

Margaret (Molly) Ariotti

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Academic Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of International Affairs, University of Georgia (2018–)

Visiting Fellow, [Center for Geographic Analysis](#), Harvard University (Summer 2013)

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University, 2018

Committee: Sona N. Golder (Chair), Matt Golder, Doug Lemke, and Jennifer Boittin

M.A. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University, 2013

B.A. Political Science and Geography, Binghamton University, 2009, *summa cum laude*

Wolof Language Courses, ACI Baobab Center: Dakar, Senegal, 2016-2017

[African Flagship Languages Initiative](#), University of Florida, *Beginner Wolof Certificate*, 2016

[Cours de Civilisation Française de la Sorbonne](#), *Advanced French Certificate*, 2008

Research Interests

African politics (Francophone), institutions, government composition and formation, state capacity, local governance and security, bureaucracy, public goods provision

Publications

Articles

1. Ariotti, Margaret. "Government Type and Public Spending in African Democracies" *Forthcoming at Legislative Studies Quarterly*.
2. Margaret H. Ariotti & Sona N. Golder. 2018. "Partisan portfolio allocation in African democracies." *Comparative Political Studies* 51(3): 341-379.
3. Ariotti, Margaret. 2016. "Burkina Faso's 2015 Presidential and Legislative Elections." *Electoral Studies* 44(December): 445-448.
4. McNulty, John, Conor Dowling, & Margaret H. Ariotti. 2009. "Driving Saints to Sin: How Increasing the Difficulty of Voting Dissuades Even the Most Motivated Voters" *Political Analysis* 17(4): 435-455.

Monograph

1. Ariotti, Margaret H. and Kevin S. Fridy. 2020. *Informal Governance as a Force Multiplier in Counterterrorism: Evidence for Burkina Faso*. Joint Special Operations University Press.

Other Publications

1. Ariotti, Margaret (Molly) H. "Mali's government collapsed. Here's what that tells us about parliamentary coalitions in Africa." *The Monkey Cage Blog; The Washington Post* (June 14, 2019).
2. Book Review: Harsch, Ernest. Burkina Faso: A History of Power, Protest, and Revolution. *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 56(2): 359-360.
3. Ariotti, Margaret & Charles Crabtree. Spring 2016. "Improving the Interpretability and Research Transparency of Maps." *CP: Newsletter of the Comparative Politics Organized Section of the American Political Science Association*.
4. Ariotti, Margaret (Molly) H. & Naunihal Singh. "Can Burkina Faso become a stable democracy?" *The Monkey Cage Blog; The Washington Post* (September 21, 2015).
5. Ariotti, Margaret (Molly) H. "The fall of the hegemon in Burkina Faso," *The Monkey Cage Blog; The Washington Post* (November 4, 2014).

Current Projects

Under Review

- o "Foreign Aid and Judicial Autonomy" (with Joseph Wright and Simone Dietrich) *Revise and Resubmit*

Book Project

- o Ariotti, Margaret H. "Beyond the Big Man: Executive-Legislative Politics in African Democracies." In preparation.

Working Papers

- o "The Intersection of Governance and Violence in Burkina Faso" (with Kevin Fridy)
- o "Coalition Governments in African Democracies"

Works in Progress

- o "State Capacity and Public Goods Provision: Evidence from Burkina Faso"
- o "Ethnicity, Electoral Support, and Public Goods Provision in Francophone Africa"

Fieldwork and International Experience

Senegal: 2016–2017

Burkina Faso: 2014, 2016, 2017, 2019

France: 2009–2011

Awards

External Awards

- 2020-2021 [Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship](#)
- 2019 Joint Special Operations University Research Grant (co-PI with Kevin Fridy, \$17,000)
- 2016-2017 [David L. Boren Fellowship, National Security Education Program](#) (\$27,250)
- 2016, 2017 APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant, American Political Science Association
- 2015-2016 Royal Air Maroc-African Studies Association Student Travel Award (\$4,000)

University Awards

- 2020 School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Georgia
- 2018-2019 Special Collections Libraries Faculty Fellow, University of Georgia
- 2016-2017 Graduate Student International Research Award, The Graduate School, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 Outstanding Political Science Graduate Student Award, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 [Africana Research Center](#) Research Grant, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 RGSO Dissertation Support Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 African Studies Program Dickerson Endowment Grant, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 African Studies Program Travel Grant, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015-2016 Program in Comparative Politics Fellowship (PiCP), Pennsylvania State University
- 2015 [Africana Research Center](#) Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, Pennsylvania State University
- 2015 Political Science Graduate Research Fellowship, Pennsylvania State University

