

Curriculum Vitae (brief)

MICHAEL L. BRESSLER

Department of Political Science
Furman University
Greenville, SC 29613
phone: (864) 294-2992; fax: (864) 294-3513
e-mail: mike.bressler@furman.edu

Education

- Ph.D. The University of Michigan, 1992. Major field of study: Comparative Politics. First minor: International Relations. Second minor: Political Theory. Cognate field: Sociology.
- A.M. The University of Michigan, 1987. Field of study: Political Science.
- B.A. The Ohio State University, 1984 (*cum laude*). Major: Political Science. Minor: Russian Language and Literature. Certificate: Slavic and East European Studies.

Professional Experience

Professor, Department of Political Science, Furman University, 2008-present.
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Furman University, 1999-2008.
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Furman University, 1993-1999.
Visiting Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Eastern Michigan University, 1992-1993.
Lecturer, Department of Political Science, The University of Michigan, 1989.

Research Interests

Congress and American foreign policy.
Political change in Russia.
Realism and idealism in American foreign policy.
State-led efforts to transform nature and society.

Courses Taught at Furman

Introduction to World Politics (PSC 102).
Politics of Russia (PSC 222).
International Relations (PSC 250).
International Peace and Security (PSC 251).
Issues in Central and East European Politics (PSC 241).
Capstone Seminar in International Relations (PSC 401).

Teaching Award

Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Meritorious Teaching Award, Furman University, 2005.

Recent Publications

Michael L. Bressler, ed. 2009. *Understanding Contemporary Russia*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Michael L. Bressler. Chapter 4 "Politics," chapter 1 "Introduction," and chapter 13 "Conclusion," in *Understanding Contemporary Russia*.

Michael L. Bressler. 2008. "Congressional Dissent During Times of War: How Congress Goes Public to Influence Foreign Policy." *Extensions* (Spring), 9-14.

Michael L. Bressler. 2005. Book review of Paul R. Gregory, *The Political Economy of Stalinism: Evidence From the Soviet Secret Archives* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2004). Published in *Comparative Political Studies* 38:2 (March), 222-225.

Michael L. Bressler. 2003. Review essay of Victoria E. Bonnell and George W. Breslauer (editors), *Russia in the New Century: Stability or Disorder?* (Boulder, CO: Westview, 2001); and Valerie Sperling (editor), *Building the Russian State: Institutional Crisis and the Quest for Democratic Governance* (Boulder, CO: Westview, 2000). Published in *Governance* 16:1 (January), 141-145.

Recent Professional Papers

"How Congress Goes Public During Times of War: Examining the Influence of Divided Government on Congressional Behavior." Prepared for delivery at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, Canada, September 3rd-6th, 2009.

"Congressional Dissent During Times of War: How Congress Uses the Media to Influence Foreign Policy." Prepared for delivery at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, August 30th-September 2nd, 2007.

"Big Rivers and Big Ideas: 'High Modernism' In Soviet Land Reclamation Policy." Prepared for delivery at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 21-24 November 2002.

Recent Public Talks

"Faith and Politics," Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC, September 17, 2008.

"The Bear in Winter: Russia's Turn from Democracy," Hendersonville University Club, Hendersonville, NC. March 2, 2006.

“Copenhagen.” Centre Stage South Carolina (directed by Furman’s Phil Hill). I was asked by the Caleb Group (contact person: Johnny Price) to provide commentary and facilitate discussion in its “Feedback Forum” on the ethics of developing the first atomic weapons. This event took place after the June 19, 2005 performance.

“Realism and Idealism in American Foreign Policy,” Lifelong Learning at Furman, “What in the World” Series, Furman University. April 14, 2005.

“War and National Security Panel.” Part 1 of a three-part series on international relations organized by Dr. Beth Traxler, Greenville Technical College, and funded by PBS, “By the People,” a production of MacNeil/Lehrer. August 31, 2004.

“A Three-Dimensional View of American Foreign Policy,” FULIR, Furman University. April 6, 2004.

“Lessons in Political Transformation from the Postcommunist World, with Applications to Iraq,” Lifelong Learning at Furman, “What in the World is Going On” Series, Furman University. May 15, 2003.

Panelist for “The United Nations in the 21st Century,” hosted by the Furman Students Model UN organization. April 10, 2003.

“Challenges of International Terrorism,” Hendersonville, NC Rotary Club. February 18, 2003.