

## Clayton Thomas Besaw

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| CONTACT INFORMATION            | Department of Political Science<br>University of Central Florida<br>4297 Andromeda Loop North<br>Howard Phillips Hall, Room 302<br>Orlando, FL 32816 USA   | Office: +1-407-823-0113<br>Fax: +1-407-823-0051<br>E-mail: claybesaw@knights.ucf.edu<br>Website: <a href="http://cbesaw.com">cbesaw.com</a> |
| RESEARCH INTERESTS             | <b>Political Violence, Social/Affective Psychology, and Computational Methods:</b> Insurgency, Terrorism, Conflict Ecology, Organizational Behavior, Learning, Emotion, Beliefs, Experimental Design, Quasi-Experimental Design, Data Mining, Content Analysis, Out-of-Sample Prediction.  |   |
| EDUCATION                      | <b>University of Central Florida</b> , Orlando, FL<br>Ph.D., Security Studies, 2018<br>B.A, Political Science, May 2011  |   |
| EMPLOYMENT                     | <b>Researcher - Data Science and Forecasting</b><br>OEF Research, One Earth Future Foundation<br><b>Instructor of Record</b><br>Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida<br>POS3703 - Scope and Methods of Political Science (Fall 2017)<br>POS3703 - Scope and Methods of Political Science (Spring 2017)<br><b>Visiting Lecturer</b><br>Department of Political Science, Universität Mannheim<br>Einführung in die internationalen Beziehungen: Behavioral Approaches to Terrorism<br><b>START Summer Research Fellow on Illicit Networks</b><br>National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of Maryland | December 2017 - Present<br>January 2017 - December 2017<br>September 2016 - January 2017<br>May 2014 to August 2014                         |
| PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS     | Tezcür, Güneş Murat, and <b>Clayton Besaw</b> . "Jihadist waves: Syria, the Islamic State, and the changing nature of foreign fighters." <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> (2017): 0738894217738990. (Online First)<br><br>Dolan, Thomas M., <b>Clayton Besaw</b> , and Joseph Butler. "Where the Insurgents Aren't: Rurality, Information, and Nonterritorial Insurgency." <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> (2016): 0022002716678985. (Online First)  |   |
| NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS | Tezcür, G., <b>Besaw, C.</b> "The Generational Waves of Jihadist Foreign Fighters". Sustainable Security. February, 2018. <a href="#">web-link</a><br><br>Tezcür, G., <b>Besaw, C.</b> "Violence in Turkey is Increasingly Resembling Violence in Syria. Here's Data to Show Why". Political Violence @ a Glance., September, 2016. <a href="#">web-link</a><br><br><b>Besaw, C.</b> , Greene, K., Jacome, M. "Failure Points in Smuggling Networks: A Case Study of the Soto-Huato Network." College Park, MD: START, 2014.   |   |
| INVITED TALKS                  | Tezcür, G., <b>Besaw, C.</b> (August, 2016). "Understanding Waves of Jihadism Recruitment." United States Central Command (CENTCOM), MacDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida.<br><br><b>Besaw, C.</b> (August, 2016). "Scientific Approaches to Terrorism: Group and Individual Analyses of Violent Extremism." United States Central Command (CENTCOM), MacDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida.  |   |

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

**Besaw, C.,** Hofmann, D. (July, 2014). "The Role of Leadership in Terrorist-Organizations." National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

**Besaw, C.,** Smith, G., & Lambert, J. "Evaluating Out-of-Sample Accuracy for Models of Interstate Conflict using Machine Learning." *Prepared for the ISA South Annual Meeting.* Orlando, Florida. October, 2017

**Besaw, C.,** Ritter, K. "Civilian Massacres in the Turkey-PKK Conflict." *Prepared for the ISA South Annual Meeting.* Orlando, Florida. October, 2017

Semmelbeck, J., **Besaw, C.** "Exploring the Crime-Terror-Nexus." *Presented at the Deutschen Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft: Sektion Internationale Beziehungen.* Bremen, Germany. October, 2017

Tezcür, G., **Besaw, C.** "Modeling Volatility in a Civil War: Political Processes and Violent Events." *Presented at the International Studies Association Annual meeting.* Baltimore, Maryland. February, 2017

Schafer, M., Walker, S., **Besaw, C.,** Gill, P., Smith, G. "Psychological Correlates and U.S. Conflict Behavior: Introducing a New Data Set." *Presented at the International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting.* Warsaw, Poland. July, 2016

**Besaw, C.** "The Politics of Outbidding: Revisiting the Israel-Palestine Conflict Through Time-Series Analysis." *Presented at the University of Central Florida 2016 Graduate Research Forum.* Orlando, Florida. April, 2016

Semmelbeck, J., **Besaw, C.** "The Influence of Organizational Structure on Crime-Terror Cooperation." *Presented at the International Centre for Comparative Criminology's Annual Illicit Networks Workshop.* Montreal, QC. November, 2015

**Besaw, C.,** Payne, J., Williams, J. "Personality, Beliefs, and the Use of Violence in Ethno-Political Organizations." *Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* San Francisco, CA. September, 2015

**Besaw, C.** "Personality of War: Social Dominance Orientation, Right Wing Authoritarian Personality, and War Behavior." *Presented at the International Society of Political Psychology Annual Meeting.* San Diego, CA. July, 2015

**Besaw, C.,** Schafer, M. "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior." *Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, LA. February, 2015

**Besaw, C.** "Deadly Premonition: Can Terrorist-Leader Psychology Predict Terrorist-Group Lethality?." *Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, LA. January, 2014.

