Nathan A. Paxton

School of International Service, American University
4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20016
(202) 885-2460
napaxton@american.edu
http://www.american.edu/sis/faculty/napaxton.cfm
http://scholar.harvard.edu/napaxton (research archive)

Employment

American University, School of International Service
Professorial Lecturer (Term Assistant Professor), September 2011-present

Harvard University, Department of Government
Lecturer, January 2010-December 2010

Education

Harvard University
Doctor of Philosophy in Government, submitted January 2010
Fields of Concentration: International Relations, Political Theory, Mixed-Methods Research

Dissertation: "Learning to Live?: Examining Differential International Responses to HIV/AIDS."
Committee: Bear Braumoeller, Stephen Peter Rosen (chair), and Beth A. Simmons.

University of California, Berkeley
Master of Arts in Political Science, May 2001
Fields of Concentration: Int'l Relations, Political Theory and Philosophy, Research Methods (courses include: Quantitative Analysis, Game Theory, Research Design)

Thesis: "Punctuated Equilibrium and Int'l Relations: The case of European monetary union"

University of Cambridge
Master of Philosophy in International Relations, July 1999
Thesis: "A Punctuated Equilibrium Approach to Discontinuity in International Relations"

California State University, Sacramento
California State Senate Fellow, 1997-98, with coursework in public policy

University of California, Davis
Bachelor of Arts with Honors in International Relations (History minor), June 1997.
Elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior (June 1996)

Publications

Academic

"Making health affairs mainstream in IR scholarship." 2014. *International Politics Reviews* forthcoming.

"Political science(s) and HIV: a critical analysis." 2012. *Contemporary Politics* 18 (2), 141–55. DOI: 10.1080/13569775.2012.674335 (peer reviewed)

- "The academic discipline of political science has substantially addressed the politics and policy of the HIV/AIDS epidemic over the last two decades, but the epidemic has not become a full-fledged research agenda of its own. The author analyses and groups the extant research into four research programmes. He suggests some future directions that political science may take, so as to

further the investigation of the empirical problem of HIV/AIDS, as well as to meet the disciplinary imperative to advance more general theories and explanations of political phenomena."

"Virtue From Vice: Duty, Power, and The West Wing" in *Deceptive Words: The Poetics and Politics of Aaron Sorkin*, Thomas Fahy, ed., Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland Press, 2005. http://bit.ly/iGhiXZ

"Outside Public View: Let the Games Begin!" in *Making Government Work: California cases in policy, politics, and public management*, Barry Keene, ed., Berkeley: IGS Press, 2000. http://bit.ly/ku3aMk

Semi-Academic

Secondary author: "The Effects of Including Gay and Lesbian Soldiers in the Australian Defense Forces: Appraising the Evidence." Prepared for the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military, UC Santa Barbara. http://bit.ly/ksEy9y

Manuscripts, Working Papers

"Plague and war: Political breakdown and the spread of HIV." *Under peer review*.

- Previous studies of war and infectious disease have generated inconsistent findings on the interrelationships of these phenomena. This study investigates the association of war and democracy with HIV prevalence using time-series cross-section (TSCS) analysis of a new data set that is more inclusive in both spatial and temporal terms than the data used in previous analyses. http://bit.ly/SXdOrs

"Organizational Learning in the Development of HIV/AIDS Policies."

- Good ideas for policy programs and potential changes may be blocked at a number of points in most political regimes. I argue for an alternative understanding of organizational learning that focuses not on behavioral outcomes (that gatekeepers can halt) but on *expansion* of policy possibilities. I assess this model of learning via narrative process-tracing case analysis to the development of Mexico's HIV and AIDS policies from 1985 to 2008.

