

# Ryan T. Baker

School of Public Policy and Administration  
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## Positions and Experience

Brute Krulak Center for Innovation and Creativity, Marine Corps University  
*Non-Resident Fellow*, 2020–present

Institute for Security and Conflict Studies, The George Washington University  
*PhD Candidate-in-Residence*, 2015–2019

The RAND Corporation  
*Summer Associate / Adjunct Defense Analyst*, 2016–2017

United States Marine Corps  
*Supply & Logistics Officer*, 2005–present (reserve since 2010)

## Education

2020 PhD Public Policy, The George Washington University

*Dissertation*: “[Logistics and Military Power: Tooth, Tail, and Territory in Conventional Military Conflict](#).” *Committee*: Stephen Biddle, Kathryn Newcomer, Elizabeth Saunders, Caitlin Talmadge.

2012 MA Security Policy Studies, The George Washington University

2004 BS Political Science, University of Utah

## Research and Publications

### *Peer-Reviewed:*

Baker, Ryan T. “[El Salvador, 1979–92: Revisiting Success](#).” Chap. 5 in *Proxy Wars: Suppressing Violence through Local Agents*, edited by Eli Berman and David A. Lake, 137–58. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2019.

Biddle, Stephen, Julia Macdonald, and Ryan Baker. [Small Footprint, Small Payoff: The Military Effectiveness of Security Force Assistance](#). *Journal of Strategic Studies* 41, nos. 1–2 (February 2018): 89–142, doi: 10.1080/01402390.2017.1307745.

### *Other Publications:*

Baker, Ryan T. [Review of \*Building Militaries in Fragile States: Challenges for the United States\*](#), by Mara E. Karlin. *Political Science Quarterly* 133, no. 4 (Winter 2018–19): 775–77.

Biddle, Stephen, Julia Macdonald, and Ryan Baker. “[The Trump administration wants to send more advisors to Afghanistan. Good luck with that](#).” *Monkey Cage* (blog). *Washington Post*. May 15, 2017.

Baker, Maj Ryan T., and Capt Yuk Wing Kwan. "Miscalculating Performance: How Relative Values Work, and Why the Marine Corps Should Stop Using Them." *Marine Corps Gazette* 99, no. 12 (December 2015): 64–68.

## Specialized Training

- 2018 US Marine Corps Command and Staff College (with distinction)
- 2018 Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop
- 2015 Summer Workshop on the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS)
- 2014 US Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School
- 2011 Kathryn Wasserman Davis School of Russian, Middlebury Language Schools (Level 1)

## Honors and Awards

- 2020 Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society
- 2012 Letter of Recognition from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Planning, and Long-Term Assessment, Department of Homeland Security
- 2011 Kathryn Davis Fellow for Peace, Middlebury Language Schools
- 2010 Merit fellowship, Elliott School of International Affairs
- 2003 Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society

### *Military:*

- 2020 Selected early for promotion to the rank of lieutenant colonel (fewer than 2 percent of eligible reserve officers were selected early in 2020)
- 2017 Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious service as a company commander
- 2011 Navy Achievement Medal for professional achievement while serving in Morocco
- 2010 Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding meritorious service at the School of Infantry
- 2005 Honor Graduate for Military Skills, Basic Officer Course (first of more than 200)

## Other Research Experience

- 2015 – 2018 Research Assistant, Professor Stephen Biddle
- 2016 Independent Consultant, Council on Foreign Relations
- 2015 Research Advisor, Master of Public Policy Capstone (at GWU)
- 2012 Strategic Risk Analyst, Office of Policy, Department of Homeland Security (intern)

## Selected Presentations

"Logistics and Military Power." Presented at the Institute for Security and Conflict Studies Research-in-Progress Workshop, 24 April 2017, 16 April 2018, and 15 April 2019.

"Miscalculating Performance: How Relative Values Work, and Why the Marine Corps Should Stop Using Them." Presented to the officers of Headquarters Company, CLR 45, 13 October 2018.

"Relocation and Promotion in the Army Civilian Workforce: An Exploratory Analysis Using Coarsened Exact Matching." Presented at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California, 29 August 2016.

“US Assistance to El Salvador, 1979–1992.” Presented at the project conferences for the *Proxy Wars* volume at the University of California at San Diego (14 June 2016) and the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University (19 September 2016).

“Small Footprint, Small Payoff: The Military Effectiveness of Security Force Assistance” (with Stephen Biddle and Julia Macdonald). Presented to:

- George Washington University School of Public Policy & Administration, 6 October 2016
- University of Michigan Ford Security Seminar, 2 November 2015
- Institute for Security and Conflict Studies research-in-progress workshop, 14 September 2015
- Empirical Studies of Conflict “Deterrence with Proxies” project meeting, 11 August 2015

## Certifications and Other Skills

LaTeX, Stata, R, ArcMap, Microsoft Excel

Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (via USMC)

## Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association  
Marine Corps Association

International Studies Association

## References

Dr. Stephen Biddle  
Professor of International and Public Affairs  
Columbia University  
Adjunct Senior Fellow for Defense Policy  
Council on Foreign Relations  
[stephen.biddle@columbia.edu](mailto:stephen.biddle@columbia.edu)

Dr. Shanthi Nataraj  
Director, Labor and Workforce Development  
Program, RAND Education and Labor  
Professor, Pardee RAND Graduate School  
The RAND Corporation  
[snataraj@rand.org](mailto:snataraj@rand.org)

Dr. Kathryn Newcomer  
Professor of Public Policy & Administration  
The George Washington University  
[newcomer@gwu.edu](mailto:newcomer@gwu.edu)