Chelsea Thorpe

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England — Expected June 2026
  Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Politics and International Studies

Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po), Paris, France — Jun 2020
  Master in International Security
  Emile Boutmy Scholar

University of Georgia (UGA), Athens, GA — May 2018
  Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, Bachelor of Arts in Economics
  summa cum laude with Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Turchin, Peter, Daniel Hoyer, Andrey Korotayev, Nikolay Kradin, Sergey Nefedov, Gary Feinman, Jill Levine et al. "Rise of the war machines: Charting the evolution of military technologies from the Neolithic to the Industrial Revolution." *PloS one* 16, no. 10 (2021): e0258161.

Turchin, Peter, Daniel Hoyer, James Bennett, Kiran Basava, Enrico Cioni, Kevin Feeney, Pieter Francois et al. "The Equinox2020 Seshat Data Release." *Cliodynamics* 11, no. 1 (2020).

Combating Terrorism Working Group. (2020). *Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum*. Brussels, Belgium: North Atlantic Treaty Organization. https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/6/pdf/200612-DEEP-CTRC.pdf

Thorpe, Chelsea. (2019). "Violence Against Women: Beyond Multilateral Virtue Signaling." *Council on Foreign Relations,* 1-6. https://www.cfr.org/blog/violence-against-women-beyond-multilateral-virtue-signaling

MODELS & DATASETS

JADC2 Kill Chain Scheduling Optimization Model — Jan 2023-Aug 2023
  Operations Research Analyst at Booz Allen Hamilton – Finds optimal platform to target/phase allocation and schedule to minimize total time to close kill chains vs. all targets for the DoD's Joint All-Domain Command and Control (JADC2). All work is classified.

U.S. Air Force Synthetic Theater Operations Research Model (STORM) — Jan 2022-Aug 2023
  Operations Research Analyst at Booz Allen Hamilton – A stochastic model that serves as USAF's premier campaign analysis tool. We provide analysis of campaign-level contributions of air, space, sea, land and cyberspace forces. All work is classified.

Seshat: Global History Databank — Apr 2019-Sep 2020
  Research Assistant at University of Oxford – Seshat systematically collects what is currently known about the social and political organization of human societies and how civilizations have evolved over time. We built the database to allow us and others to test different hypotheses about the rise and fall of large-scale societies across the globe and human history.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH

"Political Ritual Violence of Anti-Communist Vigilantism: Philippines, 1965-1989" — Jan 2019-Mar 2020
  - Conducted an archival study that explored how anti-communist vigilantism manifested in politically clientelist relationships between warlords and militants in the Philippines within a Cold War framework.
  - Synthesized messianic texts and religious manifestos with U.S. intelligence and military documents to evaluate armed group behavior in response to emerging Cold War ideologies.

"How Does Resource Availability Affect Non-State Armed Group Recruitment?" — Jun 2016-Apr 2017
  - Performed a mixed methods study that analyzed how geographical location, political regime structure, and technological availability affect the expansion of non-state armed groups.
  - Designed a negative backwards regression to evaluate armed group behavior based on a set of independent variables, extracting and cleaning data from the World Bank, UN, Polity IV, and BAAD for final analysis.

"Moral Injury and the Display of Religion in the French Satirical Press" — Aug 2015-Apr 2017
  - Analyzed a qualitative series of caricatures published in the *Charlie Hebdo* satirical magazine and timely media releases from other European press outlets to question the presence of moral injury to the French Muslim community.
  - Presented research at two research symposiums sponsored by the University of Georgia in 2016 and 2017.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Cambridge | Cambridge, England — Oct 2023-present
Doctoral (PhD) Candidate

Booz Allen Hamilton | Washington, DC — Oct 2020-2023
Operations Research Lead — Jan 2022-Oct 2023
  - Lead teams to conduct evidence-based research of foreign policy, concerning Chinese investments in Africa and U.S. interagency funding for international chemical, biological, radiological, & nuclear (CBRN) events.
  - Develop tools for automated pre- and post-processing of wargame models for Strategic Portfolio Reviews – U.S. Secretary of Defense approved studies on selected topics addressed during a program/budget review cycle.
  - Perform stakeholder interviews with subject-matter experts in national defense and international development and developed accompanying interview protocol and methodology.

