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Bruce Tsai

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Department of Political Science 4341 Bunche Hall Los Angeles, CA 90095

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Academic Employment

Adjunct Professor, 2026 -Luskin School of Public Affairs University of California, Los Angeles

Teaching Fellow, 2021 - 2025

Department of Political Science & Statistics University of California, Los Angeles

Research Fellow, 2019 - 2025

Departments of Political Science, Statistics, & School of Law

University of California, Los Angeles

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles, 2025.

M.A. Political Science/International Relations, University of California, Los Angeles, 2022.

B.S. Statistics (College Honors), University of California, Los Angeles, 2020.

Research areas

International Relations; International Political Economy; Securitization and Finance; Commodity Markets; Quantitative Methodology

In Progress

Tsai, B. Modeling the Effects of Commodity Market Movements on Militarized Interstate Disputes.

Tsai, B. and Zhou, C. A Structure for Defibrillative Sovereign Financing.

Tsai, B. and Plithides, M. The Effect of Commodity Prices in Global Interstate Disputes.

Plithides, M. and Tsai, B. Testing Power Transition Theory Using Time Series Trends in Chinese Diplomatic Event Data.

Grants and Honors

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship. 2021, 2022. UCLA Graduate Division.

Graduate Research Fellowship. 2020. UCLA Department of Political Science.

Department Commencement Speaker. 2020. UCLA Department of Statistics.

Peter O. Haslund Global Studies Scholarship. 2018. SBCC Department of Global Studies.

Teaching

PUB AFF 404X. Introduction to Programming and Data Science. Winter 2026 (tentative). POL SCI 137A. International Relations Theory. Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023.

POL SCI 160. Government and Politics of Japan. Winter 2025. POL SCI 125A. Arms Control and International Security. Fall 2024. STATS 404. Statistical Programming and Computing. Winter 2023.

STATS 147. Data Technologies for Data Scientists. Winter 2024, Winter 2023, Winter 2022. POL SCI 129. Diplomacy and War. Fall 2022.

GLBL ST 110B. Business Leadership: Global Perspectives. Summer 2024, Summer 2022.

GLBL ST 110A. Strategic Business Communication. Summer 2024, Summer 2022.

POL SCI 167D. Political Institutions and Economic Development. Spring 2022.

STATS 184. Societal Impacts of Data. Winter 2022.

Mentor, Statistics Undergraduate Mentorship Program, 2020 –

PUB AFF 60. Introduction to Empirical Research and Statistics. Fall 2021.

SERVICE

Mentor, International Relations Undergraduate Research Program, 2022 – 2024 Discussant, International Relations Reading Group, 2022 – 2024 Professional Development Chair, Political Science Graduate Student Association, 2021-2022

Presentations

"Mechanisms of Diversionary War." 2023. International Cooperation Research Group, Department of Political Science. University of California, Los Angeles.

"We Are All Data Scientists Now." 2022. Department of Political Science and International Relations, Loyola Marymount University.

"A Dynamic Model of Trade and Diplomacy." 2022. International Relations Reading Group, Department of Political Science. University of California, Los Angeles.

"The Effects of Price Shocks on International Politics." 2022. International Relations Reading Group, Department of Political Science. University of California, Los Angeles.

"Talent Acquisition in the Data Science Era." 2020. The Conference Board, Talent Acquisition Council, Singapore. Online due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Conferences

"Commodities: Invisible Triggers in Global Wars" 2024. Annual Conference of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA.

"The Effect of Commodity Prices in Global Interstate Disputes." 2023. Annual Conference of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA.

"Testing Power Transition Theory Using Time Series Trends in Chinese Diplomatic Event Data." 2022. Annual Conference of the Western Political Science Association, Portland, OR.

OTHER EXPERIENCE Co-founder and CEO,

Kuhnelo Inc

Consulting Data Scientist People Operations Google APAC

Subject Matter Expert, C4I Operational Fires Center Singapore Army

Research and Development, Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute Nanyang Technological University

Research and Development, Synthesis and Integration

Institute of Materials Research and Engineering

Professional American Political Science Association

Membership American Statistical Association

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Tau Sigma Honor Society

References Arthur A. Stein

Distinguished Professor of Political Science

University of California, Los Angeles

stein@polisci.ucla.edu

Margaret E. Peters

Vice Chair, Graduate Studies and Professor of Political Science

University of California, Los Angeles

mepeters@polisci.ucla.edu

Robert M. McCann

Professor of Management and Organizations

University of California, Los Angeles robert.mccann@anderson.ucla.edu