

Christopher Chiego

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Academic Positions

Cal Poly Maritime Academy (Vallejo, CA)

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Department of Philosophy (Summer 2025-present)
Assistant Professor, International Strategy and Security (Solano Campus)

California State University Maritime Academy (Vallejo, CA)

Assistant Professor, Global Studies and Maritime Affairs (Fall 2021-Summer 2025)

Naval Postgraduate School (Monterey, CA)

Donald R. Beall Defense Fellowship (Summer 2020-Summer 2021)

Haverford College (Haverford, PA)

Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Education

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D in Political Science (conferred May 2020)

Dissertation: "Explaining Decisiveness in War"

Exam Fields: International Relations (High Pass) and American Politics

University of California-San Diego

M.A. Political Science (2012)

University of Georgia

B.A. History (2010), B.A. International Affairs (2009)

Summa Cum Laude with Highest Honors

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, Cal Maritime/Cal Poly Maritime Academy, Fall 2021-present

- Cybersecurity (x5)
- U.S. Foreign Policy (x4)
- Senior Qualifying Exams (x2)
- Senior Thesis (x2)
- Polar Politics (x3)
- Strategy and War (x3)
- Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Asian Security (x3)
- American Government
- Model United Nations (x2)
- Maritime Security (x3)

- Strategic Policy Leadership (x2)

Instructor of Record, Haverford College, June 2019-June 2020

- Introduction to International Relations
- Civil Wars
- International Crises
- Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods
- American Foreign Policy

Instructor of Record, University of Pennsylvania, Summer 2018

- American Foreign Policy

Social Studies Teacher, Shelby County Schools, September 2013-May 2014

- Honors and Standard World Geography, Germantown (TN) High School

Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications

Skoll, A. and **Chiego, C.** (2025). Time for a rebrand? Examining the efforts of college departments in the California State University system to reimagine, reinvent, reposition, and rebrand themselves in response to a changing higher education landscape. *Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0263395725136763>

Gilbert, V. and **Chiego, C.** (2025). Analogies in revolt: How historical analogies shaped resistance in Iraq, 2003–2004. *Cooperation and Conflict*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00108367251359137>

Gilbert, V. and **Chiego, C.** (2025). The Great Syrian Revolts: Explaining Continuity in the Geography of Syrian Violence. *Nations and Nationalism* 31(2), pp. 309-322. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nana.13078>

Stoker, G., Greer, J., Clark, U., & **Chiego, C.** (2023). Considering maritime cybersecurity at a non-maritime education and training institution. *Cybersecurity Pedagogy & Practice Journal*, 2(1), pp. 66–76. <http://CPPJ.org/2023-1/>

Editor-Reviewed Academic Publications

Chiego, C., Skoll, A., and Wade, R. (2025) “The United States Merchant Marine Academy and Six State Maritime Academies.” In S. Wills (Ed.), *Returning from Ebb Tide: Renewing the United States Commercial Maritime Enterprise*, pp. 232-248. Marine Corps University Press.

Academic Work Under Review

“What’s in a (Major) Name? The Effects of Major and Department Names on Outside Perceptions” [with Amy Skoll]

“Issues in Maritime Foreign Policy.” [with Amy Skoll]. Chapter submitted for inclusion in the *Handbook of Ocean and Maritime Politics* (ed. Elizabeth Nyman). Edward Elgar Publishers.

“Casualties, Success Perceptions, and Public Support for Military Operations”

Academic Works in Progress

“How Political Violence Shaped Southern Partisanship: Evidence from Alabama in the American Civil War”

“From Sea to Shore: Analyzing Seaborne Invasion Attempts”

“Your Website is Political: What Political Science Department Websites Communicate” *[with Amy Skoll]*

“Rudderless Drift: The impact of ‘Sea Blindness’ on Maritime Security” *[with Amy Skoll]*

Recent Conference Presentations

2025 International Studies Association-West Conference (Pasadena, CA)

Panel Presentations: “Selling Political Science: How Department Websites Shape Perceptions of the Major” *[with Amy Skoll]*; “The impact of ‘Sea Blindness’ on Global Trade Preferences: A Survey Experiment” *[with Amy Skoll]*; and “Learning, Ignoring, or Forgetting? French Counterinsurgency Strategy in Mandate Syria.”

