop participant. Emory University, Atlanta, GA. November 2015.

“The Arab Uprisings in Comparative Perspective.” ISA Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, February 2015. Workshop co-organizer.

“The Arab Uprisings in Comparative Perspective.” George Mason University, Arlington, VA. October 2014. Conference co-organizer.

“Post-Conflict Politics: Open Questions, New Data, and Future Directions.” Peace Science Society (International) Conference, Philadelphia, PA. October 2014. Workshop co-organizer.

“Agrarian Reform and Peace in Colombia.” Conference: “Conflict, Crime, and Violence in Colombia.” Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, Colombia. May 2014.

“Prospects for Peace in South Sudan: Perspectives from Comparative Political Economy.” The World Bank, Washington DC. February 2014.

“The Technocratic Advantage: Do Post-Civil War Leaders Matter for International Financing?”. Institute for Global and International Studies, The Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University. March 2012.

“Democracy and Peacebuilding.” Conference: “Peacebuilding in an Ever More Globalized World.” Ohio State University, Mershon Center. November 2012.

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Classes at George Mason University

CONF 490, Undergraduate Integration

Conflict 811, Quantitative Analysis in Conflict Studies.

Conflict 751/752, The Political Economy of Civil War and Peacebuilding.

Conflict 340, Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

Conflict 746, Peacebuilding.

Conflict 610, Philosophy and Methods of Conflict Research.

Conflict 998, Dissertation Proposal Preparation.

Conflict 797, Thesis Proposal Preparation.

Classes at New York University

Y45.1020, Developing Countries in the Global Economy.

Y45.1030, International Political Economy.

Y45.2100, The Political Economy of Development.

Y45.3005, Cuba: An *Intercambio*.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Institutional Activities

Member, APSA, MPSA, ISA, and Peace Science Society (International)

Section Chair, Conflict Processes, MPSA 2013 Conference.

Reviewer for the *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Cogent Social Sciences*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Defense and Peace Economics*, *International Economic Journal*, *International Journal for Peace Studies*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, National Science Foundation, *Review of International Organizations*, *Studies in Comparative International Development*, and United States Institute of Peace.

Full list of conference activities available upon request.

University Service

At George Mason University

S-CAR Term Search Committee, 2015-16.

S-CAR Research Committee, 2009-Present (Chair, 2015-present)

S-CAR Doctoral Committee, 2009-Present.

S-CAR Undergraduate Committee, 2015-Present.

S-CAR Masters Committee, 2012.

Delegation Member, S-CAR delegation to China, 2010.

At New York University

Chair, Search Committee for Director of Administration and Outreach (2008-2009)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (proficient in writing and speaking).

PRACTICE AND POLICY WORK

Center for Complex Operations, National Defense University. Washington, DC, 2010.

Consultant. Designed statistical tests to analyze the success of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) in Iraq and Afghanistan, based on surveys and long-form interviews. Worked with a team of two professors from ICAR and personnel from the Center for Complex Operations (CCO) at the National Defense University (NDU).

United States Agency for International Development. Washington, DC, 2010.

Consultant. Developed indicators for post-war development of political economic institutions and elite commitments to peace. Worked with a team of four professors and personnel from USAID and the Academy for Educational Development (AED). Co-authored a final report and helped plan a “Theories of Change Indicator Development Workshop” in November 2010.

Fellowship of Reconciliation, San José de Apartadó, Antioquia, Colombia, October 2006

Delegation Member. Accompanied members of a peace community returning to their land after ten years of displacement. Delegation presence provided security for the returning families under threat from paramilitary and guerrilla groups for maintaining their neutrality in the armed conflict.

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

First Manhattan Consulting Group (FMCG), New York City, NY, 1998–2000

Analyst, Senior Analyst. Analyst on teams of 3-5 people for medium-sized consulting firm specializing in the banking and financial services industries. Analyzed over one million checking and savings accounts for a major Latin American bank. Recommended pricing changes implemented by management resulting in \$2 million in added revenue. Co-managed telemarketing campaign. Managed Merger Integration Office for \$40 billion merger of two Western regional banks. Developed and implemented merger crisis communication plan with senior management team. Managed secretarial staff. Analyzed efficiency ratio improvement opportunities by line of business and presented recommendations to CEO and CFO of merged bank.