

NEIL SHORTLAND BSc., (Hons) MSc., (Distinction) Ph.D.

Director, Center for Terrorism and Security Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell.
Assistant Professor, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of
Massachusetts Lowell.

Ph.D., Center for Critical and Major Incident Psychology, Institute for Risk and
Uncertainty, University of Liverpool, UK.

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- Book manuscript “Conflict: How Soldiers Make Impossible Decisions” forthcoming with Oxford University Press (2018).
- Collaborated with the National Assistance Treaty Organization, the United Kingdom Ministry of Defense and the academic journal *Science* to publish new data and a special feature on civilian casualties in Afghanistan (<https://www.sciencemag.org/content/345/6198.toc#Feature>)
- Visiting Research Scholar with the Changing Character of War Program at Pembroke College, University of Oxford.
- Scholarly lead for a Special Edition in *The American Psychologist* on the “Psychology of Terrorism” (Summer, 2017).
- 10 successful grant applications, including \$531,496 awarded by the Army Research Institute and \$69,000 awarded by the United Kingdom Center for Defense Enterprise.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Cognitive Psychology, Center for Critical and Major Incident Psychology, University of Liverpool, Spring 2017.

MSc Forensic and Investigative Psychology, *Distinction* and awarded *Top Performance on MSc Psychology*, University of Liverpool, 2011.

BSc Psychology, *First Class Honors*, University of Bristol, 2010.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Director, Center for Terrorism and Security Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell (Fall, 2017 - present)

Assistant Professor, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell (Fall, 2017 - present)

Visiting Research Fellow, University of Oxford, Pembroke Collee, Changing Character of War Program, Summer 2016.

Visiting Faculty Lecturer, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell (2015 – 2017)

Program Manager and Senior Research Associate, Center for Terrorism and Security

Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell (2013 – 2015)

Research Associate: International Center for the Study of Terrorism, The Pennsylvania State University (2012 – 2013)

APPLIED RESEARCH POSITIONS

Cognitive Psychologist, Home Team Behavioral Sciences Centre (HTBSC), Ministry of Home Affairs, Singapore (2015).

Research Psychologist, Defense Science and Technology Laboratory, United Kingdom Ministry of Defense (2011- 2012)

Social Science Researcher, Kent Public Protection Crime Unit, Academic Placement (2011).

SUCCESSFUL GRANTS AND AWARDS

01/12/2016 – 01/12/2017. Conflict: least-worst decision making in military personnel. (American Psychological Association, Military Psychology Division Student Research Award, \$2250).

01/01/2017 – 06/01/2017. Peer 2 Peer: Challenging Violent Extremism. (Role: **PI**, EdVenture Programs, Facebook and the United States Department of State, \$2,500).

01/01/2017 – 12/31/2019. Seizing Optimum Opportunities for Action: Goal Conflict and Decision Inertia in Military Operations. (Role: **Co-PI**, U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, \$531,496.06).

09/01/2016 – 12/01/2016. Peer 2 Peer: Challenging Violent Extremism. (Role: **PI**, EdVenture Programs, Facebook and the United States Department of State, \$2,500).

09/01/2016 – 09/01/2017. Using Narrative Analysis to Detect Level of Threat in Online Expressions of Malicious Intent. (Role: **Co-PI**, Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at UMass Lowell, \$10,000).

04/01/2016 – 04/01/2017. Hearts, minds and counter-messages: An experimental test of personality on reactions to extremist propaganda and counter-extremist messages. (Role: **PI**, Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society, Research Fellowship, \$9,100).

12/01/2015 – 07/01/2016. The role of terrorist propaganda on aggressive cognitions. (Role: **PI**, Qualtrics Behavioral Research Grant, \$2,250).

01/29/2016 – 05/01/2016. Peer 2 Peer: Challenging Violent Extremism. (Role: **PI**, EdVenture Programs, Facebook and the United States Department of State, \$2,500).

10/01/2015 – 12/31/2015. Honors FAHSS Research and Creative Fellowship to study the sentencing of Jihadist terrorist offenders in the United States between 1994 and 2012 (Role: **PI**, Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at UMass Lowell, \$1,000).

09/01/2014 - 07/01/2015. Using 10,000 Volts de-brief technology to measure the effect of social, environmental and organizational factors on military decision-making (Role: **Co-PI**, Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at UMass Lowell, \$7,854).

