

# MARY ANNA SHIRAEF

Department of Political Science

University of Notre Dame, USA

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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.**, University of Notre Dame, USA, Political Science, *Scheduled Dec 2023*

**External Research:** Visiting Student Researcher, Stanford University, Political Science, 2019–20

**Dissertation Title:** The Politics of Identity Transmission in and after Authoritarian Albania

**Committee:** Susanne Wengle, Victoria Hui, Jaimie Bleck, Scott Mainwaring, & David Laitin

**Fields:** comparative politics and political theory

**M.A.**, University of Notre Dame, USA, Political Science, 2016–18

**MLitt**, University of St Andrews, UK, International Relations (theory), 2014–15

**B.A./A.A.**, Emory University / Oxford College, USA, Political Science, 2009–13

## PUBLICATIONS

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### PEER-REVIEWED

“[Did Border Closures slow SARS-CoV-2?](#),” Lead Author w/ the COBAP Team, *Scientific Reports*, **Nature Portfolio**, 12(1709), 2022

-Found no evidence in favor of border closures reducing SARS-CoV-2 spread

-Cited in “[The Lancet Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic](#)” (2022)

“[COVID Border Accountability Project, a hand-coded global database of border closures introduced in 2020](#),” Lead Author w/ COBAP, *Scientific Data*, **Nature Portfolio**, 8(253), 2021

-Recruited and managed an international, multilingual team of 25 data collectors and analysts

-Made accessible in a user-friendly map visualization [covidborderaccountability.org](https://covidborderaccountability.org)

### SOLICITED

“[What Good is a Liberal Arts Education?: Tocqueville’s Education as a Public Good](#),” *Agora*, 2014

“[From Fighting to Electing Nazis: Explaining the Rise of Golden Dawn in Greece](#),” *Cornell International Affairs Review*, 7, 1: 47-53, 2013

### CONTRIBUTING TO POLICY DEBATES

“[Europe’s Border Responses to COVID-19 in Global Context](#),” *Europe In the World*, Nanovic Institute for European Studies, 2021

“[Closed borders, travel bans and halted immigration: 5 ways COVID-19 changed how and where people move around the world](#),” *The Conversation*, 2021 (re-published in more than 40 news outlets)

“[Will COVID-19 Harden the World’s Borders?](#),” with Fei & Wolff, Stanford University’s Immigration Policy Lab (IPL), 2020

### IN-PROGRESS

“The Political Motivations for Pandemic Border Closures,” Article Manuscript, Available as an [iPoster](#) in APSA’s 2022 collection

## PRINCIPAL GRANTS & AWARDS

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### EXTERNAL

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Grant, Department of Education (DoEd), for data collection on the Greece side of the Albania-Greece border, \$24,174, 2023

[American Political Science Association Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant \(APSA DDRIG\)](#), funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), for data collection on the Albania side of the Albania-Greece border, \$15,000, 2021-22

**Boren Fellowship**, National Security Education Program (NSEP), for immersive Albanian language study and research, Albania, \$25,000, 2020 (delayed to 2022)

[APSA Summer Centennial Research Center Grant](#), for data processing from cemeteries in Albania's Gjirokastër district, American Political Science Association, \$2,500, 2022

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Dissertation Research Grant, for data transcription of archival records for Korçë, Albania, \$5,000, 2022

[American Institute for Southeast European Studies \(AISEES\) Fellowship](#), for data transcription of archival records for Gjirokastër, Albania, \$3,000, 2022

Questbridge National College Match Program, for full tuition and living stipend at a top-20 university, awarded to "high-achieving, low-income students," Finalist, 2009

### INTERNAL

Graduate Student Research Award, for coding graves from Albanian cemeteries and civil registry, Vlore district, \$4,000, 2023

[Kellogg Institute for International Studies Research Award](#), for piloting a data collection expansion in Greece, \$6,190, 2023

