

Benjamin V. Allison

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Education

PhD, History, The University of Texas at Austin (Fall 2020–Present)

- Graduate Fellow, Clements Center for National Security.

MA, History, Kent State University (2018–2020)

- Thesis: “[Through the Cracks of Détente: US Policy, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and the Coming of the Second Cold War, 1977–1984.](#)”
 - Committee: Mary Ann Heiss (Advisor), Timothy Scarnecchia, Shane Strate, and Walter Hixson (University of Akron).

BA, History, Grove City College (2014–2018)

Academic Publications

“The Devil’s in the Details—Or is He? The Ethics and Politics of Terrorism Data” *Perspectives on Terrorism* 15, No. 2 (April 2021): 125-141.

Seven entries in *Conflict in the Modern Middle East: An Encyclopedia of Civil War, Revolutions, and Regime Change*, ed. Jonathan Zartman (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming).

One entry in *Combating Terrorism in the 21st Century: American Laws, Strategies, and Agencies*, ed. William J. Lahneman (ABC-CLIO, 2020).

Two entries in *The Federal Bureau of Investigation: History, Powers, and Controversies of the FBI*, ed. Douglas M. Charles and Aaron Stockham (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming).

Works in Progress

“Beyond the Arc of Crisis: The Rejectionist Challenge to Carter’s Middle East Policy after Camp David,” *Diplomatic History* (revise and resubmit).

Die in Your Rage: The Logic of Violence in Jihadist Insurgency (lead author) with Samuel S. Stanton, Jr. (forthcoming).

“Defending America’s Bridges and Tunnels: A Call For Reassessment and Reprioritization in Transportation Infrastructure Security,” *Homeland Security Policy Paper*, Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center (invited, drafting).

“Why Terrorists Do Not Attack American Bridges and Tunnels” (revising).

“‘The location of the police power’: Policing the Freedom Rides and Shattering the Reified State” (revising).

Book Reviews

Review of Vladimir Kontorovich, *Reluctant Cold Warriors: Economists and National Security* (Oxford 2019), in *Diplomacy & Statecraft* 31, No. 3 (2020): 584-586.

Review of Michael C. Desch, *Cult of the Irrelevant: The Waning Influence of Social Science on National Security* (Princeton 2019), in *Intelligence and National Security* 35, No. 5 (2020): 754-758.

Review of Sarah Churchwell, *Behold, America: The Entangled History of “America First” and “the American Dream”* (Basic Books 2018), for *H-Nationalism* (May 2019).

Review of Adam Malka, *The Men of Mobtown: Policing Baltimore in the Age of Slavery and Emancipation* (University of North Carolina Press 2018), in *Policing and Society* 29, No. 3 (April 2019): 365-367.

Opinion & Public Engagement Pieces

“[How to Fix the Jobs Crisis](#),” *The Chronicle of Higher Education Review* (August 2021).

“[Jimmy Carter and the Second Yemenite War: A Smaller Shock of 1979?](#)” Wilson Center, *Sources and Methods* (June 2021).

“[How the Two-Party System Could Self-Destruct and Save American Democracy](#),” *Pittsburgh Tribune–Review*, June 25 (Online) and June 27 (Print), 2021.

“[Why CHAZ/CHOP Failed](#)” (lead author), with Ayse Deniz Lokmanoglu, *Inkstick* (July 2020).

“[Disaster in the Desert: Forty Years after Operation EAGLE CLAW](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (April 2020).

“[The Soviet-Afghan War at Forty: The ‘Shocks of ’79’ and the Coming of the Second Cold War](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (December 2019).

“[Killing Baghdadi Does Not Equal Defeating ISIS](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (October 2019).

“[Hope Springs Eternal: Forty Years of Egyptian–Israeli Peace](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (March 2019).

“[Civility and the Johnson–Nixon Transition](#),” RealClearHistory (March 2019).

“[The Endless Summer: The Democrats’ Hellish Summer of 1968](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (July 2018).

“[Biting the Bullet: LBJ’s ‘Withdrawal Speech,’ Fifty Years Later](#),” Institute for Faith & Freedom (March 2018).

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Selected Grants, Awards, and Honors

Graduate Dean's Prestigious Fellowship Supplement, The University of Texas at Austin (Academic Year 2021–22).

