

Brent Hierman

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Academic Positions

Associate Professor	Virginia Military Institute, Department of International Studies and Political Science	August 2017- Present
Assistant Professor	Virginia Military Institute, Department of International Studies and Political Science	August 2011- July 2017

Education

Ph.D.	Indiana University-Bloomington, Primary Field: Comparative Politics Secondary Field: Political Theory Minor: Central Eurasian Studies	December 2011
B.A.	Lafayette College, Easton PA, Honors in Government and Law Minor: Anthropology and Sociology <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	May 2000

Journal Articles

- "Land Reform by Default: Uncovering Patterns of Agricultural Decollectivization in Tajikistan" (with Navruz Nekbakhtshoev), *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 45, No.2, 2018, 409-430.
- "The Struggle for Land in the Middle East and Central Asia" *Perspectives on Central Asia*, 10, April 2016, 10-15 [Also Published by Muftah.org April 2016]
- "Connecting with the Neighbors: The Central Asian Response to China's Engagement with the Region" 全球政治 評論 [*Review of Global Politics*], No. 1, January 2016, 21-36
- "Central Asian Ethnicity Compared: Evaluating the Contemporary Social Salience of Uzbek Identity in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan" *Europe-Asia Studies*. Vol. 67 (4), June 2015, 519-539.
- "Whose land is it?: Land reform, minorities, and the titular 'nation' in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan" (with Navruz Nekbakhtshoev) *Nationalities Papers: The Journal of Nationalism and Ethnicity*, Vol. 42 (2), March 2014, pp. 336-354.
- "Ignored Constitutions and Predatory Presidents: Examining Central Asian Authoritarianism" *Education about Asia*, Vol. 18 (3), Winter 2013, 99. 30-35.

- “What Use Was the Election to Us?: Clientelism and Political Trust amongst Ethnic Uzbeks in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan” *Nationalities Papers: The Journal of Nationalism and Ethnicity*, Vol. 28 (2), March 2010, 245-263.
- “The Pacification of Xinjiang: Uyghur Protest and the Chinese State, 1988-2002” *Problems of Post-Communism*, Vol. 54 (3), May/June 2007, pp. 48-62.

Book Chapter

- “Dushanbe is Quite Far Away: Deconcentrated Agrarian Reform in Rural Tajikistan” *Tajikistan on the Move: Statebuilding and Societal Transformation*. Marlene Laruelle, ed. Lexington Books. 2018.

Book

- *Russia and Eurasia*, 2015-2016. 48th Edition. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2017 (Previous edition: 47th, 2016)

Published Reviews

- The State as Investment Market: Kyrgyzstan in Comparative Perspective, by Johann Engvall., *Central Asian Affairs*, Forthcoming
- Dictators Without Borders: Power and Money in Central Asia, by Alexander Cooley and John Heathershaw., *Post-Communist Economies*, Forthcoming
- Implementing a Vision of Citizenship in Soviet Uzbekistan: Theory, Social Issues and Education by Sevkhet Chevy Akyildiz, *Dissertation Reviews*, January 2016
- Weapons of the Wealthy: Predatory Regimes and Elite-Led Protests in Central Asia, by Scott Radnitz., *East European Politics*, Vol. 28 (4), 2012 pp.480-482
- Russian Minority Politics in Post-Soviet Latvia and Kyrgyzstan: The Transformative Power of Informal Institutions, by Michele E. Commercio., *Nationalism & Ethnic Politics*, Vol. 17 (3), 2011 pp. 335-337.
- Eurasia’s New Frontiers: Young States, Old Societies, Open Futures, by Thomas W. Simons Jr., *Central Asian Survey*, Vol. 28 (3) September 2009, pp. 343-345.

Research Reports

- “Exploring Inter-ethnic Trust and Distrust Generation in Central Asia: Examining Attitudes towards Kyrgyzstani State Officials in Uzbek Communities” Research Fellow Report, Social Research Center, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, April 2008
- “Theorizing Inter-ethnic Trust and Distrust Generation in Central Asia” Research Fellow Report, Social Research Center, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, January 2008

Selected Conference Participation

Papers and roundtables

- “How do we introduce Political Science? An analysis of introductory requirements at 409 national colleges and universities” APSA Teaching and Learning Conference, Baltimore, MD, February 2018
- “Exploiting Norms: Gender, Local Elites, and Farm Individualization in Tajikistan” Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, 2017

