

**RACHEL BEATTY RIEDL**

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Institute for Policy Research Fellow (Sept 2016 - )

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University (Sept 2010 - 2016)

- Institute for Policy Research Faculty Associate, Northwestern University, 2012 – 2015
- Equality, Development and Globalization Studies Associate, 2012 – 2015
- Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities Associate, Faculty Affiliate, 2011 - 2012

Visiting Fellow, Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame (Nov – Dec 2008)

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University (Jan 2009 – Aug 2010)

**EDUCATION**

**Princeton University**

PhD in Political Science, 2008  
MA in Political Science, 2004  
Institute for Qualitative Research Methods, January 2007

**University of Wisconsin, Madison**

BA in International Relations, Honors, May 2000

**PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS**

Political Parties and Party Systems; Democratization, Regime Transition; Historical Institutionalism; Identity Politics and Representation; Local Governance and Decentralization, African Politics

**Current Research:**

Religious Actors and Political Engagement In Sub-Saharan Africa

- Original database tracking religious actor engagement in politics and services in 15 countries.
- Subnational analysis and interviews conducted in Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.
- Sermon gathering, content analysis, and experimental treatments on religious messaging impacts on political behavior in Nairobi, Kenya.

**AWARDS and RESEARCH SUPPORT**

The Graduate School Award for Faculty Engagement, Northwestern University. 2016.

Fulbright Scholar: Research Center *Les Afriques dans le Monde, Sciences Po Bordeaux* for the project “Religious Political Engagement in Francophone Africa: A Comparative Analysis of Institutions, Identities, and Representation,” Sept 2015-March 2016.

Best Book Award of the African Politics Conference Group of the American Political Science Association and the African Studies Association 2014 for *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa*.

Best Book Award, Honorable Mention, of the Comparative Democratization Section of the APSA 2015 for *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa*.

Public Voices Fellowship on Thought Leadership, Northwestern University 2014-15.

Program on Democracy, Whitney and Betty Macmillan Center, Yale University, Residential Visiting Fellowship, Spring 2013.

Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) Faculty Associate 2012- 2015 and Research Grant for 'Religion and Politics in Contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa' Project (\$25,000)

Dispute Resolution Research Center, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Research Award 2011 (\$5,000). Funded subnational research on religion and politics in Kenya and Tanzania.

John Hunwick Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University. 2011 and 2015. For the project "Religion and Politics in Contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa".

Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation of the APSA Comparative Democratization Section, Honorable Mention 2009: "Institutions in New Democracies: Variations in African Party Systems"

Institute of International Education, National Security Education Program, David L. Boren Scholarship: Senegal 1998-99

Council for Regional Studies Award: Funded research in Mozambique, June – July 2003

MacArthur Foundation Award: Dissertation field research in Senegal and Benin, Fall 2005

Phi Beta Kappa 2000

## **PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

"Strong Parties, Weak Parties: Explaining Regime Outcomes in Africa." Forthcoming, 2016. In *Political Parties, Collective Actors, and the Crafting of Democracy*, eds. Nancy Bermeo and Deborah Yashar. Cambridge University Press.

"Religion as Stimulant of Political Participation: Evidence from an Experiment in Nairobi, Kenya" with Gwyneth McClendon. *Journal of Politics* 2015 77(4).

"Individualism and Empowerment in Pentecostal Sermons: New Evidence from Nairobi, Kenya" with Gwyneth McClendon. *African Affairs* 2016 115(458):1045-1057.

"Political Parties, Regimes and Social Cleavages." 2016. In *Oxford Handbook on Historical Institutionalism*, eds. Tulia Falleti, Orfeo Fioretos, and Adam Sheingate. Oxford University Press.

"Sub-National Elections and Accountability: A Study of Political Decentralization and Democratic Governance" with J. Tyler Dickovick, in *Growing Democracy in Africa: Elections, Accountable Governance and Political Economy*, eds. Muna Ndulo and Mamoudou Gazibo. Cambridge Scholars Publishing 2016.

*Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa*. 2014. Cambridge University Press.