09/01/2013 – 03.01/2014. Getting left of Green-on-Blue: A quantitative analysis of the role of battlefield casualties as a potential predictor of green-on-blur attacks in Afghanistan (Role: **PI**, Sponsored by the United Kingdom Ministry of Defense, \$68,538)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Awards:

2016 Manning Prize for Excellence in Teaching Nominee.

2014 University of Massachusetts Lowell Award for Innovation in Education (CTSS internship)

Courses Taught (all as instructor of record):

CRIM 4800 (**STUDY ABROAD**): Center for Terrorism and Security Studies International Studies Program (taught at the University of Braga, Portugal); “Cross Cultural Internship”

CRIM 4960 (**STUDY ABROAD**): Selected Topics: Center for Terrorism and Security Studies International Studies Program (taught at the University of Braga, Portugal); “Comparative Counter-Terrorism”

CRIM 3960: Forensic Psychology

CRIM 3300: Introduction to Terrorism (International and Domestic) *Honors section*

CRIM 2480: Introduction to Terrorism (International and Domestic)

CRIM 4960: Center for Terrorism and Security Studies Internship; “Typologies of Terrorist Involvement”

CRIM 4960: Center for Terrorism and Security Studies Internship; “The Islamic State in America”

CRIM 4960: Center for Terrorism and Security Studies Internship; “Online Risk Assessment and Offender Differentiation”

CRIM 4960: Center for Terrorism and Security Studies Internship; “P2P: Challenging Extremism Online” (in partnership with EdVenture and the United States Department of State; Spring 2016, Fall, 2016).

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Books

Shortland, N. D., Alison, L. J., & Moran, J. (2018). *Conflict: How soldiers make impossible decisions*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Manuscripts

Alison, L. J., Palasinski, M., Humphrey, A., Humann, M., **Shortland, N. D.**, & Bowman Grieve, L. (2017). Between a rock and a hard place of geopolitically sensitive threats – critical incidents and decision inertia. *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*.

Hunter, S., **Shortland, N. D.**, Crayne, M., & Ligon, G. M. (2017). Recruitment and selection in violent extremist organizations: Viewing through an industrial and organizational psychology lens. *The American Psychologist*, 72(3), 242 – 254.
Impact Factor: 5.45

Altier, M. B., Leonard, E., **Shortland, N. D.**, & Horgan, J. G. (2017). Why They Leave: An Analysis of Terrorist Disengagement Events from 87 Autobiographical Accounts. *Security Studies*, 26(2), 305-332, 2017. **Impact Factor: 1.09**

Shortland, N. D. (*in press*). A review of “Citron, D. K. (2014). *Hate Crime in Cyberspace*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. 343 pp. ISBN 978-0-674-36829-3 (paperback).” *Criminal Justice Review*.

Shortland, N. D., Sari, H., & Nader, E. (*in press*). Re-counting the dead: An analysis of civilian casualties in Afghanistan. *Armed Force and Society*.

Palasinski, M. & **Shortland, N. D.** (2016). Exploring factors behind support for harsher punishments for common and uncommon serious offenders. *Safer Communities*, 16(2), 55 – 63.

Shortland, N. D., & Palasinski, M. (2016). Mirror mirror on the wall which is the most convincing of them all? Exploring anti-domestic violence messages. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. Doi: 10.1177/0886260516654931 **Impact Factor: 1.94**

Palasinski, M., & **Shortland, N. D.** (2016). Individual determinants of punitive attitudes towards sexual and domestic abuse offenders. *Safer Communities*, 15(3), 125 – 133. Doi: 10.1108/SC-03-2016-0007

Horgan, J., **Shortland, N. D.**, Abbascianno, S., & Walsh, S. (2016). Actions Speak Louder than Words: A Behavioral Analysis of 183 Individuals Convicted for Terrorist Offenses in the United States from 1989 - 2012. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 61(5), 1228 – 1237. **Impact Factor: 1.16**

Horgan, J. G., Altier, M. B., **Shortland, N. D.**, & Taylor, M. (2016). Walking away: The disengagement and deradicalization of a right wing violent extremist, *Behavioral*

Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression, 9(2), 63 – 77. Doi:
10.1080/19434472.2016.1156722

Shortland, N. D., & Alison, L. J. (2015). War Stories: A Narrative Approach to Understanding Military Decisions, *The Military Psychologist*, 30(2), 7 – 12.

Shortland, N. D., & Bohannon, J. (2014). Civilian Casualties in Afghanistan, *Science*, 345, 731-733. **Impact Factor: 33.41**

Fijwala, S., Palasinski, M., & **Shortland, N. D.** (2014). The basic determinants of perceived increase in violent, sexual and benefit fraud crimes, *Safer Communities*, 13(4), 180 – 188.

Manuscripts under review

Palasinski, M., Brown, W., Shortland, N. D., Riggs, D., Bowman-Grieve, L., & Chen, C. (*under review*). Masculinity, Injury and Death – Implications for Anti-knife-carrying Messages. *Psychology of Violence*.

