

Brandon Sims  
Professorial Lecturer – American University  
(Current as of February 2023)  
bsims@american.edu

## EDUCATION

*PhD in International Relations.* American University, Washington, D.C.  
Field Concentration: International Peace and Conflict Resolution  
Qualifying Examination and Field Concentration Examination: Passed with Distinction  
Dissertation: Passed with Distinction (August, 2022)  
Dissertation Committee: Joseph Young (AU) Chair, Adam Auerbach (AU)  
Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham (University of Maryland)

*MPhil in International Relations.* American University, Washington D.C.

*MA in Conflict Resolution.* Antioch University Midwest, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

*BA with College Honors in Political Science, minor in Journalism, and Certificate in Oral Communication.* Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio.  
Summa cum laude / Valedictorian.

## TEACHING

### American University, 2014 – 2022

#### *Professorial Lecturer or Adjunct:*

Mediation (MA-SIS-619)	2023
Peace, Global Security, and Conflict Resolution (BA-SISU-210)	2022-2023
Advanced International Studies Research: Case Studies (BA-SISU-306)	2022-2023
International Affairs Statistics and Research Methods (MA-SIS-600)	2021-2023
Research Design and Statistical Analysis (MA-Online SISG-763)	2020-2022
Introduction to International Studies Research (BA-SISU-206)	2019-2021
Qualitative Research Methods in Peace and Conflict Resolution (MA-SIS-612)	2019

#### *Teaching Assistant:*

Qualitative Methods & Methodology (MA-Online SIS-750)	2017
World Politics (BA-SIS-105)	2016 – 2017
Peace Paradigms (MA-SIS-607)	2014

### The Pennsylvania State University World Campus, 2021

#### *Adjunct Lecturer:*

Tools and Analysis of Counterterrorism (PLSC 838)	2021
---	------

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

Sims, B. (Dec. 2018). "Constituting Self-Violent Resistance: Materiality, Embodiment, and Speech Acts." *Journal of Resistance Studies*. 2.4. pp. 17 – 53.

### **BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATION**

Sims, B. (2011). "The Use of Ritual and Symbol in Conflict Resolution," in Litaay, T., Suryati, E., Samiyono, D., & Indah, C.M., eds., Buku Bacaan Pendidikan Perdamaian. Salatiga: Satya Wacana Peace Center & United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, pp. 139 – 156.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Samuel L. Sharp Memorial Prize for Creative Work in International Relations, 2021  
International Center on Nonviolent Conflict Research Fellowship (\$6,670), 2019-2020  
United States Institute of Peace, 2018-2019 Jennings Randolph-Minerva Peace and Security Scholar (\$20,000), 2018-2019

Summer Research Award (ABD), American University SIS (\$5,830), 2018  
Doctoral Student Research Scholarship, American University (\$5,000), 2018-2019  
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, 2017  
(Summer Methods Training Grant, American University)

Fellow, Peace and Violence Research Lab, American University (\$3,000), 2016-2017  
Summer Research Award (Pre-ABD), American University SIS (\$1,000) (Exploratory fieldwork), Summer 2016

Critical Language Scholarship, United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Hindi, Summer 2016

Institute for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research, Syracuse University, 2015  
(Summer Methods Training Grant, American University)

Dean's Fellowship, American University, 2014 - 2018

Summer Investigative Study Fellowship: Marietta College, 2005

*"Humiliation, Religion, and the Balkans."* Adviser: Dr. Katherine McDaniels."

### **WORKING PAPERS**

Sims, B. (Under Review). "Student Unions in India: Influencing Movements and Resisting Violence."

Sims, B. (Book in Progress). *Violent and Nonviolent Action in India: Repression, Linkages, and Learning*.

### **RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Mobilization Conference (2018, planned 2023); Midwest Political Science Association (2021); International Studies Association (2017, 2021); ISA Peace - Peace Historical Society (2019); Judith Reppy Institute Graduate Workshop on Peace and Conflict (2018).

