

Natalie Wenzell Letsa
Curriculum Vitae

214 White Hall
Ithaca, NY 14850
njw57@cornell.edu
www.natalieletsa.com
Tel. 209.304.5459

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2018 – Postdoctoral Scholar, Stanford University
Spring 2019 Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law

Fall 2017 - Wick Cary Assistant Professor of Political Economy
University of Oklahoma, Department of International and Area Studies

EDUCATION

2017 Ph.D., Government, Cornell University
Dissertation: *Voting for the Devil You Know: Understanding Electoral Behavior in Authoritarian Regimes*
Committee: Nicolas van de Walle (Chair), Valerie Bunce, Adam Levine

2014 M.A., Government, Cornell University
Major Field: Comparative Politics
Minor Field: International Relations

2009 B.A., Political Science, Reed College

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming. “Popular Support for Democracy in Autocratic Regimes: A Micro-Level Analysis of Preferences” (with Martha Wilfahrt). *Comparative Politics*.

2017. “Voting for Peace, Mobilizing for War: Post-Conflict Voter Turnout and Civil War Recurrence.” *Democratization* 24 (3), p. 425-443.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Autocratic Voter: A Theory of Non-Economic Participation with Evidence from Cameroon” (Under Review)
Best Graduate Student Paper, African Politics Conference Group (Honorable Mention)

“‘The People’s Choice’: Popular (Il)Legitimacy in Autocratic Cameroon” (Under Review)

“Political Geography in Africa’s Electoral Autocracies: The Influence of Party Strongholds on Public Opinion” (Presented at MPSA, April 2017)

“The Mechanisms of Direct and Indirect Rule: Colonialism and Economic Development in Africa” with Martha Wilfahrt (Presented at VIM, Stony Brook, June 2017)

TEACHING

- Fall 2016 **Instructor of Record**, *African Elections*
Freshman Writing Seminar, Cornell University
- Spring 2016 **Instructor of Record**, *Protest and Political Participation in Authoritarian Regimes*
Freshman Writing Seminar, Cornell University
- Fall 2015 **Teaching Assistant** with two sections, *Introduction to International Relations*
Instructor: Peter Katzenstein, Cornell University
- Summer 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, *Introduction to American Politics*
Instructor: Robert Spitzer (SUNY Cortland), Cornell University
- Fall 2013 **Teaching Assistant**, *How Do You Know That? (Introduction to Causal Inference)*
Instructor: Christopher Way, Cornell University
- Spring 2013 **Teaching Assistant** with two sections, *Middle Eastern Politics*
Instructor: David Patel, Cornell University
- Fall 2012 **Teaching Assistant** with two sections, *American Political Campaigns*
Instructor: Adam Levine, Cornell University

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

African Studies Association Student Travel Award, November 2016
Houston I. Flournoy Graduate Fellowship (with Nicolas van de Walle), Cornell University, May 2016
Sage Graduate Fellowship, Cornell University, September 2014
The Mario Einaudi International Research Travel Grant (Cameroon), June 2014
Cornell Graduate School Research Travel Grant (Cameroon), May 2014
Government Department Grant for Methods Training, Summer 2013
Government Department Grant for Language Training (Senegal), Summer 2012
McGill Lawrence Award, Reed College (Ghana), Summer 2009
Professor Carl Stevens Memorial Award, Reed College (Ghana), Summer 2009
Commendation of Academic Excellence, Reed College, 2008/2009

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND TALKS

Visions in Methodology, Stony Brook University	2017
American Political Science Association	2017 (accepted), 2016, 2015
African Studies Association	2016, 2015
Midwest Political Science Association	2017, 2016, 2014, 2013
APSA's Workshop on Elections and Democracy in Africa	2009

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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