

DANIEL E. SZARKE, Ph.D.

deszarke@utep.edu

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy, *Political Science*** June 2015
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Doctoral Thesis: “Political Reform and Challenges to Order in Weak States: Center-Periphery Relations in the Sahel”
Committee: William Reno (Chair, Northwestern University), Ana Arjona (Northwestern University), Jonathan Caverley (MIT)
- Master, *History of International Relations, Mention Bien*** July 2007
Université Robert Schuman, Strasbourg, France
French Thesis: “Relations entre l’OTAN et la Russie: 1997-2003”
Committee: Jean-Christophe Romer (URS), Birte Wassenberg (URS)
- Master of Arts, *International Relations, Distinguished Graduate*** August 2005
St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, TX
- Diploma with Honors, French, *Distinguished Graduate, Commandant’s Award*** March 2005
Defense Language Institute, Monterey, CA
- Bachelor of Science, *Economics Major, German Minor, Military Distinction*** June 1993
U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

CURRENT POSITION

- The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX
Adjunct Faculty, Defense and Strategic Studies 2016-2018, 2021-Present
- Online, graduate-level courses related to U.S. national security
 - Courses to include Strategic Survey of Africa; Strategic Survey of the Middle East

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Palmer High School, Colorado Springs, CO
French Teacher, Department of World Languages 2020-2021
- Directed and taught International Baccalaureate/Honors French language and culture courses
 - Courses included Introductory French and Intermediate French
- United States Air Force Academy, CO 2010-2012, 2015-2020
Course Director and Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and International Programs
- Developed curriculum and taught university-level French language and culture courses
 - Advisor to European and African Foreign Area Studies majors
 - Courses included Introductory French and Intermediate French

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United States Air Force

1993 – 2020

Deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar

May 2019 – October 2019

Deputy Commander, 609th Air Operations Center

850-member organization providing supervisory role for air, cyber, and space operations throughout the Middle East; resolved personnel, facilities, and budgetary issues; ensured implementation of strategic guidance

- Steered integration of new career field into organizational structure, expertise in key leadership roles
- Initiated unified planning effort to establish critical operational redundancy for organization
- Resolved critical personnel shortfalls to ensure operational continuity for 850-member organization

US Air Force Academy, Colorado

November 2016 – April 2019

Director, International Programs; Assistant Professor

Led international programs office executing \$2.8M budget and \$120K in donor funding annually; semester-long civilian university and military academy exchanges with 15 institutions; language and cultural immersions in 8 different languages across the globe; international partner exchanges at home institution and abroad

- Directed robust preparation, pre- and post-assessment of cultural/language learning abroad
- Implemented new risk management protocols to ensure health, safety, and security of over 300 students studying abroad annually
- Established institutional political-military priorities with organizational headquarters, ensured advancement of headquarters strategic objectives
- Led expansion of multiple language and cultural programs into diverse regions, established 7 new programs to broaden student horizons and build organizational expertise
- Increased cultural immersion and partner abroad engagements by 90%, established crucial ties with strategic international partners

US Air Force Academy, Colorado

June 2015 – October 2016

Director of Operations; Assistant Professor

Managed all operations-related issues for the Department of Foreign Languages and International Programs, an organization comprised of 62 faculty members teaching 91 courses in eight languages and sending 300+ students abroad annually; resolved personnel, facilities, and budgetary issues

- French course instructor, advised European and African Foreign Area Studies majors
- Conducted faculty and staff searches and hiring, identified and recruited diverse candidates and top talent for international programs and foreign language instruction
- Developed enduring French language immersion program

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

August 2012 – May 2015

Doctoral Student

- Performed field research in Mali and Niger focused on center-periphery relations, successfully completed dissertation on *Political Reform and Challenges to Order in Weak States*

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US Air Force Academy, Colorado

June 2010 – July 2012

Director of Operations; French Instructor and Course Director

Managed all operational issues for USAFA's most diverse academic department and Office of International Programs

- Led preparation for compliance inspection, certified accuracy for checklist items tied to international programs and language operational requirements, ensured 100% compliance
- Directed Introductory French for 150+ students, developed lesson plans and assessments for 6 instructors

Deployed to US Consulate, Jerusalem

December 2009 – May 2010

Deputy Director of Planning, United States Security Coordinator (USSC)

Developed planning for international, inter-agency United States government-funded security program

- Developed planning documents providing strategic direction for a \$392M United States government program developing security capabilities in the Levant
- Synchronized US government resources, plans, and strategic objectives with international partners to effect shared stability objectives

United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany

July 2008 – November 2009

Chief, Building Partnerships Plans Branch

Directed strategic planning of US Air Forces in Europe building partner capacity engagements with air force partners in countries throughout Europe and Black Sea-Eurasia

- Regularly briefed senior leaders on factors affecting security cooperation environment; led development of first-ever comprehensive planning documents for headquarter efforts with 40 countries

United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany

July 2007 – June 2008

Deputy Chief, Africa Branch

Implemented strategic plans for building partner capacity engagements with air force partners in countries throughout Africa

- Undertook responsibility for planning and executing United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) theater security cooperation program for 54 African countries in coordination with U.S. embassies, host nations, Joint Staff, and Headquarters Africa Command.

LANGUAGES

French: Fluent

German: Novice

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Available upon request