

# Nicholas N. Kerr

University of Alabama  
Department of Political Science  
345 ten Hoor Hall  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Phone: (347) 834-5630  
Fax: (205) 348-5980  
Email: nkerr@ua.edu  
Website: nicholaskerr.com

## Academic Employment

Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Alabama, August 2013 - present

## Research & Teaching Interests

African Politics, Comparative Political Institutions, Democratization, Electoral Administration, Electoral Integrity & Malpractice, Gender & Politics, Political Behavior, Political Corruption, Public Opinion

## Education

**Ph.D., Political Science, Michigan State University, 2013**

Dissertation Title: "Causes & Consequences of Electoral Administrative Reform in Africa"

Chair: Michael Bratton

**B.A., Political Science and Economics, Williams College, 2004**

## Refereed Articles & Book Chapters

"Election Day Experiences & Evaluations of Electoral Integrity in Unconsolidated Democracies: Evidence from Nigeria" *Forthcoming: Political Studies*.

"Public Trust in Manipulated Elections: The Role of Election Administration & Media Freedom." (with Anna Lurhmann) *Electoral Studies* (2017) 50(1): 50-67.

"An Insider-Outsider Theory of Popular Tolerance for Corrupt Politicians." (with Eric Chang) *Governance* (2017) 30(1): 67-84.

"The Local Mwananchi has Lost Trust?: Design, Transition & Legitimacy in Kenyan Election Management." (with Aaron Erlich) *Journal of Modern African Studies* (2016) 54(4): 671-702.

"Dynamics of Democratic Satisfaction in Transitional Settings: Evidence from a Panel Study in Uganda." (with Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz) *Political Research Quarterly* (2015) 68(3): 593-606.

"EMB Performance & African Perceptions of Electoral Integrity." In *Advancing Electoral Integrity*, eds. Pippa Norris, Richard W. Frank and Ferran Martinez i Coma. New York: Oxford University Press (2014).

"Popular Evaluations of Election Quality in Africa: Evidence from Nigeria." *Electoral Studies* (2013) 32(4): 819-837.

## Other Publications

"Manipulating Elections Across the World." (review) *Election Law Journal* (2016) 15(1): 111-114.

"Electoral Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa: Assessing the Impact of Electoral Management Bodies Autonomy & Capacity on Citizens' Perceptions of Election Quality." *International Foundation of Electoral Systems Fellowship Paper* (2009).

## Work in Progress

"Electoral Management & Democratization in Africa." (Book Project)

"Does Exposure to Electoral Violence Matter for Popular Evaluations of Political Legitimacy?"

"Does Victimhood Matter? Electoral Violence & Perceptions of Electoral Quality in Nigeria" (with Seema Shah)

"Effective Remedies? Judicial Intervention in Elections and Popular Evaluations of Political Legitimacy" (with Michael Wahman )

"Violent Conflict, Gender, & Attitudes on Leadership: Survey Results from Nigeria." (with Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz)

"Culture Shift? How Violent Conflict Affects Attitudes About Female Leadership in Africa." (with Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz)

"Electoral Cycles of Political Legitimacy and the Integrity of Elections: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa." (with Masaaki Higashijima)

"Vote Selling in the 2015 Nigeria Elections: Challenges of Using List Experiments to Gauge Social Desirability Bias."

"Assessing the effectiveness of electronic data capture in face-to-face surveys: Evidence from a survey experiment in Kenya." (with Boniface Dulani )

"What is in a Tally? Extracting Information on Fraud from Scanned Precinct Data." (with Aaron Erlich)

## Research Grants

CARSCA, University of Alabama: Assessing the Consequences of Violence on Electoral Integrity in Africa (2016-2018 \$4.9K).

Research Grants Committee, University of Alabama: Assessing the Consequences of Electoral Management Bodies on Electoral Integrity in Africa (2014-2016 \$5.9K).

Democracy in Africa Research Unit Research Fellowship, University of Cape Town, South Africa (for project on causes of electoral administrative reform in Africa: 2010, \$8.5K).

International Studies and Programs Pre-dissertation Fellowship Michigan State University, (for project on causes of electoral administrative reform in Africa: 2010, \$5K).

Manatt Research Fellowship International Foundation of Electoral Systems, (for project on the consequences of electoral administrative reform in Africa: 2009, \$5K).

