

Todd S. Sechser

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Current Position

University of Virginia

- Associate Professor of Politics, 2014–present
- Affiliated faculty, Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy

Education

Stanford University

- Ph.D., Political Science, 2007.
- Winner of the Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science, 2006–08.

Drake University

- B.A., Economics, Political Science, International Relations, 1999.
- *Summa cum laude* with University Honors.
- Winner of the Oreon E. Scott Award, awarded to the most outstanding graduating senior.

Previous Positions

University of Virginia

Assistant Professor of Politics, 2007–14

Council on Foreign Relations

Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow, 2011–12

Harvard University

John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies
Postdoctoral Fellow, 2007–08

Harvard University

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs
Predoctoral Fellow, 2004–06

Stanford University

Center for International Security and Cooperation
Predoctoral Fellow, 2003–04

Books

Sechser, Todd S. and Matthew Fuhrmann. 2017. *Nuclear Weapons and Coercive Diplomacy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Refereed Journal Articles

11. Sechser, Todd S. Forthcoming. "Reputations and Signaling in Coercive Bargaining." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.
10. Caverley, Jonathan D. and Todd S. Sechser. Forthcoming. "Military Technology and the Duration of Civil Wars." *International Studies Quarterly*.
9. Sechser, Todd S. 2016. "Sharing the Bomb: How Foreign Nuclear Deployments Shape Nonproliferation and Deterrence." *Nonproliferation Review* 23:3-4, pp. 443-58.
8. Fuhrmann, Matthew and Todd S. Sechser. 2014. "Signaling Alliance Commitments: Hand-Tying and Sunk Costs in Extended Nuclear Deterrence."
7. Fuhrmann, Matthew and Todd S. Sechser. 2014. "Nuclear Strategy, Nonproliferation, and the Causes of Foreign Nuclear Deployments." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 58:3, pp. 455-80.
6. Sechser, Todd S. and Matthew Fuhrmann. 2013. "Crisis Bargaining and Nuclear Blackmail." *International Organization* 67:1, pp. 173-95.
5. Downes, Alexander B. and Todd S. Sechser. 2012. "The Illusion of Democratic Credibility." *International Organization* 66:3, pp. 457-89.
4. Sechser, Todd S. 2011. "Militarized Compellent Threats, 1918-2001." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 28:4, pp. 377-401.
3. Sechser, Todd S. 2010. "Goliath's Curse: Coercive Threats and Asymmetric Power." *International Organization* 64:4, pp. 627-60.
2. Sechser, Todd S. and Elizabeth N. Saunders. 2010. "The Army You Have: The Determinants of Military Mechanization, 1979-2001." *International Studies Quarterly* 54:2, pp. 481-511.
1. Sechser, Todd S. 2004. "Are Soldiers Less War-Prone than Statesmen?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48:5, pp. 746-74.

Book Chapters

5. Sechser, Todd S. Forthcoming. "A Bargaining Theory of Coercion." In *The Power to Hurt: Coercion in Theory and in Practice*, edited by Kelly M. Greenhill and Peter Krause (Oxford University Press).
4. Sechser, Todd S. Forthcoming. "Sharing the Bomb: Nonproliferation, Deterrence, and Foreign Nuclear Deployments." In *Nuclear Nonproliferation Missteps*, edited by Henry A. Sokolski (Carlisle, Pa.: U.S. Army War College Press).

3. **Sechser, Todd S.** 2017. “[The Enduring Challenge of Nuclear Weapons.](#)” In *Great Decisions*, edited by Karen A. Rohan (Foreign Policy Association).
2. **Sechser, Todd S.** 2010. “[Should the United States or the International Community Aggressively Pursue Nuclear Nonproliferation Policies?](#)” (Exchange with Scott D. Sagan and Josh Weddle.) In *Controversies in Globalization: Contending Approaches to International Relations*, edited by Peter M. Haas, John A. Hird, and Beth McBratney (CQ Press).
 - Second revised edition, 2012.
1. **Sechser, Todd S.** “[The Effects of September 11: A Rift between Europe and America?](#)” In *Public Opinion and Polling Around the World*, edited by John G. Geer (ABC-CLIO, 2004).
 - Reprinted in *Paradoxes of Power: U.S. Foreign Policy in a Changing World*, edited by David Skidmore (Paradigm, 2007).

