

SCHEDULE

5:30 PM Welcome

5:30 PM Buffet Run I

5:40 – 6:30 PM

Alexandra Shewmake, Duke University
Jon Buchleiter, UNC-Chapel Hill

6:30 PM Buffet Run II

6:40 – 7:30 PM

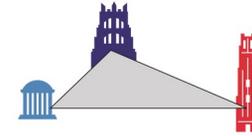
Corie Walsh, UNC-Chapel Hill
Luke Maier, Duke University

8:30 PM Dessert Run and Break

7:40 – 8:55 PM

Tara Mooney, Duke University
Christie Lawrence, Duke University
Emma Campbell-Mohn, Duke University

8:55 PM Farewell



The Triangle Institute for Security Studies

Welcomes you to its

Twelfth Annual Honor Student Dinner

featuring

Presentations of Honor Theses by Undergraduates in Security Studies

Friday Center, Willow room
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

April 15th, 2016

5:30—9:00 pm

Cosponsored by Duke University's Program in
American Grand Strategy

JON BUCHLEITER

UNC-Chapel Hill

Jon Buchleiter is a senior Peace, War, and Defense and Political Science double major with a minor in History from Fort Collins, CO. He is a member of Honors Carolina and has been on the Dean's list each semester at UNC and was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in fall 2015. During his time at Carolina he served as the Editor-In-Chief for The Hill Political Review, a non-partisan political journal, Center Director for the Roosevelt Foreign Policy Center, a student think-tank organization, and was involved with a handful of other student organizations focusing on foreign and economic policy issues. His policy brief discussing US-Chinese naval cooperation and anti-piracy efforts was published in the Roosevelt Institute's 10 Ideas In Defense and Diplomacy journal in Spring 2013. He has served on the Student Undergraduate Teaching and Staff Award committee as well as the Thomas Willis Lambeth Distinguished Lecture Committee. Mr. Buchleiter is particularly interested in issues of nuclear strategy and nonproliferation. Last summer he interned with the Department of State in the Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance working on European security and arms control issues. After graduation he plans to work on security issues in the non-profit sector in Washington DC.

Subconscious Conflict: The Impact of Social Homogeneity and Hate Speech on Civilian Participation in the Rwandan Genocide

This study examines the effects of social homogeneity and hate speech on civilian participation in genocide. It focuses on the case example of Rwanda, examining census data, radio distribution, perpetrator interviews, and analysis of the radio content. It is particularly concerned with civilian behavior at the community or village level, and the way that social interactions influence a person's decisions in crisis. Previous research in the social sciences has examined the impact of hate speech and social homogeneity but has not as yet examined the relationship between them. Furthermore, existing research in the field of social sciences only addresses social homogeneity and hate speech as these influence the behaviors of individual civilians in genocide. This study fills these gaps.

This thesis hypothesizes that hate speech is a key first step in creating the strong national narrative needed to garner civilian support for genocidal violence but that hate speech is effective especially when homogenous populations do not have personal relationship and individual anecdotal experiences to counteract the negative messaging. It posits that high levels of social homogeneity and hate speech are likely to lead to high levels of civilian participation in violence.

The findings, suggest that this assumption is correct. First there is the quantitative research, which shows a positive and statistically significant correlation between radio distribution and village level social homogeneity. The analysis of perpetrator interviews and radio content messaging supports the quantitative findings. The hate speech has the greatest impact on civilian participation in socially homogenous communities. Also, the proportion of Tutsi killed, is largest in socially homogenous communities. The results help to answer some of the questions about how civilians make decisions in conflict, but point to a need for further research in the field. The study concludes by suggesting that this research would benefit from the use of a comparative approach, which would permit us to understand if this behavior pattern is unique to Rwanda or a quality of genocidal communities.

CORIE WALSH
UNC-Chapel Hill

Corie Walsh is a senior at the University of North Carolina double majoring in Peace, War, & Defense and Global Studies. She is a native of Cambridge, Massachusetts who developed a strong passion for human rights in middle school. Since that time she has been working to gain professional, academic, and field experience in areas of human rights. Her work predominantly concentrates on identity driven conflicts, with a geographic focus on East Africa. She has been on the Dean's list for five semester of college and received multiple grants to conduct research abroad. Walsh had her first experience working on the ground the summer after freshman year of college, when she spent two months living in rural Uganda facilitating the start of a women's empowerment program. This helped focus her passion in the field of peace and conflict studies. Walsh realized that she wanted to spend her life working on civilian protection issues and ensuring that civilians are not the primary casualties of conflict. In the years since then she developed skills working for a wide range of non-profits and research institutes, as well gaining additional in-country experience in Bosnia and Rwanda. After graduation, Walsh will spend two months backpacking through South East Asia. She does not currently have post-graduate employment, but she hopes to move to DC and work for a non-profit doing civilian protection and security work and have the opportunity to go overseas and gain further field experience.