- Create wargames and tabletop exercises for defense clients, regarding U.S. military and civilian behavioral response to CBRN events in international arenas.

Wargaming Research Analyst   Oct 2020-Dec 2021
- Facilitated wargame design workshops with clients, global leaders and academics in biological sample analyses
- Built expertise in how political/policy process regarding CBRN events affect army combatant behavior and how militaries can quickly adapt to worsened operational environments to complete their original missions.
- Collaborated with task leads and French translators and interpreters to write quick-look reports and incorporate relevant military terminology for research on Africa.

University of Oxford | Oxford, UK (remote)   Apr 2019-Sep 2020
Research Assistant, Supervisors: Peter Turchin, Dan Hoyer
- Supported the operational architecture development of *Seshat: Global History Databank,* a multidisciplinary dataset that analyzes the evolution of conflict in relation to human society.
- Identified and developed technology variables that influenced warfighting capabilities.
- Wrangled and cleaned qualitative data to prepare for predictive forecasting and time-series analyses.
- Collaborated with a team of 6 to design and create regional political units to help evaluate trends in technological warfare based on varying environmental conditions.

Council on Foreign Relations | Washington, D.C.   Sep-Dec 2019
Research Intern, Supervisor: Stewart Patrick
- Conducted qualitative research for a chapter book evaluating multilateral policies and strategies to counter shared threats, e.g., conflict, global warming, and infectious diseases.
- Designed a research chapter to posit solutions to changing patterns in decentralized violence.

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies | Singapore (partly remote)   Apr-Sep 2017
Research Analyst, Supervisor: Rohan Gunaratna
- Collected data on the growth of the Islamic State (Daesh) into Southeast Asia for senior and local government officials.
- Supported the coordination for education roundtables on community policing.
- Edited three white papers that presented qualitative findings of de-radicalization and prison rehabilitation efforts in Singapore and the United States.

U.S. Army War College | Carlisle, PA (partly remote)   May-Aug 2017
Research Intern, Supervisor: Chris Bolan
- Collected qualitative data on changing U.S. foreign policies in the Arab Gulf after the Iran nuclear deal.
- Helped write a Strategic Studies Institute (SSI) monograph that analyzed hedging as an alternative for U.S. grand strategy.
- Presented an independent research project that critically evaluated American counter-violent extremism strategies from 2008 to 2016 under the Obama administration.

FELLOWSHIPS & OTHER STUDENT POSITIONS

Partnership for Peace Consortium | Garmisch, Germany (partly remote)   Mar 2018-Sep 2020
Consultant
- Liaised with a team of 12 to plan, design, and execute experiential warfighting simulations or tabletop exercises for military and civilian defense leadership.
- Wrote training modules on foreign intervention law and counter-violence diplomacy for NATO's *Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum.*

The Carter Center | Atlanta, GA   Jun-Aug 2019
Democracy Program Intern
- Recruited and trained fieldworkers in French and English languages for 2019 Tunisian election observation missions.
- Co-wrote the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) report that evaluated Tunisia's handling of voter repression.
- on violent groups' use of communication technologies to circumvent government monitoring.

Humanity in Action / Amsterdam, Netherlands   Jun-Jul 2018
Fellow
- Conducted stakeholder interviews with Dutch political officers and advocacy groups across Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and the Hague.
- Presented research on human rights activism in the Netherlands at the European Union Parliament in Strasbourg.

LANGUAGE, SKILLS, & HOBBIES

Languages: French (Full Professional Working Proficiency), Spanish (Professional Working Proficiency)

Skills: R, Tableau, and Microsoft Office (Full Professional Working Proficiency), ArcGIS (Professional Working Proficiency), Python and GAMs (Limited Working Proficiency)

Hobbies: Running club, home-baking, recreational volleyball, community service