[Kellogg Institute for International Studies Research Award](#), for digitization of communist-era records in Korçë, Albania, \$7,000, 2022

Race & Resilience Initiative grant, University of Notre Dame, Albania-Greece, for ISPP conference attendance and research assistance support, \$3,907, 2022

Nanovic Institute for European Studies Research Award, for data collection in Korçë, Albania, \$2,750, 2022 and \$1,500, 2020

Nanovic Institute for European Studies Awards, seed-funding for dissertation, Greece, \$8,500, 2018

Discretionary Travel & Research Grant, Department of Political Science, \$12,500, 2016

[Dean's "Select Fellowship,"](#) university-wide award for five-year top-up to departmental stipends to first-generation candidates, College of Arts & Letters, \$20,000, 2016-21

### FOR TEACHING

**Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award**, university-wide, Kaneb Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Notre Dame, Honorable Mention, \$300, 2018

[R&A Ernest Ransome Trust Scholarship](#), awarded for pursuit of a Master's degree from the University of St Andrews for a "demonstrated philanthropic commitment to education" following a year-long, volunteer teaching assignment in Bangalore, India, \$80,000, 2014

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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**“Measuring Identity in Authoritarian Contexts,”** International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) Academy, Montreal, Canada, 2023

**“Unintended Consequences: The Authoritarian Legacy of Multiethnic Regime Engineering in Albania,”** European Political Science Association (EPSA), Glasgow, Scotland, 2023

**“Nation-building through Minority Identity Engineering in Albania,”** Collegio Carlo Alberto, University of Torino, Turin, Italy, 2022

**“The Effects of Communist-era Protections for Minority Groups on Ethnopolitical Identity Compliance,”** Kellogg Institute for International Studies, 2022

**“The Impacts of Minority Identity Engineering on Ethnopolitical Identity Transmission,”** Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)’s panel “The Legacy of Ethnic Conflict in the Balkans: Continuities from the Yugoslav Wars of Secession,” Chicago, 2022

**“Hoxha’s Grand Experiment on Minority Identity in Albania,”** American Political Science Association (APSA), Montreal, Canada, 2022

**“The COVID Border Accountability Project: Xenophobic Motivations of International Border Closures introduced in 2020-21,”** APSA’s Comparative Politics Division, Montreal, Canada, 2022

**“Hoxha’s Grand Experiment with Minority Identity in Albania: the Impacts of Multiethnic Identity Engineering on Political Identity Transmission in Authoritarian Regimes,”** International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Athens, Greece, 2022

**“The Impact of Communist-era Multiethnic Identity Engineering on Post-communist Political Identity Transmission: A Natural Experiment at the Albania-Greece Border,”** EPSA, Prague, Czechia, 2022

**“Hoxha’s Grand Experiment on Minority Identity in Albania: the Impacts of Multiethnic Identity,”** Comparative Politics Workshop, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, 2022

**“Hoxha’s Grand Experiment on Minority Identity in Albania: the Impacts of Multiethnic Identity Engineering on Ethnopolitical Identity Transmission in Authoritarian Regimes,”** Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, 2022

**“National citizenship by Birth (*jus soli*) v. by Blood (*jus sanguinis*) in Soviet Context,”** Political Theory Workshop, McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, Stanford University, 2021

**“Ideal Theory in Everyday Politics,”** Western Political Science Association, virtual, 2021

**“The COVID Border Accountability Project (COBAP): The Global Health Impacts of Travel Bans,”** Kellogg Institute for International Studies, 2020

**“Habermas’ Communicative Freedom v. the ‘Schmittiness’ of Trump-era politics: A Case for Identifying Ideal Theory in Everyday Politics,”** Stanford University, Political Theory Workshop for in-progress work, McCoy Center for Ethics and Society, 2020

**“Modeling Internal versus International Migration restrictions in Albania,”** Immigration Policy Lab, Stanford University, 2020

