

CURRICULUM VITAE
LEE MORGENBESSER

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RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Authoritarian Politics, Democratization, Dictators, Election Observation, Southeast Asian Politics

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2014 Doctor of Philosophy, Griffith University
2008 Bachelor of Politics and Government with Class I Honours, Griffith University
2007 Bachelor of International Relations, Griffith University

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019- Senior Lecturer, School of Government and International Relations, Griffith University
2014-2018 Research Fellow, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

2020 School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University (postponed by COVID-19)
2012 Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore

VISITING SCHOLAR

2019 Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin, United States
 Centre for Southeast Asia Research, University of British Columbia, Canada
2018 Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway
 V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
 German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany
2016 WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany

PUBLICATIONS

Books

[!\[\]\(529949c2c3dadbaa4e538e8c643454bc_img.jpg\)](#) *The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020).

[!\[\]\(3dfb8d66e81160ad61421a3452093d1b_img.jpg\)](#) *Behind the Façade: Elections under Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2016).

Journal Articles

[!\[\]\(0f848bbd71cef6b345273b16f905912a_img.jpg\)](#) “Election Turnout in Authoritarian Regimes,” *Electoral Studies*, Vol. 68 (2020): 1-11 (with Ferran Martinez i Coma).

[!\[\]\(339a16584d5da0f0a3ca4e9ec17bf6a1_img.jpg\)](#) “The Menu of Autocratic Innovation,” *Democratization*, Vol. 27, No. 6 (2020): 1053-1072.

[!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\)](#) “The APSA Journal Rankings: Popularity, Purpose and Performance,” *Australian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 54, No. 3 (2019): 318-333 (with Duncan McDonnell).

[!\[\]\(de95854c7ee024cfadc48187bbb781b2_img.jpg\)](#) “Cambodia’s Transition to Hegemonic Authoritarianism,” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (2019): 158-171.

[!\[\]\(3211b5d1d968fc1665909b34f9f16010_img.jpg\)](#) “Elections as Causes of Democratization: Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective,” *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 52, No. 1 (2019): 3-35 (with Thomas Pepinsky).

[!\[\]\(6059a5aa8b4ca7bb793408023d6c6e42_img.jpg\)](#) “Survive and Thrive: Field Research in Authoritarian Southeast Asia,” *Asian Studies Review*, Vol. 42, No. 3 (2018): 385-403 (with Meredith Weiss).

[!\[\]\(c50c8b7b2cc2cf9ff925edec0ee94c0d_img.jpg\)](#) “Misclassification on the Mekong: The Origins of Hun Sen’s Personalist Dictatorship,” *Democratization*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (2018): 192-208.

[!\[\]\(6a9b39b98eb945faa14c645ec99e4eaa_img.jpg\)](#) “Out of the Shadows: Authoritarian Regimes, Flawed Elections and International Legitimation,” *Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (2017): 328-347 (with Maria Debre).


[!\[\]\(9c2e8d1b5bd77cb5c9f83b7a9cff79fd_img.jpg\)](#) “The Autocratic Mandate: Elections, Legitimacy and Regime Stability in Singapore,” *The Pacific Review*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (2017): 205-231.

[!\[\]\(e3275251d0893157c3584e20c81dc3ba_img.jpg\)](#) “The Failure of Democratisation by Elections in Cambodia,” *Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (2017): 135-155.


[!\[\]\(f60b7a900783ac3fd531bfd9c111be6d_img.jpg\)](#) “In Search of Stability: Electoral Legitimation under Authoritarianism in Myanmar,” *European Journal of East Asian Studies*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (2015): 163-188.

[!\[\]\(f1c5da15572e3e09d343161be98f508d_img.jpg\)](#) “Elections in Hybrid Regimes: Conceptual Stretching Revived,” *Political Studies*, Vol. 62, No. 1 (2014): 21-36.

[!\[\]\(235bfe13ebf007ce2eea9e689707fac7_img.jpg\)](#) “Bridging the Information Gap: A Survey of Politics and International Relations PhD Students in Australia,” *Australian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 48, No. 4 (2013): 507-518 (with Glenn Kefford).

 “The 2012 TRIP Survey of International Relations in Australia: One Problem to Rule Us All,” *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 62, No. 2 (2013): 222-237.

Book Chapters

 “Out of the Shadows: Authoritarian Regimes, Flawed Elections and International Legitimation.” In A. Dukalskis and J. Gerschewski (eds), *Justifying Dictatorship: Studies in Autocratic Legitimation*. New York: Routledge, 2018, 78-97 (with Maria Debre).

