

Clayton Thomas Besaw

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Political Science University of Central Florida 4297 Andromeda Loop North Howard Phillips Hall, Room 302 Orlando, FL 32816 USA	Office: +1-407-823-0113 Fax: +1-407-823-0051 E-mail: claybesaw@knights.ucf.edu Website: cbesaw.com
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Political Violence, Social/Affective Psychology, and Computational Methods: Insurgency, Terrorism, Conflict Ecology, Organizational Behavior, Learning, Emotion, Beliefs, Experimental Design, Quasi-Experimental Design, Data Mining, Content Analysis, Out-of-Sample Prediction.	
EDUCATION	University of Central Florida , Orlando, FL Ph.D., Security Studies, 2018 B.A, Political Science, May 2011	
EMPLOYMENT	Researcher - Data Science and Forecasting OEF Research, One Earth Future Foundation Instructor of Record Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida POS3703 - Scope and Methods of Political Science (Fall 2017) POS3703 - Scope and Methods of Political Science (Spring 2017) Visiting Lecturer Department of Political Science, Universität Mannheim Einführung in die internationalen Beziehungen: Behavioral Approaches to Terrorism START Summer Research Fellow on Illicit Networks National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, University of Maryland	December 2017 - Present January 2017 - December 2017 September 2016 - January 2017 May 2014 to August 2014
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	Tezcür, Güneş Murat, and Clayton Besaw . "Jihadist waves: Syria, the Islamic State, and the changing nature of foreign fighters." <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> (2017): 0738894217738990. (Online First) Dolan, Thomas M., Clayton Besaw , 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., Besaw, C. "The Generational Waves of Jihadist Foreign Fighters". Sustainable Security. February, 2018. web-link Tezcür, G., Besaw, C. "Violence in Turkey is Increasingly Resembling Violence in Syria. Here's Data to Show Why". Political Violence @ a Glance., September, 2016. web-link Besaw, C. , Greene, K., Jacome, M. "Failure Points in Smuggling Networks: A Case Study of the Soto-Huarta Network." College Park, MD: START, 2014.	
INVITED TALKS	Tezcür, G., Besaw, C. (August, 2016). "Understanding Waves of Jihadism Recruitment." United States Central Command (CENTCOM), MacDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida. Besaw, C. (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, \TeX (\LaTeX , \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

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