

Gabriella Colello

Curriculum Vitae - January 2026

www.gabriellacolello.com | gcolello@uci.edu | Pronouns: she/her/hers

Education

Ph.D. Political Science (ABD, expected 2027)

University of California - Irvine

International Relations, Political Theory

Committee: Dr. Cecelia Lynch (chair), Dr. Daniel Brunstetter, Dr. Kamal Sadiq, Dr. Tiara Na'puti

M.A. Political Science

University of California

B.A. Political Science

Quinnipiac University

A.S. Paralegal Studies

Naugatuck Valley Community College

Areas of Research

Nuclear weapons politics, environmental politics, critical security studies, pluriversal politics, Oceania

Dissertation

Securing Precarious Worlds: Institutions, Catastrophic Risk, and the Emergent Politics of Survival

- My dissertation examines how global governance institutions respond to catastrophic risk (such as nuclear, environmental, and technological risk) by analyzing moments where dominant security frameworks break down or talk past alternative modes of understanding. It aims to map these points of friction in order to inform strategic foresight and decision-making, offering tools for navigating uncertainty and institutional deadlock in planetary governance.

Research

Publications

- **Article:** Colello, Gabriella. "Saprobic Politics: Decomposing Colonial Cosmologies in International Relations." *Review of International Studies*, 2025, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0260210525000269>.
- **Book Chapter:** Colello, Gabriella. "Pedagogie-Z: Generating Care in a Traumatized Generation." In *Teaching Political Science and International Relations for Early Career Instructors*, edited by Misbah Hyder and Michael Murphy. Palgrave Macmillan (2024)
- **Article (Contributing Author):** Baricuatro, Malia, Annie Fay Camacho, Gabriella Colello, Jonathan U. Guerrero, Johansen Pico, and Tiara R. Na'puti. 2024. "A Canoe Concept Toward Sustained Indigenous Connections." In *Preparing Publicly Engaged Scholars: A Guide for Innovation in Doctoral Education*, 60–68. New York: American Council of Learned Societies.
- **Article (Lead Author):** Colello, Gabriella, Swapna Pathak, and Marcos Scauso. 2022. "Solutions for Whom and by Whom? Environmental Norms and Intersectional Decoloniality." *Environmental Philosophy* 19 (2): 237–266. <https://doi.org/10.5840/envirophil202266118>

Forthcoming

- **Article (Invited Contributor):** Behera, Navnita; Colello, Gabriella; Kurki, Milja; Lynch, Cecelia; Querejazu, Amaya. "Relational Voices in IR: Pluralizing Relationality" *International Studies Review* [Presidential Issue]. Forthcoming (2026).
- **Book Chapter:** Colello, Gabriella. Introduction. In *Indomitable "Others:" Stories of Subaltern and More-than-Human Voices Confronting Liberalisms and Sustaining Worlds*, ed. Scauso. Routledge (forthcoming 2026)

Under Review

- **Article:** Colello, Gabriella: *Worlds in Contest: Cosmological Security and Colonial Violence in West Papua* (*revise and resubmit with Security Dialogue*).

Works In Progress

- **Dissertation:** Securing Precarious Worlds: Institutions, Catastrophic Risk, and the Emergent Politics of Survival
- **Article:** Tides of Justice: Ecocide Law as a Mechanism of Alternative Security (co-authored with Dr. Garrett FitzGerald)

Conference Presentations

- International Studies Association (Annual Convention) 2025, *Chicago, Illinois* ([Program](#))
 - Paper: Under the Morning Star: Cosmological (In)Securities in West Papua
 - Chair: Relational Voices in IR: Deconstructing colonial legacies
- International Studies Association-West 2024, *Pasadena, California* ([Program](#))
 - Paper: Towards a Theory of Cosmological Security
 - Chair - Undergraduate Research Panel, Colonial Legacies
- Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (Annual Convention) 2024, *Bodø, Norway* ([program](#)):
 - Roundtable: Nuclear Remembrance & Relational Worldings in the Sea of Islands
- International Studies Association (Annual Convention) 2024, *San Francisco, CA* ([Program](#)):
 - Paper: Fungal Frameworks: Pluriversality and the (Un)Becomings of IR
 - Chair - Relational Voices in IR
 - Roundtable: Critically-Focused Pedagogical Praxes
- International Studies Association-Northeast 2023, *Providence RI* ([Program](#)):
 - Workshop Participant - Relational and Interpretive Methodology Workshop
- National Humanities Conference 2023, *Indianapolis, IN* ([Program](#)):
 - Co-Authored Paper: Promising Directions for Publicly Engaged Doctoral Training
- International Studies Association-West 2023, *Pasadena, California*, ([Program](#)):
 - Roundtable: Relationality and Pluriversality: An Approximation
 - Chair: Colonial ViolenceS and ResistanceS
- International Studies Association-Virtual, Aug. 2023, *Online* ([Program](#))
 - Paper: A Conversation with ChatGPT: Oceania and the Epistemic Biases of AI
 - Roundtable Participant: Experiences of "Early Career Instructors"
- International Studies Association-West 2022, *Pasadena, California* ([Program](#))
 - Panelist: Anti-colonial Liberalism: An Oxymoron Against Others

