

University of North Texas
Department of Political Science
1155 Union Circle #305340
Wooten Hall Room 134
Denton, TX 76203

Office: 940-369-8892
Fax: 940-565-4818
Email: diego.esparza@unt.edu

Appointments

University of North Texas
Assistant Professor of Political Science 2017-Present

Naval Postgraduate School
Assistant Professor of National Security Affairs 2015-2017

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, the University of California at Riverside 2015

Research & Teaching Interests

Latin American Politics, Public Security, and Civil-Military Relations

Books

Esparza, Diego. (Forthcoming 2022). *"Policing and Politics in Latin America: When Law Enforcement Breaks the Law"* Lynne Rienner Publishers

Calfano, Brian, Valerie Martinez-Ebers, Diego Esparza, and Francisco Ortega. "Police Reform in America: Empowering Local Communities and Enforcing Change." (Under Contract to Write 2023) University of Michigan Press

Journal Publication

Andrea Silva and Diego Esparza. 2021. "Explaining the American Crisis of Policing: Media, Malfeasance, and Racial Prejudice" *Social Science Quarterly*

Diego Esparza and John Ishiyama. 2021. "Born to Run: Where, When, and Why Rebel Parties Participate in Post-Conflict Elections" *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*

Andrea Silva, Diego Esparza, Valerie Martinez, and Regina Branton. "Perceived police performance, racial experiences, and trust in local government." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* (2020): 1-24.

Diego Esparza, Valerie Martinez, Regina Branton, Kimi King, and James Meernik. "Violence,

Trust, and Public Support for the Colombian Peace Agreement." *Social Science Quarterly* 101, no. 4 (2020): 1236-1254.

Diego Esparza, Jessica Lucas, Enrique Martinez, James Meernik, Ignacio Molinero, and Victoria Nevarez. "Movement of the people: Violence and internal displacement." *International Area Studies Review* (2020)

Diego Esparza and Antonio Ugues. 2020. "The Impact of Law Enforcement Centralization and Professionalization on Public Opinion of the Mexican Police." *Journal of Politics in Latin America* Volume 12 Issue 1, April 2020

Diego Esparza, Santiago Henon, and Hope Dewell Gentry. 2020. "Peacekeeping and Civil-Military Relations in Uruguay." *Defense and Security Analysis. Issue 3 (Vol 37) pp 1-21.*

Diego Esparza and Tom Bruneau. 2019. "Closing the Gap Between Law Enforcement and National Security Intelligence: Comparative Approaches." *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*. 32(2): 1–32.

Antonio Ugues Jr. and Diego Esparza. 2018. "The relationship between crime victimization, corruption, and public attitudes of Mexico's armed forces." *Democracy and Security*, 14(3): 211-237,

David Pion-Berlin, Diego Esparza, and Kevin Grisham. 2014. "Staying Quartered Civilian Uprisings and Military Disobedience in the Twenty-First Century." *Comparative Political Studies*, 47(2): 230-259.

David Pion-Berlin, Antonio Ugues, and Diego Esparza. 2010. "Self-Advertised Military Missions in Latin America: What Is Disclosed and Why?" *Annual Review of Political and Military Sociology* 38: 101-127

Edited Volume Chapters

Diego Esparza. 2021. "Peacekeeping and Civil-Military Relations in Uruguay." Forthcoming in *Routledge Handbook on Civil-Military Relations* edited by Thomas Bruneau, Carolyn Halladay, and Cristiana Matei.

Tom Bruneau and Diego Esparza. 2018. "Intelligence Fusion Centers: Bridging State/Local Law Enforcement and National Intelligence Culture?" In *Homeland Security Cultures*, edited by Alexander Siedschlag and Andrea Jerković. London: Rowman and Littlefield.

Journal Articles Under Review

Diego Esparza, James Meernik and Regina Branton. "The Long-Term Impact of Civil War Violence on Crime in Colombia." R and R at *Civil Wars*

Kimi King, Diego Esparza and James Meernik, “Cuestión de Confianza: Gendered Skepticism, Violence and the Colombian Peace Agreement.” Submitted to *Journal of Conflict Resolution*

Research in Progress

Diego Esparza, Lee Walker and John Ishiyama. "Turn out the Lights, the Party is Over: The Impact of Party Retreat on Cartel Accommodation." Submitted to *Comparative Politics*

Diego Esparza and John Ishiyama. "Partisan Politics of Military Deployments" Revising

James Meernik, Diego Esparza, and Gina Branton. "Peace, Politics and Murder in Post Conflict Colombia." Rejection and Revisions

Diego Esparza and John Ishiyama "Police Models and Democratic Transitions" ISQ Proposal

Diego Esparza "The Impact of Police Militarization and Malfeasance on Trust in the Police"

Diego Esparza "Military Missions and their impact on Trust in Latin American Armed Forces"

Non-Academic Publications

Washington Post: The Chauvin Trial Puts Local Governments on the Stand: Violent policing leads to less trust in government – and democracy itself. By Andrea Silva, Diego Esparza, and Valerie Martinez-Ebers April 14, 2021.

