

# CAROL ATKINSON

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## SUMMARY

Carol Atkinson holds an MA and PhD in Political Science from Duke University, an MA in Geography from Indiana University, an MA in Military Operational Art and Science from the US Air Force's Command and Staff College, and a BS from the United States Air Force Academy. In 2005 Dr. Atkinson completed a distinguished 26-year career in the US Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. While in the military she served in a wide range of operational assignments in the fields of intelligence, targeting, and combat assessment. She is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm (1991) where she served on the Central Command Headquarters' staff in Riyadh, and, subsequently, on the contingency planning staff in Dhahran/Khobar, Saudi Arabia. During her career, she also served as an intelligence advisor on Strategic Air Command's nuclear airborne command post which was tasked with emergency command and control of US strategic nuclear weapons. Dr. Atkinson's research focuses on the role of ideas and identities in international security. Her current research assesses the extent to which military-to-military social and professional interactions influence political behavior and ideas, particularly ideas about the military's role in democratic transitions. She is also interested in examining how policy makers evaluate the threat to US national security posed by biological weapons. In this project, she explores the extent to which US policy-makers and academicians marginalize biological agents as weapons of warfare, and why this occurs. Dr. Atkinson teaches courses on US national security, international politics, warfare and emerging threats, and the role of ideas, norms, and identity in international security. She has taught at Stanford University, the University of Southern California, the US Air Force Academy, and the US Air Force Command and Staff College. She joined the faculty at Vanderbilt University in 2008 following a post-doctoral fellowship at Stanford University.

## EDUCATION

- 2003 Duke University, PhD in Political Science  
Advisor: Joseph M. Grieco  
Dissertation Title: *The Construction of Democracy: Political Socialization Through Military Engagement*
- 2002 Duke University, MA in Political Science
- 2000 Air War College (nonresident)
- 1999 Air Command and Staff College, MA in Military Operational Art and Science  
*Distinguished Graduate*
- 1987 Squadron Officer School (resident)

- 1985 Indiana University, MA in Geography  
Master's Thesis: *Economic, Ethnic, and Cultural Influences as Alternative Explanatory Variables of Rural to Urban Migration in Soviet Central Asia*
- 1984 United States Air Force Academy, BS, Geography and International Affairs  
*Academically Distinguished Graduate*

### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Dr Atkinson's research focuses on the empirical evaluation of the impact of ideas and identities on international security and international politics:

1. Evaluation of the long-term influence of US military-to-military contacts on democratization,
2. Evaluation of international educational exchange programs as mechanisms of norm diffusion and US influence,
3. Analysis of the attitudes and future political influence of foreign officers studying at US war and staff colleges,
4. Tracing of the medical, military, and political processes whereby biological agents have come to be ambivalently conceptualized as weapons of warfare in the United States.
5. Analysis of U.S. perspectives on security cooperation in Northeast Asia
6. History and impact of military-to-military exchanges hosted by the People's Republic of China

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2008- now Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science  
Vanderbilt University
- 2007-2008 Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer  
Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University
- 2006-2007 Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer  
Center for International Studies, University of Southern California
- 2005-2006 Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University
- 2003-2005 Director, Research Seminar Program  
US Air Force Command and Staff College
- 2000-2003 Graduate Student, Department of Political Science  
Duke University
- 1999-2000 Instructor, US Air Force Command and Staff College
- 1998-1999 Student, US Air Force Command and Staff College  
*Highly competitive appointment and subsequently distinguished graduate*
- 1994-1998 Assistant Professor, Senior Core Course Director, Operations Officer  
Department of Military Doctrine, Operations, and Strategy  
US Air Force Academy

1993-1994	Chief of Nuclear Target Analysis for Contingencies US Strategic Command
1991-1993	Nuclear Warfare Analyst and Planner Nuclear Airborne Battle Staff, Strategic Air Command
1992 (Jan-Apr)	Iraq Contingency Planner (Target Analyst) Combat Operations Center, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
1991 (Jan-Apr)	Battle Damage Analyst / Operation DESERT STORM Central Command Headquarters, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
1989-1990	Target Analyst of North Korea Osan Airbase, Republic of Korea
1986-1989	Chief of the Satellite Imagery Archive and Imagery Analyst Foreign Technology Division
1979	Enlisted in the US Air Force

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Course Name</u>
2008-2010	Vanderbilt University	Ideas and International Security (graduate-level) Introduction to International Politics (undergrad lecture) Nature of War (upper division undergrad)
2007	Stanford University	Ideas and International Security (graduate-level)
2006	University of Southern California	Conflict and Cooperation (graduate-level)
2003-2005	Command and Staff College	Innovative Approaches to Constructing US Foreign Policy National Security Studies Strategy and War Air Power Theory Expeditionary Air and Space Power Middle East Regional Studies National Security Strategy and National Military Strategy
1999-2000	Command and Staff College	National and International Studies Nature of War Military Studies
1994-1998	Air Force Academy	Introduction to Joint and Multinational Operations Honors Seminar: Military Operations Other Than War

