Wendy N. Whitman Cobb

US Air Force School of Advanced Air and Space Studies 125 Chennault Circle Maxwell AFB AL Wendy.whitman_cobb@au.af.edu

Education

PhD, 2012	University of Florida, Political Science
	Dissertation: "Institutions, Policy, and Politics in the Cases of Space and
	the Environment" (Larry Dodd, Chair)
MA, 2011	University of Florida, Political Science
MA, 2006	University of Central Florida, Political Science
BA, 2003	(Summa cum laude and University Honors) University of Central Florida,
	Political Science

Academic Positions

June 2019-Present Professor of Strategy and Security Studies, US Air Force School of

Advanced Air and Space Studies, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL Courses: Foundations of International Politics, Space Power (course

Courses: Foundations of International Politics, Space Power (course director), Introduction to Strategy (course director), Space Policy (US Air

Force Academy, undergraduate course)

August 2013-2019 Associate Professor, Political Science, Cameron University, Lawton, OK

Courses: American Federal Government, Media in American Politics, State and Local Government, Legislative Process, Research Methods, Public Administration, Political Parties and Interest Groups, Zombies and Politics, American Presidency, Public Opinion, Formation of Public Policy, American Political Thought, International Studies, US Foreign Policy, Comparative Government

2008-2013 Adjunct Instructor, Political Science, Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL

Courses: American National Government, State and Local Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations

2008 Adjunct Instructor, Political Science, Valencia College, Orlando, FL

Courses: American Federal Government

2007-2008 Adjunct Instructor, Political Science, University of Central Florida,

Orlando, FL

Courses: American National Government

Areas of Research

US space policy Science, technology, and health policy Cancer politics American political institutions

Books

The Three Body Problem and International Relations (co-editor with Wes Hutto). In progress.

Space Policy for the Twenty-First Century (with Derrick Frazier). 2024. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.

Privatizing Peace: How Commerce Can Reduce Conflict in Space. 2020. New York: Routledge.

Political Science Today 2nd edition. 2023. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

The CQ Press Career Guide for Political Science Students. 2017. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

The Politics of Cancer: Malignant Indifference. 2017. Denver: Praeger.

Unbroken Government: Success and the Illusion of Failure in Policymaking. 2013. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Peer Reviewed Articles

"Public Opinion of Commercial Space Exploration." Forthcoming. Astropolitics.

"A Commercial Space Security Dilemma? The Dynamics of Commercial Competition in Space." Forthcoming. *Aether: A Journal of Strategic Airpower and Spacepower*.

"For all (Wo)mankind: Advancing a Feminist Critique of US Space Policy." 2023. *Space Policy*.

"Commercialization and Space: Democracies Can Fly in Space." 2022. *Astropolitics*, 19(1-2): 145-164.

"Sophons, Wallfacers, Swordholders, and the Cosmic Safety Notice: Strategic Thought in Chinese Science Fiction." 2021. *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, 15 (4): 74-88.

"'It's a Trap!' The Pros and Mostly 'Khans' of Science Fiction's Influence on the United States Space Force." 2021. *Space Force Journal*, 1. https://thespaceforcejournal.com/issue-1-5-its-a-trap-1.

"Stubborn Stereotypes: Exploring the Gender Gap in Support for Space." 2020. *Space Policy*, 54.

"The South and NASA: Public Opinion Differences and Political Consequences." 2020. *Astropolitics*, 18 (2): 122-143.

"Snapshot of a Shifting Senate: Senator Robert Kerr and Space, 1961-62." 2018. *Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly*, 25 (1): 29-40.

"Turning the Classroom Upside Down: Experimenting with the Flipped Classroom in American Government." 2016. *Journal of Political Science Education* 12 (1): 1-14.

"Trending Now: Using Big Data to Measure Public Opinion on Space Policy." 2016. *Space Policy*, 32 (1): 11-16.

(with Richard Conley) "Presidential Vision or Congressional Derision? Explaining Budgeting Outcomes for NASA, 1958-2008." 2012. *Congress and the Presidency*, 39 (1): 51-73

"Who Supports Space Activities? An Issue Public for Space Policy." 2011. *Space Policy*, 27 (4): 234-239.

"Conspiracy Laws," in *Encyclopedia of the First Amendment*, eds. John Vile, David Schultz, and David Hudson, CQ Press, 2008.

Book Chapters

"Economic Interdependence and Conflict in Space," *The Oxford Handbook of Space Security*, 2023.

"Organizing for Success: The Lessons of Early Commercial Aviation for Commercial Space," *NASA and the Rise of Commercial Space*, forthcoming.

