

**Dr. Adam B. Lerner, FHEA FRHistS**

Associate Professor of Political Science

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Last updated: May 2025

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**EMPLOYMENT**

**University of Massachusetts, Lowell**

- Associate Professor of Political Science (with tenure), September 2023 – present
- Associate Director of the Global Studies PhD Program, September 2025 - present

**Royal Holloway, University of London**

- Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) of Politics and International Relations, August 2022 – August 2023
- Deputy Director, Royal Holloway Centre for International Security (RHISC), September 2019 – August 2023
- Lecturer (Assistant Professor) of Politics and International Relations, September 2019 – July 2022

**EDUCATION**

**University of Cambridge**, PhD, Department of Politics and International Studies, defended/provisionally awarded November 2019, confirmed March 2020 (delay due to faculty strikes)

- **Fields of study:** International Relations, Political Theory, Development Studies
- **Dissertation:** “From the Ashes of History: Post-Traumatic Nationalism and State-Building in India and Israel.” (passed with no corrections)
  - Supervisors: Prof. Shailaja Fennell, Prof. Duncan Bell

**University of Cambridge**, MPhil, Centre for South Asian Studies, 2016 (first class degree, awarded with distinction)

- Thesis: “Bhopal’s Long Shadow: Development Politics in the Wake of History’s Worst Industrial Disaster.”
  - Supervisors: Prof. Joya Chatterji, Prof. Shailaja Fennell

**Cornell University**, BA in English with a minor in International Relations, 2013 (*summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa)

**Additional Training and Skills**

- Certificate in Data Science: Text Analysis Using R, London School of Economics and Political Science, 2022
- Completed Royal Holloway, University of London’s two-year CAPITAL pedagogical training program with a high pass, 2021
- Completed Royal Holloway, University of London’s Advance Programme for Researcher Development, 2021
- Certificate from the Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods, 2019 (coursework on Panel Data, R Techniques, Causal Inference)
- Completed coursework on Applied Statistics and Multivariate Analysis at the Social Science Research Methods Centre, University of Cambridge, 2016-2017
- Languages: Spanish (fluent), French (fluent), Hindi (advanced), Italian (intermediate), Urdu (intermediate), Hebrew (basic)
- Computational Skills: R (intermediate), Stata (intermediate), ATLAS.ti (advanced), Adobe InDesign and Photoshop (advanced)

## **AWARDS**

- Award for Concept Analysis, IPSA Committee on Concepts and Methods, 2025
- ISA Theory Section Award for Best Post-PhD Paper presented at ISA, 2024
- A. Leroy Bennett Award for Best Paper Presented at ISA-Northeast, 2024
- Heinz I. Eulau Award from APSA for Best Article in *Perspectives on Politics*, 2024
- Edgar S. Furniss Book Award from the Mershon Center for International Security Studies at the Ohio State University, 2023
- Peter Katzenstein Prize from Cornell University for best first book in IR, comparative politics, and IPE, 2023
- Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, 2023-present
- APSA Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Book Award, 2023
- ISA International Ethics Section Book Award, 2023
- ISA Theory Section Book Award, 2023 (honorable mention)
- ECPR Hedley Bull Best Book Award, 2023 (honorable mention)
- ISA Online Media Caucus Award for Best Blog Post by a Junior Scholar, 2022
- Fellowship with the Higher Education Academy of the United Kingdom (FHEA), 2021-present
- Shortlist for the ECPR Rising Star Award, 2021
- College Excellence Teaching Commendation, Royal Holloway, University of London, 2021
- Emanuel Miller Prize for Philosophy of Social Science, University of Cambridge, 2018
- Northedge Prize, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 2018
- Elected a Scholar of St. John's College, University of Cambridge, 2016
- Ramnath Goenka Award Nominee (Category: Foreign Correspondent Covering India), 2014
- Henry Luce Scholar, 2013-2014
- Fulbright Scholarship to Argentina (awarded and declined), 2013
- Mitchell Scholarship Finalist, 2013
- Exceptional Journeys (Outstanding Senior profiled on college website), Cornell College of Arts and Sciences, 2013

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- British Academy Knowledge Frontiers International Interdisciplinary Partnerships Grant (co-PI, \$315,000), 2024-2026
- UML Vice Chancellor's Workshop co-Sponsorship (\$3000), 2024
- Reid Research Fund Workshop Grant, Royal Holloway, University of London (£1665), 2023
- Reid Research Fund Fieldwork Grant, Royal Holloway, University of London (£2000), 2023
- Royal Holloway PIRP Departmental Upskilling Grant (£1600), 2022
- American Political Science Association (APSA) Public Scholar, 2019-2020
- Full Merit Scholarship, Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods, April 2019
- Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, New Delhi, 2018
- Cambridge International Trust Scholarship (£93,591), 2016-2020
- St. John's College Scholarship, 2016-2020
- Praeter Fund Grant (£500), St. John's College, University of Cambridge, 2015, 2017
- Leathersellers' Company Grant (£326), St. John's College, University of Cambridge, 2015

