

# JENNIFER C. BOYLAN

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## EDUCATION

Dec. 2016       Ph.D., POLITICAL SCIENCE, UF  
*University of Florida*  
Comparative Politics, Political Methodologies, Certificate in African Studies.  
*Dissertation:* "The Democratic Benefits of Centralized Institutions in Ghana."  
*Committee Members:* Michael Bernhard (chair), Ben Smith (co-chair), Staffan I. Lindberg, Badredine Arfi, Brenda Chalfin (anthropology).

May 07, 2013   M.A., Political Science, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

2009            B.A., POLITICAL SCIENCE & LEADERSHIP STUDIES, UR  
*University of Richmond*  
*Advisors:* Jennifer Erkulwater & Jimmy D. Kandeh

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Sum. 2014       ICPSR, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
*Additional Scholarly Training*  
Trained in Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) with Latent Variables,  
R Statistical Computing Environment

2010-2013      FLAS, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY & UF  
Language Study: Akan/Twi

## DISSERTATION RESEARCH

2013            Research Fellow, NSEP David L. Boren Fellowship,  
*Research*            Institute of International Education, Ghana  
*Dissertation:* I investigate whether new democratic system effects trickle down to localities. Using Ghana as a case study, I show how a highly-centralized political system can actually induce competition at the local level, and thus give constituents an opportunity to vote on critical rationales. In at least this case, institutional engineering is found to be an effective option for combating automated knee-jerk identity-based voting rationales, so present across sub-Saharan Africa, and so detrimental for incentivizing effective democratic leadership.

*Survey:* Employing a paired-cases design, I designed the survey instrument, trained surveyors, and oversaw the deployment of the instrument to over 1,900 respondents in 6 purposefully selected districts (3 competitive, 3 party strongholds) in Ghana.  
*Affiliation:* Center for Democratic Development (CDD)- Ghana.

## PUBLICATIONS

*Book Review*        "Claire L. Adida. 2014. *Immigrant Exclusion and Insecurity in Africa: Coethnic Strangers*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 175pp", with Emily Goethe

*Briefing Paper*     "The Case of Rejected Ballots in Ghana: Illiteracy, Political Protest or Poor Electoral Management?", 2014, with Franklin Oduro and Daniel A. Smith. *CDD-Ghana Briefing Paper* 14(4):1-5.

## TEACHING

<i>AFS 2002</i>	Sum. 2015	The African Experience Overall Rating: 4.8/5.0 (College Mean: 4.38/5.0). Amount Students Learned: 4.8/5.0 (College Mean: 4.14/5.0)
<i>CPO 3204</i>	2014-2015	African Politics Overall Rating: 4.83/5.0 (Dept. Mean: 4.29/5.0). Amount Students Learned: 4.67/5.0 (Dept. Mean: 4.15/5.0)
<i>POS 4911</i>	2014-2016	Junior Fellows Program Supervision of an advanced undergraduate student conducting research

## COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

Comparative Politics  
African Politics  
Environmental-Driven Conflicts in the Global South  
Research Methods & Statistics  
Ethnic & Racial Politics  
The African Diaspora

## WORKING PAPERS

2016	"Mapping Ethnic Votes in Ghana Using Ecological Inference"
2016	"The Historical Development of Centralized Institutions and the Ethnic Reaction in Ghana"
2015	"Institutional Determinants of Vote Changes in Ghana" Presented at African Studies Association (ASA) 2015; International Studies Association (ISA) 2016
2015	"Ethnic Heterogeneity & Public Goods Provision" Presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) 2015; ASA 2014
2014	"Rejected Ballots in Ghana's Fourth Republic", with Dan Smith (UF) and Franklin Oduro (CDD-Ghana) Presented at ASA 2012; Awaiting more data

## CONSULTING WORK

<i>Consulting Work</i>	2012	Ghana Country Report, Varieties of Democracy (VDEM) "Ghana: A Country Report Based on Pilot-Study Data," co-authored with Dr. Staffan I. Lindberg, V-Dem Country Report Series, No. 002, June 2012. This paper was presented at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark (MFA/DK) Africa Department on June 21, 2012.
	2012	Election Observer, Coalition of Democratic Election Observers (CODEO), Ghana Roving election observer in Madina, Accra for the December 7th and December 8th National Elections in Ghana. CODEO is the largest independent and non-partisan domestic election observation coalition in Ghana.

