

Steven D. Schaaf

Contact Information	University of Mississippi Deupree Hall, Room 208 University, MS, 38677	Phone: (316) 207-7076 E-mail: sdschaaf@olemiss.edu Website: www.stevenschaaf.com
Areas of Specialization	Authoritarianism, Middle East Politics, Comparative Judicial Politics, Quantitative Research Methods, Surveys and Experiments.	
Work	University of Mississippi <i>Assistant Professor of Comparative Middle East Politics, August 2021–Present.</i>	Oxford, MS
Education	George Washington University <i>M.A., Political Science. Conferred: 2017; Ph.D., Political Science. Conferred: August 31, 2021.</i> – Dissertation: Litigating the Authoritarian State: Legal Mobilization and Judicial Politics in the Middle East	Washington, D. C.
	Drake University <i>B.A., International Relations and Law, Politics & Society. Conferred: 2013. Summa Cum Laude.</i>	Des Moines, Iowa
Peer Reviewed Publications	– “Contentious Politics in the Courthouse: Law As a Tool for Resisting Authoritarian States in the Middle East.” <i>Law & Society Review</i> 55(1), 139–176. 2021. – “Is There a Trump Effect? An Experiment on Political Polarization and Audience Costs.” <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 17(2), 433–452 (with Miles Evers and Aleksander Fisher). 2019. – “When Do Courts Constrain the Authoritarian State? Judicial Decision-Making in Jordan and Palestine.” <i>Comparative Politics</i> . Forthcoming.	
Book Project	– <i>Authoritarianism from the Inside Out: How State Institutions Realize Autonomy under Authoritarian Regimes</i> . Book manuscript under review at Oxford University Press (with Nathan Brown, Samer Anabtawi and Julian Waller).	
Edited Book Volumes	– “Administrative Courts and Dual States: Moving and Patrolling the Border in Egypt,” in <i>Tackling the Authoritarian Rule of Law</i> , Ed. Jens Meierhenrich. New York: Cambridge University Press. Forthcoming. (with Nathan Brown).	
Published Book Reviews	– “Review of <i>Constituting Religion: Islam, Liberal Rights and the Malaysian State</i> by Tamir Moustafa.” <i>Law and Politics Book Review</i> , Vol. 28, No. 2 (2018).	
Published Policy Writing	– “If Trump Backs Down from His Latest Iran Threat, Will He Lose Support?” <i>Washington Post, Monkey Cage</i> , June 2019. (with Miles Evers and Aleksander Fisher). – “The Administrative Judiciary in Jordan.” ACOR Jordan, December 2017.	
Working Papers & Ongoing Research	– “Is The Tinkerbell Effect Stable? American Support for Democracy before and after the 2020 Election.” (with Miles Evers). – “Assessing the Predictive Power of Statistical Models of International Conflict.” (with Yonatan Lupu and Matthew Fuhrmann). – “Citizenship in the Shadow of Law: The Exercise and Contestation of Authoritarian Power in Jordan.” (with Lillian Frost). <i>Submitted for presentation at European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Annual Conference, April 2022.</i> – “The Racialization of Relative Economic Gains: Experimental Evidence from the United States.” (with Miles Evers). <i>Accepted for presentation at International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Conference, April 2022.</i>	

Grants and Fellowships

- **Peace Scholar Fellowship** (2021). U.S. Institute for Peace. Fellowship awarded (declined).
- **Dean’s Graduate Instructorship** (Jan. 2021–May. 2021). George Washington University. Fellowship award to teach PSC 3192: “The Rule of Law under Dictatorship and Democracy.”
- **Dean’s Dissertation Completion Fellowship** (Aug. 2020–Dec. 2020). George Washington University. Fellowship award for dissertation project: “Litigating the Authoritarian State.”
- **Boren Fellowship** (Dec. 2017–Dec. 2018). National Security Education Program. Field research in Amman, Jordan.
- **CAORC Doctoral Fellowship** (Sept. 2017–Dec. 2017). American Center for Oriental Research. Field research in Amman, Jordan.
- **IMES Doctoral Research Grant** (June 2017–Sept. 2017). Institute for Middle East Studies. Field research in Ramallah, Palestine.
- **Fulbright Research Fellowship** (Aug. 2013–Aug. 2014). J. William Fulbright Foundation. Field research in Amman, Jordan.
- **Travel Research Engagement Grant** (Dec. 2015–Jan. 2016). Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS). Field research in Cairo, Egypt and Doha, Qatar.
- **Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship** (May 2015–Aug. 2015). U.S. Department of Education. Arabic language study at Princess Sumaya University in Amman, Jordan.
- **Critical Language Enhancement Grant** (Aug. 2013–Aug. 2014). Arabic language study at the Qasid Institute in Amman, Jordan.

