

Curriculum Vitae

Colin Kuehl

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Academic Positions

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and the Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability, and Energy(joint-appointment), Northern Illinois University, 2025-present

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and the Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability, and Energy(joint-appointment), Northern Illinois University, 2017-2025

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2017

M.A. Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2012

BA(with honors) International Relations and Global Studies, University of the Pacific, 2008

Publications

Forthcoming “Clinging to Power: Status Threat and Attitudes toward Renewable Energy ” Tammie-Louise Finnegan, Cassandra Epping, Nick Florian, and **Colin Kuehl**. *Environmental Politics*

2025 “Centering people in restoration messaging increases their likelihood to engage in restoration actions” **Colin Kuehl** Todd Buck, Christiana Guthrie, Oliver Meyers, Emman Mohammad, Quinn Sedig, Shupey Yuan and Holly P. Jones. 33: e70155. *Restoration Ecology*

2025 “Tweeting to Conserve: An Analysis of Water District Messaging during the California Drought” **Colin Kuehl** in Nic Guehlstorf (ed.) *Environmental Policy Science’s Exploration for Innovative Data* Springer

2025 “Varied Accounts of Quality and Rigor in Qualitative Research in Political Science” Alesha Porisky, Aarie Glas, and **Colin Kuehl** in Uwe Flick(ed.) *SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research Quality*(In Press)

2023 “Exploring Sustainability Knowledge: Developing and Assessing a Measure of What Students Know About Sustainability ” **Colin Kuehl**, Aaron Sparks, Heather Hodges, and Eric Smith *Frontiers in Sustainability* 4:1167041

2023 “Exploring the influence of aggressive and target-framing messages on pro-environmental behaviors” Shupey Yuan and **Colin Kuehl**. *Science Communication* 45(2) 225-251.

- 2022 “Acting Sustainably: Public and Private Environmental Behaviors” **Colin Kuehl**, *Pathways to Research in Sustainability* SUS021, 1–12
- 2021 “The Incoherence of Sustainability Literacy Assessed with the Sulitest” **Colin Kuehl**, Aaron Sparks, Heather Hodges, and Eric Smith *Nature Sustainability* 4(6) 555-560.
- 2020 “How water districts can reduce household water use through communication: A field experiment” Heather Hodges, **Colin Kuehl**, Sarah Anderson, Phillip Ehret, Cameron Brick. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 39(4) 1076-1099.
- 2020 “Systematic review of household water conservation interventions using the information-motivation-behavioral skills model” Phil Ehret, Heather Hodges, **Colin Kuehl**, Cameron Brick, and Sarah Anderson *Environment and Behavior* 53(5) 485-519.
- 2018 “When are we ever going to use this: Discussing Programmatic Learning Outcomes in the Classroom” Margarita Safronova, Caleb Miller, and **Colin Kuehl** *Journal of Political Science Education* 15(4) 421-432.
- 2016 “Delivery Energy (Often) Requires Public Consent.” Heather Hodges, **Colin Kuehl**, Aaron Sparks, Eric Smith in Raphael Heffron and Gavin Little (ed.) *Delivering Energy Law and Policy in the EU and the US: A Reader*, Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press

Manuscripts Under Review

- “Catalyst of Conflict or Cooperation: Water and the World Order” **Colin Kuehl** and Kristina Rohrer in Gigi Gokcek, Micheel Guedry, and Hui Lebrond (eds) *The Liberal Order in a Turbulent Era: Recognizing Threats and Exploring Solutions* Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd

Working Papers

- “Islamic Values and Pro-Environmental Behavior in Indonesia” with Rafif Imawan
- “Cooperation Under Uncertainty: The Behavioral Roots of Environmental Agreements”
- “Assessing the Environmental Attitude-Behavior Gap: Cross-National Differences and Global Impacts” **Colin Kuehl** and April Clark
- “Information Overload: A Natural Language Processing Aided Assessment of Drought Messaging” with Robert Durbin
- “Tweeting About Treaties: Using Machine Learning to Understand the Framing of Global Environmental Governance”
- “Tweeting to Sustain Communities: Using Machine Learning to Understand and Improve Social Media Outreach” with Robert Durbin, Courtney Breckenridge, and Nic Guehlstorf

Conference Proceedings and Other Publications

- 2024 “Sustainability Literacy and Sustainable Outcomes Questioning the Utility of a Contested Concept” *Proceedings of The 8th International Conference on Social and Political Sciences (ICoSaPS 2024)*

Conference Participation

- “Tweeting to Sustain Communities: Using Machine Learning to Understand and Improve Social Media Outreach” Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA April 2025
- “Tweeting About Treaties: Using Machine Learning to Understand the Framing of Global Environmental Governance” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 2025

“Tweeting to Conserve: A Natural Language Processing Aided Analysis of Drought Messaging” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA September 2024.

“Cooperation under Uncertainty: The Roots of Global Environmental Agreements” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA September 2024.

“Who Walks? Who Talks? Assessing the Environmental Attitude-Behavior Gap” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 2024.

“Cooperation Under Uncertainty: The Behavioral Roots of Global Environmental Cooperation” Earth System Governance, Radboud, Netherlands October 2023.

