

Cory Runstedler, MA, MBA

Cory.runstedler@uconn.edu • linkedin.com/in/cory-runstedler/

Education

PhD Political Science	2026
University of Connecticut	GPA 3.8
"It's About the People, Not the Package: Lessons from the Warehousing Sector" (Dissertation)	
Master of Arts Political Science	2023
University of Connecticut	GPA 3.8
Master of Business Administration	2018
University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky	GPA 3.8
Master of Arts Sociology	2016
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario	GPA 3.7
Produced original qualitative analysis of Canadian and American parenting magazines	
Honors Bachelor of Arts Sociology, Specialization Crime and Deviance	2015
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario	GPA 3.6
Produced original quantitative analysis of the impact of the media on an individual's fear of crime	
Ontario College Diploma with Distinction, Law and Security Administration	2012
Conestoga College, Waterloo, Ontario	GPA 3.6

Publication

Chambers, Rachel, Shareen Hertel, and Cory Runstedler (2026, forthcoming). "Human rights due diligence: Views of process, from the ground up," *Human Rights Quarterly* 48(1).

Papers in Progress

Right to Stand Up? Cross-National Analysis of Labor Rights and Union Repression. [*under review*]

Does Coffee Reflect the Assembly Line? Studying small bargaining units at Starbucks stores and how they reflect our understanding of large unions. [*under review*]

Awards

The Human Rights Institute Dissertation Writing Fellowship, UConn	2025
SERA-LSA Dissertation Research Grant, Social and Economic Rights Associates	2025
Conference Participation Award, The Graduate School, UConn	2025
Governor Abraham Ribicoff Fellowship, UConn	2024, 25
Pre-Doctoral Research Funds Award, Political Science, UConn	2021, 22, 23, 24, 25
Howard L. Reiter Memorial Award for Political Science Graduate Education UConn	2022, 2023

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Certifications, and Additional Education

Mathematical Models: Rational Choice Theories of Politics & Society Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan	July 2022
Social Network Analysis: Introduction Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan	July 2022
College Algebra and Problem Solving Arizona State University	September 2020
Lean Six Sigma Green Belt LeanCor LLC	April 2018
Global Strategy and Commerce World Trade Center of Kentucky	January 2018
Fundamentals of Project Management LeanCor LLC	June 2017
Fundamentals of Teaching in the Classroom Setting Wilfrid Laurier, Centre for Teaching Excellence	March 2015
Fundamentals of Teaching in an Online Setting Wilfrid Laurier, Centre for Teaching Excellence	March 2015

Conference Presentations

Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting Seattle, Washington <i>It's About the People Not Your Packages - Comparative study of the logistics and warehousing industry in Canada and the United States; presented on the "Control Regimes and Dynamics"</i>	June 2025
Human Rights in the Balance: Safeguarding Social and Environmental Sustainability Freiburg, Germany Human rights due diligence: Views of process, from the ground up; poster presentation	June 2025
Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting New York, New York <i>Can Coffee Be Red and Blue: How the Starbucks Union Movement Maps on Red and Blue States, finalist for the LERA Competitive Papers: Union Strategies and Campaigns</i> <i>It's About the People Not Your Packages - Comparative study of the logistics and warehousing industry in Canada and the United States; presented on the "Global Supply Chains, Free Trade, and Labor Activism Symposium"</i>	June 2024

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Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association

San Francisco, California

April 2024

Human Rights Due Diligence: Views of the Process, from the Ground Up. Paper (co-authored with Dr. Rachel Chambers and Dr. Shareen Hertel) presented on the “Right to Development and Food Security” panel

CUNY Critical Perspectives on Human Rights

New York, New York

April 2024

Unionizing the Trafficked: The Untold Stories of Equestrian Workers; presented on the “Anti-Trafficking Law, Survivors, and Activism”

Northeastern Political Science Association

Boston, Massachusetts

November 2023

Right to Stand Up? Cross-National Analysis of Labor Rights and Union Repression; presented on “International Law, Rules, and Soft Power” panel

Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting

Detroit, Michigan

June 2023

Can the Few Replace the Many? Interpreting the New Wave of Union-Based Collective Action Focused on Smaller Groups; presented on “New Research on Unions and Collective Action Best Paper” panel

New England Political Science Association

Mystic, Connecticut

May 2023

Can the Few Replace the Many? Interpreting the New Wave of Union-Based Collective Action Focused on Smaller Groups; presented on “Authority and Agents” panel

Service

Research Excellence in Political Science Poster Competition

April 2025

Invited Judge

Annual Economic & Social Rights Workshop

March 2025

Organized and facilitated two-day workshop

ANTH 2000W: Social Anthropology

February 2025

Invited Guest Lecture on Economic Institutions

Northeastern Political Science Association

November 2023

Chair: Human Rights and Mobilization Against Oppression

Discussant: Perspectives of Extremism and Islamism

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Unpublished Original Research

Was it War? An analysis of the Freedom Convoy using personal accounts and Canadian print media to answer the question, was it war?

“If we can prevent children from dying unnecessarily, I don’t see a downside”: An analysis of Vaccinations, Children, Parenting and Vulnerability in Parents and Today’s Parent articles about Childhood Vaccinations. Master’s Thesis defended September 2016

Media Consumption and Fear of Crime: What is the Impact? A survey of 350 undergraduate students assessed their media consumption and related fear of crime. Honours Thesis defended April 2015

Work Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Professor Shareen Hertel, Wiktor Osiatyński Chair of Human Rights

University of Connecticut, Human Rights Institute, Storrs, Connecticut August 2023 – Present

Provide research support and logistical management for multiple academic programs for which Prof. Hertel is director

Collaborate on literature reviews, revisions of scholarly articles in progress, and outreach to colleagues in the human rights field internationally

Graduate Research Assistant

Business and Human Rights Initiative

University of Connecticut, Human Rights Institute, Storrs, Connecticut August 2022 – August 2023

Organize and facilitate workshops and invited talks

Support mixed methods research with the Business and Human Rights Initiative

Graduate Research Assistant

Human Rights Research Hub

University of Connecticut, Human Rights Institute, Storrs, Connecticut August 2021 – August 2022

Conduct qualitative and quantitative research related to human rights and armed conflict

Assist in creating a novel data set tracking territory control of armed rebel groups

Sales Manager

Penske Truck Leasing, Cambridge, Ontario

September 2020 – July 2021

Manage and promote sales for three main offices and eight satellite locations

Develop and present customer pitches supporting customers through the entire sales process

Mentor and train junior associates about the sales process to ensure their success

Assistant Operations Manager

Penske Truck Leasing, Lexington, Kentucky/ Hamilton, Ontario September 2018 – September 2020

Effectively manage logistics, sales, and customer relations to ensure the success of our clients’ businesses

Analyze market trends, competitors, and P&L statements to make effective business decisions

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Mentor and lead other associates to ensure their success, as well as the success of the business

Marketing and Supply Chain Intern

Habitat for Humanity, Lexington, Kentucky

September 2017 – May 2018

Lead a team conducting qualitative and quantitative research to inform organizational growth

Identified unique avenues for funding and cost savings to ensure the success of the organization

Teaching Assistant

Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

September 2015 – April 2016

Worked directly with the course instructor to coordinate course-work, grade assignments, and manage the online student interface

Provided the first line of conflict resolution with students, and provided resources when appropriate