Conference and Workshop Presentations

- “Litigation, Legal Mobilization and Authoritarianism in the Middle East.” Presented at *American Political Science Association* (San Francisco, 2020).
- “Authoritarianism from the Inside: How and When State Institutions Realize Autonomy under Authoritarian Regimes.” Book workshop (Washington D. C. , 2020).
- “Contentious Politics in the Courthouse: Law As a Tool for Resisting Authoritarianism in the Middle East.” Presented at *American Political Science Association* (Washington D. C. , 2019). Also presented at *Interdisciplinary Middle East Politics Workshop* (Washington D. C. , 2019).
- “Administrative Courts and Dual States: Moving and Patrolling the Border in Egypt.” Presented at *Authoritarian Rule of Law Workshop* (London, 2019).
- “When Do Courts Constrain the Authoritarian State: Judicial Decision Making in Jordan and Palestine.” Presented at Comparative Politics Workshop (Washington D. C. , 2019).
- “Litigating the Authoritarian State: Judicial Politics in the Middle East.” Presented at American Center for Oriental Research (Amman, 2017).
- “Understanding Authoritarian Institutions.” Presented at Comparative Politics Workshop (Washington D. C. , 2017).
- “Choosing the Court’s Vehicle: Supreme Court Agenda Setting.” Presented at Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, 2015).
- “Gender, Judicial Decision Making and Judicial Selection in Jordan.” Presented at Fulbright MENA Conference (Rabat, 2014).

Teaching Experience

- POL 398 (University of Mississippi)—The Rule of Law under Dictatorship and Democracy
– Professor. Fall 2021.
- INST 209 (University of Mississippi)—Introduction to Middle East Politics
– Professor. Fall 2021.
- PSC 3192 (George Washington University)—The Rule of Law under Dictatorship and Democracy
– Instructor. Spring 2021.
- PSC 1001 (George Washington University)—Introduction to Comparative Politics
– Teaching Assistant. Fall 2019, Spring 2016, Fall 2015.
- IAFF 1005 (George Washington University)—Introduction to International Affairs
– Teaching Assistant. Spring 2015 and Fall 2014.

Additional Skills Languages

- Arabic: Fluent

Computational Skills

- R, Stata, Python, SPSS, Qualtrics, MTurk, L^AT_EX, MS Office

Surveys, Polls, Experiments (Domestic and International)

- United States: Fielded three nationally representative survey experiments in the United States investigating: (1) the relationship between partisan polarization, public opinion, and foreign policy accountability; (2) public willingness to protest and litigate public officials; and (3) public values and democratic backsliding during the 2020 election cycle.
- Egypt: Fielded two nationally representative survey experiments examining factors that motivate Egyptians to pursue their grievances against state actors through litigation or protest.
- Jordan: Fielded two nationally representative survey experiments examining factors that motivate Jordanians to pursue their grievances against state actors through litigation or protest.
- Russia: Fielding a nationally representative survey experiment exploring how the COVID-19 pandemic affects Russians' support for either democratic or authoritarian governance.

Service**Discussant**

- Croft Thesis Advisor (University of Mississippi). Fall 2021–Spring 2022.
- Comparative Politics Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Oct. 2020.
- Comparative Politics Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Feb. 2019.
- Comparative Politics Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Feb. 2017.
- Intrastate Conflict Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Feb. 2017.
- East Asian Politics Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Oct. 2016.
- Intrastate Conflict Workshop (Washington, D. C.). March 2015.
- Intrastate Conflict Workshop (Washington, D. C.). Sept. 2015.

Professional Affiliations

- American Political Science Association.
- International Studies Association.
- Law & Society Association.