

Peter Harris

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic positions

Colorado State University, Associate Professor of Political Science, 2021–present

- Gordon and Joan Bishop Endowed Professor, 2026–present
- Associate Chair of the Department of Political Science, 2025–present
- CY Tung Scholar, Institute for Seaboard Education (Semester at Sea), Spring 2025

Colorado State University, Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2015–2021

Earlham College, Visiting Lecturer in Politics, 2014–2015

Part-time affiliations

Modern War Institute at West Point, Research Fellow, 2026

Defense Priorities, Non-Resident Fellow, 2021–present

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D. in Government, 2015

University of Texas at Austin, M.A. in Government, 2013

SOAS University of London, M.Sc. in International Politics, 2009

University of Edinburgh, Undergraduate M.A. (Hons) in Politics, 2008

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

US foreign policy; security studies; European security; US-China relations; the Indo-Pacific; Taiwanese security; overseas military bases; domestic sources and implications of foreign policy; qualitative methods.

PUBLICATIONS

Books and monographs (2)

Peter Harris, *Why America Can't Retrench (And How It Might)*. Cambridge: Polity, 2024.

Jared Morgan McKinney and Peter Harris, *Deterrence Gap: Avoiding War in the Taiwan Strait*. Carlisle, PA: US Army War College Press, 2024.

Articles, chapters, and policy reports (46)

Peter Harris, "Chagos Islands Sovereignty Dispute: Mauritius-UK Treaty," in Kevin W. Gray, ed., *Global Encyclopedia of Territorial Rights* (Cham: Springer, forthcoming).

Peter Harris, "The Agony of Peace: Russia's Occupation of Eastern Ukraine," *International Journal: Canada's Journal of Global Policy Analysis* 80, no. 4 (2025): 674–682.

Peter Harris, "The Indo-Pacific and the Chagos Archipelago: Two Logics, Two Futures," in: Laura Jeffery and Chris Monaghan, *Challenges and Prospects for the Chagos Archipelago* (New York, NY: Routledge, 2024): 249–258.

Peter Harris, “Two Cheers for Biden’s Ukraine Policy,” *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 66, no. 3 (2024): 21–34.

Peter Harris and Jared Morgan McKinney, “Strategic Clarity or Calamity? Competing Logics of Deterrence in the Taiwan Strait,” *International Affairs* 100, no. 3 (2024): 1171–1187.

- Subject of RAND Corporation/Arroyo Center “Strategy, Doctrine, and Resources” Program seminar.

Peter Harris, Iren Marinova, and Gabriella Gricius, “War in Ukraine in a Polarised America,” *LSE Public Policy Review* 3, no. 1 (2023): 12pp.

- Reprinted in Michael Cox, ed., *Ukraine: Russia’s War and the Future of the Global Order* (London: LSE Press, 2023): 257–272.

Peter Harris, “Moving to an Offshore Balancing Strategy for East Asia,” *Defense Priorities*, 31 October 2023, <https://www.defensepriorities.org/explainers/offshore-balancing-east-asia>. 18pp.

Peter Harris, “The Chagos Dispute: Where Right Makes Might,” *Third World Quarterly* 44, no. 2 (2023): 395–404.

Peter Harris and Meriel Hahn, “The Japan-US Alliance: Its Future in the Indo-Pacific Era,” in: Srabani Roy Choudhury, ed., *Japan and Its Partners in the Indo-Pacific: Engagements and Alignment* (New Delhi: Routledge, 2023): 77–94.

Peter Harris, “The Partial Promise of Rules-Based Order in the Indo-Pacific: A Case Study of the Chagos Archipelago,” *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs* 5, no. 7 (2022): 32–42.

Peter Harris and Iren Marinova, “American Primacy and US-China Relations: The Cold War Analogy Reversed,” *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* 15, no. 4 (2022): 335–351.

- Selected as “Editor’s Choice” for issue 15, no. 4.

Peter Harris, “The Geopolitics of American Exceptionalism,” *Asian Perspective* 46, no. 4 (2022): 583–603.

Peter Harris, “The Indo-Pacific Power: The United States, the Quad, and the Making of a Megaregion,” in: Srabani Roy Choudhury, ed., *The Indo-Pacific Theatre Strategic Visions and Frameworks* (New Delhi: Routledge, 2022): 35–49.

Peter Harris, “Deterring a Chinese Invasion of Taiwan: Upholding the Status Quo,” *Defense Priorities*, 16 May 2022, <https://www.defensepriorities.org/explainers/deterring-a-chinese-invasion-of-taiwan>. 11pp.

