

# CHEYENNE A. BLACK

<https://cheyenne-black.github.io/>

◇ cheyenne.a.black@gmail.com ◇ cheyenne.alise.black@ou.edu

Norman, OK 73069

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D., Political Science**, The University of Oklahoma Expected 2026

Concentrations: Public Policy, Research Methodology, American Government

Dissertation: *Rethinking Space Policy: From Outer Space to Inner Dynamics Using Discourse Network Analysis, Topic Modeling, and Policy Actor Affiliations* (In progress)

Chair: Joseph Ripberger, Committee: Deven Carlson, Charles Finocchiaro, Mark Raymond, Shad Satterthwaite

**M.A., Political Science**, University of Oklahoma May 2022

Concentrations: Public Policy and Research Methodology

**B.S., Political Science**, Appalachian State University

Concentration: Legal Studies

May 2019

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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**Primary:** Science & Technology Policy, Environmental Policy, Research Methods

**Secondary:** Policy Process, Computational Social Science, Public-Private Partnerships

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Cheyenne Black** (2025). “Astro-nots Bezos, Branson, and Musk compared to NASA: promises and pitfalls of using sentiment analysis to assess differences between commercial and government space missions.”

*Quality and Quantity*: [doi.org/10.1007/s11135-025-02213-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11135-025-02213-8)

Peach, Kaitlin, Andrew Fox, Kuhika Gupta, Joseph Ripberger, **Cheyenne Black**, Tristan Winkle, and Hank Jenkins-Smith (2025). “American Public Opinion on US Responses to Russia’s Nuclear Threats in Ukraine.”

*Global Policy*: [doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13490](https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13490)

Miguel Jimenez, Ali Khalighifar, Carolyn Burt, **Cheyenne Black**, Maggie Leon-Corwin, Andrew Fox, Hank Jenkins-Smith, Carol Silva, Grace Trankina, Jeffrey Kelly, Kyle Horton (2025). “Integrating Multi-Scale Terrestrial and Atmospheric Predictors Enhances Nocturnal Bird Migration Forecasts.”

*Ornithological Applications*: [doi.org/10.1093/ornithapp/duaf001](https://doi.org/10.1093/ornithapp/duaf001)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Summer Associate/Adjunct Associate**

May 2025 – Current

The RAND Corporation

Supervisor(s): Eder Sousa; Bonnie Triezenberg

- Evaluated USAF fighter jet capability evolution to inform a modernization framework for USSF legacy space systems. Conducted within RAND’s Defense and Political Sciences Department, Santa Monica, CA.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Jun. 2022 – May 2025

The Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis

Supervisor(s): Joseph Ripberger; Hank Jenkins-Smith

- Assisted in research projects on policy topics including, but not limited to, national security, the environment, artificial lights at night, weather risk communication, and nuclear arsenal retention.
- Provided support in creating frequency reports, preparing presentation materials, collaborating on research projects, and authoring academic materials.

**Graduate Student Assistant**

Sep. 2023 – Sep. 2024

U.S. Department of State - Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources, VSFS

Supervisor: Thomas Wonder

- Assisted in gathering information and analyzing global public opinion topics and information through the Research and Evaluation Unit.
- Worked on projects concerning environmental policy in Europe, attitudes and behaviors of disinformation, security cooperation, and views on trade and foreign investment.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Instructor of Record**

Aug. 2024 – Current

University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science

- Developed and delivered university-level courses *Making Public Policy (PSC 3223)* and *Introduction to Political Data (PSC 2013)*.
- Designed and prepared course materials, including syllabi, lecture slides, and assignments.
- Provided instruction to 30 students in PSC 3223 and 20 students in PSC 2013.
- Managed all administrative aspects of courses, including communication with students and maintaining records.

**Methods Tutor**

Aug. 2025 – Current

University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science

Supervisor(s): Taylor Delaney; Alisa Fryar

- Provided tutoring for graduate level methods courses *Introduction* and *Intermediate Analysis to Political and Administrative Data (P SC 5923 P SC 5933)*.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Jan. 2025 – May 2025

University of Oklahoma, Price College of Business

Supervisor(s): Shad Satterthwaite; Jeremy Leader; Jason Kessler

- Assisted with management of *The Future of Space* and *Space and Small Business* courses in the Price College of Business Executive MBA program and Commercial Aerospace Applications certification.
- Managed grades, Canvas pages, syllabus structure, and assisted with technical aspects of course.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Aug. 2020 – May 2022

University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science

Supervisor(s): Kathleen Tipler; Melody Rowlett

- Taught, managed, and curated lesson plans for lab sections of *Intro to American Politics and Democracy*.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Graduate Student Assistant**

Aug. 2020 – Jun. 2023

U.S. Department of State - Greening Diplomacy Initiative, VSFS

Supervisor: Stephanie Christel

- Assisted in coordinating air quality program operations through the Greening Diplomacy Initiative between the Department of State, EPA, NASA, and US Forest Service.
- Organized air quality data, embassy, post, and consulate POC information, and MOUs.
- Created reports to assist in the correction of air quality monitors to efficiently collect data, publish blog posts, and assist in discrete projects.

**Census Field Supervisor**

Jan. 2020 – Jul. 2020

U.S. Census Bureau, Level: GS 04; Clearance: Confidential

Supervisor: Starr Wright

- Trained and supervised Enumerators and Census Field Supervisor Assistants to complete operations.
- Evaluated performance and recommended changes to data collection methods to Field Manager and office staff.
- Created assignments in the Operational Control System, reviewed/certified Enumerator's time and expense records, and resolved personnel conduct and performance problems.