-Winner of the Best Book Award from the African Politics Conference Group of the American Political Science Association 2014 and Honorable Mention, Best Book Award of the Comparative Democratization Section of the APSA 2015.

- Reviewed at *Choice*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *African Affairs & Journal of Modern African Studies*

“Party Systems and Decentralization in Africa” with J. Tyler Dickovick. *Studies in Comparative International Development*. 2014 49(3):321-342.

“African Decentralization in Comparative Perspective”, with J. Tyler Dickovick, in *Decentralization in Africa: The Paradox of State Strength*, eds. James Wunsch and Tyler Dickovick. Lynne Rienner Publishers 2014.

“Political Parties and Uncertainty in Developing Democracies” with Noam Lupu. Introduction to a Special Edition on Political Parties in the Developing World. *Comparative Political Studies* 46 (11) 2013.

“Transforming Politics, Dynamic Religion: Religion’s Political Impact in Contemporary Africa”. *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review* October 2012, Vol. 2.2.

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“Sub-National Cross-National Analysis: Religion and Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa”, in *Subnational Research in Comparative Politics*, eds. Richard Snyder, Agustina Giraudy, and Eduardo Moncada. (Under Review)

*The Christian Citizen in Urban Africa* with Gwyneth McClendon. (In Preparation)

“From the Outside Looking In: Latin American Parties in Comparative Perspective” with Allen Hicken. (Under Review, Cambridge University Press) In *Latin American Party Systems: Institutionalization, Decay, and Collapse*, ed. Scott Mainwaring.

“Institutional Legacies: Understanding multiparty politics in historical perspective.” In *Politics in Africa: The Importance of Institutions*, ed. Nic Cheeseman. (Under Review, Cambridge University Press)

“Authoritarian Successor Parties in Sub-Saharan Africa: Into the Wilderness and Back Again?” In *Authoritarian Success Parties: Causes and Consequences*, eds. Scott Mainwaring and James Loxton. (Under Review, Cambridge University Press)

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“Are efforts to limit presidential power in Africa working?” *The Washington Post*, Monkey Cage

“Vibrant democracies emerging from power vacuums give hope for Burkina Faso” *The Washington Post*, Monkey Cage

“No Separation: Can the Church Calm the Crisis in Burundi?” *Pacific Standard*

“The Iron Cage of Democracy”. Kellogg Institute Working Paper #372. November 2010.

Review of Abdul Raufu Mustapha, and Lindsay Whitefield “Turning Points in African Democracy” *Journal of Modern African Studies*, Vol 50, Issue 02, June 2012.

“Comparative Assessment of Decentralization in Africa: Final Report and Summary of Findings”, with J. Tyler Dickovick. USAID September 2010.

*Bridging Disciplines, Spanning the World: Approaches to Inequalities, Institutions and Identities*. (Edited with Sada Aksartova and Kristine Mitchell). Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Monograph Series 2006.

## **POLICY RESEARCH**

Political Instability Task Force - Ethnic Dynamics in Sub-Saharan Africa. 2015 – 2016.

Carter Center - Burkina Faso Democratic Transition Assessment. February 2015.

World Bank – Working Group on African Political Economy. Workshop Participant. May 2013

Department of Defense – AFRICOM Lecture: Democracy and Governance in Africa April 2013

U.S. Department of State - Analytic Exchange: Power Dynamics and the Next Generation of Africa Leadership. Feb 2013.

U.S. Department of State and the National Intelligence Council - Executive Analytic Exchange on Ghana. Report on Politics and Elections. August 2012.

World Bank - “Local Governance and Community Development in Africa,” Research Paper for the *World Bank Policy Research Report*. Fall 2008.

## **PROFESSIONAL TALKS** (selected)

Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS). Paris. “Political Parties in Anglophone Africa.” November 2015.

Oxford University, Blavatnik School of Government. “Religion, Redistribution and Political Participation in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Democracy and Difference Series. January 2016.

Sciences Po Bordeaux, Les Afriques dans le monde. “Religious Actors and Politics.” January 2016.

