

# Ari Weil, Ph.D.

---

University of Chicago  
1155 E 60th St, Room 225, Chicago, IL 60637  
aweil@uchicago.edu  
www.ari-weil.com

**EXPERTISE** Political Violence, Ideology, Computational Text Analysis, Archival Methods

**EMPLOYMENT** **University of Chicago** 2026-present  
Teaching Fellow in the Social Sciences, Joint  
Committee on International Relations  
Master of Arts in Computational Social Science

**EDUCATION** **University of Chicago** 2026  
*Ph.D.*, Political Science  
Dissertation: *Room to Maneuver: Rebel Organization and Ideological Flexibility in Insurgencies*  
Committee: Paul Staniland (Chair), Austin Carson, Rochelle Terman  
Fields: International Relations (honors), Quantitative Methods  
*MA in Political Science* 2022  
*Certificate in Computational Social Science* 2021  
*MA in International Relations (Honors)* 2020  
**Pomona College** 2018  
*BA*, International Relations

**PUBLISHED WORK** **Articles**  
“Strategies of Narrative Coherence: How Militias Justify Embracing State Power,” *Perspectives on Terrorism* 16 no. 6, (December 2022), 19-33.  
R Kim Cragin and Ari Weil, “Virtual Planners in the Arsenal of Islamic State External Operations,” *Orbis* 62 no. 2, (Spring 2018), 294-312.  
**Book Chapters**  
“Terrorist Tactical Diffusion among Lone Actors: Explaining the Spread of Vehicle Ramming Attacks.” In *How Terrorists Learn*, pp. 123-143. Routledge, 2023.

**WORKING PAPERS** “Our Real Power Is Our Popularity”: Constituent Opinion and Rebel Infighting in Civil War *Under Review*  
All Over the Map: Leaders, Bureaucracy and Geographic Orientation in the Vietnam War, with Austin Carson.

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>OTHER<br/>WRITING</b>               | “Protesters hit by cars recently highlight a dangerous far-right trend in America,” <i>NBC Think</i> , July 12, 2020.                                                                          |                    |
|                                        | Research on vehicle ramming cited in Washington Post, USA Today. Interviews with New York Times, NPR, CNN.                                                                                     |                    |
|                                        | “The Challenges of Defining Terrorism in International Treaty Law,” <i>KSLR and Strife Journal Joint Issue</i> no. 1, (Fall 2018), 48-67.                                                      |                    |
| <b>GRANTS<br/>&amp; AWARDS</b>         | Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Center for International Social Science Research                                                                                                           | 2025-2026          |
|                                        | Bienen Summer Research Award, UChicago Political Science                                                                                                                                       | 2024               |
|                                        | Graduate Research Fellowship, Nicholson Center for British Studies                                                                                                                             | 2022               |
|                                        | Second-Year Specialization, Committee on International Relations                                                                                                                               | 2019-2020          |
|                                        | Social Science’s Dean’s Scholarship, University of Chicago                                                                                                                                     | 2018-2019          |
|                                        | Tuition Fellowship, Committee on International Relations                                                                                                                                       | 2018-2019          |
|                                        | Bobby Inman Award in Intelligence Studies, University of Texas (Undergraduate Semifinalist)                                                                                                    | 2018               |
|                                        | Cordell Hull Prize in International Relations, Pomona College                                                                                                                                  | 2018               |
| <b>RESEARCH<br/>ASSISTANCE</b>         | Austin Carson, University of Chicago                                                                                                                                                           | 2020-2021          |
|                                        | Chicago Project on Security and Threats                                                                                                                                                        | 2019-2020          |
|                                        | Colin Beck, Pomona College                                                                                                                                                                     | 2018               |
|                                        | R. Kim Cragin, National Defense University                                                                                                                                                     | 2017               |
|                                        | Bruce Hoffman, Claremont McKenna College                                                                                                                                                       | 2016               |
| <b>TEACHING</b>                        | <b>Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science</b>                                                                                                                                     |                    |
|                                        | Text As Data for Social Science (Rochelle Terman), Fall 2022                                                                                                                                   |                    |
|                                        | The Secret Side of International Politics (Austin Carson), Winter 2023                                                                                                                         |                    |
|                                        | Introduction to International Relations (Paul Poast), Spring 2024, Spring 2025                                                                                                                 |                    |
|                                        | War and the Nation-State (John Mearsheimer), Winter 2025                                                                                                                                       |                    |
| <b>WORKSHOPS &amp;<br/>CONFERENCES</b> | International Studies Association (ISA) 2022 (O), 2023, 2024 (C), 2025, 2026 (C, D)                                                                                                            |                    |
|                                        | American Political Science Association (APSA)                                                                                                                                                  | 2023 (O), 2025 (C) |
|                                        | Midwest Political Science Association (MSPA)                                                                                                                                                   | 2018, 2019         |
|                                        | International Security Studies Section - International Security (ISSS-IS)                                                                                                                      | 2019               |
|                                        | Workshop on International Politics, University of Chicago                                                                                                                                      | 2023               |
|                                        | How Terrorists Learn Workshop, Max Planck Institute                                                                                                                                            | 2019               |
|                                        | Strategic Multilayer Assessment Conference, Joint Base Andrews                                                                                                                                 | 2019               |
|                                        | Georgetown Walsh Exchange, Georgetown University                                                                                                                                               | 2018               |
|                                        | O = organized panel, C = chaired, D = discussant.                                                                                                                                              |                    |
| <b>TECHNICAL<br/>STRENGTHS</b>         | <b>Programming:</b> R (text analysis, spatial data, network analysis, machine learning (classification, clustering), data management, and data visualization), L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X |                    |
| <b>ADDITIONAL<br/>TRAINING</b>         | <b>Summer Workshop on the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS)</b> , Saltzman Institute for War and Peace                                                                     | 2023               |

**SERVICE**

|                                                                |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Race and IR Workshop, University of Chicago, Discussant</b> | 2022      |
| <b>Political Science Students Association, Member</b>          | 2021-2023 |
| <b>Political Science Department, Peer Mentor</b>               | 2021      |

*Updated July 2026*