**“Measuring ‘Greek’ identity in Albania,”** Immigration Policy Lab, Stanford University, 2020

**“The Albanian People want to be Sincere Friends with the Greek People Forever’: A Natural Experiment Idea from Hoxha’s Policy on Greek Identity in Albania,”** Comparative Politics Visiting Researchers’ Panel, Stanford University, Department of Political Science, 2019

**“Interactions between Greek and Albanian Identities in America,”** Political Violence Seminar convened by Stathis Kalyvas, Olympia Summer Academy, Greece, 2019

**“Anti-intellectualism in Democracy: Insights from Tocqueville and Arendt,”** Annual Conference in International Political Theory, University of St Andrews, 2014

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Instructor of Record, Visiting Lecturer, Oxford College, Emory University**

Introduction to Political Science (2 sections), Spring 2019

Modern Political Thought, Spring 2019

Classical Political Thought, Spring 2019

Introduction to Political Science (3 sections), Fall 2018

Classical Political Thought, Fall 2018

### **Instructor of Record, Department of Political Science, University of Notre Dame**

Research Internship, Fall 2022

Research Internship, Spring 2022

Research Internship, Fall 2021

### **Co-instructor of Record, short course**

Minority Identity Narratives, Hope House Scholars Program, Stanford University, Aug 2020

Freshman Seminar, Oxford College, Emory University, Fall 2018

### **Invited Lectures, selection**

**“Hoxha’s Grand Experiment on the Greeks of Albania: Documenting Communist-era Minority Identity Engineering and Intergenerational Identity Transmission with Civil Registry and Cemetery Records in southern Albania, 1930-74,”** American Institute for Southeast European Studies (AISEES) Online Series, virtual, Forthcoming 2023

**“Methods for Preserving Local-to-Global History,”** Konstantinos Giakoumis’ Master’s Course on Methods for Teaching History, University College Logos, Albania, Forthcoming 2023

**“Methods and Research Agenda of the COVID Border Accountability Project,”** Political Science Graduate Student Association, University of Waterloo, Canada, 2021

**“Arendt’s *Origins of Totalitarianism*: Ideology and Structure,”** college-in-prison program, Common Good Atlanta, Georgia State University & Emory University, 2019

**“Aristotle on the Common Good (*Koinei Sympheron*) and Institutional Slavery,”** college-in-prison program, Common Good Atlanta, Georgia State University & Emory University, 2019

**“Why Study the Poor?: the Logic of the Wanderers Challenging Western Complacency,”** James McAdams’ Course, Introduction to Comparative Politics, University of Notre Dame, 2017

Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Notre Dame, 2017-21

Senior Teaching Assistant, Oxford College, Emory University, 2012-13

Teaching Assistant, Oxford College, Emory University, 2010-11

Introduction to Political Science, William Shapiro, Fall 2011

Introduction to Political Science, William Shapiro, Spring 2010

**Social Studies Instructor**, Shanti Bhavan Residential School, 9th-12th grades, India, 2013-14

Economics, 12th grade, Spring 2014

International Politics, 11th grade, Spring 2014

English Literature, 9th and 11th grades, Fall 2013

History & Civics, 9th grade, Fall 2013 and Spring 2014

## OTHER RELEVANT WORK

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**Production Editor, Dept. Political Science, Notre Dame** Aug 2020 – May 2021

– Produced Online Journal for Eileen Botting’s Honor’s Program course ([GRAD](#) and [UG](#) editions)

**Consultant**, Stanford University, McCoy Center for Ethics 2019-20

– Provided editorial assistance in academic book writing workshops

**Editorial Intern**, *Review of Politics*, Cambridge University Press 2019-20

– Conducted desk reviews for more than 50 submitted articles

**Editorial Research Assistant**, American Public Power Association (APPA), D.C. summer 2010

– Wrote newsletters on cybersecurity and created an internal database of the first U.S. state-led SmartGrid ventures, including 70 projects in 26 states.

