

# Seung Deok Seo

Updated December 29, 2025

✉ [sdseo2@illinois.edu](mailto:sdseo2@illinois.edu)    🔗 <https://seungdeokseo.github.io/>

## Education

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign**      United States  
PhD in Political Science      2022 – Present  
Major: Comparative Politics, Minor: International Relations

**London School of Economics and Political Science**      United Kingdom  
MSc in Development Studies

**Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFs)**      Republic of Korea  
BA in Arabic Interpretation and Translation  
Minor: Political Science and Diplomacy  
*Study Abroad Program: Cairo University (Egypt); University of Jordan (Jordan)*

## Academic Training

**Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR)**      United States  
Admitted Participant (General Open Pool; fees and lodging covered)      2026

**Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS)**      Republic of Korea  
Computational Social Science Training      2025

**Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Rothberg International School)**      Israel  
Summer Course: The History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

**Bourguiba Institute of Modern Languages**      Tunisia  
Arabic Language Training

## Working Papers

Beyond Economic and Political Motives: Exploring the Religious Dynamics in Gulf States' Foreign Aid Allocation (with Paul Un)

## Work in Progress

Flocking Together: NGO Identity and Cooperation in Jordan (Dissertation project)  
Donor Identity and Recipient Perceptions: A Conjoint Experiment on Foreign Aid in Indonesia (with Paul Un)

Fellowships and Grants	<b>Internal (University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign)</b>	
	Graduate College Dissertation Travel Grant, \$4,995	2026
	Graduate Research and Professionalization Fund (Department), \$1,200	2026
	Department Travel Support (IQMR), \$500	2026
	Illinois Global Institute Language Fellowship (Arabic), \$20,000	2024–2025
	Conference Travel Award (3 awards), \$100 each	2024, 2025
	Kneier Fellowship, \$3,927	2023
	<b>External</b>	
	IQMR: Admitted Participant, fees + lodging covered, \$3,085	2026
	ISA–Midwest: Conference Travel Grant, \$250	2024
	HUFS: Study Abroad Scholarship (Jordan), \$3,700	
	<b>Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign</b>	
Teaching Experience	PS 241: Comparative Politics in the Global South (Discussion Leader)	Fall 2025
	PS 322: Law and Public Policy (Course Grader)	Spring 2024
	PS 250: Rise Up: Organizing Resistance (Course Grader)	Fall 2023
Conferences	International Studies Association Annual Convention (Presenter)	2025
	International Studies Association–Midwest Annual Convention (Presenter)	2024, 2025
	Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (Presenter)	2024, 2025
Professional Experience	<b>Korea International Cooperation Agency</b> Republic of Korea and Iraq	
	Development Cooperation Junior Consultant — Middle East/North Africa	2021
	<b>UN Women, Palestine Country Office</b> Palestinian Territories	
	Social Media and Youth Engagement Officer	2018–2020
Skills	<b>Languages</b>	
	<i>Korean</i> (Native), <i>English</i> (Professional Working Proficiency), <i>Modern Standard Arabic</i> (Advanced), <i>Levantine Arabic</i> (Advanced)	
	<b>Programming</b>	
	R, Python, $\LaTeX$ , Jupyter Notebook, Qualtrics	

## References

### **Matthew S. Winters**

Professor of Political Science; Director,  
Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies  
University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign  
Email: mwinters@illinois.edu

### **Rana B. Khoury**

Assistant Professor of Political Science;  
Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern  
Studies  
University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign  
Email: rbkhoury@illinois.edu

### **Jacob W. Bowers**

Professor of Political Science and Statistics  
University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign  
Email: jwbowers@illinois.edu

### **Gino Pauselli**

Assistant Professor of Political Science  
University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign  
Email: pauselli@illinois.edu