

LT COL JAMES “PIGEON” FIELDER, USAF (Ret.)

Department of Political Science • Colorado State University • Fort Collins, CO • 80523

Email james.fielder@colostate.edu Alternate james.fielder.phd@gmail.com Phone (303) 385-7472

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019 – Present Instructor, Department of Political Science, Colorado State University
2021 – Present Professor (Insight Faculty), Department of Theology and Religious History, Cherry Hill Seminary
2020 – 2023 Non-Resident Fellow, Brute Krulak Center for Innovation and Creativity, Marine Corps University, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia
2016 – 2019 Assistant and Associate Professor, U.S. Air Force Academy Department of Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy
2006 – 2009 Instructor and Assistant Professor, U.S. Air Force Academy Department of Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy

EDUCATION

2012 Ph.D., Political Science, The University of Iowa
Fields: International Relations, Comparative Politics, Security Studies
Dissertation: [Dissent in Digital](#): The Internet and Dissent in Authoritarian States
Committee: Brian H. Lai (Chair), Kelly M. Kadera, David D. Perlmutter, William M. Reisinger, Caroline J. Tolbert
2011 M.A., Military Operational Art and Science, Air Command and Staff College
2005 M.A., National Security Studies (with Honors), American Military University
1994 B.A., History, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Trust, social capital, internet/cyber-mediated politics, emergent political processes, ludology, social movements, politics and media (speculative fiction and gamer culture), professional wargaming, active classroom learning, qualitative methods

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Ableton Live, Adobe Audition, ATLAS.ti, Audacity, Blender, Reason, Tabletop Simulator, Vassal

OTHER POSITIONS

2021 – Present Chief Operating Officer, Mobius Worlds Publishing, Littleton, Colorado
2019 – Present Founder, James Fielder, LLC, Fort Collins, Colorado
2015 – 2016 Division Chief, Assessments and Lessons Learned, Headquarters 25th Air Force, JBSA-Lackland, Texas

2014 – 2015 Chief of Assessments, National Intelligence Control Cell, Headquarters
25th Air Force, JBSA-Lackland, Texas

(2013 – 2014)¹ Senior Intelligence Officer and Air Intelligence Advisor, 438th Air
Expeditionary Advisory Group, Kabul, Afghanistan

2012 – 2013 Chief of Strategic ISR Analysis, Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and
Reconnaissance Agency, Lackland AFB, Texas

2009 – 2012 Air Force Institute of Technology Graduate Student, The University of
Iowa Department of Political Science, Iowa City, Iowa

(2003 – 2004) Intelligence Flight Commander, 40th Expeditionary Operations Support
Squadron, Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory

2003 – 2006 Chief of Intelligence Operations, 28th Operations Support Squadron, 28th
Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota

(2002) Deputy Air Desk Chief, Combined Air Operations Center, Joint
Intelligence Center, Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

2001 - 2003 Intelligence Integration Officer to the Joint STARS Special Program
Office, Office of Intelligence, Electronic Systems Center, Hanscom AFB,
Massachusetts

(2001) Intelligence Systems Team Lead, Operation Desert Shift, Prince Sultan
Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

2000 – 2001 Command & Control Intelligence Integration Officer to the C4ISR
Enterprise Integration Special Program Office, Office of Intelligence,
Electronic Systems Center, Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts

1996 – 1999 Electronic Warfare (EW) Specialist, 1st EW Platoon; 1st Team Leader, 1st
EW Platoon; and Platoon Sergeant, 3rd EW Platoon, 502d MI Company,
3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Polk, Louisiana

PROFESSIONAL AND MILITARY EDUCATION

2020 Game Design Certificate, North American Simulation and Gaming Association

2020 Business Venture Validator, Colorado State University, Colorado

2017 Cyberworx Design Thinking Course, U.S. Air Force Academy

2017 Institute for Qualitative and Multimethod Research, Syracuse University

2016 Air War College (correspondence), Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2015 Wargaming and Technology Continuing Education Unit, George Mason
University, Virginia

2013 Air Advisor Course, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey

2013 Intelligence Master Skills Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

2011 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2009 Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan

2008 Summer Institute of Political Psychology, Stanford University

2006 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2003 Information Operations Orientation Course, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2003 U.S. Air Force Combat Targeting Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

2001 Dynamics of International Terrorism Course, Hurlburt Field, Florida

2000 Middle East Orientation Course, U.S. Department of State, Virginia

¹ Parenthetical assignments indicate operational deployments.