Why Diversify? Evaluating Nuclear Force Structures and Delivery Platforms

This study builds on a growing body of recent scholarship of nuclear security and evaluates states' decisions about delivery platforms after acquiring nuclear weapons. Enhancing understanding of nuclear force structure decisions and underlying motives has significant policy implications as mature nuclear powers currently face decisions about modernizing their arsenals and nascent nuclear powers choose which types of platforms to develop. This study anticipates that states' diversification of platforms will reflect economic constraints and varied thinking about the utility of nuclear weapons.

Three main hypotheses to explain nuclear force structure decisions are proposed including affordability, survivability, and usability. Quantitative findings for both the affordability and survivability hypotheses are inconclusive. Stronger evidence is found for the usability hypothesis supporting the view that states deploy a greater number of tactical platforms in response to growing conventional threats. This quantitative evidence is paired with qualitative case studies exploring the dynamics of force structure decisions in both Pakistan and the United States that reflect the expectations of the usability and survivability hypotheses.

EMMA CAMPBELL-MOHN
Duke University

Emma Campbell-Mohn is a senior at Duke University majoring in Political Science and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (Chinese concentration) with a minor in History. She is pursuing distinction in both majors with her senior thesis on China's contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions. Outside of her academic interests, she previously served as the Defense Intern for the Subcommittee Chair of the House Armed Services Committee and a Research Intern at the American Enterprise Institute. At Duke, Emma was Co-Chair of the American Grand Strategy Program and President of the Duke Alexander Hamilton Society as well as Research Assistant to Professor Peter Feaver. One of her favorite activities was coordinating the Program on American Grand Strategy's D-Day Staff Ride to France and England. She is also a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science and the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Societies, recipient of the American Grand Strategy Fellowship, Dean's List with Distinction for numerous semesters, and recipient of the Duke University Alone E. Evans Prize in International Law. She is an avid writer, contributing to *The Diplomat*, *Princeton Journal of East Asian Studies*, and *Columbia Journal of Politics & Society*. When she is not studying foreign policy, she volunteers with the ATLAS, a mentorship program at Duke Hospital, and serves as a Duke University Chapel Scholar. After graduation, she will be heading to Tsinghua University in Beijing to earn a Masters in Global Affairs with the Schwarzman Scholarship Program.

Expanding Role Theory: Analyzing US Responses to Hizb'allah and Iran

There are many sociopolitical theories to help explain why governments and actors do what they do. Securitization Theory is a process-oriented theory in international relations that focuses on how an actor defines another actor as an "existential threat," and the resulting responses that can be taken in order to address that threat. While Securitization Theory is an acceptable method to analyze the relationships between actors in the international system, this thesis contends that the proper examination is multi-factorial, focusing on the addition of Role Theory to the analysis. Consideration of Role Theory, another international relations theory that explains how an actor's strategies, relationships, and perceptions by others is based on pre-conceptualized definitions of that actor's identity, is essential in order to fully explain why an actor might respond to another in a securitized way. Certain roles an actor may enact produce a rival relationship with other actors in the system, and it is those rival roles that elicit securitized responses. The possibility of a securitized response lessens when a role or a relationship between roles becomes ambiguous. There are clear points of role rivalry and role ambiguity between Hizb'allah and Iran, which has directly impacted, and continues to impact, how the United States (US) responds to these actors. Because of role ambiguity, the US has still not conceptualized an effective way to deal with Hizb'allah and Iran holistically across all its various areas of operation and in its various enacted roles. It would be overly simplistic to see Hizb'allah and Iran solely through one lens depending on which hemisphere or continent one is observing. The reality is likely more nuanced. Both Role Theory and Securitization theory can help to understand and articulate those nuances. By examining two case studies of Hizb'allah and Iran's enactment of various roles in both the Middle East and Latin America, the instances where roles cause a securitized response and where the response is less securitized due to role ambiguity will become clear. Using this augmented approach of combining both theories, along with supplementing the manner in which an actor, action, or role is analyzed, will produce better methods for policy-making that will be able to address the more ambiguous activities of Hizb'allah and Iran in these two regions.