"'Pox vobiscum', or How I learned to forget malaria and love the fight against smallpox"

- This paper examines two questions in the decade-long process to marshal support for the smallpox program. First, I look at how Cold War foreign policy goals, including the scientific rivalry between First and Second worlds, affected the initial decision of WHO/WHA. Did contemporary medical knowledge indicate smallpox was not amenable to elimination, or was opposition about political opposition to Communism? Second, I examine why the United States and the western bloc changed their position, with attention to how WHO institutional factors affected that change. Given the heightened tension of the Cold War, what roles did politics and medicine each play in the policy shift? See http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/napaxton/files/apsa2014.pdf

"Organizational networks, divided policy authority, and the effects on Botswana's HIV response regime"

- The UNAIDS framework for HIV response called for 3 "Ones": one strategy, one coordinating authority, and one monitoring framework. Under the direction of President Festus Mogae, Botswana established the National AIDS Coordinating Agency (NACA) to bring together and direct the various government efforts against the epidemic. The African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnership—a PPP bringing together the Botswanan government, Merck Pharmaceuticals, and the Gates Foundation—brought relatively large financial resources to Botswana and became an alternative source of gravity in the Botswanan response. This paper examines how a PPP intended to assist in a national HIV program became a problem: with the advent of ACHAP, practical responsibility for the shape and direction of the national program seemed to have two loci of power. For those trying to help implement Botswana HIV policy, there appeared a division in the locus of power: NACA had the final authority, while ACHAP had the superior resources. I examine the

network structure of government and PPP actors, and I analyze how the unintentional division brought about by establishing a PPP lessened anti-HIV action at a critical period in the nation's response to the disease.

Software

"ZeligPanelmodels: Panel data analysis for Zelig." R statistical package that allows user of Zelig (`gking.harvard.edu/zelig`) to analyze panel data in an econometric framework by connecting Zelig to "plm" package. Source code at `http://github.com/napaxton/ZeligPanelmodels`.

Invited Presentations and Conference Activities

Research Presentations

Paper/Poster Presentation, "*Pox vobiscum*, or How I learned to forget malaria and love the fight against smallpox." International Studies Association 2014 Meeting (Toronto, ON); American Political Science Association 2014 Meeting (Washington, DC)

Poster Presentation, "Organizational learning in the development of comparative policy: A study of Mexico." AIDS 2012 (XIX International AIDS Conference). Washington DC, 22–27 July 2012. `http://bit.ly/QCSJDt`

Presenter, "Thinking Politically about HIV/AIDS." UNAIDS/International AIDS Society sponsored workshop, 27–28 April 2011. Bangkok, Thailand.

Manuscript, "Organizational network learning: A theory and an application to national HIV policy formation." APSA 2010 Annual Meeting Paper. Available at SSRN: `http://ssrn.com/abstract=1642739`. Made SSRN's Top Ten Download List for "ERN: Other Institutions", "ERN:Transition Economics: Theoretical & Methodological Issues", and "PSN: Health" in October 2010.

"Learning to Live? Organizational Learning and the Development of Country HIV/AIDS Policy," Harvard School of Public Health—Dept. of Global Health and Population, 9 Feb 2010 (job talk).

Paper, "Quantitative Analysis of Organizational Learning and the Development of HIV Policy." Annual Meeting, American PSA, August 2007.

Paper, "Information, Configuration, Many Nations: Organizational Learning and the Development of Public Health Policy." Annual Meeting, Midwest PSA, April 2007.

Paper, "Organizational Learning and Differential Response to HIV." Annual Meeting, Midwest PSA, April 2006; Conference on "Politics and Policy of HIV/AIDS in the Developing World" sponsored by the Princeton University Center on Globalization and Governance and the Princeton AIDS Initiative, May 2006; Berkeley Working Group on HIV/AIDS, March 2006

Paper, "Duty, Power, and The West Wing." Annual Meeting, Midwest PSA, April 2004.

Discussant/Organizer

Chair/discussant, "Global Policy: Oral Poster Discussion Session." AIDS 2012 (XIX International AIDS Conference). Washington DC, 22–27 July 2012.

Panel Organizer, "The International and Comparative Politics of HIV/AIDS," 2007 Annual Meeting, American PSA.

