

# Brett V. Benson

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## Education

- Ph.D. Political Science, Duke University, 2006.
- M.A. Economics, Duke University, 2006.
- B.S. Philosophy, Mandarin Chinese, Brigham Young University, 1998.

## Appointments

- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, 2013 - present.
- Faculty Associate, Asian Studies Program, Vanderbilt University, 2006 - present.
- Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, 2006 - 2013.
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Quantitative and Analytical Political Science Program, Department of Politics, Princeton University, 2010-11.
- POSCO Fellow, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, 2010.
- Visiting Instructor, Department of Political Science, Utah State University, 2004 - 2006.

## Publications

### *Peer-Reviewed Books*

1. 2012. *Constructing International Security: Alliances, Deterrence, and Moral Hazard*, Cambridge University Press.

### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

2. 2016. "Changing Capabilities, Uncertainty, and the Risk of War in Crisis Bargaining" (with Adam Meirowitz and Kristopher W. Ramsay), *Research and Politics*, July-Sep: 1-6.
3. 2016. "Assessing the Variation of Formal Military Alliances" (with Joshua D. Clinton), *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 60(5): 866-898.
4. 2014. "Inducing Deterrence Through Moral Hazard in Alliance Contracts" (with Adam Meirowitz and Kris Ramsay), *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 58, 2: 307-335.
5. 2013. "Ally Provocateur: Why Allies Do Not Always Behave" (with Patrick Bentley and Jim Ray), *Journal of Peace Research*, 50, 1: 47-58.
6. 2011. "Unpacking Alliances: Deterrent and Compellent Alliances and Their Relationship with Conflict, 1816-2000," *Journal of Politics* 73, 4: 1111-1127.
7. 2011. "Two Steps Forward, One Step Back? Bias in 2008 Presidential Election" (with John G. Geer and Jennifer Merolla), *Electoral Studies* 30, 4: 607-620.
8. 2007. "Economic Interdependence and Peace: A Game-Theoretic Analysis" (with Emerson M.S. Niu), *Journal of East Asian Studies* 7, 1: 35-59.

9. 2005. "Public Opinion, Foreign Policy, and the Security Balance in the Taiwan Strait" (with Emerson M.S. Niou), *Security Studies*, 14, 2: 274-289.

### *Book Chapters in Edited Volumes*

10. 2012. "Alliances: ATOP Data and Deterrence," *What Do We Know About Interstate War*, 2nd edition, ed. by John Vasquez. Rowman and Littlefield: 111-137.
11. 2011. "A Bargaining Model of Nuclear Weapons Development and Disarmament" (with Quan Wen), *Causes and Consequences of Nuclear Proliferation: A Quantitative-Analysis Approach*. Rauchhaus, Robert, Matthew Kroenig and Erik Gartzke. Taylor and Francis: 45-62.

### Working Papers

1. "Alliance Design and War," typescript.
2. "Global Markets for Small Arms and the Conservation of Violence," typescript (with Kris Ramsay).
3. "Nuclear Arming, Inspections, and Ambiguity," typescript (with Quan Wen).
4. "The Effect of Foreign Policy on Public Opinion: Conditional Preferences in Taiwan," typescript (with Emerson M.S. Niou).
5. "Economic Interdependence and Political Conflict: How Foreign Policy Beliefs Influence Policy Choice," (with Emerson M.S. Niou).
6. "Arms Sales and Alliance Commitments with Moral Hazard and Conflict" (with Matthew DiLorenzo).
7. "A Cover Up: Expressing Bias through 'Cover' Issues," typescript (with John G. Geer and Jennifer Merolla).

### Grants, Fellowships, & Awards

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Quantitative and Analytical Political Science Program, Department of Political Science, Princeton University, in residence 2010-11.

POSCO Fellow, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, in residence summer 2010.

Center for Americas Work Group Grant, Vanderbilt University, 2008.

Center for Americas Incubator Grant, Vanderbilt University, 2007.

Vanderbilt University, Venture Grant, 2007.

Alumni Donation to support research on Chinese and East Asian Politics, 2007.

Program for Advanced Research in the Social Sciences Fellow, Social Science Research Institute, Duke University, 2003-04.

### Invited Presentations, Workshops, and Conferences

University of Texas, Austin (2015), College of William and Mary Washington DC Office (2014), University of South Carolina (2014, 2012), Beijing University (2013), Princeton (2013, 2010), Duke (2013, 2012), University of California Washington Center (2011), Rutgers University (2011), University of California San Diego (2011), Kellogg School of Business Northwestern University (2011), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (2010), East-West Center Honolulu HI (2010).

## Teaching

Introduction to International Politics (U) Undergraduate (U), Graduate (G)  
 Strategy and International Politics (U)  
 Crisis Simulation in East Asia (U)  
 Chinese Political System (U)  
 Political Economy of Conflict (G)  
 Formal Theory in International Relations (G)  
 Introduction to Formal Theory and Modeling (G)  
 Formal Theory and Modeling (G)  
 East Asian Political Economy and Security (G)  
 Math Camp (G)

## Former Students

Matthew DiLorenzo (political science), Research Analyst, AidData, College of William and Mary  
 Patrick Bentley (political science), Research Scientist and Modeler, Strategic Analysis Enterprises  
 Jenna Lukasik, (political science), Assistant Professor of Political Science, Wheaton College  
 Mostafa Beshkar (economics), George W. Leitner Postdoctoral Associate, Yale University and Assistant Professor of Economics, University of New Hampshire

## University and Professional Service

NSF Reviewer Panelist, National Science Foundation / Department of Defense, Social and Behavioral Dimensions of National Security, Conflict, and Cooperation Program Panel, December 2008.  
 Fellowship Reviewer Panelist, Department of Homeland Security Fellowship Program, spring 2007.  
 Faculty Advisor, International Hall, McTyeire, fall 2006-2009, 2011-12.

## Media

“Rise of the Rest: What is the Future of American Foreign Policy?” Panel discussion moderator with General Wesley Clark and former Ambassador to China Jon Huntsman. Vanderbilt University, Impact Symposium, March 20, 2012.  
 “For GOP, dislike for Obama trumps all” (with Jennifer Merolla and John Geer), Politico, January 2012.  
 “Beijing Has Been Unwilling to Halt the Violence,” Tennessean, March 21, 2008.  
 “China Needs Products Tennessee Can Offer,” Tennessean, November 17, 2007.  
 MorningLine, News Channel 5, Nashville, TN, Dec 4, 2006. Guest appearance on Iraq War segment.  
 Research cited in The New York Times, Washington Post, Newsweek, U.S. News & World Report, Los Angeles Times, New York Post, Politico, Chronicle of Higher Education, The Tennessean and Boston Herald.