

Andrew M. Spath

American University – School of International Service
4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20017
spath@american.edu | www.andrewspath.com | 202.885.6208 | @andrew_spath

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Politics and Society of the Middle East; Authoritarian Regimes; Contentious Politics; Political Violence; Authoritarian Elections; U.S. Middle East Foreign Policy; Research Methods

EMPLOYMENT & POSITIONS

American University, School of International Service, 2014–present
Professorial Lecturer
Faculty Advisor, Model United Nations
Associate Director, Model G20 Initiative
Foreign Policy Research Institute, Program on the Middle East, 2012–present
Non-Resident Fellow
University of Jordan, Center for Strategic Studies, 2013–2014
Associate Scholar
Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, Amman, Jordan, 2013
Research Associate, Anna Lindh Foundation – Jordan Network

EDUCATION

PhD Political Science, Rutgers University, 2017
Fields: Comparative Politics (Middle East), International Relations, Research Methods
Dissertation: “When Leaders Change: State, Society, and Succession in Jordan, Syria, and Beyond”
MA Political Science, Rutgers University, 2014
BA Political Science; Near Eastern Languages & Cultures (Arabic), Indiana University, 2007

TEACHING

American University, School of International Service

Comparative Authoritarianism
Contemporary Middle East
Arab-Israeli Relations
Quantitative Methods in International Studies (grad & undergrad)
Introduction to Research Methods in International Studies
Quantitative Analysis of Civil Conflict

Rutgers University

Authoritarian Regimes: Institutions & Practices
Arab Politics and Society
Contemporary Politics of the Middle East
Model United Nations

CIEE Diplomacy and Policy Studies Program

Jordan: A Case Study in Diplomacy and Development

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2015 Dean's Conference Travel Award, SIS (BRISMES, London)
- 2013–14 Fulbright Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (Jordan)
- 2012–13 Fulbright Fellowship, Dissertation Research Grant (Jordan)
- 2012–13 NSEP David L. Boren Fellowship (Jordan, West Bank)
- 2012 Critical Language Enhancement Award (Arabic), U.S. Department of State
- 2012 Special Study Fellowship (Arabic language), Rutgers Graduate School, Summer
- 2012 Conference Travel Award, Rutgers Graduate School, Summer
- 2011–12 Excellence in Teaching Award, Rutgers University
- 2011 Special Study Fellowship (ICPSR Statistics), Rutgers Graduate School, Summer
- 2011 Critical Language Scholarship (Arabic), U.S. Department of State (Alternate)
- 2007–8 Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University, 2007-2008
- 2008 Emma Feigley Overseas Mission Grant, Summer Research 2008
- 2008 Donald Sinish Memorial Scholarship, Summer Research 2008

PUBLISHED WORK

- 2014 "Jordan: Between Stability and Spillover," Foreign Policy Research Institute E-Notes, August 2014
- 2013 "Elections in Jordan: Victory for Reform or More of the Same?" Foreign Policy Research Institute E-Notes, February 2013
- "Reform Not Revolution: Arab Spring in Jordan," Fair Observer, February 2013
- 2012 "Syrian Opposition: Myths and Realities," Foreign Policy Research Institute E-Notes, January 2012.
- 2009 "Simulating the Iraqi Parliament: Benefits of a Non-Traditional Approach to Teaching Iraqi Political Development," Newsletter of the American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII), 4:2 (Fall 2009).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- "Leadership Change and Civil Society Activism: Comparing Jordan, Syria, and Palestine"
- "Succession and Civil Strife: Assessing Leader Succession and Turbulence in Transition"
- "Steam Valve or Accelerant? Elections and Contention in Authoritarian Regimes"
- "Learning Government-Opposition Interaction in the First Person: A Critical Events Simulation"

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2015 "State, Society, and Succession in Jordan." BRISMES. London, 25 June, 2015
- 2014 "Between Voice and Violence: Ballot boycotts and the timing of election violence." ISA Midwest. St. Louis, 8 November
- Panel Chair. "Terrorism and World Events." ISA Midwest. St. Louis, 7 November
- 2013 "Steam Valve or Accelerant? Elections and Contention in Authoritarian Regimes." APSA. Chicago, 29 August.
- 2012 "Succession and Stability in Non-Democratic Regimes." APSA, New Orleans, LA. (Paper accepted, conference canceled)
- "Teaching Authoritarianism with Critical Event Simulation." APSA, New Orleans, LA. (Paper accepted, conference canceled)

- “Leadership Succession and State-Society Interaction in Jordan, Syria, and Palestine.” MPSA. Chicago, 14 April.
- “Learning Authoritarianism in the First Person: Simulating Critical Events in Authoritarian Politics.” MPSA. Chicago, 14 April.
- 2011 “Turbulence in Transition? Leader Succession and Government-Activist Interaction in Jordan and Syria.” MESA. Washington DC, 4 December.
- 2010 “Reconceptualizing Judicial Politics in the Muslim World: Executive-Judicial Interaction in Egypt under Nasser and Sadat.” Rutgers Political Science Graduate Student Conference. New Brunswick, NJ, 5 February.
- 2009 “Kids in Combat: An Empirical Study on the Impact of Children in Intra-state Conflict.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, 4 April.

