

Rachel D. Van Nostrand

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor Louisiana State University	2024 - Present
Genocide and Atrocity Prevention Research Fellow Simon-Skjoldt Center for the Prevention of Genocide United States Holocaust Memorial Museum	2026 - 2027
Postdoctoral Researcher University of Arizona	2023 - 2024

Education

Ph.D. Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona, 2023

Major in International Relations, Minor in Research Methods

M.A. Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona, 2020

B.A. French Language, Literature, and Cultures, University of Arizona, 2018

B.A. Political Science (Foreign Affairs), University of Arizona, 2018

Summa cum laude, Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

4. **Van Nostrand, Rachel**, Alex Braithwaite, and Alex Bruens. “The Politics of Encampment: The Global Diffusion of Concentration Camp Systems” *Conditionally Accepted at International Interactions*
3. **Van Nostrand, Rachel** and Alex Braithwaite. 2026. “Race, railways, and the long-term legacy effects of concentration camps: Evidence from South Africa.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.
2. **Van Nostrand, Rachel**, Alex Braithwaite, and Daniel Solomon. 2025. “Introducing the Concentration Camps (CCamps v1.0) Dataset” *Journal of Peace Research*.
1. Cox, Joseph M. and **Rachel Van Nostrand**. 2023. “Wielding the Gavel or Balancing the Scales? Domestic Legal Systems and Post-Conflict Justice.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

Editor-Reviewed Publications

“Concentrating Minoritized Populations.” (2026) In the *De Gruyter Handbook of Political Control*, eds. Jessica Braithwaite and Jennifer Earl. De Gruyter.

“Regions and World Order Preferences.” (2022) In *Regions, Power and Conflict: Constrained Capabilities, Hierarchy, and Rivalry*. ed. William R. Thompson. Springer. (with Thomas Volgy)

Policy Reports

“Recommendations for Combating Concentration Camps Worldwide.” (2025) Prepared for: “Preventing Mass Atrocities Beyond Mass Killing: Sexual Violence, Detention and Torture: A New Voices in National Security Workshop.” Sponsored by Bridging the Gap and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Simon-Skjoldt Center for the Prevention of Genocide.

Public-Facing Scholarship

“When immigration detention becomes a system of concentration: Lessons from research on 150 historical cases” (with Alex Braithwaite). *The Conversation*. May 1, 2026.

Working Papers

“Courts and Concentration Camps: Judicial Constraints on the Use of Repression” *Revise and Resubmit at International Studies Quarterly*

“Who Does What to Whom? A Framework for Studying Repertoires of Repression” (with Thorin Wright, Meg Frost, Roya Izadi, and Santiago Sosa) *Under Review*

“Authorizing Coercion: Legality Framing and the Legitimation of Irregular Detention” (with Pearce Edwards) *Under Review*

“When Internment Becomes Concentration: Escalation and the Boundaries of Wartime Detention” (with Alex Braithwaite) *Under Review*

Works in Progress

“Concentration without condemnation: Mass detention and the decline of norm accountability under the liberal international order” (with Alex Braithwaite, Daniel Solomon)

“CCamp Data V2: Geolocated Camp-Level Data Release” (with Alex Braithwaite)

“What Makes an Atrocity a Genocide? Thresholds in Public Perception” (with Daniel Arnon and Rachel Schoner)

Data Projects

CCAMP V.1: Global Data on Concentration Camp Systems (with Alex Braithwaite).

CCAMP V.2: Concentration Camp-Level Data (with Alex Braithwaite and Daniel Solomon). National Science Foundation (NSF) # 2213615.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

External Awards

Genocide and Atrocity Prevention Research Fellowship. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, \$30,000. 2026

Steven C. Poe Best Graduate Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, International Studies Association Human Rights Section.	2023
American Political Science Association Travel Grant. \$150.	2022
TransResearch Consortium Travel Grant, \$730.	2022
Southern Political Science Association Prestage-Cook Travel Award, \$300.	2022
International Studies Association Travel Grant, \$700.	2021
International Scholarship, Benjamin A. Gilman Foundation, \$2,000.	2016

