

# Michael O'Donnell Allen

Contact Information	<a href="#">Yale University</a> <a href="#">Jackson Institute for Global Affairs</a> PO Box 208359 New Haven, CT 06520 USA	E-mail: <a href="mailto:michael.allen@yale.edu">michael.allen@yale.edu</a> Website: <a href="http://www.modallen.com">www.modallen.com</a>
Academic Appointments	<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b> , Yale University Affiliations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Jackson Institute for Global Affairs</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Department of Political Science</a></li></ul>	Present
Education	<b>Cornell University</b> , Ithaca, NY Ph.D., Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dissertation: <i>Constructing International Commercial Arbitration: Traders, Lawyers and the Professional Competition for Authority over Global Commerce</i></li><li>• Advisers: Matthew Evangelista (chair), Odette Lienau, Christopher Way</li><li>• Exam fields: International Relations and Comparative Politics</li></ul> <b>University of Iowa</b> , Iowa City, IA B.A., Political Science and Chinese, 2011	2022
	<b>Beijing Language and Culture University</b> , Beijing, China	2008–2009 2006–2007
Dissertation Project	My dissertation examines the causes and consequences of the global privatization of commercial dispute resolution. Specifically, I investigate the origins of the transnational movement behind the construction of international commercial arbitration (ICA) and how this regime interacts with domestic legal institutions today. ICA is a private system of binding dispute resolution in which parties have near complete freedom to design the process to fit their needs with minimal judicial oversight. To account for rapid the growth of ICA , I present a novel theory of institutional construction and change that accounts for the out-sized role of private, professional groups in the construction of transnational legal regimes such as ICA. Beyond providing know-how and expertise, expert and professional groups seek to enhance their professional prestige and workload by shaping institutions in order to cement their own authority over the institution's mandate. I test this theory in two ways. First, I use extensive archival material to trace the origins of the commercial arbitration movement in the United States and its expansion abroad. Second, I use data on local commercial arbitration laws as well as case, roster and professional membership data from leading international arbitration centers and professional groups to examine the effect of ICA on the authority of domestic courts. I show the ICA serves as a systemic substitute for local courts in regard to foreign direct investment, negating the well-known sensitivity of foreign direct investors to the quality of local legal institutions. This has the indirect effect of reducing investment in progressive legal reforms in weak rule of law countries.	

Peer-Reviewed Publications	[1] <i>Forthcoming</i> . Michael Allen and Kenneth Scheve. "Sustaining Capitalism and Democracy: Lessons from Global Competition Policy." <i>International Studies Review</i>	
Working Papers	[1] Michael Allen. "Is International Commercial Arbitration a Complement or Substitute for Domestic Legal Institutions?"	
	[2] Michael Allen. "Unbundling the State: Legal Development in an Era of Global, Private Governance" <b>Under review</b>	
	[3] Michael Allen, Kenneth Scheve and David Stasavage. "Democracy, Inequality and Antitrust" <b>Revise and Resubmit</b>	
	[4] Elizabeth Acorn and Michael Allen. "Extra-Territorial Law Enforcement as a Mechanism of Legal Diffusion: A Reappraisal of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention" <b>Under review</b>	
	[5] Michael Allen and Aditi Sahasrabuddhe. "Crisis, Intervention, and the Politics of Central Bank Independence"	
	[6] Michael Allen. "The Corruption Penalty: Global Commerce, Bribery, and the Growing Fear of Getting Caught"	
Works in Progress	[1] Michael Allen. "Sources of Gender and National Bias in the Selection of Arbitrators at the International Chamber of Commerce"	
	[2] Michael Allen and Jimena Valdez. "Populism and the Termination of Bilateral Investment Treaties"	
Additional Training	<b>Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research</b> Courses on historical and interpretative methods	2016
	<b>Inter-University Consortium for Political &amp; Social Research</b> Courses: Empirical Modeling for Theory Evaluation, Complex Systems Models	2014
Teaching	<b>Cornell University</b> <i>Instructor</i>	
	• The Politics of International Law and Courts	2015
	<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	
	• Inquiry in Politics and Policy (Prof. David Silbey)	2017, 2018
	• The Cold War (Prof. Matthew Evangelista)	2016
	• Freedom and Justice in the Western Tradition (Prof. Isaac Kramnick)	2015
	• Democracy and its Discontents (Prof. Alexander Livingston)	2015
	• Constitutional Law (Prof. Joseph Margulies)	2014
Scholarships and Awards	<b>Hayek Fund for Scholars</b> (\$3,000, w/ Aditi Sahasrabuddhe) <a href="#">Institute for Humane Studies</a> , George Mason University	2021