Other Articles

(with Joshua Cobb) "Making Military Service More Attractive for Modern Spouses," *War on the Rocks*, 19 September 2023. https://warontherocks.com/2023/09/making-military-service-more-attractive-for-modern-spouses/.

"SpaceX launches most powerful rocket in history in explosive debut—like many first liftoffs, Starship's test was a successful failure," *The Conversation*, 20 April 2023. https://theconversation.com/spacex-launches-most-powerful-rocket-in-history-in-explosive-debut-like-many-first-liftoffs-starships-test-was-a-successful-failure-204248.

"Meet the next four people headed to the Moon—how the diverse crew of Artemis II shows NASA's plan for the future of space exploration," *The Conversation*, 3 April 2023. .

"What is a UFO? The US shot down three mysterious objects as interest and concern increase over unidentified craft," *The Conversation*, 15 February 2023. https://theconversation.com/what-is-a-ufo-the-us-shot-down-three-mysterious-objects-as-interest-and-concern-increase-over-unidentified-craft-199855>.

(with Madison Walker) "Cleaning Up Our Messes: Liability and Space Debris," *Australian Outlook*, 30 August 2022. https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/cleaning-up-our-messes-liability-and-space-debris/.

"Russia's withdrawal from the International Space Station could mean the early demise of the orbital lab—and sever another Russian link with the West," *The Conversation*, 26 July 2022. https://theconversation.com/russias-withdrawal-from-the-international-space-station-could-

mean-the-early-demise-of-the-orbital-lab-and-sever-another-russian-link-with-the-west-187754>.

"Russian invasion of Ukraine and resulting US sanctions threaten the future of the International Space Station," *The Conversation*, 25 February 2022. https://theconversation.com/russian-invasion-of-ukraine-and-resulting-us-sanctions-threaten-the-future-of-the-international-space-station-177891.

"Russian anti-satellite weapon test: What happened and what are the risks?", *The Conversation*, 16 November 2021. https://theconversation.com/russian-anti-satellite-weapon-test-what-happened-and-what-are-the-risks-172016.

"SpaceX Inspiration 4 mission sent 4 people with minimal training into orbit—and brought space tourism closer to reality," *The Conversation*, 10 September 2021. https://theconversation.com/spacex-inspiration4-mission-sent-4-people-with-minimal-training-into-orbit-and-brought-space-tourism-closer-to-reality-167611>.

"Necessary but not sufficient: Presidents and space policy 60 years after Kennedy," *The Space Review*, 24 May 2001. https://thespacereview.com/article/4182/1.

"Space tourism—20 years in the making—is finally ready for launch," *The Conversation*, 28 April 2021. https://theconversation.com/space-tourism-20-years-in-the-making-is-finally-ready-for-launch-159606.

"Space Force sounds like a joke thanks to pop culture—that could be a problem for an important military branch," *The Conversation*, 19 February 2021. https://theconversation.com/space-force-sounds-like-a-joke-thanks-to-pop-culture-that-could-be-a-problem-for-an-important-military-branch-155265>.

"The International Space Station at 20 offers hope and a template for future cooperation," *The Conversation*, 4 November 2020. https://theconversation.com/the-international-space-station-at-20-offers-hope-and-a-template-for-future-cooperation-149363>.

"The UAE's Mars mission seeks to bring Hope to more places than the red planet," *The Conversation*, 13 July 2020. https://theconversation.com/the-uaes-mars-mission-seeks-to-bring-hope-to-more-places-than-the-red-planet-142439.

"SpaceX reaches for milestone in spaceflight—a private company launches astronauts into orbit," *The Conversation*, 22 May 2020. https://theconversation.com/spacex-reaches-for-milestone-in-spaceflight-a-private-company-launches-astronauts-into-orbit-138765>.

"Making a Moral Case for Nonconflict in Space: Expanding Strategic Norm to Taboo," *Wild Blue Yonder*, 16 March 2020. .

"Indian Moon probe's failure won't stop an Asian space race that threatens regional security," *The Conversation*, 10 September 2019. https://theconversation.com/indian-moon-probes-failure-wont-stop-an-asian-space-race-that-threatens-regional-security-123144.

"Women are less supportive of space exploration—getting a woman on the moon might change that," *The Conversation*, 9 July 2019. https://theconversation.com/women-are-less-supportive-of-space-exploration-getting-a-woman-on-the-moon-might-change-that-118986>.

