

# Daniel Masterson

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## Academic Appointments

Postdoctoral Fellow Immigration Policy Lab, Stanford University  
September 2018 – summer 2020

## Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Yale University, 2018 with distinction  
M.A., M.Phil., en route, 2016  
M.P.P. Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, 2011  
B.A. Political Science, Bates College, 2006  
*Study Abroad:* American University in Cairo, Academic Year 2004-05

## Writing and Research

### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

1. "Refugees, Mobilization, and Humanitarian Aid: Evidence from the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Lebanon." With M. Christian Lehmann. Forthcoming at the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

### *Working Papers*

2. "Does Halting Refugee Resettlement Reduce Crime? Evidence From a Natural Experiment." With Vasil Yasenov.
3. "Cooperation, Resources, and Network Structure. Theory and Evidence from the Syrian Refugee Crisis."
4. "Does Humanitarian Aid Reduce Anti-Refugee Violence? Evidence from Syrian Refugees in Lebanon." With M. Christian Lehmann.
5. "US Refugee Aid and Civil Conflict." With M. Christian Lehmann.
6. "Are Cash Transfers Effective Humanitarian Aid in Refugee Crises?" With M. Christian Lehmann.

### *Policy Publications*

7. *Syrian Refugees and Their Hosts in Jordan, Lebanon, and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Lives, Livelihoods, and Local Impacts*. The World Bank. *Unpublished book-length report*. With Nandini Krishnan, Tara Vishwanath, Monica Biradavolu, Kevin Carey, Matthew Groh, Meghan Lucas, Nethra Palaniswamy, Flavio Russo Riva, Dhiraj Sharma, Thomas Ginn and Jacob Goldston.

8. "Giving More Through Direct Cash Aid." *Refugees Deeply*. July 20, 2016.
9. "Giving Better: Lessons from Cash Grants for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon." AUB IFI Policy Brief. 2015. *Also published in Arabic*.
10. "Impact Evaluation of the 2014-15 Winter Cash Assistance Programme for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon." UNHCR. September 2015. With Khalil El Asmar.
11. "Impact Evaluation of a Cash-Transfer Programme for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon." *Field Exchange*. November 2014. With M. Christian Lehmann.
12. "Emergency Economies: The Impact of Cash Assistance in Lebanon." International Rescue Committee report. September 2014. With M. Christian Lehmann.
13. "An American Dream: The Broken Iraqi Refugee Resettlement Program and How to Fix It." *Harvard Kennedy School Review*. Spring 2010.

### Book Chapters

14. "Preparing for the Unknown: Fieldwork Preparation and Risk Assessment for Research in Hostile Environments." *SAFE Research in Hostile Environments: A Systematic Handbook for Fieldwork Protection and Digital Security in the Social Sciences*. Jannis Grimm, Kevin Koehler, Ellen Lust, Ilyas Saliba, and Isabell Schierenbeck eds. Forthcoming with *SAGE Publications*. With Kevin Koehler, Sylvain Lefebvre, and Francesco Strazzari.

### Book Reviews

15. Book review of Noel Brehony's *Yemen Divided* and Christopher Boucek and Marina Ottaway's *Yemen on the Brink*. *International Affairs*. May 2012.

### Other Publications

16. "The Ethical Challenges of Field Research in the Syrian Refugee Crisis." 2019. *APSA MENA Newsletter*. With Lama Mourad.

### Ongoing Field Projects

17. "Understanding the Dynamics of Refugee Return." With Ala' Alrababa'h, Marine Casalis, Dominik Hangartner, and Jeremy Weinstein.
18. "How Can Humanitarian Actors Effectively Spread Information During a Crisis? A Field Experiment in Leveraging Networks to Increase Positive Spillovers." With Maria Micaela Sviatschi.

## Awards, Grants, and Research Funding

Innovations for Poverty Action, Peace & Recovery for "Understanding the Dynamics of Refugee Return" (2019 – 2021, \$149,578)

World Bank, dissertation research conducted as part of World Bank research project on Syrian refugees (2015, >\$200,000)

Principal Investigator and Research Manager for DFID grant for cash aid impact evaluation in Lebanon (2014, \$88,000)

Arthur K. Watson Fellowship (AY 2016-2017)

Yale University Dissertation Fellowship (Spring 2015 and Summer and Fall 2017, \$27,000 in total)

Georg Walter Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy Grant (Summers 2015 and 2016, \$9,000 in total)

MacMillan Center International Dissertation Research Grant (AY 2015 – 16, \$15,000)

POMEPS Travel-Research-Engagement Grant (Spring 2015, \$3,000)

Governance and Local Development Fellowship (AY 2013 – 14, \$5,000)

Yale University Fellowship (2011 – 2018)

Harvard Kennedy School Dubai Initiative: Thesis Research Grant (\$2,500)

Harvard Kennedy School Center for International Development: Thesis Research Grant (\$1,500)

