

Peter H. Penar

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, Davidson College, 2019 – Present
- Assistant Professor of Political Science, Fixed Term, Michigan State University, 2018 – 2019

RESEARCH INTERESTS & TEACHING FIELDS

- African Politics, Democratization and Regime Transitions, Electoral Integrity and Malpractice, Fieldwork and Interview Methods, Human Rights and International Law, International and Regional Organizations, Political Parties and Campaigns, Public Opinion and Survey Design, Public Policy, Quantitative Methods

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Political Science, Michigan State University, 2018
Dissertation Title: "My Brother's Keeper? The Effects of African Regional Organizations on Election Quality"; Chair: Michael Bratton
- M.A., Political Science, Michigan State University, 2014
- B.A., International Affairs, Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, 2009

REFEREED ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

- "Power Sharing as a Strategy to Resolve Political Crises" (with Michael Bratton), *Oxford Encyclopedia of African Politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020
- "Dropping the Democracy Ball in Southern Africa: South Africa, SADC and Zimbabwe" (with Michael Bratton), *Taiwan Journal of Democracy* 14(1): 41-65, 2018

SELECT POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- "Are Africans' Freedoms Slipping Away?" (with Carolyn Logan) *Afrobarometer Policy Paper No. 55*, 2019
- "Will of the People? Election Results and Public Opinion in Gabon" *Afrobarometer Dispatch No. 119*, 2016
- "Election Quality, Public Trust are Central Issues for Africa's Upcoming Contests" (with Rose Aiko, Thomas Bentley, and Kangwook Han) *Afrobarometer Policy Paper No. 35*, 2016
- "Escalating Political Crisis Belies Burundians' Strong Support for Democracy" (with Thomas Bentley, Abel Oyuke, and Christophe Sebudandi) *Afrobarometer Dispatch No. 68*, 2016

WORK IN PROGRESS

Book Manuscript

- "My Brother's Keeper? The Effects of African Regional Organizations on Election Quality"

Article Manuscripts

- "Human Rights Protection from Above? African Courts of Justice, Their Mandate, and Influence on Human Rights Outcomes"
- "People-centered Integration? Assessing Citizens' Perceptions of Regional Democratic Norms in Africa"
- "Winning at the Regional Level: African Regional Organizations' Cartel Behavior and How Opposition Parties Attempt to Break It"
- "Pro-interventionists v. Pro-sovereignists in Africa: Explaining Attitudes towards the Duty to Intervene Regionally"
- "Helpful or Unhelpful? Explaining Public Attitudes Towards African Regional Organizations"
- "Preventive Diplomacy?" The Effects of Regional Mediation on Pre-Election Violence in Africa"
- "Is China's Love Affair with Africa Mutual: Determinants of Africans' Perceptions Toward China-Africa Relations" (with Eva Tetteh)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

Awards

- Michigan State University Non-African Faculty with the Most Outstanding Contribution to Development of Africa Award, 2019
- Best Graduate Student Departmental Teaching Award, 2017
- University Distinguished Fellowship, Michigan State University, 2011 – 2016

Research Grants

- Faculty Study and Research Grant, Davidson College, 2020
- Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Michigan State University, 2017
- University Fellowship and Associated Awards, Michigan State University, 2014 – 2015
- Graduate Student Research Enhancement Award, Michigan State University College of Arts and Sciences, 2013
- Departmental Summer Fieldwork Fellowship, Michigan State University Department of Political Science, 2013
- Departmental Summer Fieldwork Fellowship, Michigan State University Department of Political Science, 2012

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

African Studies Association Conference

- "Helpful or Unhelpful? Explaining Public Attitudes Towards African Regional Organizations," 2019
- "My Brother's Keeper? The Effects of African Regional Organizations on Election Quality," 2018

American Political Science Association Conference

- "Zimbabwe's 2018 Elections: A 'Not-So-Removed' Post-Mortem," 2018

International Studies Association Conference

- "Winning at the Regional Level: African Regional Organizations' Cartel Behavior and How Opposition Parties Attempt to Break It," 2018
- "Pro-interventionists v. Pro-sovereignists in Africa: Explaining Attitudes towards the Duty to Intervene Regionally," 2017
- "The Regionalization of Election Support in Africa: Explaining Differing Responses and Elite Perceptions of Responses by African Regional Organizations," 2016

Michigan State University

- "Zimbabwe's 2018 Elections Up-close: A Departure from the Past?" MSU African Studies Center's Eye on Africa Series, 2018
- "The Leaders of Africa Project: Studying Leadership Rigorously," African Graduate Student Association Conference, 2018
- "Perspectives on Kenyan Elections," MSU African Studies Center's Special Panel, 2017
- "Closing Africa's Eye to Election Malpractice? Prospects for Free and Fair Elections and the Role of African Regional Intervention," MSU African Studies Center's Eye on Africa Series, 2016
- "Becoming My Brother's Keeper? Examining the Effects of African Regional Organizations on Election Quality," African Graduate Student Association Conference, 2016

