

# Luke Sanford

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🌐 <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=hzh7H9gAAAAJ&hl=en>

🐙 lcsanford.github.io

## Education

- Expected 2021    📌 **University of California San Diego.** Ph.D. International Affairs  
Concentrations: Political Methodology, Political Economy of Natural Resources.
- 2017    📌 **Political Science, School of Global Policy and Strategy, UCSD.** M.A.  
Focus Areas: International Economics, China
- 2009    📌 **BA Politics, Whitman College.** B.A.  
Thesis: China's Olympic Trial: The Environmental Effects of the Beijing Olympic Games

## Research

- Research Interests    📌 Political Economy, Environment, Causal Inference, Remote Sensing, Machine Learning.
- Working Papers    📌 Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Troubling Evidence from Deforestation R&R
- 📌 Discovery of Influential Text in Experiments Using Deep Neural Networks, with Molly Roberts
- 📌 Remote Sensing: Measurement and Causal Inference
- 📌 Evaluating land tenure security with satellite images

## Research Publications

- 1    **Sanford, L.** & Burney, J. (2015). Cookstoves illustrate the need for a comprehensive carbon market. *Environmental Research Letters*, 10(8), 084026.  
doi:10.1088/1748-9326/10/8/084026
- 2    Lautze, J., de Silva, S., Giordano, M., & **Sanford, L.** (2014). Water Governance. In J. Lautze (Ed.), *Key concepts in water resource management: a review and critical evaluation*. Earthscan water text. London ; New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- 3    Boelee, E., Atapattu, S., Amede, T., & **Sanford, L.** (2011). *Ecosystems for water and food security*. OCLC: 771993931. Nairobi: UNEP. March 16, 2018, 📄  
[http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/Topics/Ecosystems/PDF/Background\\_Document-Ecosystems\\_for\\_Water\\_and\\_Food\\_Security\\_2011\\_UNEP-IWMI.pdf](http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/Topics/Ecosystems/PDF/Background_Document-Ecosystems_for_Water_and_Food_Security_2011_UNEP-IWMI.pdf)
- 4    Lautze, J., de Silva, S., Giordano, M., & **Sanford, L.** (2011, February). Putting the cart before the horse: Water governance and IWRM. *Natural Resources Forum*, 35(1), 1–8.  
doi:10.1111/j.1477-8947.2010.01339.x
- 5    Molden, D., Lautze, J., Shah, T., Bin, D., Giordano, M., & **Sanford, L.** (2010, June). Governing to Grow Enough Food without Enough Water—Second Best Solutions Show the Way. *International Journal of Water Resources Development*, 26(2), 249–263.  
doi:10.1080/07900621003655643

## Grants and Awards

- 2019    📌 Polmeth best poster award

## Grants and Awards (continued)

- Institute of Global Conflict and Cooperation Herb York Dissertation Fellowship (\$25,000)
- 2018 ■ Winner of American Geophysical Union Outstanding Student Presenter Award
- Sage Foundation grant (\$174,702) research assistant.
- 2018,2019, 2020 ■ Sanford Lakoff dissertation improvement grant
- 2018 ■ Grad SLAM public speaking semifinalist.
- 2015 ■ Dean of Social Sciences fellowship recipient.
- 2014–2015 ■ Boren Fellow. China.
- 2014 ■ GPS Dean's Fellow
- Robinson Research Fellow
- Doming Liu award for for Wisdom, Exuberance, Warmth, and Leadership.
- 2008 ■ Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament: 5th place.

## Teaching (School of Global Policy and Strategy)

- 2019, 2020 ■ Poli 270: Mathematical & Statistical Foundations. Instructor.
- 2015–2020 ■ Math Skills for Graduate Students. Instructor.
- 2015–2016 ■ Economic and Social Development of China. Naughton.  
International Politics and Security. Walter.
- 2016–2017 ■ Quantitative Methods 1: Statistics and Probability. Garg.  
Quantitative Methods 2: Regression Analysis. Burney.  
Quantitative Methods 3: Panel Data and Causal Inference. McIntosh.
- 2018 ■ Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing. Goldblatt.
- 2019 ■ Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis. McCord.

## Conferences

- 2019 ■ “Discovery of Influential Text in Experiments Using Deep Neural Networks” Polmeth (talk), APSA (talk)
- “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Evidence from Deforestation” MPSA (talk), Institutions and Lawmaking Conference (poster), WPSA (talk)
- “Geospatial synthetic controls for agricultural impact evaluation” Polmeth (poster), Sustainability and Development Conference (talk)
- 2018 ■ “How to property rights affect agricultural productivity?” Paper presented at *American Geophysical Union* Washington DC.
- “Mining Human Decision Making” with Molly Roberts. Paper presented at *Text as Data* University of Washington.
- “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Troubling Evidence from Deforestation” Paper presented at *Working Group on Africal Political Economy Annual Meeting* UCLA.
- 2017 ■ “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Troubling Evidence from Deforestation” Poster presented at *American Geophysical Union* New Orleans, LA. Media Coverage: <https://blogs.agu.org/geospace/2018/01/09/elections-may-catalyst-deforestation-new-research-suggests/>

## Conferences (continued)

- “Detecting Land-Use Change and On-Farm Investments at the Plot Scale” with Jen Burney and Ran Goldblatt. Poster presented at *American Geophysical Union* New Orleans, LA.
- “Mass Digitization of Chinese Court Decisions” with Molly Roberts, Rachel Stern, Ben Liebman. Paper presented at *American Political Science Association* San Francisco, CA
- “Measuring the Impact of Land Titling on Investment via Satellite” with Jen Burney and Ran Goldblatt. Paper presented at *CEGA Research Retreat* Berkeley, CA
- 2010 ■ “Water Governance in the Middle East North Africa Region: Applying a Multifaceted Benchmarking Approach.” Session: Climate Change and Environmental Conflict. *American Association of Geographers*. Seattle, WA
- “Water Governance Survey Results.” USAID MENA Benchmarking Conference, Amman, Jordan.

## Service

- 2019 ■ Graduate student representative on the admissions committee
- Faculty Liaison, UCSD Political Science Graduate Council
- 2018 ■ Co-Chair, UCSD Political Science New Student Orientation
- 2017 ■ Co-Chair, UCSD Political Science Social Events
- Memberships: *American Political Science Association*, *American Economic Association*, *American Geophysical Union*, *Midwest Political Science Association*, *Western Political Science Association*

## Skills

- Languages ■ Strong reading, writing and speaking competencies for English, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish.
- Coding ■ Python, R, Stata,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , JavaScript.

References available upon request.