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| 2000 | U.S. Air Force Intelligence Officer Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas |
| 1999 | U.S. Air Force Officer Training School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama |
| 1997 | U.S. Army Primary Leadership Development Course, Fort Polk, Louisiana |
| 1996 | Combat Electronic Warfare Operators Course, Fort Huachuca, Arizona |
| 1995 | U.S. Army Cryptologic Linguist Course, Goodfellow AFB, Texas |
| 1995 | Basic Persian Farsi Course, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, California |
| 1994 | U.S. Army Basic Combat Training, Fort Jackson, South Carolina |

MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star Medal
 Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards)
 Air Force Commendation Medal (3 awards)
 Army Commendation Medal
 Joint Service Achievement Medal
 Air Force Achievement Medal
 Army Achievement Medal
 Army Good Conduct Medal
 National Defense Service Medal (2 awards)
 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
 Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
 Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal
 Air Force Short Tour Ribbon
 Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon
 Afghanistan Campaign Medal
 Air Force Longevity Service (4 awards)
 Army Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon
 Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (2 awards)
 Air Force Training Ribbon
 Army Service Ribbon
 ISAF NATO Medal

HONORS

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| 2022 | Professional Development Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University (\$1000) |
| 2021 | Professional Development Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University (\$500) |
| 2021 | Nominee, Best Teacher Award, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University |
| 2019 | Department Nominee, U.S. Air Force Academy Innovation in Teaching Award |
| 2019 | Department Nominee, McDermott Award for Research in the Social Sciences |
| 2018 | U.S. Air Force Academy Charles R. Coble, Jr. Research Award |
| 2015 | Plans, Policy and Assessments Directorate Intelligence Professional of the Year |
| 2008 | U.S. Air Force Academy Charles R. Coble, Jr. Research Award |

- 2008 U.S. Air Force Academy Department of Political Science Outstanding Contributor Award
- 2007 U.S. Air Force Academy Department of Political Science Company Grade Officer of the Year
- 2006 U.S. Air Force Squadron Officer School Outstanding Contributor Award
- 2005 28th Bomb Wing Air Force Intelligence Professional of the Year
- 2002 Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia Anthony P. Brown Award
- 1997 Distinguished Graduate, U.S. Army Primary Leadership Development Course

PUBLICATIONS AND BOOK REVIEWS

- Fielder, James D. "Pedagogical Spotlight: Gaming in the Classroom." *The Western: Newsletter of the Western Political Science Association*, 12(2), 2022.
- Harvey, Mark, James D. Fielder, and Ryan G (Eds.). *Games without Frontiers: Simulations and Games in the Political Science Classroom*. Taylor & Francis, August 2022.
- Fielder, James D. "[Ghosts of the Titanomachy](#): Structure, Commitment, Economics, and Risk as Causal Mechanisms in an Online Battle." *Simulation & Gaming*. Vol 53, No 3 (2022): 265-284, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/10468781221075659>
- Fielder, James. D. *Current World Problems*. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall Hunt, 2021. Revised 2022.
- Fielder, James D. "Cyber Security Policy in Kenya." In Romaniuk, Scott N., and Mary Manjikian (Eds.). *Routledge Companion to Global Cyber-Security Strategy*. New York: Routledge, 2021.
- Fielder, James D. "[Building the Magic Circle in Online Games](#)" *Around the Table*, Q4 2020.
- Fielder, James D. "[Start on Day 3: Liminality in High-Stress Wargames](#)." *Ludogogy* no. 8, 4 November 2020.
- Fielder, James D. "The Monsters Among Us: Realism and Constructivism in 'The World of Darkness' Roleplaying Game Setting." In Picariello, Damien (Ed.). *The Politics of Horror*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020.
- Fielder, James D. 2019. "The Narrative History of the Chocolate Wars: Designing a Short and Tasty Bargaining Game." *Journal of Political Science Education*, Vol 15, No 1 (2019): 82-93, DOI: [10.1080/15512169.2018.1446343](https://doi.org/10.1080/15512169.2018.1446343)
- Fielder, James D. Review of Karen Schrier, *Knowledge Games: How Playing Games can Solve Problems, Create Insight, and Make Change*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2016. Games Research Network, December 2018.
- Fielder, James D. *The Internet and Dissent in Authoritarian States*. In "Conflict and Cooperation in Cyberspace: The Challenge to National Security," edited by Panayotis A. Yannakogeorgos and Adam B. Lowther, 161-194. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2013.

