

BENJAMIN J. FALCÓN

Curriculum Vitae

The Ohio State University
Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Degree in Political Science** Expected **May 2027**
The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Major Fields in International Relations and Political Methodology
- B.A. Degree in Political Science and History, Cum Laude** **May 2022**
Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
Minor in Chinese
- A.A. Degree in Liberal Arts, Cum Laude** **May 2018**
Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International security, great power politics, interstate conflict, international and regional orders with a particular focus on Asia and US-China competition

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- May 2021-July 2021 **Research Assistant**, The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government, Austin, TX
Advisor: Dr. Scott Wolford
- Titled “Peace and Great Power Conflict in Asia, 1816-2010”
 - Collected and described data on all state parties to peace settlements for each interstate, intrastate, and extra-state war in East and Southeast Asia ending between 1816 and 2010.
 - Compared data to the baseline of across-side bargains used in most analyses.
 - Concluded that within-side and third-party bargains are both common and under-appreciated sources of breakdowns in peace settlements.
- May 2020-July 2020 **Research Assistant**, Trinity University, Department of Political Science, San Antonio, TX
Advisor: Dr. Sussan Siavoshi
- Titled “Pawns at Play: Refugees and the Game of Foreign Policy”

- Studied the effect that Pakistan’s foreign policy and national security interests have had on its Afghan refugee policies over the past 40 years.
- Sought to explain the shifts between open-door and closed-door in Pakistan’s treatment of its Afghan refugees between 1979 and the present.
- Compiled an annotated bibliography and poster presentation titled “Pawns at Play: Refugees and the Game of Foreign Policy” which argued that Islamabad used its control of the cross-border flow of refugees to further its strategic objectives in Afghanistan amidst its rivalry with India.

April 2019-December 2019 **Research Assistant**, Trinity University, School of Business, San Antonio, TX

Advisor: Dr. Deli Yang

- Researched the effect of personal discipline on the academic success of students
- Read and annotated over 100 published works to write a thorough literature review.

PRESENTATIONS

Falcón, Benjamin, & Wolford, Scott. 2021. Peace and Great Power Conflict in Asia, 1816-2010. Trinity University Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium: San Antonio, TX.

Falcón, Benjamin, & Siavoshi, Sussan. 2021. Pawns at Play: Refugees and the Game of Foreign Policy. American Historical Association’s Undergraduate Research Lightning Round.

Falcón, Benjamin, & Siavoshi, Sussan. 2020. Pawns at Play: Refugees and the Game of Foreign Policy. 2020 Baylor University McNair Research Conference.

Falcón, Benjamin, & Siavoshi, Sussan. 2020. Pawns at Play: Refugees and the Game of Foreign Policy. Trinity University Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Falcón, Benjamin. 2020. Comrade Conservative: The Emergence of Our Precarious Partnership with the PRC. 2020 Texas National McNair Research Conference at the University of North Texas: Denton, TX.

INVITED TALKS

“Latinx-Factor Charla: The 2020 Presidential Election”, Hispanic Heritage Foundation and Facebook, 6 November 2020.

“2020 Lunch and Leadership with World Affairs Council Young Professionals”, World Affairs Council of San Antonio and the University of the Incarnate Word, 25 August 2020.

PUBLICATIONS

Public Commentary

- “China’s Uyghur genocide must be condemned.” *The Trinitonian*. Online, 23 April 2021.
- “More than a pawn, Pakistan is a real player Between the U.S. and China.” *The Trinitonian*. Online, 7 March 2021.
- “Build back better diplomacy, not what once was.” *The Trinitonian*. Online, 14 February 2021.
- “The Kurdish policy change weakens the U.S. internationally.” *The Trinitonian*. Online, 23 October 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Trinity University — San Antonio, TX

HIST 3352, Modern History of Syria (3-credit), Dr. David Lesch, **Teaching Assistant**, Fall 2021

