

Benjamin Helms

Assistant Professor · Bush School of Government and Public Service · Texas A&M University
4220 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843
✉ benhelms@tamu.edu ☎ (704) 776 - 1080 🌐 benjaminhelms.com · Updated: Aug. 30, 2023

Academic Appointments

Texas A&M University, Bush School of Government and Public Service August 2023 -
Assistant Professor, Department of International Affairs

Carnegie Mellon University 2022 - 2023
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Politics and Strategy

Education

University of Virginia, PhD, Politics 2022

Fields: International relations and comparative politics

Dissertation: Global Economic Integration and Politics in Emerging Economies

Committee: David Leblang (chair), Sonal Pandya, Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner, Sheetal Sekhri (UVA Economics), and Rikhil Bhavnani (University of Wisconsin)

University of Virginia, MA, Politics 2018

Wake Forest University, BA, Economics and Politics 2016

Publications

Book

Leblang, David and Benjamin Helms. 2023. *The Ties That Bind: Immigration and the Global Political Economy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Peer-reviewed articles

Helms, Benjamin. 2023. "Exit or Voice? Corruption Perceptions and Emigration." *Studies in Comparative International Development*, Online First.

Helms, Benjamin. 2023. "Global Economic Integration and Nativist Politics in Emerging Economies." *American Journal of Political Science*, Early View.

Helms, Benjamin and David Leblang. 2022. "Labor Market Policy as Immigration Control: The Case of Temporary Protected Status." *International Studies Quarterly*, 66 (3), sqac042.

Helms, Benjamin and David Leblang. 2019. "Global Migration: Causes and Consequences." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Research

Articles under review

"War on Aisle 5: Casualties, National Identity, and Consumer Behavior" (with Sonal Pandya and Rajkumar Venkatesan). Revised and resubmitted to *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

Articles in progress

"[Bartering Bureaucrats: Foreign Direct Investment Shapes Governance](#)" (with Sonal Pandya and Sheetal Sekhri). *In preparation for submission.*

"[International Migration and Interstate Conflict](#)" (with David Leblang and Philip Potter). *In preparation for submission.*

"Global Economic Integration and the Political Economy of Education Provision." *Draft in progress.*

"Monetary Policy and International Migration." *Draft in progress.*

"International Migration and Foreign Investment in Host Communities" (with David Leblang). *Draft in progress.*

"Highway Through the Danger Zone: Thresholds of Democratic Survival and Breakdown" (with Jonathan Kropko, David Leblang, and Anne Meng). *Draft in progress.*

Teaching

Professor, Principles of International Affairs (TAMU) [Syllabus]	Fall 2023
Professor, Political Economy of International Migration (CMU) [Syllabus]	Spring 2023
Professor, Graduate Seminar in International Relations (CMU) [Syllabus]	Fall 2022
Instructor, Introduction to IR (UVA) [Syllabus]	Summer 2022
Instructor, Introduction to IPE (UVA) [Syllabus]	Summer and Fall 2020
Instructor, Introduction to IR (University of Richmond) [Syllabus]	Fall 2020

Public Scholarship

Leblang David, Benjamin Helms et al. 2019 (January). "[Temporary Protected Status and Immigration to the United States.](#)" Cato Institute Research Briefs in Economic Policy No. 147.

Leblang David, Benjamin Helms et al. 2018 (August). "[By ending 'temporary protected status' for half a million people, Trump has probably increased illegal migration.](#)" *The Monkey Cage, Washington Post.*

Research Experience

Project Coordinator 2017 - 2018

Modeling International Migrant Flows: Theory, Evidence and Forecasts
Department of Homeland Security research grant

PI: David Leblang, University of Virginia

Mentored and coordinated a team of undergraduate and graduate research assistants on social science research methods and statistical software packages. Responsible for data acquisition, management, and cleaning. Collaborated on project deliverables.

Graduate Research Assistant

David Leblang	2017 – 2019
Sonal Pandya	2018 – 2022
Anne Meng	2017 – 2019

Presentations

APSA	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (planned)
International Political Economy Society	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (planned)
MPSA	2018, 2019, 2022
Global Research in International Political Economy (GRIPE)	2022
Center for Advanced Study of India Graduate Student Workshop, UPenn	2021
Lansing Lee/Bankard Seminar in Global Politics, UVA	2021
Graduate Student IPE Workshop (GSIPE)	2020
Commonwealth Conference on National Defense and Intelligence	2018
BTI Institute and Department of Homeland Security Performers' Showcase	2017

Awards, Fellowships, and Service

Research Fellow, Mosbacher Institute for Trade, Economics, and Public Policy	2023-
J.H. Adam Watson Memorial Award, UVA	2021
Bankard Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Political Economy, UVA	2021 – 2022
Coordinator, Lansing Lee/Bankard Seminar in Global Politics, UVA	2019 – 2021
Quantitative Collaborative Graduate Student Affiliate, UVA	2017 – 2022
Discussant, Virtual IPES	2019
Phi Beta Kappa, Wake Forest University	2016
Reviewer for <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences	

Skills

R, Stata, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS, web scraping

References

David Leblang
Taylor Professor of Politics
Department of Politics
University of Virginia
leblang@virginia.edu

Sonal Pandya
Associate Professor
Department of Politics
University of Virginia
spandya@virginia.edu

Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner
Associate Professor
Department of Politics
University of Virginia
gkk5x@virginia.edu

Rikhil Bhavnani
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin
bhavnani@wisc.edu