Fielder, James D. “[Bandwidth Cascades](#): Escalation and Pathogen Models for Cyber Conflict Diffusion.” *Small Wars Journal* 9(6): 2013.

Fielder, James D. Review of David L. Adamy, *EW 103: Tactical Battlefield Communications Electronic Warfare*. Norwood, MA: Artech House, 2008. *Air and Space Power Journal* 28, no. 1 (2014): 93-95.

Fielder, James D. Review of Craig A. Snyder, ed. *Contemporary Security and Strategy: Second Edition*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008. H-War, October 2012.

WORKING PAPERS AND BOOK PROPOSALS

Fielder, James D. “A Case for Wargaming and Political Ludology.” (paper)

With Derek Glasgow, Mark Harvey, and Ryan Gibb. “Short Games for the Political Science Classroom.” (book proposal)

With Damon Coletta. “Game Theory & Game Play: Solving Riddles of 21st Century Deterrence.” (paper)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Why you should Play Games at Work—According to a Military Veteran.” TEDxMileHigh, Denver, Colorado, 12 November 2022.

“Board Games other than War: Modifying Game Mechanics for Combat and Non-Combat Operations.” Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia, 29 September 2021.

“The Crucible Effect: Applying Roleplaying Game Techniques for Effective Training Exercises.” Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia, 26 January 2021.

“Effective Facilitation Methods.” Military Operations Society Wargame Certification Course, 14 January 2021 (ongoing for future course iterations)

“The Magic Circle and Inclusion in Classroom Game Design—Online!” Professional Development Institute, Colorado State University, 11 January 2021.

Guest Lecturer, *PSAA 685: Space Governance* Course, Texas A&M University, 13 November 2020.

“[Analog Game Immersion with Online Tools](#).” HMGS Roundtable, 12 November 2020.

“Modelling Trust in Cyber Wargame Design.” Military Operations Society Cyber Wargame Certification Course, 22 September 2020 (ongoing for future courses)

“Crisis Response Wargaming.” FoCo ThinkTank, Fort Collins, Colorado, 15 April 2020.

“The Psychology of Effective Game Design.” Military Operations Research Society, Wargaming Community of Practice, 25 March 2020. Also presented to the Georgetown University Wargaming Society, 8 June 2020.

Wargame Design for The Business Classroom.” College of Business, Colorado State University, 16 March 2020.

“The Magic Circle and Inclusion in Classroom Game Design.” Professional Development Institute, Colorado State University, 13 January 2020. Also presented at GenCon Online, 31 July 2020.

“Introduction to Wargame Design.” Air Force Space Command, Directorate of Intelligence, Peterson AFB, Colorado, 10 April 2019. Also presented at the Moorman Space Education and Training Center, Peterson AFB, Colorado, 24 April 2019.

“Understanding Symbols of Racism.” After Charlottesville: U.S. Air Force Academy Critical Conversation Series. October 2017.

“Tabletop Games in Religion, History and Culture, and Basic Game Design Practices.” Coyote Ridge Correctional Facility. Connell, Washington. 28-30 October 2017.

“The Meaning of ‘War’ in Cyber Conflict.” Turnage Family Faculty Innovation and Creativity Fund for the Study of Political Communication Lecture. Elon University, Elon, North Carolina. 19 October 2017.

“Crossing Divides, Building Trust.” National Anthem Protests: U.S. Air Force Academy Critical Conversation Series. October 2016.

“Trust and Influence in the Cyber Domain.” United States Space Command. December 2016.

“Theory into Practice: Applying Political Science Theory to Military Operations.” Bose Speaker Series. The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. 12 November 2015. Also, Iowa City Foreign Relations Council. 11 November 2015.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

With Damon Coletta. “Game Theory & Game Play: Solving Riddles of 21st Century Deterrence.” International Studies Association – International Security Studies Section annual conference, 13 November 2021; revision presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual conference, 9 April 2022.

“Targeting Human Trust with Cyber Wargames.” Connections Wargaming Conference (Virtual), 21 June 2021.

