CAROLYN COBERLY

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia

Ph.D. in Politics, 2025 *Fields*: Comparative Politics (major), International Relations (minor) *Dissertation*: "Elite strategies for party formation in electoral authoritarian regimes"

Harvard University

M.A. in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, 2001

Cornell University

B.A. magna cum laude in Government, 1997

TEACHING

Assistant Teaching Professor, North Carolina State University, Fall 2025-present

- Politics and Government of the Middle East
- Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Introduction to International Relations

Instructor, Virginia Commonwealth University, Fall 2023-Spring 2024

- Research Methods for Political Science (Fall 2023-Spring 2024)
- Career Pathways: International Affairs (Spring 2024)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University, Fall 2020-Spring 2023

- Introduction to Comparative Politics (Fall 2020-22)
- Introduction to International Politics (Spring 2021-23)
- Iranian Politics, 1953-Today (Fall 2020-22)
- Politics of Russia and Eurasia (Spring 2021)
- Democracy and Dictatorship (Spring 2022)
- How to Predict the Future (Spring 2023)

Instructor, University of Virginia, 2017-2019

- Introduction to Research Methods for Political Science (Summer 2018, Spring 2019)
- Iranian Politics, 1953-Today (Summer 2017)

SERVICE

Experiential Learning Coordinator, Department of Political Science, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2023-2024

- Developed a new scholarship to promote student participation in internships, research, and study abroad.
- Worked with community organizations to develop and advertise internships for VCU students.
- Created and published a weekly newsletter and website to provide students information on experiential learning opportunities.
- Advised students on career development individually and in campus-wide events.

Additional

- Student Coordinator, UVA Lansing Lee/Bankard Seminar Series and Seminar on Internal War, 2015-2016
- UVA Politics Department Study Abroad Assistant, 2016-2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

New America Foundation, Advisor, Iran 2025 Project, 2015-2017

• Prepared working papers and served as rapporteur for U.S.-Iran and U.S-North Korea Track II Dialogue meetings.

UVA Politics Department Experimental Laboratory, Research Assistant, 2015-2017

• Developed participant and payment management systems for laboratory research on the psychological effects of terrorism. Developed and conducted laboratory experiments.

U.S. Department of State, Foreign Service Officer, 2002-2014

- Seven years of experience on Iran during tours in Dubai, Ankara, and Washington, DC. Directed analysis of Iran's 2012 presidential elections and drafted U.S. government public responses to the 2009 Green Revolution. Managed \$27 million in democracy promotion grants and over 20 cultural exchanges between Iran and the United States.
- Three years of experience on Afghanistan during tours in Kabul and Washington, DC. Negotiated the transfer of U.S.-managed health clinics to the Afghan government and developed a capacity-building program for the Ministry of Refugees. Monitored \$50 million in refugee assistance and arranged professional training for 50 newly-elected Members of Parliament.
- Supervised staffs of 3-8 people in cross-cultural environments.
- Received six Superior Honor Awards.

U.S. Congress

- Legislative Assistant, Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA), 2001-2002
- Staff Assistant, Senate Health, Education, and Labor Committee, Minority Staff (Office of Sen. Ted Kennedy), 1997-1999

RESEARCH

• "Elite Preferences in Transition: Armenian politicians before and after a velvet revolution." Research design presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2019.

• "State Capacity and Party System Fractionalization in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, March 2018.

GRANTS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Dwight D. Eisenhower/Clifford Roberts Graduate Fellowship, 2019-2020
- Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2019-2020
- Title VIII Summer Research Scholarship, Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 2019
- Carnegie International Policy Scholar, 2018-2019
- Jefferson Fellow, University of Virginia, 2017-2019
- Albert Gallatin Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2017-2018
- Quandt International Research Grant, University of Virginia, 2017
- Junior Fellow, University of Virginia Society of Fellows, 2016-2017

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Faculty Learning Community (Online Curriculum Development and Best Practices), Wake Forest University, 2020
- c3 Curriculum Design, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Virginia, 2020
- Advanced Game Theory, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, 2015.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Employment Services Volunteer, International Rescue Committee, Richmond, VA (2024-present) and Charlottesville VA (2016-7)
- Election Official, Richmond, VA (2024-present) and Winston Salem, NC (2022)

LANGUAGES

Persian (Farsi and Dari), Russian, French

COMPUTER SKILLS

R, Stata, Qualtrics, zTree, Sona Participant Management System, Microsoft Office, Google Suite