

Nathan W. Toronto

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Current Position

Associate Professor, 2013–present
National Defense College, United Arab Emirates

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2007
Dissertation: “Why War Is Not Enough: Military Defeat, the Division of Labor, and Military Professionalization” (John Mueller, advisor)
M.A., Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2004
Concentrations: International Security, International Political Economy, Political Psychology
B.A., Brigham Young University, 1999
International Politics, Arabic (*magna cum laude*)

Previous Positions

Assistant Professor, 2009–2013
U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, School of Advanced Military Studies
Lead Analyst, 2008–2009
Counterinsurgency Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS
Middle East Analyst, 2007–2008
Foreign Military Studies Office, Fort Leavenworth, KS

Current Book Project (under peer review with Lexington Books)

“How Militaries Learn: Human Capital, Military Education, and Battlefield Effectiveness”:
examines how militaries develop the intellectual foundations of battlefield success
using large-*n* statistical analysis, case studies, and quasi-anthropological analysis

Book

[*Stability Economics: The Economic Foundations of Security in Post-Conflict Environments*](#), with Daniel G. Cox, eds. (Fort Leavenworth, KS: Combat Studies Institute Press, 2012).

Reviewed Articles

“[Why Professionalize? Economic Modernization and Military Professionalism](#),” *Foreign Policy Analysis*, vol. 13, no. 4 (October 2017): 854–75.

“[Markets and Manpower: The Political-Economy of Compulsory Military Service](#),” with Lindsay Cohn, *Armed Forces & Society* (September 26, 2016).

“[I Want You! The Determinants of Military Conscription](#),” with Victor Asal and Justin Conrad, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (September 23, 2015).

“Does Operational Art Exist? Space, Time, and a Theory of Operational Art,” *Military Operations*, vol. 2, no. 1 (winter 2014): 4–7.

“[Training Is Not Enough: Economic Development and Military Professionalism in Turkey](#),” *St. Antony’s International Review*, vol. 7, no. 1 (May 2011): 119–43.

“[It’s All the Rage: Why Mechanization Doesn’t Explain Counterinsurgency Outcomes](#),” with Niel A. Smith, *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, vol. 21, no. 3 (September 2010): 519–28.

“Forty Years of COIN: The Israeli Occupation of the Palestinian Territories,” *Joint Force Quarterly*, issue 50 (3rd Quarter 2008): 79–84.

Other Publications

“Star Wars [Arabic],” اتجاهات الأحداث [*Trending Events*], issue 20 (April 2017).

“[Simple Ways to Help Expatriate Pupils Learn Arabic](#),” *The National (Abu Dhabi)* (editorial, December 8, 2015).

“[Will ISIL Be Remembered as a New Third Reich?](#)” *The National (Abu Dhabi)* (editorial, August 25, 2015).

“[Does Military Education Matter?](#)” *E-International Relations* (May 26, 2015).

“Brother, Can You Pare a DIME? Towards a New Typology of National Power,” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (March 26, 2015).

“Compulsory Military Service: Some Lessons from History,” *National Defense*, issue 1 (June 2014): 43–7.

“Middle East Conflict,” *SAGE Encyclopedia of Military Science*, ed. G. Kurt Piehler (2013).

“Israel,” *SAGE Encyclopedia of Military Science*, ed. G. Kurt Piehler (2013).

“What Good Is the Army? Social Bargains, Human Capital, and the Future of Land Warfare,” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (15 April 2013).

“Military Magic,” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (8 March 2013).

“Whither the War on Terror?” *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (29 January 2013).

Review of *Social Movements, Mobilization, and Contestation in the Middle East and North Africa*, by Joel Beinin and Frederic Vairel, *Journal of Peace Research*, vol. 49, no. 5 (September 2012): 741.

“Active Inaction: Interagency Security Assistance to Egypt,” *Interagency Paper* No. 6, Col. Arthur D. Simons Center for the Study of Interagency Cooperation (December 2011).

“Egypt’s Coup-volution,” *Middle East Insight*, vol. 16 (February 16, 2011).

Review of *A Path out of the Desert: A Grand Strategy for America in the Middle East*, by Kenneth Pollack, *Military Review* (November–December 2010): 110–1.

“Where Have All the Bombers Gone?” Institute for Counter Terrorism (April 20, 2008).

Original Data Sets

Military Recruitment Data Set (version 2, 2012): Provides information on the use of conscripts versus volunteers, all countries, 1800–2008.

Military Schools Data Set (2016): Provides names, dates of operation, and source information for nationally-funded military officer schools, all countries, 1800–2015.

Military Periodicals Data Set (2005): Provides names (including name changes), location and dates of publication for all military-related periodicals, 1793–2005.

Workshops & Professional Development

Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), Columbia University Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Cornell University, 2010

Summer Intensive Hebrew Program, University of Utah, 2003

Summer Institute in Political Psychology, The Ohio State University, 2002

Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA), Full Year Fellowship, American University in Cairo, 2001

Courses

At UAE National Defense College:

Capstone Project (lead developer; research methods for year-long policy paper MA project)

Instruments of State Power: Economics (MA core course)

Instruments of State Power: Information and Cyber (MA core course)

Domestic Context (MA core course, examines domestic factors in UAE strategic decision making)

International Context (MA core course, examines external factors affecting UAE strategy)

National Service (lead developer; MA elective, examines theory and practice of conscription)

Crisis Management (MA core course, examines national security decision making)
Contemporary Issues (MA core course, examines future security challenges)
Security (lead developer; PhD course, syllabus developed for accreditation)
Policy Analysis (lead developer; PhD course, syllabus developed for accreditation)

