

# DARIN CHRISTENSEN

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[darinchristensen.com](http://darinchristensen.com)

- APPOINTMENT:** Associate Professor of Public Policy, UCLA, Jul. 2022—  
Assistant Professor of Public Policy, UCLA, Jul. 2016—Jun. 2022  
Courtesy appointment in Political Science, Jul. 2018—
- EDUCATION:** *Stanford University* (2011—2016)  
Ph.D. Political Science  
M.A. Economics  
*Duke University* (2004—2008)  
A.B. Political Science & German, *Summa Cum Laude*
- AFFILIATIONS:**
- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| California Center for Population Research  | Faculty Affiliate  |
| Center for Effective Global Action         | Faculty Affiliate  |
| Evidence in Governance and Politics        | Member             |
| Project on Resources and Governance        | Executive Director |
| Stanford's Immigration Policy Lab          | Faculty Affiliate  |
| UCLA African Studies Center                | Faculty Affiliate  |
| UCLA Center for Social Statistics          | Faculty Affiliate  |
| Working Group on African Political Economy | Faculty Member     |
- WORKING PAPERS:**
- WP 4. with Ana De La O et al., "Fiscal Contracts? A Six-country Randomized Experiment on Transaction Costs, Public Services, and Taxation in Developing Countries."
  - WP 3. with Alex Hartman, Cyrus Samii & Alessandro Toppeta, "Interest-based Negotiation over Natural Resources: Experimental Evidence from Liberia."
  - WP 2. with Michael Gibilisco & Graeme Blair, "The Point of Attack: Where and Why Does Oil Cause Armed Conflict in Africa?"
  - WP 1. with Francisco Garfias, "Promoting Business Formalization: Experimental Evidence from Colombia."
- ARTICLES:**
- A 17. with Michael Gibilisco, "How Budgets Shape Power Sharing in Autocracies." Accepted, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*.
  - A 16. with Graeme Blair & Valerie Wirtschafter, "How Does Armed Conflict Shape Investment? Evidence from the Mining Sector." *Journal of Politics* 84:1 (2021): 116-133.
  - A 15. with Francisco Garfias, "The Politics of Property Taxation: Fiscal Infrastructure and Electoral Incentives in Brazil." *Journal of Politics* 83:4 (2021): 1399-1416.
  - A 14. with Tara Slough et al., "Adoption of Community Monitoring Improves Common Pool Resource Management across Contexts." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118:29 (2021).
  - A 13. with Alex Hartman & Cyrus Samii, "Citizen Monitoring Promotes Informed and Inclusive Forest Governance in Liberia." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118:29 (2021).

- A 12. with Alex Hartman & Cyrus Samii, "Legibility and External Investment: An Institutional Natural Experiment in Liberia." *International Organization* (2021).
- A 11. with Graeme Blair & Aaron Rudkin, "Do Commodity Price Shocks Cause Armed Conflict? A Meta-Analysis of Natural Experiments." *American Political Science Review* 115:2 (2021): 709-716.
- A 10. with Oeindrila Dube, Johannes Haushofer, Bilal Siddiqi & Maarten Voors, "Building Resilient Health Systems: Experimental Evidence from Sierra Leone and the 2014 Ebola Outbreak." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 136:2 (2021): 1145-98.
- A 9. with Oeindrila Dube, Johannes Haushofer, Bilal Siddiqi & Maarten Voors, "Community-based Crisis Response: Evidence from Sierra Leone's Ebola Outbreak." *AEA Papers & Proceedings* 110 (2020): 260-64.
- A 8. with Simon Ejdemyr, "Do Elections Improve Constituency Responsiveness? Evidence from U.S. Cities." *Political Science Research and Methods* 8:3 (2020): 459-76.
- A 7. with Mai Nguyen & Renard Sexton, "Strategic Violence during Democratization: Evidence from Myanmar." *World Politics* 71:2 (2019): 332-366.
- A 6. "Concession Stands: How Mining Investments Incite Protest in Africa." *International Organization* 73:1 (2019): 65-101.
- A 5. "The Geography of Repression in Africa." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 62:7 (2018): 1517-1543.
- A 4. with Francisco Garfias, "Can You Hear Me Now? How Communication Technology Affects Protest and Repression." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 13:1 (2018): 89-117.
- A 3. with David K Hausman, "Measuring the Economic Effect of Alien Tort Statute Liability." *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 32:4 (2016): 794-815.
- A 2. (pre-PhD) with Erik Wibbels, "Labor Standards, Labor Endowments, and the Evolution of Inequality." *International Studies Quarterly*, 58:2 (2014): 362-79.
- A 1. with Jeremy M. Weinstein, "Defunding Dissent: Restrictions on Aid to NGOs." *Journal of Democracy* 24:2 (2013): 77-91.

