

Paul Silva II

November 2025

Email: pmsilva@sas.upenn.edu

Website: internationalpaulitics.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Harvard Kennedy School of Government
International Security Program Fellow, Belfer Center

Cambridge, MA
2025-2026

Notre Dame University
Hans J. Morgenthau Fellow, Notre Dame International Security Center

South Bend, IN
2024-2025

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania
Committee: Alex Weisiger (chair), Edward Mansfield, Julia Gray
Fields: International Relations, Comparative Politics, Methods
Ph.D. in Political Science

Philadelphia, PA

Expected 2026

University of Florida
B.A. with *Highest Distinction*, Political Science
Minors in Portuguese and European Union Studies
Certificate in International Relations

Gainesville, FL

2020

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- [1] “Offense–Defense Balance and Sanctions Backfire: A Theory of US Sanctions Doctrines”, *Revise and Resubmit*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*

PRE-DOCTORAL PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- [3] “Strategic culture and competing visions for the EU’s Russia strategy: flexible accommodation, cooperative deterrence, and calibrated confrontation”, *International Relations* 38(2): 165–191. 2022.
- [2] “Competing visions for the EU’s southern strategy: Restraint, preventative engagement, and selective intervention”, *Mediterranean Politics* 28(4): 580-610. 2021.
- [1] “Economic interdependence and economic sanctions: a case study of European Union sanctions on Russia”, with Zachary Selden, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 33(2): 229-251. 2019.

BOOK PROJECTS

- [1] *Lifting Failed Sanctions: Alliances, Reputations, and Instrumental Deference*

WORKING PAPERS

- [5] “Lifting Failed Sanctions: Alliances, Reputations, and Instrumental Deference”
- [4] “Reshaping the International Order: Wars and Alliances”, with Alex Weisiger
- [3] “Soft and Loose Rope: Untying Hands in Economic Coercion”
- [2] “Carrots Before Sticks: Building Multilateral Sanctions Coalitions”
- [1] “From Boardrooms to Battlefields: How Leader Background Shapes Military Aid to Ukraine”

DATASETS

- [1] *Sanctions and Third-Party Reactions*

GRANTS, HONORS & AWARDS

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (\$40,600), 2025-2026 (Declined)

Predoctoral Fellowship, Institute for Security and Conflict Studies, George Washington University (\$40,000), 2025-2026 (Declined)

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$5,000), 2025

Department Summer Grant, University of Pennsylvania (\$2,000), 2024

Event Support for “Research Frontiers of Economic Sanctions Workshop”, Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics (\$1,000), 2024

Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate in College and University Teaching, University of Pennsylvania, 2024

Alvin Rubinstein Award (Best Teaching Assistant), Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania (\$500), 2023

Nomination for Dean’s Award for Distinguished Teaching, University of Pennsylvania. Awarded to 10 Graduate students across the School of Arts & Sciences, 2023

Research Grant, Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics, University of Pennsylvania (\$9,360), 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

SASGov Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania (\$1,500), 2023, 2024

Institute for Humane Studies Travel Grant (\$300), 2023

Steven B. Feirson Family Fellowship Endowment, University of Pennsylvania, 2021-2022

Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Fund (\$1,400), 2021

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2020-2025

Foreign Language Area Studies Award (\$30,000), 2018-2020

SPSA Prestage-Cook Travel Award (\$300), 2019

Summer Undergraduate International Research Award, Center for Undergraduate Research, University of Florida (\$5,000), 2018

Study Abroad Scholarship, Center for Undergraduate Research, University of Florida (\$1,000), 2018

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Scholars Program, University of Florida (\$2,500), 2019

Center for European Studies Travel Grant, University of Florida (\$500), 2018

Best Poster Award “Can Economic Interdependence Predict Support among EU Member States for Sanctions against Russia”, Florida International Summit (\$500), 2018