Discussant, "Qualitative Methods and International Relations." Qualitative Methods Section, Annual Meeting, American PSA, August 2007.

Discussant, "Social and Communicative Action Theories of International Relations." Annual Meeting, Midwest PSA, April 2007.

Discussant, "History of the Great Powers and IR Theory." Annual Meeting, Midwest PSA, April 2006.

Other Research Experience

UNAIDS: "Thinking Politically About HIV/AIDS"
Consultant, Fall 2010 to Spring 2011

Investigated and critically analyzed the extant research in political science on the global (and various domestic) HIV/AIDS pandemic. Presented research results to UNAIDS-organized international workshop of academics, policy practitioners, and IO officials to discuss the application of research to current problems in the politics of HIV. Report under revision for submission to peer-reviewed publication.

Social Science Research Council, AIDS 2031 Project (funded by Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS])
Working Group on Countries in Rapid Transition, Spring 2008 to Winter 2009, with Dr. Alex de Waal, Harvard Humanitarian Institute & SSRC

Received research grant ($6,000). Prepared quantitative analysis of the effects of political, macroeconomic, and conflict-related factor-related transitions on changes in the "HIV epidemic and/or for specific populations in the countries experiencing rapid transition."

Department of Political Science, UC Berkeley
Prof. Beth Simmons, Fall 2001 to Summer 2002. Provided historiographic and legal background research related to Professor Simmons' *Mobilizing for Human Rights: International Law in Domestic Politics* (Cambridge UP, 2009).

Prof. Norman Jacobson, Summer 2000 to Spring 2001. Assisted with project on political and gender theory of women in sports (specifically, baseball and softball).

ELM Research, Berkeley, California.
Summer/Fall 2000. Assisted in research, writing, and production of report on Australian policy regarding the admission of gays and lesbians into military. Full text of report available at `http://www.gaymilitary.ucsb.edu`

Department of Political Science, UC Davis
Profs. Scott Sigmund Gartner and Gary Segura (now at Stanford), April 1996 to October 1997. As undergraduate, prepared several annotated bibliographies of Mormon history and Freemason history for project on political fortunes of "invisible minorities."

Teaching and Advising Experience

American University, School of International Service
Courses: Intro to International Relations, International Development, Intro to IR Theory (M.A. level), Politics of Global Health, International Political Theory

- Developed course for AU's first-of-its-kind all-online Master of International Relations degree. Course deployed September 2014.
- Selected in first year of employment to teach International Development to undergrad honors program in summer abroad program. Locations included UN University for Peace, Ciudád Colón, Costa Rica; Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey (2012, 2013)
- Teaching evaluation scores (most recent semester): 6 (on 7-point scale)

Harvard University (Lecturer)
Global Politics of Health and Disease (junior honors research seminar), Spring and Fall 2010

Harvard Extension School, Master of Liberal Arts Research Proseminar, Fall 2010

Department of Government, Harvard University (Graduate Work)
Author, "A Guide for Thesis Writers in the Department of Government." Received grant ($4000) and wrote booklet (~100 pp.) to assist students writing theses with research and writing process.
`http://hvrd.me/RsVLuX`

Teaching Fellow:

- "Conflict and Cooperation in the Modern World." Spring 2007, Spring 2010 (Profs. Stephen Peter Rosen and Michael Hiscox)
- Senior Honors Thesis Seminar, 2009-10; "Introduction to Political Theory." Fall 2005. (Prof. Sharon Krause)
- "Sophomore Tutorial," Spring 2005. (Profs. Stanley Hoffmann and Cindy Skach)

Head Teaching Fellow: "International Law." Spring 2004, Fall 2004. (Prof. Beth Simmons)

Senior Thesis Advising: Ryan Coughlan (Harvard, 2006), "Differential Sovereignty and Military Contamination Cleanup," graded *magna cum laude*

College of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
Resident Tutor in Government and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advising: John Winthrop House, August 2005 to June 2009

Undergraduate Major Adviser, September 2003 to June 2010

Department of Political Science, UC Berkeley
Graduate Student Instructor, "International Law." Spring 2001, Spring 2002. Prof. Beth Simmons