- “Dushanbe is Quite Far Away: Deconcentrated Agrarian Reform in Rural Tajikistan”
Central Asian Studies Society Annual Conference, Princeton, NJ, 2016
- Participant on roundtable entitled: *Field and Ethnographic Research: Benefits, Challenges, and Issues*, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2016
- “The Dragon in the Bear’s Den: Assessing Chinese interests and reception in Post-Soviet Central Asia” Central European Political Science Association, Vilnius, Lithuania, 2015
- “Goods Provision in Authoritarian Tajikistan: Distribution, Ethnicity and Rural Power” Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, 2015
- “Blogging and Simulating Central Asian Politics: Low Stakes Means of Making the Unfamiliar Understandable” Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Charlottesville VA, 2015
- “Land Distribution by Default: Understanding Patterns of Agricultural Decollectivization in Tajikistan” presented at the 2014 Western Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA and the 2013 Central Asian Studies Society Annual Conference, Madison WI
- “Farmers Must Be Guided: Political Obstacles to Land Reform in Tajikistan” Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, 2013 (with Navruz Nekbakhtshoev)
- “Out of the Ashes: When Do Insurgent Organizations Transform Themselves into ‘Normal’ Political Parties,” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012
- “Legal Unfairness and Ethnicity: The Cases of Kyrgyzstani and Tajikistani Uzbeks,” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012
- “It Is More than Who You Know: The Local Sources of Cross-Ethnic Trust and Distrust in Central Asia,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, 2011
- “The Politics of Inter-ethnic Trust and Distrust: An Examination of Inter-Ethnic Trust in Central Asia,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, 2010
- “Leaders without Followers?: Clientelism and Political Trust amongst Ethnic Uzbeks in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan,” Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, 2009
- “Value Pluralism and Radical Choice in Max Weber and Isaiah Berlin” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2007
- “Understanding the Downward Trajectory of the JVP’s Waves of Contention in Sri Lanka” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2006
- “The State’s Influence on Patterns of Internal Migration: A Comparative Examination of Rural-Urban Migration to Astana and Tashkent” Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference, Bloomington, IN, 2004

Discussant/Chair

- Discussant, *Energy, Water, and Trust*, Central Asian Studies Society Annual Conference, Princeton, NJ, 2016
- Chair, *Gender-Related Issues in Central Asia*, Central Asian Studies Society Annual Conference, Princeton, NJ, 2016
- Discussant and Chair, *Ethnic Conflict and Reconciliation in Post-Socialist Countries* panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2016
- Chair, *Engineering Identity: Multiple Wives, Multiple Dams and Multinationals in Central Asia* panel, Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, 2015
- Discussant, *Democratic Consolidation in Africa* panel, Western Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2014
- Discussant, *Ethnicity in the Post-communist World* panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012
- Chair, *One Hand Washes the Other: The Political Incentives Behind the Provision of Public Goods* panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012
- Discussant, *International Relations of Communist and Postcommunist Countries and Regions* panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2010
- Chair, *Disaggregating Ethnic Identity* panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2006
- Chair, *Nation-Building in Central Asia* panel, Association of Central Eurasian Students Conference, Bloomington, IN, 2005

Invited Presentations

- “Dictatorship, Development, and Punctuated Violence in Central Asia” Susquehanna University, October 18, 2017
- “Dushanbe is quite far away: Deconcentrated agrarian reform in rural Tajikistan” Swedish Institute for International Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden, June 2016
- “The Politics of Rural Economic Reform in Central Asia” presented at the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies in Georgetown University’s conference on Central Asia: What’s Next?, March 30, 2015
- “National Policy, Local Politics: Patterns of Land Reform in Tajikistan” presented at the Central Asia Program at George Washington University’s conference on Tracking Factors of Change in Tajikistan, March 10 2015
- Presentation on Ethnic Tensions in Osh, Kyrgyzstan at University of Vermont, September 25, 2014
- “Obstacles to Land Reform in Tajikistan” presented at the Registan conference on Social Trends and Stability in Central Asia, Arlington, VA, October 4, 2012
- “The New Great Game?: Assessing American, Russian, and Chinese Interests in Post-Soviet Central Asia” presented to the Foreign Affairs Luncheon Group, Lexington VA, September 26, 2012

“Uzbek Minority Relations and Land Reform in Tajikistan” presented at United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), Tampa, FL, July 12, 2012

“The Politics of Inter-ethnic Trust and Distrust: Evidence from Central Asia” presented at Lafayette College, Easton, PA, April 20, 2012

“Preventing Ethnic Violence in Kyrgyzstan: Too Little, Too Late?” Panel discussion at United States Institute of Peace (USIP), Washington, DC, June 28, 2010.

