

Rebecca H. Best

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science
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Professional Appointments

Assistant Professor, University of Missouri-Kansas City, 2012-present

Education

Ph.D., *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, 2012

M.A., *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, 2008

B.A., *East Carolina University*, 2006

Additional Methods Training

2010 Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Washington University in St. Louis

Research Interests

Insurgencies, terrorism, women in terrorism and insurgency, competition between non-state actors, bargaining models with state and non-state actors, civil war resolution, and reintegration and civic-engagement of female veterans and non-state combatants.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Best, Rebecca and Greg Vonnahme. "Military Service and Legislative Agendas: A study of legislators in four states." Forthcoming at *Armed Forces & Society*.

Best, Rebecca, Sarah Shair-Rosenfield, and Reed Wood. 2019. "Legislative Gender Diversity and the Resolution of Civil Conflict." *Political Research Quarterly* 72(1): 215-228.

Best, Rebecca and Navin Bapat. 2018. "Bargaining with Insurgencies in the Shadow of Infighting." *Journal of Global Security Studies* 3(1): 23-37.

Best, Rebecca, Christine Carpino, and Mark J. C. Crescenzi. 2013. "An Analysis of the TABARI Coding System." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 30(4): 335-348.

Crescenzi, Mark J. C., Rebecca H. Best, and Bo Ram Kwon. 2010. "Reciprocity in International Politics" In Robert Denemark et. al. eds. *The International Studies Compendium Project*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Book Chapters

Best, Rebecca. "Alternative Paths to Terrorism: Women's Participation in Non-State Political Violence." In *Invisible Veterans: What happens when military women become civilians again*. Kate Hendricks Thomas and Kyleanne Hunter (eds.). Forthcoming in August 2019. ABC-CLIO

Articles under Review

Best, Rebecca and Simanti Lahiri. "Understanding Proscription: A Look at the State Department's list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations."

Best, Rebecca, Kyleanne Hunter, and Kate Hendricks Thomas. "Fighting for a Seat at the Table: Cognitive-Institutional Reinforcement and Women's Underrepresentation."

Other Publications

Best, Rebecca and Jeremy Teigen. Nov 14, 2018. "An unprecedented number of female military veterans ran as Democrats this year. Here's why they were unusually successful." *Washington Post/Monkey Cage*. Available: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/11/14/an-unprecedented-number-of-women-military-veterans-ran-as-democrats-this-year-heres/?utm_term=.2e482c681c0a

Best, Rebecca. 2009. "Panopticism and the use of "the Other" in *To Kill A Mockingbird*." *Mississippi Quarterly: The Journal of Southern Cultures* 62(3/4): 541-552.

Working Papers

"Unpacking Women's Participation in Peace Processes" (with Elizabeth Brannon)

"The Double Bind and How Female Veterans are Changing the Face of Congress and the Country."

"See G.I. Jane Run: The rise of female military veterans candidates for Congress" (with Theresa Schroeder and Jeremy Teigen)

"Veteran Reintegration and Office Seeking: Understanding the Gendered Dynamics of Veteran Political Candidates."

"Reevaluating the Interplay of Conflict and Cooperation in Entrenched Civil Conflicts." (with Jon Kropko).

Conference Presentations

International Studies Association - 2009, 2012, 2019

International Studies Association (Midwest) - 2013, 2018

Peace Science Society (International) North American Meeting - 2010, 2011, 2014, 2017

Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association - 2010, 2011, 2013, 2017, 2018

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting - 2014, 2017

New Horizons in Conflict Analysis: Applications to the Middle East - 2011

Selected Invited Talks & Guest Lecture

Panelist, “America’s Long War,” Park University, Parkville, MO - 2019

Women at War, United States Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS - 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Kansas City Repertory Scholars’ Forum, Copaken Stage, Kansas City, MO - 2016

“Terrorist Motives and the Portrayal of Terrorism in *the Invisible Hand*.” The Artist in Society, University of Missouri at Kansas City, Oct 25, 2016.