## Selected Conference Presentations & Invited Talks

"Electoral Cycles of Political Legitimacy and the Integrity of Elections: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa." (with Masaaki Higashijima). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, August 31-September 3 2017

"Does Victimhood Matter? Electoral Violence & Perceptions of Electoral Quality in Nigeria." Paper presented at the University of Kentucky Political Science Department, Lexington, April 2017.

"Public Trust in Manipulated Elections: The Role of Election Administration and Media Freedom." (with Anna Lurhmann) Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, August 29-31 2016.

"Election Day Experiences and Evaluations of Election Integrity in Unconsolidated Democracies: Evidence from Nigeria." Paper presented at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 7-10, 2016.

“Violent Conflict, Gender, and Attitudes on Leadership: Survey Results from Nigeria.” (with Jeff Conroy-Krutz) Paper presented at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 7-10, 2016.

“Assessing Women’s Electoral Participation in Africa: A Cross-National Analysis.” (with Adryan Wallace) Paper presented at African Studies Association Conference, Indianapolis, Nov 20-23, 2014.

“How Campaigns and Election-Day Experiences Affect Evaluations of Democracy in Africa: Panel Evidence from Uganda.” (with Jeff Conroy-Krutz) Paper presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 3-6, 2014.

“Public Perceptions of Election Quality in Africa: A Cross-national Analysis.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, August 29-31 2013.

“The Sources and Consequences of Heterogeneity in Perceptions of Political Corruption.” (with Eric Chang) Presented at the American Political Science Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, 2009.

## Research Conducted Outside of the United States

Ghana (2010), Nigeria (2010, 2011, 2015), South Africa (2010), Zambia (2017) and Zimbabwe (2012).

## Research & Professional Experience

*Member*, Committee on the Status of African Americans in the South. Southern Political Science Association, 2016-present.

*Section Chair*, Comparative Politics Developing Nations. Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2017-2018.

*Section Chair*, Transitions to Democracy. Midwest Political Science Association, 2017-2018.

*Country Analyst*, Freedom House: 2014-17 Freedom of the World Reports for Ghana and Nigeria, 2013-present.

*Consultant*, International Foundation of Electoral Studies (Nigeria pre/post election survey), 2014-2015.

*Advisory Board Member*, Electoral Management: Strengthening Capacity and Learning Research Project. Electoral Integrity Project and The Association of World Electoral Bodies, 2016.

*Publications and Research Manager*, Afrobarometer Research Project, Michigan State University, MI, 2008-2012.

*Long-term Election Observer*, National Democratic Institute Election Mission, Nigeria, January-May 2011.

*Research Fellow*, Democracy in Africa Research Unit (DARU), University of Cape Town, South Africa Fall 2010.

*Short-term Election Observer*, The Carter Center Ghana Election Mission, Ghana, December 2008.

*Research Fellow*, The International Foundation of Electoral Systems (IFES), Washington DC, June-August 2009.

*Peer-reviewer* American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, Electoral Studies, Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Elections Public Opinion and Parties.

## Additional Academic Training

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research Short Course (Structural Equation Modeling), University of Michigan, June 2012

Institute of Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, June 2009

Institute of Survey Research Techniques, University of Michigan, June 2008

## Teaching Experience (University of Alabama)

*African Politics* (PSC 321: Undergraduate). Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017

*Democratization* (PSC 330: Undergraduate). Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017

*Elections in the Global South* (UA In Jamaica Study Abroad). Summer 2017

*Economic Development in the Global South* (UA In Jamaica Study Abroad). Summer 2017

*Seminar in Comparative Politics* (PSC 631: Graduate). Spring 2015, Fall 2016

## University Service

Member, Political Science Department Political Administration Search Committee, 2017

Member, College of Arts and Sciences, Initiative on Faculty Diversity and Inclusion, 2016-present

Chair, Political Science Department Colloquium Speaker Series, 2016-17

Member, Political Science Department IR Search Committee, 2016-2017

Member, Political Science Department Comparative Search Committee, 2014-2016

Member, Political Science Department Graduate Studies Committee, 2015

Member, College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee, 2013-16

## Professional Development

College of Arts and Sciences, Grant Writing Workshop, 2014-15

College of Arts and Sciences, Publisher-in-Residence Program, 2013-14

College of Arts and Sciences, Active Learning Initiative Workshops, Fall 2014

## Skills

Language: Proficient in Spanish, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

Selected Statistical and Mathematical Software: STATA, R, HLM, SPSS and  $\text{\LaTeX}$