“The New Great Game?: Assessing American, Russian and Chinese interests in post-Soviet Central Asia” presented to the Fort Wayne Foreign Affairs Forum, Fort Wayne, IN, December 8, 2009

Selected Grants, Fellowships and Awards

Wachtmeister Faculty Development Leave, Spring 2017

Grant-in-Aid of Research, VMI Research Committee, Summer 2015, Summer 2014, Summer 2012

Dr. D. Rae Carpenter Award for the best research proposal submitted to the VMI Research Committee, 2012

Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship, Indiana University Purdue University- Fort Wayne, 2009-2010 Academic Year

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award, 2007-2008 Academic Year

Boren Graduate Fellowship, 2007-2008 (Declined)

Visiting Research Fellow at the Social Research Center, American University of Central Asia, November 2007 – May 2008

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Academic Year Fellowship (Uzbek), 2005-2006

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowships (Uzbek), 2004, 2005; (Tajiki) 2007

Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award, 2010-2011

Indiana University Graduate Student and Professional Student Organization Travel Grant, 2009

Courses Designed and Taught at VMI

IS 201	Introduction to International Studies and Political Science
IS 210	Introduction to American Politics
IS 230	Introduction to Comparative Politics
IS 340	Introduction to Political Theory
IS 334X	Politics of Central Asia
IS 337WX	Post-Soviet Politics
IS 434WX	Authoritarianism
IS 438W	Ethnic Conflict

Mentorship of Undergraduate Research

2018: Faculty Advisor to Sam Moffatt, Institute Honors Thesis and National Security Capstone Project

2018: Faculty Advisor to Nathaniel Millard, Institute Honors Thesis
2018: Faculty Advisor to Brigitta Hendren, NCUR
2017: Faculty Advisor to Jim Mittlestaedt, National Security Capstone Project
2017: Faculty Advisor to Stephen Bernard, National Security Capstone Project
2016: Faculty Advisor to Sam Moffatt, SURI
2016: Faculty Advisor to Andrew Leib, Capstone Project for National Security Minor
2015: Faculty Advisor to Stephen Bernard, SURI
2014: Faculty Advisor to George Davis, Capstone Project for National Security Minor
2014: Faculty Advisor to Rory Dillon, Capstone Project for National Security Minor
2014: Faculty Advisor to Kyle Taylor, SURI
2014: Faculty Advisor to Connor Diesing, NCUR
2013: Faculty Advisor to Kimberly Gragg, Capstone Project for National Security Minor
2013: Faculty Advisor to Connor Diesing, SURI
2013: Faculty Advisor to Chase Hinson, SURI

Professional Service

Advanced Placement (AP) Reader, Comparative Politics Exam, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015; Table Leader 2016, 2017

Expert Coder of the Afghanistani and Tajikistani Civil Wars for the International Peace Institute's (IPI) project *Understanding Compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions in Civil Wars*, Summer/Fall 2009, Fall 2010

Member of Selection Committee for Global Undergraduate Exchange Program Selection in Eurasia & Central Asia administered by the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, Winter 2008

Expertise utilized in asylum cases in Australia and the United States

Expertise utilized in UK DFID report on conflict in Kyrgyzstan

Reviewed Rights and Resources Initiative's Global Baseline Study Data on Land Tenure in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan

Outside reader for American Councils for International Education Title VIII Applications, 2016, 2018

Reviewer for *International Studies Quarterly*, *Perspectives on Politics, Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *Europe-Asia Studies*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Politics Groups and Identities*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Central Asian Survey*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *Studies on Asia*, *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review* and *African Security*

Service at VMI

2015-Present, Faculty Development Committee
2017-Present, Core Curriculum Oversight Committee
2018-Present, International Studies Scheduling Coordinator
2014- Present, Founding Chapter Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha
2012-2017, Library Committee (Head of Committee 2015-2017)
2011-2015, Undergraduate Research Committees
2012-2015, Summer Undergraduate Research Institute Review Committee

Professional and Academic Development

Participant at Arizona Methods Workshop (Qualitative Comparative Analysis),
January 2014

Participant at Indiana University Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching
(FACET) Institute, Summer 2009

Participant at Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMMR),
Arizona State University, Winter 2007

Participant at Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian
Languages (SWSEEL), 2004, 2005, 2007

Public Outreach and Media

Quoted in the following media outlets: *Voice of America- Russian Language Service*,
Voice of America- Uzbek Language Service, *Sanlian Life Weekly Magazine*
(China)

Profile in *Giving* magazine, Fall 2009

Research Skills

Languages:

Uzbek (Advanced Written and Spoken Proficiency), **Tajiki** (Intermediate Written and
Spoken Proficiency), **Russian** (Intermediate Spoken Proficiency)

Data Analysis:

Statistical Methods (OLS, MLE), **Institutional Analysis and Design** (IAD), **Qualitative
Comparative Analysis** (QCA)

Relevant Professional Experiences

Peace Corps Volunteer, TEFL Program- Teaching English as a Foreign Language,
Shahrisabz, Uzbekistan, 2000-2001

Current and Past Memberships

American Political Science Association
Association for the Study of Nationalities
Central Eurasian Studies Society
Midwest Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association
International Studies Association

References Available Upon Request