Marcelo M. Leal

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Dallas, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, Fall 2024 – Present.

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2024.
Dissertation Topic: "Making Sense of Cybersecurity: Narratives in National Security and Foreign Policy."
Advisor: Professor Jane Fountain

M.A. Political Science, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, 2015.

B.A. History, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, 2011.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Backwards From Zero: How the U.S. Public Evaluates the Use of Zero-Day Vulnerabilities in Cybersecurity. With Paul Musgrave. 2023. *Contemporary Security Policy* 44 (3): 437–461.

Hitting Back or Holding Back in Cyberspace: Experimental Evidence Regarding Americans' Preferences for Responses to Cyberattacks. With Paul Musgrave. 2023. *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 40 (1): 42–64.

Cheerleading in Cyberspace: How the American Public Judges Attribution Claims for Cyberattacks. With Paul Musgrave. 2022. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 18 (2): orac003.

Book Chapters

A Era Digital e os Estudos de Segurança: Conceitos e Práticas. With Diego Canabarro and Thiago Borne. 2014. *Governança Digital* 130–150.

Working Papers

Blame Games in Cyberspace: How Foreign Cues Shape Public Opinion on Cyber Attribution and Retribution (Under Review)

The Road Not Taken: U.S. Cybersecurity Policy and Foreign Information Operations

The Public Good and the Private Interest: Experimental Evidence Regarding Public Perception of Legislator Performance. (With Paul Musgrave).

Blog Posts

Zero-Day Vulnerabilities Are Powerful Cyber Weapons: Use Them or Patch Them? With Paul Musgrave. *Contemporary Security Policy* (blog). June 2, 2023

Presentations

Invited Talks and Lectures

"Research in Practice: Where is the Data?", 1st Symposium of the Latin American Cybersecurity Research Network (2022), Mexico City, Mexico.

"Public Opinion, Cyber Conflict, and Foreign Policy," Empirical Research on War and Peace in Cyberspace Workshop at the University of Haifa (2022), Haifa, Israel.

"Liberty vs. Security in Cyberspace: What is the future ahead for the United States?", Security in Cyberspace: Dynamics, Limits, and Opportunities, Online (2020).

Conferences and Workshops

"The Road Not Taken: U.S. Cybersecurity Policy and Foreign Information Operations," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2023), Los Angeles, CA.

"Public Attitudes toward Cybersecurity Threats in Competitive Information Environments," Cyber Escalation in Conflict Workshop at UC San Diego (2023), San Diego, CA.

"Do Voters Reward Legislators for Public or Private Goods in Cyber Security?" Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2022), Montreal, Canada.

"Public Attitudes toward Cybersecurity Threats in Competitive Information Environments," Cybersecurity Summer Institute at Georgia Tech (2022), Atlanta, GA.

"Evaluating Cyberattack Severity and Assessing Retaliation," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2021), Seattle, WA.

"Public Attitudes toward Cybersecurity Threats in Competitive Information Environments," CATO Junior Scholars Symposium (2021), Online.

"Public Attitudes toward Cybersecurity Threats," Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (2019), Chicago, IL.

"Patterns of Online Mobilization on Twitter: An Analysis of the OcupaMinC Movement," 9th Congress of the Latin American Political Science Association (2017), Montevideo, Uruguay.

"Cyber Operations in War and Peace: Clausewitzian Theory, Configurational Analysis," Annual Convention of the International Studies Association (2015), New Orleans, LA.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

External

International Studies Association Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2023.

American Political Science Association Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant Award, 2023.

American Political Science Association Centennial Center Research Grant, 2021.

1st Brazilian Ministry of Defense Undergraduate Thesis Award, 2013.

Internal (University of Massachusetts Amherst)

Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant, 2020.

Department of Political Science Summer Research and Writing Grant, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023.

Department of Political Science Summer Research Assistantship, 2018.

Department of Political Science Conference Travel Grant, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023.

Teaching Experience

University of Texas at Dallas

Fall 2024, PPPE/PSCI 6315 Legal Aspects of Cyber Security and Cyber Security Ethics, In-person.

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Spring 2022, POLISCI 397SC International Security and Cybersecurity Policy, Online.

Fall 2021, POLISCI 252 Globalization, Governance, and World Order, Online.

Summer 2021, POLISCI 397SC International Security and Cybersecurity Policy, Online.

Fall 2020, POLISCI 121 World Politics, Remote.

Summer 2020, POLISCI 397SC International Security and Cybersecurity Policy, Online.

Spring 2020, POLISCI 121 World Politics, In-person/remote

Winter 2020, POLISCI 252 Globalization, Governance, and World Order, Online.

Summer 2019, POLISCI 121 World Politics, Online.

Research Experience

Research Fellow, National Center for Digital Government, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2017–2022.

Research Assistant, Center for International Studies on Government, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, 2012–2016.

Service

Reviewer of applications submitted to the Brazilian School on Internet Governance, 2018–2024.

Co-organizer of monthly meetings of the Latin American Cybersecurity Research Network, 2023.

Training

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, Summer 2023.

Text-as-Data in R, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Summer 2022.

CITI Training for Human Subjects Research, Online, 2018.

Languages

R, Python, PHP, SQL, HTML/CSS, LaTeX

Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Conversational)

References

Professor Jane Fountain
Distinguished Professor and Director, School of Public Policy, University of Massachusetts Amherst
`jfountai@umass.edu`

Professor Paul Musgrave
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst
`musgrave@umass.edu`

Professor Alasdair Roberts
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