## Address Analyst and Canvasser

Aug. 2019 – Jan. 2020

U.S. Census Bureau, Level: GS 03

Supervisor: Audrey Duncan

- Used a satellite interface system (LiMA) to update and register housing in the US Census database.
- Communicated with members of the public on the upcoming Census and the importance of its completion.
- Updated data systems to demonstrate living quarters that were built, destroyed, altered, or moved.
- Upheld data stewardship of personally identifiable information and business identifiable information.

## PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

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Let there be light? Partisanship differences in light pollution mitigation strategies – **Cheyenne Black**, Andrew Fox, Maggie Leon-Corwin, Hank Jenkins-Smith, Carol Silva

Public attitudes and perspectives on the tradeoffs associated with limiting nighttime lighting – Andrew Fox, Maggie Leon-Corwin, Hank Jenkins-Smith, Carol Silva, **Cheyenne Black**, Jeffrey Kelly, Kyle Horton, Carolyn Burt, Ali Khalighifar, Grace Trankina

Evolution or revolution? Modernizing legacy space systems of systems - Eder Sousa, Bonnie Triezenberg, **Cheyenne Black**, Julia Coff, Arianne Collopy, Tyler Hoard, Thomas Light Dominique Lumpkin, Lauren Mayer, Mack Rodgers, Terry Wen

## WORKING PAPERS

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Nuclear arsenal policy beliefs overtime: An assessment of Cultural Theory and ideology measurement consistency - **Cheyenne Black**, Kaitlin Peach, Kaitlin Diodosio, Joseph Ripberger, Kuhika Gupta

Light pollution as everyday life: objective and perceived measures of artificial lights at night – Maggie Leon-Corwin, Andrew Fox, **Cheyenne Black**, Hank Jenkins-Smith, Carol Silva

The color of risk: A systematic review of color in risk communication - Joseph Ripberger, Angela Person, **Cheyenne Black**, Sarah Melcher, Abby Bitterman, Zoey Rosen

The Nascent Light Pollution Policy Subsystem: Issue attention cycle dynamics and subsystem typology - **Cheyenne Black** and Jenkins-Smith

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

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Department of State – *Addis Ababa Air Quality Monitor Installation* – DipNote

Department of State – *NASA & the MAIA Project* - DipNote

Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis - *Public Preferences for U.S. Response Options to Potential Russian Use of Nuclear Weapons in Ukraine* - White Paper

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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**Analytical Article** *The Conversation*

US participation in space has benefits at home and abroad: reaping them all will require collaboration

## CERTIFICATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

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Department of Commerce Sensitive Data Stewardship Certification, ICPSR Maximum Likelihood Estimation: Generalized Models, ICPSR Mathematics for Social Scientists II, ICPSR Regression Analysis II: Linear Models, IQMR Computational Text Analysis, IQMR Network Analysis, IQMR Bayesian Statistics, IQMR Comparative Historical Analysis, RAND Forecasting Initiative (RFI) Training

## PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE SKILLS

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R, Python, STATA, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, LiMA, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, NVivo, Discourse Network Analyzer (DNA), APIs, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing (NLP)

## CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS & SEMINARS

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Presenter<sub>1</sub> Discussant<sub>2</sub> Chair<sub>3</sub> Round Table Participant<sub>4</sub> Guest Lecture<sub>5</sub>

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management<sub>1</sub> — American Political Science Association<sub>1</sub> — RAND Summer Associate Seminar Series<sub>1</sub> — International Conference on Public Policy<sub>1,2,3</sub> — Bird Collision Prevention Alliance<sub>1</sub> — Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute Defense Symposium 2025

German Political Science Association Academic Convention<sub>4</sub> — Institute of Comparative Politics and Public Policy<sub>1</sub> — Conference on Policy Process Research<sub>1,3</sub> — Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis<sub>1</sub> — Midwestern Political Science Association Annual Conference<sub>1</sub> — Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference<sub>1</sub> 2024

U.S. Department of State VSFS Project Presentation<sub>1</sub> — OU Making Public Policy<sub>5</sub> — OU Introduction to American Politics and Democracy<sub>5</sub> 2023

Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute Defense Symposium<sub>1</sub> — OU Introduction to American Politics and Democracy<sub>5</sub> 2022

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### Referee: (x6)

*European Policy Analysis* (2); *Quality and Quantity* (2); *Review of Policy Research* (2)

**Ask a Mountaineer program** Sept. 2020 – Current  
Appalachian State University - Alumni Network

**Vice President** Sep. 2022 – Sep. 2023  
Graduate Association in Political Science, University of Oklahoma

**Senator** Oct. 2020 – Oct. 2021  
Graduate Student Senate, University of Oklahoma

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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**Frances E. and A. Earl Ziegler Sooner Heritage Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma 2025

**John Halvor Leek Memorial Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2025

**Robert E. and Mary B. Sturgis Endowed Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma 2025

**Sarkeys Foundation Sooner Heritage Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma 2025

**David R. Morgan Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2024

**IQMR Funding Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2024

**Robberson and Wethington Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma, Graduate College 2024

**Frances E. and A. Earl Ziegler Sooner Heritage Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma 2024

**John Halvor Leek Memorial Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2023

**Sooner Heritage Scholarship**, The University of Oklahoma 2023

**Best ADQUANT Research Title**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Sociology 2021

**H.V Thornton Memorial Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2021

**Research Funding Award**, The University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science 2021

**Certificate of Appreciation**, U.S. Department of State 2021

## **PAST AND PRESENT AFFILIATIONS**

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American Political Science Association  
Association for Public Policy and Management  
European Consortium for Political Research  
German Political Science Association  
Midwestern Political Science Association  
Southern Political Science Association  
Women Also Know Stuff