

John Severini

CONTACT INFORMATION

Georgetown University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Georgetown University

Initiative on Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Citizenship (AIDC)
Co-Director, 2025 – Present

University of Notre Dame

O'Brien Notre Dame International Security Center (ONDISC)
Hans J. Morgenthau Fellow, 2026 – 2027

EDUCATION

Georgetown University

Ph.D., Government, 2027 (Expected)
Fields: International Relations, Political Methodology, Political Theory

Columbia University

M.P.A., International Security Policy, 2021

The Ohio State University

B.A., Political Science and Linguistics, 2016

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

3. **Technology, Behavior, and Effectiveness in Naval Warfare: The Battles of Savo Island and Cape Saint George** (with Stephen Biddle). *International Security*, 50 (3): 156-191. 2026.
2. **Making AI Inevitable: Historical Perspective and the Problems of Predicting Long-Term Technological Change** (with Mark Fisher). *Oxford Intersections: AI in Society*. 2025.
1. **Military Effectiveness and Naval Warfare** (with Stephen Biddle). *Security Studies*, 33 (3): 325-47. 2024.

WORKING PAPERS

“Producing More, Learning Less: AI and the Burden of Knowledge in Political Science”
“Where the Model Frequently Meets the Road: Combining Statistical, Formal, and Case Study Methods” (with Andrew Bennett and Bear Braumoeller)
“Prediction Markets and War”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“State Capacity and Capital-Intensive Warfare: The Influence of Institutional Structure During the Anglo-Dutch Wars”
“Time and the Nation: War, History, and Collective Identity in the Works of Erich Auerbach and Walter Benjamin”
“Defining Militarism: Towards an Empirical Framework”

PUBLIC
WRITING

Commentary

[War by Other Means](#)

Palladium Magazine. June 23, 2026.

- Interviewed on *MTS*, June 30, 2026.

[The Limits of Naval Technology Alone](#) (with Stephen Biddle).

Lawfare. May 17, 2026.

[The Importance of the Battle of Savo Island](#) (with Stephen Biddle).

War on the Rocks. April 27, 2026.

[Digital Frontiers, Corporate Sovereignty, and the Future of the CEO.](#)

Corporate Political Responsibility. February 27, 2024.

Policy Reports

[Empirical Analysis for Meeting Great Power Challenges](#) (with Stephen Biddle, Eli Berman, Eric Min, Laura Samotin, and Meyer Thalheimer). *Office of Naval Research*.

February 1, 2024.

[Assessing the Reliability of the Future Years Defense Program and Building a Forecast](#) (with Andrew Hunter and Gregory Sanders). *Acquisition Research Program*. May 10, 2021.

GRANTS

[National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence](#). “Initiative on Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Citizenship (AIDC)” (with Mark Fisher and Matthew Hamilton) (\$750,000), 2025 – 2028.

FELLOWSHIPS

[University of Texas at Austin, Clements Center for National Security Summer Seminar in Statecraft and History Fellowship, 2026](#) [Invited]

[University of Notre Dame, O’Brien Notre Dame International Security Center, Hans J. Morgenthau Fellowship, 2026 – 2027](#)

HONORS
& AWARDS

Georgetown University, Summer Research Award (\$5,000), 2026

Georgetown University, Collaborative Research Award (\$6,500), 2025

Georgetown University, Methodology Skill Building Award (\$5,000), 2024

Corporate Political Responsibility Essay Prize (\$1,000), 2024

INVITED TALKS
& CONFERENCES

2026

American Political Science Association [Invited]

Midwestern Political Science Association

International Studies Association

2024

ISA Northeast

ISA International Security Studies Section

Military Force Analysis Seminar Series

DC-Area International Relations Colloquium

Midwestern Political Science Association

2022

Military Force Analysis Seminar Series

2021

Joint Chiefs of Staff, J5: Strategy, Plans, & Policy (Classified)

TEACHING

Georgetown University

2025

GOVT 1600 – *International Relations* (TA)

2024

GOVT 1600 – *International Relations* (TA)

GOVT 2603 – *International Law* (TA)

2023

GOVT 1800 – *Elements of Political Philosophy* (TA)

DATASETS

NAVYBATTLE: A New Dataset for Naval Warfare

Details information on 573 major naval engagements between 1649 and 1988 and 10,396 warships constructed between 1623 and 2006.

SERVICE

President, Georgetown University Graduate Political Science Association, 2024 – 2025.

Student Ambassador, Georgetown Political Science Predoctoral Summer Institute, 2025 – 2026.

Referee

International Security

OTHER

EMPLOYMENT

Columbia University

Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies (SIWPS)

Lead Research Analyst, 2021 – 2022

Research Assistant, 2020 – 2021

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Defense-Industrial Initiatives Group (DIIG)

Research Analyst, 2020 – 2021

SKILLS

R, Stata, Python, Excel

L^AT_EX, HTML, CSS

ArcGIS, ArcMap, QGIS