“The Behavioral Roots of International Agreements” American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, CA September 2023 .

“Nudging Equitable Water Use” Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Portland, OR July 2023.

“Tweeting to Conserve: A natural language processing aided analysis of water district messaging” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 2023.

“Scoring Commitment: Differentiating Human Rights Agreements Using Item Response Theory” International Studies Association, Montreal, CA, March 2023.

Invited Talks

“Sustainability Literacy and the SDGs: The Value of Knowledge” International Conference on Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, Indonesia, November 2024 (Keynote)

“Conditional Cooperation: Do Regional Norms Shape International Environmental Agreements?” Indonesian International Islamic University, Depok, Indonesia October 2024

“Encouraging Residential Water Conservation Using Behavioral Science” California Water Efficiency Partnership Spring Plenary, Oceanside, CA, March 2019.

“Encouraging Water Conservation using Social Science: How Cities can Boost Voluntary Behavior Change” MIT Water Summit, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, November 2018.

“Encouraging Conservation: How Smart Messaging Can Reduce Residential Water Use” Augustana College, April 2018.

Research and Travel Grants

External Grants

Illinois Innovation Network Seed Grant, “Tweeting to Sustain Illinois Communities: Using Machine Learning to Understand and Improve Social Media Outreach”, with Nic Guehlstorf SIUE \$38,182 (2024)

Internal Grants

NIU Student Engagement Fund “Plastic Preferences: Social Media and Public Attitudes toward The Global Plastics Regime” with Anna Klis(Economics) \$2400 (Fall 2025)

NIU Student Engagement Fund – “Posting for Sustainability: How Local Governments can Use Social Media to Promote Environmental Sustainability” with Hallela Wagner \$1200 (Spring 2025)

NIU Student Engagement Fund - “BARKS Campus Sustainability Survey” \$2,500 (Fall 2023)

NIU Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability and Energy Transdisciplinary Research Group Grant “Water and Justice” with Emily McKee, Tomoyuki Shibata, and Sarah Fox, \$5,000 (Fall 2022)

NIU Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability and Energy Transdisciplinary Research Group Grant “Restoring Hope: Ecological Recovery and Support for Environmental Policies” with Holly Jones, Shupey Yuan, and Todd Buck \$5,000 (Fall 2022)

NIU Research and Artistry Grants – “Cooperation Under Uncertainty: The Behavioral Roots of Support for Global Environmental Agreements” \$14,500 (Summer 2022)

CLAS Dean’s Summer Research Grant - “A Threat to Sustainability: Status and Environmentalism in Northern Illinois” with Cassandra Epping, Nick Florian, and Tammie-Louise Finnegan \$3,600 (Summer 2021)

Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability and Energy Research Grant “Examining the Effects of Aggressive Communication on Climate Change Action and Attitudes” with Shupey Yuan \$3,000 (Fall 2019)

NIU Student Engagement Fund “BARKS Campus Sustainability Survey” \$2,500 (Fall 2018)

UCSB Political Science Department Research Grant “Social Identities and Distal Frames” with Heather Hodges, \$250 (Fall 2015)

UCSB Chancellor’s Sustainability Graduate Research Grant “Measuring Sustainability Knowledge” \$3600 (Summer 2015)

Travel Grants

American Political Science Association Annual Conference Travel Grant (2016)

International Studies Association Travel Grant (2016)

American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference Travel Grant (2016)

Political Science Department Travel Grant (2014, 2015, 2016)

Broom Center Travel Grant (2014)

Fellowships and Awards

Northern Illinois University

Undergraduate Mentorship Award, Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability and Energy, 2024

UC Santa Barbara

Best Dissertation Prospectus, Political Science Department, 2015

Lead Teaching Assistant, Political Science Department, 2013-2015

Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award, Political Science Department, 2013

Teaching Experience

Northern Illinois University

Graduate:

Introduction to the Analysis of Political Data, Fall 2017, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025

International Political Economy, Fall 2018, Spring 2021, 2023, 2025

Intermediate Analysis of Political Data, Spring 2024

Theories of International Relations, Fall 2021

Undergraduate:

Politics of Environmental Health and Safety Regulation, Fall 2025

Sustainability Governance: The Politics of Environmental Solutions, Fall 2023, 2024, 2025
 International Political Economy, Fall 2024
 Environmental Law, Policy, and Economics, Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
 Introduction to International Relations, Spring 2018, 2020, 2025
 Global Environmental Politics, Spring 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024, Summer 2025

Instructor of Record - Department of Political Science - UC Santa Barbara

Globalization and World Politics, Spring 2017
 Comparative Environmental Politics, Summer 2015
 Teaching Assistant Training, 2013-2014, 2014-2015

Mentorship

Graduate - PhD

Ongoing:

P.h.D Committee Co-Chair - Salieg Munestri *The Nexus of Religious Populism and Foreign Policy: Evidence from Indonesia* (Spring 2026)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Rithiya Serey *ASEAN's Centrality in Managing SCS Disputes and Myanmar Crisis after the February 2021 Coup* (Fall 2025)
 P.h.D Committee Chair - Abigail Tetteh *Cybersecurity in Africa*
 P.h.D Committee Co-Chair - Budi Kurniawan *Economic Dependence on Mining Resources and Political Party Competition: A Subnational Case Study of Post Authoritarian Indonesia*