Non-Refereed Publications

Non-Refereed Articles

6. **Sechser, Todd S.** “[Coercion, Survival, and War.](#)” *H-Diplo/International Security Studies Forum Roundtable Series* (forthcoming 2017).
5. **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. “[The Madman Myth: Trump and the Bomb.](#)” *H-Diplo/International Security Studies Forum Policy Series* (forthcoming 2017).
4. **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. “The Madman and the Bomb: Nuclear Blackmail in the Trump Era.” *Virginia Policy Review* (forthcoming).
3. **Sechser, Todd S.** “[A Pivotal Moment in Proliferation Research.](#)” *International Studies Quarterly Online* (2016).
2. **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. “[Nuclear Weapons Are \(Still\) Poor Instruments of Blackmail.](#)” *H-Diplo/International Security Studies Forum Roundtable Series 2* (2014), pp. 55–62.
1. Fuhrmann, Matthew, Matthew Kroenig, and **Todd S. Sechser.** “[The Case for Using Statistics to Study Nuclear Security.](#)” *H-Diplo/International Security Studies Forum Roundtable Series 2* (2014), pp. 37–54.

Op-Eds and Commentary

- **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. 2017. “What President Trump Needs to Know About Nuclear Weapons.” *Medium.com*.
- Fuhrmann, Matthew and **Todd S. Sechser.** 2014. “[To Help Allies, Send Security Guarantees, Not Nuclear Bombs.](#)” *USApp – American Politics and Policy*, a London School of Economics and Political Science blog (November 24). *Christian Science Monitor* (January 12).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. 2014. “[Does Nuclear Blackmail Work?](#)” *The Monkey Cage*, a *Washington Post* blog (July 14).

- Saunders, Elizabeth N. and **Todd S. Sechser**. 2014. “The New Defense Budget May Change Less Than You Think.” *The Monkey Cage*, a *Washington Post* blog (February 27).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** and Matthew Fuhrmann. 2013. “Debating the Benefits of Nuclear Superiority for Crisis Bargaining.” *The Duck of Minerva* (March 25 and March 28).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** 2012. “Ask the Experts: What Would Iran Do With a Bomb? *Politics, Power, and Preventive Action*, a Council on Foreign Relations blog (February 21).
– Cross-posted as “What Will Iran Do If It Gets a Nuclear Bomb?” on TheAtlantic.com.
- Fuhrmann, Matthew and **Todd S. Sechser**. 2011. “Would a Nuclear Iran Really Be So Dangerous?”
- **Sechser, Todd S.** 2000. “Nuclear Stalemate in South Asia.” *Boston Globe* (March 23).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** 1999. “Pakistan Coup Underscores Nuclear Dimension. *Defense News* (November 15).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** 1998. “How to Live With the Bomb. *Wall Street Journal* (September 1).
- **Sechser, Todd S.** 1997. “Biological Terrorism: Don’t Panic Yet. *Des Moines Register* (November 25).

Book Reviews

- *Nuclear Strategy in the Modern Era*, by Vipin Narang. *Journal of Strategic Studies* 39:5–6 (2016), pp. 929–31.
- *No Use: Nuclear Weapons and U.S. National Security*, by Thomas M. Nichols. *Political Science Quarterly* 129:4 (2014), pp. 754–55.
- *Shaping Strategy: The Civil-Military Politics of Strategic Assessment*, by Risa A. Brooks. *Perspectives on Politics* 8:3 (2010), pp. 982–84.

Honors and Awards

Research Awards

Faculty Sabbatical Award (inaugural winner), University of Virginia Quantitative Collaborative, 2016

Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science, 2006–08. Awarded every two years by the Peace Science Society.

Richard S. Goldsmith Writing Prize in Dispute Resolution, Stanford Center on Conflict and Negotiation, 2005

Richard S. Goldsmith Writing Prize in Dispute Resolution, Stanford Center on Conflict and Negotiation, 2004

Teaching Awards

Mead Endowment Faculty Award, University of Virginia, 2014

Cory Family Teaching Award (inaugural winner), University of Virginia, 2013. \$25,000 prize for excellence and innovation in teaching.

Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University, 2004

Award for Excellence in Teaching, Department of Political Science, Stanford University, 2002

Fellowships In-Residence

Council on Foreign Relations, Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow, 2011–12

Harvard University, John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Postdoctoral Fellow, 2007–08

Harvard University, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Predoctoral Fellow, 2004–06

Stanford University, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Predoctoral Fellow, 2003–04

Fellowships and Scholarships

Phi Beta Kappa of Northern California, Graduate Fellowship, 2006

Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute, Graduate Fellowship, 2005

Stanford Center on Conflict and Negotiation, Graduate Fellowship, 2003

Harry S. Truman Scholarship, 1999

Invited Talks (last five years)

University of Virginia, Quantitative Collaborative, upcoming April 2017

Carnegie International Nonproliferation Conference, upcoming March 2017

University of Virginia, International Relations Organization, upcoming March 2017

Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, March 2017

Cato Institute, March 2017

United States Military Academy, “Reassessing Deterrence in the 21st Century” workshop, November 2016

Virginia Tech, Department of Political Science, November 2016

University of Chicago, Program on International Security Policy, April 2016

Maryville University, Department of Political Science, March 2016

University of Virginia, Miller Center of Public Affairs, January 2016
Yale University, Department of Political Science, November 2015
University of Virginia, Alexander Hamilton Society, September 2015
National Strategic Research Institute, September 2015
Richmond Council on World Affairs, September 2015
George Washington University, “Generation Prague 2015: Bridging Divides, Defining the Future” workshop, July 2015
Air Force Office of Scientific Research, May 2015
Nuclear Studies Research Initiative, April 2015
University of Virginia, Quantitative Collaborative, April 2015
University of Virginia, International Relations Organization, January 2015
University of Montréal, Center for International Studies and Research, June 2014
Dartmouth College, Dickey Center for International Understanding, April 2014
Drake University, Nelson Institute for Diplomacy and International Affairs, April 2014
University of Southern California, Center for International Studies, March 2014
University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Political Science, March 2014
Harvard University, Program on Global Society and Security, December 2013
Nuclear Studies Research Initiative, October 2013
Texas A&M University, Department of Political Science, January 2013
University of North Carolina, Department of Political Science, December 2012
Triangle Institute for Security Studies, September 2012
University of California, San Diego, “The Politics of Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century” workshop, March 2012
University of Wisconsin, Department of Political Science, March 2012

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
International Studies Association, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017
Midwest Political Science Association, 2005, 2011, 2012
Peace Science Society, 2010, 2014, 2015, 2016

Eurasian Peace Science Society, 2012

International Security Studies/International Security and Arms Control (ISSS/ISAC), 2005

Society for Military and Strategic Studies, 2003

Selected Professional Activities and Service

Principal organizer, “Emerging Technologies and Strategic Stability” workshops, University of Virginia and George Washington University, 2016

Principal organizer, “The Nuclear Taboo Revisited” workshop, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, 2016

Co-director of the Lansing B. Lee/Bankard Seminar in Global Politics at the University of Virginia, 2010–16.

Member of the Program on Strategic Stability Evaluation (POSSE), a nuclear strategy study group sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, 2009–16.

General Education Curriculum Planning Committee, University of Virginia, tasked with rewriting the College of Arts and Sciences’ undergraduate general education curriculum, 2014–16

Quantitative, Computational, and Data Analysis Literacy Committee, University of Virginia, 2016

Program chair, Conflict Processes section, Midwest Political Science Association annual conference, 2016

Program co-chair, International Security section, American Political Science Association annual conference, 2015

Program chair, ISSS/ISAC annual conference, 2013

Director of the Virginia International Security Colloquium at the University of Virginia, 2011.

Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, Blackwell Publishing, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, Cambridge University Press, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, *International Interactions*, *International Organization*, *International Security*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, National Science Foundation, *Non-Proliferation Review*, Oxford University Press, Pearson Longman, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Security Studies*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *World Politics*, and the Department of Defense’s Minerva Research Initiative.