

PETER Onah, THOMPSON, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Government & Justice Studies Department
350K Anne Belk Hall, 224 Joyce Lawrence Lane
Appalachian State University
Boone, NC 28608, U.S.A

Education

- Ph.D. May 2022 Public Policy Ph.D. (*Specialization: Environment & Security Policy*),
UNC Charlotte, Charlotte – U.S.A.
Dissertation: “[Three Essays on Conflict and Displacement: Experimental Evidence from Nigeria.](#)”
- MA 2015 Political Science (*Concentration: Environmental Politics & Policy Analysis*),
Appalachian State University, Boone – U.S.A.
- MIAD 2008 International Affairs and Diplomacy, Ahmadu Bello University,
Zaria – Nigeria.

Academic Experience

- a. Research/Teaching Assistant Professor (*Appalachian State University*), Government & Justice Studies,
2022 – Present.
 Courses Taught: *Comparative Politics, African Politics, Human Rights, Migration & Politics.*
- Fieldwork Survey Manager (Nigeria)/Research Assistant (*UNC Charlotte*),
 “Displace, Return, and Reconstruct: Population Movement and Resilient to
 Instability Project,” PI: Dr. Jim Walsh, 2020 – 2022.
- Teaching Assistant/Instructor of Record (*UNC Charlotte*), “INTL 3001: Global
 Environmental Crisis and Migration,” Dept: Global Studies Dept (UNC
 Charlotte), Spring 2021 – Spring 2022.
- Research Assistant (*UNC Charlotte*), “Public Opinion, Learning and Sentiment
 experimental lab project,” PI: Dr. Zachary Mohr, 2019 – 2020.
- Research Assistant (*UNC Charlotte*), “Counter-Terrorism Data Development
 (CTD) project,” PI: Dr. Justin Conrad, 2018 – 2019.
- POLS – Lab Manager & Research Assistant (*UNC Charlotte*), “Political Emotion
 and Regulation Behavior (PERAB) project,” Award 1743847, *National Science
 Foundation*, PI: Dr. Cherie Maestas & Sara Levens, 2016 – 2018.
- b. Others Journal Reviewer
 (*African Spectrum*), 2024 – present.
 (*Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*), 2024 – present.
- Sustainability Program Coordinator (*Appalachian State University*), Educational
 Doctoral Program, Spring 2016 – Summer 2016.

Sustainability Fellow, Office of Sustainability (*Appalachian State University*), Fall 2014 – Spring 2016.

Professional Experience

Consultant Researcher, [Global Insight](#), New York, USA: May 2022 – Present.

Consultant Researcher (pro bono), Coalition for Collaboration on HIV/AIDS Research & Intervention (CCHR), Georgia, USA: May 2020 – May 2022.

Relationship Manager, Domestic Banking Group, Ecobank Nigeria Ltd, Kachia Road Branch, Kaduna, Nigeria: July 2011 – January 2014.

Zonal Representative (North), Customer Care Management and Operations, Oceanic Bank Int'l PLC, Kasuwar Barchi Branch, Nigeria: August 2006 – June 2011.

Grant Support

“Academic Civic Engagement Innovation Grant.” CETLSS, Appalachian State University.

“CAS Research/Proposal Development Summer Grant.” College of Arts and Sciences, Appalachian State University.

“Understanding the Dynamics of Cross-Border Conflict in the Lake Chad Basin” project supported by a grant from the Cross Border Conflict, Evidence, Policy, and Trends (XCEPT).

“Reversing Exodus: A field experimental study of conflict displacement and return.” A doctoral dissertation funding support under the “Displace, Return, Reconstruct Project” by the U.S. D.O.D & Minerva Research Initiative grant N0: W911NF1810089

Publications

Thompson, P.O., Breitenstein, S.R., Barnes, B.R., & Glory, R. (2024). Promoting Behavioral Change and Public Awareness for Sustainable Clean Air. *Sustainable Strategies for Air Pollution Mitigation*. Springer Nature.

Thompson, P.O., Kosoe, E.A., & Xu, J. (2024). Green Infrastructure and Urban Planning for Sustainable Clean Air. *Sustainable Strategies for Air Pollution Mitigation*. Springer Nature.

Thompson, P.O., Omitayo, A., Ademu, L.O., & Maiangwa, B. (2024). African Folklore: A tool for improving sustainable resource management practices in Africa. *Environmental Development*.

Ogwu, M., **Thompson, P.O.**, Kosoe, E.A., Mumuni, E., Akolgo-Azupogo, H., Obahiagbon, E.G., Izah, S.C., & Imarhiagbe, O. (2024). Factors driving the acceptance of genetically modified food crops in Ghana. *Food, Safety, and Health*.

Thompson, P.O., Hall, J., Hecker, T., & Walsh, I.J. (2023). Posttraumatic stress moderates return intentions: a factorial survey experiment with internally displaced persons in Nigeria. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology*.

