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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor	University of North Georgia (UNG)	August 2024 - Present
Assistant Professor	University of North Georgia (UNG)	August 2019 - July 2023
Visiting Instructor	Florida International University	August 2018 - July 2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	International Relations Florida International University, FL Major Field: Foreign Policy & Security Studies Minor Field: Comparative Area Studies	2018
M.A.	International Studies Florida International University, FL	2015
B.A.	International Relations & Political Science Minors: History & Intercultural Studies Wartburg College, IA	2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Security studies & foreign policy	Sino-Indian relations	Geopolitics
Small states in International Relations	Indo-Pacific Affairs	

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Book

[Reframing the Buffer State in Contemporary IR: Nepal's Relations with India and China.](#)
Routledge. May 2023.

Edited book

New Challenges and Opportunities in European-Asian Relations: Navigating an Assertive China and a Retrenching U.S. *Palgrave Macmillan*. Co-edited with Lukas K. Danner. 2021.

Journal articles

“What Is Innocent? Freedom of Navigation Versus Coastal States’ Rights in the Law of the Sea.” *Ocean Development & International Law*, Vol. 54, No. 3 (2023), pp.349-374 (with Christine Bianco and Zenel Garcia).

“Implementing Quality Matters in the Political Science Online Classroom.” *Journal of Political Science Education* (2021) (with Maria Gabryszewska).

“Constituting the Indo-Pacific: Securitization and the Processes of Region-Making.” *International Quarterly for Asian Studies*, Vol. 52, Nos. 1-2 (2021), pp. 15-34 (with Zenel Garcia).

“Dynamics of Rivalry between Geographically Contiguous Regional Powers: The Case of Sino-Indian Competition.” *Asian Politics & Policy*, Vol. 11, No.1 (2019), pp. 123-143.

“Southeast Asian Hedging and Indo-Japanese Strategies for Regional Balance: Managing China’s Rise.” *Air Force Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs*, Vol.2, No.1 (2019), pp.23-56 (with Zenel Garcia and Kevin Modlin).

“Disaster Relief as a Political Tool: Analysing Indian and Chinese Responses after the Nepal Earthquakes.” *Strategic Analysis*, Vol. 41, No.6 (2017), pp. 535-545.

“Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Border Minorities in China’s Foreign Relations with South Asia.” *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 3 (2019; first published online in 2017), pp.413-431 (with Lukas K. Danner).

“Power Politics and Securitization: The Indo-Japanese Nexus in Southeast Asia.” *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, Vol. 4, No.2 (2017), pp. 310-324 (with Zenel Garcia).

“Implications of the Dragon’s Rise for South Asia: Assessing China’s Nepal Policy.” *Strategic Analysis*, Vol. 40, No.1 (2016), pp. 26-40 (with Lukas K. Danner).

Book chapters

“India” in *Security Dynamics in the South China Sea: Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities*. Routledge (2024). Eds. Howard M. Hensel.

“An Analysis of EU Free Trade Agreements and Negotiations with Southeast Asian Countries” in *New Challenges and Opportunities in European-Asian Relations: Navigating an Assertive China and a Retrenching U.S.* Palgrave Macmillan (2021). Eds. Bibek Chand and Lukas K. Danner.

“EU-India Relations and New Political Realities: Normative Convergence and Its Implications for Shared Strategic Concerns” in *New Challenges and Opportunities in European-Asian Relations: Navigating an Assertive China and a Retrenching U.S.* Palgrave Macmillan (2021). Eds. Bibek Chand and Lukas K. Danner.

“Sino-Indian Relations and EU Development Policies in Nepal” in *EU Development Policies: Between Norms and Geopolitics?* Palgrave Macmillan (2019). Eds. Sarah L. Beringer, Sylvia Maier & Markus Thiel.

Review essays

“China’s Engagement with its Periphery.” *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, Vol. 4, No.2 (2017), pp.239-248.

Book reviews

Stephen Noakes and Alexander C. Tan (Eds.), “Asia-Pacific Small States: Political Economies of Resilience,” *Pacific Affairs* (2024).

Bernard F.W. Loo. “Strategy and Defense Policy for Small States.” *Small States and Territories Journal*, Vol. 6, No.2 (2023), pp. 209-10.

Andrew Small. “The China-Pakistan Axis: Asia’s New Geopolitics.” *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, Vol. 4, No.3 (2017), 357-360.

Bhumitra Chakma. “South Asia’s Nuclear Security.” *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, Vol. 2, No.3 (2015), pp. 341-43.

T.V. Paul. “The Warrior State: Pakistan in the Contemporary World.” *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, Vol. 38, No.3 (2015), pp.538-39.