"How SpaceX lowered costs and reduced barriers to space," *The Conversation*, 1 March 2019. https://theconversation.com/how-spacex-lowered-costs-and-reduced-barriers-to-space-112586.

"Will China's moon landing launch a new space race?" *The Conversation*, 4 January 2019. https://theconversation.com/will-chinas-moon-landing-launch-a-new-space-race-109359.

"George H.W. Bush's overlooked legacy in space exploration." *The Conversation*, 6 December 2018. https://theconversation.com/george-h-w-bushs-overlooked-legacy-in-space-exploration-108148.

"What is a Space Force anyway? And what does it have to do with NASA?" *The Conversation*, 1 October 2018. https://theconversation.com/what-is-a-space-force-anyway-and-what-does-it-have-to-do-with-nasa-102472>.

"How Will Cancer Research Fare Under Trump?" 2017. *The Scientist Magazine*, April 2017. http://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/48983/title/How-Will-Cancer-Research-Fare-Under-Trump-/.

"Isolating America: The Consequences of Withdrawing from the World Stage." *Oklahoma Humanities Magazine*, Fall 2015.

Book Reviews

"Comparative Book Review: Bleddyn E. Bowen, Original Sin: Power, Technology, and War in Outer Space (London: Hurst and Company, 2022) and Mary-Jane Rubenstein, Astrotopia: The Dangerous Religion of the Corporate Space Race (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022)." 2023. *Astropolitics*, https://doi.org/10.1080/14777622.2023.2195104.

"Dark Skies: Space Expansionism, Planetary Geopolitics, and the Ends of Humanity & War in Space: Strategy, Spacepower, and Geopolitics." 2021. *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs*, https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/JIPA/Display/Article/2885140/book-reviews-dark-skies-space-expansionism-planetary-geopolitics-and-the-ends-o/>.

"Joan Johnson-Freese, *Space Warfare in the 21st Century: Arming the Heavens.*" 2017. *Astropolitics*, 15 (2): 209-215.

Conference Presentations

"Beyond the First Woman: Deconstructing American Space Policy from a Feminist Perspective." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2 September 2023.

"For All (Wo)Mankind: Developing a Feminist Space Policy." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 13 January 2023.

"Commercial Space and the Acquisition of Spacepower," Intersections of Theory and Technology: The Future of Air and Space Power, 14 June 2022.

"Democracy, Commercialization, and Space: A Reassessment of Whether Democracies Can Fly in Space." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 16 April 2021.

"Organizing for Success: The Lessons of Early Commercial Air for Commercial Space." Paper presented at the NASA and the Rise of Commercial Space Symposium, 18 March 2021.

"The Political Problems of Lunar Exploration." Presentation at the Space Policy and Research Center (SPARC) Symposium, 6 November 2020.

"MAD in Space? The Potential Application of Nuclear Principles to Space-Based Conflict." Paper presented at Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 11 January 2020.

- "The South and NASA: Public Opinion Differences and Political Consequences." Paper presented at NASA in the South Symposium, Huntsville, AL, 29 March 2019.
- "Mental Health Policy in the United States: The Political Contours of Federal Spending." Poster presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA. 31 August 2018.
- "Mental Health Policy in the United States: The Political Contours of Mental Health Spending at the Federal Level." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 6 April 2018.
- "Parties in Space: Political Party Position Taking." Poster presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 1-4 September 2016.
- "Malignant Indifference: Funding for Cancer." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico. 8 January 2016.
- "Location, Location: Presidential Speeches and the Oval Office." Poster presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA. 4 September 2015.
- "The Death of NASA: Policy Momentum, Inertia, and Change." Paper Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. 15 January 2015.
- "Trending Now: Policies and New Measures of Issue Saliency." Paper Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. 9 January 2014.
- "Trending Now: Policies and New Measures of Issue Saliency." Paper Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. 31 August 2013.
- "One Size Fits All? Political Control of NASA." Paper Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL. 4 January 2013.
- "Presidential Success in Policy: An Institutionally-Based Theory of Policy Development." Paper Presented at the Midwestern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. 13 April 2012.

"Congressional Consideration of New Policy Problems: The Cases of Environmental and Space Policies." Paper Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA. 12 January 2012.

"Perils of Presidential Leadership on Space Policy: The Politics of Congressional Budgeting for NASA, 1958-2008." Paper Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC. 3 September 2010.

"Presidential Success in US Space Policy: A Comparative Case Study." Paper Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. 7 January 2010.

"Presidential Success in US Space Policy." Paper Presented at the Florida Political Science Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL. 2009.

