

Kaitlyn DaVisio

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Education

- American University**, School of Public Affairs Expected 2028
Ph.D. in Justice, Law, and Criminology
- **Comprehensive Exams:** Terrorism and Political Violence; Political Methodology
 - **Dissertation Committee:** Cynthia Miller-Idriss, Ph.D. (Chair); Thomas Zeitzoff, Ph.D.; Tricia Bacon, Ph.D.
- University of Birmingham**, Department of Political Sciences and International Relations 2022
M.A. International Security and Terrorism, with Distinction
- **Dissertation Advisor:** Tereza Capelos, Ph.D.
- University of California, Irvine**, School of Social Ecology 2020
B.A. Criminology, Law, and Society
- **Minor:** Psychological Sciences

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- DaVisio, K., Malet, D., Miller-Idriss, C., Dashtgard, P., & Daymon, C. (2026). Fiction and Misinformation: Evaluating Anti-Government Sentiment and Trust in News Outlets through Fictional Storytelling. *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19434472.2026.2633398>
- Capelos, T., DaVisio, K., & Salmela, M. (2025). 'Today I Die like Jesus Christ:' An Analysis of Perceptions, Motivations, and Justifications through Ressentiment in Violent Extremist Manifestos. *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 37(8):1031-1047 <https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2024.2379043>

Book Chapters

- Capelos, T., DaVisio, K., & Salmela, M. (2024). Digital Campaigns of Extremist Violence through Ressentiment: Mapping the Emotional Mechanism of Violent Extremist Manifestos. In D. Lilleker, D. Jackson, B. Kalsnes, C. Mellado, F. Trevisan, & A. Veneti (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Political Campaigning* [↗](#) (pp. 115 - 127).

Contributions

- Codebook Report of Anti-LGBTQI+ Rhetoric. (2025). *Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Laboratory, American University*. [↗](#)
- Digital Male Supremacy: Online Narratives Before, During, and After the 2024 Election. (2025). *Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Laboratory, American University*. [↗](#)
- Building Networks and Addressing Harm: A Community Guide to Online Youth Radicalization, An Impact Study. (2023). *Southern Poverty Law Center* [↗](#)

Research Briefs

- DaVisio, K., Hoyeck, M., & O'Horo, E. (2024). *Military Coups in West and Central Africa*. United States Agency for International Development.
- DaVisio, K., Horowitz, J. & Clemmer, M. (2023). *Insider Threat: Foreign Terrorism and Extremism*. U.S. Department of Defense OUSD (I&S) Counter-Insider Threat Program.
- DaVisio, K., Carroll, M., & Manion, L. (2022). *Evaluation of Changes in Insider Threat Motivators from 1950-Present*. U.S. Department of Defense OUSD (I&S) Counter-Insider Threat Program.

Revise & Resubmit

DaVisio, K., West, J., & Dashtgard, P. Locked, Loaded, and Hyper-Masculine: The Role of Gun Culture in Constructing Modern Male Identity. Revise and Resubmit at *Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

Arnold, W. & **DaVisio, K.** Playing with Fire: The Symbolic Role of Fire in Political Violence. Revise and Resubmit at *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*.

DaVisio, K., West, J., Montgomery, F., Becker, M. H., & Relihan, D. A Rising Tide Lifts All Ships: Male Supremacy and Antisemitism. Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Deradicalization*.

Under Review

Yang, X., Xu, Q., **DaVisio, K.**, Amini, A., & Gill, J. A New Response Method for List Experiments: A New Response Method for List Experiments. Under review at *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*.

Working Papers

DaVisio, K. & Arnold, W. Old media and new(s) influencers: Content creators and narratives of political violence on TikTok.

West, J., Dashtgard, P., & **DaVisio, K.** No Step on Sneak: How Digital Gun Culture Fuels the Intersection of Online Male Supremacy and Anti-Government Extremism.

Teaching

The George Washington University, Department of Sociology

Visiting Assistant Professor

SOC 4195W: Senior Research Seminar Fall 2025; Spring 2026
Undergraduate Course, 30 students

SOC 2189: Terrorism and Extremism Fall 2025; Spring 2026
Undergraduate Course, 50 students

SOC 2102: Techniques of Data Analysis Fall 2025; Spring 2026
Undergraduate Course, 50 students

Adjunct Professor

SOC 4195W: Senior Research Seminar Spring 2025
Undergraduate Course, 25 students

SOC 2189: Terrorism and Extremism Fall 2024
Undergraduate Course, 25 students

American University, School of Public Affairs

Teaching Assistant

JLC 681: Introduction to Justice Research II (with Dr. Bryan Daves) Spring 2025
Graduate Course, 28 students

American University, School of Education

Teaching Assistant

EDU 386: Terrorism, Extremism, and Education (with Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss) Spring 2024
Undergraduate Course, 28 students

Research Positions

Graduate Research Associate, *Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Lab (PERIL)* August 2023 - Present

Consultant, *Moonshot* May - September 2024

Research Assistant, *Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security* June - August 2024

Subject Matter Expert , <i>CNA Institute for Public Research</i>	January - September 2023
Research Intern , <i>National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)</i>	May - August 2022
Research Assistant , <i>Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security</i>	June - August 2023
Undergraduate Research Assistant , <i>UC Irvine, School of Social Ecology, Development, Disorder, and Delinquency Laboratory</i>	March - October 2018