With Sean Patrick Fannon and Michael Surbrook. “Roll for (Political) Initiative! Liminality, Heroic Agency, and Emergent Politics in Tabletop Role-playing Games.” Midwest Political Science Association (Virtual), 16 April 2021.

“The Ritual of Games and Gameplay.” Conference on Current Pagan Studies, Claremont Graduate School (Online), 16 January 2021.

“[The Magic Circle: The Psychology of Effective Game Design](#).” Georgetown University Wargaming Society, 8 June 2020. Also presented at the Connections Wargaming Conference, Center for Naval Analyses, Alexandria, Virginia, 11 August 2020.

With Jennifer Shinefeld. “Fearless Horizon: Triangulating Distance, Personnel, and Resources in a Crisis Response Wargame.” Wargaming the Pandemics Effects Conference, King’s College London, 1 April 2020.

With Sean Patrick Fannon, Jennifer Shinefeld, Michael Surbrook, and Cory Williamsen. “Roleplaying Game Worldbuilding Workshop.” North American Simulation and Gaming Association Annual Conference, 25 October 2020.

“Gaming to Lose: Learning from Failure in Classroom Games.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 2019

With Johanna Solomon. “War Games for Peace.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 2019

With Sean Patrick Fannon and Deron Jackson. “Social Sciences in Worlds that Never Were: Using Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature in the Classroom.” Denver Comic Con, Denver, Colorado. June 2018.

“The (Virtual) War Ledger: Political Risk, Economy, and Communication in EVE Online’s Battle of B-R5RB.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 2018.

“The Narrative History of the Chocolate Wars: Designing a Short and Tasty Bargaining Game.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 2017.

“Bandwidth Cascades: Diffusion Effects of Dyadic Cyber Conflicts.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. March 2012.

“Dissent versus the (Online) Surveillance State: Measuring Authoritarian Control of the Internet.” American Political Science Association. Seattle, Washington. September 2011.

“Speculative Sovereignty: Internet Effects on Currency Volatility.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 2011.

“Dissent in Digital: The Challenge of Contemporary Information Communication Technology to Authoritarian States.” American Political Science Association Pre-Conference on Political Communication. Washington D.C. September 2011.

“Synthetic Democracy: Associations and Social Capital in Virtual Worlds.” International Society of Political Psychology, Paris, France. July 2008.

MEDIA PUBLICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

“[A Conversation with Mark Harvey, James Fielder, and Ryan Gibb.](#)” *The Teaching Curve* podcast, 10 January 2023

Fielder, James D. “[Politics, Tyranny, and Citizenship in Video Games.](#)” *Ethics in Video Games* podcast, 20 December 2022.

With Nick Kauza. “[Operation Doorstep: Designing and Executing an AFROTC Wing Wargame.](#)” *Georgetown University Wargaming Society* Podcast. 11 November 2022.

[James "Pigeon" Fielder on Teaching Political Science Through Games.](#) *Beyond Solitaire* Podcast, 27 March 2022.

With Emma Ashford, Sebastian Bae, Damien O’Connell, and Andrew Reddie. “[Rapid Wargame Prototyping for Crises.](#)” *The BruteCast* Podcast, 10 February 2022.

Interview for *Reuters*. “[Analysis: Will the games stop? SEC mulls crackdown on trading apps.](#)” 26 January 2022.

“[The \(War\)gamer's Toolkit: Harvesting Mechanics from other Game Genres.](#)” *The BruteCast* Podcast, 16 September 2021.

Interview for *USA Today*. “[Stocks and Teens: Are there Enough Parental Controls as Teenagers Invest with Fidelity, Wells Fargo?](#)” 18 August 2021.

Interview for *USA Today*. “[Meme Mania Pushes Millennials, Gen Z into the Stock and Cryptocurrency Markets.](#)” 11 August 2021.

With Paul Vebber and Yuna Huh Wong. “[Wargaming in a Brave New World.](#)” *Visualizing War* Podcast. St. Andrews University, 5 July 2021.

Interview for *NBC News*. “[Are brokerage accounts for teens really a good idea?](#)” 9 May 2021.

Fielder, James D. “[Robinhood app makes Wall Street feel like a game to win – instead of a place where you can lose your life savings in a New York minute.](#)” *The Conversation*, 25 March 2021.