## **PUBLICATIONS**

## **Books**

1. *From the Ashes of History: Collective Trauma and the Making of International Politics* (Oxford University Press, March 2022) ISBN 13: 9780197623596
  - a. Winner of the 2025 Award for Concept Analysis, IPSA Committee on Concepts and Methods
  - b. Winner of the 2023 Edgar S. Furniss Book Award
  - c. Winner of the 2023 Peter Katzenstein First Book Prize
  - d. Winner of the 2023 ISA International Ethics Section Book Award
  - e. Winner of the 2023 APSA Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Award
  - f. Honorable mention for the 2023 ISA Theory Section Book Award
  - g. Honorable mention for the 2023 Hedley Bull Prize, ECPR
  - h. Chapter awarded the 2024 Heinz I. Eulau Award, APSA
  - i. Chapter awarded the 2018 Emanuel Miller Prize in Philosophy of Social Science from the University of Cambridge.
  - j. Chapter awarded the 2018 Northedge Prize from *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*.
  - k. Reviews/Coverage: *Global Asia*, *New Political Science*, *Global Policy*, *International Affairs*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Polemics*, *LSE Review of Books*, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, New Books Network Podcast, *The Duck of Minerva*, Po.lit Podcast, H-Diplo Symposium, E-IR Book Interview
  - l. Author meets critics panels at ISA NE 2023, ISA 2024

## **Edited Volumes**

1. (with Dr. Michelle Bentley) “Trump and Unpredictability in International Relations” special issue in the *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* (2021, Vol. 34, no. 3)
  - a. Republished as *A Trump Doctrine? Unpredictability and Foreign Policy* (London: Routledge, November 2022) ISBN 13: 9781032364773.

## **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (accepted and forthcoming)**

1. “Climate (In)justice and the Residual Category of Non-Economic Loss and Damage” (with Pauline Heinrichs and Italo Brandimarte, 2025, accepted/forthcoming at *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*)
2. “Chinese Cinematic Visions: Popular Film, Strategic Ontology, and Foreign Policy in the PRC (with Jarrod Hayes, 2025, accepted/forthcoming at *Media, War, and Conflict*), pre-print available at: [https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/cwnjx\\_v1](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/cwnjx_v1)
3. “The Dilemma of Dual Vulnerability in the Pursuit of Climate Justice” (with Renato Fakhoury, UML PhD student, and Jarrod Hayes, 2025, accepted/forthcoming at *Global Studies Quarterly*), pre-print available at: [https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/hsa2b\\_v1](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/hsa2b_v1)
4. Barton Hronešová, Jessie and Lerner, Adam B. “Bohuslav Ečer, the UN War Crimes Commission, and the Political Origins of Contemporary International Criminal Law” *Modern Intellectual History* (2025, online first): <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1479244325000010>
5. Lerner, Adam B. and Heinrichs, Pauline. “The Paradox of International Reparations” *Review of International Political Economy* 32, no. 1 (2025): 126-153. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2024.2399034>