University of Notre Dame: “Authoritarian Successor Parties in Africa” for the edited volume *Life After Dictatorship: Authoritarian Successor Parties Worldwide*. Edited by Scott Mainwaring and James Loxton. Kellogg Institute. April 2015.

Colgate University: “Security Threats, Political Parties and Regime Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.” April 2015.

Texas A&M University: “Religion, Inequality and Participation.” April 2015.

Northwestern University Institute for Policy Research: “Religion, Inequality and Participation.” April 2015.

Princeton University: “Security Threats, Political Parties and Regime Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Democracy and Development Project. February 2015.

University of Toronto: “Security Threats, Political Parties and Regime Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Comparative Politics Workshop. January 2015.

Institute for Food Policy Research: “Party Systems and Decentralization in Africa.” December 2014.

Johns Hopkins University SAIS: “Religion, Inequality and Participation.” November 2014.

University of WI – Madison: “Security Threats, Political Parties and Regime Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Comparative Politics Workshop. November 2014.

Northwestern University, Equality, Development and Globalization Studies: “Religion, Inequality and Participation.” November 2014.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2014: “Political Parties and Historical Institutionalism”; “Roundtable: Subnational Comparative Analysis: Advances, Implications, and Contributions”

University of Pennsylvania and Temple University: “Political Parties and Historical Institutionalism” Oxford Handbook Historical Institutionalism Authors Conference. November 2013.

University of Notre Dame: “From the Outside Looking In: Latin American Parties in Comparative Perspective.” Discussant at the Conference on Party Systems in Latin America: Institutionalization, Decay, and Collapse.” Kellogg Institute for International Studies. June 2013.

University of Pittsburgh: “Party Systems and Decentralization in Africa.” March 2013.

University of Chicago: “Strong Parties, Weak Parties: Regime Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.” February 2013.

University of Notre Dame: “Religion and Politics in Contemporary Africa.” Kellogg Institute of International Studies. January 2013.

Boston University: “Religion and Politics in Contemporary Africa.” Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs. January 2013.

Cornell University: “Party System Decentralization in Africa.” Institute for African Development Conference on Elections, Democracy and Governance in Africa. April 2012.

University of Michigan: “Religion and Politics in Contemporary Africa.” Department of African and African American Studies. October 2012.

Oxford University: “The Historical Turn in Democratization Studies”. July 2012.

University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign: “A Theory of Political Party System Variation in Democratic Africa.” March 2012.

Peacemaking in West Africa: Faith Communities and their Role in Conflict, Freetown, Sierra Leone. December 2010.

University of Cape Town: “State Expansion and Regime Consolidation in Africa; Multi-level State Strategies.” State Building in the Developing World, Princeton University Democracy and Development Project. May 2010.

Selected Conference Presentations: American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA) Paper Presenter 2014; 2013; 2012; 2011; 2009; 2008; 2007; 2006. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (MPSA) Paper Presenter/Chair/Discussant: 2014; 2013; 2012; 2011; 2010; Midwest Working Group on African Political Economy (Co-Founder and presenter): 2014; 2013; 2012; 2011; 2007; African Studies Association Annual Meeting (ASA) Paper Presenter/Chair/Discussant: 2014; 2013; 2012; 2011; 2010; 2008; 2006.

**PEER REVIEW and REFEREE**

Comparative Political Studies Editorial Board 2015 –  
Comparative Democratization APSA Best Book 2015 Committee  
African Politics Conference Group Best Book 2013 Committee  
Comparative Democratization APSA Group Best Book 2013 Committee  
History and Politics APSA Best Dissertation Award 2014 Committee

Reviewer: National Science Foundation, American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics, World Politics, American Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Studies in Comparative International Development, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Cambridge University Press, Princeton University Press, International Political Science Review, African Affairs, Journal of Modern African Studies, AfricaToday

### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

French Interdisciplinary Group Project Coordinator: “Comparative Conflict Studies” 2015-2016.

Midwest Working Group on African Political Economy, Co-Founder and Executive Committee Member. Coordinator for 2011 Meeting at the Program of African Studies, Northwestern University.

