

Jacob Isaac Ricks

Department of Political Science, Emory University
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Education

PhD – Emory University • Atlanta, Georgia • May, 2012 (projected)

Political Science

- Major Field: Comparative Politics - Development, Democratization, National Identity Politics, & Southeast Asia
- Minor Field: International Relations

Dissertation: “Politics of Participation: Irrigation Associations in Southeast Asia”

Committee: Richard Doner (chair), Jennifer Gandhi, Peter Little, Tracy Yandle

Abstract: Under what conditions will state actors engage in the institution building necessary to accomplish difficult developmental tasks? I construct a theory based on the preferences of three sets of actors: policy makers, top-level bureaucrats, and street-level bureaucrats. I argue that state actors will only expend the resources necessary to develop institutional capacity when they are faced with significant political vulnerability paired with a low degree of influence by top level bureaucrats. Using the empirical lens of irrigation management, I test my theoretical predictions through a series of comparative cases at both the national and sub-national level.

MA – Northern Illinois University • DeKalb, Illinois • May, 2007

Political Science

- Concentration in Southeast Asian Studies
- Thesis: “Sacred Symbols and National Souls: Religion and National Identity in Thailand and Indonesia.”
Committee: James Ockey, Dwight King, M. Ladd Thomas

BA – Utah State University • Logan, Utah • May, 2005

Asian Studies & Political Science

- Degree Awarded *Magna Cum Laude*

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Coalitions and Language Politics: Policy Shifts in Southeast Asia.” 2012. Forthcoming at *World Politics*. (with Amy Liu).

“National Identity and the Geo-Soul: Spiritually Mapping Siam.” 2008. *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism* 8(1): 120-141.

Conference Presentations

“Politics of Participation: Irrigation Associations in Southeast Asia,” presented at the Fulbright Mid-Year Enrichment Conference for Scholars in Southeast Asia. March 16-20, 2011. Bangkok, Thailand.

“Layered Government Responsibility, Participatory Natural Resource Management, and the Development of Irrigation Groups in Thailand and Indonesia,” presented at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 25-28, 2010. Philadelphia, PA.

“Containing Contagion: Institutions and the Spread of Financial Crises,” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 7-9, 2010. Atlanta, GA.

“Periphery Nationalism: The Case of Northeastern Thailand,” presented at the Cornell University Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Conference, March 16-18, 2007. Ithaca, NY.

“Thailand and Indonesia: The Case for (and Against) Decentralization,” presented at the Midwest Political Science Associations Conference, April 20-23, 2006. Chicago, IL.

“Local Democracy in Thailand: Obstacles and Prospects,” presented as part of a graduate student panel, “Modes of Governance and Democracy in Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia,” at the University of Michigan Southeast Asia Conference, March 31, 2006. Ann Arbor, MI.

Fellowships and Awards

Fulbright IIE Grant Award for Indonesia, Fulbright Scholarship Board, 2010

Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award, 2010. (declined)

Critical Language Scholarship for Indonesian, Summer 2010.

Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, 2009.

Foreign Language and Area Studies grant for the study of Indonesian, Northern Illinois University. Academic year 2006 – 2007.

Brady K. Howell Memorial Graduate Scholarship. 2005.

Outstanding Student in the Asian Studies Major, Utah State University. 2005.

Outstanding Student in the Political Science Major, Utah State University. 2005.

Joseph E. Black/Political Science Faculty Scholarship, Utah State University. 2004.

Presidential Scholarship. Utah State University. 1999 – 2005.

Teaching Experience

Instructor – The Political Economy of Development (with Rick Doner), Emory University, Spring 2010.

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to International Politics, Emory University, Spring 2009.

Grader – Introduction to Comparative Politics, Emory University, Fall 2009.

Guest Lecture – “Religious Minorities and Terrorism in Southeast Asia,” Politics of Southeast Asia, Emory University, Spring 2009.

Guest Lecture – “The Politics of Infrastructure Development: Mass Transit,” Political Economy of Development, Emory University, Spring 2008.

Teacher Training – Emory University's Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity Program, 2008-2009.

Relevant Employment

Research Assistant for Professor Richard Doner, Political Science Department, Emory University. August 2007 – December 2008.

Graduate Assistant in the Sociology Quantitative Research Lab. Sociology Department, Northern Illinois University. August 2005 – May 2006.

- Familiar with the use of STATA, SPSS, ArcGIS, and EXCEL

Contract Linguist for Thai language. Lingotek, Centerville Utah. 2004 – 2005.

- Earned General Professional Proficiency score on the Thai DLPT exam

Undergraduate Teaching Fellow for Asian History. Professor R. Edward Glatfelter, History Department, Utah State University. Fall 2004.

International Experience & Training

Critical Language Scholarship Program – Universitas Negeri Malang • Malang, Indonesia • Summer 2010

- Intensive Indonesian Language Program funded by the US State Department

USINDO Summer Studies Program – Gajah Mada University • Yogyakarta, Indonesia • Summer 2008

- Intensive Indonesian Language Program of the United States-Indonesia Society

Intern – The Foundation for Education and Development of Rural Areas • Chiang Mai, Thailand • Summer 2004

- Worked as translator, grant writer, and assisted in writing reports on organization projects

Volunteer Church Representative – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints • Bangkok, Thailand • August 2000 – September 2002

- Gained proficiency in Thai language and appreciation of Thai culture

Academic Service

Symposium Judge – Emory University Undergraduate Research Symposium • Spring 2010.

Graduate Student Council Representative – Political Science Department • Emory University • Academic Year 2008-2009

- Represented the Political Science Graduate Students during monthly meetings

Vice President – Southeast Asia Club • Northern Illinois University • Academic Year 2006-2007

- Organized and conducted the Graduate Student Conference on Southeast Asian Studies, Feb 16-17, 2007

Languages and Formal Language Training

Thai – Advanced Proficiency

Tested at general professional proficiency in DLPT exam.

Indonesian – Advanced Proficiency

Tested at advanced high proficiency in ACTFL- Oral proficiency interview

United States Indonesia Summer Studies Program, June-August, 2008

SILS Program, Emory University, November-February, 2009-2010

Critical Language Scholarship Program, June-August, 2010