

ALEXANDRE DEBS

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CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Yale University

-Associate Professor of Political Science with Tenure, 2017-present.

PAST ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Yale University

-Associate Professor of Political Science on Term, 2015-2017.

-Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2009-2015.

University of Rochester

-Assistant Professor of Political Science and Economics, 2007-2009.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D. in Economics, 2007.

University of Oxford, M.Phil. in Economic and Social History (with Distinction), 2002.

Université de Montréal, B.Sc. in Economics and Mathematics, 2000.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations, Causes of War, Formal Theory, Nuclear Proliferation, Democratization, Political Economy.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *Nuclear Politics: The Strategic Causes of Proliferation* (with Nuno P. Monteiro), Cambridge Studies in International Relations, vol. 142 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Reviews: Andrew Bast, “Unpredictable,” *Los Angeles Review of Books*, January 1, 2017; featured in Jill Lepore, “The Atomic Origins of Climate Science,” *The New Yorker*, January 30, 2017; Martin Senn, *H-Diplo*, July 2017; Sarah Kreps, Andrew J. Coe, Alexander H. Montgomery, *International Politics Reviews*, Vol. 6, No. 1 (May 2018), pp. 3-19; Matthew Fuhrmann, *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 133, No. 2 (Summer 2018), pp. 358-359; Or (Ori) Rabinowitz, *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (June 2019), pp. 620-622.

Journal Articles

11. “An Economic Theory of War” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 82, No. 1, (2020), pp. 255-268.

10. “General Nuclear Compellence: The State, Allies, and Adversaries” (with Nicholas D. Anderson and Nuno P. Monteiro), *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 13, No. 3 (2019), pp. 93-121.
9. “Conflict and Cooperation on Nuclear Nonproliferation” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 20 (2017), pp. 331-349.
8. “Circumstances, Domestic Audiences, and Reputational Incentives in International Crisis Bargaining” (with Jessica C. Weiss), *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. Vol. 60, No. 3 (2016), pp. 403-433 (lead article).
7. “Living by the Sword and Dying by the Sword? Leadership Transitions In and Out of Dictatorships,” *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 60, No. 1 (2016), pp. 73-84.
6. “The Strategic Logic of Nuclear Proliferation” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *International Security*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (2014), pp. 7-51 (lead article).
5. “Known Unknowns: Power Shifts, Uncertainty, and War” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *International Organization*, Vol. 68, No. 1 (2014), pp. 1-31 (lead article).

Debate with David Lake, *Duck of Minerva* blog, July 30-August 6, 2013.

4. “Regime Type, the Fate of Leaders, and War” (with H.E. Goemans), *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 104, No. 3 (2010), pp. 430-445.
3. “Inequality under Democracy: Explaining the Left Decade in Latin America” (with Gretchen Helmke), *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 5, No. 3 (2010), pp. 209-241 (lead article).

Winner of the MPSA Kellogg/Notre Dame Award for Best Paper in Comparative Politics, 2009.

2. “Economic Theories of Dictatorship,” *The Economics of Peace and Security Journal*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (2010), pp. 11-17.

1. “‘To be’ or ‘Ought to be’, the Questions of Empirical Content and Normative Bias in Léon Walras’s Methodology,” *Journal of the History of Economic Thought*, Vol. 26, No. 4 (2004), pp. 479-492.

Winner of the Feinstein Award for Best Master’s Thesis in Economic and Social History, University of Oxford, 2002.

Chapters in edited volumes

2. “The Empirical Promise of Game Theory,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Empirical International Relations*, William Thompson, ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), Vol. 1, pp. 737-755.
1. “NATO and Nuclear Proliferation, 1949-1968” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), in *Charter of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Together with Scholarly Commentaries and Essential Historical Documents*, Ian Shapiro and Adam Tooze, eds. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2018), pp. 193-211.

Other articles

4. “Political Economy and the Causes of War” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *The Political Economist*, Newsletter of the Section on Political Economy, American Political Science Association, Vol. 12, No. 1 (2016), pp. 3-4.
3. “The Effect of Alliances on Nuclear Proliferation” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), Program on Strategic Stability Evaluation (POSSE) white paper (December 2013).