Horgan, J. G., Shortland, N. D., Walsch, S., & Abbascianno, S. (*under review*). Towards a Typology of Terrorism Involvement: A Behavioral Differentiation of Violent Extremist Offenders. *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*.

Waring, S., Alison, L. J., Shortland, N. D., & Humann, M. (*under review*). Information Exchange and Decision Inertia in Extreme Environments: Case Study of a Complex Counter-Terrorism Operation. *Journal of Organizational Behavior*.

Shortland, N. D., Gill, P., & Palasinski, M. (*under review*). Future Fanatic or Facebook Fantasist? Pragmatic Considerations for the Online Risk Assessment of Potential Terrorist Offenders. *Computers in Human Behavior*.

Palasinski, M., **Shortland, N. D.** & Bowman, L. (*under review*). Exploring anxiety about digital security and terrorism and support for high-tech counter terror measures. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*

Shortland, N. D., & Alison, L. J. (*under review*). The Military (in)decision Making Process: A Framework to investigate decision inertia in military operations. *Military Psychology*

Shortland, N. D., Sari, H., Palasinski, M., Nader, E., & Hilland, C. (*revise and resubmit*). Murder on Maneuver: Exploring green-on-blue attacks in Afghanistan. *Armed Forces and Society*.

Shortland, N. D., Alison, L. J., & Palasinski, M. (*under review*). Strategic indecision: Analyzing Foreign Policy Narratives Regarding Military Intervention in Syria. *Security Studies*.

Palasinski, M., Alison, L. J., Waring, S., Humann, M., & **Shortland, N. D.** (*under review*). Decision Inertia and Failures to Act in Choosing Between ‘Least-Worst’ Options. *Terrorism and Political Violence*

Manuscripts in preparation

Shortland, N. D., & Alison, L. J. (*forthcoming*). Tales from the Trenches: Using Critical Decision Methods to develop data on military decision-making on deployment. *Prepared for Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*

Shortland, N. D., Alison, L. J., Barrett-Pink, C., & Swan, L. (*forthcoming*). A Naturalistic Investigation of Military Decision Making on Deployment. *Prepared for the Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*

Shortland, N. D., & Alison, L. J. (*forthcoming*). Do or Die: The Absence of Decision Inertia in Military Decision Makers. *Prepared for the Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*

Shortland, N. D. (*forthcoming*). Winning Hearts with Mines: Strategic Choice and Terrorist Targeting in Counter-insurgency. *Prepared for the Journal of Piece Research*

Shortland, N. D., Powers, N., & Alison, L. J. (*forthcoming*). Tough Calls: An analysis of Police and Military Decision Making Strategies during Least-Worst Decision Making. *Prepared for the Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*

Book Chapters

Shortland, N., & Dunne, J. (*in press*). “*Al-Qa’ida and the Horcruxes: Similarities between Violent Extremists Organizations and Lord Voldemort.*” In Alderete, P., & Alvarez, J. (Eds). *Cultural Politics in Harry Potter: Life, Death and Transitions*. London, UK: Routledge.

Shortland, N. (2016). “*A Pragmatic approach to the online risk assessment of violent extremists.*” In Khader, M., & Loo-Seng, N. (Eds.). *Combating Violent Extremism and Radicalisation in the Digital Era*. Pennsylvania, United States: IGI Global

Government Reports¹

Horgan, J. & **Shortland, N.** (2015). “Developing a Typology of Terrorism Involvement as a Basis to Planning for Sentencing, Management, Risk Reduction, Release and Monitoring of Terrorist Offenders.” Report prepared for the Office of University

¹ Publication list is limited by classification. All publications at SECRET, and those whose titles are classified as UK RESTRICTED are not included in this list.

Programs, Science and Technology Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. College Park, MD: START, 2015.

Horgan, J. & **Shortland, N.** (2015). “Case studies of selected al-Qa’ida members” Report prepared for the Office of University Programs, Science and Technology Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. College Park, MD: START, 2015.

Horgan, J. & **Shortland, N.** (2014). “Typology of job tasks within terrorist organizations” Report prepared for the Office of University Programs, Science and Technology Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. College Park, MD: START, 2014.

