

Thomas M. Dolan Jr.

School of Politics, Security, and
International Affairs
University of Central Florida

407-823-6447
thomas.dolan@ucf.edu

Education

Ph.D., Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 2009.

Dissertation: *Declaring Victory and Admitting Defeat*.

Dissertation Committee: Richard K. Herrmann (Chair), Daniel Verdier, Ted Hopf

B.A., *Summa cum Laude*, University of the South, Sewanee, TN, 2001.

Other Post-graduate Training:

Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Ohio State University: Summer 2002

Institute for Qualitative Research Methods, Arizona State University: January 2006

Summer Workshop in Military Operations and Strategy, Columbia University: Summer 2008

IDL 6543: Interactive Distributed Learning, UCF, Spring 2011

Philip Merrill Center for Strategic Studies Teachers Workshop, Basin Harbor NH, June 2017

Employment History

2019-Present: PI/Director, Central Florida Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence

2017-2022: Director of Graduate Studies, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs

2017- Present: Associate Professor, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs
University of Central Florida

2011-2017: Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida

2009-2010: Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rochester

2008-2009: Visiting Instructor, Department of Political Science, University of Rochester

RESEARCH

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

Thomas M. Dolan, (2022) "Ultimatums, Bargaining, and the Duty to Preserve Alternatives to War," *European Journal of International Relations*, 28:2, 495-510.

Andrew Boutton and Thomas Dolan, (2021). "Enemies in the shadows: On the Origins and Survival of Covert Clients," *International Studies Quarterly*, 65:1, 146–159.

Konstantin Ash and Thomas M. Dolan, (2021) "Politics of Interconfessional Empathy and Schadenfreude in Lebanon", *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 38:6, 718-41

- Thomas M. Dolan, (2018). "Emotions and Foreign Policy." In Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics, Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.417
- Thomas M. Dolan, (2018). "Moving Beyond Pathology: Why Psychologists Should Care About Short Wars," *Polity*, 50:2, 201-214.
- Thomas M. Dolan, Clayton Besaw*, and Joseph Butler** (2018). "Where the Insurgents Aren't: Rurality, Information, and Non-territorial Insurgency," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 62:6, 1262-82
- Thomas M. Dolan and Nathan Ilderton, (2017) "Scared into Demanding Action," *Polity*, 49:2, 245-269.
- Thomas M. Dolan. (2016) "Emotion and Strategic Learning in War" *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 12:4, 571-90.
- Thomas M. Dolan. (2016) "Go Big or Go Home? Positive Emotions and Responses to Wartime Success," *International Studies Quarterly*. 60:2, 230-242.
- Thomas M. Dolan. (2015) "Demanding the Impossible: Honor, Bargaining, and War," *Security Studies*, 24:3, 528-562.
- H-Diplo Article Review No. 664, 29 November 2016. <http://tiny.cc/AR664>
- Thomas M. Dolan. (2013) "Unthinkable and Tragic: The Psychology of Weapons Taboos in War," *International Organization*, 67:1, 37-64.
- Kathleen McGraw and Thomas Dolan. (2007) "Personifying the State," *Political Psychology* 28:3, 299-327.

Working Papers:

- Thomas M. Dolan, "Pulled from the Shadows: Arrest Patterns in Occupied France.," **revise and resubmit**, *Security Studies*
- Thomas M. Dolan and Logan Kerschner, "Unadvertised Military Incidents and the Study of International Conflict" **under review**
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Credible Information and the Puzzle of Official Cover Espionage" **under review**
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Context and Historiography in Quantitative Archival Research"
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Balance of Power Tug of War,"
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Bargaining Failure and War Initiation: Necessary but not Important?"
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Usefulness and Accuracy in the President's Daily Brief"

Grants

- Principal Investigator, **Defense Intelligence Agency/Office of the Director of National Intelligence**, Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence Grant, 2019, 5-year total: **\$1,492,000**
- UCF SPSIA Director's Grant, 2022 [\$4000]
- UCF SPSIA Internal Grant, 2020 [Awarded \$2000 + \$2000 from COS; split with K. Larsen and K. Wright]
- UCF Political Science Department Internal Grant, 2017 [Awarded \$2000 + \$2000 from COS]
- UCF Political Science Department Internal Grant, 2015 [Awarded \$2000 + \$1000 from COS]

