

Brandon Sims
(Current as of April 2018)
bd7479a@american.edu

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

PhD Candidate (ABD) in International Relations. American University, Washington, D.C.
(2014 – present)

Field Concentration: International Peace and Conflict Resolution

Qualifying Examination: Passed with Distinction

Field Concentration Examination: Passed with Distinction

Dissertation Committee: Joseph Young (AU), Adam Auerbach (AU)

Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham (University of Maryland)

MA in Conflict Resolution. Antioch University Midwest, Yellow Springs, Ohio. (2008)
Capstone Paper: “Conflict Resolution and Service Learning Partnerships: An Initial Exploration.” Advisor: Selena Sermeno.

BA with College Honors in Political Science, minor in Journalism, and a Certificate in Oral Communication. Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio. (2006)
Summa cum laude / Valedictorian.
Honors Thesis: "Holy Spirit Peacemaking: A Case Study of the Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship." Advisor: Michael Tager.

BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATION

Sims, B. (2011). “The Use of Ritual and Symbol in Conflict Resolution,” in Litaay, T., Suryati, E., Samiyono, D., & Indah, C.M., eds., Buku Bacaan Pendidikan Perdamaian (Peace Education Book). Salatiga: Satya Wacana Peace Center & United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, pp. 139 – 156.

CURRENT PEER-REVIEW IN PROGRESS

Sims, B. “Constituting Self-Violent Resistance.” Abstract accepted for special issue, “The Materiality of Resistance: Resistance of Cultural-Material Artefacts and Bodies,” *Journal of Resistance Studies*.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Sims, B. (2018). “Legitimacy Principles and Disobedience” presenting at Mobilization conference on Social Movements and Protest: Race, Ethnicity, and Radicalism, San Diego, on May 4-5, 2018.
- Sims, B. (2018). “Legitimacy Principles and Disobedience: IDF Selective Refusal” presented at Judith Reppy Institute’s Interdisciplinary Graduate Workshop on Peace and Conflict, Cornell University, March 24, 2018.
- Sims, B. (2017). “Suicide Protest in India Database: Counting Self-Violence” presented in Baltimore, Maryland at the International Studies Association 58th Annual Convention,

February 22-25, 2017.

- Sims, B. (2013). "I am not an Expert! Self-Narrative Study of a 'Native Speaker' Teacher." Paper presentation published in the Proceedings of the 7th International Seminar: Language Policy and Planning in the Era of World Englishes, Faculty of Language and Literature, Satya Wacana Christian University, November 20 – 21.
- Sims, B. (2013). "Student Perception of Harsh Teacher Communication in Indonesian Classrooms: A Model Developed With Grounded Theory." Paper presentation published in the Proceedings of the 60th TEFLIN International Conference: Achieving International Standards in Teacher Education, University of Indonesia, Jakarta, August 27 – 29; pp 532-540.
- Sims, B. (2013). "Peace Education in Language and Teacher Education: A Cross-Cultural Understanding Course." Paper presentation published in the Proceedings of the Conference on Establishing Peace Culture Through Peace Education in Indonesia, Satya Wacana Peace Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, May 29-30.
- Sims, B. (2012). "A Grounded Theory of Perceived Teacher Aggressive Communication: Student Impact." Paper presentation published in the Proceedings of the 6th International Seminar 2012: Research in Teacher Education - What, How, and Why?, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, November 21-22; pp 508 – 521.
- Sims, B. (2012). "Peace Journalism in an EFL Newspaper Reading Course." Paper presentation published in Proceedings of Language in the Online and Offline World, Petra Christian University, Surabaya, Indonesia, May 29 & 30; pp 69 – 76.
- Sims, B. (2012). "Perceived Instructor Verbal Aggressiveness and Student Participation: Testing the Use of the Verbal Aggressiveness Scale in Indonesia." Paper presentation published in Proceedings of Language in the Online and Offline World, Petra Christian University, Surabaya, Indonesia, May 29 & 30; pp. 76 – 84.
- Sims, B. (2009). "Conflict Engagement in Service Learning Partnerships" presented in Columbus, Ohio at the Ohio Service Council's *Forging New Links* conference, March 30 & 31.
- Sims, B. (2007). "Holy Spirit Peacemaking: A Case Study of the Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship," delivered at the *34th Conference on Value Inquiry: Social Justice and Individual Responsibility*, Adrian College, Adrian, MI; April.
- Sims, B. (2006). "Humiliation, Religion, and the Balkans," delivered at the *20th National Conference on Undergraduate Research*, University of North Carolina, Asheville, NC; April.