	<b>Sage Doctoral Fellowship</b> Cornell University	2013, 2019
	<b>IQMR “Open Pool” Fellowship</b> <a href="#">Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research</a> , Syracuse University	2015
	<b>Houston I. Flourney Fellowship Research Grant</b> (\$1,000) Cornell University	2015
	<b>Inequality Seed Grant</b> (\$1,500) <a href="#">Center for the Study of Inequality</a> , Cornell University	2015
	<b>Houston I. Flourney Fellowship Award</b> Cornell University	2014
	<b>Chinese Government Scholarship</b> Beijing Language & Culture University	2008
Presentations & Talks	<b>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b> Montreal, Canada	Upcoming
	<b>Workshop on Experiments in International &amp; Comparative Law</b> Zoom	Upcoming
	<b>International Studies Association Annual Convention</b> Nashville, TN	2022
	<b>Junior International Law Scholars Assoc. Annual Meeting</b> University of Miami School of Law	2022
	<b>DVPW-ÖGPW-SVPW Joint Int’l Political Economy Conf.</b> Technical University of Munich	Cancelled
	<b>International Political Economy Society Annual Meeting</b> University of Colorado Boulder	2021
	<b>Roundtable on Empirical Anticorruption Law</b> New York University School of Law	2021
	<b>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b> Seattle, WA	2021
	<b>International Studies Association Annual Convention</b> Online	2021
	<b>Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b> San Juan, Puerto Rico	2020
	<b>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b> Washington, DC	2019
	<b>European and Transnational Rulemaking</b> University of Amsterdam	2019

	<b>Law &amp; Society Association Annual Meeting</b>	2019
	Washington, DC	
	<b>American Society of International Law Annual Meeting</b>	2019
	Washington, DC	
	<b>Perry World House Workshop on Int'l Law, Org. and Politics</b>	2019
	University of Pennsylvania	
	<b>Doing International Political Sociology</b>	2018
	University of London (Paris, France)	
	<b>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</b>	2016
	Chicago, IL	
	<b>Midwest Regional Colloquium on Int'l Organizations and Law</b>	2016
	Notre Dame University	
Professional Service	<b>Reviewer</b>	
	<i>International Organization, International Studies Quarterly</i>	
	<b>International Relations Minor Coordinator</b>	2016–2017
	Cornell University	
	<b>Conference Organizer</b>	2016
	<a href="#">Reppy Institute Graduate Workshop on Peace &amp; Conflict</a> , Cornell University (This workshop is now held annually and organized by the Reppy Institute Graduate Fellows.)	
	<b>Director's Fellow</b>	2015-2016
	<a href="#">Judith Reppy Institute for Peace &amp; Conflict Studies</a> , Cornell University	
	<b>Graduate Fellow</b>	2014-2017
	<a href="#">Judith Reppy Institute for Peace &amp; Conflict Studies</a> , Cornell University	
	<b>Graduate Fellow</b>	2016–2017
	<a href="#">Center for Teaching Innovation</a> , Cornell University	
	<b>Graduate Student Steering Committee Member</b>	2014-2016
	<a href="#">East Asian Program</a> , Cornell University	
	<b>Graduate Editor</b>	2014–2015
	<a href="#">Cornell International Affairs Review</a>	
Work Experience	<b>Chinese University of Political Science and Law</b> , Beijing, China	2011-2013
	International Program Officer	
Languages	Mandarin (Advanced) Italian (Intermediate)	
Software/ Programming	R, Stata	

References

**Matthew Evangelista**

President White Professor of  
History and Political Science  
Government Department  
Cornell University  
[mae10@cornell.edu](mailto:mae10@cornell.edu)

**Kenneth Scheve**

Dean Acheson Professor of Political  
Science and Global Affairs  
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