

## Christopher L. Burdett

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### CURRENT POSITION

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Instructor, **Virginia Commonwealth University**, Richmond, VA                      January, 2006-present

Since 2006, I have served as an instructor in Political Science, offering courses including European Government & Politics, World Issues, History of Political Thought, Introduction to Political Theory, Social Science Research Methods, International Political Economy (through the Honors College), China in Transition, and the Senior Capstone Seminar.

### EDUCATION

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Ph.D., International Relations & Political Theory (December, 2012). **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA

Dissertation: "Sowing the Seeds of Empire: Education & Identity Construction in England and France, 1870-1914," Advisor Michael Joseph Smith

Within International Relations, education has received little attention as factor that shapes identities. To address this shortcoming, this dissertation frames education as a mechanism that imparts understandings of the world and our place within it, while cultivating skills that enable us to assume social, economic and political roles. The author traces education in England and France from 1870 until 1914, where education was consciously deployed for the purposes of identity construction against a backdrop of imperial expansion. This places us in a position to observe how empire was taught and how the élite were trained for imperial administration. This dissertation offers a novel, replicable approach to international politics and contributes to a burgeoning literature on identity. It also answers a call within the constructivist paradigm for greater insight into internal processes behind identity construction while strengthening constructivism's explanatory contribution.

Master of Arts, European Affairs and International Economics (May, 2000). **Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins**, Washington, D.C.

The Bologna Center, Bologna, Italy                      August, 1997-May, 1998

Bachelor of Arts, Government (May, 1996). **College of William and Mary in Virginia**, Williamsburg, VA

Lorenzo de' Medici Institute, Florence, Italy                      Fall 1995

Free University of Brussels, Brussels, Belgium                      Spring 1996

## RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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### *Peer-Reviewed Publications*

- “Book Review: Irving Horowitz, *The Idea of War and Peace*”, *Genocide Studies and Prevention* Vol. 3, No. 2: August 2008.
- “EMU Sans Sterling: Implications for Irish Policy and the Economy”, *Bologna Center Journal of International Affairs*. Vol. 1, No. 1: Spring 1998.
- “A Northern Chill: Norway and the European Union”, *The Monitor*. 1995.

### *Other Publications*

- “Making sense of the European elections,” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 4 June 2014.
- “The Enduring Value of the Euro,” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 23 June 2013.
- “Stoking the Flames of Division,” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 22 March 2010.
- “In Austria, it’s the sanctions that pose the real peril” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 20 February 2000.
- “America can’t afford to ignore the rest of the world” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 12 April 1998.
- “The European Union faces a wobbly ride” (Commentary), *Roanoke Times*, 6 July 1997.
- “Reshaping NATO’s role and mindset” (OpEd), *Roanoke Times*, 5 March 1997.
- International Guide to NGO Activities in Conflict Prevention and Resolution*. Editor. (The Carter Center: Atlanta, 1996)

### *Participation in Professional Meetings*

- “Third Wave or Third Wheel? European Security between China and the United States,” Paper prepared for the 72nd Annual National Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3rd-6th, 2014, Chicago, Illinois.
- “Battling for Hearts and Minds: Superpower Strategy, Political Reconstruction & Education Reform after the Second World War,” Paper prepared for the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2<sup>nd</sup>-5th, 2009, Chicago, Illinois.

### *Invited Lectures*

“The Relevance of International and Domestic Salience for European Integration,” Virginia Commonwealth University. November 4, 2002.

“Basics of the European Union: Institutions and Meaning,” Virginia Commonwealth University. November 4, 2002.

### *Referee & Review Service*

Routledge, *Europe, 1783-1914* (Summer, 2013)

CQ Press, *American Energy: the Politics of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policy* (Summer, 2012)

Westview/Perseus, *The European Union Politics and Policies* (Spring, 2012)

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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### **European Security Cooperation**

Efforts to carve out a distinct strategic role for the European Union in the new millennium have reinvigorated research on European security cooperation. Current literature tends to be descriptive in nature, driven by definitional considerations, or focused on fleshing out institutional dynamics. While worthwhile, these themes leave open an agenda that investigates the nature of European-level cooperation during power transitions and crises among Great Powers. Along these lines, my contribution seeks to unpack the various incentives and constraints shaping European security cooperation with an eye toward:

- Sino-European strategic relations;
- Atlantic relations, including the impact of Washington’s ‘Asian pivot’;
- The ongoing development of ‘Normative Power Europe’;
- The impact of cost, culture, and capabilities on the militarization of European security and defense cooperation.

### **Education and the Study of Identity, International Politics and Foreign Policy**

My research of education as a mechanism for identity construction draws upon my dissertation, and I am widening the lens to consider education’s impact upon nationalism in France and England prior to the First World War. The agenda also includes German education in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. German authorities likewise used their schools to cultivate a

shared identity through a curriculum laced with nationalist and patriotic themes during a period of colonial expansion.