BOOKS &  
CHAPTERS:

- B 2. with Francisco Garfias, "Political Economy." In Andrew Rudalevige and Joshua Tucker, *A Political Science Experiment*. New York: CritReview (2023).
- B 1. with David D. Laitin, *African States Since Independence: Order, Development, & Democracy*. New Haven: Yale University Press (2019).

REPORTS:

- R 5. with Feyaad Allie, Guy Grossman & Jeremy Weinstein, "Using IOM Flow Monitoring Data to Describe Migration in West and Central Africa." The Immigration Policy Lab (2021).
- R 4. PRG, IPIS, SFR & Ulula, "Evaluating Due Diligence Programs for Conflict Minerals: A Matched Analysis of 3T Mines in Eastern DRC." (2020).
- R 3. with Bilal Siddiqi & Maarten Voors, "Tracking concession activity: A census in Sierra Leone." The International Growth Centre (2018).
- R 2. Contributor, "The Contested Areas of Myanmar." The Asia Foundation (2017).

- R 1. with Thiemo Fetzner, ["Correction For Spatial And Temporal Auto-Correlation In Panel Data: Using R To Estimate Spatial HAC Errors Per Conley."](#) *R-bloggers* (September 2015).

GRANTS:

- 2023: with Avi Ahuja, Alexandra Hartman, Cyrus Samii & Parley Liberia, JPAL-KCAI: \$66k
- 2022: with Allison Grossman, Guy Grossman, Jeremy Weinstein & Mercy Corps, FID: \$950k  
with Allison Grossman, Guy Grossman, Jeremy Weinstein & Mercy Corps, GIF: \$230k  
with Allison Grossman, Guy Grossman, Jeremy Weinstein & Mercy Corps, Wellspring: \$700k
- 2021: with Graeme Blair, Hewlett Foundation: \$800k  
with Allison Grossman, Guy Grossman, Jeremy Weinstein & Mercy Corps, JPAL-JOI: \$69k  
with Guy Grossman, Jeremy Weinstein & Mercy Corps, OPP: \$1 mil
- 2020: with Graeme Blair, IGC Grant: \$26k.
- 2019: International Peace Information Service, \$39k  
with Graeme Blair & Michael Ross, IGC Grant: \$26k  
with Kevin Grieco, IGC Grant: \$26k
- 2018: with Graeme Blair & Michael Ross, Hewlett Foundation: \$1.4 mil.  
with Graeme Blair & Renard Sexton, EDI Pilot Grant: \$30k  
CCPR Junior Faculty Course Release  
with Graeme Blair & Renard Sexton, PRG Scoping Grant: \$8k
- 2017: with Jeremy Weinstein, JPAL-CVI Travel Grant: \$10k  
with Graeme Blair, Laura Paler & Michael Ross, Hewlett Foundation: \$600k  
with Francisco Garfias, EGAP Grant: \$226k  
with Alex Hartman & Cyrus Samii, EGAP Grant: \$275k  
with Graeme Blair & Renard Sexton, Development Innovation Lab/USAID: \$5k  
with Francisco Garfias, Policy Design and Evaluation Lab at UCSD: \$15k  
with Mai Nguyen & Renard Sexton, IGC Grant: \$30k
- 2016: with Graeme Blair & Chad Hazlett, UCLA Dean's Opportunity Fund: \$1.5k  
with Bilal Siddiqi & Maarten Voors, IGC Grant: \$66k  
with Bilal Siddiqi & Maarten Voors, EDI Travel Grant: \$7k  
with Francisco Garfias, SEED PhD I-Award: \$7k
- 2015: with Teevrat Garg, Jed Friedman & Ty Turley,  
World Bank i2i Preparation Grant: \$50k
- 2014: with Bilal Siddiqi & Peter van der Windt, World Bank i2i Preparation Grant: \$25k
- 2012: Stanford Center for African Studies, Summer Research Grant: \$5k