Complete:

P.h.D Committee Member - Cassandra Epping *Status Threat and American Politics* (Summer 2025)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Farzana Sharmin *God and Gender Parity in Public Policies: The Role of Religion Across Issues and Regimes* (Summer 2025)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Robert Bivens *Productive Shared Identity: Angola and LGBTQIA+ Norm Diffusion Through Lusophony* (Summer 2024)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Carolina Velandia Hernandez *Core capture: The Effect of Exposure to Multinational Firms on the Belief Systems of Executive Regulators* (Summer 2024)
 P.h.D Committee Co-Chair - Limeng Ong *Causes and Consequences of Opposition Contestation in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes* (Fall 2023)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Anna Zapolska *When Sanctions Can Benefit the Target: State Strategic Adjustments to Multilateral Sanctions in Russia and Beyond* (Fall 2022)
 P.h.D Committee Member - Testriono *Assessing Democratic Performance in Indonesia* (Fall 2022)

Graduate - MA

Ongoing:

M.A. Committee Chair- Mckeown Owosu (Spring 2026)
 M.A. Committee Member- Casey Kruger (Spring 2026)

Complete:

M.A. Committee Chair- Isaiah Chukwudie Samuel – *Resource Dependence and Climate Change Public Opinion: Evidence from Nigeria*(Summer 2025)
 M.A. Committee Member - Hannah Temes *Trust in the Time of COVID-19* (Spring 2025)
 M.A. Committee Chair- Thomas Mejdrech *Factors Associated with Human Trafficking: A Quantitative Analysis*(Fall 2024)

- M.A. Committee Chair- Chibuzo Obasi *China's Greek Gift to Africa: Myth or Reality*(Spring 2023)
- M.A. Committee Member - Mohammed Noor *The Gulf Cooperation Council's Policies Towards Iran* (Summer 2022)
- M.A. Committee Chair- Tammie-Louise Finnegan *The Political-Economy Trilemma-Dilemma: Constraint or Choice?*(Spring 2022)
- M.A. Committee Member - Nick Florian *Neopatrimonialism and Civil Conflict: Grievances, Opportunities, and Oil Wealth* (Spring 2022)
- M.A. Committee Member - Cassandra Epping *A Threat to Participate: The Impact of Status Threat on Political Participation* (Spring 2022)
- M.A. Committee Member - Kaylar Recker *Power of Presidential Rhetoric: The State of the Union and Legislative Productivity* (Spring 2021)
- M.A. Committee Co-Chair- Limeng Ong *Patterns of Authoritarian Electoral Regimes in the Post Cold War Era*(Summer 2020)
- M.A. Committee Member - Levi Rattliff *Southern Electoral Strategy*(Spring 2020)
- M.A. Committee Member - Shadrick Mead *Efficacy and Political Participation: How Can I Make a Difference?*(Fall 2018)
- M.A. Committee Member - Dimitri Niforos *The Curious Case of Austria's Generosity*(Spring 2018)

Undergraduate Research Advisor

- Hallela Wagner *Tweeting to Sustain Illinois Communities*
- Devin Ooman *Education and Variation in Development in India*(Fall 2024)
- Em Myers and Jonathan Durbin *The NIU Behaviors, Attitudes, Resources, and Knowledge of Sustainability(BARKS) Survey*(Fall 2023)
- Eric Kirchman *Change and Variation in Public Attitudes toward Nuclear Energy*Honors Capstone (Fall 2022)
- Justin Pendergast *Covid Impact on Residential Water Consumption* (Fall 2020)
- Kristen Edgar *The NIU Behaviors, Attitudes, Resources, and Knowledge of Sustainability(BARKS) Survey*(Spring 2019)

Additional Training

- Northwestern Causal Inference Workshop, Chicago, IL Summer 2022
- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse, NY Summer 2014
- Summer Teaching Institute for Associates, UCSB Office of Instructional Development, 2015

Service

Professional

- Best Paper Award Committee - Science, Technology and Environmental Politics Section, American Political Science Association 2025-2026
- Mentoring Program- Environmental Studies Section, International Studies Association 2021-2025
- Nominations Committee - Environmental Studies Section, International Studies Association 2018 - 2020
- Associate Editor - Journal of Environment and Development 2013-2016

Northern Illinois University

Transdisciplinary Research Task Force 2021

Department of Political Science

Graduate Committee Member 2017-2018, 2019-2020, 2021-2022, 2023-2024, 2024-2025

Undergraduate Committee Member 2018- 2019, 2020-2021, 2022-2023

Global Politics Seminar Series Co-Convener (Ongoing)

Ad-Hoc Committee on Graduate Program Improvement (2023-2024)

Languages

Software: R, L^AT_EX, Markdown

German: Proficient reading and speaking skills, intermediate writing

Turkish, Spanish: Beginning reading and speaking

Professional Memberships

International Studies Association

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Earth System Governance Project