

Laura Blume

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Education

Ph.D./ M.A., Political Science, Boston University, Boston, MA, expected May 2019
Comprehensive Exams: Comparative Politics, American Politics (September 2015)
B.A., *cum laude* with departmental honors, Simmons College, Boston, MA, 2013
Major: Political Science, *Minor:* Public Policy
International Honors Program: Cities in the 21st Century, Semester Abroad, 2011
Locations: Sao Paulo, Brazil; Cape Town, South Africa; Hanoi, Vietnam

Publications

“A Tale of Two Dictatorships.” *North American Congress on Latin America*. August 15, 2018.
“The Old Rules No Longer Apply: Explaining Narco-Assassinations of Mexican Politicians,” in the *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, Vol. 9, No. 1, 2017: 59-90.
“The Powder Keg of Nicaraguan Politics.” *Intercontinental Cry*. April 26, 2018.
“¡Basta Ya! The United States is Overdue for a New Policy Approach in Honduras.” *International Affairs Review*. May 22, 2016.
“Chasing El Chapo.” *International Affairs Review*. July 25, 2015.

Works in Progress

“Narco Business Strategies: Explaining Patterns of Violence in Central America.” *Dissertation*.
“Exporting Violence: Criminal Deportations and Homicide Rates in Recipient Countries.” *Paper presented at the Southwest Council of Latin American Studies Association 2017 Annual Meeting*.

Teaching Experience

Lecturer, Boston University, Department of Political Science, Summer 2018
• Developed syllabus and taught The Politics of the Drug War (PO 300)
Lecturer, Boston University, Department of Political Science, Summer 2016
• Taught Introduction to American Politics (PO 111)
Graduate Teaching Fellow, Boston University, Department of Political Science, 2014-2016
• Assisted in teaching the following courses by grading and leading discussion sections:
• Introduction to American Politics, Fall 2015, Fall 2016
• Introduction to Public Policy, Spring 2015
• Introduction to Comparative Politics, Fall 2014
Grading Assistant, Boston University, Pardee School of Global Studies, Spring 2016
• Graded assignments for Drugs and Security in the Americas (IR 290/HI 331)

Research Experience

Research Fellow, Boston University, Department of Political Science, 2016

- Worked on a variety of projects with Professor John Gerring, including the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) and The Global Leadership Project (GLP)

Research Assistant, Boston University, Department of Political Science, Fall 2015

Research Assistant, Simmons College, Department of Political Science, 2012 – 2013

- Conducted research for Professor Benjamin R. Cole including work on the State Fragility Index for the Center for Systemic Peace

Research Intern, Amnesty International, Northeast Regional Office, Summer 2011

- Researched and assembled informational packets on the death penalty

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association, September 2018, Boston, MA

Latin American Studies Association, May 2018, Barcelona, Spain

American Political Science Association, September 2017, San Francisco, CA

Southwest Council of Latin American Studies, March 2017, Campeche, Mexico

Northeastern Political Science Association, November 2016, Boston, MA

Midwest Political Science Association, April 2016, Chicago, IL

New England Council of Latin American Studies, November 2015, Medford, MA

Western Political Science Association, April 2015, Las Vegas, NV

New England Council of Latin American Studies, November 2014, Storrs, CT

Midwest Political Science Association, April 2014, Chicago, IL [co-presented with Benjamin Cole, PhD]

International Consortium for Social Development, July 2013, Kampala, Uganda

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Summer Research Fellowship, Boston University, 2017

Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Department of Political Science, Boston University, 2017 Graduate

Research Abroad Fellowship (Long-term), Boston University, 2017

Doctoral Research Fellowship, Boston University, 2016

Latin American Studies Research Travel Grant, Boston University, 2015, 2016

Graduate Teaching Fellowship, Boston University, 2014 – 2018

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University, 2013 – 2014

Carroll F. Miles Award, Simmons College, 2013

Volunteering

Website Design, Alternativas y Oportunidades, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 2016

President of Amnesty International at Simmons College, Boston, MA, 2010-2013

English Tutor, Brazilian Women's Center, Allston, MA, 2011

Cross Cultural Solutions Volunteer Program, Rabat, Morocco, 2011

Skills & Miscellaneous

Languages: English (native), Spanish (proficient), Miskitu (beginner), Patois [Creole English - Limonese and Nicaraguan dialects] (conversational)

Certifications: Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL), Boston Language Institute, 2010

Computing: R, Stata, Excel, Python, LaTeX

Graduate Level Methodology and Statistics Coursework:

- Models & Methods for Causal Inference in Strategy Research, *Questrom School of Business*, 2015
- Advanced Techniques in Political Analysis: Maximum-Likelihood Estimation, 2015
- Applied Multiple Regression and Multivariable Methods, *Department of Mathematics & Statistics*, 2014
- Advanced Topics in Applied Statistical Analysis, *Department of Mathematics & Statistics*, 2014
- Political Analysis, *Department of Political Science*, 2014
- Quantitative Research, *Department of Political Science*, 2013