Meriel Hahn and Peter Harris, “The Hobbled Peacemaker: America’s Inability to Satisfy North Korea,” *The International Spectator: Italian Journal of International Affairs* 57, no. 2 (2022): 52–67.

Peter Harris and Jared Morgan McKinney, “Goliath No More: Why American Threats of War Won’t Save Taiwan (Reply to Eric Chan),” *Parameters* 52, no. 1 (2022): 175–179.

Jared Morgan McKinney and Peter Harris, “Broken Nest: How China Might Still Be Deterred from Invading Taiwan,” *Parameters* 51, no. 4 (2021): 23–36.

- Awarded the 2021 Contemporary Strategy and Landpower Essay Award (1st place) for the best article published on the strategic role of landpower in an issue of *Parameters*.

Peter Harris, “The Case for Decolonizing the Chagos Islands: A Response to Bashfield,” *Journal of the Indian Ocean Region* 17, no. 2 (2021): 224–229.

Peter Harris and Peter Trubowitz, “The Politics of Power Projection: The Pivot to Asia, Its Failure, and the Future of American Primacy,” *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* 14, no. 2 (2021): 187–217.

Peter Harris, “Encountering the Military-Environmental Complex: Ten Years Since the Creation of the Chagos Marine Protected Area,” *Critical Military Studies* 7, no. 2 (2021): 255–258.

Peter Harris, “China and the United States: The Case for Smart Appeasement,” *Australian Journal of International Affairs* 75, no. 2 (2021): 129–136.

Peter Harris, “A Footprint of Unfreedom: The Future of Naval Support Facility Diego Garcia,” *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs* 3, no. 2 (2020): 78–97.

Peter Harris, “National Parks Worldwide,” in: Robert J. Duffy and Susan M. Opp, eds., *Environmental Issues Today: Choices and Challenges, Volume 2* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2020): 655–670.

Peter Harris, “American Internationalisms: Versailles and the Birth of America’s World Role,” *International History and Politics Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (2019): 12–14.

Peter Harris, “Entrenching Retrenchment: The Uphill Struggle to Shrink America’s World Role,” *Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs* 13, no. 2 (2019): 159–171.

Peter Trubowitz and Peter Harris, “The End of the American Century? Slow Erosion of the Domestic Sources of Usable Power,” *International Affairs* 95, no. 3 (2019): 619–639.

Peter Harris, “Why Trump Won’t Retrench: The Militarist Redoubt in American Foreign Policy,” *Political Science Quarterly* 133, no. 4 (2018/2019): 611–640.

- Selected for reprint in Jack Snyder, ed., *American Foreign Policy: Trump and After* (New York, NY: The Academy of Political Science, 2021).

Peter Harris, “How Does China Matter? A Research Agenda for International Relations,” *Mountain West Journal of Politics and Policy* 1, no. 1 (2018): 25–28.

Peter Harris, “China in British Politics: Western Unexceptionalism in the Shadow of China’s Rise,” *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* 10, no. 3 (2017): 241–267.

- Selected as “Editor’s Choice” for issue 10, no. 3.

Peter Harris, “Teaching the Territories in US Foreign Policy: Race and Empire in the American Experience,” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50, no. 2 (2017): 506–509.

Peter Harris, “The Self-Destruction of Pax Americana,” *Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs* 10, no. 1 (2016): 47–57.

Peter Harris, “Bracing for Brexit,” *The National Interest* 143 (2016): 43–52.

Peter Harris, “America’s Other Guantánamo: British Foreign Policy and the U.S. Base on Diego Garcia,” *The Political Quarterly* 86, no. 4 (2015): 507–514

Peter Harris, “The Imminent US Strategic Adjustment to China,” *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* 8, no. 3 (2015): 219–250.

- Selected as “Editor’s Choice” for issue 8, no. 3.
- Included in “Debating China-US Relations: A *CJIP* Reader” (2015).
- Included in “Debating China-US Strategic Competition: A *CJIP* Reader” (2018).

Peter Harris, “Why Law and Politics Matter for Marine Conservation: The Case of the Chagos Marine Protected Area,” *Environmental Policy and Law* 45, no. 5 (2015): 204–207.

Peter Harris, “Britannia Rules the Waves? The Law of the Sea, the British Indian Ocean Territory, and the Chagos Islanders’ Right to Return,” *Anthropology Today* 31, no. 3 (2015): 18–19.