Conference Presentations

- Thomas M. Dolan, Usefulness and Accuracy in the Presidents Daily Brief, National Intelligence University Intelligence Studies Summit, Washington, DC, March 2025.
- Thomas M. Dolan, Bargaining Failure and War Initiation: Necessary but not Important? ISSS-IS Conference, Pittsburgh PA, October 2024
- Thomas M. Dolan, Usefulness and Accuracy in the Presidents Daily Brief, ISSS-IS Conference, Pittsburgh PA, October 2024
- Thomas M. Dolan, The Puzzle of Official Cover Espionage, APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, September 2024
- Thomas M. Dolan and Logan Kerschner, "Unadvertised Incidents and the Study of International Conflict, International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA. April 2024
- Thomas M. Dolan and Logan Kerschner, "Unadvertised Incidents and the Study of International Conflict," APSA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles CA, September 2023
- Thomas M. Dolan and Logan Kerschner, "Unadvertised MIDs," *ISSS-IS Conference*, Gainesville FL, December 2022
- Thomas M. Dolan and Andrew Boutton, "DIY or off the Shelf: States' Preferences for Covert Clients," *ISSS-IS Conference*, Gainesville FL, December 2022
- Thomas M. Dolan and Chad Nelson, "Changing the Game: Transformative Escalation and War Termination in the Iran-Iraq War," *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, September 2022
- Thomas M. Dolan, Emotional Responses to Norm Violations, *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, April 2022 (remote)
- Thomas M. Dolan, Emotional Responses to Norm Violations, *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, September 2021 (remote)
- Thomas M. Dolan, "DIY or off the Shelf: States' Preferences for Covert Clients," *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, September 2020, [Conducted Remotely]
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Pulled from the Shadows: Arrest Patterns in Occupied France," *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, August 2019, Chicago, IL.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Pulled from the Shadows: Arrest Patterns in Occupied France," *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, April 2019, Chicago, IL.
- Konstantin Ash and Thomas M. Dolan, "Empathy and Schadenfreude in Lebanon," ISA Annual Meetings, April 2018, San Francisco, CA.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Secret Enemies," ISA-South Annual Conference, October 2017, Orlando Florida.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Secret Enemies," ISSS-ISAC Annual Conference, October 2017, Washington, D.C.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "From the Army to the Insurgency," International Studies Association Annual Meetings, February 2017, Baltimore, MD.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "From the Army to the Insurgency," Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meetings, April 2016, Chicago, Ill.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Modeling Learning in War," International Studies Association Annual Meetings, February 2015, New Orleans, LA.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Who Risks Commitment," Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meetings, April 2014, Chicago, Ill.
- Thomas M. Dolan, "Risking Commitment," American Political Science Association Annual Meetings, September 2013, Chicago, Ill.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Justice Bargaining before War," APSA Annual Meetings, September 2013, Chicago, Ill.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Risking Commitment," International Studies Association Annual Meetings, April 2013, San Francisco, CA.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Risking Commitment," International Studies Association Annual Meetings, March 2012, San Diego, CA.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Between Defeat and Surrender," APSA Annual Meetings, September 2011, Seattle, Washington, DC.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Demanding the Impossible: Honor and War," APSA Annual Meetings, September 2010, Washington, D.C.

Invited Presentation

"Declaring Victory and Admitting Defeat," New Faces in Security Studies, Triangle Institute for Security Studies, Durham, NC September 2008.

Departmental Presentations

"Enemies in the Shadows," UCF Political Science Department Colloquium, 2018

"Where the Insurgents Are," UCF Political Science Department Colloquium, 2015

"Risking Commitment?" UCF Political Science Department Colloquium, 2013

"Demanding the Impossible?" UCF Political Science Department Colloquium, 2012

"Demanding the Impossible, Watson Seminar, University of Rochester, 2010

"Declaring Victory and Admitting Defeat," Watson Seminar, University of Rochester, 2008

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Director/PI, Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence (2019-2024)

