

Melissa Clare Will

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Clinical Professor, Department of Political Science

August 2019

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Limited-term Lecturer

2016-2019

- Developed and taught an upper-level course on the US intelligence community and national security. Advised students interested in a careers in intelligence and foreign policy.

Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, DC

2009-2015

Political Analyst, Directorate of Intelligence

- Analyzed political and societal developments in South Asia. Leading expert in the US Government on the Afghan Government and its strengths and limitations. Provided US policymakers and foreign partners with both written and oral assessments, including regularly writing for the president and serving as a briefer for the US Ambassador in Afghanistan. Traveled extensively in region.
- Expertise and insights on Afghan Government recognized both in the intelligence community and the White House. Received 3 performance-based raises, 10 Exceptional Performance Awards—merit based monetary recognition—and awards from both the National Security Council and the Director of National Intelligence. Mentored multiple junior analysts.

Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, DC

2005-2009

Analytic Methodologist, Directorate of Intelligence

- Introduced qualitative and quantitative techniques to add rigor and precision to CIA analysis. Worked with fellow analysts and outside consultants to creatively utilize the theoretical insights of political science in assessments of current events. Facilitated group discussions to elicit information from country experts for modeling purposes. Analyzed large data sets and identified trends and patterns. Managed multiple high-profile international projects.
- Received Director's Award, two Meritorious Unit Citations, and two Exceptional Performance Awards.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Summer 2003

Teaching Assistant, ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research

- Course title: *Mathematical Models: Game Theory*. Assisted graduate students in the social sciences develop a solid background in game theory. Responsibilities included grading and advising students.

New York University, New York, NY

Spring 2003

Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics

- Course title: *Societies and Social Sciences: Political Perspectives on Rationality and Politics*. Introduced students to formal modeling (game theory, decision theory, and spatial modeling) and its applications in political science. Graded student work and prepared for and taught weekly recitation sections.

United States Trade Representatives Office, Washington, DC

June 1999-December 1999

Intern, Office of Europe and Mediterranean and Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison

- Analyzed trade figures, agreements, policies, and other data to inform policy decisions. Liaison to private sector advisors. Helped organize World Trade Ministerial in Seattle; sole intern brought to the meeting.

EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY

September 2004

- Master of Arts, Political Science (focus methodology).

Smith College, Northampton, MA

May 2001

- Bachelor of Arts, Economics and Political Science