In Progress

Everyday Repression in Southeast Asia

“Personalist Dictatorships and Measurement Validity”

“Autocratic Assassins” (with Sheena Greitens and Tore Wig)

“The Singapore Model” (with Milan Svobik)

“On the Move: Dictators, Security and Capital Relocations” (with Carl Henrik Knutsen and Tore Wig)

“Parliaments under Fire: Conceptualizing and Operationalizing Legislative Closure” (with Lindsay Benstead, Margaret Hanson, Allison Hartnett, Ben Noble, Paul Schuler, Matthew Wilson, Josef Woldense)

INVITED TALKS

2021 The Carter Center, United States
European Parliament, Belgium
Council on Foreign Relations, United States
United States Department of State, United States
United States Agency for International Development, United States
Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University, Australia

2020 Investigating and Exploring Society, University of Canberra, Australia

2019 United States Agency for International Development, United States
The BiG Network: Innovation Month, Australia

2018 Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway
V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
Germany Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany
American Enterprise Institute, United States
United States Department of State, United States
Heritage Foundation, United States
United States Agency for International Development, United States
Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, University of Sydney, Australia
Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia
ASEAN-Australia Dialogue, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australia

Australian National University/TIFA Foundation, Australia
 Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
 2017 United States Department of State, United States
 National Endowment for Democracy, United States
 2016 WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany
 Department of Government and International Relations, University of Sydney, Australia

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association	2017, 2019, 2020, 2021
Asian Studies Association of Australia	2018
Australian Political Studies Association	2011, 2012, 2013, 2017
European Consortium for Political Research	2015, 2016
International Studies Association	2011, 2012
Southeast Asia Research Group	2018, 2019, 2020

COMMENTARY

Written

[!\[\]\(23d9fc146e83b5c3013cfa32c784f8d5_img.jpg\)](#) "Facing Up to Sophisticated Authoritarianism," *The Ambassador's Brief*, 2 May 2020.

[!\[\]\(c694a3ff3b077d76910920a6a1593ab4_img.jpg\)](#) "Autocrats are Finding Democratic Facades Hard to Keep Up," *Foreign Policy*, 1 May 2020.

[!\[\]\(ec9132f1d27c8919987d92907322654d_img.jpg\)](#) "The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia," *Machinery of Government*, 23 October 2019.

[!\[\]\(05be7c7a8995decd503647c99211f7c2_img.jpg\)](#) "Fake Monitors Endorse Cambodia's Sham Election," *Foreign Policy*, 30 July 2018.

[!\[\]\(aa53ad6fea213b8b2226d3077e30533a_img.jpg\)](#) "Casting a Shadow of Doubt on International Election Monitoring Norms," *National Endowment for Democracy*, 29 November 2017.

[!\[\]\(dd161862f9164df98f62b726e9846241_img.jpg\)](#) "A Midnight Crackdown in Cambodia," *Freedom House*, 14 September 2017.

[!\[\]\(758ebdf4629c903da74c2e079717ae32_img.jpg\)](#) "Cambodia's Leader Just Cracked Down on the Opposition, and the Consequences will be Dramatic," *The Monkey Cage*, 24 February 2017.

[!\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7_img.jpg\)](#) "Lifting Myanmar's Sanctions: Right or Wrong?" *Myanmar Times*, 26 September 2016.

[!\[\]\(626ce8ac21792b9405bfddfea8e0c96a_img.jpg\)](#) "Elections without Democracy in Southeast Asia," *New Mandala*, 5 August 2016 (with Tom Pepinsky).

[!\[\]\(a8f9309f944226d1420f5fed22e2b6e6_img.jpg\)](#) "Burma Votes on Sunday. Why do Authoritarian Regimes Even Hold Elections?" *The Monkey Cage*, 7 November 2015.

[!\[\]\(248b91fcdac4810ffd15cf33fb6aec6f_img.jpg\)](#) "The Theatre of Autocratic Elections: Why Myanmar is Going to the Polls," *The Conversation*, 5 November 2015.

Solicited (Selected)

ABC News, Agency France-Presse, Al Jazeera, Asahi Shimbun, Asia Times, Asian Correspondent, Australian Financial Review, BBC News, Bloomberg, Channel NewsAsia, Deutsche Presse-Agentur, Deutsche Welle, Los Angeles Review of Books, Los Angeles Times, Myanmar Times, Newsweek, Nikkei Asian Review, Rappler, Reuters, Sky News, South China Morning Post, Straits Times, Taipei Times, The 7:30 Report, The Age, The Atlantic, The Australian, The Economist, The Diplomat, The Guardian, The Jakarta Post, The Japan Times, The New York Times, The Seattle Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Time Magazine