“ISIS: An Introduction,” Asbury United Methodist Church, Prairie Village, KS, 2015.

Grants and Awards

Chancellor’s Early Career Award for Excellence in Teaching, \$1,500, 2019

Dirksen Congressional Center Congressional Research Award, \$3,500, Spring 2019

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award, \$1,000, 2017

UMKC Friends of the Library Grant to purchase *The International Relations Encyclopedia*, \$3,170, Spring 2014.

Teaching

Courses Taught

Introduction to International Relations, Politics of the Middle East, Terrorism and Political Violence, Graduate Seminar in International Relations, International Conflict and Cooperation (previously International Security), International Conflict Resolution and Cooperation, Women and Conflict, Women, Gender, and Conflict (General Education version)

Dissertation Committees

Brian Steed

Chris Johnson

Zhou Chen

Academic Service

Service to the Discipline

Editorial Board Member: *International Interactions*, 2019 - 2021

Governing Council, Member at Large: International Studies Association - Midwest, Nov 2018 - Nov 2020

Peer Reviewer

Oxford University Press, Polity Press, University of Missouri Research Board Grant Proposal, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *International Interactions*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Studies Review*, *Poverty and Public Policy*, *Social Science Computer Review*, *International Studies Review*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Research Quarterly*

Department and University Service

Member, College of Arts & Sciences Award Committee, 2018 - present

Guest Speaker Coordinator, Department of Political Science, 2015-present

Departmental Representative, Freshmen and Transfer Orientation, 2013-Present

Departmental Representative, Experience UMKC, 2014-present

Social Media Coordinator, Department of Political Science, 2013-present

Introduced speakers (Amb. Michael McFaul and George Packer), Cockefair Lecture Series, 2015 and 2018

Judge, Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Missouri at Kansas City, 2017, 2018, 2019

Member, Graduate Admissions and Curriculum Committee, Department of Political Science, 2012-present

Senior Thesis Advisor, 2013-2019

Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Political Science, 2012-2017

Reviewer, University of Missouri Research Board Grants, 2014

Member, Development Committee for IS Minor, 2014-2015

Member, Comparative Politics Search Committee, Political Science Department, 2012

Member, Judicial Politics Search Committee, Political Science Department, 2012

Media and Public Appearances Related to Research

KMBC, Mar 18, 2019, New Zealand Terror Attacks

Connecting Vets, Oct 29, 2018, 'Show us your combat ribbon:' attacks on female veteran candidates

KCTV5, May 23, 2017, ISIS claims attack at Arianna Grande concert

KCTV5, Apr 14, 2017, MOAB, ISIS, and North Korea

KCTV5, Apr 7, 2017, US Missile Strikes in Syria

KCTV5, Feb 22, 2017, ISIS Supporter Arrested in Missouri

KCTV5, Jan 30, 2017, Effects of Travel Ban

KCTV5, Sept 19, 2016, New York and New Jersey bombings
KMBC, Aug 16, 2016, Sovereign Citizens in Kansas City
FOX4 and KCTV5, Jul 18, 2016, Sovereign Citizen Movement
KCTV5, Jul 15, 2016, Soft targets of terrorism
KCTV5, Jun 12, 2016, Orlando Nightclub Shooting
Kansas City Star, Dec 15, 2015, interview with reporter Mara Williams on terrorism
KCTV5, Dec 3, 2015, San Bernardino attack
KMBZ Kansas City's Morning News, 98.1 FM, May 6, 2015, on Garland, TX terrorist attack
KMBC, May 5, 2015, Garland, TX terrorist attack
KMBC, Dec 9, 2014, Report on CIA interrogation techniques
KSHB, Jul 2013, Morsi removed from power, crackdown against Muslim Brotherhood, etc.
FOX4, KMBC, and KCTV5, Apr 15, 2013, Boston Marathon bombings

Updated July 23, 2019.