Internal Awards

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Manship Summer Research Fellowship, Louisiana State University, \$5,000.	2025, 2026
Dissertation Fellowship, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Arizona, \$7,500.	2022
Michael P. Sullivan Graduate Research Award in International Relations, School of Government & Public Policy, University of Arizona, \$750.	2021
Summer Research Fellowship, School of Government & Public Policy, University of Arizona, \$2,800.	2019, 2020
Richard A. Harvill Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona, \$32,000.	2018
Graduate Access Fellowship, University of Arizona, \$8,000.	2018
Global Award Fund Scholarship, School of International Languages, Literatures, & Cultures, University of Arizona, \$1,500.	2016
Africana Studies Scholarship for Arizona in the French Caribbean, University of Arizona, \$6,000.	2016
Study Abroad Scholarship, Honors College, University of Arizona, \$1,000.	2016
Victor B. Kelley Scholarship, School of Government & Public Policy, University of Arizona, \$750.	2016
Laura and Arch Brown Scholarship, Honors College, University of Arizona, \$500 each, awarded four times.	2016 - 2018

Conference Paper Presentations

“What Makes an Atrocity a Genocide? Thresholds in Public Perception” (with Rachel Schoner and Daniel Arnon)

Peace Science OPSC, Online, 2025

Southeastern Rights Network Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2025

“Camps or Detention Centers? Public Responses to the Framing of Concentration” (with Pearce Edwards)

American Political Science Association: Vancouver, Canada, 2025

University of Houston: Terrorism and Civil Wars Workshop, 2025

“Race, railways, and the long-term legacy effects of concentration camps: Evidence from South Africa” (with Alex Braithwaite)

Remembering Spaces of Internment (ReSI) Symposium: Rivesaltes, France, 2025

- International Studies Association: Chicago, IL, 2025
- University of Rhode Island Human Rights Measurement Workshop, Providence, RI, 2024
- “The Concentration and Contagion of Cruelty: How Government Use of Concentration Camps Diffuses Globally” (with Alex Braithwaite)
- Remembering Spaces of Internment (ReSI) Symposium: Tucson, AZ, 2024
- Four Corners Conflict Network: Albuquerque, NM, 2024
- International Studies Association: San Francisco, CA, 2024
- “Deterring Abuse with Gendered Justice? Women’s Role in Truth Commissions” (with P. DeAnne Roark and Matthew Rains)
- Peace Science Society: St. Louis, MO, 2023
- “Courts and Concentration Camps: Judicial Constraints on the Use of Repression”
- American Political Science Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 2022
- International Studies Association, Nashville, TN, 2022
- Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, 2022
- “Introducing the Concentration Camps (CCamps v1.0) Dataset” (with Daniel Solomon and Alex Braithwaite)
- American Political Science Association: Los Angeles, CA: 2023
- Peace Science Society, Denver, CO, 2022
- TransResearch Consortium, Claremont, CA, 2022
- “Violence Against Refugees and the Role of Foreign Aid”
- International Studies Association, Online, 2021
- “Wielding the Gavel or Balancing the Scales? Domestic Legal Systems and Post-Conflict Justice.” (with Joseph M. Cox)
- International Studies Association, *Cancelled due to COVID-19*

Invited Talks and Workshops

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| University of Rhode Island. Human Rights Measurement Workshop. | 2024 |
| Peace Science Society. Human Rights Measurement Workshop. | 2023 |
| Texas Tech University | 2023 |
| Louisiana State University | 2023 |
| Peace Science Society. Responsible Public Engagement Workshop. | 2022 |

Teaching

Louisiana State University

- Introduction to International Relations (Undergrad)
- The Scientific Study of Civil Wars (Undergrad)

University of Arizona

- Introduction to International Relations (Online, Instructor of Record) Spring 2021 - Summer 2022

Political Thought (with Suzanne Dovi, Teaching Assistant), Spring 2019

Politics, Policy, and Governance: Comparative and International Perspectives (with Thomas Volgy, Teaching Assistant), Fall 2018

Service

Discipline

Executive Committee Member. Consortium for Rights Analysis and Measurement (CRAM). 2025 - Present.

Reviewer: Journal of Peace Research, The British Journal of Politics and International Relations

Louisiana State University

Faculty Advisor for the Silver Wings Club. 2025 - Present.

Member. Graduate Committee. 2024 - Present.

Member. Comparative Politics Search Committee. 2025.

University of Arizona

Grant Reviewer. Graduate and Professional Student Council.

Vice President. SGPP Graduate Student Association.

Search Committee Member. Human Rights in the Middle East.

Additional Training

Foundations of Open Science Skills. CyVerse.

ArcGIS Online Certificate Program. ESRI.

Graduate TA Online Teaching Bootcamp. University of Arizona.

Collaborative Teaching Workshop. University of Arizona.

L^AT_EX Crash Course. University of Arizona.

Professional Membership

International Studies Association

Peace Science Society (International)

Consortium for Rights Analysis and Measurement

Southeastern Rights Network

Updated May 2026