

Daniel K. Baissa
DanBaissa@gmail.com

Contact Information

Address: Harvard University,
1737 Cambridge Street,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
Phone: 315-272-3341
Email: DanBaissa@gmail.com
Webpage: <https://DanielBaissa.com/>

Education

Harvard University

Ph.D. in Government, Expected completion: 2024 (A.B.D.)

A.M. in Government, 2023

State University of New York at Buffalo

M.A. in Political Science, 2015

Utica College of Syracuse University

B.A. in Government and Politics, 2011

Research Interests

Remote Sensing Data and Methods, Geographic Information System (GIS), Bayesian Additive Regression Trees, Transformer Models, Diffusion Models, Generative Adversarial Networks, Climate Change and Civil War, Climate Change and Migration, Robust Estimation

Publications

Baissa, Daniel K., and Carlisle Rainey. "When BLUE is not best: non-normal errors and the linear model." *Political Science Research and Methods* 8.1 (2020): 136-148.

Under Review

Theorizing about the Civil in Civil-Military Relations: How Civilian Institutions Dictate Military Behavior (with Natasha Murtaza)

Submitted

Climate Change and Migration

Working Papers

- Albedo as a Measure of Climate Change for Civil War Research
- Methods for Enhancing the Signal-to-Noise Ratio Using Raster Data (with Gabriel Koehler-Derrick)
- Seeing Rare Events Through Bayesian Additive Regression Trees

- Back to the Future: Machine Vision Approaches to Improving Historical Nightlights Data (with Gabriel Koehler-Derrick)

Instructional Web Books

A Basic Introduction to Stats Concepts

https://DanielBaissa.com/intro_to_stats/

Using Transformers Locally

<https://DanielBaissa.com/transformers/>

Research Experience

Research Fellow for the Director of the Weatherhead Center at Harvard

- **Research and Analysis:** Conducted in-depth research on international relations and political science, analyzing data to support academic and policy initiatives.
- **Simplification of Complex Concepts:** Translated intricate research into accessible terms for diverse audiences.
- **Publication and Presentation Support:** Assisted in preparing academic papers, reports, and presentations.
- **Collaborative Projects:** Worked with fellows and researchers on multidisciplinary projects.
- **Communication Skills:** Developed strong written and verbal skills for presenting research and engaging with communities.

Teaching Experience

Harvard University

- Behavioral Insights and Public Policy: Nudging for Good, (Teaching Fellow, 2023)
- Data, (Teaching Fellow, 2022)
- Data, (Teaching Fellow, 2021)
- Data, (Instructional Fellow (lecturer) and Teaching Fellow, 2020)
- Comparative Politics of the Middle East, (Teaching Fellow, 2019)
- American Foreign Policy, (Writing Fellow, 2018)
- Improving Governance in Developing Countries: What can We Learn from Experiments?, (Teaching Fellow, 2018)
- Contemporary Developing Countries: Entrepreneurial Solutions to Intractable Problems, (Teaching Fellow, 2018)

Teaching Awards

Harvard University certificate of distinction in teaching for:

- Data, Fall 2020
- Data, Spring 2021
- Data, Fall 2022

Conference Presentations

- Midwest Political Science Association 2015
- American Political Science Association 2020
- Midwest Political Science Association 2023
- American Political Science Association 2023
- MENA and Asian Polmeth 2024

Awards and Certificates

- Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Prize Fellowship, Harvard
- Bunton-Waller Graduate Award, Penn State (declined)
- IQSS GIS Certificate

Computer Skills

R, Python, Shiny, Stata, LaTeX, Autodesk Inventor

Private Sector Experience

MetLife, TCA Specialist (2011-2013)

- Managed and maintained accounts worth a combined total of \$12 Billion
- Designed an electronic reconciliation program
- Trained co-workers to comply with future regulations
- Reviewed accounts for potential fraud