## Selected Presentations

- 2019 APSA  
MESA  
American University in Beirut  
University of San Francisco
- 2018 APSA  
Program on Governance and Local Development Annual Conference  
Yale ISPS Experiments Workshop
- 2017 APSA  
MESA  
MPSA  
Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference  
Yale University, Order, Conflict, and Violence Workshop  
Program on Governance and Local Development Annual Conference  
Yale University Comparative Politics Workshop  
Columbia University, Department of Political Science and SIPA
- 2016 Yale University Leitner Political Economy Student Workshop  
Yale ISPS Experiments Workshop
- 2015 Yale ISPS Experiments Workshop  
UNHCR Beirut
- 2014 IRC/UNHCR research dissemination  
Center for Global Development (London)  
Yale University, Order, Conflict, and Violence Workshop
- 2013 Harvard-Yale-MIT Conference on Political Violence

## Teaching Experience

Teaching Fellow for PLSC 503 “Foundations of Statistical Inference,” taught by Professor Peter Aronow.  
Yale University, Department of Political Science. Spring Semester 2018

Teaching Fellow and Section Leader for PLSC 512 "The Design and Analysis of Randomized Field Experiments," taught by Professor Alex Coppock. Yale University, Department of Political Science. Spring Semester 2017

Teaching Fellow and Section Leader for PLSC 504 "Advanced Quantitative Methods," taught by Professor Allan Dafoe. Yale University, Department of Political Science. Fall Semester 2014

Course Assistant for DPI 101 C "Political Institutions and Public Policy," taught by Professor Tarek Masoud. Harvard Kennedy School. Spring Semester 2011

Course Assistant for IGA 101 "International Relations: Theory and Practice," taught by Professors Stephen Walt and Matthew Baum. Harvard Kennedy School. Fall Semester 2010

Course Assistant for IGA 207 "Middle Eastern Politics and Policy," taught by Professor Tarek Masoud. Harvard Kennedy School. Spring Semester 2010

## Regional Experience

Lebanon (1 month), Dissertation research, May 2017

Lebanon (20 months), Dissertation research, February 2015 – October 2016

Lebanon (10 months), Language study and research, October 2013 – August 2014

Lebanon (1 month), Language study, Summer 2012

Jordan (1 month), Masters research, January 2011

Yemen (3 months), Masters research, Summer 2010

Yemen (2 months), Language study, Summer 2008

Syria (12 months), Work (UNHCR) and language study, May 2007 – May 2008

Egypt (9 months), Study-abroad (AUC), August 2004 – May 2005

## Policy and Program Work

World Bank. Research Consultant. Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Bangladesh, and Ecuador. October 2015 – present

United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR). Consultant – Unconditional Cash Transfer Impact Evaluation. Lebanon. February – April 2015

International Rescue Committee. Principal Investigator and Research Manager – Impact Evaluation of UN Cash Transfer Program. Lebanon. February – August 2014

A Plate for All. Founding Executive Director. May 2008 – December 2011

*A Plate for All is an NGO that financed food aid and nutrition programs for under-served displaced populations, focusing on Iraqis in Syria.*

## Training and Skills

### *Languages*

Fluent Levantine Arabic, advanced Modern Standard Arabic

### *Arabic Programs*

Institut français du Proche-Orient, Beirut. AY 2013–2014

Arabic coursework at Yale, 2011–2013

Middlebury Arabic Program, Summer 2011

Sana‘a Institute for the Arabic Language (SIAL), Sana‘a, Summer 2010

Arabic coursework at Harvard, 2009–2011

Center for Arabic Language and Eastern Studies (CALES), Sana‘a, Spring 2008

Private tutoring, Damascus, Summer 2007 – Spring 2008

American University in Cairo study abroad, Cairo, AY 2004–2005

## Media Interviews and Citations

[CityLab](#), February 6, 2019; [Bloomberg](#), January 7, 2019; [La Croix](#) (France), January 27, 2017; [The National](#) (UAE), January 27, 2017; [The New York Times](#), September 13, 2016; [The New York Review of Books](#), October 13, 2016; Documentary film, “Lebanon and Syrian Refugees,” directed by Kasper van Laarhoven; [IRIN News “Top Picks,”](#) March, 2016; [Quartz](#), August 7, 2016; [Newsday](#), [BBC World Service](#) October 31, 2014 (radio interview); [The Daily Star](#) (Lebanon), October 24, 2014; [The Daily Mail](#), October 24, 2014; [Humanosphere](#), October 24, 2014; [Reuters](#), October 23, 2014; [Voice of America](#), October 23, 2014; [Vox](#), October 3, 2014; [The Independent](#), September 28, 2014 (front page, print edition); Documentary film, “The Translator,” directed by Euna Lee on American Iraqi refugee resettlement policy, June 2012; [TIME](#), February 2011; [TIME](#), January 2011; [TIME](#), November 2010; [Wall Street Journal](#), September 2010; Abu Dhabi Television’s *Viewpoint with James Zogby*, August 13, 2009 (television interview)

## Professional Service

Referee for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *International Development Planning Review*, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), and *Political Science Research and Methods*

## Professional Membership

2013 – present American Political Science Association

2017 – present Middle East Studies Association

## References

Elisabeth Wood (Chair)  
Professor of Political Science and International and Area Studies  
Yale University  
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Peter Aronow  
Associate Professor in the Departments of Political Science and Biostatistics  
Yale University  
peter.aronow@yale.edu

Ellen Lust  
Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Gothenburg  
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Jeremy Weinstein  
Professor, Department of Political Science  
Stanford University  
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