COLLOQUIA OR WORKSHOP PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- April 4th, 2018: "Legitimacy Principles and Disobedience: IDF Selective Refusal." American University, School of International Service PhD Colloquium.
- May 5, 2017: "Suicide Protest Dataset." American University, Peace and Violence Research Lab Fellowship Paper Workshop.
- March 8, 2017: "Suicide Protest in India." American University, School of International Service PhD Colloquium.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Doctoral Student Research Scholarship, American University (\$5,000), 2018
(Supporting fieldwork in India),
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods Of Social Research, 2017
(Summer Methods Training Grant, American University)
Fellow, Peace and Violence Research Lab, American University (\$3,000), 2016-2017
Summer Research Award (Pre-ABD), American University School of International Service
(\$1,000) (Exploratory fieldwork in India), Summer 2016
Critical Language Scholarship, United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and
Cultural Affairs, Hindi, Summer 2016
Institute for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research, Syracuse University, 2015
(Summer Methods Training Grant, American University)
Dean's Fellowship, American University, 2014 - 2018
Valedictorian, Marietta College, 2006
Phi Beta Kappa (Academic Honorary), 2006
Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honorary), 2005
Summer Investigative Study Fellowship: Marietta College, 2005
"Humiliation, Religion, and the Balkans." Adviser: Dr. Katherine McDaniels."
Omicron Delta Kappa (Leadership Honorary), 2004
Jack E. Prince Award in Social Sciences (Marietta College), 2004
Hyde Prize (Top 1st or 2nd Marietta College Sophomore), 2004

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, June 26 – July 21 2017
*(Maximum Likelihood Estimation I, Regression Analysis III: Advanced Methods,
Mathematics for Social Scientists II)*

American Institute for Indian Studies, Hindi Language Immersion Program, June-August 2016

Institute for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Research, Syracuse University, July 2015

Quantitative and Qualitative Skills: Comfortable with STATA, SPSS, R, NVivo

WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS DEVELOPED AND LED

"Nonviolence (Civil Resistance) and Peacebuilding in MENA, Expert Workshop." February
2018, Beirut, Lebanon. Expert Workshop co-organized with Susanna Campbell and
Charles T. Call. (Duration: 1 day).

"Integrating Peacebuilding in MCC Service." September 2013, Mennonite Central Committee.
Annual Team Meetings. Salib Putih Retreat Center, Kopeng, Indonesia. (Duration: 3
hours).

"Language Teaching as Peacebuilding." February, 2013, Service and Learning for Peace:
Language Teaching in Anabaptist Perspective, Professional Improvement Conference –
Mennonite Partners in China, Chiang Mai, Thailand. (Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes).

"Critical Thinking and Peacebuilding." September 2012, Mennonite Central Committee. Annual

