

MATTHEW RAINS

EDUCATION

University of Georgia
Doctor of Philosophy

2017-Ongoing

Western Carolina University
Bachelor of Science in Political Science
Bachelor of Arts in International Studies
• Dual Degree, Magna cum Laude

Cullowhee, NC
May 2015
May 2015

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Human Rights Measurement Initiative

Civil and Political Rights Lead – Human Rights Measurement Initiative (*August 2021-Present*)
Co-Principal Investigator - Impact Assessment Innovation Pilot - Amnesty International
(*Ongoing*)

Civil and Political Rights Team Member – Human Rights Measurement Initiative (*May 2018-July 2021*)

University of Georgia

Graduate Assistant – GLOBIS National Parks Study Away Program (*January-June 2023*)

Graduate Assistant – SPIA Undergraduate Research Colloquium (Co-Coordinator) (*October 2019-April 2020*)

Research Assistant – Human Rights Measurement Initiative (*May 2018- May 2020*)

Research Assistant – Sub National Analysis of Repression Project (SNARP) (*August 2017- July 2019*)

RESEARCH

Peer Reviewed Works

Rains, M., & Hill Jr, D. W. (2023). Nationalism and torture. *Journal of Peace Research*, 00223433231164437.

Bagwell, S., Rains, M., & LaVelle, M. (2023). Of One's Own Making: Leadership Legitimation Strategy and Human Rights. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 00220027231220006.

Clay, K. C., Abdelwahab, M., Bagwell, S., Barney, M., Burkle, E., Hawley, T., ... & Rains, M. (2022). The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights practices: Findings from the Human Rights Measurement Initiative's 2021 Practitioner Survey. *Journal of Human Rights*, 21(3), 317-333.

“A Comparative Assessment of Composite Measures of Human Rights Performance”. Forthcoming book chapter in *Research Methods in Human Rights: A Handbook*. K. Anne Watson, Matthew Rains, Stephen Bagwell, and K. Chad Clay.

Under Review

“Optionless: Migration and Human Trafficking.” Matthew Rains and Morgan Barney. Under review.

Invited Talks and Presentations

“Introducing the Human Rights Measurement Initiative.” 2022. Presented for the United Nations Human Rights Committee. 19 July.

“Measuring the Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief: The Human Rights Measurement Initiative’s FoRB Pilot.” 2023. Presented for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF). 18 January.

“Human Rights Data for the Global Public Good: How to systematically measure human rights performance.” 2022. Panelist. Presented for the Hertie School’s Centre for Fundamental Rights and the Hertie School’s Data Science Lab. 28 April.

“Tracking Rights Fulfillment in the Human Rights Measurement Initiative.” 2022. Presented for the University of Connecticut’s Human Rights Institute. 24 February.

“Optionless: Migration and Human Trafficking.” 2021. Presented at the Virtual Graduate Research Forum on Human Trafficking and Unfree Labor, hosted by the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Outreach. 24 February.

“Transparency and Human Rights.” 2020. Presented for the Social Good Brasil Festival. 4 November.

Academic Conference Papers and Presentations

“Institutionalized Abuse: State Incentivization and Oppressive Human Rights Violation.” Matthew Rains.

- Presented at the 2023 Annual EPSA meeting
- Presented at 2022 Annual PSS meeting
- Presented at 2022 Annual APSA meeting
- Presented at 2022 Annual ISA meeting

“Information into Advocacy: How Different Human Rights Information Impacts Perceptions of Performance.” Chad Clay, Matthew Rains, Mennah Abdelwahab. Presented at the 2022 Annual ISA Meeting.

“National Leadership and the Uneven Fulfillment of Economic and Social Rights” Meridith Lavelle, Stephen Bagwell, Matthew Rains. Presented at the 2022 Annual APSA Meeting.

“When Order Matters: Sequencing of Conflict Management Attempts in International-Civil Militarized Conflicts (I-CMCs)”. Matthew Rains, Andrew Owsiak, Paul Diehl, and Gary Goertz. Presented at the 2021 Annual ISA Midwest Meeting.