TEACHING

Convening

2021- Political Leadership
2017- The Way of the Dictator
2014-2015 Global Security

Tutoring

2008-2013 American Foreign Policy, American Politics, Comparative European Politics, Human Rights in World Politics, International Relations, International Relations Theory, Media and Politics

SERVICE

Appointments

2020- Higher Degrees Research Convenor, School of Government and International Relations
Member, Griffith Business School Higher Degrees Research Committee
2018- Member, Griffith Business School Research Strategy and Impact Committee
2016-2017 Early Career Representative, Griffith University Board of Graduate Research
2014-2016 Chair of Seminar Series, Centre for Governance and Public Policy
2012-2014 Postgraduate Member, APSA Standing Committee on International Relations
2012 Postgraduate Member, Griffith Business School Learning & Teaching Committee

Editorial Boards

2017- Contemporary Politics

Initiatives

2019-2020 HDR Professional Development Program, School of Government and International Relations
2017-2020 Cambodia Country Representative, Association of Mainland Southeast Asia Studies
2017-2018 Co-Founder, Authoritarian Warning Survey

Mentoring

- 2020 PhD Professional Development Session, Australian Political Studies Association
Gender Equality Research Network, Griffith University
Early Career Researcher Seminar, Griffith Business School
- 2019 Bridging the Academic-Policy Divide, Southeast Asia Research Group
- 2018 Publishing Southeast Asian Research, American Political Science Association
Early Career Researcher Day, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre
Postgraduate Day, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre
- 2013 Advanced Methods in Political Science, Australian Political Studies Association

Peer Reviews

- 2014- American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Asian Studies Review, Australian Journal of International Affairs, Australian Journal of Political Science, Communist and Post-Communist Studies, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Contemporary Politics, Democratization, Electoral Studies, Government and Opposition, International Political Science Review, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Contemporary Asia, Journal of Peace Research, Midsouth Political Science Review, Pacific Affairs, Peacebuilding, Policy Studies, Political Behavior, Political Studies, Political Studies Review, Politics, Politikon, PS: Political Science & Politics, South East Asia Research
- Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge
- Australian Research Council

AWARDS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2021 DFRLab's 360/Digital Sherlocks Program, Atlantic Council
- 2020 Griffith Business School Publication and Grant Completion Scheme, \$4,850
- 2019 Griffith University Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award (ECR Category), \$5,000
Diplomatic Academy, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, \$396,901
- 2018 Griffith Business School Research Excellence Award (ECR Category), \$5,000
Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award, \$331,248
- 2017 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting Travel Grant, \$250
University of Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Travel Grant, \$750
- 2015 Griffith Business School New Researcher Grant, \$9,462
- 2013 Asian Politics, Security and Development Conference Grant, \$2,500
School of Government and International Relations Travel Grant, \$1,000
- 2012 Prime Minister's Australia Asia Outgoing Postgraduate Award, \$63,000
Centre for Governance and Public Policy Travel Allowance, \$6,500
Griffith Business School HDR Conference Travel Grant, \$3,000
International Studies Association Travel Grant, \$450
- 2011 Australian Political Studies Association Postgraduate Travel Award, \$400

2010 Griffith University Postgraduate Research Scholarship, \$24,653 p.a.
Asian Politics, Security and Development Research Scholarship, \$5,000 p.a.

PHD SUPERVISION

2021- Bogdan Mamaev
2020- Ibrahim Genc; Edy Susilo
2018- Daniel Szabo; Mun Vong
Completed Lucy West

CONSULTANCY

2021- Dutch Council for Refugees
Freedom House (International Advisory Board: Civil Mobilisation under Authoritarianism)
2020 Varieties of Democracy
2019 Facebook
United States Agency for International Development
2017- Bertelsmann Transformations Index, Bertelsmann Foundation
2016 Leadership-Security Ties Project, Pennsylvania State University
2015 Electoral Integrity Project, Harvard University/University of Sydney

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2021 Geolocation, Digital Forensics Research Lab
Information Operations 101, Digital Forensics Research Lab
Introduction to Twitter Analysis, Digital Forensics Research Lab
Narrative Warfare, Digital Forensics Research Lab
OSINT Tools that Work via Command Line, Digital Forensics Research Lab
Social Media and Individual-Focused Research Course, Bellingcat
Telegram Analysis, Digital Forensics Research Lab
Verification Course, Bellingcat
2017 Data Analysis Using Stata, ACSPRI
2016 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University
2015 Fundamentals of Statistics, ACSPRI

MEMBERSHIPS

2016- Asian Studies Association of Australia
2015- American Political Science Association
2011- Australian Political Studies Association

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