

Rebecca Bell-Martin

Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
el Tecnológico de Monterrey

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Visiting Scholar
Center for US – Mexican Studies
University of California, San Diego

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Academic Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Visiting Scholar at the Center for US-Mexican Studies Sept. 2022 – present

EL INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO Y DE ESTUDIOS SUPERIORES DE MONTERREY

Assistant Professor of Political Science and Government August 2019 - present

Education

BROWN UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. in Political Science 2013 – 2019
Exam Fields: Comparative Politics | International Relations (both with distinction)

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER, JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

M.A. in International Studies 2011 - 2013

WHITTIER COLLEGE

B.A. in Political Science, Spanish Language, and Cultural Anthropology 2002 – 2006

Research Agenda

Latin American politics; political behavior in violent contexts;
the politics of criminal violence; violence-induced migration in the Americas

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Staying Power: Strategies for Weathering Criminal Violence in Marginal Neighborhoods of Medellín and Monterrey” (with Jerome Marston), 2023. *Latin American Research Review* ([link](#))

“Confronting Selection Bias: The Normative and Empirical Risks of Data Collection in Violent Contexts” (with Jerome Marston), 2021. *Geopolitics* 26(1), 159 – 192 ([link](#))

“The Unmasked Electorate: Co-Partisanship, Personal Experience, and Perceptions of COVID-19 Risk in Mexico” (with Alejandro Díaz-Domínguez), 2021. *La Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública* 10(2), 137 – 162 ([link](#))

“Empathy and Attitudes toward Protecting Migrants from Criminal Violence” (with Alejandro Díaz – Domínguez). Accepted. *Latin American Policy* ([link](#))

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EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Experimentally Testing Ethnographic Insights: Benefits, Challenges and Considerations,” 2022. *APSA Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Symposium* (lead article) 19(2), 2 – 7 ([link](#))

“Migration Research in Violent Areas” (with Jerome Marston), 2022. *Routledge History of Modern Latin American Migration*. Edited by Andreas E. Feldmann, Xochitl Bada, Jorge Durand, Stephanie Schütze. Routledge, 412 – 425 ([link](#))

BOOK PROJECT

It Could Have Been Me: Violence, Empathy and Civic Engagement in Mexico

A mixed methods analysis of the relationship between exposure to violence and 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. [Book proposal available at rebeccabellmartin.com](http://rebeccabellmartin.com).

IN PREPARATION FOR WINTER 2024 SUBMISSION

“The Politics of Violence in Mexico: Mobilizing Empathy amid Criminal Conflict”

“Overkill: The Spectacle of Violence during Conflict”

(Manuscripts available upon request)

Research Grants & Fellowships

RESEARCH GRANTS

Project: “Crime, Public Security and Urban Expansion in Monterrey, Mexico”
FEMSA Foundation (\$40,000) – 2020

Project: “Overkill: Understanding the Spectacle of Violence during Conflict”
Watson Institute Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies (\$3,000) – 2021

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

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UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANTS (2013 – 2018)

Mellon Foundation & Cogut Center Brown-in-the-World Research Grant (\$5,000); Watson Institute Graduate Program in Development Research Grant (\$5,500); Doctoral Dissertation Research Award (\$995); Joukowsky Research Award (\$1600); Population Studies Training Center Research Grant (\$1900)

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

CONFERENCES (*selected*)

American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021
International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Meeting, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023
Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Congress, 2016, 2021
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting, 2018, 2019, 2020
Illicit Economies and Extra-Legal Actors Conference, 2021, 2022
Annual Political Science Conference of el Tecnológico de Monterrey, 2023,
Cristosal Global School on Challenges for Researchers in Violent Environments, 2018
American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) Annual Conference, 2017
Watson Institute Unequal Security in the Americas Conference, 2016

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

“‘It could have been me’: Violence, empathy and civic engagement in Mexico” Center for US – Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego	1/2023
“‘It could have been me’: Violence, empathy and civic engagement in Mexico” School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin	3/2023
“Conceptualizing a Spectrum of Victimization” Latin American Politics Reading Group, University of Chicago	4/2023
“Organized Crime and Political Economy in Mexico” School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego	5/2023
“Mixed Methods and Causal Inference” FLACSO, México	6/2023

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Teaching & Advising

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

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

CERTIFICATES

Certificate in Inclusive Course Design, Brown University	2018
Certificate in Teaching, Brown University	2017

TEACHING

El Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

<i>Global Challenges in IR</i> (B.A.)	2023
<i>Senior Public Policy Thesis Seminar</i> (B.A.)	2023
<i>Preparing the Dissertation Proposal</i> (Ph.D.)	2023
<i>Graduate Student Writing Workshop</i> (Ph.D.)	2022
<i>Diversity in a Globalized World (DEI)</i> (B.A.)	2022, 2023
<i>Citizenship and Democracy in Mexico</i> (B.A.)	2022
<i>Introduction to Social Sciences</i> (B.A.)	2021, 2022
<i>Citizen Participation in Public Policy</i> (M.A.)	2021
<i>Research Design</i> (M.A.)	2020
<i>Qualitative Methods for Public Policy</i> (Ph.D.)	2021, 2022
<i>Mixed Methods Research</i> (Ph.D.)	2020

Brown University

<i>War, States, and Human Rights</i> (B.A.)	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
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GRADUATE ADVISING (M.A. AND PH.D.)

Noé Pérez (grad. 11-2020); Karla Mejía González (grad. 01-2021); Gabriela Sandoval (grad. 03-2021); Clarissa Guevara (grad. 08-2022); Dulce Mariscal Nava (grad. 09-2023); Daira Arana Aguilar (exp. 05-2025); Montserrat Martínez Téllez (exp. 05-2025); Magdalena García (exp. 05-2025)

Service

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

El Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

Founding Member, Research Ethics Review Committee	2021 – 2023
Academic Mentor Program	2020 – 2022
Admissions Committee, Master's Program	2019 – 2022
Admissions Committee, PhD Program	2019 - 2020
Faculty Search Committee	2019

Brown University

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, Watson Institute for International Studies	2018 – 2019
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REFEREE

Comparative Political Studies, ConFines de Relaciones Internacionales, Perspectives on Politics, PS: Political Science and Politics, Third World Quarterly

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Academic Mentor, Social mobility and education initiative 2023 - 2024
Fundación BBVA México

Public Engagement and Media Appearances

OPINION

“Local communities know best how to cope with gang violence. Aid sector should take note”
(with Jerome Marston). *The New Humanitarian*. ([link](#)) 6/12/2023

“Centering Civil Society” in *Reimagining the Future of U.S. – Mexico Security Cooperation*
Mexico Violence Resource Project, Center for US – Mexico Studies, UCSD ([link](#)) 2/09/2021

“Ve preocupante pérdida de derechos civiles” 6/17/2020
Periódico AM Newspaper ([link](#))

INVITED APPEARANCES

Panelist, “*Alguien tiene que hacerlo*” and the future of police reform in Mexico 9/07/2023
Comisión Municipal de Seguridad Ciudadana de Morelia, Michoacán

Subject-Matter Expert 2/09/2022
El Rumor, Podcast

Panelist, “The Role of Institutions in the US – Mexico Relationship” 9/30/2021
U.S. – Mexico Foundation Center for Binational Institutions

“Voter turnout in Mexico’s 2021 Midterm Elections” 4/13/2021
Radio *Concepto Radial: Moneda al Aire*