ALEXANDRA SHEWMAKE

Duke University

Alexandra Shewmake is a graduating senior at Duke University in the Trinity College of Arts and Sciences, and will be receiving a Bachelor of the Arts in May. With a double major in Political Science and International Comparative Studies, Alexandra has focused on international relations and security affairs in both the Middle East and Latin America. She will be receiving a minor in Spanish, as well. Alexandra is a candidate for graduation with distinction upon completion of her Political Science thesis centered around US responses to Hizb'allah and Iran. Throughout her senior year, in addition to her thesis work, Alexandra has been working on a publication related to her ICS interests titled, "Redefining Success: The Metaphor of the "Drug War" in Colombia and Mexico." That publication will be completed over the summer and submitted for publication. Alexandra currently works part-time as a lead subject matter analyst for the Laboratory for Unconventional Conflict Analysis and Simulation (LUCAS), a computational security studies lab housed in Duke's Social Science Research Institute. After graduation, Alexandra will be accepting a full-time position with LUCAS and will be continuing her work conducting and supervising research for the lab's Resources and Resiliency project, an initiative funded by a three-year Minerva Grant from the US Department of Defense.

The World's New Peacekeeper? An Analysis of China's Personnel Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions

From 2003 to 2014, China's personnel contributions to United Nations peacekeeping operations increased by over 1800%, from 120 to 2,164 people. China contributes more personnel to UN Peacekeeping Operations than any other permanent member of the UN Security Council as of March 2016. What caused this rapid increase in China's contributions, and what are the incentives for China's continued leadership in UN peacekeeping?

While existing scholarship discusses China's expanding economic presence internationally, little research considers China's contributions to multilateral military operations, specifically peacekeeping. This paper examines China's dramatic increase in personnel contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions during the 21st century. Three different models are examined to explain China's actions. First, the responsible stakeholder model holds that China provides peacekeepers as a public good in order to benefit the international community. Second, the military expansionism model argues that China seeks to increase its presences globally and derive military and economic benefits from participating in peacekeeping missions. Third, the international growth model holds that China uses peacekeeper to expand its political and economic network through enhancement of bilateral relationships that often benefit the host country.

To test these models, this paper uses two means of analysis. First, this paper uses multiple regressions to compare the number of peacekeepers China sends on a specific mission to its economic relationship with the host country. The analysis yields that China is more likely to send peacekeepers to countries that import a significant portion of their goods from China. This result is consistent with the international growth model. In addition to the statistical analysis, a comparison of the 2001 and 2013 editions of *The Science of Military Strategy*, the People's Liberation Army Academy of Military Science's key strategic document, yielded a notable increase in prominence on military operations other than war (MOOTWs) and a change in focus towards promoting the protection of the globalized economy. A similar sentiment was reflected in Communist Party statements at the United Nations, which illustrate a change in rhetoric towards increased praise of peacekeepers, a rise in Chinese leadership in peacekeeping and a slight change in rhetoric towards greater freedom of action for peacekeepers. These results are indicative of the international growth model or the responsible stakeholder model. This paper concludes that China's peacekeeping contributions follow the international growth model by pursuing the expansion of an international political network through military and economic outreach.

CHRISTIE LAWRENCE

Duke University

Christie Lawrence will be graduating Phi Beta Kappa with Highest Distinction in Public Policy as well as a minor in Turkish Language and Culture. She is president of the Public Policy Studies Major's Union and member of the undergraduate council for Duke's Program in American Grand Strategy. She is the co-founder and co-director of the language and identity focused "You Don't Say?" Campaign, which was covered by major media outlets, including CNN, Upworthy, and ESPN, has over 12 unique campaign expansions across 6 continents, involves over 470 individuals worldwide, and has acquired 19K+ Facebook followers. She has spent much time abroad, conducting research of Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Jordan and working at an international NGO in Belgrade, Serbia. She was selected as one of 21 U.S. Foreign Service interns and spent the previous summer interning in the Office of Near Eastern Affairs in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor at the State Department. Having studied abroad twice in Turkey, she received support from Duke to conduct interviews in Istanbul and Ankara for her thesis. Upon graduation she will intern at the political section of U.S. Embassy Bangkok and present her thesis at the International Political Science Association's 24th World Conference in Poznan, Poland. In January, she will begin working at Oliver Wyman in NYC, but hopes to focus on foreign policy and human rights in the future.

Critical Discourse Analysis on Daesh's Propaganda in English and Arabic

As an analytical methodology, Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is used in linguistics to understand a text, its effects, and the context they are situated in. This study examines the propaganda of Daesh (Islamic State/IS/ISIS/ISIL) as produced by Al-Hayat Media Center or its decentralized Offices of Information. The propaganda is broken down into the Justice Discourse, the Utopian Discourse, and the War Discourse. A discourse is a subject addressed by a community through all of its products and texts. Each of the three discourses in this thesis are examined in both Arabic and English, by way of texts, photographs, and videos disseminated online. This allows us to compare Daesh's presentation of these three topics across languages and communities.

Justice, War, and Utopian discourses form impressions of life within Daesh's borders in the minds of viewers and readers. They also reaffirm Daesh's statehood from political, military, and religious points of view. To conduct war and to enforce justice implies the legitimate use of physical force. The Utopian Discourse legitimizes Daesh's role as a true Caliphate, or a representative for God's laws on Earth. All three discourses address Daesh's physical territory, in its internal governance and its war at the borders. To monopolize legitimate force within a physical territory characterizes a state according to Weber's 1965 definition.

