

CHRISTIAN ROBERT CURRIDEN

curriden@rand.org

PROFILE

- Research Skills: PLA and PRC Primary Sources, Korean Primary Sources, Lexical Analysis, Historical Analysis
- 3.5 Years Study/Work Experience in China and Korea, Including Policy Analysis and Government Relations
- Languages: Chinese (fluent), Korean (fluent), English (native)
- Proficiencies: RANDLex, Microsoft Excel, Weibo (including Weibo Data), WeChat, Social Media

EDUCATION

University of Chicago

MA in Social Science | Concentration: International Relations | GPA 3.88 | August 2017

Brigham Young University (BYU)

BA in History, Minor in Korean and Chinese (Magna Cum Laude, Valedictorian) | GPA 3.95 | August 2016

RESEARCH & INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

The RAND Corporation

Defense Analyst | September 2017 – Present

- Drafted the China section of a report on military AI applications and their ethical implications
- Drafted historic case studies for several RAND reports on Chinese military interventions abroad
- Conducted research on Chinese strategy towards American allies in the Asia-Pacific
- Found and exploited new primary sources on PLA research not widely used in the English literature
- Co-managed a project using lexical analysis to understand changes in community discourse on gender and race issues over time

University of Chicago

Graduate Student Researcher | September 2016 – August 2017

- Completed MA Thesis: “The Impotent Dragon: Why China Can’t Stop North Korea”; Using trade databases, geospatial analysis, and Chinese sources to identify constraints on China’s North Korea policy
- Used natural language processing and Excel to quantitatively analyze shifts in Chinese policy
- Managed research projects and met deadlines in an accelerated 1 year MA program

Research Assistant | October 2016 – February 2017

- Read and summarized hundreds of Chinese articles; Identified relevant information
- Created an Excel spreadsheet with article summaries; proactively added hyperlinks to full article text

North Head

Research Intern | February 2016 – June 2016

- Edited material as a primary proofreader in the office; Created media kits, online PR materials, and brochures
- Monitored PRC government websites; Analyzed government policies and reports; Forecasted future trends
- Drafted business intelligence reports for fortune 500 companies; Tailored research projects to fit clients’ needs
- Conducted spot and background research as required by my superiors

Brigham Young University (BYU)

Flagship Fellow | September 2015 – January 2016

- Created a database of Chinese social media posts on Kim Jong-Un; Analyzed search results from Weibo Data
- Completed a thesis on Chinese views of North Korea and their likely implications for Sino-DPRK relations

Research Assistant (Asian Literature) | May 2015 – July 2015

- Organized a call for papers using Google Sheets; Helped organized a research conference
- Read and summarized hundreds of pages of material; presented my findings

Research Assistant (Korean History) | May 2014 – December 2014 & May 2013 – August 2013

- Parsed and summarized thousands of pages of Korean material to find relevant passages and identify patterns
- Proactively chose to chronologically organize my report to make trends easily apparent

Research Assistant (Chinese Foreign Relations) | March 2014 – October 2014

- Proofread the footnotes and bibliography of my professor’s book
- Conducted research using English and Korean materials to verify source information

COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE

Phi Alpha Theta

Publicity Chair/Secretary | January 2014 – April 2015

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curriden@rand.org | Do Not Use For Proposals

- Created promotional materials; Maintained group social media profile; Organized and publicized events
- Responded to suggestions, problems, and questions regarding communication and public relations

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Missionary | October 2008 – November 2010

- Taught abstract religious concepts in Korean and within a Korean cultural context
- Coordinated large projects and events with local church members
- Led a group of 6 missionaries, provided communications training; Trained new missionaries

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Davis, Paul K., Angela O'Mahony, Christian Curriden, and Jonathan Lamb, *Influencing Adversary States: Quelling Perfect Storms*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2021. https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA161-1.html. Also available in print form.

Derek Grossman, Christian Curriden, Logan Ma, Lindsey Polley, JD Williams, Cortez Cooper, *Chinese Views of Big Data Analytics: Goals and Potential Outputs*, Santa Monica: RAND Corporation, 2020.

Lilly, Sale, and Christian Curriden, "No More Dr. No? Chinese Heroes and Villains in Hollywood Before and After the WTO," Paper to be presented at the ISA 2019 Conference in Toronto.

Curriden, Christian, "Why Beidou Could Help Protect GPS," *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, Fall, 2018.

Curriden, Christian, "The Impotent Dragon: Why China Cannot Stop North Korea," Master's Thesis, University of Chicago (2017), MAPSS/CIR Thesis database.

Curriden, Christian, "Immortality Through Obliteration: Buddhist Influences on The Juche View of Life's Problems and Solutions," *The Thetean*, Vol. 44, Provo, UT: Brigham Young University, 2015.

Curriden, Christian, "The Day the Failsafes Failed: What the Tiananmen Massacre Tells Us About the PLA's Political Work system," Paper presented at the 2014 Phi Alpha Theta Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico.

Curriden, Christian, "The View from Pyongyang," *Praemon*, 2013.