“Deterring Abuse with Gendered Justice? Women’s Role in Truth Commissions” DeAnne Roark, Rachel Van Nostrand, and Matthew Rains. To be presented at the 2023 annual PSS meeting.

“Striving for Survival: Status among Human Rights Organizations” Chun-Young Park and Matthew Rains. Presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association.

“Dog-Whistle Racism: White Supremacist Rhetoric in American Politics” Matthew Rains and K. Anne Watson. Presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Optionless: Migration and Human Trafficking.” Matthew Rains and Morgan Barney.

- Presented at the 2019 ISA Midwest meeting.

- Poster presented at 2019 Biannual Meeting of the Georgia Area Human Rights Network.

“Narcotics, Dark Networks, and Civil Conflict Strategy.” Matthew Rains and Matthew Kopp. Presented at 2019 Annual Meeting of Southern Political Science Association.

Selected Panels, Webinars, and Workshops

“Measuring the Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief” 2022. Presented for the International Religious Freedom Roundtable. 18 October.

Human Rights Measurement Initiative. 2022. “Building Human Rights Data for Israel/Palestine.” Facilitator/Participant. Workshop. 25 July.

Human Rights Measurement Initiative. 2022 “Engaging the Private Sector in Advancing Human Rights”. Facilitator/Participant. Workshop. 7, 12, 19 September.

Human Rights Measurement Initiative. 2022. “India Co-Design Workshop.” Workshop. 26 September.

Grants and Funding

2022 Summer Dissertation Grant – University of Georgia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

- International Organization
- Modern Warfare (Honors)
- Peace Studies
- Peace Studies (Honors)
- Terrorism (Spring 2024)

Teaching Assistant

- University of Georgia
 - Nuclear Politics
 - Intro to International Relations
 - Human Rights
- Western Carolina University
 - Political Analysis 2

SERVICE

Discipline

“Diversifying Approaches, Unifying Voices: Human Rights Measurement”. Workshop. Co-Chair. To be conducted at the 2023 Annual PSS meeting

“Bureaucratic Repression”. Workshop. Co-Chair. Conducted at the 2022 Annual PSS meeting.

Public Outreach and Media Engagement

Human Rights Measurement Initiative. 2022. "Civil and Political Human Rights in the World in 2022." Webinar. June 22. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3QppHTZ3vQ>

Davidson, Helen. 2022. "Hong Kong plunges lower in global human rights index." June 22. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/22/hong-kong-plunges-lower-in-global-human-rights-index>

Al Jazeera, 2022. "Two Chinese activists face trial over civil society summit." June 22. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/6/22/two-chinese-activists-on-trial-this-week-for-civil-society-summit>

Campus/Student/Community Outreach

- Guest Lecture – Expert Surveys – INTL 4004 (2023)
- Guest Lecture – International Development – INTL 3200 (2022)
- Guest Lecture – Nuclear Non-Proliferation and International Institutions - INTL 4255 (2022)
- Guest Lecture – Identity and White Supremacy – INTL 3300 (2021) and INTL 4316 (2022)
- Keynote Speaker – Structural Adjustment Programs and the IMF: Does it work? – The Marist School - 2021
- Panelist – UGA Amnesty International - Human Rights and National Security -2019
- Discussant – School of Public and International Affairs Undergraduate Research Colloquium – The Fight for Human Rights, Home and Abroad - 2019
- Panelist – UGA Amnesty International - Human Dignity - 2018

AWARDS

- SPIA Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award (2023)
- Department Head Award for Cultivating Undergraduate Research (2020)

References

Dr. K. Chad Clay

University of Georgia
Director of the Center for the Study of Global Issues
Associate Professor of International Affairs
Email: kcclay@uga.edu

Dr. Daniel Hill Jr.

University of Georgia
Associate Professor of International Affairs
Email: dwhill@uga.edu

Dr. Amanda Murdie

University of Georgia
Department Head of International Affairs
Dean Rusk Scholar of International Affairs
Email: murdie@uga.edu

Dr. Andrew Owsiak

University of Georgia

Professor of International Affairs

Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor

Email: aowsiak@uga.edu