In addition, I hope to consider education in different contexts so as to demonstrate the explanatory value of the mechanistic approach to education and identity to international politics. These opportunities include:

- education, the Cult of the Emperor, and the Remilitarization of Japan after the First World War;
- education, US foreign policy, and the demilitarization of Germany and Japan after World War II;
- education and identity construction at the European Community/European Union level;
- education and identity construction in post-conflict societies (e.g. former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Afghanistan and Iraq).

### **Additional Research Topics**

- European politics, economics and history, including European integration, EU policymaking and institutions, as well as social and political change in modern Europe.
- The rise of China and its consequences for Europe and the United States, including Chinese foreign, strategic and economic policy, in addition to China's impact upon the environment and energy sector.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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Research Assistant, **Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**, Washington DC (Oct. 2005-July 2006)

Assisted visiting scholar David Rothkopf (former under-Secretary for Commerce in the Clinton Administration) in the research and writing of his book, *The Superclass*, on elites and global governance. Provided research support for various projects on economic foreign policy, globalization and democracy.

Research Assistant, **Council for the United States and Italy**, Washington DC (Feb. 1999-April 1999)

Researched and collected materials included in the Council publication, *Writings from a Century Ago*, forecasts of life to come in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Worked under the direction of Council Chairman, Michael Calingaert.

Intern/Interim Assistant, **The Carter Center**, Atlanta, GA (Sept. 1996-Jan. 1997)

Supported the US State Department Diplomat-in-Residence by researching and monitoring the '96-'97 Congolese Civil War as well as efforts at conflict resolution in the former Yugoslavia, subsequently filtering important information into daily memoranda essential to President Carter's conflict resolution activities.

Authored memoranda on behalf of the Conflict Resolution Department for Center Staff, including President Carter, covering events in Eastern Europe, the Balkans and Russia, as well as a proposal promoting closer ties between the European Union and the Carter Center. Edited Carter Center publications, notably the *Guide to NGOs* (1996) and the *State of World Conflict Report* (1996).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Principal/Consultant, **The Burdett Group**, Annandale, VA (June, 2011-present)

The Burdett Group specializes in research and analysis-driven answers to complex global questions of particular relevance to the U.S. defense industry and related branches of government. In 2011, the Burdett Group quality-controlled a project for the U.S. National Guard designed to put in place a research program that would contribute to streamlining recruitment and resource allocation.

Assistant, **Office of Pat Cox MEP, European Parliament**, Brussels, Belgium (February-July 1997)

Lead staffer assigned to the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee and the Legal Affairs Committee. Prepared regular briefs, press releases, talking points and position papers. Frequently represented Mr. Cox at intra-group meetings, civic and informational events. Also managed constituency, Parliamentary and interest group relations.

Assumed the role of *interim chief of staff* of the Brussels office during the 1997 Irish Parliamentary elections campaign (May-June, 1997). Also served as *stagiaire* from January, through May, 1996, providing support for his activities in the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee as well as the Intergovernmental Conference leading up to the Amsterdam Treaty.

## ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Teaching Assistant, **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA (August, 2001-Dec., 2003)

Led weekly discussions for multiple sections of US Foreign Policy under Professor John M. Owen, and Ethics & Human Rights in World Affairs under Professor Michael Joseph Smith. I was responsible for grading all exams and papers for the corresponding sections, assisting the

primary faculty member with designing exams. While serving as a Head Teaching Assistant (War, Justice & Human Rights, Fall, 2003), I coordinated these activities across all TAs for the course. In recognition of my service, I was honored by a Seven Society Graduate Fellowship for Superb Teaching in the spring of 2004.

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

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### **Courses of Primary Interest**

Politics of Western Europe, introductory and advanced: integration theory, strategic studies, Atlantic relations, comparative political, economic and social systems, European Union politics and economics, political history of the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> centuries  
Political Theory, introductory and advanced: classical to contemporary theory through the study of 'great works'  
International Relations Theory, introductory and advanced

### **Courses of Secondary Interest**

Social science methodology & research design  
General introduction to political science: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations & Political Theory  
General survey of international politics and global issues, introductory  
International Political Economy  
US Foreign Policy  
Ethics and Human Rights in international politics

### **Pedagogical Interests**

Analytical and critical writing  
Research design development, particularly at the undergraduate level  
Education and internships abroad  
Integration of in-class and online instruction

## **SELECT HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

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Seven Society Graduate Fellowship for Superb Teaching (2004)

Governor's Fellowship (UVA) (2001-2004)

Founder/Editor-in-Chief, *Bologna Center Journal of International Affairs* (1997-98)

Johns Hopkins Fellowship (SAIS) (1998)

Bologna Center Fellowship (SAIS) (1997)

## **LANGUAGES**

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French (proficient); Italian (moderate reading, writing)