

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**ROBERT TANNER BIVENS – Ph.D. Candidate**

Northern Illinois University  
DuSable Hall DeKalb, IL 60115  
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rbivens@niu.edu

**Academic Appointments**

**Northern Illinois University**

2021-Present

Teaching Instructor, Department of Political Science

**Education**

**Ph.D. Northern Illinois University, expected 2023** – Political Science

**ABD. Northern Illinois University, 2021** – Political Science

**M.A. Ohio University, 2017** – Political Science

**B.A. Ohio University, 2013** – International Studies w/ European Studies Certificate

**A.A. New River Community College, 2010** – Liberal Arts

**Research Interests**

International Relations; Diplomacy and governance; Norm Theory; LGBT/SOGI Human Rights; social IR Theory; Item Response Theory (IRT); Interpretive methodologies and methods

**Peer Reviewed Articles**

**Articles Under Review**

Bivens, Robert Tanner. 2022. “Generalizing Complexity: The Pitfalls of Positivist Analyses in the Study of International LGBTQIA+ Norms.” *Sexualities*. [UNDER REVIEW]

**Work in Progress**

“Negotiated Process: Understanding Diplomatic Practice Influences on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Norm Diffusion Dynamics”

“Ethnic Coalitions and the Trajectories of Civil Resistance Campaigns.” w/ Dr. Ches Thurber

“Norm Transference: Understanding Patron-Client Norm Diffusion in the Emergence of International Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Human Rights.”

“Scoring Commitment: Differentiating Human Rights Agreements Using Item Response Theory” w/ Dr. Colin Kuehl

### **Teaching Experience**

#### **Northern Illinois University, Instructor**

POLS 285: Introduction to International Relations; Fall of 2021, Spring of 2022

#### **Northern Illinois University, Teaching Assistant**

POLS 387: International Security w/Ches Thurber; Fall of 2018

POLS 381: Regional Security w/Aarie Glas; Fall of 2022

#### **Ohio University, Teaching Assistant**

POLS 2500: Introduction to International Relations w/Maria Fanis: Fall of 2015-Spring of 2017

### **Fellowships, Grants, & Awards**

2015-2017 Ohio University Graduate Stipend

2015-2016 Ohio University Travel and Conference Grant \$500

Recipient of the 2017 Ohio University Political Science Awards Committee’s Most Outstanding Teacher’s Assistant Award

Nominated for the 2017 NPSA/McWilliams Best Graduate Student Paper in Theory:  
Human Security: The Evolution of a Definition and the Failings of the State

2020-2021 Northern Illinois University Great Journey’s Fellowship

2021 Northern Illinois University Graduate Student Research Travel Grant \$200

2021 Frisch Travel Scholarship

2018-2020, 2021-Present Northern Illinois University Graduate Stipend and Funding

### **Conference Papers & Panels**

“Understanding Diplomatic Practice Influences on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Norm Diffusion Dynamics”

*International Studies Association (ISA) 2022 Annual Convention: A Wider Discipline for a Smaller World*

Nashville, Tennessee. 3/28/2022-4/2/2022

Paper Presentation

“Norm Transference: Understanding Patron-Client Norm Diffusion in the Emergence of International Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Human Rights.”

*ISA-Midwest Annual Conferences 2021*

St. Louis, Missouri. 11/19/2021-11/20/2021

Paper Presentation

“Ethnic Coalitions and the Trajectories of Civil Resistance Campaigns.”

*American Political Science Association (APSA) 2021 Annual Meeting & Exhibition*

Seattle, Washington. 9/30/2021-10/3/2021

Paper Presentation with Co-Writer Ches Thurber

“Ethnic Coalitions and the Trajectories of Civil Resistance Campaigns.”

*International Studies Association (ISA) 2021 Annual Convention: Globalization, Regionalism and Nationalism: Contending Forces in World Politics.*

Las Vegas, Nevada. 4/6/2021-4/9/2021.

Paper Presentation with Co-Writer Ches Thurber.

“Norm Transference: Understanding Patron-Client Norm Diffusion in the Emergence of International Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Human Rights.”

*2021 Western Political Science Association (WPSA) Annual Meeting: Populism, Nativism, Democratic Backsliding, and Pandemic Politics.*

Seattle, Washington. 4/1/2021-4/3/2021.

“War and Environmental Health: Examining the Linkages Between Armed Civil Conflict and CO<sup>2</sup> Emissions.”

*12<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern Illinois University History Graduate Student Association Conference: Individuals to Empires: Historical Scale in Method and Practice*

DeKalb, Illinois, 11/1/2019.

Paper Presentation.

“Human Security: The Evolution of a Definition and the Role of the State.”

*International Studies Association's (ISA) International Security Studies Section (ISSS) Annual Conference.*

West Lafayette, Indiana. 11/9/2018-11/11/2018.

Paper Presentation.

“Human Security: The Evolution of a Definition and the Role of the State.”

Presented by Brigadier General Kazimierz Sikorski for the Polish Academy of Sciences (Polska Akademia Nauk) Zespół Bezpieczeństwa i Rozwoju Człowieka Komitet Prognoz "Polska 2000 Plus" Polskiej Akademii Nauk. 10/12/2017.

Paper Presentation

“Human Security: The Evolution of a Definition and the Role of the State.”

*49<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA) Conference.*

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 11/9/2017-11/11/2017.

Paper Presentation

“From Blue to Red: The Case of West Virginia and the Rise of the Republican Party After the 2000 Presidential Election.”

77<sup>th</sup> Ohio Association for Economists and Political Scientist Conference.

Highland Heights, Kentucky. 9/23/2016-9/25/2016.

Paper Presentation.

### **Services & Talk Requests**

2019-2020 Illinois Regional Archival Depository (IRAD)

Archivist

2017-2019 Northern Political Science Association (NPSA) General Council Member

Graduate Student Member

2019 Northern Illinois University Teaching Assistant Institute’s *Teaching Across the Discipline*

Panel Member

2021 Northern Illinois University Global Politics Seminar

Presenter

### **Research Proficiencies**

**Languages:** Spanish (Adv.); Portuguese (Int.)

**Software:** R Studio & R

### **Potential Courses to be Offered**

Introduction to International Relations

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Introduction to American Government

Introduction to Political Science Research Methods

LGBTQIA+ Human Rights and Politics in International Relations

Human Rights & Transnational Advocacy Networks

Politics of Developing Areas

Norm Theory

Politics and Media

### **Professional Membership**

American Political Science Association

International Studies Association

Western Political Science Association  
Northeastern Political Science Association