- Team Meetings. Salib Putih Retreat Center, Kopeng, Indonesia. (Duration: 3 hours).
- “The Importance of Storytelling”* July 2012, P3W (Center for the Empowerment and Development of Women). Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia. (Duration: 3 days, 5 hours each day). Stories from the workshop were printed in Indonesian (with English translations) to be shared with a wider audience (including through Mennonite Central Committee website and partner organizations/schools).
- “Kids’ Storytelling Workshop.”* August 2012 P3W (Center for the Empowerment and Development of Women), Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia. (Duration: 2 days, 2 hours each day).
- “Cross-Culture Understanding.”* June 2012, PIBBI, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga Indonesia. (Duration: 2 hour session).
- “Cross-Culture Understanding.”* June 2012, COTIM, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia. (Duration: 2 hour session).
- “Business English Communication Skills Part II.”* May 2011, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia.” (Duration: 3 days, 5 hours each day).
- “Nature Conservancy Writing Workshop, Part I.”* January 2011, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian, University, Salatiga, Indonesia. (Duration: 2 hour session).
- “Strengths and Weaknesses: Professional Development Training.”* July 2008, Ohio Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA training. (Duration: 1 ½ hours; Participants, 30).
- “Conflict Resolution Skills for VISTA Volunteers.”* May 2008, Ohio Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA training. (Duration: 1 hour; Participants, 30).
- “Responding to Violence.”* May 2008, University of Toledo. My interactive workshop was part of a 3 part event on the anniversary of the Virginia Tech school shootings. (Duration: 1 hour).
- “Service-Learning for Graduate/Teaching Assistants.”* Co-Led with the Director of Community Engagement at the University of Toledo. March 2008, University of Toledo. (Duration: 2 hours).
- “Student Engagement for First-Year Students.”* March 2008, Workshop on methods of service-learning for first-year experience course students. (Duration: ½ hour).
- “Conflict Resolution Techniques for Resident Assistants”* February 2008, University of Toledo Residence Life. (Four Separate Sessions, Duration: 1 hour each).
- “Conflict Resolution Skills for First Year Students.”* August 2007, University of Toledo Residence Life. (Duration: 1 hour).

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Indonesian: Intermediate Written/Spoken

(Upper Intermediate Diploma with High Distinction from the Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, 2010)

Hindi: Intermediate Reading, Late-Beginner Written/Spoken

(Tool of Research Intermediate Reading Exam, Center for Language Exploration, Acquisition, and Research, American University D.C., 2017
American Institute of Indian Studies, Beginner Summer Immersion Course, Jaipur, India,

2016)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Peace Science Society (International) (2015 -)
Peace and Justice Studies Association (2015 -)
International Studies Association (2015 -)
 -Peace Section (2015 -)
The Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language in Indonesia (2013 – 2014)
Association for Conflict Resolution (2006 – 2008)

TEACHING, TEACHING ASSISTANT, AND RESEARCH ASSISTANT

American University, 2014 – 2017

Qualitative Methods & Methodology (SIS-750, Summer 2017)
 Teaching Assistant for Anders Hardig
World Politics (SIS-105, Fall-Spring 2016-2017)
 Teaching Assistant for discussion sections
Peace Paradigms (SIS-607, Fall 2014)
 Teaching Assistant for Abdul Aziz Said

Research Assistant:

Susanna Campbell (2017-2018)
Charles T. Call (2015-2016)
Abdul Aziz Said (Spring 2015)

Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia (2010 – 2014)

Undergraduate Department of English and Education (Each class taught multiple semesters)
 Reading across Genres, Academic Reading, Critical Reading, Academic Writing,
 Expository & Argumentative Writing, Guided Writing, Narrative & Descriptive Writing,
 Public Speaking, Transactional Speaking, Interpersonal Speaking

Courses Created or Substantially Revised

Journalism: Reporting and Writing
Cross-Cultural Understanding
American Culture and Literature

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT/ UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

University Committees

Conflict and Development Hiring Committee – Member (School of International Service,
American University) (2015)

Code of Practice Committee – Member (English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University) (2012)
Faculty Hiring Committee – Member (English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University) (2011)
Statewide Ohio Make a Difference Day – Statewide Planning Committee Member (2008 - 2009)
University of Toledo Service Learning Committee – Member (2007 - 2008)
University of Toledo First Reads Program Committee – Member (2007 - 2008)

Workshops for Student Groups

“*Public Speaking Seminar*” October 18, 2013, Public Speaking tips and workshop on English Competition events for more than 40 English Department students. (Duration: 3 hours)
“*Speaking classes for High School Students*” June 11, 2013, English Department Open House Event, Promotion for English Department. (Duration: 1 hour).
“*Be KEPO (Knowing Every Particular Object): Journalism Workshop*” March 15, 2013, Workshop developed with handouts on interviewing and writing feature news. English Department. (Duration: 3 hours; Participants, 50).
“*Writing Workshop for Powers (Pool of Writers)*” October 29, 2012, English Department. (Duration: 2 hours; Participants, 25)
“*Cultural skills workshop for English Club*” March 2012. English Department (Duration: 2 hours, Participants, 30).