Invited Speeches and Lectures

"Protests and Politics: UNT Political scientists share their insights on the crises in America today." Panelist presenting on police reform, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, June 19th, 2020.

"National Security and Democracy." Lecture at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, October 15, 2019.

"History, Politics and People of Brazil." Regional Security Education Program: United States Navy 4th Fleet. 'UNITAS Mission' USS Carter Hall LSD 50. 'Underway' from Norfolk, VA to Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August 9, 2019.

"Brazilian Security Apparatus" and "Security in Rio de Janeiro." Regional Security Education Program: United States Navy 4th Fleet. 'UNITAS Mission' USS Carter Hall LSD 50. 'Underway' from Norfolk, VA to Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August 12, 2019.

"Brazilian Global and Regional Power Relations." Regional Security Education Program: United States Navy 4th Fleet. 'UNITAS Mission' USS Carter Hall LSD 50. 'Underway' from Norfolk, VA to Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August 13, 2019.

"The Venezuelan Crisis and Coup Proofing." Regional Security Education Program: United States

Navy 4th Fleet. 'UNITAS Mission' USS Carter Hall LSD 50. 'Underway' from Norfolk, VA to Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August 14, 2019.

"Insecurity in Honduras." Regional Security Education Program: United States Navy 4th Fleet. 'UNITAS Mission' USS Carter Hall LSD 50. 'Underway' from Norfolk, VA to Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August 15, 2019.

"Homeland Defense and Democracy." Lecture at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Security and Democracy course. Potomac, MD, July 16, 2019.

"The Relationship Between States, Regimes, and Security." Lecture at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, April 21, 2019.

"Intelligence Led Policing." Lecture at the Center for Civil-Military Relations. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, November 27, 2018.

"Roundtable on Regional Peace: Constructing Security From the Border. The case of Altavista and La Sierra." Keynote speaker. Bolivarian Pontificate University, Medellin, Antioquia, Colombia September 4, 2018

"The Impact of Peacekeeping Missions on Civil Military Relations in Uruguay." Bolivarian Pontificate University, Medellin, Antioquia, Colombia September 3, 2018

"The Role of Police in Peacebuilding." Colombian National Police Postgraduate School Bogota, Cundinamarca, Colombia June 2018

"Research Methods and Writing A Master's Thesis." Center for Homeland Defense and Security Master's Degree Program. Monterey, CA October 2017 and March 2018

"Police Malfeasance, Political Reform and Democratization in the Americas." Center for Homeland Defense and Security Master's Degree Program. Monterey, CA June 2017.

"Women and the Armed Forces." Center for Civil-Military Relations Executive Course. Monterey, CA May 2017.

"Women in the Armed Forces." Co-presenter with Commander Jennifer Jones, U.S. Navy. Amman, Jordan. July 19-21 2017. Peace Operations Training Center. Jordanian Armed Forces.

"Past, present, and future of Hispanic Americans in the U.S." Distinguished speaker at the Defense Language Institute. Monterey, CA October 2016.

"Women in the Armed Forces." Co-presenter with Colonel Bruce Sweeney, U.S. Army. Beirut, Lebanon. June 27-29 2016, Lebanese Armed Forces Staff College.

"Explaining Police Abuse of Power in Latin America." Distinguished Speaker for the Latina/o and Mexican-American Studies Speaker Series at the University of North Texas. Denton, TX March 2016.

Conference Presentations and Participations

- June 2021 Freedom Dreaming Symposium, "Race and Trust in the Police," Panel Presentation, Syracuse University, Online, United States of America.
- May 2021 Peace Science Conference, "Session 6A," Peace Science Society, Denton Texas, United States of America. 2020.
- May 2021 " Born to Run: Where Rebel Parties Run." Latin American Studies Association, Online.
- April 2021 " Building Better Police Departments: Empowering Local Communities and Enforcing Change." Midwestern Political Science Association, Online.
- March 2021 "Building Better Police Departments: Empowering Local Communities and Enforcing Change." Western Political Science Association, Online.
- " No sanctuary: The Effect of Police Behavior and Malfeasance on Immigrant Perceptions of Police." Western Political Science Association, Online.
- Jan 2020 "The Electoral Consequences of Wagging the Dog at Home." Southern Political Science Association, Puerto Rico.
- Oct 2019 "Voting Against Peace? The Impact of Violence and Policy Choices on Public Support for Peace Processes." Latin American Public Opinion Project Conference, Bogota D.C. Colombia
- Apr 2019 "Order in the contested state: competing legitimacy, illicit groups, and the rule of law in post-war settings." Western Political Science Association, San Diego CA
- Mar 2019 "Turn out the Lights, the Party is Over: Political Retreat in Lawless Environments." Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago IL
- Jan 2019 "Turn out the Lights, the Party is Over: Political Retreat in Lawless Environments." Southern Political Science Association, Austin TX
- Mar 2018 "The Co-Evolution of Peacekeeping and Democratization in Uruguay" and Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Apr 2018 "A Bridge Too Far? Integration of Police into the Intelligence Cycle" Paper

