

ALEJANDRA GONZALEZ MEJIA

Department of Political Science, Rice University
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EDUCATION

Rice University

Political Science PhD

M.A. Political Science

International Relations major, minor in Comparative Politics

Houston, United States

August 2022 – Present

May 2024

KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Master of Public Management

Concentrations in Global Governance & Political Economy, and International Development

Supervised Research Project: *Management of Publics in Digital Diplomacy* GPA 3.78/4.0

Sejong City, Republic of Korea

February – December 2018

Ewha Womans University

Master of International Studies

Concentration in International Studies and 21st Century Program Certificates on International Public

Relations and East Asian Studies GPA 4.05/4.3

Seoul, Republic of Korea

September 2015 – August 2017

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

Bachelor of International Relations *summa cum laude*

Honors thesis: *Persistence and Evolution in the ROK-US Alliance* GPA 9.47/10

Mexico City, Mexico

August 2008 – June 2013

Hanyang University

Study Abroad Program

Seoul, Republic of Korea

August – December 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rice University

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

POLI211 – Introduction to International Relations

Dr. Songying Fang (Spring), Dr. Kaitlyn Robinson (Fall)

Lead weekly discussion sections, grade assignments and exams, hold office hours for 35 students

Houston, United States

Spring & Fall 2024

Mongolia International University (MIU)

Lecturer, School of International Studies and Communication

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

September 2021 – August 2022

- Supervised the program accreditation by the Mongolian Ministry of Education
- Supervised five undergraduate final research projects on topics related to international economy and Mongolian economic relationships
- Reviewed eleven undergraduate final research projects as member of their committee on diverse topics on International Relations, from international organization to Mongolian foreign policy
- Developed the corresponding syllabus and instruct courses at undergraduate level to over 100 students (1st to 4th year): International Institutions & Global Governance, International Trade Theory, World Geography, and Ethics & International Relations, International Political Economy, Introduction to Global History, Quantitative & Qualitative Methods, Principles of Economics

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Virtual lecturer, Department of International Relations September 2020 – September 2021
Developed the corresponding syllabus and instructed courses at undergraduate level to over 100 students (1st to 3rd year): International Relations Theory & Practice, International Institutions & Global Governance, International Trade Theory, Comparative Politics, International Political Economy, Introduction to Global History, Quantitative & Qualitative Methods

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Rice University **Houston, United States**
Research Assistant 2023, 2025

Worked with Dr. Ashley Leeds on revising and updating the ATOP and CHISOLS datasets

Research Assistant Summer 2024
Worked with Dr. Cliff Morgan on reviewing and collecting information from OFAC on U.S. sanctions

OURI – SURF Mentor Summer 2024
Worked with the Office of Undergraduate Research mentoring first generation undergraduate students through their summer research experience

Research Assistant Fall 2022
Worked with Dr. Richard Stoll reviewing current literature on the rally around the flag effect and how the concept has been updated amid the COVID-19 pandemic to analyze public support for government responses to health emergencies

ProEcuador (Ecuador Trade Promotion Office) **Seoul, Republic of Korea**
Intern June – August 2016

- Promoted Ecuadorian products and investment opportunities at business-to-business trade fairs
- Wrote product reports and compiled news related to directly competing regional exports
- Corresponded with Korean and Ecuadorian authorities, and producers interested in exporting
- Planned the official activities of the Ecuadorian Minister of Trade on a visit to Seoul and Incheon
- Diagnosed the country needs and legal requirements for establishing a chamber of commerce

Public Diplomacy Center, Ewha Womans University **Seoul, Republic of Korea**
Project Intern March – April 2016

Symposium on UN's 70 Years of Communication: A Public Diplomacy Perspective. Project directed by Kisuk Cho, PhD (Ewha Graduate School of International Studies)

- Researched the evaluation methods for the symposium's impact
- Developed the exit survey for attendants and drafted the official press release
- Oversaw the center social media accounts and coordinated the digital Q&A session

Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACyT) **Mexico City, Mexico**
Project Intern May – August 2012

Agreement Between Japan and Mexico for Strengthening the Economic Partnership: Global and sectorial analysis of trade flows, investment, and cooperation (2010-2013). Project directed by Alejandro Carlos Uscanga Prieto, PhD (FCPyS – UNAM)

- Collected and classified media reports of the economic relationship between Mexico and Japan during the first quarter of 2011
- Standardized the information input of the project according to categories of interactions

International Relations Research Coordination, FCPyS – UNAM

Editorial Assistant

Mexico City, Mexico

January – August 2012

- Edited over 15 academic articles for their publication in the journal *Revista de Relaciones Internacionales de la UNAM*
- Compiled commentaries from reviewers to share with authors
- Created an authors and peer reviewers' database for the journal

RESEARCH

Transnational Repression

Research Project

In Progress

Current research work developing a theory of repression across countries and collecting quantitative data on the social, economic and political variables that determine the likelihood of regimes conducting repressive actions beyond their borders

