

# DILLON L. LAAKER

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Department of Political Science · University of Wisconsin–Madison  
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## Academic Appointments

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### London School of Economics and Political Science

Department of International Relations  
International Political Economy Postdoctoral Fellow (Fall 2024)

### Georgetown University

Mortara Center for International Studies  
Global Political Economy Project Predoctoral Fellow (2023-2024)

## Education

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Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2024

*Dissertation:* Discrimination in an Era of Globalization: the Politics of Rules of Origin and Preferential Liberalization

*Committee:* Mark Copelovitch, Lisa Martin, Jon Pevehouse (Chair), and Jessica Weeks

*Major Fields:* International Relations (with Distinction) and Political Methodology

*Minor:* Behavioral Economics

B.S. in Political Science, *cum laude*, Truman State University, 2016

## Research Interests

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**International Relations:** Immigration, trade, industrial policy, and globalization

**Domestic Politics:** Consumer behavior, firm behavior, and public opinion

**Methodology:** Time-series, network analysis, text-as-data, and causal inference

## Publications

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Laaker, Dillon. 2023. “[Economic Shocks and the Development of Immigration Attitudes.](#)” *British Journal of Political Science*. 83 (4): 220–240.

Kustov, Alexander, Dillon Laaker, & Cassidy Reller. 2021. “[The Stability of Immigration Attitudes: Evidence and Implications.](#)” *Journal of Politics*. 54 (1): 1478-1494.

## Research in Progress

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Political Cleavages over Supply Chains: Rules of Origin and Preferential Liberalization.  
(Revise & Resubmit, *International Organization*)

Choke Points in the Supply Chain: Rules of Origin and the Politics of Upstream Protection.

Preferential Rules of Origin as Stumbling Blocks to Multilateral Trade Liberalization.

Economic Shocks and the Development of Preferences over Redistributive Policy. (with Cassidy Reller)

Heterogeneity in Global Sourcing Strategies and Industrial Fragmentation.

Preferential Liberalization, Trade Diversion, and Geopolitics.

Special Economic Zones, Global Supply Chains, and Firm-Centric Lobbying.

The Purpose of Trade Agreements: the Continued Importance of Tariff Liberalization.

## Teaching Experience

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**University of Wisconsin–Madison**, *Instructor of Record*

PS 811 - Introduction to Statistical Computing in Political Science (Graduate) (Fall 2021)

PS 350 - International Political Economy (Spring 2020)

PS 140 - Introduction to IR (Summer 2019)

**University of Wisconsin–Madison**, *Teaching Assistant*

PS 812 - Intro to Probability and Statistics (Graduate) - for David Weimer (Fall 2021)

PS 812 - Intro to Probability and Statistics (Graduate) - for Adeline Lo (Fall 2019, 2020)

PS 377 - Nuclear Weapons - for Andrew Kydd (Spring 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021)

PS 359 - American Foreign Policy - for Anna Oltman (Summer 2018)

PS 170 - Research Methods in Political Science - for Jonathan Renshon (Summer 2020)

PS 140 - Introduction to IR - for Jon Pevehouse (Summer 2017, 2018; Fall 2022)

PS 140 - Introduction to IR - for Mark Copelovitch (Fall 2017, 2018; Spring 2023)

TA Training in Online Instruction, University of Wisconsin (Summer 2017)

## Awards and Grants

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The Leon Epstein Prize for the Best Article in American and British Politics

Summer Dissertation Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Summer Initiative Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018, 2019, 2023, 2024

Wisconsin Project on IR Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2017, 2018, 2019

Distinction (highest level) on IR preliminary exam, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018

## Service

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Co-Coordinator for the Political Science Graduate Student Workshop, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2017-2018

Discussant, International Relations Colloquium, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2017-2023

## Selected Presentations

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Midwest Political Science Association - 2018, 2019, 2020, 2023  
Upper Midwest International Relations Conference - 2018, 2019  
Toronto Political Behavior Workshop - 2018  
American Political Science Association - 2019, 2020, 2023  
International Political Economy Society - 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023  
Political Economy of International Organizations - 2020  
TRADEPOWER and DESTA Workshop - 2020 (canceled)

## Professional Memberships

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American Political Science Association, 2016 - present  
Midwest Political Science Association, 2017 - present  
International Studies Association, 2017 - present  
International Political Economy Society, 2018 - present

Last Updated: August 19, 2024