## GRANTS &amp; FELLOWSHIPS

- Jan - July 2016 Graduate School Dissertation Scholarship, UF College of Liberal Arts & Sciences - \$11,000
- Sum. 2015 Donor Support for Dissertation Writing, UF College of Liberal Arts & Sciences- \$5,000
- ICPSR Sum. 2014 Dauer Fellowship Fund, University of Florida- \$2,300  
Awarded to attend the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program, University of Michigan, Summer 2014.
- 2013 David L. Boren Fellowship, Institute of International Education- \$22,600  
*Boren Fellowship*  
Awarded to fund dissertation research and Akan-Twi language study in Ghana.
- Dec. 2012 Ghana's National Elections, Center for African Studies (CAS)- \$500  
*Election Observation*  
Awarded a travel stipend from the CAS at UF to serve as an Election Observer for the Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO) during Ghana's December 7 & 8, 2012 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections.
- Sum. 2012 Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Center for African Studies (CAS)- \$1,000  
*Election Research*  
Awarded to conduct pre-dissertation research on elections in Ghana.
- 2012 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), University of Florida  
*FLAS*  
Awarded to fund Akan-Twi language study.
- Sum. 2011 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), University of Florida  
*FLAS*  
Awarded to fund Akan-Twi language study during an intensive summer program at UF.
- Sum. 2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS), Michigan State University  
*FLAS*  
FLAS funding awarded through an external competition for funds from Michigan State University to study Akan-Twi in an intensive summer program in Lansing, MI.
- 2009-2013 Grinter Fellowship & Political Science Graduate Assistantship, University of Florida  
*Graduate Assistantship*  
Granted a four-year fellowship and assistantship to study Political Science at the doctoral level at the University of Florida. Only three years of funding were accepted due to award contingencies.

## RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS &amp; APPOINTMENTS

- 2016 Communications Officer, Center for African Studies  
*UF Research Appointments*  
Compile weekly email news bulletin; document CAS talks and presentations; facilitate cross-disciplinary research within UF and between UF and other Title VI institutions.
- 2014 Sub-Saharan Africa Business Environment Report (SABER)  
Funded by UF's Center for African Studies (CAS) and Center for International Business

Education and Research (CIBER). Past Reports can be found at:  
<http://africa.ufl.edu/files/SABER-2012-13.pdf>.

*UF Research  
Assistantships*

2014                    **Constitutional Negotiations in Sub-Saharan Africa**  
 In-depth research on the extent to which political and societal negotiations took place prior to the implementation of a new constitution in sub-Saharan African nations.

2012                    **Oil Sector Security in Ghana**  
 Utilized ethnographic and qualitative research tools to assess the dynamic ways issues of security impact the burgeoning off-shore oil and gas industry in Ghana. Funded by the UF's Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER).

2011                    **Local Ideological Impact on Foreign Direct Investment**  
 Archival research of external donations made to mayoral municipalities within Nicaragua, specifying the relationship between mayoral ideologies and corresponding levels of foreign government support.

**TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS**

<i>CPO 2001</i>	Spring 2012: Introduction to Comparative Politics (prof. Dietmar Schirmer)
<i>POS 2112</i>	Fall 2010: American State and Local Government (prof. Daniel A. Smith)
<i>CPO 2001</i>	Spring 2010: Introduction to Comparative Politics (prof. Patricia Woods)
<i>POS 2041</i>	Fall 2009: American Federal Government (prof. Richard Conley)

**CONFERENCE FUNDING**

<i>African Studies Association 2015</i>	(1)CAS awarded \$500 to present a paper at the Nov. 19-22 Annual Meeting (2)Dept. of Poli. Science (UF) awarded \$300 to present a paper.
<i>Midwest Political Science Association 2015</i>	(1)Dept. of Poli. Science (UF) awarded \$300 to attend the April 16-19 Annual Meeting (2)Graduate Student Council (UF) awarded \$350 to present a paper and serve as a discussant.
<i>African Studies Association 2014</i>	(1)CLAS (UF) awarded \$300 to present a paper at the Nov. 20-23, 2014 Annual Meeting
<i>African Studies Association 2012</i>	(1)CAS awarded \$250 to present a paper at the Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 2012 Annual Meeting (2)The Graduate Student Council at UF awarded a \$300 travel stipend to attend the meeting
<i>African Studies Association 2011</i>	(1)CAS awarded \$250 to present a paper at the Nov. 17-19, 2011 Annual Meeting (2)The Dept. of Political Science (UF) awarded a \$250 travel stipend to attend the meeting

**PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

<i>International Studies Association 2016</i>	ISA 2016 ANNUAL MEETING, Atlanta, GA, March 16-19 <i>Paper:</i> "Democratization via Centralization?", Democratization and State Capacity Building in sub-Saharan Africa Panel <i>Panel Discussant:</i> Democratization and State Capacity Building in sub-Saharan Africa
<i>African Studies Association 2016</i>	ASA 2015 ANNUAL MEETING, San Diego, CA, Nov. 19-22 <i>Paper:</i> "Democratization via Centralization?", Institutions and the Management of Conflict Panel
<i>Midwest Political Science Association 2015</i>	MPSA 2015 ANNUAL MEETING, Chicago, IL, April 16-19

*Paper: "Ethnic Heterogeneity and Public Goods Provision in Ghana", New Research on Ethnic Identity in the Developing World Panel*  
*Panel Discussant: The Causes and Consequences of Decentralization*

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

- African Studies Association 2014* ASA 2014 ANNUAL MEETING, Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 20-23  
*Paper & Panel Chair: "Ethnic Heterogeneity and Public Goods Provision in Ghana", Ghana: Public Goods, Bureaucrats, and Poverty Panel*  
*Panel Discussant: Rethinking Identity and Politics in Diaspora*
- Ghana Studies Association 2013* GSA 2013 TRI-ANNUAL MEETING, Kumasi, Ghana, May 23-26  
*Paper (presented on behalf of Brenda Chalfin): "Oil City versus Oil State? Takoradi, Ghana and Governance of Off-Shore Oil"*
- African Studies Association 2012* ASA 2012 ANNUAL MEETING, Philadelphia, PA, Nov.29 - Dec. 1  
*Paper: "Explaining Ghana's Rejected Ballots", Staying in Power by Elections Panel*  
 Co-Authors: Daniel A. SMITH, Franklin ODURO
- SASA Lunch Talk 2012* THE STUDENTS IN AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION (SASA) LUNCH TALK, UF, Oct. 2012  
*Paper: "Achieving Free & Fair Elections in Ghana"*
- Institutions, Narratives, & Identities 2012* A GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, Feb. 2012  
 Co-organizer  
*Paper: "Re-conceptualizing Large-N Research using Ethnic Identity Variables: A Ghanaian Case Study"*
- African Studies Association 2011* ASA 2011 ANNUAL MEETING, Washington, DC, Nov.17-19  
*Paper: "Voter Fraud and the Stabilization of Democratic Processes in sub-Saharan Africa", Grassroots Politics in Disarray: Corruption, Clientelism and Violence Panel*  
*Panel Discussant: The Political Logic of Governance Challenges in Africa's Transitional Polities, APCG Panel*

## PROFESSIONAL AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- Local Elections* Clerk, Assistant Clerk & EVID Operator, ALACHUA COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, 2012-Present  
 Served through national and local elections at the 31st and 54th precincts, Alachua County, Florida. Election Dates: Aug. 14, 2012; Nov. 06, 2012; March 11, 2014; April 08, 2014; Nov. 04, 2014; March 17, 2015; April 14th, 2015.
- Professional Contributions* Editorial Committee Member, AFRICAN STUDIES QUARTERLY, 2010-Present  
 Organizing Committee Member, INSTITUTIONS, NARRATIVES, AND IDENTITIES Graduate Student Conference, University of Florida, Feb. 2012  
 Comparative Politics Chair, POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (PSGSC), UF 2010
- Internships* Intern, KARAMAH: MUSLIM WOMEN LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
 Organized a three week annual Law and Leadership Conference (LLSP) and contributed to grant applications for this Washington, DC-based non-profit, Summer 2008  
 Intern, TEACH FOR HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT  
 Taught English as a subject to disadvantaged middle school students living in Washington, DC, for this non-profit organization, Summer 2007

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

<i>Methodological</i>	Quantitative and Qualitative Research Strategies Coursework in Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE), Structural Equation Modeling (SEM), Survey Research & Mixed Methods Designs
<i>Computational</i>	STATA, R, ArcGIS, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, MaxQDA, Python (beginner), Microsoft Office
<i>Linguistic</i>	Akan/Twi – Speaking: Intermediate, Reading/Writing: Intermediate

## ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

American Political Science Association · Midwest Political Science Association ·  
African Studies Association · African Politics Conference Group

## REFERENCES

Michael Bernhard  
Raymond and Miriam Ehrlich Eminent Scholar Chair  
Dept. of Political Science, UF  
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