6. Lerner Adam B. "Cognitive Entanglement and Individual Responsibility for Structural Injustice" *Polity* 56, no. 4 (2024): 631-658. <https://doi.org/10.1086/732003>
7. Lerner, Adam B. "Global Injustice and the Production of Ontological Insecurity" *European Journal of International Relations* 30, no. 3 (2023): 595-618. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13540661231219087>.
  - a. Winner of the 2024 A. Leroy Bennett Award for Best Paper Presented at ISA-Northeast
  - b. Winner of the 2024 ISA Theory Section Award for Best Post-PhD Paper presented at ISA
8. Lerner, Adam B. and O'Loughlin, Ben. "Strategic Ontologies and Meso-Level Theoretical Innovation in International Politics" *International Studies Quarterly*, 67, no. 3 (2023): 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqad058>.
9. Lerner, Adam B. "Harnessing Intuition and Disciplining Abstraction: Thought Experiments in International Relations" *International Studies Quarterly*, 67, no. 1 (2023): 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqad015>.
10. Lerner, Adam B. "Pathological Nationalism? The Legacy of Crowd Psychology in International Theory." *International Affairs*, 38, no. 3 (2022): 995-1012. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iia020>.
11. Lerner, Adam B. "Blurring the Boundaries of War: PTSD in American Foreign Policy Discourse." *Perspectives on Politics*, December 22, 2020: 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592720004223>.
  - a. Winner of the 2024 Heinz I. Eulau Award from the American Political Science Association for best article in *Perspectives on Politics*
12. Lerner, Adam B. "Theorizing Unpredictability in International Politics: A New Approach to Trump and the Trump Doctrine." *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 34, no. 3 (May 4, 2021): 360–82. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09557571.2020.1842329>.
  - a. Republished as "Unpredictability in International Politics: Risk, Uncertainty, and Complexity," the lead article of the inaugural issue of *Political Epistemology*, the journal of APSA's Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Section
13. Lerner, Adam B. "Social Science and the Problem of Interpretation: A Pragmatic Dual(ist) Approach." *Critical Review* 32, no. 1–3 (July 2, 2020): 124–44. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08913811.2020.1840856>.
14. Lerner, Adam B. "What's It like to Be a State? An Argument for State Consciousness." *International Theory* 13, no. 2 (July 2021): 260–86. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1752971919000277>.
  - a. Subject of a symposium in *The Duck of Minerva* (February 2022), <https://www.duckofminerva.com/category/symposia/conscious-states>
15. Lerner, Adam B. "The Uses and Abuses of Victimhood Nationalism in International Politics." *European Journal of International Relations* 26, no. 1 (March 2020): 62–87. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354066119850249>.
  - a. Winner of the 2018 Northedge Prize from *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*
16. Lerner, Adam B. "Theorizing Collective Trauma in International Political Economy." *International Studies Review* 21, no. 4 (December 1, 2019): 549–71. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isr/viy044>.

17. Lerner, Adam B. "Collective Trauma and the Evolution of Nehru's Worldview: Uncovering the Roots of Nehruvian Non-Alignment." *International History Review* 41, no. 6 (November 2, 2019): 1276–1300. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07075332.2018.1473276>.
18. Lerner, Adam B. "Political Neo-Malthusianism and the Progression of India's Green Revolution." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 48, no. 3 (May 27, 2018): 485–507. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00472336.2017.1422187>.
19. Lerner, Adam B. "Manufactured Silence: Political Economy and Management Of The Bhopal Disaster." *Economic and Political Weekly* 52, no. 30 (July 29, 2017): 57-65. <https://www.epw.in/journal/2017/30/special-articles/manufactured-silence.html>.

### **Works in Progress**

1. *A Theory of Agency in International Politics* (book manuscript, research in progress, for submission to Oxford University Press in summer 2025)
2. "Locating Innovation in Norm Entrepreneurship: Bohuslav Ečer, the UN War Crimes Commission, and the Crime of Aggression" (with Dr. Jessie Barton-Hronešová, Revise and Resubmit at *Review of International Studies*)
3. "The Promise and Perils of Historical IR: In Search of Genuine Dialogue between IR and History" (with Dr. Jarrod Hayes, under review at *Cooperation and Conflict*)
4. *Global After-Maths: From Rupture and Transition to a Politics of Justice* (with Dr. Daniela Lai and Dr. Henrique Tavares Furtado, special issue accepted and in progress at *Global Studies Quarterly*)
5. *What Matters? The Politics of Narrating War* (with Dr. Ben O'Loughlin and Dr. Alister Miskimmon, special issue accepted and in progress at *Media, War, and Conflict*)

### **Book Chapters and Non-Refereed Essays**

1. Lerner, Adam B. "Response to Reviewers" in H-Diplo | RJISSF Roundtable 15-38 on *From the Ashes of History: Collective Trauma and the Making of International Politics*. <https://issforum.org/roundtables/h-diplo-rjissf-roundtable-15-38-on-lerner-from-the-ashes-of-history>
2. Bentley, Michelle, and Adam B. Lerner. "Introduction: Trump and Unpredictability in International Relations." *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 34, no. 3 (May 4, 2021): 348–59. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09557571.2021.1919862>.
3. "The Politics of Trauma and Victimhood" in Malksoo, M (ed.), *Handbook on the Politics of Memory*, ed. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing (2024): 147-162, <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800372535.00017>.
4. "Nationalism" in Schindler, Sebastian and Jahn, Beate (ed.), *Elgar Encyclopedia of International Relations*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing (2025): 268-269, <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781035312283.000122>.

### **Book reviews**

1. "Review of *Nationalisms in International Politics* by Kathleen E. Powers." *International Affairs* (2022).
2. "Review of *Emotional Choices* by Robin Markwica." *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* (2019).

