

# Benjamin Laughlin

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## Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Rochester, expected August 2017.

*Dissertation:* “Causes and Consequences of Refugees.”

*Committee:* Hein Geomans (co-chair), Gretchen Helmke (co-chair), Bethany Lacina, and Matthew Blackwell.

M.A. in Political Science, University of Rochester, 2014.

B.A. in Political Science and Economics, University of Washington, 2007.

## Fields of Research Interest

Civil conflict and political violence, Refugees and immigration, Ethnic politics, Causal inference, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

## Research

### *Working Papers*

“How Information Cascades Cause Refugee Crises: Evidence from Kosovo,” (presented at MPSA, 2015 and SPSA, EPSA, and APSA 2016).

“The Effect of Exposure to Immigrants on Anti-immigrant Sentiment,” (with Barbara Piotrowska—presented at MPSA and EPSA, 2015).

“Do Good Fences Make Good Neighbors? The Impact of Border Fence Expansion on the Mexican Drug War.”

“Cell Phones and Internal Displacement in Civil War.”

### *Work in Progress*

“Voting for Revenge: The Post-Conflict Effect of Forced Displacement and Civil War Violence.”

“Lies, Rumors, and Fleeing in the Donbass War.”

“Nationalistic Education and the Malleability of Ethnicity in Moldova.”

“Civilian Cooperation in Counterinsurgency Operations and the Selectivity of Violence.”

## Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

Dean’s Post-Field Research Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2016-2017.

Travel Grant from the Comparative Politics Section of APSA, 2016.

Grant from the Goergen Fund to hire an Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Rochester, 2016.

University Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2011-2016.

University of Rochester Summer Seed Grant for International Field Research, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Conference Travel Grant, University of Rochester Graduate Organizing Committee, 2014, 2016.

Charles E. Lanni Summer Research Fellowship, University of Rochester, Summer 2012, 2013, 2014.

Department of Political Science Second-Year Paper Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2013.

Program in Empirical Policy Research (PEPR) Grant, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy, University of Rochester, 2012.

## Teaching and Research Experience

### *Teaching*

The Politics of Terrorism, University of Rochester, Fall 2014. Teaching Assistant for Alex Lee.

Introduction to International Relations, University of Rochester, Spring 2014. Teaching Assistant for Hein Geomans.

Ethnic Politics, University of Rochester, Fall 2013. Teaching Assistant for Bethany Lacina.

Identity, Ethnicity and Nationalism, University of Rochester, Spring 2013. Teaching Assistant for Bonnie Meguid.

### *Research*

Research Assistant for Gretchen Helmke, Summer 2012, 2014-16.

Research Assistant for Avidit Acharya, Summer 2012.

Research Assistant for Randall Stone, Summer 2011.

## Professional Activities

Reviewer, *Political Science Research and Methods*.

Member, American Political Science Association, 2011–present.

Member, European Political Science Association, 2014–present.

Member, Peace Science Society, 2013–present.

## Field Experience, Languages, and Software

Field Experience:

Kosovo/Serbia, February-March 2015, June 2016.

Moldova, June-August 2014, January-February, March-April 2015.

Ukraine, August 2014, May, August, 2015.

Kyrgyzstan, June-July 2015.

Romania, May-June, August 2015.

Languages: English (native), Romanian (advanced), Russian (intermediate), Serbian (elementary).

Software: R, ArcGIS, Python.

## References

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James P. Wilmot Assistant Professor of Political Science  
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Matthew Blackwell  
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