

May 23, 2026

Brian Benjamin Crisher

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Professional Experience

Associate Professor, University of West Florida. August 2022 – Present
Assistant Professor, University of West Florida. August 2016 – 2022
Reubin O'D. Askew Faculty Fellow, University of West Florida. 2021-2022
Instructor, Florida State University. August 2015 – May 2016

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science. Summer 2015. Florida State University
M.A. in Political Science. Summer 2007. Western Michigan University
B.A. in Political Science. Fall 2004. Western Michigan University

Dissertation

“Bring the Pain: Three Essays on the Influence of Military Capabilities on International Conflict.”

Committee: Mark Souva (chair), Will H. Moore, Sean Ehrlich, Jonathan Grant

Teaching Experience

INSTRUCTOR (University of West Florida)
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Introduction to International Politics
Introduction to American Politics
War and Peace in East Asia
Political Analysis
Statecraft
International Conflict
International Political Economy
National Security Policy
Human Rights
Political Science Research Methods (Graduate)
International Conflict Seminar (Graduate)

International Relations Seminar (Graduate)
Statecraft Seminar (Graduate)
Political Violence (Graduate)
War, the State and Development (Graduate)

INSTRUCTOR (Florida State)
Introduction to International Relations (x2)
Introduction to Comparative Politics
International Conflict (x6)
Statecraft (x5)
American Foreign Policy
Understanding Political Science Research

TEACHING ASSISTANT - For Graduate Classes
Fundamentals of Mathematics, Fall 2010.
Research Design, Fall 2010.
Regression and Probability Analysis, Spring 2011.

Publications

“Power at Sea 2.0: Naval Power Data 1865-2025.” with Mark Souva. Forthcoming. *International Interactions*

“Disaster, Distributive Politics, and the Persistence of Partisan Divides in Climate Policy.” with Adam Cayton. 2026. *Political Research Quarterly* 79(1): 140-154.

“Territorial Wars and Absolute Outcomes.” 2021. *Research and Politics* 8(3) 1918-1934.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/20531680211043316>

“Ships Over Troubled Waters: An Examination of Naval Development in Asia.” 2021. *Journal of Asian and African Studies* . doi:10.1177/0021909621995859

“Power and National Capability.” 2017. *Oxford Encyclopedia of Foreign Policy Analysis*. <http://politics.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228637-e-468>

“Naval Power, Endogeneity, and Long-distance Disputes.” 2017. *Research and Politics* 4(1).
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2053168017691700>

“Domestic Political Problems and the Uneven Contenders Paradox.” with Mark Souva. 2017. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 13(4): 876-893.

“Power at Sea: A Naval Power Dataset, 1865-2011.” with Mark Souva. 2014. *International Interactions* 40(4): 602-629.

“Inequality Amid Equality: Military Capabilities and Conflict Behavior in Balanced Dyads.” 2014 *International Interactions* 40(2): 246-269.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

“Power at Sea: Insights from a Naval Power Dataset, 1865-2011.” with Mark Souva. 2014. <http://piracy-studies.org/2014/power-at-sea-insights-from-a-naval-power-dataset-1865-2011/>

“How Strong is the U.S. Navy Really?” with Mark Souva. 2012. <http://themonkeycage.org/2012/10/23/how-strong-is-the-u-s-navy-really/>

“Altering Jus ad Bellum: Just War Theory in the 21st Century and the 2002 National Security Strategy of the United States.” 2005. *Critique - A Worldwide Student Journal of Politics*. <http://lilt.ilstu.edu/critique/>

Working Papers

“After the War is Gone: Examining Military Recovery After War Defeat”

“Naval Gazing: Understanding Mercantilism’s Impact on Power Projection”

“Understanding the Impact of Extreme War Outcomes on Future Fights”

“Militarily Relevant Dyads” (with Mark Souva)

“Power, Interests, and Conflict” (with Mark Souva)

Invited Talks

“Symphony of Destruction: Understanding Absolute War Outcomes” – Illinois State University (virtual), November 6th, 2019

Other Writings

“Guestview: Comparative Politics Should be Required for Civics Education” *Pensacola News Journal*. November 21st, 2020 “Guestview: Russia’s Ukraine invasion will significantly impact international politics” *Pensacola News Journal*. February 25th, 2022

Conference Presentations

“Understanding the Impact of Extreme War Outcomes on Future Fights.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, September 2025.

- Paper also presented at the Midwest International Studies Associated Annual Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, November 2024.
- Paper also presented at the Virtual Southern Political Science Association Summer Conference, Summer 2024.
- Paper also presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2024.

“Explaining the Rivalry Conflict Gap: Characteristics vs Behavior” Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, March 2025.