presented at International Studies Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.

- Jan 2018 "The Co-Evolution of Peacekeeping and Democratization in Uruguay." Paper presented at Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans.
- May 2016 "Who do Mexicans Blame for their Insecurity? The Relationship Between Criminal Violence and Public Evaluations of Mexico's Armed Forces." Paper presented at Latin American Studies Association Conference, New York, NY.
- Mar 2015 "Centralization, Professionalization and Police Malfeasance." Paper presented at Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- May 2014 "The Relationship Between Media, Police and Student Opinion." Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Sep 2013 "Hybrid Police and Levels of Malfeasance: A Historical Analysis of the Carabineros de Chile." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- May 2012 Invited Participant at the Civil-Military Relations Workshop at the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, University of California, San Diego, CA.
- Feb 2012 "History of Mexican Drug Policy." Paper presented at Western Political Science Association Conference Portland, OR.
- Feb 2012 "Police Centralization in Mexico." Paper presented at Western Political Science Association Conference Portland, OR.
- Apr 2010 "Private Armies Public Costs." Paper presented at Western Political Science Association Conference San Francisco, CA.
- Apr 2010 "Private Armies Public Costs." Paper presented at Midwest Political Science Association, Conference Chicago, IL.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2021 Summer Research Grant
University of North Texas Office of Provost for Faculty Success
- 2020 Scholarly and Creative Activity Award
University of North Texas Office of Research and Innovation
- 2019 Artinian Travel Award
Southern Political Science Association
- 2015 Nominee for Best Paper in Latino Politics, WPSA

- 2015-2017 Research Initiation Program Grant.
Awarded by the Naval Postgraduate School.
- 2014 Small-Grant for Dissertation Improvement.
Awarded by the University of California Riverside Political Science Department.
- 2013-2014 Herbert K. York Fellowship, Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation.
Awarded by the University of California San Diego.
- 2013-2014 Graduate Division Fee Fellowship. School fees waived for a full year.
Awarded by the University of California Riverside.
- 2012 Visiting Scholar-in-Residence, Instituto Nacional de Asuntos Publicos,
Universidad de Chile.
- 2010-2011 Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award.
Awarded by the Graduate Division of UC Riverside, campus-wide competition.
- 2010-2011 Teaching Fellowship to train new teaching assistants campus-wide.
University of California Riverside.
- 2010 Grant to Attend Inter-Consortium for Political Science Research (ICPSR)
at the University of Michigan. Awarded by the University of California Riverside.
- 2009 Grant to Attend Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMMR)
at Syracuse University. Awarded by the University of California Riverside.
- 2009 Outstanding Teaching Assistant of the Year.
Political Science Department, University of California Riverside.
- 2007-2008 Graduate Division Fellowship.
Awarded by the University of California Riverside.

Graduate Courses Taught

Histories and Cultures of Latin America
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Government and Politics of Latin America
International Relations of Latin America
Democracy and Democratization

Undergraduate Courses Taught

Introduction to American Political Institutions
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Politics of Latin America
Armed Forces and Society/Civil-Military Relations

Politics of Mexico
Security in Latin America
Politics of Central America and the Caribbean

Department Service

Member of the Chair Search Committee 2020-2021
Library Committee 2020-2022
Executive Committee 2019-2020
Advancement Committee 2018-2020, 2021-2023
REU-NSF Mentor 2018, 2019
Election Monitor 2017-2018
Graduate Studies Committee 2017-2018

Professional Service

Co-Chair of Section On Defense, Public Security, and Democracy at the Latin American Studies Association 2019-2022

National Science Foundation Grant Proposal Reviewer 2020

Reviewer for the *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of International Affairs*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, *European Political Science Review*, *Democracy and Security International Journal of Police Science Management*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *Socius: Sociologica Research for a Dynamic World*, *Small Wars and Insurgencies Journal*, *Sage Open*, and *Revista Logos Ciencia & Tecnología*,

Book proposal reviewer for *Springer Nature Press*.