Peter Trubowitz and Peter Harris, “When States Appease: British Appeasement in the 1930s,” *Review of International Studies* 41, no. 2 (2015): 289–311.

Peter Harris, “Militarism in Environmental Disguise: The Greenwashing of an Overseas Military Base,” *International Political Sociology* 9, no. 1 (2015): 19–36.

- Included in the *IPS* Virtual Issue: “Climate, Nature, and Contestation” (2017).

Peter Harris, “Problems with Power-Transition Theory: Beyond the Vanishing Disparities Thesis,” *Asian Security* 10, no. 3 (2014): 241–259.

Peter Harris, “Environmental Protection as International Security: Conserving the Pentagon’s Island Bases in the Asia-Pacific,” *International Journal: Canada’s Journal of Global Policy Analysis* 69, no. 3 (2014): 377–393.

- Awarded the Marvin Gelber Essay Prize for the best article by a junior scholar in an issue of *International Journal*.

Peter Harris, “Fortress, Safe Haven or Home? The Chagos MPA in Political Context,” *Marine Policy* 46 (2014): 19–21.

Peter Harris, “The Transatlantic Divide in (Undergraduate) International Relations,” *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* 12, no. 2 (2014): 229–235.

Peter Harris, “A Political Trilemma? International Security, Environmental Protection and Human Rights in the British Indian Ocean Territory,” *International Politics* 51, no. 1 (2014): 87–100.

Peter Harris, “Decolonising the Special Relationship: Diego Garcia, the Chagossians and Anglo-American Relations,” *Review of International Studies* 39, no. 3 (2013): 707–727.

Peter Harris, “Dead End or Crossroads? The Chagossians Fail in Strasbourg,” *Anthropology Today* 29, no. 3 (2013): 26.

Peter Harris, “Not Just a Military Base: Reframing Diego Garcia and the Chagos Islands,” *African Affairs* 110, no. 440 (2011): 491–499.

AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Large grants (total = \$605,200)

Stand Together Trust, 2025–2026 (\$50,000)

- Funding to support the second iteration of the Foreign Policy Impact Summer Institute—a multiweek symposium to train early-career academics in the fundamentals of policy-relevant scholarship and media engagement.

Charles Koch Foundation, 2024–2025 (\$50,000)

- Funding to support the inaugural Foreign Policy Impact Summer Institute—a multiweek symposium to train early-career academics in the fundamentals of policy-relevant scholarship and media engagement.

Carnegie Corporation of New York, 2022–2023 (\$450,000)

- Co-PIs: Sam Houghteling, Youngsung Kim, Allison White.
- Multiyear, interdisciplinary project to track the ways that foreign and national security policies affect local communities across the United States, producing a map of the distributive implications of US foreign policy and allowing communities to better understand their relationship to America's role in the world.

Charles Koch Foundation, 2021–2022 (\$55,200)

- Funding to support the writing of a book manuscript: *Why America Can't Retrench (And How It Might)*, subsequently published by Polity Press.

Awards, honors, and scholarships (selected)

Gordon and Joan Bishop Endowed Professorship. CSU Office of the Provost, 2026–present.

Nominee for Outstanding Service Award. CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2026.

CY Tung Scholar. Institute for Seaboard Education (Semester at Sea), Spring 2025.

Democracy Small Grant Program Award. CSU Office of the Vice President for Research, 2025.

Contemporary Strategy and Landpower Essay Award. *Parameters*, 2021.

Nominee for Outstanding Honors Academic Adviser Award. CSU Honors Program, 2019

Nominee for Distinguished Faculty Member of the Year Award. CSU Careers Center, 2019

Excellence in Teaching Award. CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2019

Nominee for Best Teacher Award. CSU Alumni Association, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2025

Nominee for the Excellence in Teaching Award. CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2017

Professional Development Program Award. CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2017, 2018, 2021, 2024

Faculty Development Fund Award for Outstanding Research and Creativity. CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2016

Dahrendorf Visiting Fellowship. London School of Economics and Political Science, 2016 (declined)

World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship. Smith Richardson Foundation, 2014–2015

Macdonald Tuition Award. University of Texas, Department of Government, 2014–2015

Travel Grant Award. International Studies Association, 2014, 2016 (declined)

Joe R. Long Dissertation Fellowship. University of Texas, Department of Government, 2014

Marvin Gelber Essay Prize. *International Journal*, 2014

Graduate Fellowship. University of Texas, Clements Center for National Security, 2013–2015