3. “Dispatches from a Foreign Correspondent in Crisis.” (Review of Pallavi Aiyar’s *Punjabi Parmesan*). *Himal Southasian* 27, no. 2 (2014): 222-230.

### ***Policy Reports***

1. “The Impact of CPEC on Pakistan’s Citizens and Pakistani Industry,” working paper commissioned by MWM Consulting, London, August 15, 2018, <http://www.mwmconsulting.com/>
2. “Pakistan’s Place in the Belt and Road Initiative: Energy, Transportation and the Geopolitical Impacts of Chinese Investment,” working paper commissioned by MWM Consulting, London, May 15, 2018, <http://www.mwmconsulting.com/>
3. “Social Media and the 2017 UK Elections,” working paper commissioned by MWM Consulting, London, July 23, 2017, <http://www.mwmconsulting.com/>
4. “Politicians on Social Media: Navigating Uncharted Waters,” working paper commissioned by MWM Consulting, London, May 5, 2017, <http://www.mwmconsulting.com/>

### **SELECTED JOURNALISM AND COMMENTARY**

- ***The Pacific Standard***: “Understanding India’s Case for Colonial Reparations”
- ***POLITICO***: (authored over 450 articles) see, for example, “Hillary Clinton’s Forgotten Death Penalty Shift,” “Mike Pence Reaps the Whirlwind”
- ***POLITICO Magazine***: “The Brit Who Crashed CPAC,” “The Word Obama Can’t Bring Himself to Say,” “Obama’s Tarnished Saint,” “Who’s Afraid of Narendra Modi?,” “Unlikely Political Pals,” “Strategic Beheadings of History,” “A Tour of America’s Most Conservative Cities,” “If At First You Don’t Succeed...”
- ***The New York Times***: “The Skate Escape”
- ***The Caravan***: “How Flipkart Dodged India’s E-Commerce Laws,” “The Long Shot,” “The Last Laugh,” “Bark to the Future,” introduction to “Echoes from a River”
- ***DNA India (Delhi Edition)***: “An American’s Quest to Find Good Coffee in Delhi” (Humor)
- ***In Asia***: “Will India’s Telangana Residents Benefit from Statehood?”
- ***The Global Post***: “Are Human Rights Negotiable in Public-Private Partnerships?”
- ***The Print***: “Who really deserves credit for India’s economic growth?”
- ***The Duck of Minerva***: (featured contributor 2021-2022) see, for example, “A Gilded Age of Social Science: Big Data Governance, Neopositivist Social Science and Covid-19,” “Adam Sandler and the Rise of the Rest: Theoretical Myopia and the Liberal International Order,” “Reparations in the Wake of the US Withdrawal from Afghanistan”
- ***Duckcalls, The Duck of Minerva Podcast***: “Does IR Ask Big Questions?,” “Climate, Justice, and IR”

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

#### ***Conference Participation***

- ISA NE: 2023 (x3)
- ISA: 2023 (x2), 2024 (x3), 2025 (x3)
- APSA: 2020, 2022, 2023 (x2), 2024 (x4)
- Millennium: 2021, 2024

- BISA: 2019 (x3), 2025 (x2)
- EISA: 2018

### ***Invited Talks/Presentations***

- 2025: Queen's University Belfast
- 2024: Cornell University, Ohio State University, Northern Illinois University, Millennium Conference at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), University College London (UCL), Edgewood House Retirement Community
- 2023: US Army War College, Charles University (Prague), Sun Yat-sen University, Sogang University, FLACSO Ecuador, University of Cambridge
- 2022: University of Edinburgh, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, RHUL Holocaust Research Institute
- 2021: University of Toronto, Queen Mary University of London, Tel Aviv University, University of Bristol
- 2019: London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2018: London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2017: Institute for Historical Research (University of London), University of Oxford, National Army Museum (London)

### ***Organized Workshops/Conferences***

- 2025: "Hubris in International Relations" joint workshop between Queen's University Belfast, UMass Lowell, BISA, and Royal Holloway, University of London
- 2024: "What Matters? The Politics of Narrating War" joint workshop between UMass Lowell, Queen's University Belfast and *Media, War, and Conflict*
- 2023: "Global After-Maths" workshop at Royal Holloway, University of London

