

Ari Weil, Ph.D.

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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
All Over the Map: Leaders, Bureaucracy and Geographic Orientation in the Vietnam War, with Austin Carson.

WORKS IN PROGRESS	Follow the Leader? Socialization and the Limits of Ideological Control in Personalist Rebel Groups	
	From Founding Documents to Time Series: A Reproducible LLM Workflow for Measuring Rebel Ideology	
OTHER WRITING	“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.	
GRANTS & AWARDS	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
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE	Cordell Hull Prize in International Relations, Pomona College	2018
	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
TEACHING	Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science	
	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	
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	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.	

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS	Programming: R (text analysis, spatial data, network analysis, machine learning (classification, clustering), data management, and data visualization), L ^A T _E X	
ADDITIONAL TRAINING	Summer Workshop on the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS) , Saltzman Institute for War and Peace	2023
SERVICE	Race and IR Workshop, University of Chicago , Discussant	2022
	Political Science Students Association , Member	2021-2023
	Political Science Department , Peer Mentor	2021

Updated September 2026