

Andrew Leber  
[aleber@tulane.edu](mailto:aleber@tulane.edu)

## Academic Employment

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Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

*Fall 2022-Present*

Instructor, Department of Political Science  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

*Sept.-Dec., 2021*

## Education

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Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
Department of Government  
Committee: Melani Cammett, Torben Iversen, Yuhua Wang, F. Gregory Gause III

*Expected Completion August 2022*

Brown University, Providence, RI  
B.A. International Relations

*2012*

## Publications

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“When Can Dictators Go It Alone? Personalization and Oversight in Authoritarian Regimes,” *Politics & Society*. Online preprint (2022). (with Chris Carothers and Matthew Reichart)

“Defining the ‘Tribal Advantage’ in Kuwaiti Politics,” *Middle East Law & Governance*. Online preprint (2021). (with Courtney Freer)

- Related commentary: "[The ‘tribal advantage’ in Kuwaiti politics and the future of the opposition](#)," Order from Chaos (blog), Brookings Institution, April 19, 2021

“Framing a murder: Twitter influencers and the Jamal Khashoggi incident,” *Mediterranean Politics* 26, no. 2(2021): 247-259. (with Alexei Abrahams)

“Electronic Armies or Cyber Knights? The sources of pro-authoritarian discourse on Middle East Twitter,” *International Journal of Communication* 15 (2021): 1173-1199. (with Alexei Abrahams)

- Related commentary: "[Saudi Twitter blew up with support for the crown prince. How much of it is genuine?](#)," *The Washington Post*, March 9, 2021

"Making Moves: Reading Saudi Social Change through Commercial Tabletop Games," *Journal of Arabian Humanities* 14 (2020).

“Seek Fact from Texts: Reading Saudi Media on China amid the COVID-19 Pandemic,” *Asian Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies* 14, no. 4(2020): 538-553.

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“A Storm of Tweets: Social Media Manipulation During the Gulf Crisis,” *Review of Middle East Studies* 53, no. 2 (2019), 241-258. (with Alexei Abrahams)

“China and the Middle East after the Arab Spring: From Status-Quo Observing to Proactive Engagement,” *Asian Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies* 13, no. 1, (2019), 1-17. (with Ibrahim Fraihat)

“Saudi Arabia Plans for its Economic Future: Vision 2030, the National Transformation Plan, and Fiscal Reform in Saudi Arabia,” *British Journal of Middle East Studies*. (2018) pp. 1-21. (with Daniel Moshashai and James Savage)

## Chapters and Reviews

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“Gulf Security Architecture and the Potential Role of Europe” in *The European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council: The Path Forward*: eds. Adel Abdel Ghafar and Silvia Colombo (Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore, 2021): pp. 207-237. (with Adel Abdel Ghafar)

“Foreign Scholarship Programs in Algeria and Saudi Arabia,” in *The Political Economy of Education in the Arab World*, eds. Hicham Alaoui and Robert Springborg, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2021): 147-182. (with Adel Hamaizia)

“When the oil runs out: Changing rentier politics in the greater Mediterranean region,” *Mediterranean Politics* 24, no. 5 (2019), 665-673.

## In Progress & Under Review

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“Intervening Variables: Race, Ethnicity, and Support for War in the United States.” (with Naima Green)

“Mr. Otaiba Goes to Washington: Direct and Indirect Effects of Foreign Lobbying in the United States.”

Dissertation: “The Reformer’s Dilemma: Authoritarian Policy Reforms in Saudi Arabia”

“Framing and Fundamentals in Authoritarian Performance Legitimacy.” (with Jonas Draege).

## Public Scholarship & Commentary

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Andrew Leber  
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*English-Language*

[“America and Saudi Arabia Are Stuck With Each Other,”](#) *Foreign Affairs*, April 1. (2022). (with Yasmine Farouk).

[“What’s Missing in the Recalibration of the U.S.-Saudi Relationship? People.”](#) Commentary, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, March 4. (2021). (with Yasmine Farouk)

[“Social Media Manipulation in the MENA: Inauthenticity, Inequality, and Insecurity,”](#) *POMEPS Studies* 43. (2021). (with Alexei Abrahams)

[“Introduction: Ties That No Longer Bind? Present Dynamics and Future Prospects for the U.S.-Saudi Relationship,”](#) Policy Roundtable, *Texas National Security Review*, February 13. (2020).

[“Hidden Hands or Inspiring Example? Gulf Perspectives on the ‘American Spring’,”](#) Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington [blog post], June 11. (2020).

[“China and COVID-19 in Saudi Arabia,”](#) *War on the Rocks*, April 23. (2020).