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, June 26 – July 21, 2017  
(*Maximum Likelihood Estimation I, Regression Analysis III: Advanced Methods, Mathematics for Social Scientists II*)

American Institute for Indian Studies, Hindi Language Immersion Program, June-August 2016

Institute for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research, Syracuse University, July 2015

Quantitative and Qualitative Software Skills: R, STATA, SPSS, NVivo, Tableau, UCINET.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Research Assistant, Security Sector Reform and Governance* 2021 -2022  
United States Institute of Peace, Washington D.C.  
\* Lead in creating online course in Security Sector Reform  
\* Coordination and support for training in Systems Thinking Methodology  
\* Research and editing for evidence review of Security Sector Reform programs  
\* Drafting concept note proposals and supporting management of external contractors

*International Service Worker /* 2009 – 2014  
*English – Conflict Transformation Secondment*  
Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Satya Wacana University (UKSW).  
\* Incorporated conflict transformation content and concepts in courses taught to undergraduate students in the Faculty of Language and Literature.  
\* Developed and led workshops related to peacebuilding and conflict transformation.  
\* Served as a resource person on conflict and peace issues for MCC, UKSW, and partner organizations through trainings, workshops, and meetings.

*Program Director: Student Outreach* 2008-2009  
Ohio Campus Compact, Granville, Ohio.  
\* Organized a statewide student conference on civic engagement (including managing budget and chairing planning committee).  
\* Managed statewide service-learning student fellowship grant program for low-income and first-generation college students with 16 member campuses.  
\* Wrote and managed an MLK Day of Service grant with six participating campuses.  
\* Mentored 30 AmeriCorps\* VISTA members.

*AmeriCorps\* VISTA: Service Leader* 2007-2008  
University of Toledo, Ohio.  
\* Co-coordinated a community wide dialogue between 50 community groups and the University of Toledo.  
\* Implemented a service-learning fellowship for low-income or first-generation students (including creating and facilitating reflection sessions).  
\* Assisted in the planning and implementation of a four-course service-learning project in

North Toledo with participating instructors, high school teachers, and non-profits.  
 \* Managed a team of ten student service-learning leaders.

## **WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS (ORGANIZED OR LED)**

- “Systems Thinking in Peacebuilding”* Two Trainings Spring 2022, U.S. Institute of Peace. Provided organizational management, coordination, and research. (Duration: Multi-Day).
- “Nonviolence (Civil Resistance) and Peacebuilding in MENA, Expert Workshop.”* February 2018, Beirut, Lebanon. Provided organizational management, coordination, and research. (Duration: multi-day).
- “Integrating Peacebuilding in MCC Service.”* September 2013, Mennonite Central Committee. Annual Team Meetings. Salib Putih Retreat Center, Kopeng, Indonesia. (Duration: 3 hours).
- “Language Teaching as Peacebuilding.”* February 2013, Service and Learning for Peace: Language Teaching in Anabaptist Perspective, Professional Improvement Conference – Mennonite Partners in China, Chiang Mai, Thailand. (Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes).
- “Critical Thinking and Peacebuilding.”* September 2012, Mennonite Central Committee. Annual Team Meetings. Salib Putih Retreat Center, Kopeng, Indonesia. (Duration: 3 hours).
- “The Importance of Storytelling”* July 2012, P3W (Center for the Empowerment and Development of Women). Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia. (Duration: 3 days, 5 hours each day). Stories from the workshop were printed in Indonesian (with English translations) to be shared with a wider audience (including through Mennonite Central Committee website and partner organizations/schools).
- “Kids’ Storytelling Workshop.”* August 2012 P3W (Center for the Empowerment and Development of Women), Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia. (Duration: 2 days, 2 hours each day).
- “Cross-Culture Understanding.”* June 2012, PIBBI, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga Indonesia. (Duration: 2-hour session).
- “Cross-Culture Understanding.”* June 2012, COTIM, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia. (Duration: 2-hour session).
- “Business English Communication Skills Part II.”* May 2011, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia.” (Duration: 3 days, 5 hours each day).
- “Nature Conservancy Writing Workshop, Part I.”* January 2011, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian, University, Salatiga, Indonesia. (Duration: 2-hour session).
- “Strengths and Weaknesses: Professional Development Training.”* July 2008, Ohio Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA training. (Duration: 1 ½ hours; Participants, 30).
- “Conflict Resolution Skills for VISTA Volunteers.”* May 2008, Ohio Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA training. (Duration: 1 hour; Participants, 30).
- “Responding to Violence.”* May 2008, University of Toledo. (Duration: 1 hour).
- “Service-Learning for Graduate/Teaching Assistants.”* Co-Led with the Director of Community Engagement at the University of Toledo. March 2008, University of Toledo. (Duration: 2 hours).
- “Student Engagement for First-Year Students.”* March 2008, (Duration: ½ hour).
- “Conflict Resolution Techniques for Resident Assistants”* February 2008, University of Toledo Residence Life. (Four Separate Sessions, Duration: 1 hour each).
- “Conflict Resolution Skills for First Year Students.”* August 2007, University of Toledo

