

# Rebecca V. Bell-Martin

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## Education

BROWN UNIVERSITY	Providence, RI
Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science (exp. graduation 2019)	2013 - present
Subfields: Comparative Politics (with distinction)	
International Relations (with distinction)	

Dissertation: *The Politics of Violence: Empathy and Action amidst Conflict*

The dissertation is a multimethod analysis of the relationship between exposure to violence and future civic engagement. Based on field research in Mexico, it posits a new theory that explains (a) why exposure to violence provokes some but not all citizens to civic engagement and (b) why some but not all violent events spark such citizen responses.

Advisors: Richard Snyder (Chair), Peter Andreas, Rob Blair, Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER, JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	Denver, CO
M.A. in International Studies	2011 - 2013

WHITTIER COLLEGE	Whittier, CA
B.A. in Political Science, Spanish Language, and Cultural Anthropology	2002 – 2006

## Research Agenda

Political behavior under violent contexts; criminal and political violence;  
contentious politics; the politics of public security

IN PREPARATION FOR FALL 2018 JOURNAL SUBMISSION

Bell-Martin, Rebecca. “The Politics of Violence: Mobilizing Empathy amidst Conflict.”

Bell-Martin, Rebecca and Jerome Marston. “Overkill: Understanding excessive violence during conflict.”

WORKING PAPERS

Bell-Martin, Rebecca. “Vigilantism, politics, and violent civic responsibility: Evidence from Mexico.”

Bell-Martin, Rebecca and Jerome Marston: “Hazarding Data Collection in the Field: Confronting the dangers of measurement error and selection bias”

*(Manuscripts available upon request)*

Rebecca V. Bell-Martin

## Conference Presentations *(selected)*

- 2018: Cristosal Global School on Challenges for Researchers in Violent Environments  
“Confronting the Streetlight Effect: The empirical and normative dangers of binary bias in research in violent contexts” (with Jerome Marston)
- 2018: Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference  
“The Politics of Violence: Mobilizing Empathy in Violent Democracies”
- 2017: American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference  
“Who is Safe? Paths toward Citizen Security” (with Richard Snyder and Jerome Marston)
- 2017: American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) Annual Conference  
“Extraordinary Violence, Ordinary Risk? Understanding how variation in the characteristics of violence during conflict shapes individual calculations of risk: Evidence from Mexico.”
- 2016: Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Congress  
“Civilian Responses to Violence and Insecurity: Self-Defense Groups and Vigilante Justice in Mexico’s War against Organized Crime”
- 2016: Brown University CLACS and Watson Inst. Unequal Security in the Americas Conference  
“Who is Safe? Unequal Citizen Security in Providence, Rhode Island”  
(with Richard Snyder and Jerome Marston)
- 2016: International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention  
“Overkill: Understanding the spectacle of violence during conflict”  
(with Jerome Marston)
- 2014: University of California at Santa Barbara Borderlands Conference  
“The Rise of the Narcoscape: Organized crime and the construction of imagination in Mexico.”

## Fellowships and Research Grants

### FELLOWSHIPS

National Science Foundation (NSF) Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) Fellowship (\$33,000) - 2015

Brown University Interdisciplinary Opportunities Fellowship (\$25,000) – 2017

Sheridan Center Proctorship in Academic Administration (\$25,000 - declined) – 2018

Robert O. Anderson Endowed Scholarship (\$11,000) - 2012

Harold W. Rosenthal International Security Fellowship – 2012

### UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANTS (2013 – 2018):

Mellon Foundation & Cogut Center Brown-in-the-World Research Grant (\$5,000); Doctoral Dissertation Research Award (\$995); Joukowsky Research Award (\$1600); Population Studies Training Center Research Grant (\$1900); Watson Institute Graduate Program in Development Research Grant (\$5500)

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## Teaching

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2018: Syllabus *Politics under Fire: Civil Wars, Drug Wars, and the Citizens in Them* recognized as exemplar of engaging course design by the Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University

2015: P. Terrence Hopmann Award for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University

### EXPERIENCE

Brown University

Instructor | Summer at Brown, Undergraduate level 2016, 2017, 2018

Course: “War, States, and Human Rights” (IR/CP)

Teaching Assistant | Undergraduate level

Course: “Introduction to International Relations” | Instructor: Jordan Branch 2014

Course: “The Rise of China” | Instructor: Edward Steinfeld 2015

Course: “History of US Intervention” | Instructor: Stephen Kinzer 2017

### CERTIFICATES

2018: Certificate in Course Design, Brown University

2017: Certificate in Teaching, Brown University

## Relevant academic experience

Research Assistant 2014 – 2017

Peter Andreas, Watson Institute at Brown University Providence, RI

Independently researched the intersection of markets in drugs and violent conflict via analysis of an interdisciplinary range of secondary source materials.

Research Assistant 2012 - 2013

Erica Chenoweth, Sié Center Program on Terrorism and Insurgency Research Denver, CO

Collected and coded newspaper data on contentious politics in the U.S.; collected, coded, and summarized large-n data on social movements in the Western Hemisphere; independently managed a large-n dataset while working as part of a team.

## Relevant professional experience

Managing Editor 2017 - present

Studies in Comparative International Development, Brown University Providence, RI

Coordinate the review process of manuscripts for a peer-reviewed scholarly journal by serving as an interlocutor between authors, reviewers, Board members, and the Editor-in-Chief; assess the quality of manuscripts at all stages of the peer review process and offer authors critical feedback in preparation for publication either with the journal, or elsewhere.

Mexico Country Specialist and Rosenthal Fellow 2012

U.S. Department of Defense Washington, DC

Advised the Office of the Secretary of Defense on U.S. – Mexico defense relations; met with the Assistant Secretary on a weekly basis to provide expert analysis of Mexican current affairs and implications for U.S. policy; managed and edited a policy-significant, department-wide publication.