Select Fellowships and Awards

Highlighted Fellowship: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (September 2023-June 2028)

- Award Amount: \$147,000

Highlighted Fellowship: Eugene Cota-Robles Graduate Fellowship (September 2022-June 2028)

- Award Amount: \$107,256

Highlighted Fellowship: Kugelman Research Fellowship, Center for Citizen Peacebuilding (June 2025-June 2026)

- Award Amount: \$1,500

Brython-Davis Fellowship (April-June 2025)

- Award Amount: \$12,000

Cascading Mentorship Fellowship (April 2025)

- Award Amount: \$3981.55

Select Trainings & Credentials

- **Certificate of Completion, Introduction to OSINT** (Security Blue Team, 2026)
- **Public Policy and Nuclear Threats Bootcamp** (UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, 2025)
- **Mentoring Excellence Certificate** (UC Irvine, 2023)

Professional Experience

Summer Instructor

UC Irvine Ethics Institute | (Anticipated Start Date: June 2026 - July 2026)

- Design and teach “The Ethics of Nuclear Risk and Responsibility,” a research-based module for high school students in the UCI Ethics Center Summer Program, introducing ethical reasoning on nuclear weapons, global inequality, consent, and responsibility

Adjunct Professor

Fullerton College | August 2025 - Present

- Develop syllabi and course content for *Introduction to Comparative Politics* class
- Course topics include comparative environmental politics, nuclear weapons command control, pandemic response, regimes, and democratic backsliding/transition

Application Mentor/Coach & Lead Facilitator

Mentorship Alliance | June 2023 – Present

- Design and deliver 30 hours of annual training curricula for grant/fellowship writing coaches, focusing on high-stakes national funding opportunities
- Oversee recruitment, hiring, training, and performance evaluation for 6–8 coaches each cycle

Research Assistant

UC Irvine | July 2023 – Aug 2023

- Conducted literature reviews on climate/nuclear politics, and thematically indexed a volume

Political Advocacy Intern - Equality Division

ACLU, National Political Advocacy Department | June 2022 – Aug 2022

- Developed a comprehensive nationwide campaign proposal advocating for federal legislation, outlining political strategies and tailored lobbying approaches informed by opposition research

Policy Fellow/Researcher

Central European Institute | Sept 2020 – May 2021

- Produced quarterly policy briefs on minority rights in Hungary for boutique investment firms
- Organized and moderated virtual symposia on comparative politics with global speakers

Legislative Intern to the State Senate President Pro Tempore

Connecticut General Assembly | Jan 2021 – Apr 2021

- Tracked 50+ bills, briefed senior staff, and facilitated constituent communication

Human Rights and Global Engagement Intern

Albert Schweitzer Institute, Quinnipiac University | August 2020 - May 2021

- Charged with assisting institutional research efforts related to indigeneity and sustainability
- Attended the University of Oxford's Consortium on Human Rights in March of 2021

Data Collection Lead, International Mining Risk Analysis

Spatiotemporal Information Analysis Services, Global | Sept 2019 – July 2020

- Managed environmental and regulatory data for 7,000+ international mine sites and supported integration of 215,000+ records into a global environmental risk database

Academic Service

DECADE Representative, UCI Political Science

August 2024 - May 2025

Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience

Co-President

September 2023 - May 2025

Critical IR Working Group, UC Irvine

Secretary of Communications and Newsletter Editor

March 2023 - April 2024

Global South Caucus - International Studies Association

References

Cecelia Lynch

Professor of Political Science
University of California, Irvine
clynch@uci.edu

Daniel Brunstetter

Professor of Political Science
University of California, Irvine
dbrunste@uci.edu

Jodi Balma

Professor of Political Science
Fullerton College
jbalma@fullcoll.edu

John Emery

Assistant Professor of International Security
University of Oklahoma
john.emery@ou.edu