

Sherry Zaks, Ph.D.

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Academic Appointments

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University

VISITING FACULTY

Palo Alto, CA

2023–2024

University of Southern California

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Los Angeles, CA

2019–Present

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Palo Alto, CA

2018–2019

Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Hanover, NH

2017–2018

Education

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley

POLITICAL SCIENCE (COMPARATIVE POLITICS, POLITICAL METHODOLOGY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

Berkeley, CA

2012–2017

- Dissertation: *Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Wartime Organizational Structures Affect Rebel-to-Party Transformation*
 - Committee: David Collier (co-chair), Ron Hassner (co-chair), Heather Haveman, Leonardo Arriola
 - 2018 Recipient of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) *Peace Dissertation Prize*

B.A. Rutgers University

POLITICAL SCIENCE & COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

New Brunswick, NJ

2002–2006

- Summa Cum Laude

Publications

Books

- **Sherry Zaks.** *Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Today's Rebels become Tomorrow's Parties* (In Press with Cornell University Press)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- **Sherry Zaks.** (2024). "Do we know it when we see it? (Re-)Conceptualizing Rebel-to-Party Transformation." *Journal of Peace Research*. 61(2): 246–262
- M.P. Broache, Carolyn Holmes, and **Sherry Zaks.** (2023). "Political Science after the Insurrection: Teaching About Democratic Backsliding in U.S. Classrooms." *Journal of Political Science Education* 19(3): 447–457
- **Sherry Zaks.** (2022). "Return to the Scene of the Crime: Revisiting Process Tracing, Bayesianism, and Murder." *Political Analysis*. 30(2): 306–310
- **Sherry Zaks.** (2021). "Updating Bayesians: A Critical Evaluation of Qualitative Bayesian Inference." *Political Analysis*. 29(1): 58–74.
- Sarah E. Parkinson and **Sherry Zaks.** (2018) "Militant and Rebel Organization(s)." *Journal of Comparative Politics*. 50(2): 271–290.
- **Sherry Zaks.** (2017). "Relationships Among Rivals: A Framework for Analyzing Contending Hypotheses in Process-Tracing Research." *Political Analysis*. 25(3): 344–362.

Invited to Revise and Resubmit

- **Sherry Zaks.** "Repurposing Rebellion: Building Rebel Successor Parties on the Heels of War" (R&R: *European Journal of International Relations*)

Editor-Reviewed Publications & Expert Interviews

- **Sherry Zaks.** (2021). “What Rebels can Teach the C-Suite: Organizational Resilience and Agility during Global Crisis” (Expert interview for *Workflow*).
- **Sherry Zaks.** (2017). “Evaluating ‘Competing’ Explanations in *Economic Interdependence and War*” *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*. 15(2): 40-44.
- Seth Masket and **Sherry Zaks.** (2017). “Having Your Cake and Eating it Too? The Conflicting Principles at Issue in the Masterpiece Cakeshop Case” *Vox*. December 8, 2017. Online: <https://www.vox.com/mischiefs-of-faction>
- **Sherry Zaks.** (2016). “Process Tracing Progress and Pitfalls: The State of the Art of Qualitative Research Methods.” In *Handbook of Research Methods and Applications in Political Science*, eds. Hans Kerman & Jaap J. Woldendorp. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Works in Progress

- **Sherry Zaks.** “#Not All Marxists: Disrupting the Left-Right Spectrum in Militant Group Ideology” (Article Manuscript in Preparation: Anticipated Submission: 2024.)
- Karen Albert, Liana Reyes, and **Sherry Zaks.** “Revolution, Law, and the Legacies of Rebel Governance”
- **Sherry Zaks.** “Under my Umbrella: How Geographical Variation in FMLN Wartime Structures affected Post-conflict Vote Share” (Data Collection in Progress)
- **Sherry Zaks.** “Building an Organizational Theory of Rebellion: New Concepts, New Tools, New Directions” (Anticipated Submission: December 2024)
- Jason Klocek and **Sherry Zaks.** “Deus ex Rebellis: Religious Networks and Rhetoric in Resistance Movements.” (Article Manuscript in Preparation: Anticipated Submission: 2024.)

