

CHRISTOPHER W. RAY

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EDUCATION

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Ph.D., Political Science Spring 2024 (expected)
Dissertation: “Enemy Unknown: Anxiety, Uncertainty, and Emergent National Security Threats”
Committee: Christopher Gelpi (Chair), Richard K. Herrmann, Randall L. Schweller

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

MA, International Relations 2016

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

BA, History 2014
Certificate: Middle East Studies

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Foreign Policy, Political Psychology, International Security, Experiment Design, Politics of Collective Trauma, Security Implications of Climate Change

UNDER REVIEW

Christopher Ray and Christopher Gelpi, “The Anxious Public: How Anxiety Management Shapes Support for the War on Terror”

Christopher Ray, “Defense and the Dark Arts: Sorcerers and Sorcery in U.S. National Security Policy”

WORKING PAPERS

Christopher Ray, “Battle-Forged: Wartime Trauma, Narrative, and Paramilitary Evolution in Iran”

Christopher Ray, “Why the Classics Can’t Console: Thucydides and the Future of Realism’s Past”

Christopher Ray, “Danger without Villains: The Psychology of Climate Change as a National Security Threat”

POLICY COMMENTARY

Christopher Ray, 2021. “The U.S. has been promoting vaccines through fear. Research on political anxiety suggests that’s a mistake.” *The Washington Post/Monkey Cage*, 4 August. 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

“Battle Forged: Wartime Trauma, Narrative, and Paramilitary Evolution in Iran” 2023
America in the World Consortium Military Frontiers Symposium, OSU

“Better to Be Afraid than to Love?: Anxiety Management and Threat Resolution in U.S. Foreign Policy Attitudes,” MPSA 2023

“What Are We Doing to the Children?: How Elite Policy Programs Shape Future Policymakers as Thinkers and Experts,” MPSA	2023
“Why the Classics Can’t Console: Thucydides and the Future of Realism’s Past New Wave Realism Conference, Mershon Center for Security Studies, OSU	2022
Panel Chair: Leadership and Personality, MPSA	2021
Discussant: U.S. Foreign Policy and China, MPSA	2021
Discussant: Future of American Grand Strategy Conference Mershon Center for Security Studies, OSU	2021
“The Anxious Public: How Anxiety Management Shapes Support for the War on Terror,” MPSA	2019
“The Anxious Public: How Anxiety Management Shapes Support for the War on Terror,” APSA	2019
“Pathologies of Decision: The Psychology of State Self-Deception,” ISA	2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Columbus, OH

PS 2300: American Foreign Policy (Spring 2019 – present)

Designed original lecture course with substantive focus on major challenges facing U.S. foreign policy and skill-building focus on engaging with contested narratives around political/policy issues.

PS 1300: Introduction to International Relations (Autumn 2017, Spring 2018)

Taught comprehensive general introduction to IR to large lecture audience.

PS 4320: Strategies of War and Peace (Autumn 2018)

Coordinated 60-student strategic simulation focused on a series of global international security crises (Graduate Teaching Assistant).

AWARDS AND SERVICE

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (Graduate Representative)

2023

Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University

Coordinator, Research in International Politics Workshop

2018-2019

The Ohio State University

Committee on International Relations Second-Year Fellowship

University of Chicago

(University of Chicago), 2016

Marvin Zonis Fellowship

(University of Chicago), 2015