

# RACHEL URBAN – RESEARCH & PROGRAM ANALYST

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## EDUCATION

**PH.D.** | Political Science | University of Nebraska | Lincoln, NE (USA)

*Candidate, Specializations:* Political Psychology, International Relations, Natural Resources

**MASTERS OF RESEARCH** | Security, Conflict, & Human Rights | University of Exeter | United Kingdom

**BACHELOR OF ARTS** | Psychology | University of Nebraska | Lincoln, NE (USA)

*Minors:* National Security Studies, Global Studies, Political Science, English

**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS** | Southeast Community College | Lincoln, NE (USA)

## RELEVANT

### CERTIFICATIONS

**SQL Business BootCamp:** Udemy & Pierian Data.

Learned how to apply SQL commands in business scenarios. [\[link\]](#)

**Maximum Likelihood Estimation I & II:** Empirical Implications for Theoretical Modelling Institute. Trained in advanced multi-level modeling and spatial-temporal data analysis. [\[link\]](#)

**Foresight (Intelligence) Analysis:** Pherson.

Learned a “3D” qualitative method to think critically for future problem-solving. [\[link NA\]](#)

**Lean Six Sigma, Yellow Belt:** Lean Six Sigma Institute. [\[link\]](#)

Demonstrated MAIC methodology expertise, identifying issues in complex processes.

**Career Development:** UNL College of Arts & Sciences.

Workshop prepared for professional graduate careers outside of academia. [\[link NA\]](#)

## PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Program & Project Management | Inter-departmental Collaboration | Process Optimization | Budgeting  
Event Planning | Writing & Briefing | Executive Leadership | Stakeholder Relationship Management

## ANALYTICAL EXPERTISE

Policy Analysis | Quantitative & Qualitative Data Visualization & Storytelling | Inter-coder Reliability |  
Parametric & Nonparametric Statistics | Survey Design & Methodology Experimental Designs |

## SOFTWARE & TOOLS

SPSS, RStudio (Markdown & Quarto), Stata | Qualtrics, Decipher/Forsta Surveys, Survey Monkey |  
Microsoft (e.g., PPT, Excel) & Google Suites (e.g., Forms), Zotero, Monday, ArcGIS, AI tools (e.g., Gemini)

## LANGUAGES

*Software:* R, LaTeX, Python, SQL | *Spoken:* [Native] English, [Elementary] Spanish, Russian

## RELEVANT

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**GRADUATE ASSISTANT** | University of Nebraska | Lincoln, NE

Aug 2021 – Current

Held academic and administrative positions across Political Science, Psychology, and Natural Resources Laboratories:

- Coordinated cross-team collaborations (e.g., scenario building for decision-making testing).
- Developed & taught university curricula for 4 courses (e.g., climate policy and women in politics).
- Assisted faculty leaders in managing on-site schedule continuity and student participant support for a study abroad program (Australia), and authored chapters for the program book.
- Led end-to-end quantitative and qualitative studies, including longitudinal designs.
- Designed & piloted surveys to capture how on-campus pro-environmental, education, and national security attitudes were affected by media and other intervening variables (e.g., elite cues).
- Provided weekly theoretical and quantitative research project audits to ensure data integrity and actionable results.
- Co-planned & organized international conferences/symposia on security & psychology research.
- Hosted networking events (e.g., happy hours & dinners) for panelists and conference attendees.
- Managed hotel bookings and coordinated transportation for over 30 panelists and special guests.

*(Professional Experience, Cont'd on p.2)*

**RELEVANT  
PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE  
Cont'd.**

**POLICY RESEARCH ASSISTANT** | Catalyst Public Affairs | Lincoln, NE *Dec 2023 – May 2024*  
Analyzed & summarized bill impacts from the Nebraska state legislature for clients. Metadata entered into the living database. Conducted deep-dive renewable energy history and policy research across the Midwest to support client advocacy.

**GRANT RESEARCH SUPPORT** | University of Nebraska Medical Center | Virtual *Mar – Sept 2020*  
Temporary grant-funded position; aided the Epidemiology Graduate Director for the Buffett Cancer Center's P30 grant renewal, the first Community Engagement section [ Grant award: US\$10 million ]. Gathered community-specific (e.g., Omaha Metro) and Nebraska-wide cancer descriptive and demographic statistics. Drafted and revised manuscripts and submissions.

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR** | University of Nebraska Medical Center | Omaha, NE *Dec 2019 – Mar 2020*  
Temporary grant-funded position; coordinated students and applicants for the Epidemiology Graduate Director. Drafted, organized, and implemented new Ph.D. and Masters of Public Health program procedures.

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR** | State of Nebraska | Lincoln, NE *Sept 2017 – Sept 2018*  
Managed program schedule and budget to align directors and KPMG industry contractors on Program FuzioN, a State of Nebraska state-wide multi-departmental implementation of Oracle cloud software. Attended director meetings and briefed to align stakeholders; recorded minutes; and drafted briefs, presentations, and communications.

**RESEARCH TEAM LEADER & PANELIST** | Intelligence Community Scholars | Lincoln, NE *Jan 2016 – Aug 2018*  
Led 12 researchers in conducting high-stakes deterrence and emerging capability research for US Strategic Command. Briefed senior military officials and industry experts (audiences of 650+) on complex security and policy findings (e.g., US Strategic Command's Deterrence Symposium). 2018: Larry D. Welch Deterrence Writing Award, Undergraduate Runner-up

**DIPLOMATIC SECURITY INTERN** | US Department of State | Washington, D.C. *May – Aug 2016*  
Performed classified work to update the Victims' Resource Advocacy Program's (VRAP) resource database for survivors of abuse under the Department of State's purview. Aided in event coordination for the international Department of State summits and inter-departmental meetings. Supplied under-utilized advocacy resources (e.g., hostage situations) and attended high-level policy briefings. Interviewed ranking detectives, branch chiefs, military, and intelligence officers.

**RELEVANT  
RESEARCH**

**BY DESIGN: TRANSBOUNDARY INSTITUTIONS in DROUGHT and CONFLICT** | Dissertation | Courtney Hillebrecht (Chair) | *Manuscript drafting & Data coding*

- CH 4 seeks to identify quantitative patterns in how institutional design (e.g., policy mechanism differences) and, thereby, institutionalization affect violent conflict during drought.
- CH 5 (tentative) Case I traces the Niger River Basin's institutions over time.
- CH 6 Case II TBD per the quantitative results.

**CROSS-NATIONAL PUBLIC ATTITUDES** | Co-author | Sergio Wals  
*Data Analysis & Manuscript Development*

- Manuscript 1 defines patterns in Mexican public attitudes across US Presidential administrations (2003-2024).
- Manuscript 2 seeks to understand how Mexican public attitudes are influenced by personality traits.

**WATER POLICY EVENT TRACKING** | Co-author | Taylor Gold & Sarah Michaels  
*Data Collection*

- Tracing how historical political narratives about water allocation in NE affected legislative outcomes.