Graduate Student Instructor, "Research Practice and Quantitative Methodology." Fall 2001. Prof. Eric Schickler

Graduate Student Instructor, "International Relations." Fall 2000. Prof. Steven Weber

Department of Political Science, UC Davis (undergraduate)
Course Reader, "History of United States Foreign Policy." Fall 1996. Prof. Scott Sigmund Gartner

Awards/Grants

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Science Benjamin Bainbridge Tregoe Graduate (Dissertation Completion) Fellowship, 2008-09

SSRC/"aids2031" Research Grant ($6000), 2008

Harvard John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies Dissertation Research and Travel Grant, 2008

Harvard University Graduate Student (full) Fellowship, 2002-04

UC Berkeley Political Science Department Fellowship, 1999-2000

University of Cambridge Honorary Overseas Trust Scholar, 1998-99

Trinity Hall (Cambridge) Postgraduate Research Bursary, 1998-99

Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar, 1998-99

Marshall Scholarship Finalist, 1997

UC Davis International Relations Citation for Outstanding Performance, 1997

Finalist, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Junior Fellowship, 1997

UC Davis, Institute of Government Affairs Undergraduate Research Fellowship, 1996-97

Phi Beta Kappa (elected as junior), 1996

Additional Training

Fourth Annual Institute for Qualitative Research Methods
Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods, Arizona State University, January 2005.

International Policy Summer Institute
Bridging the Gap Project, American University, June 2012

- Competitively selected professional development program for faculty (all ranks) and post-docs in the field of international affairs who want to build the tools and networks to produce and disseminate policy-relevant academic research.

Related Professional Experience

California State Senate, Sacramento, California
Legislative Aide to Sen. Quentin L Kopp (I-San Francisco), October 1997 to September 1998. Primary staff person on 10–15 bills, including significant reforms of mortgage brokers, expansion of protections against age-related employment discrimination, and civil liberties.

U.S. Department of State
London Embassy: Intern to Labor and Social Affairs Officer and General Services Officer, June 1996 to August 1996.

Offered position as U.S. Foreign Service Officer (April 1998), declined.

Media

Interview, National Public Radio: Open Source, 6 November 2006, "Homosexuality and the American Church." `http://bit.ly/MR3Chb`

Non-Academic
Nate Knows Nada. Personal weblog ("blog"). May 2003 to Summer 2007. Official accredited blogger of the 2004 Democratic National Convention. Indexed as part of the Library of Congress MINERVA permanent historical collection on the 2004 election cycle.
`http://www.nateknowsnada.org`

Service

Berkeley Canterbury (Episcopal Ministry) Foundation
Board of Directors Member, September 2000 to August 2002.

UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly
Grants Adviser, December 2001 to August 2002.

New Graduate Student Orientation Coordinator, Summer 2001.

Department of Political Science Representative (1999-2001)

Trinity Hall (Cambridge University) Middle Combination Room Committee
Member-at-Large (1998-99), Trinity Hall Graduate Student Government

UC Davis
Joint Campus Committee on Information Technology, Undergraduate Representative (1996-97)

Proficiencies

Research competency (read, write) in Spanish.

Stata statistical software, R statistical language, LaTeX typesetting language.

Professional Service & Affiliations

Referee: International Development Studies Bulletin; Public Administration: An International Quarterly; Routledge Publishers; Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law; Journal of International Relations and Development; International Studies Quarterly

Abstract reviewer: AIDS 2012 (19th International AIDS Conference) (55 abstracts reviewed)

American Political Science Association, 2001–present

- Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods, 2005–present
- Health Politics Working Group, APSA 2007
- Organized Section on Health Politics and Policy, 2008–2013

Midwest Political Science Association, 2004–2008 (intermittent)

International AIDS Society, 2008–2014

Interests

Amateur potter/ceramicist (5 years)

Bicycle building and repair (2 years as a professional bike mechanic)