**Litigation Intern**, The Law Offices of Steven J. Strelzik, P.C., Atlanta, GA summer 2009

– Assisted with large-scale corporate and civil cases by researching legal precedents, preparing documents for trial, attending trials and hearings, and filing pleadings with both the district courts and Georgia’s State Supreme Court

## INVITED MEDIA APPEARANCES, SELECTION

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“[The China Travel Restriction has nothing to do with Covid Spread](#),” *The Atlantic*, Interview, 2023

“[Hoxha’s Border Experiment on Minority Identity Transmission: Completing Data Collection on Communist-Era Identities](#),” Kellogg Institute news, 2022

“[Pandemic Pivot: Shiraef Leads Team of Scholars Studying Whether Border Closures Affected COVID-19’s Spread](#),” University of Notre Dame Press Release, 2022

“[Pandemic & Policy, COVID Border Accountability Project](#),” *Data Brunch*, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Podcast, 2022

“[Did Border Closures Help Curb Coronavirus Spread?](#)” *Healthline*, Interview, 2022

“[Meet Mary Shiraef, 2021 APSA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grantee](#),” *Political Science Now*, American Political Science Association (APSA), 2021

“Has COVID Accelerated Border Closures and a Little Bit about Albania with Mary Shiraef,” *The Perch Pod*, Perch Perspectives, Podcast, 2021

“Shiraef Co-Authors Article in Scientific Data,” Kellogg Institute, Press Release, 2021

“Facing the Xenophobic and Ultra-right Narrative,” *Newtral*, Spanish Press, 2019

“Who’s Behind the Attacks on Migrants in Greece?,” *Al Jazeera*, The Stream, 2018

“Lasting Lessons: Mary Shiraef reflects on Randall Strahan’s final Tocqueville course,” *Emory Magazine*, Spring 2014

## LANGUAGES

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English (*native*)

Greek (Modern and Ancient, *intermediate*)

Albanian (*intermediate*)

Thai (*beginner*)

## COMPUTING

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Stata, R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, and Python

## ACADEMIC SERVICE, SELECTION

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Editor, COVID Border Accountability Project (COBAP) Reports, self-published reports on [Europe](#), the [European Union+](#), the [U.S.](#), [Russia](#), and [China](#), COBAP Website, 2020–present

Dataset Contributor, “[Mapping Travel Policy Responses to COVID-19](#),” *Harvard Dataverse*, 2020

Undergraduate Research Supervisor, Emory University, Oxford Scholar Program, 2018–19

Lead Delegate, the EU Politics and Institutions branch of the founding session of the [89 Initiative](#), London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), 2015–16

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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American Political Science Association (APSA)

European Political Science Association (EPSA)

Council for European Studies (CES)

Inter-university Consortium for Political & Social Research (ICPSR)

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

## REFERENCES

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### Committee Members

**Susanne Wengle** (Chair)  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
University of Notre Dame  
swengle@nd.edu

**Scott Mainwaring**  
Eugene and Helen Conley Professor of Political Science  
University of Notre Dame  
smainwar@nd.edu

**Victoria Tin-bor Hui**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
University of Notre Dame  
thui@nd.edu

**Jaimie Bleck**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
University of Notre Dame  
jbleck@nd.edu

**David D. Laitin**  
James T. Watkins IV & Elise V. Watkins  
Professor of Political Science  
Stanford University  
dlaitin@stanford.edu

### Professional References

**Saad Gulzar** (Methods)  
Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs  
gulzar@princeton.edu

**Colin Lewis-Beck** (Methods)  
Industry Position  
clewisbeck@gmail.com

**Kenneth Carter** (Teaching)  
Interim Dean of Oxford College  
Emory University  
kcart01@emory.edu

**Ruth Abbey** (Publishing)  
Editor-in-Chief *Review of Politics*  
University of Notre Dame  
rabbey1@nd.edu