Management of Publics in Digital Diplomacy

Supervised Research Project (KDI School)

August – December 2018

Individual literature review on public diplomacy, with focus on the characterization of digital audiences and the strategies to efficiently engage with publics. Supervised by Dr. Taejun Lee (KDI School). 40 pages

Persistence and Evolution in the ROK-US Alliance

Undergraduate Thesis (in Spanish) (UNAM)

June – December 2013

Individual research on the military alliance between the Republic of Korea and the United States through an institutionalist framework. Supervised by Prof. Alejandro Pedraza Cortés (FCPyS UNAM). 80 pages

INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Mongolia International University

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

“Plan your Future” Seminar

November, 2021

“Scholarships, tuition, and additional courses” workshop for senior students on their prospects after graduating from college

Mongolia International University

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Joint Seminar with Handong Global University

November 2021

“The role of universities in promoting sustainable communities” in *Community, Sustainability and Local University*

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

Mexico City, Mexico

Invited Lecture

February 2016

“Public Diplomacy” in *Análisis de Coyuntura* class by Professor Alejandro Pedraza Cortés. FCPyS UNAM

WORKSHOPS

Learning Community – Mentoring Undergraduates

Houston, United States

Organized by the Office of Undergraduate Research, Rice University

Spring 2024

Participated in biweekly discussions with other graduate students about the conceptualization, expectations and responsibilities in mentorship

STaRT@Rice

Organized by the School of Social Sciences

Attended workshops on grant writing, linear models, generalized linear models, fixed effects regression models, Bayesian thinking, in-depth interviewing, and effective presentations

Houston, United States

October 7 – 11, 2022

KDIS – CAG Policy Forum on Promotion of Rural Development

Conducted at the Chinese Academy of Governance

Merit-based attendance to the forum, including visits to rural development projects within the city, cultural experiences, and networking opportunities with Chinese scholars

Beijing, China

November 4 – 8, 2018

Seminar on Strengthening the Capacities of Public Institutions

Organized by the United Nations Project Office on Governance

Regional seminar focused on strengthening of capacities of public institutions and developing effective partnerships to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Incheon, Republic of Korea

October 26 – 28, 2018

Global Government Officials Seminar on International Policy

Organized by the KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Yearly seminar targeted to incoming public officers in the Korean government in which diverse strategies are discussed to improve public service from a globalized perspective

Sejong, Republic of Korea

August 16 – 17, 2018

MIKTA Young Leaders' Camp

Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (ROK)

Program that enables students from Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey, and Australia (MIKTA) to share ideas and discuss global issues in which the countries have declared their interest as a group

Sokcho, Republic of Korea

November 3 – 5, 2016

HONORS

Fulbright-García Robles Grant

Awarded by the U.S.-Mexico Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange (COMEXUS)

PhD Program at Rice University, in Houston, United States

2022 – 2025

Global Ambassador Scholarship

Awarded by the School of Public Policy and Management of the Korean Development Institute

Master Program at the KDI School of Public Policy and Management, in Sejong City, Republic of Korea

2018

Korean Government Scholarship for Graduate Studies

Awarded by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea

Intensive Korean Program (1 year) at Cheonnam National University, in Gwangju, and Master Program at Ewha Womans University, in Seoul, Republic of Korea

2014 – 2017

UNAM Undergraduate Academic Exchange Program Scholarship

Awarded by the General Direction for Cooperation and Internationalization (DGECI – UNAM)

Semester Abroad at Hanyang University, in Seoul, Republic of Korea

2012

SERVICE & VOLUNTEERING

Rice University

Latin American Graduate Students Association (LAGSA)

E-Board Secretary

Collaborate in the organization of monthly social gatherings

Houston, United States

2023 – 2024

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Texas Triangle International Relations Conference

February 2024

Organizer

Collaborated with Dr. Fang in the creation of the conference website, helped coordinating with presenters and attendees, and helped with general event logistics

Rice University Queer Resource Center

August 2023 – December 2024

Graduate Student Volunteer

Hold weekly office hours creating a safe space where people can stay, and share resources and information available on gender and health issues

Rice Women's Resource Center (RWRC)

July 2023 – December 2024

Graduate Student Volunteer

Hold weekly office hours to share information and resources available to the student body

MIU Spanish Conversation Club

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizer

September 2021 – June 2022

Prepared materials for weekly meetings in which through different activities students get familiarized with Spanish grammar and Latin American culture

LANGUAGES

- Spanish Native
- English Full Professional Proficiency: TOEFL iBT 116 pts (July 2020)
- French Professional Working Proficiency: Level B2, French Institute of Latin America (May 2020)
- Korean Working Proficiency: TOPIK level 5 (April 2016)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Studies Association (ISA)

2024 – Present

American Political Science Association (APSA)

2023 – Present

Peace Science Society (International)

2023 – Present