TALKS:

- 2023: Center for Effective Global Action\*, University of California San Diego\*, University of Washington\* (\* = Invited)
- 2022: Berggruen Governance Index, Empirical Studies of Conflict, SoCal Political Economy and Institutions Workshop, Vanderbilt
- 2021: Center for Global Development, University of Konstanz
- 2020: APSA, Empirical Studies of Conflict, UC Santa Barbara, Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade, UCLA Master's of Applied Social Science

2019: APSA, CEAGA-DIME (World Bank) Measuring Development, Empirical Studies of Conflict, London School of Economics, International Growth Centre, Ostrom Workshop Young Scholars Symposium, Peking University Taxation and Fiscal Capacity Workshop, Strategy and Business Environment, University College of London

2018: APSA, UCLA Sociology, Political Institutions and Economic Policy, PRG, Annual Bank Conference on Africa, Working Group on African Political Economy

2017: Annual Bank Conference on Africa, EPSA, Empirical Studies of Conflict, Stanford Center for African Studies, UC Riverside Applied Micro, World Bank DIME

2016: Empirical Studies of Conflict, Strategy and the Business Environment, Working Group on African Political Economy

2015: APSA, African Studies Association, MPSA

TEACHING:

Politics and Policymaking (MPP): 23S

Comparative Analysis of Wealth, Policy, and Power (UG): 19S, 20S, 20F, 21S, 22W, 23W

Tools for Causal Inference (MPP). 16W, 18S, 20S, 20F, 22W

Introduction to Data Science Using R (MPP). 16F, 18S

Political Economy of Development (MPP). 16F, 18S

Politics of Order and Development (POD) Lab, Faculty Organizer. 2018—2021

Improving Designs in the Social Sciences (IDSS), Faculty Organizer. 2016—2018

ADVISEES:

Kevin Grieco (Co-Chair) ABD

Aurora Echavarría Canales ABD

Jiyoung Kim ABD

Frank Wyer (Co-Chair) Naval Postgraduate School (post-doc)

WORK

Development International, *IE Consultant*, Jun. 2023—

EXPERIENCE:

Project: Implementing the OECD's M&E Framework for Responsible Minerals Supply Chains

Apple Inc., *IE Consultant*, Jul. 2018—Nov. 2020

Project: Evaluation of Due Diligence Programs in the Mining Sector

The Asia Foundation, *Research Specialist*, Nov. 2016—Mar. 2017

Project: Contested Areas of Myanmar

The World Bank, *IE Consultant*, Aug. 2015—Aug. 2016

Cloudburst Group, *IE Consultant*, Aug. 2014—Aug. 2015

Project: USAID's Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development (Guinea)

The Tobin Project, *Program Manager*, Jan. 2009—May 2011

Internships: German Bundestag, German Marshall Fund, American Academy in Berlin

SKILLS:

Language: English (First) & German

Software: C++, Python, R & Stata

Other Training:

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Duke University, Jun.—Jul. 2014

ICME Machine Learning Short Course, Stanford University, Aug. 2014

REFEREE: *American Economic Journal: Applied; American Journal of Political Science; American Political Science Review; British Journal of Political Science; Comparative Political Studies; Conflict Management and Peace Science; Economics & Politics; International Organization; International Studies Quarterly; Journal of Conflict Resolution; Journal of Law, Economics & Organization; Journal of Politics; Perspectives on Politics; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Review of Economics and Statistics; Studies in Comparative International Development; World Politics*

SERVICE ROLES: Department Representative to the Academic Senate, 2018—2023  
Department Vice Chair, 2022—