

Janet I. Lewis

George Washington University • Political Science Department
Monroe Hall 2115 G Street, NW Suite 440 Washington, DC 20052
janetilewis@gwu.edu <http://www.janetilewis.com>

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

George Washington University

Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs
Assistant Professor -

Washington, DC
2022 - present
2019 - 2022

United States Naval Academy (USNA)

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Annapolis, MD
2013 - 2019

Harvard University

College Fellows Program, Department of Government
Post-Doctoral Fellow

Cambridge, MA
2012 - 2013

Yale University

Program on Order, Conflict and Violence (OCV)
Pre-Doctoral Fellow

New Haven, CT
2011 - 2012

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D. and M.A., Department of Government

Cambridge, MA
November 2012

- Best Dissertation Award from the African Politics Conference Group of the American Political Science Association (APSA).
- Senator Charles Sumner Prize from the Harvard Government Department for best dissertation "... tending toward the prevention of war and the establishment of universal peace."

Stanford University

M.A. in International Policy Studies

Palo Alto, CA

June 2001

B.A. with Honors in Political Science

June 2001

One term at Oxford University (United Kingdom); one semester at the University of Western Cape (South Africa)

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

BOOK:

[How Insurgency Begins: Rebel Group Formation in Uganda and Beyond](#). September 2020. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics Series.

- [Book of the Year Prize](#), Conflict Research Society (CRS)
- Annual [Best Book Award](#), African Politics Conference Group (APCG) of APSA
- Annual [Best Book Award](#) (co-winner), International Studies Association (ISA)
- Honorable Mention, Giovanni Sartori Award for best 2020 book developing or applying qualitative methods, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research section of APSA.
- Recommended as a best book of 2020 at [Political Violence @ A Glance](#).
- Academic reviews: *African Studies Review*, *Comparative Politics*, *H-Diplo-International Security Studies Forum* [book roundtable and response](#), *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research* book notes, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Perspectives on Politics*.

PAPERS:

["Political Entrepreneurs or Bandits? The 'Criminal' Origins of Peripheral Rebellions"](#) (with Stephen Rangazas). 2025 (online publication date) at *Perspectives on Politics*.

["Reducing Prejudice Towards Refugees: Evidence that Social Networks Influence Attitude Change in Uganda."](#) 2024 (online publication date). *American Political Science Review*. (with Jennifer M. Larson).

- Best Conference Paper, Political Networks section of APSA

["Linking perspectives: a field experiment on the role of multi-layer networks in refugee information sharing."](#) 2024. *Applied Network Science*. (with Aaron Thomas Clark and Jennifer M. Larson.)

["How Information Spreads through Multi-Layer Networks: A Case Study of Rural Uganda"](#) (with Janet Lewis). 2023. In *Complex Networks and Their Applications XII*, Eds. Hocine Cheri, Luis M. Rocha, Chantal Cheri, and Murat Donduran. Springer Studies in Computational Intelligence.

["Rebel Group Formation in Africa: Evidence from a New Dataset."](#) 2023. *World Development*.

["From Chatter to Action: How Social Networks Inform and Motivate in Rural Uganda"](#) 2021. *British Journal of Political Science*. (with Jennifer M. Larson and Pedro Rodríguez).

["Measuring Networks in the Field"](#) 2020. *Political Science Research and Methods*. 8(1): 123-135. (with Jennifer M. Larson).

["Rumors, Kinship Networks, and Rebel Group Formation"](#) 2018. *International Organization*. 72(Fall): 871-903. (with Jennifer M. Larson).

- Alexander L. George Award for best article or chapter developing or applying qualitative methods published in 2018, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research section of APSA

["Ethnic Networks"](#) 2017. *American Journal of Political Science*. 61(2): 350-364. (with Jennifer Larson).

- Best Article Award, among articles published in *AJPS* in 2017
- Best Conference Paper of 2016, Political Networks section of APSA

["How Does Ethnic Rebellion Start?"](#) 2017. *Comparative Political Studies*. 50(10): 1420-1450.

- James Caporaso Award for Best Article published in *CPS* in 2017

[“When Decentralization Leads to Recentralization: Subnational State Transformation in Uganda”](#) 2014. *Regional & Federal Studies*. 24(5): 571-588.

- Reprinted as a chapter in Jan Erk, ed. 2018. *Federalism and Decentralization in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Oxford and New York: Routledge.

[“Administrative Unit Proliferation”](#) 2014. *American Political Science Review*. 108(1): 196-207. (with Guy Grossman).

- Kellogg/Notre Dame Award for Best Article in Comparative Politics presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting, Midwest Political Science Association.

[“Nations’ Income Inequality Predicts Ambivalence in Stereotype Content: How Societies Mind the Gap”](#) 2012. *British Journal of Social Psychology*. 52(4): 726-746. (with F. Durante et al; 30 authors).

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

[“Harnessing Networks to Counter Anti-Refugee Rumors: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Uganda”](#) (with Anthony Kamwesigye and Jennifer Larson).

“Refugees in Africa” (with Badru Bukenya).