Relevant Skills

- French (native fluency)
- Wolof (intermediate)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

- African Politics
(University of Georgia: [Spring 2020](#))
- Introduction to Comparative Politics
(University of Georgia: [Fall 2018](#), [Fall 2019](#))
- Comparative Political Institutions
(University of Georgia: [Fall 2018](#), [Spring 2019](#), [Spring 2020](#))
- Dictators and Their Demise
(Pennsylvania State University: [Summer Session I 2018](#))

Graduate

- Comparative Analysis and Method
(University of Georgia: [Fall 2019](#))

Other

- Certificate for Online Teaching, Pennsylvania State University, Fall 2015
- [Teaching Assistant Program in France \(TAPIF\)](#), Academie de Créteil, 2009-2010

Mentoring

Dissertation Committee Member

- Matthew Kopp (University of Georgia)

Undergraduate Research Mentees

- Alina Salgado (University of Georgia)
- Lindsey Smith (University of Georgia McNair Scholars Program)
- Emily Gayle (University of Georgia)
- Nathan Outlaw (University of Georgia)
- Oisakhose Aghomo (University of Georgia)
- Carter Best (University of Georgia)
- Olivia Bauer (University of Georgia)

Professional Activity and Service

Editorial Board, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 2019 –

Section Chair, Comparative Political Institutions, 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association

Guest Blogger, *The Monkey Cage*

Reviewer: *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Government and Opposition*, *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, *Africa Spectrum*, *United States Institute of Peace*, *Oxford University Press*

University of Georgia

McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentor

Comprehensive Exam Committee, Department of International Affairs (2019-present)

Community

2020: Expert consultant, political asylum case for Burkinabè national, United States

2019: Expert consultant (pro bono), political asylum case for Burkinabè national, United States

2019: Expert consultant (pro bono), political asylum case for Burkinabè national, United States

Invited Talks and Workshops

1. University of Florida. April 2020. *Canceled*
2. Old Dominion University. March 2020. *Canceled*
3. China Applied Research Series. Joint Special Operations University. Kingstown, RI: January 14-16, 2020.
4. "Coalition Governments in African Democracies." African Legislatures Working Group Online Workshop. October 25, 2019.
5. Lead Plenary Speaker, "Terrorism, Identity Politics, and Africa's Development in the 21st Century." Lagos State University. Lagos, Nigeria: July 21-25, 2019
6. "The Political Economic Implications of Legislative Institutions." Texas A & M University. College Station, TX: February 22-23, 2019
7. Burkina Faso Applied Research Inquiry. Joint Special Operations University. Tampa, FL: July 31-August 2, 2018.
8. "Mini-workshop on Funding and Conducting Fieldwork." University of Arizona School of Government and Public Policy. Tucson, Arizona: February 2, 2018
9. "State Capacity, Bureaucracy, and Legitimacy: Evidence from West Africa." Presented at the 2017 Boren Career Seminar FED Talks. Washington, D.C.: September 6, 2017
10. "L'allocation partisane des portefeuilles ministériels: Les démocraties africaines" [Partisan Portfolio Allocation in African Democracies]. Presented at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar. Dakar, Senegal: March 2, 2017

Conference Presentations

1. "Governance and Violent Extremism." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Boston, MA, USA: November 21-23, 2019.
2. "Coalition Governments in African Democracies." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, D.C., USA: August 29-September 1, 2019.
3. "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, D.C., USA: August 29-September 1, 2019.
4. "Coalition Governments in African Democracies." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL, USA: April 4-7, 2019
5. "Coalition Governments in African Democracies." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Atlanta, GA, USA: November 29-December 1, 2018
6. "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Chicago, IL, USA: November 16-18, 2017
7. "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA, USA: August 31-September 3, 2017
8. "State Capacity and Public Goods Provision: Evidence from Burkina Faso." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA, USA: September 1-4, 2016
9. "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL, USA: April 6-10, 2016
10. "Local Administration and Public Goods Provision in Francophone Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA: January 7-9, 2016
11. "Portfolio Allocation in African Democracies," with Sona N. Golder. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL, USA: April 16-19, 2015
12. "The Pennsylvania State Legislative Speech Project," with Burt Monroe. Presented at the Open Legislative Data Conference. Paris, France: July 6-7, 2012

References

[Sona N. Golder](#)
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 Pennsylvania State University
 e-mail: sgolder@psu.edu

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 Associate Professor of Political Science
 Pennsylvania State University
 e-mail: dwl14@psu.edu

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