Political Parties Working Group, Co-Organizer. Northwestern University

States, Societies and Development Working Group, Faculty Supervisor, Northwestern University The Graduate School and The Program of African Studies.

“Political Parties in the Developing World”, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. Co-directed with Noam Lupu.

Project Assistant, Project on Democracy and Development, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Interdisciplinary Research Initiative 2006-2008.

“Self-Determination in Africa” organized by Princeton University’s Liechtenstein Institute for Self-Determination. Paris, France, June 2003

“Problems of Inequality in the Developing World” organized by the Democracy and Development Project. Princeton University, September 2007

“Violence and Citizenship in Post-Authoritarian Latin America” organized by the Democracy and Development Project. Princeton University, March 2008

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and SERVICE**

Council on Foreign Relations, American Political Science Association, African Studies Association, Mid-West Political Science Association, West African Research Association

Section Chair: Comparative Politics of Developing Countries. Midwest Political Science Association 2013.

### **TEACHING and ADVISING**

Undergraduate Teaching:

- Decentralization and Local Governance (POLI\_SCI 395): 2012 Fall; 2011 Fall
- Inequality and Representation, Research Seminar (POLI\_SCI 395): 2012 Spring
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (POLI\_SCI 250): 2011 Spring; 2011 Fall; 2012 Fall

- Religion and Politics (POLI\_SCI 390): 2014 Spring and (POLI\_SCI Research Seminar 395) 2014 Fall.
- Contemporary African Politics (POLI\_SCI 259 and AFST 390): 2015 Spring
- Why Nations Succeed? (POLI\_SCI 101-6-22 First Year Seminar): 2015 Spring

Graduate Teaching:

- Comparative Politics Proseminar II (\*New Course Developed and Established in Curriculum): POLI\_SCI 490 in 2012 Spring 2012; POLI-SCI 460 in 2014 Spring and 2015 Spring
- Democratization (POLI\_SCI 452): 2011 Winter
- African Studies Seminar (Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Seminar AFST 483) 2014 Spring; 2015 Spring.

Posner Fellow Faculty Mentor, Under-represented minority undergraduate research training in Weinberg College, Summer 2015

Summer Research Opportunity Program, Under-represented minority undergraduate research training, The Graduate School, Northwestern University, Faculty Mentor 2013

Mellon Post-doctoral Fellow Faculty Advisor, Program of African Studies 2013-2014

Residential College Fellow Assistant Researcher Award, Northwestern University 2011 – 2013

Global Engagement Studies Institute, South Africa Undergraduate Orientation Training 2011 – 2015

Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP) Faculty Advisor, 2010 – 2015

Undergraduate Research Grants Selection Committee 2011 – 2014

Fulbright Committee, Office of Fellowships, Northwestern University, 2014 - 2015

Farrell Fellow Undergraduate Research Advisor, 2014 – 2015

Arryman Fellow Faculty Mentor, 2014 – 2015

Faculty Advisor for Graduate Student Conference: “Africa Misperceived: Beyond Africa as a Laboratory”, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, April 2015.

Faculty Advisor for Graduate Student Conference: “Stability Amidst Chaos: Reflections on Two Decades of Ghanaian Democracy” – Northwestern University Graduate School Catalyst Award Winner 2012

Faculty Advisor for Graduate Student Conference “State, Society and Development” in the Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, Fall 2013

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Executive Committee, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (2011 – 2015; 2016 -)

Selection Committee, Undergraduate Research Grants, Northwestern University (2011- 2014)

Selection Committee, Circumnavigators Undergraduate Grant (2012, 2014)

Faculty Fellow, Women’s Residential College (2011- 2015)

American Politics Search Committee

Political Science Department Scribe

States, Society and Development Graduate Student Working Group Faculty Coordinator

Department Representative to the Faculty Senate 2014 – 2015; Member of the Special Committee on Climate Change and the Anthropocene  
Executive Committee, French Interdisciplinary Group (2015 – 2016)

**COMMUNITY WORK**

Social Venture Partners, Chicago

**LANGUAGES**

Fluent in French, Intermediate in Wolof (West Africa)