

Inhwan Oh

inhwan.o@gmail.com · enboy9@snu.ac.kr · [inhwan-oh.github.io](https://github.com/inhwan-oh)

1, Sajik-ro 7gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul 03028, Republic of Korea · +82-10-3215-7518

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Political Science, Boston College, May 2024
Major: International Relations; Minors: Comparative Politics, Political Theory
Dissertation: *An Interactive Theory of Power Projection: Naval Power Shift, the Contagion Effect, and Alignment Opportunity*
- Committee: Robert S. Ross (Chair), Timothy W. Crawford, Jonathan Kirshner
- M.A. International Relations, Seoul National University, February 2013
- B.A. Political Science, Seoul National University, *cum laude*, August 2009
Exchange Student, Leiden University, 2007–2008

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2025– Lecturer, Seoul National University, Department of Political Science & International Relations
- 2025– Senior Research Fellow & Executive Director, East Asia Institute
- 2024–2025 Visiting Assistant Professor, William & Mary, Department of Government
- 2023–2024 Lecturer, Boston College, Department of Political Science
- 2022–2023 Hans J. Morgenthau Fellow, Notre Dame International Security Center
- 2014–2016 Assistant Professor, Korea Military Academy, Department of Military History
- 2013–2014 Lecturer, Korea Military Academy, Department of Military History

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2026 “[Historical Intersections of Climatic Change and Power Transitions: Ecological Pressure, Differential Adaptability, and the U.S.–China Power Transition in the Anthropocene](#)” (with Inho Choi), *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, vol. 26, no. 3 (2026)
- 2025 “[Japan’s Status-Driven Restraint despite Racial Humiliation, 1921–1936](#),” *The Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, vol. 32, no. 3 (2025): 239–267.
- 2025 “[The Causes of the First World War Revisited: Interactions between Austria-Hungary’s Resolve to Use Force against Serbia and Russian Mobilizations, 1908–1914](#),” *Journal of Korean Political and Diplomatic History*, vol. 47, no. 1 (2025): 95–133 [in Korean].
- 2014 “[The July Crisis Revisited: Civil-Military Threat Perceptions of Germany and Russia](#),” *Journal of Military History [Gunsa]* (September 2014): 31–63 [in Korean].

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

“Why at Fashoda but Not on the Niger?: Naval Defense Lines, Contagion Expectations, and British Resolve in the Anglo-French Crises of 1898” [R&R, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*]

“Neither a Liar nor a Peacemaker: Roosevelt’s Contagion Expectations and the First Line of Naval Defense, 1933–1941” [under review, *Security Studies*]

“From Burden-Sharing to Order-Sharing: An Allied Strategy for the Hegemonic Readjustment” (with Inho Choi) [under review, *Survival*]

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Taking Power Projection Seriously: Explaining the Absence of Armed Conflict during China’s Quantitative Naval Overtake, 2012–2025 (*full draft available*)

A Logic of North Korea’s Nuclear Foreign Policy and the Security-Legitimacy Dilemma, 1994–2019

Conceptualizing Power Projection: Beyond Stopping Power and Spheres of Influence

Why Not Escape Asia?: Interwar Japan, China, and Civilizational Hierarchy, 1919-1936

AWARDS AND HONORS

2024	Stand Together Trust U.S. Foreign Policy Dissertation Grant (\$5,000)
2023	The Charles Koch Foundation U.S. Foreign Policy Dissertation Grant (\$5,000)
2023	Seoul National University New England Alumni Association Scholarship (\$3,000)
2022–2023	Hans J. Morgenthau Fellowship, The University of Notre Dame (\$10,000)
2021–2023	Conference travel grants: APSA (2022, 2023), ISA (2022), Boston College Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (2023), Graduate Students Association, Boston College (2021)
2019–2020	Clough Graduate Fellow, Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, Boston College (\$6,000)
2017–2019	Fulbright Graduate Ph.D. Scholarship, U.S. Department of State (\$55,000+)
2011	Outstanding Paper, Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea (“Strategic Perspectives on Various Threat Perception Factors in Northeast Asia”)

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY & INVITED EXTERNAL TALKS

2026	NATO 3.0 after the Ankara Summit: Views from the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic Regions, NATO (framing remarks as Representative of the Korean Hub), August 5
2026	Security in Transition Workshop, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Berlin, June 8–11 “Conflicting Orders in the Indo-Pacific: Spheres of Influence, Strategic Competition, and the Challenge for Middle Powers,” Global Relations Forum, May 4
2026	Regional Kick-Off of the Indo-Pacific & Euro-Atlantic Hub, NATO (framing remarks as Representative of the Korean Hub), February 24
2026	New Partnerships and Strategies amid a Shifting Global Order, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung East Asia Workshop, Seoul, February 10–11
2025	“Historical Intersections of Climatic Shift and Power Transitions” (with Inho Choi), American Political Science Association Annual Convention, September 13