FIELDWORK

- 2013–14 Jordan, West Bank, Lebanon. Fulbright Hays DDRA for dissertation research
- 2012–13 Jordan and West Bank. Fulbright IIE and Boren fellowships for dissertation research and extensive Arabic training
- 2008 Syria and Jordan (Summer). Preliminary dissertation research
- 2006 West Bank (Summer). Honors thesis research on Palestinian Legislative Council

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 “The Middle East According to Donald Trump,” 12 January 2016. Indiana Center for Middle East Peace (ICMEP), Fort Wayne, IN
- 2015 “Erasing Borders and Exporting Terror: The Middle East in the Age of the Islamic State,” 15 December 2015. Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI), Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 “Rethinking the Rise of ISIS: Jihadist Salafism, Historical Context, and Implications for US Foreign Policy” 18 November. The Hollybush Institute, Rowan University
- “Beyond the battlefield: Syria’s war in social and political context,” 17 October. PaCIE Annual Conference, Harrisburg, PA
- “Geopolitics with Granieri: ,” 9 September. Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI), Philadelphia, PA
- “Analytic Exchange on Perspectives on Salafi Extremism among the Levant’s Sunnis,” 18 August. U.S. State Department, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Arlington, VA
- 2013 “Middle East Uprisings: A Tour of the Neighborhood,” 9 September. ICMEP, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2012 “Crisis Simulation Introduction: Regional Effects of Syria’s Civil War,” 24 July. Julian Krinsky International Affairs with Model UN Program, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- “Esh-sha’b Yuriid (The People Want): Syrian Society amid Uprising and Insurrection,” 7 June. ICMEP, Fort Wayne, IN
- “Syria’s Uprising after Two Springs: Where Things Stand and Possible Futures,” 20 May. Bucks County Democratic Party Meeting, Yardley, PA
- “The Politics of Religion in the Syrian Uprising,” 20 March. Christ Congregation Church, Princeton, NJ

- “Prospects for Regime Change in North Africa,” 24 February. Philadelphia Model UN Conference, Institute for Domestic & International Affairs (IDIA), Philadelphia, PA
- 2011 “New States, New Regimes, Old Problems: The Case of Transitionland,” 11 November. Rutgers Model UN Conference, (IDIA), New Brunswick, NJ
- “U.S. Congress and Foreign Policy in the Middle East,” 15 April. Rutgers Model Congress Conference, IDIA, New Brunswick, NJ
- “Global Politics and Simulated Learning at the College Level,” 15 April. Montessori Model United Nations Conference. Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 “Situational Comedy and Reconciliation: Reflections on Avoda Aravit (Arab Labor),” 18 December. Highland Park Temple - Congregation Anshe Emeth, Highland Park, NJ
- “Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding Workshop,” 13 November. Rutgers Model UN Conference, IDIA, New Brunswick, NJ
- 2009 “OPEC and the Political Economy of Oil Today,” 21 November. Rutgers Model UN Conference, IDIA, New Brunswick, NJ
- “Iraq’s Exiles and Prospects for Return,” 18 April. Rutgers Model Congress Conference, IDIA, New Brunswick, NJ
- 2008 “Failed States: Policy alternatives for the UN,” 21 November. Rutgers Model UN Conference, IDIA, New Brunswick, NJ
- “Deconstructing Religion in State-Breaking and State-Making,” 16 February. Indiana Center for Middle East Peace, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2007 “History at the Crossroads in Palestine and Israel: Obstacles to and Prospects for Peace,” 14-15 April. Middle East Peace Education Project, Fort Wayne, IN

SELECT SERVICE & ACTIVITIES

- 2016– Boren Fellowship Reviewer, Office of Merit Awards, American University
- 2016– Faculty Advisor, Model United Nations, American University
- 2016– Associate Director, AU Model G20 Initiative
- 2016– Admissions Committee, SIS Comparative & Regional Studies (CRS) Program
- 2016– MAIR Online Quantitative Assessment Review Committee
- 2014– Faculty Advisor, AU/SIS Chapter of the Delta Phi Epsilon professional foreign service fraternity
- 2014–2017 Facilitating Faculty Member, University College Spring Research Program in World Politics, American University
- 2015–16 Olson Scholar Mentor, SIS Undergraduate Program
- 2012 Symposium Chair, “A Second Spring: Cross-Disciplinary Reflections on a Year of Revolts in the Middle East,” Dr. Eva Bellin and Dr. Amaney Jamal. Rutgers University, 5 April.
- 2011–12 Co-founder and Treasurer, Middle East Studies Graduate Forum (MESGF), Rutgers University, 2011-present
- 2010 Consultant and Reviewer, Rutgers World Affairs Review Undergraduate Journal
- 2009–10 Senator, Rutgers University Senate, Graduate & Professional Ed. Committee
- 2009–10 Comparative Subfield Representative, Graduate Program Advisory Committee

RESEARCH SKILLS

Languages

Arabic – Professional fluency in reading, writing, conversational
Qasid Arabic Institute, Amman, Jordan, 2012–2013
MALIC Arabic Language Center, Amman, Jordan, 2013
French – Intermediate reading ability

Data Processing, Computing, & Statistical Programs

R, Stata, SPSS
Advanced Regression Analysis, ICPSR, Ann Arbor, MI, 2011
Time Series Analysis and Forecasting, ICPSR, Ann Arbor, MI, 2011
Maximum Likelihood Estimation for GLM, Rutgers University, Spring 2011

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Studies Association (ISA)
Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
European Association for Middle East Studies (EURAMES)
British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES)
American Political Science Association (APSA)
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)