

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, bureaucracy, public goods provision

Publications

Articles

1. Margaret H. Ariotti & Sona N. Golder. 2018. "Partisan portfolio allocation in African democracies." *Comparative Political Studies* 51(3): 341-379.
2. Ariotti, Margaret. 2016. "Burkina Faso's 2015 Presidential and Legislative Elections." *Electoral Studies* 44(December): 445-448.
3. 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.

Other Publications

4. Book Review: Harsch, Ernest. Burkina Faso: A History of Power, Protest, and Revolution. *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 56(2): 359-360.
5. 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*.
6. Ariotti, Margaret (Molly) H. & Naunihal Singh. ["Can Burkina Faso become a stable democracy?"](#) *The Monkey Cage Blog; The Washington Post* (September 21, 2015).
7. Ariotti, Margaret (Molly) H. ["The fall of the hegemon in Burkina Faso,"](#) *The Monkey Cage Blog; The Washington Post* (November 4, 2014).

Current Projects

Book Project

- Ariotti, Margaret H. *"Parties and Coalitions: Executive-Legislative Relations in African Democracies."* In preparation.

Working Papers

- "Foreign aid and judicial independence" (with Joseph Wright and Simone Dietrich)
- "Coalition Governments in African Democracies"
- "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa"

Works in Progress

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

Fieldwork and International Experience

Senegal: September 2016–April 2017

Burkina Faso: June–July 2014; February–March, May 2016, February 2017

France: September 2009–July 2011

Awards

External Awards

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

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

2014 Summer Graduate Research Award, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University

2012-2013 [Big Data Social Science IGERT Fellow](#) (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program); National Science Foundation and Pennsylvania State University (NSF award DGE-1144860)

2011-2016 Graduate Assistantship, Pennsylvania State University

Relevant Skills

French (native fluency)

Wolof (intermediate)

Geographic Information System (GIS)

Teaching Experience

Instructor

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

Certificate for Online Teaching, Pennsylvania State University

- Coursework in online teaching and learning: Fall 2015

English Language Assistant (Aubervilliers, France)

- Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF), French Embassy: 2009-2010

Invited Talks

1. "Mini-workshop on Funding and Conducting Fieldwork." University of Arizona School of Government and Public Policy. Tucson, Arizona: February 2, 2018
2. "State Capacity, Bureaucracy, and Legitimacy: Evidence from West Africa." Presented at the 2017 Boren Career Seminar FED Talks. Washington, D.C., USA: September 6, 2017
3. "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. "Coalition Governments in African Democracies." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Atlanta, GA, USA: November 29-December 1, 2018
2. "Government Type and Public Spending in Africa." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Chicago, IL, USA: November 16-18, 2017
3. "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
4. "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
5. "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
6. "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
7. "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
8. "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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