Residence Life. (Duration: 1 hour).

## **RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

*Research Assistant (American University) on projects related to peacebuilding*

Susanna Campbell (2017-2020)

Charles T. Call (2015-2016)

Abdul Aziz Said (2014-2015)

## **SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT/ UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

### ***Journal Reviewer***

American Political Science Review

### ***University Committees***

Educational Policy Committee – Member (School of International Service, American University (2022)

Conflict and Development Hiring Committee – Member (School of International Service, American University) (2015)

Code of Practice Committee – Member (English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University) (2012)

Faculty Hiring Committee – Member (English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University (2011)

Statewide Ohio Make a Difference Day – Statewide Planning Committee Member (2008 - 2009)

University of Toledo Service-Learning Committee – Member (2007 - 2008)

University of Toledo First Reads Program Committee – Member (2007 - 2008)

### ***Workshops for Student Groups***

“*Public Speaking Seminar*” October 18, 2013, Public Speaking tips and workshop on English Competition events for more than 40 English Department students. (Duration: 3 hours)

“*Speaking classes for High School Students*” June 11, 2013, English Department Open House Event, Promotion for English Department. (Duration: 1 hour).

“*Be KEPO (Knowing Every Particular Object): Journalism Workshop*” March 15, 2013, Workshop developed with handouts on interviewing and writing feature news. English Department. (Duration: 3 hours; Participants, 50).

“*Writing Workshop for Powers (Pool of Writers)*” October 29, 2012, English Department. (Duration: 2 hours; Participants, 25)

“*Cultural Skills Workshop for English Club*” March 2012. English Department (Duration: 2 hours, Participants, 30).

### ***Presentations to Student or Community Groups***

“*Stories of Language Learning, Faith, and Building Peace*” Language for Peace Forum, online webinar, March 12, 2015.

*English Conversation Circle* through the Language Training Center, UKSW, February 2010. Presented on the AmeriCorps\* VISTA program as part of a two-hour panel presentation at Marietta College, February 2009.

“*Religion and the Balkans Conflict*” Parkersburg Presbyterian Church (Duration: 1 hour), Fall 2005.

“*Appalachian Issues Research and Advocacy Walk.*” Co-presented to two first year experience courses at Marietta College based on a 400-mile research walk through Appalachia exploring social and justice issues. (Funded by Summer Investigative Studies Grant, Marietta College). September 2003.

## **JOURNALISTIC PUBLICATIONS**

“Washington County Air Quality is the Worst in the Nation” *Marcolian*, April 2006.

“Appalachian Trail Advocacy Weekly Series” *The Press*, Avon, OH: (written once per week during a 400 mile research and advocacy walk through Appalachia): Summer 2003.

“Marietta College Mobilizes Against Pre-Emptive War” *Columbus Free Press*: March 2003.

"150 People attend the No War on Iraq Rally and March February 8, 2003, at Marietta College" *Columbus Free Press*: February 2003.

“Progressive Musings” *The Press*, Avon, OH: (bi-weekly editorial column). Summer 2002.