“Social Drivers of Attitudes toward Refugees” (with Jennifer Larson and Alec Tripp)

HONORS

Best Conference Paper Award, Political Networks section of APSA, 2024

Early Career Researcher Award, Office of the Vice Provost for Research, George Washington University (honors one early career faculty member at GW annually), 2023

Best Book Award, International Studies Association (ISA), 2022 (Co-winner)

Book of the Year Prize, Conflict Research Society, 2021

Best Book Award, African Politics Conference Group of APSA, 2021

Honorable Mention, Giovanni Sartori Award for best book developing or applying qualitative methods, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research section of APSA, 2021

Alexander L. George Award for best article or chapter developing or applying qualitative methods published, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research section of APSA, 2019

Best Article Award among articles published in *American Journal of Political Science*, 2018

James Caporaso Award for Best Article published in *Comparative Political Studies*, 2018

Best Conference Paper Award, Political Networks section of APSA, 2017

Kellogg/Notre Dame Award for Best Article in Comparative Politics presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2013

Best Dissertation Award from the African Politics Conference Group of the American Political Science Association (APSA), 2013

Senator Charles Sumner Dissertation Prize from the Harvard Government Department, 2013

Certificates for Distinction in Teaching, Harvard College, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022-25: National Science Foundation (NSF) grant #225430 (PI of GW grant: \$412,271.
Collaborative work with Jennifer Larson.)

2020, 2022, 2025: Shapiro Policy Research Scholarship, GW Institute for Public Policy (GWIPP)

2020-21: Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Peace & Recovery pilot grant (with J. Larson)

2018-19: Ernst Volgenau research grant (intra-USNA competitive grant)

2016-17: Minerva R-DEF research grant to build dataset on rebel formation in Africa

2014, 2015, 2016, 2018: USNA Research Council summer research grant

2012: Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) research grant (with J. Larson)

2011-12: Harry Frank Guggenheim (HFG) Dissertation Fellowship

2010-11: Hartley R. Rodgers Dissertation Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

2010-11: Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University (declined)

2009-10: U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) Randolph Jennings Dissertation Fellowship

2009: National Science Foundation (NSF) Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (#0921550)

2009: Smith Richardson Foundation World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship

2008-09: Arthur Lehman Merit Fellowship, Harvard University

2008: Jennifer Oppenheimer Grant for summer research, Harvard Committee on African Studies

2007-11: Selected as Graduate Student Associate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

2000-01: Graduate Fellow, Center on Conflict and Negotiation (SCCN), Stanford University

1999: U.S. Department of Education National Security Education Program (NSEP) grant for study in Belhar, South Africa (University of Western Cape)

1999: Dorot Foundation grant for undergrad honors fieldwork in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel

TEACHING AND ADVISING

- Courses at GW: *Political Violence* (undergraduate and Ph.D. level courses), *Social Networks in Politics and Conflict* (joint grad/undergrad), *Comparative Politics of Africa* (undergrad), *Dissertation Prospectus Workshop* (Ph.D.)
- Courses at USNA (all undergrad): *Ethnic Politics and Conflict*, *Politics in Africa*, *Introduction to Comparative Politics*, *Introduction to International Relations*, *Political Science Quantitative Methods*
- Courses at Harvard (as sole instructor): *Ethnic Politics and Conflict* and *Security and Development Interventions in Fragile States* (undergrad)
- Ph.D. Dissertation Chair for Daniel Trombly (GW) and co-Chair for Sean Givnish. Ph.D. Committee Member for Leore Ben-Chorin, Tom Garvey, Stephen Rangazas, Caleb Schmotter (GW), and Will Favell (WSU). External Ph.D. examiner for Mark Berlin (GW), Joel Blaxland (Temple Univ.), Danielle Gilbert (GW), and Makena Micheni (LSE)
- Academic Advisor to 12-25 USNA political science majors and 1-2 theses per year (2013-2019)

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

- Keynote lecture, annual meeting of the Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE), hosted by Center for Effective Global Action and the Mereshon Center at the Ohio State University (2025)
- Georgetown University Mortara Research Seminar (2024)
- MIT Comparative Politics Speaker Series (2024)
- MIT Seminar XXI (2025; 2024; 2023; 2022)
- Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State (2024; 2022)
- The Organizational Turn in Conflict Research, invited talk at workshop, ISA (2024)
- Makerere University, Impact Evaluation Network (2022)
- Multi-Methods Conflict Research Consortium, invited talk at workshop, Peace Science Society (2022)
- United Nations University's World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) Annual Conference (2022)
- Ethics of Studying Armed Groups, invited workshop, College of Charleston (2022)
- University of Pennsylvania Identity and Conflict Lab, invited paper at Conference on Overcoming Prejudice Towards Immigrant Minorities (2022)
- University of Sheffield, Centre for Comparative Study of Civil War (2022)
- Keynote lecture, Conflict Research Society Annual Meeting (2021)
- University of California, Berkeley, Center for African Studies (2021)
- Peace Research Institute of Oslo (2021)
- MIT Security Studies Program (2020)
- Peace Science Society, invited workshop on the Politics of Rebellion (2020)
- Johns Hopkins School for Advanced Int'l Studies (SAIS), African Studies Program (2020)
- Advancing Research on Conflict (ARC), invited panelist (2019)
- Honorary address, United States Naval Academy, Phi Sigma Alpha honors society (2019)
- Duke University, Conflict Peace and Security Workshop (2019)
- Temple University, Comparative Politics Workshop (2019)
- George Washington University, Comparative Politics Workshop (2017)
- Peace Science Society, invited workshop on Networks of Resistance (2017)
- Georgetown University, Capital Area Africanist Workshop (2015)
- Olympia Summer Academy, invited instructor (2015)
- Duke University, Conflict Peace and Security Workshop (2014)
- Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE), hosted by the World Bank (2013)
- Uppsala University, Department of Peace and Conflict Research (2012)