At US Army School of Advanced Military Studies:

Research Practicum (lead developer; introduced MA students to methods of military-operational research)
Future Operational Art (lead developer; used scenario planning to examine future military operations)
Strategic Context of Operational Art (linked strategy, culture, history, foreign policy, and military operations)

At Ohio State University:

Politics of the Middle East (lead developer)
Violence in World Politics (lead developer)
Introduction to International Relations

Conference Presentations

“Learning Military Power: Military Education and Battlefield Effectiveness,” APSA 2017.
“Learning Military Power: Military Education and Battlefield Effectiveness,” ERGOMAS 2017.
“Training for Life: National Service and Educational Achievement in the UAE,” with Sultan R. Ali al-Kaabi, APSA 2016.
“Man, I Look Good! Foreign Direct Investment, Labor, and Human Trafficking in the Gulf,” with Samuel Greene, APSA 2015.
“Why Men (Don’t) Rebel: Compulsory Military Service and Legitimacy in the United Arab Emirates,” APSA 2014.
“Worth the Wait? US Security Assistance to Egypt and the 25 January Revolution,” APSA 2012.
“Hell No, We Won’t Go: Mission Posture, Labor Markets, and the Shift to Volunteer Military Recruitment in the OECD, 1964–2008,” with Lindsay P. Cohn, MPSA 2012.
“Markets and Manpower: The Political Economy of Compulsory Military Service,” with Lindsay P. Cohn, ERGOMAS 2011.
“Markets and Manpower: The Political Economy of Compulsory Military Service,” with Lindsay P. Cohn, MPSA 2011.
“It’s Lonely at the Top: The Costs of Systemic Leadership,” with Daniel G. Cox, ISA 2011.
“Security Force Assistance for the Long Term? Economic Modernization and Military Professionalism,” MPSA 2010.

“Military Recruitment and Counterinsurgency Outcomes,” APSA 2009.
“Training Is Not Enough: Economic Modernization and Military Professionalism in Egypt and Turkey,” ISA–Midwest 2007.
“Was Kant Wrong about the Military? Military Professionalism and War Initiation,” ISA–West 2007.
“Soldiered Professionals: Military Professionalism in the Middle East and South America,” APSA 2005.
“Soldiered Professionals: Specializing Labor Markets and Military Professionalization in South America,” ISA–Midwest 2004.

Grants and Awards

London School of Economics–Arab University Collaborative Grant, “Ideas, Identity and Migration: Connectivity in Security and State Building in the GCC”, 2015 (value: 119,900 GBP)
Col. Arthur D. Simons Center, Faculty Interagency Writing Competition, First Place, 2011
U.S. Army Command & General Staff College, Silver Pen Award (publication award), 2011, 2012
Fellowship, Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), 2010
Institute for National Security Studies Grant, U.S. Air Force Academy, 2010
University Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2001, 2005
Professional Enhancement of Graduate Studies Award, The Ohio State University, 2004
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2003
Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA) Fellowship, American University in Cairo, 2000

Professional Affiliations

Reviewer for: *Armed Forces & Society*, *Journal of Intelligence Studies*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *International Studies Quarterly*
Member of: American Political Science Association (sections: Qualitative and Multi-methods Research, International Security and Arms Control)

Professional Service

Faculty Advisor, UAE National Defense College, 2013–present
Directed 10 Master’s capstone projects
Research Director, UAE National Defense College, 2013–2016
Oversaw faculty direction of 36 Master’s capstone projects per year
Monograph Advisor, School of Advanced Military Studies, 2009–2013

Lead adviser for over 30 Master's monographs (second advisor for over ten others)
Research Director, School of Advanced Military Studies, 2011–2013
Oversaw faculty direction of 140 Master's monographs per year
Course Lead, Future Operational Art, School of Advanced Military Studies, 2009–2012
Advisor and Curriculum Lead, ROTC Cultural Immersion Program (Egypt), 2008, 2010

Working Projects

Military Education and Battlefield Effectiveness: examines the relationship between the presence of military schools at pre-commissioning, staff, and senior/war college levels, on the one hand, and military effectiveness, on the other (potential outlet: *International Interactions*).

Quantitative Study of Civil-military Relations (with Lindsay Cohn): examines the labor market determinants of military manpower recruitment systems; manuscript: “Hell No, We Won't Go: Labor Markets, Mission Posture, and Military Recruitment in OECD Countries, 1964–2008” (potential outlet: *Security Studies*).

Labor Laws in the GCC (with Samuel Greene): examines the relationship between foreign direct investment and labor law in the Gulf (potential outlet: edited volume).

Effectiveness of National Service in the UAE (with Sultan al-Kaabi): examines educational motivation of male first-year undergraduates after completing 9-month military service (potential outlet: *Armed Forces & Society*).

Military Recruitment and Counterinsurgency: statistical analysis of the impact of conscription versus volunteer military recruitment on counterinsurgency outcomes; manuscript: “Conscripts and COIN: Military Recruitment and Counterinsurgency Outcomes” (potential outlet: *Small Wars & Insurgencies*).

Skills & Background

Languages:

Arabic (fluent in speaking, reading, and writing; Egyptian, Levantine, Gulf dialects)
Hebrew (proficient in speaking, basic in reading and writing)
Spanish (fluent in speaking and reading, proficient in writing)

Technical: regression techniques; process tracing; programming in R, Stata, SPSS, LaTeX
Lived in Puerto Rico, Mexico, Uruguay, El Salvador, Panama, Jerusalem, Egypt, UAE