Grants & Awards

EXTERNAL AWARDS

2023	Becky Morton & Tom Carsey Political Methodology Mentoring Award , Society of Political Methodology	<i>Honorable Mention</i>
2018	Best Dissertation in Peace Studies , United States Institute of Peace	<i>\$1,000</i>
2016	Winner , Herbert York Global Security Fellowship, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation	<i>\$25,000</i>
2016	Winner , Simpson Fellowship, Institute of International Studies	<i>\$3,000</i>

INTERNAL AWARDS

2023	USC, Winner: Raubenheimer Award for Excellence in Research, Teaching, and Service	
2022	USC, Dept. Nomination: Raubenheimer Award for Excellence in Research, Teaching, and Service	
2021	Center for International Studies, Research Assistance Grant	<i>\$30,500</i>
2020	Center for International Studies, Research Assistance Grant	<i>\$15,250</i>

Invited Talks

University of Cambridge

Cambridge, UK

WORKSHOP ON QUANTITATIVE & QUALITATIVE SOCIAL SCIENCE

Spring 2022

- “Measure it? I hardly know it! Cascading Bias in Conceptualization, Measurement, and Data Collection”

Joseph Korbel School of International Studies

Denver, CO

KORBEL RESEARCH SEMINAR

Spring 2022

- “Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Today’s Rebels become Tomorrow’s Parties”

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

APPLIED STATISTICS WORKSHOP

Sept. 2021

- “(Re-)Conceptualizing Rebel-to-Party Transformation: Cascading Bias in Conceptualization, Measurement, and Data Collection”

University of Washington

Virtual Talk

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COLLOQUIUM

Jan. 2021

- “Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Today’s Rebels become Tomorrow’s Parties”

Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas

PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

- “Rethinking Medium-N Analysis: Promises, Progress, and Pitfalls on the Quest for a Middle Ground”

Virtual Talk

Nov. 2020

Stanford University

CISAC RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

- “Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Wartime Organizational Structures Affect Rebel-to-Party Transformation”

Palo Alto, CA

Oct. 2018

Yale University

PROGRAM ON ORDER, CONFLICT, AND VIOLENCE

- “Resilience Beyond Rebellion: How Wartime Organizational Structures Affect Rebel-to-Party Transformation”

New Haven, CT

Oct. 2017

APSA Annual Meeting: Short Courses

SHORT COURSE ON MULTIMETHOD RESEARCH

- Analyzing “Competing” Hypotheses in Process Tracing Research

Seattle, WA

Sep. 2013

Institute for Qualitative and Multimethod Research

MULTIMETHOD RESEARCH & CAUSAL INFERENCE

- (co-taught with Jason Seawright)

Syracuse, NY

June 2012

Service

Qualitative and Multimethod Research Section

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

APSA

AY 2023-24

Qualitative and Multimethod Research Section

KENDRA KOIVU PAPER AWARD COMMITTEE

- Committee member to honor exceptional work in qualitative research and process tracing.

APSA

AY 2023-24

Co-Chair of the Comparative Politics/International Relations & American Politics

Job Search Committee

CO-CHAIR WITH MORRIS LEVY (AMERICANIST SEARCH)

- Spearheading outreach and recruitment
- Coordinating search logistics

USC

AY 2022-2023

Chair of the Methods & Research Tools Field

FIELD CHAIR, ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE, STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

- Created the first Methods Field Exam for the department
- Spearheaded the creation of a methods reading list
- Graduate admissions committee

USC

Aug. 2020–Dec. 2022

Comparative Politics Working Paper Series

CO-ORGANIZER (WITH GERRY MUNCK)

- Ran workshops, coordinated speakers, mobilized participation

USC

AY 2019–2020

Predoc Institute for Diverse Scholars

PANEL MEMBER

- Panel on writing Ph.D. application documents
- Panel on the “hidden curriculum” & what to expect from graduate school

USC

2020, 2021

Service to the Discipline

JOURNAL REFEREE

- **Methods:** *Political Analysis, Sociological Methods & Research, Quality & Quantity*
- **Substantive:** *American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Perspectives on Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Conflict Resolution, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, International Studies Review, Democratization, International Interactions, Political Parties, Review of International Studies*

Ongoing

GRADUATE MENTORSHIP

CIS Professionalization Series

PANEL MEMBER

- How to be a [Good] Discussant
- Preparing for the Job Market
- How to give a Job Talk

USC

2020, 2021

Qualifying Exam Committees

COMMITTEE MEMBER

USC

2020, 2021, 2023

- Gave extensive feedback on written exams and participated in oral examinations

Teaching

Teaching Interests: Research Methods (Design, Quantitative, Qualitative), Civil Conflict, Social Movements and Rebellion in Latin America, Social Movements and Political Parties

GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT

POIR 610 **Research Design**, University of Southern California (Fall 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

PS 234a **Qualitative and Multimethod Research**, UC Berkeley (Spring 2012) (co-taught with David Collier)

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT

POSC 311 **Political Analysis**, University of Southern California (Fall 2019, 2020, 2022)

POSC 469 **Rebellion, Conflict, and Political Violence**, University of Southern California (Spring 2020)

POSC 366 **Terrorism and Genocide**, University of Southern California (Spring 2021, Fall 2021)

PS 2 **Intro to Comparative Politics**, UC Berkeley (Summer 2013)

Skills

Computational R, \LaTeX , Stata, Adobe Creative Suite

Methods Process Tracing, Statistics, Archival Work, Formal Modeling

Languages English (Native), Spanish (Research Proficiency), Italian (Beginner)