Midwest Political Science Association Conference

- "Collaborative or Combative? Civil Society Relations with Election Administration and their Effects on Civil Society Perceptions," 2019
- "Is China's Love Affair with Africa Mutual: Determinants of Africans' Perceptions Toward China-Africa Relations" (with Eva Tetteh), 2017
- "The Double-Edged Sword of Election-Related Intervention: Explaining Why ECOWAS and the African Union Played a Decisive Role in Côte d'Ivoire and the Consequences," 2017

Other Invited Talks

- "Assessing the Double-Edge Sword: COVID-19 Lockdowns & Civil Liberties in Africa's Fragile Democracies and Autocracies," Nile University, Nigeria, 2020
- "Turning on the Lights for All: How Unequal Access to Electricity Persists Alongside Relative Deprivation in Africa," École Polytechnique, France, 2016

SELECT OP-EDS

- "Pendulum is Swinging Towards Creeping Restrictions Across Africa" (with Carolyn Logan) *The Conversation Africa*, 2019
- "What the Return of Gbagbo Could Mean for Ivory Coast's 2020 Election" (with Abel Gbala) *The Conversation Africa*, 2019
- "How The Gambia is Testing West Africa's Resolve to Protect Democracy" *The Conversation Africa*. Republished by *Mail & Guardian Africa*, and *The Wire*, 2017

FIELDWORK RESEARCH

- *Botswana* at the Southern African Development Community, (2013), *Côte d'Ivoire* (2015), *Ethiopia* at the Africa Union (2015), *Kenya* (2014, 2015), *Nigeria* at the Economic Community of Western African States (2015), *South Africa* (2013, 2014, 2015), Tanzania at the East African Community (2012) and *Zimbabwe* (2014, 2018)

SPECIAL PROJECTS & COLLABORATIONS

- Leaders of Africa (LOA) and the Leaders of Africa Institute (LOAI), Executive Director, 2017 – Present
- Nigeria Policy Initiative (NPI) with Adsoji Adelaja and Femi Vaughan, Wilson Center, Washington DC, 2018 – 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- *African Politics*, Undergraduate, Spring 2018, Fall 2020
- *Comparative Campaigns and Elections*, Undergraduate, Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Fall 2020
- *Democracy and Its Discontents*, Undergraduate, Fall 2019
- *Democratization*, Undergraduate, Fall 2017
- *Human Rights, International Law, and Elections*, Undergraduate Research Seminar, Spring 2019
- *International Law and Human Rights*, Undergraduate Research Seminar, Spring 2020
- *Introduction to Comparative Politics*, Undergraduate, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2019, Spring 2020
- *Politics of Developing Areas*, Undergraduate, Fall 2018

Leaders of Africa Institute, Graduate Research Methods Program (2019 & 2020)

- *Introduction to Research Design*, Post-graduate
- *Introduction to Quantitative Methods Overview*, Post-graduate
- *Survey Research Methods and Applied Research*, Post-graduate

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Spatial Econometrics: Empirical Analysis of Geospatial Association and Cross-Unit Interdependence, ICPSR, 2020
- Regressions III: Advanced Methods; Multilevel Models: Introduction and Application, ICPSR, 2016
- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, 2013

SERVICE

- Member, Digital Learning Committee, Davidson College, 2020
- Presenter and Facilitator, Digital Learning Institute, Davidson College, 2020
- President, Graduate Student Association, Michigan State University Department of Political Science, 2013 – 2014
- Academic Standards and Admissions Committee Representative, Michigan State University Department of Political Science, 2012 – 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Long-term Election Observer, Republican Institute-National Democratic Institute Zimbabwe International Election Observation Mission, Zimbabwe, June – August 2018
- Research Assistant, Afrobarometer, August 2015 – December 2015 & May 2016 – August 2016
- Publications Manager and Research Assistant, Afrobarometer, August 2012 – September 2014
- Short-term Election Observer, The Carter Center Kenya Election Mission, Kenya, March 2013
- Teach for America Corps Member and Regular Education Teacher, Social Studies and English Language Arts, Boston Public Schools, Boston, August 2009 – August 2011

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- African Studies Association, American Political Science Association, International Studies Association, Midwest Political Science Association

SKILLS

- Language: English (Native), French (Advanced) and Swahili (Beginner)
- Statistical and Mathematical Software: R (Primary), STATA & SPSS
- Publishing Software: \LaTeX
- Documentary Filmmaking and Podcast Production: Adobe Creative Cloud Suite (After Effects, Audition, Prelude & Premiere Pro) and Advanced Audio Engineering
- Graphic Design and Photo Editing: InDesign Photoshop & LightRoom
- Website Design and Management: Joomla, WIX, WordPress & Elementor
- Social Media Management: Hootsuite

REFERENCES

- Michael Bratton, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, mbratton@msu.edu
- Benjamin Appel, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, appelben@msu.edu
- Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, conroyk6@msu.edu
- Andrew O'Geen, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science, Davidson College, anogeen@davidson.edu
- Carolyn Logan, Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Afrobarometer, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, clogan@msu.edu

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