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

*Distinguished Faculty of the Game*, honored by Vanderbilt Women's Basketball Team, 19 February 2009  
*Postdoctoral Fellowship*, Stanford University, 2007-2008  
*Postdoctoral Fellowship*, University of Southern California, 2006-2007  
*Postdoctoral Research Fellowship*, Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 2005-2006  
*Military Educator of the Quarter Oct-Dec*, Air Command and Staff College, 2004  
*Distinguished Graduate*, Air Command and Staff College, 1999  
*Officer of the Year*, 34th Education Group, US Air Force Academy, 1997  
*Instructor of the Year in Military Art and Science - Senior Level*, US Air Force Academy, 1997  
*Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*, US Strategic Command, 1993  
*Intelligence Officer of the Year*, 7<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 1990  
*Company Grade Officer of the Quarter*, Foreign Technology Division, 1987  
*Distinguished Graduate*, Joint Services Defense Sensor Application Training Program, 1986  
*Distinguished Graduate*, Basic Imagery Interpretation School, 1986  
*Outstanding Young Woman of America*, 1984, 1985, and 1986  
*Academically Distinguished Graduate*, US Air Force Academy, 1984

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Atkinson, Carol. 2009. Book Review of Nina Tannenwald's *The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Non-Use of Nuclear Weapons Since 1945*. *Strategic Studies Quarterly* 3:2.

Atkinson, Carol. 2006. "Constructivist Implications of Material Power: Military Engagement and the Socialization of States, 1972-2000." *International Studies Quarterly* 50, 509-537.

Krupnick, Charles, and Carol Atkinson. 2003. "Slovakia and Security at the Center of Europe." In *Almost NATO: Partners and Players in Central and Eastern European Security*, Ed. Charles Krupnick, Rowman and Littlefield.

Atkinson, Carol. 1999. "The Instruments of Power." *Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning CD ROM*. Maxwell AFB, Alabama: Air University Press.

Atkinson, Carol. 1999. "The United States National Security Strategy." *Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning CD ROM*. Maxwell AFB, Alabama: Air University Press.

Atkinson, Carol. 1999. "The United States National Military Strategy." *Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning CD ROM*. Maxwell AFB, Alabama: Air University Press.

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS**

Atkinson, Carol and Giacomo Chiozza. 2009. "U.S. Perspectives on Security Cooperation in Northeast Asia," Yonsei University/MacArthur Foundation International Conference on Cooperation in Northeast Asia: Architecture and Beyond. Seoul, Republic of Korea, 30 June – 1 July 2009.

Atkinson, Carol. 2009. "Who Cares About Biological Warfare?" Invited speaker. University of Chicago. Program on International Politics, Economics and Security (PIPES) seminar, 30 April 2009.

Atkinson, Carol. 2008. "Wealth and Transition to Democratic Governance." Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference in Boston, MA, 30 August 2008.

Atkinson, Carol. 2008. "Securitizing Discourses: The Case of Biological Weapons." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference in Boston, MA, 30 August 2008.

Atkinson, Carol. 2008. "Use and Non-use of Nuclear Weapons: the Need to Assess Ideational As Well As Material Outcomes." Roundtable Participant on "Norms, Knowledge and Nuclear Weapons: A Roundtable on Nina Tannenwald's 'The Nuclear Taboo'" International Studies Association Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, 27 March 2008.

Atkinson, Carol. 2008. "Military-to-Military Contacts as Channels of Democratic Norm Diffusion: A Quantitative Analysis of a Constructivist Theory of Power." Presentation at the Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, 24 January 2008.

Atkinson, Carol. 2007. "Conceptualizing Biological Agents as Weapons of Warfare." Invited speaker, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, 31 May 2007.

Atkinson, Carol. 2007. "A Year in the Life of a Soldier: A Survey of Foreign Military Officers." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, 12 April 2007.

Atkinson, Carol. 2007. "Military-to-Military Contacts as Channels of International Norm Diffusion." Presentation for the Scholar's Speaker Series, Center for International Studies, University of Southern California, 21 March 2007.

Atkinson, Carol. 2007. "Human Security and American Soft Power." Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois, 3 March 2007.

Atkinson, Carol. 2006. "De-Bunking the School of the Americas Myth: An Empirical Investigation Using Ordered Logit Models with Random Intercepts." Paper presented at the US Army Conference on Applied Statistics in Durham, North Carolina, 19 October 2006.

Atkinson, Carol. 2005. "Constructivist Implications of Material Power: Military Engagement and the Socialization of States, 1972-2000." Paper and presentation for the Director's Speaker Series, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University, 4 October 2005.

Atkinson, Carol. 2004. "The Construction of Democracy: Political Socialization Through Military Engagement." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, 15-18 April 2004.

Krupnick, Charles and Carol Atkinson. 2003. "Slovakia's Extraordinary 2002 Election." Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon, 25 February-1 March 2003.

Krupnick, Charles and Carol Atkinson. 2000. "Slovakia and Changing Concepts of Security in Europe." Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California, 14-18 March 2000.

## **REFERENCES**

Joseph M. Grieco, Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Duke University  
grieco@duke.edu, 919-660-4315

Patrick James, Professor and Director, Center for International Studies, University of Southern California,  
patrickj@usc.edu, 213-821-4114

Douglas C. Peifer, Associate Professor of History, Department of Warfighting Strategy, Air War College,  
douglas.peifer@maxwell.af.mil, 334-953-2102

James M. Smith, Director, US Air Force Institute for National Security Studies, US Air Force Academy,  
james.smith@usafa.af.mil, 719-333-2717

Steven I. Wilkinson, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, Department of Political  
Science, Yale University, steven.wilkinson@yale.edu, 203-432-5230

## **AFFILIATIONS**

United States Air Force Academy Alumni Association, lifetime member

Duke University Alumni Association, lifetime member

Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, lifetime fellow

National Geographic Society, lifetime member

International Studies Association, member

American Political Science Association, member

Midwest Political Science Association, member