2. “Legislative Bargaining under Weighted Voting: Corrigendum” Internet Corrigendum (with James M. Snyder Jr. and Michael M. Ting), September 2009.

1. “Testing for a Structural Break in the Volatility of Real GDP Growth in Canada,” Bank of Canada Working Paper. 2001-9. (2001).

Book reviews

3. Review of Alexander Lanoszka’s *Atomic Assurance: The Alliance Politics of Nuclear Proliferation* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2018), *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 3 (2019), pp. 928-930.

2. Review of Terence Roehrig’s *Japan, South Korea, and the United States Nuclear Umbrella: Deterrence After the Cold War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2017), *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 133, No. 3 (2018), pp. 576-577.

1. Review of Vipin Narang’s *Nuclear Strategy in the Modern Era: Regional Powers and International Conflict* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2014), *H-Diplo Roundtable* Vol. VII, No. 17 (2015).

Academic and Public Affairs Commentary

5. “Strategies, Set, and Match: Scoring Preferences for Nuclear Weapons in Analyzing the Effect of the NPT on Proliferation,” in *The Constraining Effect of Arms Control Treaties*, an International Studies Quarterly Online Symposium (April 19, 2019), pp. 5-6.

4. “Cascading Chaos in Nuclear Northeast Asia” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol. 41, No. 1 (Spring 2018), pp. 97-113.

3. “Response to Nicholas Miller’s Review of Gene Gerzhoy’s article, “Alliance Coercion and Nuclear Restraint,” (*International Security*, Vol. 39, No. 4, pp. 91-129).” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *H-Diplo* (April 21, 2016).

2. “The Curious Case of Nuclear Studies,” *Monkey Cage* online (July 10, 2014).

1. “The Flawed Logic of Striking Iran” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), *Foreign Affairs* online (Jan. 17, 2012).

Working Papers

- “Mutual Optimism and War, and The Strategic Tensions of the July Crisis”.
- “Multiple Threats, Alliances, and Nuclear Proliferation” (with Stephen Herzog and Nuno P. Monteiro).
- “Income, the Middle Class, and Democracy” (with Kevin Morrison).
- “Diversionary Gambles and Nationalist Protests in International Crisis Bargaining” (with Jessica C. Weiss).
- “Political Strength and Economic Efficiency in a Multi-Agent State”.
- “The Wheel of Fortune: Agency Problems in Dictatorships”.
- “Media and Divide-and-Rule”.
- “On The Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: China, Russia”.

PAST FELLOWSHIPS, VISITING POSITIONS

- Visiting Associate Professor, Yale-NUS College, 2020.

- Stanton Nuclear Security Junior Faculty Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), Stanford University, 2011-2012.

- Visiting Scholar, Berkeley Center for Economics and Politics (BCEP), University of California, Berkeley, 2011-2012.

AWARDS

- Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund grant for “Formal Theory and Comparative Politics” (with Milan Svolik), MacMillan Center, Yale University, 2018-2019.
- Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund grant for “Conflict and Cooperation in the Nuclear Age” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), MacMillan Center, Yale University, 2016-2017.
- Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund grant for “A Strategic Theory of Nuclear Proliferation” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), MacMillan Center, Yale University, 2013-2014.
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2002-2006.
- Edward L. Horton Fellowship Award for Fostering Fellowship in the Graduate Student Body at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2004.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Economics Fellowship, 2002-2004.
- Quebec Government Doctoral Fellowship (ranked 1st in Economics), 2002-2004.
- University of Oxford, Jesus College Graduate Scholarship, 2001.
- Rhodes Scholarship, 2000-2002.
- Quebec Government Master’s Level Fellowship, 2000-2002.
- Governor General’s Medal for Graduating Senior with Highest G.P.A., Université de Montréal, 2000.
- André-Raynauld Prize for Graduating Senior with Highest G.P.A., Department of Economics, Université de Montréal, 2000.
- Dean’s Scholarship in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Université de Montréal, 1999.
- Entrance Scholarship, Université de Montréal (ranked 1st overall) and Department of Economics, Université de Montréal, 1997.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Conference Organizer