Williams, J., **Besaw, C.,** Payne, J. "The Terrorism Psychology Project: Leadership Psychology as a Potential Salient Variable in Quantitative Terrorism Studies." *Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, LA. January, 2014.

Payne, J., and **Besaw, C.** "Extremist Leaders: A Case Analysis of Velupillai Prabhakaran and Sri Lankan Violent Extremism." *Presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting.* Virginia Beach, VA. September, 2013.

**Besaw, C.,** Payne, J., Williams, J. "What Drives Extremist Leaders? A Psychological Comparison of Terrorist-Leaders and State-Leaders." *Presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting.* Virginia Beach, VA. September 2013.

**Besaw, C.** "An Organizational model of Crime-Terror Cooperation." *Presented at the Florida Political Science Association Annual Conference.* Florida International University. Miami, FL. March, 2013.

**Besaw, C.** "An Empirical Analysis of the Criminal-Based Strategies of Terrorist and Insurgent Organizations." *Presented at the Globalization, Information, Policy & Knowledge Production (GIP & KP) Conference.* University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. February, 2013.

GRANTS,  
AWARDS,  
& FELLOWSHIPS

2015 ICPSR Travel Grant, Political Science Department, University of Central Florida (Tuition, Travel, and Housing funded).

Best MA Thesis (Departmental, 2013-2014), **Besaw, C.**, "Deadly Premonition: Does Terrorist-Leader Psychology Influence Violence Lethality?" (Committee members Drs. Mark Schafer (Chair), Peter Jacques, and Michael Mousseau).

**Besaw, C.** ISA New Orleans Travel Grant Award, "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior.", International Studies Association, 2015 (\$300 Funded).

**Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, "Profiler Plus, RWA Personality, and U.S. Conflict Behavior.", UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2014-2015 (\$500 Funded).

**Besaw, C.** START Summer Fellowship on Illicit Networks, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2014. (\$4,000 Funded).

Botts, G., Priest, D., Cintron, R., Cox, T., Owens, T., **Besaw, C.**, Theiss, E. Title: *Increasing Research Fluency for SLS Faculty.* Information Fluency Grant, 2013-2014. (\$3,000 Funded).

Priest, D., Stinard, C., **Besaw, C.** NASPA Excellence Award (Category Silver), "Transferring to Success: The Role of Transfer Orientation on Transfer Student Success." January 2014.

**Besaw, C.** Terrorism Studies Research Fellowship, Global Perspectives, 2013. (\$500 Funded).

**Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, Terrorist-leader psychology project. UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2013-2014. (\$300 Funded).

**Besaw, C.** Graduate Research Fellowship Award, Crime-terror cooperation. UCF College of Graduate Studies, 2012-2013. (\$250 Funded).

PROFESSIONAL  
SKILLS

Programming:

- R, Stata, WinRATS, Python, Jekyll, BUGS(open/win), JAGS,  $\text{\TeX}$  ( $\text{\LaTeX}$ ,  $\text{\BIBTeX}$ )

Quantitative Methods

- Linear and Generalized Linear Regression modeling.
- Time Series Analysis: Vector Autoregression, Box-Jenkins, ARCH/GARCH, Dynamic Conditional Correlation, Panel/Time Series-Cross Sectional, Event History/Survival Analysis, Fractional Integration.
- Machine Learning: Lasso, Random Forest, Naive Bayes, Latent Factors, Clustering, Logistic Regression, Neural Nets, SVM, Resampling/Cross-validation techniques.
- Text Analysis: Content Analysis Design, Sentiment Analysis and Library Creation, Latent Dirichlet Allocation, Neural Network/Deep Learning.

PROFESSIONAL  
MEMBERSHIP

American Political Science Association, Member, 2013–present

International Studies Association, Member, 2011–present

International Society of Political Psychology, Member, 2013–present

Peace Science Society, Member, 2014–present

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| PEER-REVIEW<br>REFEREE | American Political Science Review<br>American Journal of Political Science  |
| ADDITIONAL<br>TRAINING | <p><b>2015 ICPSR Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research</b>, Ann Arbor, Michigan (University of Michigan).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causal Inference Workshop</li> <li>• Advanced Maximum Likelihood Workshop</li> <li>• Text Analysis with Statistical Learning Workshop</li> </ul>  |
| OTHER<br>EMPLOYMENT    | <p><b>ICCAE Program Assistant</b> <span style="float: right;">December 2014 to August 2016</span><br/> UCF Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence<br/> Aided in programming and planning for national-security and intelligence community related speaker events.</p> <p><b>Graduate Student Mentor</b> <span style="float: right;">May 2015 to August 2015</span><br/> UCF Preparing Future Researchers Program/NSF REU Program<br/> Served as a mentor to selected REU undergraduate student.</p> <p><b>Data Analysis Consultant and Project Manager</b> <span style="float: right;">May 2014 to August 2014</span><br/> Student Development and Enrollment Services, University of Central Florida</p> <p><b>Graduate Assistant</b> <span style="float: right;">May 2013 to May 2014</span><br/> Student Development and Enrollment Services, University of Central Florida</p> <p><b>Researcher &amp; Assistant</b> <span style="float: right;">November 2012 to April 2013</span><br/> Political Ecology Lab (UCF), University of Central Florida</p> |
| VOLUNTEERING           | <p>Science Fair Judge (December, 2014)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaders Preparatory School - Orlando, Florida</li> <li>• Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science</li> </ul> <p>STEM Day UCF (January, 2015)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helped to promote STEM and social science careers to K - 12 students from the Orlando public school system.</li> </ul>   |
| REFERENCES             | Available on request.   |