Macdonald Summer Fellowship. University of Texas, Department of Government, 2013

Ward Endowed Fellowship. University of Texas, College of Liberal Arts, 2013

Professional Development Award. University of Texas, Office of Graduate Studies, 2012, 2013, 2014

Macdonald Fellowship. University of Texas, Department of Government, 2010–2011

United Kingdom Chapter Scholarship. University of Texas, Texas Exes, 2010

DP Heatley Prize in Politics. University of Edinburgh, 2008

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Courses taught (* = graduate)

America as a Global Power

American Political Thought

American Presidency

Capstone Seminar: Hatred at Home and Abroad

Capstone Seminar: Research in Political Science

Capstone Seminar: Stateswomen and American Foreign Policy

Capstone Seminar: US-China Relations—Past, Present, and Future

Comparative Foreign Policy

Current World Problems

Great Power Transitions

History of US-China Relations Since 1800

International Law and Human Rights
 International Relations*
 International Security
 International Security Studies*
 Introduction to International Relations
 Issues and Policies in American Government
 Political Parties and Elections
 Qualitative Methods in Political Science*
 United States Foreign Policy

Advising and mentorship

PhD committees (as adviser):

- Sonia Lynn (ongoing – coursework stage)
- Joy Eghosa-Ewone (ongoing – coursework stage)
- Nathan Kaczynski (ongoing – advanced to candidacy in Spring 2026)
- Gabriella Gricius, PhD 2025ⁱ (Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Konstanz)
- Iren Marinova, PhD 2024 (Postdoctoral Fellow at SAIS, Johns Hopkins University)

MA committees (as adviser):

- Garrett Hanao, MA Political Science, ongoing
- David Dapaah, MA Political Science, 2023
- Danny Harmon, MA Political Science, 2021
- Marisa Molnar, MA Political Science, 2020
- Erin Statz, MA Political Science, 2018
- Elliott Schwebach, MA Political Science, 2017

Undergraduate Honors committees (as adviser):

- Grace Sjaastad (2026)
- Hannah Prinzi (2024)
- Thalia Gustina (2024)
- Peyton Dailey (2022)
- Hannah Cowie (2019)
- Taylor Bailey (2019)
- Cassie Gardner (2019)
- Eric Lanza (2016)

Internships (as adviser):

- Khalifa Omair – Consulate General of the United Arab Emirates in Houston (Summer 2026)
- Salem Alateeqi – Consulate General of the United Arab Emirates in Houston (Summer 2026)
- Kyle Kumjian – U.S. Marshals Service (Summer 2020–Spring 2021)
- Stephanie Talone – National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (Summer–Fall 2019)
- Danny Harmon – AK&P, LLP (Summer–Fall 2019)
- Jacob Czarnecki – Gulf State Analytics (Spring 2019)
- Saul Alvarez – Gulf State Analytics (Spring 2019)
- Samuel Gilman – AK&P, LLP (Spring 2019)
- Corrina Farho – AK&P, LLP (Spring 2019)
- Lizandro Pieper – AK&P, LLP (Spring 2019)
- Jordan Gerardy – AK&P, LLP (Fall 2018)
- Alan Linenberger – Gulf State Analytics (Summer 2018)

ⁱ I was replaced as chair in Spring 2025 by Dr. Iasmin Goes owing to my participation in Semester at Sea. Dr. Goes was recorded as the sole adviser at time of graduation.

- Mariah Wang – Gulf State Analytics (Summer 2018)
- Iren Marinova – AK&P, LLP (Summer 2018)
- Madison Taylor – AK&P, LLP (Summer 2018)
- Madison Taylor – Gulf State Analytics (Spring 2018)
- Josh Wolberg – Peace and Neutrality Alliance (Summer 2017)
- Erin Statz – National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (Summer 2017)

