

Les Stanaland, PhD

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Education

2016–2020	PhD in Public Policy & Political Economy, University of Texas at Dallas
2002–2004	MA in Political Science, Sam Houston State University
1998–2002	BS in Political Science, Sam Houston State University

Professional Experience

August 2023 – current	University of North Texas, Clinical Assistant Professor Teaching “Introduction to Inquiry and Discovery”, a required research course, as well as “Managing a 21st Century Career”, a capstone course, in the Applied Arts and Sciences degree program. Teaching introductory political science as well as introductory microeconomics. Teaching project workshop courses, incorporating work-based learning with both for-profit and non-profit industry partners. Heavy use of Project-Based Learning in all courses; excellent student evaluation scores throughout. Experience in online, hybrid, and fully in-person pedagogies. Excellent record of service to field, department, and university.
January 2021 – July 2023	Collin College, Collegiate Academy Professor Taught introductory political science & introduction to macroeconomics for dual credit students in the Lewisville ISDs Collegiate Academy program; Taught seven sections of GOVT 2305 for dual credit at Plano East; modalities include in person and online.
August 2006 – December 2020	Collin College, Adjunct Faculty Taught GOVT 2305, American Government, GOVT 2306, Texas Government, ECON 2301, Principles of Macroeconomics, and BUSI 2305, Business Statistics; Course delivery methods included dual credit, face-to-face, and online; consistently high student evaluation marks.

Service

Field	Texas Transfer Framework Field of Study Discipline-Specific Subcommittee for Political Science (3-year term expired February 2025); reviewer for several journals
University	Institutional Effectiveness Plan Peer Review Committee
Department	Member, Executive Committee; IEP Plan Analyst for BAAS Program; Mentor; Faculty Fellow - work focused on student recruitment efforts
2-Year College	Dual Credit Advisory Committee; Syllabus Best Practices subcommittee; Faculty Development Advisory Committee; Institutional Review Board member; Faculty Council - Chair, Teaching & Learning Committee; Dual Credit Policy

Publications

2025	Bunte, J. B. and Stanaland, L. (2025). The shadow economy and foreign monetary transfers. <i>Economic Analysis and Policy</i> , (86):1285–1300
2022	Stanaland, Les, R. B. A. C. and Holmes, J. (2022). Protecting the texas electric grid: A cybersecurity strategy for the electric reliability council of texas (ercot) and the public utility commission of texas (puct). <i>Risks, Hazards, and Crisis in Public Policy</i> , 13(4):322–336
Under Review	Stanaland, Les and Agustin Palao. “Asset Specificity, FDI Strategy, and Democracy: A Firm-level Transactional Analysis”; <i>under review at Journal of International Business Studies</i>
In Progress	Stanaland, Les and Tyrrell, Susan. “Introduction to the Research Process”
In Progress	Stanaland, Les. “The Impact of Property Rights on Foreign Direct Investment”
In Progress	Stanaland, Les. “The Effects of Metacognition Exercises for Students in Online Degree Programs: An Experimental Design”

Certifications

2024	Data Analytics Certificate, Google
2024	Certificate of Excellent in Teaching Online, UNT Digital Strategy and Innovation
2024	AI Education for Teachers; Macquarie University
2024	Innovative Teaching with ChatGPT; Vanderbilt University
2024-2025	Effective Teaching Practices, Association of College and University Educators
2025	Texas OER Core Elements Course, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Grants, Awards & Presentations

Grant	\$ 2,000. “The Effects of Metacognition Exercises for Students in Online Degree Programs: An Experimental Design”, Sponsored by Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation, University of North Texas, August 2024 - May 2025; Principal.
Grant	\$ 5,000. “UNT Mentoring Grant”, Sponsored by UNT Faculty Success, University of North Texas, August 2024 - May 2025; Co-Principal.
Awarded	UT Dallas Small Grants Program - \$1000, Fall 2019
Awarded	EPPS Department Grant - \$800, Spring 2019
Awarded	Vibhooti Shukla award for dissertation research - \$1500, Spring 2019
Awarded	OER Evaluation Grant program - \$250, Fall 2021
Awarded	OER Creation Grant - \$3000, Spring 2022
Awarded	UNT Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation Faculty Award - \$2000, Fall 2023 for purchase of FDI database
Awarded	UNT Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation Faculty Award - \$1500, Fall 2023 for conference travel
Awarded	UNT Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation Faculty Award - \$ 3000, Spring 2024 for conference travel
Awarded	UNT Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation Faculty Award - \$ 5000, Spring 2025 for conference travel
Presentation	“Teaching Dual Credit: Strategies for Educating this Cohort”; TCCTA Annual Meeting, Spring 2015
Presentation	“Black Gold: International Determinants of the Shadow Economy”; Western Social Science Association, Spring 2019
Presentation	“The Effects of Oil on the Informal Economy”; Southern Political Science Association meeting, Spring 2020
Presentation	“Teaching First-Generations Students: Strategies for Guiding This Amazing Cohort”; Collin College Adjunct Faculty Collaboration, Spring 2020
Presentation	“Black Gold or Black Hole? The Effects of Oil on the Informal Economy”; Texas Triangle International Relations Conference, Spring 2021
Presentation	“The Many Faces of Feedback”, as a member of the Faculty Council Teaching & Learning Committee; Faculty Development Conference, Spring 2022
Presentation	“You’re a Lifesaver: Using OER to Aid Last Minute Hires”; Open Texas, Fall 2022
Presentation	“A New 80-20 Rule: Using Constraint Optimization in Grading to Eliminate Late Work”; Virginia Tech Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, Spring 2024
Presentation	“The Effects of Metacognition Exercises for Students in Online Degree Programs: An Experimental Design”; Virginia Tech Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, Spring 2025
Presentation	“The Effects of Democracy on FDI Strategy: A Transactional Analysis”; Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Spring 2025
Presentation	“The Effects of Property Rights Protections on Inward Foreign Direct Investment”; Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Spring 2025
Presentation	“Expanding PBL: Strategies for Online and Large Classrooms”; UNT DMI Project-Based Learning Symposium, Spring 2025