Obidoa, C., **Thompson, P.O.**, Thitsa, M., Smith, E., & Katner, H. (2023). Socio-ecological correlates of HIV/AIDS-related sexual risk behavior of African American emerging adults. *AIDS and Behavior*.

Ademu, L.O., Gao, J., **Thompson, P.O.**, Ademu, L. (2022). Impact of short-term air pollution on respiratory infections: A Time-Series analysis of Covid-19 cases in California during the 2020 wildfire season. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

Obidoa, C., **Thompson, P.O.**, Thitsa, M., Smith, E., & Katner, H. (2022). Sexual behavior patterns of black young adults in Georgia: Results of a latent class analysis. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.

Thompson, P.O., Mallum, F. & Chigbu, G. (2021). Nigeria: A narrative of competing needs between shifting global trends, sustainable transportation, and economic growth. *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*.

Thompson, P.O., Ademu, L., & Ademu, L. (2021). Opium or elixir? How adherence to major world religions influences Africans' health-related behavior during a pandemic: A case study of Nigeria. In *Handbook of Africa and the Changing Global Order (pp.1025-1046)*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers.

Thompson, P.O. & Titiksha, F. (2020). Counting Lives: Colonial institutions and Africa's prevailing conflicts. In *Handbook of Africa's Political Economy (pp.877-890)*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers.

Thompson, P.O. (2017). Minority rights and environmental justice in developing countries. In *Human Rights Dilemmas in the Developing World: The case of marginalized populations at risk*. Lexington Books.

Dentith, A. M., & **Thompson, O. P.** (2017). Teaching adult ecojustice education. *New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education*, 2017(153), 65-75.

Seyeditabari, A., Levens S., Maestas, C., Shaikh S., Walsh, J.I., Zadronzny, W., Danis, C., & **Thompson, P.O.** (2017). Cross corpus emotion classification using survey data. In *Proceedings of Symposium on Computational Modelling of Emotion: Theory and Application*.

Thompson, P., & Udogu, E. I. (2016). The roots of ethnic conflict in Africa: from grievance to violence ed. By Wanjala S. Nasong'o. *Africa Today*, 62(4), 67-72.

Works under review

Critcher, A., & **Thompson, P.O.** (Submitted for publication). Social Ranking and Transitional Justice Preferences: Examining the Victims of Extremist Insurgency. *Terrorism and Political Violence*.

Thompson, P.O., & Foster, J. (Submitted for publication). When Fighting Terrorism Promotes Safe Havens: Experimental Evidence from the Lake Chad Basin. *Terrorism and Political Violence*.

Thompson, P.O., Hall, J., & Walsh, J. (Submitted for publication). Threat, Vulnerability, and Exposure in Acceptance of Displaced Persons. *PNAS*.

Ruseva, T., & **Thompson, P.** (Submitted for publication). Preferences for participation in forest carbon programs: An experimental test with smallholder forest owners in the United States. *Climate Policy*.

Ogwu, M.C., Kosoe, E.A., & **Thompson, P.O.** (Submitted for publication). Waste Management in Developing Economies: Regional Disparities, Socioeconomic Drivers, and Institutional Challenges in Ghana. *Environmental Development*.

Thompson, P.O. (Submitted for publication). Trust and sustainability in return migration: Insights from conflict-affected communities. *Marginalism, Violence, and Peace and Conflict in Core-Periphery Relations*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers.

Thompson, P.O. (R&R). The Paradox of Traditional Leadership in Post-Conflict Reintegration: Evidence from Nigeria. *Conflict Management & Peace Science*.

Conferences

a. Presentations

Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, Birmingham-UK, 2025: “Political Proximity and Transitional Justice: Analyzing Preferences in Boko Haram-Affected Areas.” (With Allison Critcher)

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, 2025: “Power, Policy and Discourse: A Comparative Analysis of United Nations 2015 Paris Climate Agreement Speeches.” (With Scott Fitzgerald)

56th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Political Science Association, Boston, 2024: “Social Ranking and Transitional Justice Preferences: Examining the Victim of Extremist Insurgency in Nigeria.” (With Allison Critcher)

81st Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 2024: “Examining the Effect of Conflict on Pregnancy Outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa: A Geospatial Analysis.” (With Lilian Ademu & Claudio Owusu)

119th Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, 2023: “Threat, Empathy, and Acceptance of Forcibly Displaced Persons: Experimental Evidence from Nigeria.” (With James I. Walsh & Jonathan Hall).

27th World Congress of Political Science, Buenos Aires, 2023: “Do they improve or worsen reintegration prospect? The role of traditional authorities in “aiding” the reintegration of former combatants in post-conflict African societies.”

International Conference of the Center of Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld University, 2023. “Uncertainty, posttraumatic stress, and return intentions of displaced persons.”

11th Annual Appalachian State University Global Symposium, Boone, 2023: “When fighting terrorism promotes terrorist safe haven: experimental evidence from the Lake Chad basin.” (With Jillian Foster).

International Conference on Sustainable Development, Columbia University, 2023: “Reviving African folklore as the basis for sustainable resource management practices in Africa.” (With Omitayo, A., Ademu, L., & Thompson, S.)