SERVICE, MEDIA, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

External engagement

- Participant, Legal Exchange Academic Delegation to Israel, Academic Engagement Network, Fall 2025.
- Director, Foreign Policy Impact Summer Institute, 2025, 2026.
- Non-Resident Fellow at Defense Priorities, 2021–present.
- Contributing Editor at 19FortyFive.com, 2020–2023 (22 articles).
- Contributor to RealClearPublicAffairs (Grand Strategy), 2019–2020 (nine articles).
- Additional (80+) articles, blogs, features, and op-eds for outlets such as ChinaFile (Asia Society), The Conversation, *The Diplomat*, Gulf State Analytics, *The Hill*, *New Statesman*, *Newsweek*, *Mauritius Times*, *Nikkei Asia*, openDemocracy, *Taiwan News*, *USA Today*, *War on the Rocks*, and *World Politics Review*.
- Letters to the editor in *The Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *LA Times*, and *South China Morning Post*.
- Work cited in outlets such as CNN.com and *The Washington Post*.
- Interviewed by local, national, and international news media such as Al Jazeera (USA), BBC (UK), China Central Television, *Crusoe* (Brazil), Denver7, Fox News, *Globe and Mail* (Canada), KKTU and KOAA News 5 (both Colorado Springs), *LA Times*, Mehr News Agency (Iran), *New Internationalist* (UK), *Nikkei Asia* (Japan), *South China Morning Post* (Hong Kong), *The Telegraph* (UK), *The Times* (UK), TRT World (Turkey), *VnExpress* (Vietnam), VOA Indonesia, and Xinhua News Agency (China).
- Podcasts with Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, Cato Institute, Centre for African Conflict & Development (London), ChinaTalk, John Quincy Adams Society, LSE United States Centre, and US Army War College Press.
- Reviewer for Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)’s Free Inquiry Grant program, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- Contributor to *The National Interest*, 2014–2021 (130+ articles).
- Analyst at Gulf State Analytics, 2015–2020.
- Invited speaker and panelist for organizations such as RAND Corporation (2024), Defense Priorities (2024), The Democracy Forum (2023), University of Mauritius (2022), Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement (2021), and Nanyang Technological University (2021).

Service to the discipline

- External reviewer (doctoral theses), National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, 2025, 2026.
- Reviewer, APSA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant program, Fall 2023.
- External reviewer (MPhil thesis), University of St. Andrews, 2022.
- Mentor, APSA Mentoring Program, 2021–2022.
- Editor of “Indo-Pacific Perspectives” series, *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs*, 2020–2022.
- Newsletter Editor for International History and Politics section of APSA, 2017–2019.
- Reviewer for *Antipode*, *Asian Security*, Bloomsbury Publishing, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies*, *China: An International Journal*, *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, *Coastal Management*, *CSU Journal of Undergraduate Research*, De Gruyter, Edinburgh University Press, *Energy and Policy Research*, *Environmental Politics*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Interdisciplinary Political Studies*, *International Affairs*, *International Relations*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Journal of World History*,

Marine Policy, Palgrave Macmillan, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Political Studies*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, Polity Press, *Review of International Studies*, Red Globe Press (Macmillan Education), Routledge, *SAGE Open*, *Texas National Security Review*, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, and W.W. Norton.

Departmental and university service

- Chair of the CSU College of Liberal Arts Democracy Summit, Spring 2027.
- Facilitator of Policy and Media Engagement Institute, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2026.
- Facilitator of Academic Job Market Bootcamp, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2026.
- Associate Chair, CSU Department of Political Science, 2025–present.
- Internal reviewer, Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program, CSU Office of the VP for Research, Fall 2025.
- Internal reviewer, NEH Summer Stipends, CSU Office of the VP for Research, Fall 2024.
- Reviewer, VPR Fellows Program, CSU Office of the VP for Research, Spring 2024.
- Research Awards Committee, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2023–2024.
- Co-organizer, “Leadership over Lunch” speaker series, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2023–2024.
- Awards Nominations Committee, 2023–2024 and 2024–2025.
- Curriculum Committee, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2022–present.
- Peace Corps Tribute Planning Committee, CSU Office of International Programs, 2022.
- Search Chair (International Relations), CSU Department of Political Science, Fall 2021.
- Facilitator, New Faculty Training (Online), CSU’s The Institute for Learning and Teaching, 2020.
- Departmental representative, CSU Faculty Council, 2018–2021.
- Executive Committee, CSU Department of Political Science, 2018–2019.
- Search Committee (American Politics), CSU Department of Political Science, Fall 2018.
- Graduate Committee, CSU Department of Political Science, 2015–2016, 2017–2018, 2020–2021.
- Online Teaching Committee, CSU Department of Political Science, 2016–2017.
- Mentor, Intellectual Entrepreneurship Pre-Graduate School Internship program, UT-Austin, 2011–2012.

Professional development

- Government Relations Faculty Ambassadors Initiative, CSU Office of the VP for Research, 2022–2023.
- Leadership Development Symposium, CSU College of Liberal Arts, 2022.

Professional memberships

- American Political Science Association
- International Studies Association
- Western Political Science Association

References available upon request.