- “Formal Theory and Comparative Politics” (with Milan Svolik), Yale University (2018).
- “Conflict and Cooperation in the Nuclear Age” (with Nuno P. Monteiro), Yale University (2016).
- “Nuclear Politics: The Strategic Logic of Proliferation” book manuscript workshop (with Nuno P. Monteiro), Yale University (2014).
- “Non-Democratic Regimes,” Yale University (2010).

Conference Participant

- “Formal Models of Nuclear Deterrence” workshop, Tokyo (2020, scheduled).
- “Atomic Uncertainty: Information Problems in Nuclear Negotiations” book manuscript workshop for William Spaniel and Rupal N. Mehta, University of Pittsburgh (2019).

- International Cooperation in the National Interest: In Defense of the Multilateral System, Yale University (2019).
- Yale Brady-Johnson International Security Studies Research Workshop, Yale University (2018).
- “Game Theory and Nuclear Stability in Northeast Asia,” Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Game Theory Workshop (2018).
- “Formal Models of International Relations,” University of Southern California (2018).
- “Political Economy,” Columbia University (2016).
- “Formal Theory and Comparative Politics,” Harvard University (2016).
- “Economics and Security Reconsidered,” sponsored by *International Organization*, University of Pennsylvania (2016).
- “Deterrence and Arms Control – Charting a Way Forward: Historical and Policy Perspectives,” Yale University (2016).
- “Formal Models of International Relations,” University of Southern California (2016).
- Empirical Implications of Bargaining Theory (EIBT), Princeton University (2015).
- “Nuclear Disarmament, Non-proliferation, and Energy: Fresh Ideas for the Future,” Symposium on the Non-Proliferation Treaty, United Nations, New York City (2015).
- “Rethinking Regime Type in International Relations,” Yale University (2015).
- Nuclear Studies Research Initiative Workshop, Woodrow Wilson Center and Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas (2013).
- Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations’ Summer Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center (2013).
- “Theoretical and Quantitative International Relations,” Princeton University (2013).
- “Elections and Political Order,” Emory University (2012).
- “Causes and Consequences of Radical Political Transition,” Stanford University (2012).
- Stanton Nuclear Security Fellows Seminar, Washington, D.C. (2011).
- Wallis Conference, University of Rochester (2007, 2008, 2009, 2011).
- “Endogenous Institutions & Political Conflict,” University of California, Berkeley (2009, 2010).
- NBER Summer Meetings, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2009, 2010).
- “Fighting & Voting,” Yale University (2009).
- VIIIth International Scientific Conference of the Higher School of Economics, Moscow (2007).

Invited Talks

2018: University of Tokyo. **2017:** Harvard University; University of Connecticut; University of Virginia; University of Rochester. **2016:** University of Iowa; University of Wisconsin – Madison; Stanford University; Vanderbilt University; University of Texas at Austin. **2015:** Université de Montréal; Texas A&M University. **2014:** Rice University; University of Maryland; University of Pennsylvania; Massachusetts Institute of Technology. **2013:** McGill University; University of Virginia; Dartmouth College; Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse; NYU-Abu Dhabi. **2012:** University of California, San Diego; University of California, Berkeley; Stanford University; Princeton University; Harvard University/Massachusetts Institute of Technology. **2011:** Stanford University; University of California, Berkeley. **2010:** Notre Dame University; University of Colorado Boulder; Caltech; IMT-Lucca; Cornell University; University of Wisconsin – Madison; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; University of Chicago; Duke University; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. **2009:** University of Chicago. **2008:** Yale University; Columbia University; Princeton University; University of Toronto. **2006:** Caltech; Ohio State University; University of Rochester; University of California, Berkeley. **2005:** Université de Montréal. **2003:** University of Oxford.