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Managing Regional Rivalries and Extraregional Interests as a Buffer State: The Nepalese Case Study,” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (January 2024).

“Re-situating the Buffer State in International Relations: Nepal’s Relations with India and China,” *E-International Relations* (July 2023).

“Nepal and Regionalism: Convergence of Geo-economic and Normative Interests,” in *Nepal’s Foreign Policy in a Changing World* (eds. Pramod Jaiswal and Amit Ranjan), Institute of South Asia Studies (National University of Singapore) and Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement – South Asia Discussion Papers (2022).

“Nepal’s Soft Power: From Zone of Peace to Multilateralism,” *Himal Khabar* (October 2021). Original article was published in Nepali (नेपालको सौम्य शक्ति: शान्ति क्षेत्रदेखि बहुपक्षीयतावादसम्म).

“Himalayan Geopolitics: Contemporary Analysis of Sino-Nepali Relations,” *E-International Relations* (April 2021).

With Yang Gyu Kim, Adam Ratzlaff, and Lana Shehadeh. Series: “When Pawns Become Queens”, *Charged Affairs* (2019).

- “When Pawns Become Queens: Becoming a Global Power”
- “Knights and Rooks: The Role of Geography, Resources, and Asymmetric Capabilities in Attaining Status”
- “From Pawns to Bishops: Ideational Forces and the Pursuit of Power”
- “When Pawns Remain Pawns...”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Under Review

“Buffer States: Assessing Nepal as a Case Study” in *The Palgrave Lexicon of Security in the 21st Century*.

“Nepal’s Status Seeking Endeavors: Between Normative Convergence and Geopolitical Interests”. Part of a special issue titled “Novel Perspectives on Status in Global Politics” for the journal *Politics and Governance*.

Working papers

“The Politics of Hydroelectricity Generation: Chinese and Indian Interests in Nepal” with Lukas K. Danner.

“The Geopolitics of Small States in South Asia: Explaining Bhutanese and Nepalese Security and Foreign Policies through Role Theory” with Sarina Theys.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Virtual Roundtable: "Navigating the AI Revolution in Education: Strategies for Enhancing AI Literacy and Pedagogical Innovation," *International Studies Association Virtual Conference*, July/August 2024.

"Small States and Status-Seeking: Explaining Nepal's International Normative Commitments," *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, Canada, March 2023.

"Contemporary Indo-Nepali Relations: Deploying the Hedging Framework in Analyzing Nepal's Foreign Policy Towards India," *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Nashville, TN, March/April 2022.

"The Belt and Road Initiative in Europe: Security and Geopolitical Implications." The Wroclaw Security Summit: NATO and the EU – Strategic Partnership and Cooperation in the Field of Euro-Atlantic Security Area, December 2021.

"Security Strategies of Small States: Explaining Bhutanese and Nepalese Foreign Policies through the Lens of Role Theory." Co-authored with Sarina Theys. *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Virtual, April 2021.

"What is Innocent? Freedom of Navigation vs. Coastal States Rights in the Law of the Sea." Co-authored with Christine Bianco and Zenel Garcia. *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Virtual, April 2021.

Roundtable: "Going 'Back' to Normal or Creating a New Normal: Pedagogical Lessons from the Pandemic." *Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Online, March 2021.

"Constituting the Indo-Pacific: Securitization and the Politics of Region-Making." Co-authored with Zenel Garcia. *International Studies Association Northeast Annual Conference*, Virtual, November 2020.

"Implementing Quality Matters in the Political Science Online Classroom." Co-authored with Maria Gabryszewska. *Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference*, San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 2020.

"'Make Him an Offer He Can't Refuse': Translating Geography as a Source of Power." Co-authored with Yang-Gyu Kim. *International Security Section of ISA (ISSS) and the International Security and Arms Control Section of APSA (IS) Annual Conference*, Denver, Colorado, October 2019.

"The Politics of Hydroelectricity Generation: Chinese and Indian Interests in Nepal." Co-authored with Lukas K. Danner. *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, Illinois, April 2019.

"Nepal's Interactions with the EU, India, and China." *The Rising Importance of EU-Asia Relations – A Conference of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence*, Miami, Florida, February 2019.

"A Marriage of Strategic Convenience: The Development of Indo-Vietnamese Partnership and Implications for the South China Sea Dispute." *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, April 2018.

"Assessing Modi's Neighborhood First Policy: The China Factor in Indo-Nepalese Relations." *International Studies Association International Conference*, Hong Kong, June 15-18, 2017.