Only by understanding the discourses utilized by Daesh can groups who oppose them hope to compete in the war of information. Daesh has proven successful in recruiting not only locals but also foreign nationals. If Western scholars look at a video of a beheading and believe that Daesh is recruiting based on a narrative of violence and vengeance, then their counter-messaging would likely address these themes. In fact, the most popular video of the State Department's Think Again Turn Away campaign directs its entire message at Daesh's brutality. However, these same beheadings represent justice and accountability to a potential recruit, then the State Department's counter narrative would not deter that recruit at all. This thesis works to employ linguistic methodology to better understand the message that Daesh has been so successful in selling, in order that others may refute their claims more precisely.

TARA MOONEY
Duke University

Tara Mooney is a Duke senior from North Olmsted, Ohio double majoring in Linguistics and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies with a Concentration in Arabic. Her thesis was written with the support of her advisor, Dr. Gareth Price. Tara currently works as a Research Assistant for Professor Tim Nichols, linguistically analyzing Daesh's English-language magazine Dabiq in comparison to al-Qa'idah's English-language magazine Inspire. Over the course of her Duke career she has had the privilege of studying abroad for one semester at Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco to study the language and experience the culture. She has been an active participant in the American Grand Strategy club as well as a volunteer and staffer for Project WILD (Wilderness Initiatives for Learning at Duke) and an Executive Member of Duke's premier tap dancing ensemble, On Tap. She has worked as a Geopolitical Analysis Intern for a defense contractor and participated in Army Cyber initiatives to combat Daesh's online presence. She will graduate in May of 2016.

U.S.-Turkish Relations: Re-Situating the 'Kurdish Question.'

Historically many American policymakers have not prioritized the status of Turkey's Kurds in bilateral relations, despite the significant political, cultural, and security implications of the "Kurdish Question". The events over the past two years, including the devolution of the 2013 cease-fire between the Kurdistan Worker's Party (PKK) and the Turkish state, the concurrent increase in importance of the Kurds and Turkey in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and the Parliamentary elections in June and November 2015 have re-situated and further internationalized the "Kurdish Question". Although Turkey's July 2015 opening of the Incirlik air base to the anti-ISIL coalition was celebrated, Turkey's air strikes against ISIL were matched with Turkish air raids of PKK targets in Iraq, urges for the anti-ISIL coalition to distance itself from the PKK-affiliated Democratic Union Party (PYD), and pressure on the coalition to create a buffer zone that strategically divides Kurdish cantons in Syria. These developments elucidate a concerning dilemma: the United States must find a way to balance its new cooperation with a strategic ethnic minority against an important military and security-focused relationship with the geostrategic NATO ally. This thesis seeks to answer the question: What should be U.S. foreign policy towards Turkey, considering the Turkish "Kurdish Question"? Using four models derived off of the tradeoffs and overlapping of different foreign policy goals – power, peace, prosperity, and principles—this thesis analyzes the historical relationship between Turkey, the United States, and the Turkish Kurds from the end of World War I to the present day. Research was also supplemented with 24 elite interviews conducted in Ankara, Istanbul, and Washington, D.C. This thesis concludes with policy recommendations to the United States, recommending the United States prioritizes the "Kurdish Question" and holds Turkey accountable for its actions in order to achieve peace, security, and stability both in the fight against ISIL and in the region.

LUKE MAIER
Duke University

Luke Maier studies public policy and environmental science at Duke University. His research focuses on the nexus between natural resources and human conflict. Luke has co-authored scholarly manuscripts and policy reports for journals, technical series, and several conferences—including one sponsored by the United Nations. He has completed Ph.D. and masters-level courses in empirical methods and national security, and he aspires to eventually return to graduate school. His awards have included a Stanback Fellowship, American Grand Strategy Summer Fellowship, Sanford Research Grant, and Rothermere Endowment Scholarship to study abroad at the University of Oxford. Luke was also an international student at the National University of Singapore.

Natural Resources and Conflict: A Stepwise Regression Method to Estimate the Effect of Commodity Revenue Shocks on Political Stability

Many scholars have studied the effect of natural resource exploitation on political instability. In particular, primary commodities have received increasing attention, because unstable nations rely disproportionately on commodity exports for their livelihoods. However, the theory and empirics on the effects of commodity-dependence on political stability remain muddled. This thesis addresses calls to further theorize this causal relationship and to identify specific commodities that could strongly affect political stability. It employs a novel machine-learning method to identify high-risk commodities. Then, it applies these results to rate countries according to their political risk from commodity dependence. The conclusion offers speculation about reasons why certain commodities affect stability more than others.