Annual Meetings

- American Political Science Association: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 (canceled), 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (scheduled).
- International Studies Association: 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.
- Midwest Political Science Association: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011.
- Peace Science Society: 2008, 2009, 2010.
- American Economic Association: 2009.
- Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting: 2006.

TEACHING

Yale University

- Formal Models of International Relations, graduate seminar, 2019.
- Nuclear Politics, undergraduate lecture, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019.
- Introduction to Game Theory, graduate lecture, 2016, 2018, 2019 (taught under the title “Fundamentals of Modeling II,” 2015).
- Game Theory and International Relations, undergraduate lecture, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018 (taught under the title “Fundamentals of Game Theory,” 2010, 2012).
- International Relations II, graduate seminar, 2014.
- Political Economy of Institutions and Development, graduate seminar, 2010, 2011, 2013.
- Introduction to Political Economy, undergraduate lecture, 2009, 2011.
- Domestic Politics and International Conflict, undergraduate/graduate seminar, 2010.

Yale-NUS College

- Nuclear Politics, 2020.
- Game Theory and International Relations, 2020.

University of Rochester

- Political Economy of Institutions and Development, graduate seminar, 2008, 2009.
- Introduction to Political Economy, undergraduate lecture, 2008.

DISSERTATION ADVISING

- Michael Goldfien, *Essays on Costly Diplomacy, Signaling, and U.S. Foreign Policy*, Yale University, in progress.

- Fahd Humayun, *After Defeat: External Crises & Domestic Politics*, Yale University, in progress.
- Tyler Bowen, *The Logic of Escalation and the Benefits of Conventional Power Preponderance in a Nuclear World*, Yale University, in progress.
- Torey McMurdo, *Great-Power Intervention in Foreign Elections*, Yale University, chair, in progress.
- Jiahua Yue, *Harnessing the Masses: The State-Led Nationalism in China*, Yale University, chair, in progress.
- Gautam Nair, *The Politics of Inequality and Redistribution in Two Domains*, Yale University, in progress (University of Pennsylvania, Center for the Advanced Study of India doctoral fellowship, 2019-2020; Harvard Kennedy School, 2020).
- William G. Nomikos, *Local Peace, International Builders: How the UN Builds Peace from the Bottom Up*, Yale University, 2018 (University of California, Santa Barbara visiting scholar, 2017-2019; Washington University in Saint Louis Assistant Professor, 2019).
- Jiyoung Ko, *A Prelude to Violence? The Effect of Nationalism on Interstate Violence*, Yale University, 2017 (Notre Dame University post-doctoral fellow, 2017-2018; Bates College Assistant Professor, 2018).
- Qiuqing Tai, *A Double Edged Sword: Western Media in Transforming the Political Attitudes of Overseas Chinese*, Yale University, 2015 (Boston Consulting Group).
- Dawn Teele, *The Logic of Women's Enfranchisement: A Comparative Study of the United States, France, and the United Kingdom*, Yale University, 2015 (London School of Economics and Political Science Research Fellowship, 2013-2015; University of Pennsylvania Assistant Professor, 2015).
- Cameron Ballard-Rosa, *Regime-Contingent Biases and the Politics of Sovereign Default*, Yale University, 2014 (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Assistant Professor).
- Patrick M. Kuhn, *On Ballots and Bullets: Causes and Dynamics of Pre-Electoral Violence and Post-Electoral Protests*, University of Rochester, 2013 (Princeton University pre-doctoral fellow, 2012-2013, and post-doctoral fellow, 2013-2014; Durham University Lecturer, 2014).
- Yang Bonny Lin, *Arms, Alliances, and the Bomb: Using Conventional Arms Transfers to Prevent Nuclear Proliferation*, Yale University, 2012 (RAND).
- Jonah B. Schulhofer-Wohl, *Dynamics of Civil Wars: The Causes and Consequences of Subsidies to Armed Groups*, Yale University, 2012 (Princeton University pre-doctoral fellow, 2010-2012; University of Virginia Assistant Professor, 2012).
- Subhasish Ray, *The Warrior's Curse: What Decolonization Teaches Us About Democracy Promotion and Ethnic Conflict*, University of Rochester, 2010 (University of Rochester post-doctoral fellow, 2010-2012; National University of Singapore Assistant Professor, 2012).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer