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Florida, 2020

Outstanding Four Year Scholar, University of Florida, 2020

ACADEMIC PAPERS, CONFERENCES, AND PANELS

“Instrumental Deference: Explaining Sanction Failure”. Annual Meeting of International Studies Association, April 2024; University of Pennsylvania International Relations Workshop, March 2024; Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, September 2024; Annual Meeting of International Studies Association, April 2025; Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, September 2025

“Reshaping the International Order: Wars and Alliances”, with Alex Weisiger. Annual Meeting of International Studies Association, April 2024; Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, September 2024; Annual Meeting of International Studies Association, April 2025

“Economic Coercion in US Grand Strategy”. Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, September 2025

“Using Stronger Rope: Hand Tying and Sender Capitulation in Sanction Threat Episodes”. Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, September 2023

“Sanctions, Allies, and Public Opinion: The Costs of the Sanctions Paradox”. International Studies Association International Security Studies Section Conference, December 2022

“The Lack of Public Constraints on the Imposition of Economic Sanctions: Evidence from a US-based Survey Experiment”. International Studies Association International Security Studies Section Conference, December 2022; University of Pennsylvania International Relations Workshop, March 2022

“Strategic culture and competing visions for the EU’s Russia strategy: flexible accommodation, cooperative deterrence, and calibrated confrontation”. Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2019

“Competing visions for the EU’s southern strategy: Restraint, preventative engagement, and selective intervention”. Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2019

GUEST LECTURES

Economic Statecraft, Guest Lecture for Edward Mansfield’s Introduction to International Relations class, 2024

Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions, Guest Lecture for Julia Gray’s International Political Economy class, 2023

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Teaching Assistant, *International Political Economy*, Julia Gray Spring 2023

Grader, *The European Union: Arguments and Evidence*, Brendan O’Leary Spring 2023, Spring 2021

Head Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to International Relations*, Edward Mansfield Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant, *American Foreign Policy*, Dominic Tierney Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to International Relations*, Alex Weisiger Fall 2021

Instructor, *Introduction to International Relations*,
Penn Summer Preparation Program June 2021

SERVICE

Professional:

Organizer: Panel “Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions”, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2023); Panel “Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions”, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2024); “Research Frontiers of Economic Sanctions Workshop”, University of Pennsylvania (2024); Panel “The Drivers of Sanction Decisions: Unintended Consequences, State-to-State Pressure, and Domestic Politics”, Annual Meeting of International Studies Association (2025)

Discussant: Annual Meeting of International Studies Association (2024)

Chair: Annual Meeting of International Studies Association (2024); Research Frontiers of Economic Sanctions Workshop (2024); Annual Meeting of International Studies Association (2025)

Reviewer: Journal of Peace Research

University:

Coordinator:

International Relations Internal Workshop, University of Pennsylvania (2023-2024)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor:

Claire Hayes– “*The American Economic Sanctions Dilemma: Dollar Dominance, Security, and Time Horizons*”, University of Pennsylvania, International Relations Program (2024-2025)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Summer 2023

Inter-University Consortium on Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer 2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania, Julia Gray	Summer 2023
University of Florida, Zachary Selden	Fall 2018

FIELD WORK

Library of Congress (Manuscript Division), Washington D.C.	Summer 2024
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Simi Valley	Summer 2024
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library, Atlanta	Summer 2024
National Archives Annex, College Park	Summer 2023
NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Brussels	Summer 2018

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Languages: *English* (native), *Portuguese* (fluent), *Spanish* (good working knowledge)

Software & Programming Languages: STATA, R, \LaTeX , Qualtrics.

REFERENCES

Dr. Alexander Weisiger

Associate Professor of Political Science
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
Email: weisiger@upenn.edu

Dr. Edward Mansfield

Hum Rosen Professor of Political Science
Director, Browne Center for International Politics
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
Email: emansfie@sas.upenn.edu

Dr. Julia Gray

Associate Professor of Political Science
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
Email: jcgray@sas.upenn.edu