Presentations to Student or Community Groups

“*Stories of Language Learning, Faith, and Building Peace*” Language for Peace Forum, online webinar, March 12, 2015.
English Conversation Circle through the Language Training Center, UKSW, February 2010. Presented on the AmeriCorps* VISTA program as part of a two-hour panel presentation at Marietta College, February 2009.
“*Religion and the Balkans Conflict*” Parkersburg Presbyterian Church Class (Duration: 1 hour), Fall 2005.
“*Appalachian Issues Research and Advocacy Walk.*” Co-presented to two first year experience courses at Marietta College based on a 400 mile research walk through Appalachia exploring social and justice issues. (Funded by Summer Investigative Studies Grant, Marietta College). September 2003.

Service to Faculty/University (Satya Wacana Christian University)

External Grader for PIBBI, (Indonesian Language Class), Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, twice per year (2011 -2013)
Language Editing of International Seminar Papers for Proceeding, English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University (2011)
Moderator for Paper Presentation at International Seminar, English Department, Satya Wacana Christian University (2010)

Service to Students (Satya Wacana Christian University)

- Faculty Editor for Access Magazine: student publication once a semester (2011 – 2014)
- Faculty Editor for Powers (Pool of Writers): writing club once a semester (2011 – 2014)
- Annual judge for LovED (Student led University English Competition) (2010 – 2014)
- Annual judge for ECD (Student led High School English Competition) (2010 – 2014)
- Judge for English Competition, Satya Wacana Lab School (2012)
- Drama Pronunciation Coach, The Wizard of Oz (2013)
- Drama Pronunciation Coach, Midsummer Nights Dream (2010)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

English – Conflict Transformation Secondment / 2009 – 2014
International Service Worker in Salatiga, Indonesia

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Satya Wacana Christian University (UKSW).

- * Incorporated conflict transformation content and concepts in English Department courses taught to undergraduate students in the Faculty of Language and Literature.
- * Developed new course materials, mentored less experienced teachers.
- * Served as a resource person on conflict and peace issues for MCC, UKSW, and partner organizations through trainings and workshops.

Program Director: Student Outreach / AmeriCorps VISTA Leader* 2008-2009
Ohio Campus Compact, Granville, Ohio.

- * Organized a statewide student conference on civic engagement (including managing budget and chairing a planning committee).
- * Managed a statewide service-learning student fellowship program for low-income and first generation college students with 16 member campuses.
- * Wrote and managed a MLK Day of Service grant with six participating campuses.
- * Mentored 30 AmeriCorps* VISTA members.

AmeriCorps VISTA: Service Leader* 2007-2008
University of Toledo, Ohio.

- * Co-coordinated a community wide dialogue between 50 community groups and the University of Toledo.
- * Implemented a service-learning fellowship for low-income or first-generation students (including creating and facilitating reflection sessions).
- * Assisted in the planning and implementation of a four-course service-learning project in North Toledo with participating instructors, high school teachers, and non-profit workers.
- * Managed a team of ten student service-learning leaders.

Antioch University McGregor Conflict Resolution Practicum 2006-2008

- * Mediated and co-mediated cases with the Lucas County Common Pleas Court and Maumee Municipal Court.

JOURNALISTIC PUBLICATIONS

- “Washington County Air Quality is the Worst in the Nation” *Marcolian*, April 2006.
- “Appalachian Trail Advocacy Weekly Series” *The Press*, Avon, OH: (written once per week during a 400 mile research and advocacy walk through Appalachia): Summer 2003.
- “Marietta College Mobilizes Against Pre-Emptive War” Columbus Free Press: March 2003.
- "150 People attend the No War on Iraq Rally and March February 8, 2003, at Marietta College"
Columbus Free Press: February 2003.
- “Progressive Musings” *The Press*, Avon, OH: (bi-weekly editorial column). Summer 2002.