- 2025 “The Protestant Work Ethic and the Origin of Korean Enlightenment Nationalism, 1896–1900,” Seoul National University International Conference for Contemporary Korean Studies, August 23
- 2025 “Trump 2.0 Administration’s Maritime Action Plan (MAP) and Its Implications for Korea and the Indo-Pacific,” Republic of Korea Navy Policy Forum, July 15
- 2025 “To Constrain or to Condone?: Explaining China’s Approach toward North Korea’s Nuclear Weapons Program” (with Shuxian Luo), International Studies Association Annual Convention, March 5
- 2024 “Explaining the Absence of a War over China’s Quantitative Naval Overtake, 2008–2024,” American Political Science Association Annual Convention, September 5–8
- 2024 “China’s Naval Buildup as a Status-Seeking Behavior, 2008–2022” (with Chengzhi Yin), American Political Science Association Annual Convention, September 5–8
- 2024 The Clements Center’s Summer Seminar in History and Statecraft, The Clements Center for National Security, The University of Texas at Austin, Beaver Creek, CO, July 14–19
- 2024 “An Interactive Theory of Power Projection: How Do the Leading Sea Power and a Challenger Avoid or End Up in a War?,” The Junior Scholars in International Security (JSISE) Workshop, April 12
- 2023 “An Interactive Theory of Power Projection: How Do the Leading Sea Power and a Challenger Avoid or End Up in a War?,” New Wave Realism Conference, Merhson Center for International Security Studies, The Ohio State University, December 1–2
- 2023 “Racial Hierarchy, Restraint, and Assertion: Japan’s Pursuit of Status and the Washington Naval System, 1921–1936,” Brookings Workshop on Narratives, Strategy, and Asian Order, The Brookings Institution, November 8–9
- 2023 “Restraint, Assertion, and Commitment Problem: Japan’s Pursuit of Status and the Washington Naval System, 1921–1936,” American Political Science Association Annual Convention, August 31–September 4
- 2022 “A Causal Logic of Authoritarian Nuclear Concession: Political Normalization, Domestic Pressure, and the Security-Legitimacy Dilemma,” American Political Science Association Annual Convention, September 15–18
- 2021 “A Causal Logic of Authoritarian Nuclear Concession: External Inducement, Domestic Political-Economic Pressure, and Regime Legitimacy,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, April 6–9
- 2021 “The Washington Conference Order and Japan in 1922–1936: Global Status, Restraint, and the Great Depression,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, April 6–9

ONLINE COMMENTARIES

- 2026 [“The U.S. Navy’s FY2027 Shipbuilding Plan and the Korea–U.S. Shipbuilding Partnership \(KUSPI\): Institutionalizing Allied Industrial Capacity in the Indo-Pacific and Korea’s Proactive Shaping,”](#) *Global NK*, May 29.
- 2026 [“New Research Hub Assesses Shared Security Challenges in the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic: A View from South Korea,”](#) *The Strategist*, Australian Strategic Policy Institute, March 26.

- 2026 [“New Spheres of Conflicting Orders: A Lack of Consensus Promises Confusion and Competition”](#) (with Chaesung Chun), in *Council of Councils Global Memo: The World Reorders: The Complications of a Return to Spheres of Influence*, Council on Foreign Relations, January 30.
- 2026 [“Trump’s Golden Fleet Initiative, MASGA, and the ICE Pact,”](#) *Global NK*, January 22.
- 2025 [“The Future of U.S. Maritime Hegemony and Seoul’s Strategy: The Role of the U.S. Congress in ROK-U.S. Shipbuilding Cooperation and North Korea Policy,”](#) *Global NK*, September 29.
- 2025 [“South Koreans’ Perceptions of Blocs between ROK-US-Japan and DPRK-China-Russia and Support for Nuclear Armament: 2025 EAI Public Opinion Survey,”](#) *EAI Issue Briefing*, June 18.
- 2025 [“U.S.-China Naval Power Transition, the First Line of Naval Defense, and the Korean Peninsula,”](#) *Global NK*, June 4.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Seoul National University

Korean Foreign Policy (Fall 2026)

Foreign Policy Analysis (Spring 2026)

Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2025)

William & Mary

U.S.-China Relations Seminar for Freshmen (Fall 2024)

U.S.-China Relations Seminar for Juniors & Seniors (Fall 2024)

Research Methods (Fall 2024)

Boston College

International Politics of Rising Powers (Instructor of Record, Spring 2024)

Introduction to International Relations (Teaching Assistant to Professor Peter Krause; led two independent discussion sections, Spring 2022)

The World Wars (Teaching Assistant to Professor Lindsey O’Rourke, Spring 2021)

U.S. Foreign Policy, 1945–Present (Teaching Assistant to Professor Lindsey O’Rourke, Fall 2020)

John Quincy Adams Society

Morgenthau Grand Strategy Seminar: China’s Rise (Instructor, July 2023)

Korea Military Academy

World Military History (Spring 2014, 2015, 2016)

The Korean War (Fall 2013, 2014, 2015)

Military Strategy (Spring 2014, 2015, 2016)

Modern Warfare: The Iraq and Afghanistan Wars (Spring 2015, 2016)

COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

Introduction to International Relations

U.S.-China Relations, 1949–Present

U.S. Foreign Policy, 1945–Present

Chinese Foreign Policy, 1949–Present

International Relations of the Asia-Pacific

East Asian Security

2019–2023	President, Political Science Graduate Student Association, Boston College
2014–2015	Administrative Officer, Department of Military History, Korea Military Academy

2021	The Institute for Qualitative and Multimethod Research (IQMR)	
	Process Tracing	Large-N Qualitative Analysis
	Interpretive Methods	Concept Analysis

2013–2016	Second/First Lieutenant, Republic of Korea Army
2011–2013	Staff, Department of International Relations, Seoul National University
2009–2010	Personal Assistant to the Regional Secretary, International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) East Asia, based in Malaysia

Korean (native)	English (fluent in reading, speaking, and writing)
Mandarin Chinese (reading with dictionary)	German (reading with dictionary)

American Political Science Association

International Studies Association

Korean Association for Political and Diplomatic History

Robert S. Ross Professor, Department of Political Science, Boston College robert.ross@bc.edu +1-617-552-3259	Timothy W. Crawford Professor, Department of Political Science, Boston College timothy.crawford@bc.edu +1-617-552-4171	Jonathan Kirshner Professor, Department of Political Science, Boston College jonathan.kirshner@bc.edu +1-617-552-4071
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