Annual Workshop of the Households in Conflict Network, Berlin, 2021: “Reversing Exodus: An experimental study of the role of information and psychological processes in voluntary return.” (With James I. Walsh & Jonathan Hall).

Int’l Conference on Sustainable Development, Columbia University, New York, September 2019: “Place, Perception, or Politics? Measuring U.S. Urban-Rural Natural Disaster Resilience Capacity.” (with Titiksha Fernandes, and Christina M. Danis).

American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 2018: “Power, Policy, and Discourse: a Comparative Analysis of the United Nations 2015 Paris Climate Agreement Speeches.” (with Scott T. Fitzgerald).

South-Eastern Regional Seminar in African Studies, Milledgeville, Georgia, October 2018: “The Implication of Colonial Institutions in Africa’s Prevailing Conflicts: a Story of Numbers.” (with Titiksha Fernandes).

North Carolina Political Science Association, Charlotte, North Carolina, February 2015: “The Penetrating Influence of Social Media in Africa’s Political Landscape: a Case Study of the Global Pressure on the Nigerian Government in the Wake of the *Boko Haram* Mass Kidnap.”

b. Panelist/Discussant Human Security, Violence, and Trauma: Psychological Responses and Political Impacts of Conflicts Conference, University of California, Berkeley, May 2021: “Grounding the Human Experience of Trauma.”

African Studies and Research Forum 23rd Annual Conference, North Carolina Central University, Durham NC, November 2014: “Panel on African Development.”

c. Organizer

Hosted the 4th Annual Carolinas Conflict Consortium workshop at Appalachian State University.

Working Papers

“Characterization of waste management practices in Ghana.” [*With* Ogwu, M, Kosoe, E.A., Mumuni, E., Akolgo-Azupogo]

“Armed conflict and maternal health outcomes: a geospatial analysis.” [*With* Ademu, L., & Owusu, C.]

“Mothering conflict? A qualitative investigation of mothers’ influence in community-government forces violent clashes in the Niger-Delta.”

“How feeble is the mind of the young? Emotional pathway to radicalization among US college students.” [*With* C.D. Maestas]

Invited Speaker

Global Appalachia Seminar, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, November 2014: “International Mountain Ranges: Connections between the Appalachians and Other Mountains.”

Scholarships & Awards

OIP International Travel Award, Appalachian State University, 2025

[Conference Travel Grant](#), American Political Science Association (APSA), 2021.

Graduate Assistant Support Program (GASP), UNC Charlotte, 2016 – 2021.

First Generation Scholar Travel Grant, American Political Science Association (APSA), 2019.

Graduate School Summer Fellowship, UNC Charlotte, 2019.

Appalachian Global Leadership Award, Appalachian State University, Boone, 2015.

Adam P. Kephart Scholarship for International Programs, Appalachian State University, Boone, 2015.

Additional Training

[Advancing Research in Conflict Consortium](#) (ARCC), 2019.

Advancing Research in Conflict Field Preparedness, Security Awareness, and First Aid Training

Project Mosaic Workshop, UNC Charlotte, 2017

Topic Modelling and Basic Text Analysis with R

Project Mosaic Workshop, UNC Charlotte, 2016.

Multilevel Modelling with STATA

Skills

Software

Proficient in STATA, ArcGIS, Nvivo, Qualtrics

Language

Proficient in English, Hausa, Pidgin, and Idoma languages

Service

Visiting Fellow, AP Comparative Government & Politics. [2025]

Member: Scholarship Committee, Dept. of Government & Justice Studies, Appalachian State University. [2022 – present].

Member: JHP Student Research Prize Committee, Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, Appalachian State University. [2023].

Member: Excellence in Engagement Award Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Appalachian State University. [2023 - 2024].

Club Advisor: PAC African Community (Student) Club.

Mentor: Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN) Mentorship Program. Mentored gifted college graduates from African countries to help them secure admissions to social sciences' graduate programs in North America. [2020 – 2022].

Senator: Graduate Public Policy Association, UNC Charlotte. Represented the Public Policy Students at the Graduate & Professional Student Government. [Academic year 2018 – 2019].

Organizer: “Ecojustice Leadership Academy” (A four-day seminar at Appalachian State University Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership that explores the role of educators in a time of ecological crisis). [Summer 2017].

Member: Search Committee for the Ass. Director of International Students and Scholarship Office at Appalachian State University, Boone. [Fall 2015].

Volunteer: Justice, Development & Peace Commission – Our Lady’s Catholic Church, Kaduna – Nigeria. [2000 – 2004]

Professional Membership

American Political Science Association (APSA)
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
International Studies Association (ISA)
Institute de Diplomatie Publique (Institute of Public Diplomacy)
South Eastern Regional Seminar in African Studies (SERSAS)
North Carolina Political Science Association (NCPSA)
African Studies and Research Forum (ASRF)
Political Studies Association (PSA)
African Studies in Europe (AEGIS)