- Successfully wrote grant ICCAE program proposal (8 funded from 28 proposals); awarded \$1,492,000 over five years
- Created Intelligence and National Security major track (first new SPSIA major option in decades)
- Lead the creation of four courses
- Created advising systems for 300 students in major track, minor, and certificate programs
- Creator and leader for first SPSIA faculty-lead study abroad course in at least fifteen years (2022, 2023)
- Created internship, study abroad, undergraduate research financial support opportunities
- Brought 15-20 Intelligence Community personnel and National Security Researchers to campus each year
- Hosted 2023 National PI Development Seminar, including visit from the Principal Deputy Director for National Intelligence
- Organized Workshop on Intelligence Teaching (2021, 2023)
- Liaison with staff from Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- Supervise three staff members

SPSIA Graduate Coordinator and Security Studies PhD Program Director (2017-22)

- Directed PhD program with approximately 30 students per year
- Lead program decision-making related to curriculum, admissions, exams, and other issues
- Drafted graduate course schedule
- Lead program recruitment efforts; increased PhD Program application numbers three-fold
- Worked to expand faculty participation in the PhD program; advised individual faculty on graduate student and program issues
- Worked to ensure student welfare and success
 - Re-wrote student handbook to provide clearer advising information, comply with contemporary regulations, highlight student rights, emphasize student resources
 - Created policies to ensure fair treatment of students, appropriate student behavior
 - Created procedures for program decisions related to students (appeals, academic misconduct)
- Assigned GTAs equitably and addressed student and faculty complaints related to GTA performance
- Engaged in daily problem-solving to help students navigate university regulations and relationships with faculty
- Advocated for graduate mental health through group and individual advising

TEACHING

Thesis Supervision

Ph.D Dissertation

Completed

Barry Smith (Chair), Public Influence on Small Wars (2024)

Erika Ricci (Chair), The Militancy Cycle: Exploring Violent Extremism Through the Italian Red Brigades (2024) **won UCF COS Outstanding Dissertation Award*

Ed Skelly (chair), “Leadership Philosophies and Military Power” (2023)

Alex Norat (Chair): “Decentralization and Violence” (2022)

Logan Kerschner (Chair): “Small Intrusions, Powerful Payoff: Shaping Status Relationships Through Interstate Intrusions and Responses” (2021)

Miroslav Shapovalov (Chair), “Between Fighting and Serving: How Existential Motivations Shaped Combat Participation in the Donbas War in Ukraine” (2021)

Jeff Payne (Co-Chair), “Community Responses to Mass Casualty Events” (2019)

David Rough (Co-Chair), “Super-forecasting or SNAFU: The Forecasting Ability of the US Military Officer,” (2019)

Clayton Besaw (Co-Chair), “Altruistic Punishment Theory and Intergroup Conflict” (2018)

In Progress

Gary Adams (Chair), “Personnel Recovery and Military Intervention”

Jonathan Mahan (Chair) “Empathy in Strategic Analysis”

Angelica Yeboah (Chair) “Forgiveness and Truth and Reconciliation Commissions”

Uchenna Okwara (Chair) “Civil-Humanitarian Relations”

Simon Mace (Preliminary Chair) “Emotional Responses to New Weapons”

Wael Benali (Preliminary Chair) “Attacks on Diplomatic Missions”

Committee Member: Maren Mainx (Current), Devyn Escalanti (2025), Augustine Larmin (2023), Bailey Sellers (Current), Salah Ben Hammou (2024), Justin Tull (Virginia Tech-2023), Sara Belligoni (2022), Zlatin Mitkov (2021), Christopher Faulkner (2019), Rebecca Scheil (2018), Manar Elkhaldi (2016)

Master’s Thesis / MA Non-Thesis Paper

(Chair) Michael Ebert, Assessing the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation on Americans, 2022

(First Reader) Kayla Rivera, The Effectiveness of Targeting Terror and Insurgent Group Leaders, 2022

(First Reader) James Lanza, “Threat Perception and Defense Capacity, 2018

(Chair) J. T. Dimino, “IGO Socialization and Dyadic Arms Transfers,” 2015

(Chair) Ashley Timmerman, “When Leaders Repress,” 2014

(Chair) Kenneth Klose, “Governmental Responses to Terrorism,” 2013

(Chair) Jonathan Williams, “Incumbent Violence and Insurgent Tactics,” 2013

(Chair) Juliana Velasco, “Regional Organizations and the Durability of Peace,” 2013

(Co-Chair) Matt Matejka, “Turning Away from Your Slavic Brother: The Effect of Identity on Relations between Russia and Belarus,” 2012