SELECTED POLICY PUBLICATIONS

"The Democratic Republic of Congo might break up its provinces. Then what?" *The Monkey Cage* blog of *The Washington Post*. June 4, 2015. (with Guy Grossman.)

Developing an Army Strategy for Building Partner Capacity for Stability Operations Monograph. Santa Monica: The RAND Corporation, June 2010. (with Jefferson P. Marquis et al.)

"Poverty and Conflict: What Policymakers Need to Know." *Working Paper Series on Global Economy and Development*, #02, Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, December 2006. (with Susan E. Rice and Corinne Graff.)

"Better Strategic Planning Needed to Coordinate Efforts to Deliver Counter-Terrorism Financing Training and Technical Assistance Abroad." Washington, D.C.: U.S. GAO, October 2005. (Contributing author.)

"U.S. Agencies Should Systematically Assess Terrorists' Use of Alternative Financing Mechanisms." Washington, D.C.: U.S. GAO, November 2003. (Contributing author.)

"International Trade: Advisory Committee System Should Be Updated to Better Serve U.S. Policy Needs." Washington, D.C.: U.S. GAO, September 2002. (Contributing author.)

RELATED EXPERIENCE

U.S. Institute of Peace

Instructor

May 2012

Uganda

Co-led training about civilian protection and negotiation for soldiers in the Ugandan military (UPDF) prior to their deployment with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The RAND Corporation

Summer Associate

Summer 2007

Arlington, VA

Conducted research for a RAND study on the effectiveness of the U.S. Army and Department of State's Building Partner Capacity programs, which train African militaries in peacekeeping skills.

The Brookings Institution

Consultant

Summer 2006; Spring 2008

Washington, DC

Conducted research on the transnational security implications of global poverty for Susan Rice, who later served as U.S. National Security Adviser.

U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

Analyst, International Affairs and Trade

2001 to 2005

San Francisco and Washington DC

Conducted research on the effectiveness of U.S. government programs. Included extensive interviewing of officials at the U.S. Departments of State, Defense, Treasury, Justice, and Interior as well as USTR, intelligence agencies, INTERPOL, and the Governments of Indonesia and Belgium.

Seeds of Peace

Instructor and Counselor

Summers 1998-2001, 2003

Maine, Greece, Croatia

Taught conflict resolution programs to youth from the Middle East, Cyprus, and the Balkans.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Associate Editor, *Security Studies* (May 2023-present)
- Manuscript reviewer, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Civil Wars*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *International Security*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Oxford University Press*, *National Science Foundation (Panelist)*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Psychology*, *Regional & Federal Studies*, *Security Studies*, *World Development*, and *World Politics*
- Chair, Political Science Department Comparative Politics Subfield and Comprehensive Exam Committee, GW (2025-26)
- Chair, Best Dissertation Award Committee, African Politics section of APSA (APCG) (2025)
- Member, GW Advisory Council on Research, Office of the Vice President for Research (2023 - present)
- Member, Political Science Department Comparative Politics Comprehensive Exam Committee, GW (2024-25; 2021-22)
- Member, Kendra Koivu Award Committee, Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research (QMMR) Section of APSA (2024)
- Member, GW Political Science Department Graduate Admissions Committee (2024)
- Member, GW Political Science Department Search Committee in International Security (2023)
- Co-Coordinator, GW Comparative Politics Workshop (2020-22)
- Coordinator, GW Political Science Second Year Ph.D. Paper, (2021-22)
- Member, Conflict Research Society Book of the Year Award Committee (2022)
- Chair, Alexander George Paper Award Committee, Qualitative and Mixed Methods Section of APSA (2020)
- Chair, International Relations Section, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting (2018)
- Member, Sage Paper Award Committee, Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research (QMMR) Section of APSA (2017)
- Member, Best Paper Award Committee of the Political Networks Section of APSA (2017)
- Member, USNA Political Science Department External Review Committee (2015-16)
- Member, USNA Political Science Department Capstone Paper Award Committee (2016-2019)
- Member, USNA Humanities and Social Science Division Awards Committee (2017-2019)
- Member, USNA Political Science Hiring Priorities Committee (2017)
- Member, USNA Africa Forum Committee (2013-2019)
- Member, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Executive Committee (2010-11)
- Co-Coordinator, Harvard University Workshop on Civil Conflict and Political Violence (2006-2008)