"A New Paradigm of Government Decline." Paper Presented at the Florida Political Science Association Annual Conference, Tampa, FL. 2008.

Conference Participation

Discussant, "Going Boldly: Political and Social Foundations of US and Chinese Space Programs," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2 September 2023.

Discussant, "Poster Session: Representation and Electoral Systems and Public Opinion and US Politics," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2 September 2023.

Chair, "Foreign Policy, Conflict, and Public Opinion," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2 September 2023.

Chair, "Gender Gaps in Political Representation," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 1 September 2023.

Chair, "Strategies for Teaching Model United Nations," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. 14 January 2023.

Discussant, "Global Politics and International Relations," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. 14 January 2023.

Participant, "Delivering the Next Generation of Space Leaders," Military Space USA. 9 June 2021.

Chair and discussant, "US Public Policy I," Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 16 April 2021.

Chair, "Military Personnel and Culture," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. 10 January 2020.

Discussant, "Perceptions on Representatives and Legislative Compromise," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 1 September 2019.

Chair, "Mechanisms Explaining Policy Attitudes," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 31 August 2019.

Discussant, "The Public Presidency," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 30 August 2019.

Chair, "The Pull of Tradition: When Women Challenge, or Resist, Change," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 29 August 2019.

Chair, "The Unilateral Power of the Presidency," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. 1 September 2018.

Roundtable Participant, "What to Expect as a Faculty at a Regional University," Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 7 April 2018.

Discussant, "Public Supports for Health Policy: The Roles of Knowledge, Belief, and Trust," Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 6 April 2018.

Chair/Discussant, "Examining Theories About Policymaking," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 3 September 2016.

Chair, "Dynamics of Coalitions and Collaboration in Multiple Policy Areas," Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 1 September 2016.

Chair, "Presidential Campaigning and Public Opinion," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. 15 January 2015.

Chair, "Motivations of Bureaucratic Behavior and Decision-Making," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. 15 January 2015.

Chair/Discussant, "The Dance of Legislation," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. 15 January 2015.

Chair/Discussant, "The Historical Presidency," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. 10 January 2014.

Discussant, "Presidents, Policy, and the Public," Annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA. 10 January 2014.

Chair, "Policymaking in the US Congress," Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Orlando, FL. 4 January 2010.

Invited Talks

University Consortium, "Russia, Europe, the US, and Space Cooperation," 1 August 2023.

Summer Workshop on Teaching Space (SWOTS), "Space Policy," 27 July 2022.

Summer Workshop on Teaching Space (SWOTS), "Space Policy," 28 July 2021.

University of New Mexico Architecture Design Studio, "It's a Trap!' The Pros and Mostly 'Khans' of Science Fiction's Influence on the United States Space Force," 3 March 2021.

Marine Corps University, Barrows Fellows, "The Space Security Challenge," 27 October 2020.

Alexis Society Youth Forum Webinar Series, "The Global Space Race: Road Ahead for Cooperation and Competition in Space," 10 June 2020.

Women United for Action Southwest Oklahoma, "Emerging Voting Trends in Lawton," 16 February 2019.

The Politics of Cancer Book Talk, Cameron University, 23 October 2017.

March for Science Oklahoma City, "Why Science is Political," 22 April 2017.

Appetizing Roundtables, "Online Simulations," Teaching and Learning Series, Cameron University, 5 December 2016.

Snacks and Chats Series, "Parties and Voting and Issues, Oh My!," Cameron University, 10 October 2016.

Workshop Presentation, "Flipping the Classroom," Teaching and Learning Series, Cameron University. 15 November 2013.

Selected Media Appearances

South Korean space news update, "Within the Frame," Arirang (South Korea, April 21, 2023

"Russia to launch rescue mission to the International Space Station," PRI's *The World*, March 22, 2023

"What's Up with the US Space Force?," Civics 101 Podcast, February 2023

"The FAA Says SpaceX Can't Expand Its Texas Launch Site—Yet," Wired, June 13, 2022

"Space Tourism Isn't Just Joyriding," New York Times On Tech Newsletter, April 5, 2022.

"Jeff Bezos wants a low-orbit office park to replace the ISS," Vox Recode, October 27, 2021.

"The FAA Weighs the SpaceX Launch Site's Environmental Effects," Wired, October 19, 2021.

BBC World News (television) on William Shatner's Blue Origin launch, October 13, 2021.

"A couple of billionaires just blasted off to space. Here's why you could be next," What Could Be podcast, September 9, 2021.