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- Director of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts Program, September 2023 – May 2025
- Committee Member, APSA Merze Tate Best IR Dissertation Award, 2025
- Committee Member, APSA Jeffrey Friedman IKP Best Book Award, 2025
- Committee Member, APSA IR Theory Best Graduate Student Paper Award, 2025
- Editorial Board Member, *Polity*, November 2023-present
- Director, UMass Lowell Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) Program, September 2023-present
- Wilder Interdisciplinary Studies Hub Steering Committee, September 2023-present
- Treasurer and Board Member, APSA International Relations Theory Section, October 2022-present
- Chair and Board Member, APSA Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Section, November 2023-present
- Nuno P. Monteiro Dissertation Prize Committee Member, APSA International Relations Theory Section, October 2022-present
- Book Prize Committee Member, APSA Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Section, 2020-2021
- Committee Member, APSA Ideas, Knowledge, and Politics Section, 2020-present
- Featured Contributor, *The Duck of Minerva*, August 2021-present
- Deputy Director, Royal Holloway Centre for International Security (RHISC), 2019-present
- Academic Program Chair, Royal Holloway Department of Politics, International Relations, and Philosophy, 2022-present
- Transition Tutor, Royal Holloway Department of Politics, International Relations, and Philosophy, 2021-2022

- Student Experience Lead, Royal Holloway Department of Politics, International Relations, and Philosophy, 2019-2022
- External Dissertation Examiner, University of Cambridge Centre for South Asian Studies, 2022
- Academic Misconduct Committee, Royal Holloway PIRP Department, 2021, 2022
- PhD upgrade committee panelist, Royal Holloway PIRP Department, 2022
- Chair of EISA Panel on Post-Doctoral Funding in the United Kingdom, November 2021
- Alumni Interviewer, Henry Luce Scholars Program, 2020-present
- Editor-in-Chief, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2017-2019
- Interim Managing Editor, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2017
- Book Review Editor, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2016-2017
- Editorial Board Member, *In the Long Run* (Department Blog of the University of Cambridge's Department of Politics and International Studies), 2017-2019
- Vice President, St. John's College Graduate Society (Samuel Butler Room), 2017-2018
- Honorary Committee Member, St. John's College Graduate Society (Samuel Butler Room), 2018
- Peer Reviewer for: *American Political Science Review*, Cornell University Press, Oxford University Press, *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, *International Organization*, *Security Dialogue*, *Global Studies Quarterly*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, *Review of International Studies*, *Journal of International Relations and Development*, *International Theory*, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Journal of International Political Theory*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Polity*, *Globalizations*, *International Political Sociology*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, *Journalism and Media*, *Media, War, and Conflict*

## **NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Editorial Consultant, *ThePrint.in*, June-September 2017
- Research Assistant to Dr. Michael Mandel, Chief Economist at the Progressive Policy Institute, 2016-2018
- Reporter, *POLITICO*, Washington, DC, 2014-2015
- Editorial Researcher, *POLITICO Magazine*, Washington, DC, 2014
- Reporter and Henry Luce Scholar, *The Caravan* magazine, Delhi, India, 2013-2014
- Featured contributor, *USA Today College*, 2013
- Founder and Editor-in-Chief, *The Cornell Book Review*, 2010-2013
- Senior Media Coordinator, Columbia University Summer High School Program, 2012

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Massachusetts Lowell**

- Lead Instructor:
  - POLI 1210: Introduction to International Relations (2023, 2024)
  - FAHS 4130: BLA Capstone (2024, 2025)
  - POLI 3870: Politics of International Organizations (2025)
- PhD Committees
  - Renato Fakhoury (2025)

### **Royal Holloway, University of London**

- Lead Instructor:
  - PR 2440: International Relations Theory (2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023)
  - PR 3632 Identity, Emotions and Trauma in International Politics (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)
- Seminar Instructor:



- PR 1500: Introduction to International Relations (2019-2020)
- PR 2440: International Relations Theory (2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023)
- PR 3632: Critical IR Seminar (2020, 2021, 2022)
- Dissertation Supervision
  - PR 3000: Undergraduate Dissertation (apx. 25 students, 2019-2023)
  - PR 5430: Master's Dissertation (apx. 25 students, 2019-2023)

#### **University of Cambridge**

- Guest lecturer for “Paper 0: Neglects of Neoclassical Economics,” a jointly taught course organized by the Cambridge Society for Economic Pluralism for the Department of Economics (2018)
- Supervisor for Dr. Jason Sharman’s course “International Organization,” (2018-2019)
- Supervisor for Dr. Shailaja Fennell’s course “Development Policy” (2018)

#### **Other Teaching Experience**

- Teaching Assistant for “Writing and Research in the Disciplines,” Cornell University, Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines (2011-2012)
- Teaching Assistant for “Debating the Ethics of War and Political Violence,” Columbia University Summer High School Program (2011)