

# Devyn Escalanti, MA

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## Education

Ph.D. Student, Security Studies, 2020– Present  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

MA, Political Science, 2020  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL  
Thesis title: “In Sickness or in Health? The Impact of Disease Burdens on the Likelihood of Violent Conflict.” Chair: Jonathan Powell, PhD.

BA, International and Global Studies; Minor in Latin American Studies, 2018  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

AA, Associates in Arts, 2016  
Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL

## Research Interests

Public health security, infectious disease control, political ecology, geographic information systems (GIS), violent conflict, Sub-Saharan Africa, comparative politics, econometric methodology

## Public Engagement Publications

The Conversation, 2019: Rivalries ahead of Guinea-Bissau’s election raise questions about stability; <https://theconversation.com/rivalries-ahead-of-guinea-bissaus-election-raise-questionsabout-stability-119669>

## Working Papers

Powell, Jonathan, Clayton Besaw, and **Devyn Escalanti**. “Political Stability in Guinea-Bissau.”

Powell, Jonathan, and **Devyn Escalanti**. “How ‘International’ Is International Studies? An Assessment of Leadership of the Discipline’s Top Journals.”

Devyn Escalanti. “Infectious Violence: Disease and Disorder in the DRC.”

Devyn Escalanti. “Mayhem in Africa: Infectious Disease, HIV, and Interstate Violence.” – Updated master’s thesis.

## Professional Experience

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** – UCF College of Sciences, 2018 – Present

Assist faculty and instructional staff in post-secondary institutions by performing teaching or teaching-related duties for a variety of undergraduate courses.

- Political Ideologies
- Global Perspectives
- Democracy, Capitalism, & the Individual
- Scope & Methods
- The American Presidency
- Florida Politics
- Introduction to American Politics
- Minority Politics
- Comparative Politics
- Public Policy

**Secure Fisheries Researcher** – One Earth Future Foundation, 2019–2020

OEF is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization with a vision of developing effective systems of multi-stakeholder governance, on select issues, to reduce armed conflict.

- Coordinate data collection activities as a member of project-based research
- Contribute to work on Horn of Africa fisheries and Indian Ocean fisheries
- Conduct original research, including data preparation and transformation, on the role of IUU and distant water fishing fleets in the Indian Ocean
- Conduct original research (time series & panel data) analysis on fisheries crime, specifically with respect to transnational crime in the Indian Ocean
- Conduct content analysis and assist with advanced statistics, statistical modeling, descriptive and predictive modeling for fisheries conflicts in the Horn of Africa
- Provide evaluation and research support in other areas upon request, such as attending internal and external meetings, and other administrative duties as needed
- Co-founder of the RREN working group – An internal organization to help OEF achieve and uphold its commitments outlined in the OEF Diversity and Inclusion Standards, particularly as it relates to race, religion, ethnicity, and nationality (RREN)

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**, supervised by Jonathan Powell PhD – UCF College of Science, Orlando, 2017–2018

- Research historic and contemporary roles of the military in mutinies and military coups in Africa.
- Assist faculty in data entry, analysis, database development (African mutinies, 1950–2017) and additional tasks such as literature reviews and assisting on drafting research proposals
- Assist in panel data analysis and forecasting
- Assist in importing, cleaning, transforming, and compiling datasets
- Utilize critical thinking & problem-solving skills Identify relevant secondary sources and write case summaries of salient political events

**Conference Presentations**

Devyn Escalanti. “Infectious violence: disease and disorder in the DRC.” Annual Florida Political Science Association Conference. Virtual. March 2021.

Devyn Escalanti. "Executive Psychology of Time Horizons and Dysentery Prevention." Annual Florida Political Science Association Conference. Tampa, FL. March 2019.

Powell, Jonathan, and **Devyn Escalanti**. "How 'International' Is International Studies? An Assessment of Leadership of the Discipline's Top Journals." Annual Florida Political Science Association Conference. Tampa, FL. March 2019.

#### **Colloquia Participation**

Brown Bag Series. School of Politics, Security, & International Affairs Virtual Presentation of "Infectious Violence: Disease and Disorder in the DRC." March 2021

#### **Computational Specialization**

R, ArcGIS, Python, Pandas (Py), Anaconda (Py), Stata  
Data management, data integration & analytics  
Advanced statistics and statistical modeling  
Time and panel series analysis  
Data preparation and transformation  
Mapmaking and data visualization  
Spatial data preparation and analysis

#### **Language Proficiency**

English (native), German (fluent); Portuguese (intermediate); Spanish (intermediate)

#### **Academic Grant Awards**

2018: Office of Undergraduate Research Student Research Grant  
2021: SPISA Graduate Outstanding Master's Thesis Award - \$250  
2021: American Political Science Association Spring Diversity Fellowship - \$2,000