"Holiday hotspots for physicists," Physics World, August 3, 2021.

"How bad is space tourism for the environment? And other space travel questions, answered," *Vox Recode*, July 25, 2021.

"The space tourism market is rapidly expanding," Newsy, July 20, 2020.

"Welcome to the age of billionaire joyrides to space," Vox Recode, July 20, 2020.

BBC International on space tourism, July 18, 2021.

"When will regular people be able to visit the moon?" Gizmodo, June 28, 2021.

"Is war in space inevitable?" Space.com, May 11, 2021.

"From Yuri Gagarin's launch to today, human spaceflight has always been political," Space.com, April 12, 2021.

"Space race: UAE, US and Chinese missions prepare to explore Mars," Al Jazeera English, February 8, 2021.

"The race for Mars takes China-US tensions into outer space," Bloomberg Businessweek, January 20, 2021.

"From the moon to the Earth: How the Biden administration might reshape NASA," SpaceNews, November 20, 2020.

"Biden administration expected to emphasize climate science over lunar exploration," *SpaceNews*, November 9, 2020.

"Key senator raises doubts about 2024 human lunar return," SpaceNews, November 6, 2020.

"Pentagon worries that satellite attacks could spark 'mutually assured destruction," Geek Wire, November 6, 2020.

Awards

Air Force Civilian Achievement Award and Medal, June 2023

Bhattacharya Research Excellence Award, Cameron University, 2018-2019

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association; Southern Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association

Reviewer

Journals: American Political Science Review, Politics and Policy, Public Administration Review, Journal of Information Technology and Politics, Third World Quarterly, Space Policy, International Studies Perspectives, Acta Astronautica

Textbooks: Cengage, Sage/CQ Press

University Service

Chair, Faculty Search Committee, 2022-2023

Visiting Professor, US Air Force Academy, Fall 2022 (taught section of Space Policy)

Participant, Space Force Professional Military Education Design Group, 2020-2021

Marine Corps University, Barrows Fellowship mentor, AY 2020-2021

Member, Strategic Studies Quarterly Contributing Editor Board, 2020-Present

Director, Faculty Development and Air University PhD Programs, SAASS, 2019-Present

Editor and founder, CHiPS: The Cameron University Undergraduate Journal in History and Political Science, 2016-2019

Faculty Advisor, Model UN, Cameron University, 2013-2019

Member, University Committee on Discrimination and Harassment, Cameron University, 2014-2019

Member, Faculty Senate, Cameron University, 2016-2018

Secretary, Faculty Committee, Cameron University, 2016-2017

Cameron University Academic Festival X: American Identities in the 21st Century; organized several events including a panel discussion on "America's Place in Cancer Research" and speakers on the topics of "American Diplomacy in the 21st Century" and "America's Place in Space," 2017-2018

Member, Lectures and Concerts Committee, Cameron University, 2016-2017

Appeared in Cameron University Spring 2015 Musical, 110 in the Shade

Appeared in Cameron University Student Documentary "To Be Or Not To Be: Marijuana in Oklahoma," Summer 2014

Chair, Political Science Search Committee, Cameron University, Spring-Summer 2014

Faculty Co-Advisor, Law and Politics, Cameron University, 2013-2014

Grants

Cameron University, Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science, 2018-2019

Cameron University Katherine D. Lacy Endowed Lectureship in History, 2018-2019

Cameron University, Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science, 2017-2018

Cameron University Katherine D. Lacy Endowed Lectureship in History, 2017-2018

Cameron University, Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science, 2016-2017

Cameron University Katherine D. Lacy Endowed Lectureship in History, 2016-2017

Cameron University, Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science, 2015-2016

Cameron University Katherine D. Lacy Endowed Lectureship in History, 2015-2016

Cameron University James O. "Diz" and June Pursley Barnett Endowed Lectureship in History, 2015-2016

Cameron University Innovative Instructional Grant (iPad Minis for Model UN), 2014 -2015

Cameron University, Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science, 2014-2015

University of Central Florida, Graduate Teaching Professional Development Grant, Spring 2007
University of Central Florida, Provost's Fellowship, 2007-2008

Other Activities

 $Volunteer\ mentor\ for\ Space 4 Women\ program,\ an\ initiative\ of\ the\ UN\ Office\ of\ Outer\ Space\ Affairs,\ 2023$

At-Large Board Member, Board of Directors, Midwest Model United Nations, 2022-present

Board Member, Space and Society Virtual Working Group, 2020-present

Faculty-Appointed Member, Board of Directors, Midwest Model United Nations, 2015-2019