Member of the Editorial Board: *Revista Logos Ciencia & Tecnología*

Mentorship and Advising

2021 Graduate Advisor, Jason Buono UNT Ph.D program
2020 Dissertation Committee, Alex Goodwin UNT Ph.D program
2020 Dissertation Committee, Dr. Michelle Ramirez UNT Ph.D, (graduated)
2020 Graduate Advisor, Jack Pippen UNT M.A. program
2020 Minor Thesis Advisor, Bryan Lookabaugh UNT Ph.D. program
2019 Undergraduate Thesis Adviser Enrique Martinez, UNT Honors Thesis.
2019 Project Adviser Daisy Ramirez, NSF-REU program. UNT
2018 Capstone Thesis Adviser, Joseph Kane UNT
2018 Project Adviser Katia Hadjeb, NSF-REU program. UNT
2017 Thesis Adviser Brian Curry, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
2017 Thesis Adviser David Budny, Lt. U.S. Navy. Outstanding Thesis Award. NPS
2017 Thesis Co-Adviser Sean Harney, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
2017 Thesis Co-Adviser Humberto Lopez Arellano, Cmdr. Mexican Navy. NPS
2017 Thesis Adviser Phil Martin, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
2016 Thesis Second Reader Jason Green, Cpt. U.S. Army with Andres Evert Mejia Lt. Col. Colombian Army. NPS

2016 Thesis Second Reader Jeff Drewisky, Lt. Cmdr. U.S. Navy NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Clinton Cabe, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Geoff Ellis, Lt. U.S. Navy. Outstanding Thesis Award. NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Vanessamay Rigoroso, Lt. Cmdr. U.S. Navy. NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Matt Thompson, Maj., U.S. Army. NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Jason Park, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
 2016 Thesis Adviser Ryan King, Maj. U.S. Marines. NPS
 2016 Thesis Co-Adviser Chris Euans, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
 2015 Thesis Co-Adviser Carlos Carballo, Lt. U.S. Navy. NPS
 2012 Peer mentor for the Graduate Student Mentorship Program, UCR
 2012 Model United Nations Adviser, UCR

Research Experience

Field Research in Colombia (2017-Present)

Ethnographic research on indigenous communities and distance learning education with Jim Meernik (Medellin, Bogota, Sibundoy, and Leticia). Additional research on policing, public security, and peace building.

Field Research in Mexico June 2015

Interviews with military officers in the Navy and Army regarding cultural differences amongst the institutions.

Field Research in Mexico September 2013

Interviews with non-governmental organizations and public security experts regarding police reform.

Field Research in 2013 Colombia January to May 2013

Interview with police, politicians, non-governmental organizations, and public security experts regarding police reform.

Field Research in Chile September to January 2012

Interview with police, politicians, non-governmental organizations, and public security experts regarding police reform.

Graduate Research Assistant, Maiah Jaskoski, Naval Postgraduate School, Winter and Spring 2013

Field Interviews in Chile in Colombia Related to Research on Policing of Resource Extraction

Graduate Research Assistant, David Pion-Berlin, UC Riverside, Winter and Spring 2011

Research related to military insubordination during civilian uprisings.

Graduate Research Assistant, Yuhki Tajima and Jesse Driscoll, UC Riverside and UC San Diego Winter and Spring 2011

Research related to marijuana legalization, dispensaries and proximity to crime. Gathering information about dispensaries throughout the Los Angeles and Orange

counties.

Graduate Research Assistant, David Pion-Berlin UC Riverside, Spring 2009
Research related to policing structures in Latin America.

Graduate Research Assistant, William Barndt, UC Riverside, Fall 2008
Inter-coder reliability testing for a project related to executive assaults on democracy.

Graduate Research Assistant, Karthick Ramakrishnan, UC Riverside, Summer 2008.
Field interviews with police officers in the Los Angeles area regarding immigration enforcement.

Languages

Spanish: Written, Read, and Spoken Fluently
French: Written, Read, and Spoken Intermediate Level
Portuguese: Reading, Writing, Speaking Beginner Level

References

Dr. David Pion-Berlin, Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California Riverside
david.pion@ucr.edu
951.827.4606

Dr. Tom Bruneau, Professor Emeritus
National Security Affairs Department
Naval Postgraduate School
tbruneau@nps.edu
831.238.1454

Dr. Ben Bishin, Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California Riverside
ben.bishin@ucr.edu
951.827.4637

Dr. Maia Jaskoski, Associate Professor
Department of Politics and International Affairs
Northern Arizona University
Maiah.Jaskoski@nau.edu
928.523.8605

Dr. John Ishiyama, Regents Distinguished Professor
Department of Political Science

1155 Union Circle #305340
University of North Texas
John.Ishiyama@unt.edu
940-565-4326