Roundtable Participant: “Trump’s Foreign Policy: An Early Assessment”

2025 Western Political Science Association Conference (Seattle, WA)

Panel Presentations: “What’s in a (Major) Name? The Effects of Major and Department Names on Outside Perceptions” *[with Amy Skoll]* and “Time for a Rebrand? Examining the efforts of college departments in the CSU to reimagine, reinvent, reposition, and rebrand themselves in response to a changing higher education landscape,” *[with Amy Skoll]*

2024 International Strategic Studies Section-International Security Conference (Pittsburgh, PA)

Panel Presentation: “From Sea to Shore: Analyzing Seaborne Invasion Attempts”

2024 International Studies Association-West Conference (Pasadena, CA)

Panel Presentations: “What’s in a (Major) Name? The Effects of Major and Department Names on Outside Perceptions” *[with Amy Skoll]* and “Time for a Rebrand? Examining the efforts of college departments in the CSU to reimagine, reinvent, reposition, and rebrand themselves in response to a changing higher education landscape,” *[with Amy Skoll]*

2024 International Studies Association Conference (San Francisco, CA)

Panel Presentation: “What’s in a (Major) Name? The Effects of Major and Department Names on Outside Perceptions” *[with Amy Skoll]*

2024 Southern Political Science Association Conference (New Orleans, LA)

Panel Presentations: “Casualties, Success Perceptions, and Public Support for Military Operations” and “Analogies in Revolt: How Historical Analogies Guide Ethnic Groups’ Decisions to Rebel and Legitimate Violence”

2023 Western Political Science Association Conference (San Francisco, CA)

Panel Presentations: “Decisively Defeating Seaborne Invasions” and “What’s in a (Department) Name? The Effects of Department Names on Outside Perceptions”

2021 American Political Science Association Conference (Online)

Panel Presentation: “How Wartime Experiences Shape Postwar Foreign Policy: The Effect of the Franco-Prussian War on Postwar German-French Politics”

Additional Workshops and Training

Edwards Leadership Development Program Faculty Fellows, California State University Maritime Academy, Summer-Fall 2025

Data Science Ethics (CONFIDE) Faculty Learning Community, California State University Maritime Academy, Spring 2025

Statistical Learning Faculty Learning Community, California State University Maritime Academy, Spring 2024-present

Teagle Ambassadors Faculty Working Group, California State University Maritime Academy, Spring 2024

Using Technology to Support Equitable Outcomes, California State University Maritime Academy Faculty Development and Technology, Spring 2023

Teaching First-Generation College Students by Drawing on Cultural Strengths, California State University Institute for Teaching and Learning, Summer-Fall 2022

Pedagogy Workshop, American Political Science Association Conference, August 29th 2018

Teaching Certificate, Penn Center for Teaching and Learning, 2017

Summer Workshop on Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), Cornell University, July 2017

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Ann Arbor, Summer 2012
Courses in Maximum Likelihood Estimation and Advanced Game Theory

Service to Students and Institution (Selected)

Advisor, Cal Maritime Model United Nations Team, Fall 2021-present

Organizer and Coach, Cal Maritime Cybersecurity Policy Team, Spring 2023-present

CSU Maritime Academy Representative/Advisor: Fulbright Scholarship, Gilman Scholarship, Critical Language Scholarship, Boren Scholarship, and Marshall Scholarship, Summer 2022-present

International Strategy and Security Professional Development Coordinator, Fall 2024-Spring 2025

CSU Maritime Academy Representative, CSU Academic Council on International Programs, Fall 2022-Spring 2025

Chair of the Academic and Fiscal Affairs Committee (AFAC), Fall 2024-Spring 2025

Letters of recommendation written for 27 students along with advising on other application materials

Supervisor of 5 student research assistants on "Historical Seaborne Invasion Attempts" research project (Fall 2024-Present)

Professional Service

Discussant, "How legacies, fear, and message framing influence political choices," ISA-West 2025

Chair and Discussant, "Leaders and Decision Makers in International Security," ISSS-IS 2024

Discussant, "International Organizations, Foreign Policy, and IR Theory," SPSA 2024

Panel Chair, "Civil War and Political Violence," WPSA 2023

Panel Chair and Discussant, "Authoritarianism, Populism, and Foreign Policy" and "Leader-Based Approaches to International Conflict," APSA 2021

Awards and Honors

Educational Experience Enhancement Award, California State University Maritime Academy, 2023

Information Systems & Computing Academic Professionals (ISCAP) Education Special Interest Group (EDSIG) Conference, 2022 Meritorious Paper Award

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania Political Science Department, 2014

Partnership for Academic Competition Excellence (PACE) Cooper Award for Quizbowl Outreach, 2013

Teaching Assistant Excellence Award, UCSD Political Science Department, 2011

Warren Fellowship, UCSD Political Science Department, 2009

Foundation Fellowship, University of Georgia, 2005