Thesis Committee Member/Non-thesis Second Reader: Sarah Ragland (2025), Christian Palermino (2024), Kenneth Green (2020), Parker Freeman (2019), Taylor Haywood (2017), Anthony De Mauro (2016), Spencer Miller (2015), Courtney Creley (2014), Gary Smith (2014), Brandon Kelley (2014), Eilias Assaf (2014), William George (2014), Namdar Hozzeinzada (2013), Curtis Hibbert (2013), Ari Litwin (2012)

Honors-Undergraduate Thesis

(Chair) Jack Seay, Regime Criticism in Russian Propaganda about the Ukraine War,” 2023

(Chair) Cody Kennedy, “The Nuclear Taboo: A Real Effect on Public Perception?” 2019.

(Chair) Mia Warshofsky, “Colonial Legacies and Trade Agreements,” 2017.

(Chair) Princlee Clesca, “When Do States Adopt New Counter-terrorism Legislation,” 2015.

(Chair) Lucien Charland, “Structural Causes of Social Conflict in Africa,” 2014

(Chair) John Chapman, “Predatory War: A History of Violence,” 2013

(Chair) Victoria Austin, “The Violent Overthrow of Personalist Regimes Compared to the Peaceful Collapse of Single Party Regimes,” 2013.

Committee Member: Shane Kunze, Shelley Urbanovich, Devyani Mehta, Taylor Scimeca

External Mentor for National Intelligence University Fellow (2021-2)

Courses Taught at UCF

INR 4335: Coercion in International Politics

INR 4084: Politics of International Terrorism

INR 4363: Intelligence Analysis
INR 4060: Causes of War
INR 4603: International Relations Theory
INR 4104: Topics and Cases in American Foreign Policy
INR 4955: Intelligence and Security in Western Europe (Faculty-led Study Abroad)
INR 6007: Seminar on International Politics*
INR 6346: Politics of International Terrorism*
INR 6365: Seminar on Intelligence*
INR 6607: International Relations Theory*
INR 6317: Politics and Terrorism
INR 6065: Seminar on War*
INR 7337: International Security**
POS 7267: Professional Development: The Practice of Security Studies**
POS 7707: Advanced Qualitative Methods**
* Graduate course ** Ph.D. course

Courses Taught Prior to UCF

OSU PS 100: Introduction to Comparative Politics
OSU PS 550: Theories of International Relations
OSU PS 547: Identity Politics
OSU PS 597.01: Nationalism and Interdependence [focus: foreign policy and public opinion]
OSU PS 590: Politics of Fighting and Ending Wars
UR 277: International Security
UR 275: American Foreign Policy
UR 278: War and Political Violence
UR 226: America's 21st Century Wars

Other Teaching-Related Activities

2011 UCF Winter Conference on Teaching and Learning Participant
2014 Defense Intelligence Agency Five Eyes Conference Attendee

Awards

2023 Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award, College of Sciences, University of Central Florida
2023 COS Recognition for Outstanding Instruction: Individualized Instruction, Supervision, or Mentoring
2018, 2023 Teaching Incentive Program Award, University of Central Florida
2014 Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of Science, University of Central Florida

SERVICE

Departmental

- Pi Sigma Alpha Co-Advisor (2011-4)
- International Relations Club Advisor (2013-)
- Club on Security and Intelligence Advisor (2022-)
- Ph.D. Committee Member (2011-2022)
- Political Science Department Colloquium Series Organizer (2011-7)

Professional

President, Foreign Policy Section, American Political Science Association, 2018-9

Annual Meeting Program Chair, Foreign Policy Section, American Political Science Association, 2018

Secretary, Foreign Policy Section, American Political Science Association, 2019-20

Board Member, Foreign Policy Section, American Political Science Association, 2020-present

Organizer, *Workshop on Intelligence Teaching*, May 2021, 2023

- Conducted Remotely; attended by more than 100 faculty members

Manuscript Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Security*, *Security Studies*, *International Politics*, *International Theory*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *International Studies Review*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Political Psychology*, *Governance*, *Review of International Studies*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Science and Engineering Ethics*, *Contemporary Security Policy*, *RUSI Journal*.

Grant Reviewer for *National Science Center—Poland*; *Swiss National Science Foundation*; *American Political Science Association Small Grants Competition*