- \$1,000 total.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, US Department of Education (Academic Year 2021–22).

- \$33,000 total to study Russian.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, US Department of Education (Summer 2021).

- \$7,500 total to study Russian.

George P. Hammond [First Place] Prize (Graduate), Phi Alpha Theta National Paper Prize Competition (Fall 2019).

Research Grant, Henry B. Leonard Endowment, Kent State University Department of History (Spring 2019).

[Third Place, Three Minute Thesis Competition, Kent State University](#) (Fall 2018).

Lynn W. Turner [First Place] Prize (Undergraduate), Phi Alpha Theta National Paper Prize Competition (Fall 2018).

Graduate Student Senate Domestic Travel Award, Kent State University (Fall 2018).

Joseph F. Mahoney Research Award in New Jersey Catholic History, New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission (Fall 2017).

Nels Andrew Cleven Founder's [Second Place] Prize (Undergraduate), Phi Alpha Theta National Paper Prize Competition (Fall 2017).

Selected Conference Presentations

“[‘I am in full control’: Reassessing Anwar al-Sadat’s Role in the Camp David Peace Process](#),” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Meeting, Online (June 2021).

- Co-organized panel with Dr. Craig Daigle (The City College of New York).

“Drawing the Arc of Crisis: The Rejectionist Challenge to Carter’s Middle East Policy, 1978–80,” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (June 2020).

- Co-organized panel with Dr. Carl Forsberg (Harvard, now at USAF Air War College); conference canceled due to COVID–19.

“Through the Cracks of Détente: US Policy, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and the Renewal of Soviet-American Competition, 1977–1980,” The Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA (May 2020).

- Conference canceled due to COVID–19.

“‘The location of the police power’: Civil Rights, Law Enforcement, the Kennedys, and the Perils of Reifying the State,” Commemorating Violent Conflicts and Building Sustainable Peace, Kent State University, OH (October 2019).

“Constrained by Reality: Tactical Nuclear Weapons Under Truman and Eisenhower,” The Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Ohio State University, OH (May 2019).

- Co-organized panel with Dr. Ian Ona Johnson (Yale, now at Notre Dame).

“Understanding Violence in Radical Ideological Insurgency,” with Samuel S. Stanton, Jr., Paper Session, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (April 2019).

- Unable to attend; presented by Dr. Stanton.

“‘The location of the police power’: Policing the Freedom Rides and Shattering the Reified State,” Northeast Ohio Graduate Student Symposium on History, Kent State University, OH (March 2019).

- Awarded Best MA Paper.

“Endowments, Organization, and Violence in the Islamic State,” (lead author) with Samuel S. Stanton, Jr., Paper Session, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (April 2018).

“‘The nucleus of the Arab peoples’ struggle’: Relations of the Soviet Union and the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front,” Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention, New Orleans, LA (January 2018).

Relevant Experience

Historical Research Consultant to Rick Cofer, Esq. on Historic Landmark Applications (Fall 2020–Present).

Volunteer Interviewer, Oral History Project Team, Special Collections and Archives, Kent State University (Spring 2020).

Graduate Teaching Assistant, History Department, Kent State University (Fall 2018–Spring 2020).

- HIST 31074: History of Espionage with Dr. Brian M. Hayashi (Spring 2020)
- HIST 11051: World History, Modern with Dr. Timothy Scarnecchia (Fall 2019)
- HIST 11050: World History, Ancient–Medieval with Dr. Shane Strate (Spring 2019)
- HIST 12070: Early America with Dr. Leonne M. Hudson (Fall 2018).

Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Committee, History Department, Kent State University (Fall 2019–Spring 2020).

Research and Writing Assistant to Robert Orlando, Nexus Media, Princeton, NJ (Summers 2018–2019).

Archival Assistant, Grove City College Archives, Grove City, PA (Fall 2017–Spring 2018).

Academic and Professional Memberships

American Historical Association (2019–Present).

International Studies Association (2019–Present).

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Middle East Studies Association (2021–Present).
Midwest Political Science Association (2016–2020).
New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, NJ (2015–2019).
Organization of American Historians (2019–2020).
Phi Alpha Theta History Honorary (2016–Present).
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (2018–Present).
Society for Military History (2018–Present).