Funding

Research Grants

UCI Undergraduate Research Opportunities Fellow (\$600) 2018

Travel Grants

AU School of Public Affairs Travel Grant (\$1000) 2026

AU School of Public Affairs Travel Grant (\$1000) 2025

AU School of Public Affairs Dean's Professional Development Grant (\$700) 2024

AU School of Public Affairs Travel Grant (\$1000) 2024

Scholarships

AU School of Public Affairs Dean's Merit Scholarship (\$20,000) 2023

Presentations and Speaking Engagements

Conference Presentations

West, J., Dashtgard, P., & **DaVisio, K.** (2026, Mar. 7). *"No Step on Sneak": How Digital Gun Culture Fuels the Intersection of Online Male Supremacy and Anti-Government Extremism*. Eastern Sociological Society, Washington, D.C., USA.

DaVisio, K., & Arnold, W. (2025, Oct. 18). *Old media and new(s) influencers: Content creators and narratives of political violence on TikTok*. International Security Studies Section, The International Studies Association, Washington, D.C., USA.

Arnold, W., **DaVisio, K.**, & Miller-Idriss, C. (2025, Aug. 11). *Playing with Fire: The Symbolic Role of Fire in Political Violence*. American Sociology Association, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Illinois, USA.

DaVisio, K. (2024, Sep. 5). *Minding the Gap: Investigating and closing the gap between Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism*. Society for Terrorism Research, Annual International Conference, University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma, USA.

DaVisio, K., Hoyeck, M., & O'Horo, E. (2024, Aug. 8). *Military Coups in West and Central Africa*. United States Agency of International Development, Washington, D.C., USA.

West, J., & **DaVisio, K.** (2024, Jun. 18). *The Chad in the Mirror: A mixed-methods analysis of self-perceptions and grievances in video and textual incel content*. Terrorism and Social Media Annual Conference, Swansea University, Swansea, U.K.

DaVisio, K. (2024, Mar. 22). *Guys and Guns: Male Supremacy and Gun Culture*. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Hilton Chicago, Illinois, USA.

DaVisio, K., Horowitz, J., & Clemmer, M. (2023, May 19). *Foreign Terrorism and Domestic Extremism in Insider Threats*. Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security, Research for Intelligence and Security Challenges, Virtual.

DaVisio, K. (2019, May 18). *Personal Values and Well-being*. Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of California, Irvine, California, USA.

Workshops

DaVisio, K., & Salmela, M. (2024, Mar. 8). *"My whole life has been one lonely enterprise": The far-right's weaponization of loneliness through Ressentiment*. Politicized Loneliness Workshop, University of Helsinki,

Helsinki, Finland.

Invited Talks

Miller-Idriss, C., **DaVisio, K.**, and Elving, R. *The Thurber Dialogues on Democracy*. (2024, Oct. 28). Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, American University, Washington, D.C., USA.

Invited Guest Lectures

“ Terrorism and Criminology ” Undergraduate Course at George Washington University, led by Prof. Sarah Lynch	Fall 2024
“ History of Far Right Extremism ” Undergraduate Course at American University, led by Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss	Spring 2024
“ Lone Actors and the Far-Right ” Undergraduate Course at American University, led by Dr. David Malet	Fall 2023

Other Employment

World Affairs Council of Orange County Interim Executive Director	January - August 2021
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Service and Professional Development

Service to the University

American University, School of Public Affairs

Ph.D. Student Representative in Assistant Professor Search Committee	Fall 2025
Ph.D. Student Representative on Student Advisory Committee	Spring 2024 – Present
Graduate Student Mentor	Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
Undergraduate Research Advisor	Spring 2024

Professional Association Memberships

Eastern Sociological Society
Society for Terrorism Research

Professional Development Events

Community of Practice on Teaching Statistics to Non-STEM Students, American University	2026
Ann Ferren Conference on Teaching and Learning, American University	2025
Equitable Teaching Workshop, American University	2024
Emerging Voices in WMD Nonproliferation and Counter Terrorism, CNS Young Women in Nonproliferation Initiative & Middlebury Institute	2023
A Gentle Introduction to R, AU School of Public Affairs Analytics and Management Institute	2023
A Quick Introduction to Stata and R Statistical Software Packages, AU School of Public Affairs Analytics and Management Institute	2023
Effective Counter-Terrorism in a Democratic Society Roundtable, University of Birmingham	2022

Certifications

Greenberg Building Future Faculty Scholar	May 2026
George Washington University Student Wellbeing Champion	May 2025
CITI Ethics Training for Human Subjects Research	August 2023
CITI Ethics Training for Community-Engaged Research	August 2023
CITI Ethics Training for Community-Based Participatory Research	August 2023

Skills and Competencies

Methodologies

Quantitative: Natural language processing and computational text analysis; Machine learning; Web-data scraping; List experiments; Statistical inference

Qualitative: Digital observational ethnography; Thematic, content, and critical discourse analyses; Semi-structured interviews

Software

R (Advanced)

Python (Advanced)

NVivo (Advanced)

Atlas (Advanced)

Tableau (Proficient)

Qualtrics (Proficient)

L^AT_EX (Proficient)

Stata (Beginner)