African Journal of Political Science and International Relations; American Journal of Political Science; American Political Science Review; Austrian Science Fund; British Journal of Political Science; Cambridge University Press; Comparative Political Studies; Conflict Management and Peace Science; Econometrica; Economic Inquiry; Economics and Politics; Electoral Studies; Foreign Policy Analysis; Games and Economic Behavior; German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research and Development; International Economic Review; International Game Theory Review; International Interactions;

International Organization; International Political Science Review; International Relations; International Security; International Studies Quarterly; International Studies Review; International Theory; Journal of Comparative Economics; Journal of Conflict Resolution; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Economic Growth; Journal of Economic Theory; Journal of Global Security Studies; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Peace Research; Journal of Political Economy; Journal of Politics; Journal of Theoretical Politics; Latin American Research Review; Macroeconomic Dynamics; National Science Foundation; Oxford Economic Papers; Oxford University Press; Political Research Quarterly; Political Science Quarterly; Political Science Research and Methods; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Quarterly Journal of Political Science; Review of Economics and Statistics; Review of International Organizations; Scandinavian Journal of Economics; Security Studies; Studies in Comparative International Development; World Politics.

Editorial Boards

American Political Science Review, 2020-present.
Journal of Politics, 2017-2019.

Yale University

Department of Political Science:

- MacMillan International Relations Seminar Series, co-organizer, 2017-present.
- International Relations Faculty Search Committee, member, 2018-2019, chair, 2017-2018.
- Race, Ethnicity, and Migration Faculty Search Committee, chair, 2017-2018.
- Comparative Politics of Migration Faculty Search Committee, chair, 2017-2018.
- James Gordon Bennett Prize Committee for Best Senior Essay in International Relations, member, 2014, 2018.
- Formal Theory Field Faculty Coordinator, 2016-2017, 2018-present.
- Political Economy Field Faculty Coordinator, 2014-2015, 2018-present.
- International Relations Field Faculty Coordinator, 2017-2018.
- Political Economy Graduate General Exam Committee, member, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2018.
- International Relations Graduate General Exam Committee, member, 2013, 2018.
- Formal Theory Graduate General Exam Committee, member, 2010, 2013, 2015.
- Graduate Admissions Committee, member, 2013, 2014.

Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy:

- Co-Director, 2013-2018.
- Political Economy Seminar Series, co-organizer, 2010-2011, 2012-2015.
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, member, 2010-2011.
- Affiliated Faculty, 2009-present.

MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies:

- Fox Fellowship Selection Committee, member, 2014-2015.
- Research Fellow in International and Area Studies, 2009-present.

Jackson Institute of Global Affairs:

- M. A. Admissions Committee, member, 2018.
- B. A. Admissions Committee, member, 2017, 2018, 2019.
- Affiliated Faculty, 2016-present.

University Committees:

- Committee on Teaching and Learning, 2019-2020.
- Joint Committee for the Marshall, Mitchell, and Rhodes Scholarships, member, 2010, 2012-2014, 2016-2019.
- Porter and Field graduate prize committee, member, 2018.
- Faculty of Arts and Science Senate, elected Member, 2017-2019.

Silliman College:

- College Adviser, 2017-2019.
- Freshman Adviser, 2010-2011, 2012-2015, 2016-2017.
- Fellow, 2009-present.

University of Rochester

Wallis Political Economy Seminar Series, co-organizer, 2007-2009.
International Fellowship Selection Committee, member, 2007-2008.

Professional Associations

- American Political Science Association:
 - Member, 2006-present.
 - Committee for Best Paper, Comparative Democratization Section, 2011.
- International Studies Association:
 - Member, 2012-present.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), French (native), Spanish (intermediate), German (basic).