[“North by southwest: Outlying Saudi regions face economic change, retain culture,”](#) Al Arabiya, February 17. (2020).

[“Saudi Arabia and the U.S. Congress: Cooperation and Opposition Since 9/11,”](#) *Dirasat* 44, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies. (2019).

[“Differences of Opinion? Saudi Op-eds and Confrontation with Iran,”](#) Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington [blog post], May 23. (2019).

[“Is Oil Wealth Good for Private Sector Development?,”](#) *Working Papers* 1299, Economic Research Forum. (2019). (with Melani Cammett and Ishac Diwan)

[“Resisting Rentierism: Labor Market Reforms in Saudi Arabia,”](#) *POMEPS Studies* 33. (2019).

[“Onwards and Upwards with Women in the Gulf.”](#) *MERIP*, January 11. (2018). (with Charlotte Lysa)

[“Is the Saudi Purge Really About Corruption?”](#) *Foreign Affairs* Online, 15 November. (2017). (with Christopher Carothers)

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### *Arabic-Language*

"[\[The Saudi savings rate in a post-oil future\]](#),"  
Thmanyah, June 10 (2021). (with Eman Al Hussein)

"[\[The Gulf War: Military technology and the American victory Complex\]](#)." *Thmanyah*, Feb. 9. (2020).

"[\[After disastrous elections, with the Electoral College remain as it is in America?\]](#)." *Thmanyah*, Nov. 20. (2020).

"[\[US Foreign Policy: What if Biden Wins?\]](#)." *Thmanyah*, June 23. (2020).

"[\[Violence of Chaos or Violence of the State?\]](#)." *Thmanyah*,  
June 10. (2020).

### **Teaching Experience**

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Instructor. "International Relations of the Middle East," Fall 2021, University of Massachusetts (Amherst).

Course Assistant. "Middle Eastern Politics and Policy," Spring 2019, Dr. Tarek Masoud, Harvard University.

- Guest lectured for lecture #13, "The Effects of Oil Wealth: Theoretical Perspectives"

Guest Lecturer on Monarchical Stability in Saudi Arabia. "Comparative Politics of the Middle East," Spring 2019, Bryn Mawr College, Dr. Sofia Fenner

Teaching Fellow: "Chinese Foreign Policy," Spring 2018, Department of Government, Dr. Iain Johnston, Harvard University.

Teaching Fellow. "Comparative Politics," Fall 2017, Department of Government, Dr. Steve Levitsky, Harvard University.

### **Awards & Affiliations**

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National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 2016-2021 (~\$100,000)

(With Jonas Draege) Evidence for Policy Design pilot grant, 2019-2020 (~\$100,000)

Associate Fellow and Visiting Researcher, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, 2018-2020.

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Center for Middle East Studies, Arabian Peninsula Grant 2018-2019 (\$6,000)

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Pre-Dissertation Grant, 2018-2019  
(\$6,000)

EPoD Travel Grant, 2017 (\$5,000)

Weatherhead Initiative on Gender Inequality Grant, 2016 (\$3,000)

Center for Arabic Studies Abroad Fellow, 2012-2013

### Engagement & Service

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- Steward, Department of Government, Harvard Graduate Students Union-UAW (Local 5118), Oct. 2020-April 2021
- Co-organizer, Comparative Politics Speaker Series, Harvard University Department of Government (with Jessie Bullock and Shannon Parker)
- Reviewer: *International Security*, *Journal of International Development*, *British Journal of Middle East Studies*

### Select Presentations

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“Social Media Manipulation in the MENA: Inauthenticity, Inequality, and Insecurity,” with Alexei Abrahams, Digital Activism and Authoritarian Adaptation in the Middle East (POMEPS/Stanford University virtual conference), May 27, 2021

“A Changing Saudi Labor Market: Gender, Geography, and Inequality,” with Jonas Draege, Labor Transformation and Regime Transition: Lessons from the Middle East and North Africa (POMEPS/Cornell ILR virtual workshop), April 30, 2021

“Dictating Terms: Difficult Reforms and Coalition-building in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain,” *American Political Science Association* Annual Conference, Washington D.C., 31 August 2019.

“Dictating Terms: Coalition Change in Authoritarian Regimes,” invited talk, University of Massachusetts Amherst, March 1, 2019.

“Locked out of the Coalition: Threats to Rulers and Partner Switching in the Arab Gulf States,” *Middle East Studies Association* Annual Conference, Washington D.C., 21 November 2017.

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“Decoding the Kefala: The Political Logic of Migrant Labor Policy in the Arab Gulf States,” *Middle East Studies Association* Annual Conference, Boston, November 19, 2016.