

Kolby Hanson

CONTACT INFORMATION	Government Department Wesleyan University Middletown, CT	krhanson@wesleyan.edu kolbyhanson.com Updated: January 29, 2026
INTERESTS	Civil Conflict, Migration, Civil-Military Relations, South Asia	
ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Wesleyan University Assistant Professor of Government Assistant Professor of Global South Asian Studies	2023-Present 2023-Present 2024-Present
	U.S. Naval War College Postdoctoral Fellow (Teaching), Strategy and Policy Department	2020-23
	Dartmouth College Postdoctoral Fellow (Non-Teaching), Dickey Center for International Understanding	2019-20
EDUCATION	Columbia University Ph.D. in Political Science, 2019 <i>Dissertation Title:</i> Rebel Organizations in Crackdown and Truce <i>Committee:</i> V. Page Fortna, Jack Snyder, Donald P. Green, Nikhar Gaikwad, Zachariah Mampilly M.Phil. in Political Science, 2016 M.A. in Political Science, 2015	2013-19
	Stanford University B.A. in Political Science (with Honors, Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa), 2011	2007-11
BOOKS	2025. <i>Ordinary Rebels: Rank-and-File Militants Between War and Peace.</i> Oxford University Press. Podcast interviews: <i>New Books in Political Science, Grand Tamasha</i>	
PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES	2026. “Bringing Autocracy Home? How Migration to Autocracies Shapes Migrants’ Support for Democracy” (with Nikhar Gaikwad and Aliz Tóth). <i>World Politics</i> 78(1): 1-47. 2025. “How Migrating Overseas Shapes Political Preferences: Evidence from a Field Experiment” (with Nikhar Gaikwad and Aliz Tóth). <i>International Organization</i> 79(4): 601-638. 2025. “Polarization vs. Professionalism: Military and Public Views on Domestic Use of the Military” (with Austin Knuppe). <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> 13(3): 645-662. 2025. “Bridging the Gulf: How Migration Fosters Tolerance, Cosmopolitanism, and Support for Globalization” (with Nikhar Gaikwad and Aliz Tóth). <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> 69(3): 813-830. 2021. “Good Times and Bad Apples: Rebel Recruitment in Crackdown and Truce.” <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> 65(4): 807-825.	

	2021. “Live and Let Live: Explaining Long-Term Truces in Separatist Conflicts.” <i>International Peacekeeping</i> 28(3): 366-392. Special issue on ceasefires.
	2019. “Noncitizen Soldiers: Explaining Foreign Recruitment by Modern State Militaries” (with Erik Lin-Greenberg). <i>Security Studies</i> 28(2): 286-320.
	2019. “Are There Long-Term Effects of the Vietnam Draft on Political Attitudes or Behavior? Apparently Not” (with Donald P. Green and Tiffany C. Davenport). <i>Journal of Experimental Political Science</i> 6(2): 71-80.
UNDER REVIEW	“Individuals in Institutions: Evidence from the World Bank and IMF” (with Richard Clark and Lindsay R. Dolan).
	“How Third-Party Publics Choose Sides in War” (with Angelina Kunitskaia).
WORKING PAPERS	“When Moderates Win: Experiments on Recruitment and Support in Northeast India.” CASI PE Workshop, 2023.
	“Rebel or Nuisance? Public Perception of Armed Groups in India.” APSA 2020.
	“Hardliners, Moderates, and Reciprocity: Selecting Leaders During Civil Conflict.” APSA 2020.
	“Discipline Under Fire: Wage Screening in the Shadow of Conflict.” APSA 2018.
PAPERS IN PROGRESS	“Where Military and Civilian Views Agree – and Disagree – on Civil-Military Relations” (with Austin Knuppe).
PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP	“Who Would Support Deploying the Military to Domestic Protests?” (with Austin Knuppe). <i>Lawfare</i> , 10 Nov 2024.
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS	<p>MIT Security Studies Program Seminar Series 2024</p> <p>Center for the Advanced Study of India PE Workshop (UPenn) 2023</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association 2016,17,19,23,24,25</p> <p>American Political Science Association 2018,19,20,21,22,24</p> <p>International Studies Association 2016,22</p> <p>Peace Science Society 2018,20</p> <p>Formal Models in International Relations 2020</p> <p>Penn / Perry World House Immigration Conference 2019</p> <p>PRIO / ETH Conference on Ceasefires and Civil Conflict 2019</p> <p>Madison Conference on South Asia 2018</p>
GRANTS AND AWARDS	<p>CPRC-ISERP Seed Grant, Columbia University (\$40,000) 2025</p> <p>Robert H. Durr Award, MPSA 2020</p> <p>Research & Empirical Analysis of Labor Migration Grant (\$99,000) 2018</p> <p>William T.R. Fox Fellowship in Political Science, Columbia 2017-18</p> <p>Center for Development Economics and Policy Grant, Columbia (\$3,000) 2017</p> <p>GSAS Dissertation Improvement Grant, Columbia (\$2,500) 2016</p> <p>Earth Institute AC⁴ Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia (\$3,000) 2015</p> <p>Weatherhead East Asia Fellowship for Political Science, Columbia 2014-15</p> <p>Best Thesis Presentation in Political Science, Stanford 2011</p>

TEACHING	Wesleyan University	
	GOVT 155: International Relations	F23, S24, S25, F25
	GOVT 312: Strategic Dilemmas in Politics	F23, F24, F25
	GOVT 313: Civil Wars and Armed Groups	S24, S25
	GOVT 318: America's Unexceptional War of Independence	(S26)
	GOVT 320: International Relations of South Asia	F24, (S26)
	Senior Thesis Advisor: Oscar Ashley (2024), Alek Czereszkiewicz (2025), Iza Konings (2026), Joshua Silbert (2026)	
	U.S. Naval War College	
	Strategy and War	20-21, 21-22, 22
	Strategy and Policy	22-23
COLLEAGUESHIP	Wesleyan Government Department	
	Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Government (Global Justice)	2025
	Government Department Prize Coordinator	2025
	Phi Beta Kappa Committee	2024-25
	Skirm Prize Committee	2024-25
	Methods Linked Major Committee	2023-25
	International Relations Subfield Coordinator	2023-24
	Outside Wesleyan	
	Reviewer for <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>International Organization</i> , <i>International Security</i> , <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> , <i>Journal of Peace Research</i> , <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , <i>International Studies Quarterly</i> , <i>Security Studies</i> , <i>Political Behavior</i> , <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> , <i>Civil Wars</i> , <i>International Interactions</i> , <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i> , <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> , <i>Nations and Nationalism</i> , <i>Nationalism and Ethnic Politics</i> (15 reviews since Fall 2023)	
FIELD WORK	India (Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram; 6 months)	2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
	Sri Lanka (Colombo and the Vanni; 6 weeks)	2017
	Thailand and Myanmar (7 weeks)	2010