- Paper also presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2024.

“Defense, Disaster, and The Distributive Politics of Climate Resilience in Congress.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2024.

“Naval Gazing: Understanding Mercantilism’s Impact on Power Projection” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2024.

“Power, Interests, and Conflict.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 2022.

- Paper also presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2020. (canceled due to COVID-19)

“Understanding Indirect Impacts of Radical Right-wing Parties: Lessons from IR theories” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference (virtual), January 2021.

“The Phoenix that Does not Rise” Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference (virtual), April 2021.

- Paper also presented at the International Studies Association Midwest Annual Conference (virtual), November 2020.
- Paper also to be presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2020. (canceled due to COVID-19)

“Aircraft Carrier or Amphibious Assault Ship? Understanding the Development of Naval Capabilities” Presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Ontario, March 2019.

“Victory at all Costs: Understanding Absolute War Outcomes.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2018. (published as “Territorial Wars and Absolute Outcomes”)

- Paper also presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, March 2016.

“Commitment Problems in Long-distance Relationships: The Influence of Naval Power on Dispute Issue Type.” Presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, February 2017.

- Paper also present at the Political Economy of Power Projection Conference, Los Angeles, California, November 2016.

“From a Distance: Naval Power and Non-contiguous Militarized Disputes, 1885-2000.” Presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, March 2016.

(published as “Naval Power, Endogeneity, and Long-distance Disputes”)

- Paper also presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference 2013.

“Bring the Pain: How Military Capabilities Influence Militarized Conflict Initiation and Reciprocation.” Poster presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 2015.

“Naval Power Development.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, April 2014.

“Uncertainty of Expected Costs and Conflict Initiation.” Poster presented at the Peace Science Society (International) 2013 Annual Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee. October 2013.

- Paper also presented at the American Political Science Association 2013 Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois. August 2013.

“Uncertainty, Power Parity, and Conflict Initiation.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association 2013 Conference, Orlando, Florida. January 2013. (published as “Inequality Amid Equality: Military Capabilities and Conflict Behavior in Balanced Dyads”)

“Domestic Political Problems and Strategic Engagement.” Presented at the American Political Science Association 2012 Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. September 2012. Co-authored with Mark Souva. Also presented at MPSA 2012 and SPSA 2010 (published as “Domestic Political Problems and the Uneven Contenders Paradox”)

“Military Power: A New Measure Based on Sea-Based Weapons.” Presented at the International Studies Association 2012 Annual Conference, April 2012. Paper also presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2011. Co-authored with Mark Souva. (published as “Power at Sea: A Naval Power Dataset, 1865-2011”)

Media

Interview discussion Israel-Hamas conflict on “Real News with Rick Outzen”, Pensacola, October 23rd, 2023.

Interview, “ Unexpected sophistication of Hamas attack surprises Israel” by Laura Hussey WEAR-TV, Pensacola, October 11th, 2023.

Interview discussing US Soldier detained by North Korea, WEAR-TV on-air interview, Pensacola, July 18th, 2023.

Interview discussing Russian-Ukrainian War on “Real News with Rick Outzen”, Pensacola, March 2nd, 2022.

Interview discussion Russian-Ukrainian War on “Real News with Rick Outzen”, Pensacola, April 11th, 2022.

Interview, “Tensions with Iran brings up questions about military draft” by Jennifer Munoz WEAR-TV, Pensacola, January 8th, 2020.

Interview, “Pensacola Man Recalls Watching History Unfold in Tokyo Bay” by Madison Arnold, *Pensacola News Journal*, September 5th, 2020.

University Service

University Committees:

- Member – Faculty Senate. 2023-2024
- Member – General Education Committee, University of West Florida. 2019-2023
- Member – Academic Standards Committee, College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities. 2020-2023
- Member – Environmental Health and Safety Committee, University of West Florida. 2020-2023

Proposal reviewer for Office of Undergraduate Research. 2017-Present

Service to the Discipline

Editorial Board: Member of the editorial board for *International Interactions* 2021–Present.

Reviewer: *Journal of Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Interactions*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *Journal of Territorial and Maritime Studies*, *Congress and the Presidency*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Asian Survey*, *Security Studies*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*. *National Science Foundation*

Awards Committees:

- Best published paper for 2020 in *International Interactions*.
- Malcolm Jewell Award Committee for the best graduate paper presented at the SPSA 2020 annual conference.

Honors and Awards

LEAD: The Faculty Version, sponsored by the Provost/Senior Vice President, University of West Florida, 2019-2020.

UWF Student Government Association Distinguished Teaching Award Finalist 2020

Academic Associations

American Political Science Association International Studies Association