FYE 1600, A Successful Life (3-credit), Dr. Amy F. Holmes, **Teaching Assistant**, Fall 2019

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Fluent), Simplified Mandarin Chinese (Professional), Traditional Mandarin Chinese (Intermediate), and French (Basic)

Computer Languages: R and Stata

Technical: Microsoft Office, Outlook, EndNote, Fireside, Zotero, and Google Drive

Writing Formats: MLA, Chicago, APSA, AP, and APA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

June 2020 – Present **Writing Tutor**, Trinity University Tiger Learning Commons, San Antonio, TX
Edit and proofread professional documents and academic papers for undergraduate students taking a variety of upper and lower division courses and serve as the writing center coordinator on diversity and inclusion issues and programming.

August 2019 – Present **Opinion Columnist**, Trinity University, *The Trinitonian*, San Antonio, TX
Author a regular bi-weekly column for the campus newspaper expressing views on U.S. politics and foreign policy and conducting

independent research and reviews of academic and journalistic sources.

August 2018 – Present **Student Worker**, Department of Political Science, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
Operate office machines, such as photocopiers and printers, and assist staff and faculty by collecting mail, returning books, assisting in research, and more.

September 2020 – January 2021 **Constituent Services Intern**, City of San Antonio – Mayor Ron Nirenberg, San Antonio, TX
Communicated with constituents, staff, and other government offices and prepared public statements and reports on behalf of the Mayor and his staff.

October 2020 – January 2021 **Policy Research Intern**, Biden-Harris Presidential Transition Team, San Antonio, TX
Assisted the arts and humanities agency review team by compiling research and information on U.S. public media and the structure of Voice of America (VOA), the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), National Public Radio (NPR), and the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) under the guidance of Transition Team member and Trinity University professor Juan Sepulveda.

December 2018 – May 2019 **Congressional Aide**, United States House of Representatives – Rep. Henry Cuellar, San Antonio, TX
Compiled research on district priorities, prepared public policy reports, and communicated with constituents, staff, and other government offices to answer questions and to disseminate and explain information.

May 2017 – May 2018 **Legislative Aide**, Texas State House of Representatives – Rep. Abel Herrero, Corpus Christi, TX
Drafted bill analyses, floor talking points, committee talking points, and media advisories on behalf of the representative and assisted constituents with concerns over the phone and in person.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

December 2021-Present **Diversity Fellowship Program**, American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.

August 2021-Present **Mach Research Fellowship**, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

June 2021-July 2021 **Hertog Summer Fellowship**, Hertog Foundation, San Antonio, TX

- March 2021 **Best Poster Award — 2020 Coates Library Research “Thing” Contest and Showcase**, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- March 2021-Present **Phi Alpha Theta — Omega Tau Chapter Member**, San Antonio, TX
- May 2020-July 2020 **Mellon Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship**, The Mellon Initiative at Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- March 2020-Present **Pi Sigma Alpha — Xi Omicron Chapter Member and President**, San Antonio, TX
- April 2019- Present **Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program**, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- April 2015-Present **Phi Theta Kappa — Gamma Sigma Chapter Member**, Corpus Christi, TX

REFERENCES

- Dr. Scott Wolford Professor of Government, The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government
Phone: (512) 232-7210
Email: swolford@austin.utexas.edu
- Dr. Sussan Siavoshi Una Chapman Cox Professor of International Affairs, Trinity University, Department of Political Science
Phone: (210) 999-8341
Email: ssiavosh@trinity.edu
- Dr. Lauren Turek Associate Professor of History, Trinity University, Department of History
Phone: (210) 999-7625
Email: lturek@trinity.edu
- Dr. Katsuo Nishikawa Chávez Director of the Center for International Engagement and Associate Professor of Political Science, Trinity University, Department of Political Science
Phone: (210) 999-8345
Email: knishika@trinity.edu
- Dr. Jesse Crosson Assistant Professor of Political Science, Trinity University, Department of Political Science
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