Shortland, N., & Hilland, C. (2014). “Anticipating Insider Attacks: Civilian Casualties as a Motivator and Predictor of Insider Attacks in Afghanistan.” Final customer report, Porton, Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Knight, S., **Shortland, N.,** & Homer, K. (2012). Malevolent Creativity and Innovation in terrorist organisations. DSTL/CR61803. Final customer report, Porton, Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Spanner, L., **Shortland, N.,** & Homer, K. (2012). The utility of social media in emergency management. DSTL/CR91854. Final customer report, Porton, Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Spanner, L., **Shortland, N.,** & Homer, K. (2012). Using social media in emergencies: Smart tips for category 1 responders using social media in emergency management. Final customer report. Porton, Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Butcher, F., Gore, A., **Shortland, N.,** & Maxwell, I. (2011). Scoping study to further understand the collection of ‘Pattern of Life’ information for C-IED operators. DSTL/CR60093. Final customer report, Porton, Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Shortland, N., Dhesi, J., & James, A (2011). Cyber and influence research strategy development: A rapid evidence assessment. Dstl Internal Report. Wiltshire: Dstl Porton Down.

Theses

Shortland, N. (2017). Conflict: Sacred Values, Decision Inertia and the Psychology of Choice in Military Operations. Ph.D. thesis in Psychology, Department of Psychology, Center for Critical and Major Incident Psychology, University of Liverpool.

Shortland, N. (2011). Indecent Images of Children and Contact Sexual Abuse: A Continuum of Risk for ‘Criminogenic’ and ‘Conservative’ Contact and Non-

Contact Offenders in an Indecent Image Offender Sample. Unpublished MSc Thesis in Forensic and Investigative Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Liverpool.

Shortland, N. (2010). The lateralisation of shadow perception: A test of the shadow suppression hypothesis, Unpublished BSc Thesis in Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Bristol.

EDITORIAL BOARDS

I have acted as a reviewer for the following peer-review journals:

- Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology
- Military Psychology
- Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression
- Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict
- Critical Studies in Terrorism
- Perspectives on Terrorism

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Association for Psychological Science
- American Psychology Association: Military Psychology Strand
- American Society for Criminology
- International Academy of Investigative Psychology
- Society for Terrorism Research

ACADEMIC AND PRATITIONER PRESENTATIONS

“Conflict: The Psychology of Choice in Military Operations.” Presentation at American Psychological Association, Annual Meeting, August 3rd 2017, Washington D.C.

“Anger and Exposure to Extremist Propaganda as a Predictor of Aggression.” Presentation at American Society for Criminology Annual Meeting, November 17th 2016, New Orleans, LA.

“Typologies of Terrorist Involvement: A Basis to Planning Sentencing, Management, Risk Reduction, Release and Monitoring of Terrorist Offenders,” Presentation at the START Annual Meeting, October 6th 2016, Washington D.C.

“Strategic Indecision: Foreign Policy Decision Making in Syria and Iraq,” Presentation at the ISSS-ISAC Joint Annual Conference 2015, October 7th 2015, Springfield, MA.

“Contemporary Terrorism: Individuals, Indicators and Intervention,” Presentation at the

Home Team Behavioral Sciences Centre (HTBSC), Ministry of Home Affairs, February 26th 2015, Singapore.

“Disengagement: Pathways, Processes and Roles,” Presentation at the Home Team Behavioral Sciences Centre (HTBSC), Ministry of Home Affairs, February 25th 2015, Singapore.

“Typologies of Terrorist Involvement: A Basis to Planning Sentencing, Management, Risk Reduction, Release and Monitoring of Terrorist Offenders,” Presentation at the American Society for Criminology Annual Meeting, November 20th 2014, San Francisco, CA.

“Typologies of Terrorist Involvement: Furthering our Knowledge of “Involved in Terrorism” Roundtable panel at the American Society for Criminology Annual Meeting, November 22nd 2014, San Francisco, CA.

“Murder on Maneuver: a quantitative analysis of green-on-blue fratricide murders in Afghanistan,” Presentation at the Society for Terrorism Research 8th Annual Conference, September 18th 2014, Boston, MA.

“Murder on Maneuver: a quantitative analysis of green-on-blue fratricide murders in Afghanistan,” *United Kingdom Government Workshop on Green-on-Blue Attacks*, Portsmouth West, Portsmouth, 19th & 20th March 2014

“Defense and Science Technology Laboratory: Malevolent Creativity and Innovation workshop,” *Invited Subject Matter Expert*, Portsmouth West, Portsmouth, 19th & 20th March 2013.

Practitioner Brief: “International Center for the Study of Terrorism - Strategic Research Brief on Mobilization, Typologies of terrorism and disengagement”, *Presentation to UK Cabinet Office PREVENT Team*, Home Office, London, 20th December 2012.

MEDIA OUTREACH

I have acted as a subject matter expert on the psychology of terrorism, domestic and international counter-terrorism, foreign policy and military operations for media outlets including CNN, the Huffington Post, Vice News, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) and NPR.