"The European Union in the Himalayas: Geopolitical Realities and the EU's Role in Post-Conflict Nepal." *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Baltimore, MD, February 2017.

"Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Border Minorities in China's Foreign Relations with South Asia." Co-authored with Lukas Danner. *58th Annual Conference of the American Association for Chinese Studies*, Pepperdine University, CA, October 2016.

"Power Politics and Securitization: The Indo-Japanese Nexus in Southeast Asia." Co-authored with Zenel Garcia. *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, Illinois, April 2016.

"India's Engagement with its Peripheral States: Modi's Policy towards Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives." *Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Lakeland, Florida, April 2016.

"The EU in the Himalayas: Analyzing the European Union's Role in Post-Conflict Nepal." *The European Year of Development: Approaches, Issues, & Results - A Conference of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence*, Miami, Florida, February 2016.

"Disaster Relief as a Political Tool: Sino-Indian Competition during the Nepal Earthquake." *International Studies Association South Annual Conference*, Tampa, Florida, October 2015.

"Two Tales from the Mountains: A Comparative Study of the Constituent Assemblies in Bolivia and Nepal." *13th Annual South Florida Latin American & Caribbean Studies Graduate Student Conference*, Florida International University, Miami, Florida, April 2015.

"Role of Buffer States in Regional Security: A Case Study of Nepal." *International Studies Association Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 2015.

"The Rise of the Dragon and the Consequences for Neighboring Small Powers: The Case of Nepal." Co-authored with Lukas Danner. *4th Global International Studies Conference of the World International Studies Committee*, Frankfurt/Main, Germany, August 2014

“The Security Dilemma in South Asia, East Asia, and the Latin American Southern Cone: A Cross-Regional Comparison.” Co-authored with Lukas Danner and Nicolas Terradas. *Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, St. Augustine, Florida, March 2014.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Roundtable: “Regional Disputes Series: The South China Sea”

- Organized by Dr. Zenel Garcia, St. Lawrence University (Fall 2020)

Roundtable: “Regional Disputes Series: The Sino-Indian Border Disputes”

- Organized by Dr. Zenel Garcia, St. Lawrence University (Fall 2020)

“China in South Asia: Implications for Small States and India’s Regional Security”

- Organized by the late Dr. Ulises Granados, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Georgia (In-person, Hybrid, and Online Formats)

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|---|---|
| • American Government | • International Organization |
| • Asian Security (undergraduate & graduate) | • International Relations Theory |
| • Comparative Security Issues | • Model United Nations |
| • Environment and International Relations | • South Asian Politics |
| • Global Issues (Introduction to International Relations) | • US National Security |
| | • Pop Culture & International Relations (Spring 2025) |

Florida International University (In-person, Hybrid, and Online Formats)

- Conflict, Security, & Peace Studies in International Relations
- Contemporary International Problems: Security in a Globalizing World
- Development of International Relations Thought
- Introduction to International Relations
- International Relations of South Asia
- Strategic Studies and National Security
- Theories of International Relations

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer-reviewer

Journals

Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies

Asian Affairs: An American Review

Asian Politics & Policy

Chinese Political Science Review

Disasters Journal

European Review of International Studies

Humanities and Social Sciences Communications

International Studies Perspectives

International Politics

Journal of Asian Security & International Affairs

Journal of Asian and African Studies

Journal of Borderlands Studies

Journal of the Indian Ocean Region

Journal of Political Science Education

Territory, Politics, Governance

World Development

Presses

Cambridge University Press

Palgrave Macmillan

Rowman & Littlefield

Oxford University Press

Routledge

University of North Georgia Press

Chair

2018 Abstracts Committee, *2018 FIU McNair Scholars Research Conference*, Florida International University, Miami, Florida, October 18-19.

2017 Panel: China & South Asia. *International Studies Association International Conference*, Hong Kong, China, June 15-17.

Discussant

2019 Panel: Ideas and Institutions in International Security. *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago, Illinois, April.

2017 *New Teaching Assistant Orientation*, Florida International University, Miami, Florida, January (Spring Term) and August (Fall Term).

2016 Panel: The Indo-Pacific Region and the Changing Nature of Security in the 21st Century. *Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Lakeland, Florida, April 2016.

Panel on the Social Sciences. *The 2016 FIU McNair Scholars Research Conference*. Florida International University, Miami, Florida, October 20.