With Mark Harvey and Ryan Gibb. “[Teaching Political Science Through Games.](#)” *Games in Schools and Libraries* Podcast, 5 February 2021.

“[Wargaming Panel with Sebastian Bae, James Fielder, Damien O’Connell, and Andrew Reddie.](#)” *The BruteCast* Podcast, 6 August 2020.

Fielder, James D. “[Reflections on Teaching Wargame Design.](#)” *War on the Rocks*, 1 January 2020.

[“Classroom Games and Professional Wargame Design.”](#) *Games in Schools and Libraries*
Podcast. 15 February 2019.

[“The Pigeon’s Checklist for Classroom Game Design.”](#) *Active Learning in Political Science*,
4 February 2019.

COURSES TAUGHT, COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

INST 301: Research Methods in International Studies
POLS 101: American Government and Politics
POLS 131: Current World Problems
POLS 347: Comparative Authoritarianism
POLS 495: Independent Study

COURSES TAUGHT, CHERRY HILL SEMINARY

The Ritual of Play and Game Design

COURSES TAUGHT, U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

MSS 372: Wargaming Air, Space, and Cyber Power
Pol Sci 211: Politics, American Government, and National Security
Pol Sci 390: International Relations Theory
Pol Sci 460: Comparative Security Policy and Civil-Military Relations
Pol Sci 477: Politics of the Middle East
Pol Sci 484: The American Presidency
Pol Sci 491: Capstone Seminar in Political Science, Grand Strategy, and National Security
Pol Sci 499: Independent Study, Internet-Mediated Politics
Pol Sci 499: Independent Study, Politics in Worlds that Never Were
Pol Sci 499: Independent Study: Islamic Political Thought
Soc Sci 112, 212, and 412: Geopolitics
Soc Sci 495A: Politics in Worlds that Never Were

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member, Jesus Oswaldo Madrigal Garcia, 2022
CSU Wargaming Club Faculty Advisor, 2021 - Present
CSU Sigma Nu Fraternity Faculty Advisor, Delta Rho Chapter, 2020 - Present
Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Aubree Herrin, The University of Iowa, 2019 – 2020
USAFA International Relations Division Chief, 2017 – 2019
USAFA Advisor-in-Charge, 2016 – 2017
USAFA Department Classroom Scheduler, 2016 - 2017
USAFA Cadet Character Development Seminar Volunteer 2006 – 2009
USAFA Combined Federal Campaign and Air Force Assistance Fund Lead, 2009
USAFA Unit Compliance Inspection Manager, 2008
USAFA Department Information Technology Manager, 2006 – 2009

USAFA Assistant Air Officer Commanding for Academics, 2006 – 2008

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory and Editorial Board, *MORS Journal of Wargaming*, January 2023 – Present.

Editorial Board, *Simulation & Gaming*, August 2022 – Present.

Mentor, Cadet Summer Research Program, U.S. Air Force Academy, June 2020 – Present.

Volunteer, [The Zenobia Award](#), 2020 – 2021

Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award Committee, American Political Science Association, Political Communication Section, 2012 – 2015.

Reviewer:

- Games & Culture
- Journal of Information Technology and Politics
- Journal of Political Science Education
- Media, War, and Conflict
- PS: Political Science & Politics
- Simulation & Gaming
- Social Movement Studies

Member:

- American Political Science Association
- Digital Games Research Association
- Educational Wargaming Cooperative
- Game Manufacturers Association
- Higher Education Video Game Alliance
- International Simulation and Gaming Association
- Manchester Games Studies Network
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Military Operations Research Society
- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration
- North American Simulation and Gaming Association
- Pi Sigma Alpha

Conference participation:

- American Political Science Association 2009, 2011
- Chupacabracon 2022
- Conference on Current Pagan Studies 2021
- Connections US 2020, 2021
- Denver Comic Con 2018
- Fort Collins Comic Con 2021
- Gen Con 2020, 2022
- GenghisCon 2019, 2022
- International Society of Political Psychology 2008
- International Studies Association – International Security Studies Section 2016, 2020, 2021

- Midwest Political Science Association 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022
- Mystic South 2022
- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration 2022
- Norwescon 2022
- Rising Phoenix Game Con 2022
- Soonercon 2022
- Tacticon 2022
- TsunamiCon 2021

Current as of 04 January 2023