Faculty Advisor

- 2019 - Present Model United Nations, University of North Georgia – Gainesville Campus
- Winner of the 2022-23 Student Organization of the Year Award, Blue & Gold Awards, University of North Georgia
- 2018-19 Turkish Students' Association, Florida International University

Committees

- AI and Student Success Committee, University of North Georgia (Current)
- College of Arts & Letters Cross-Cultural Engagement Committee, University of North Georgia (Current)
- Diversity Council, University of North Georgia (Current)
- Faculty Fellow, Nationally Competitive Scholarships Office, University of North Georgia (Current)
- Global Issues (Intro. to International Relations) Common Assessment Committee, University of North Georgia (Current)
- Associate's to Bachelor's Degree Committee, University of North Georgia
- Departmental Learning Management System (LMS) Support Committee, University of North Georgia
- Departmental New Faculty Orientation Committee, University of North Georgia
- Diplomatic Speaker Series Committee, University of North Georgia
- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Political Science (National Security), University of North Georgia
- Search Committee for Lecturer in Political Science, University of North Georgia

Workshop Facilitator

- 2022 Rise of China and the Implications for the EU in Asia, Wroclaw University, Poland (Virtual)
- Facilitated eight workshop sessions with graduate students on the topic of China's rise and its implications for the EU's activities/policies in Asia

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS, & TRAVEL SUPPORT

Awards

Ann Matthews Purdy Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year,
University of North Georgia

2024

Excellence in Undergraduate Research Faculty Award, 2024
University of North Georgia

Best Paper in International Relations 2016-17
Department of Politics & International Relations,
Florida International University

Fellowships

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
Florida International University

Doctoral Evidence Acquisition Fellowship, Summer 2016
Florida International University

Morris and Anita Broad Research Fellowship Award, Summer 2016
Florida International University

Teaching Related Grants

Student-Faculty Collaborative Mini-Grant. Led by Jessica Case and Nathanael Hines. Fall 2022

- Mentored an undergraduate project titled "Analyzing Political Rhetoric during War: A Case Study of the Conflict in Ukraine," University of North Georgia.

Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Grant (with Dwight Wilson), Spring 2021
University of North Georgia

- Project title: *"Gamifying Global Issues: Integrating Experiential Learning by Simulating International Relations"*

Travel Grants

Graduate and Professional Student Committee Travel Fund, Summer 2017,
Florida International University Spring 2016

Travel Grant Award, International Studies Association (ISA),
Baltimore, Maryland

Spring 2017

Conference Travel Grant,
Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs,
Florida International University

Summer 2017,
Spring 2016

Conference Travel Grant,
Department of Politics and International Relations,
Florida International University

Summer 2017, Spring
2016,

Conference Travel Grant, College of Arts and Sciences,
Florida International University.

Spring 2015

STUDENT MENTEES

- Jessica Case and Nathanael Hines
 - Completed a research paper titled “Analyzing Political Rhetoric during War: A Case Study of the Conflict in Ukraine” under my supervision
 - Won the 2022 Student-Faculty Collaborative Mini-Grant at UNG
 - Won Travel Grant at UNG to present at the paper at the International Studies Association – South conference in October 2023
 - Forthcoming publication in the London School of Economics Undergraduate Political Review journal
- Rubi Islas
 - Currently working on a policy paper titled “Neoliberalism, Land Development and the Threat to Indigenous Autonomy Case Study of Puente de Madera, Oaxaca Resistance Against el Istmo de Tehuantepec” under my supervision
- Brendon Goss
 - Currently working on developing a research paper connecting the Dune universe with the concepts of energy and regime securities

RELEVANT SKILLS

Languages

Nepali (Native proficiency)

Hindi (Advanced proficiency)

English (Advanced proficiency)

French (Beginner proficiency)

Archival research experience (Summer 2016)

India (National Archives of India, New Delhi, India)

Nepal (The Ministry of Archaeology, Kathmandu, Nepal)
 The United Kingdom (The British Library-London, The National Archives-Kew Gardens)

Certificate in University Teaching and Learning, Center for the Advancement of Teaching
 Florida International University

Online teaching

Adobe Connect for recorded and live lectures
 Blackboard
 Canvas
 D2L (Brightspace)

SPSS, Microsoft Office, NVivo

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

International Studies Association

REFERENCES

Dr. Félix E. Martín
 Associate Professor
 Department of Politics & International
 Relations
 Florida International University
 Phone: 305-348-1858/Email: martinf@fiu.edu

Dr. Zenel Garcia
 Associate Professor
 National Security and Strategy
 The U.S. Army War College
 Email: zenel.garcia.civ@armywarcollege.edu

Dr. Dwight Wilson
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 Department of Politics & International Affairs
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Dr. Maria Ortuoste
 Professor
 Department of Political Science
 California State University – East Bay
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