

PETER ONAH THOMPSON, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Government & Justice Studies Department
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Education

Ph.D. Public Policy (Specialization: Environment & Security Policy)

UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, U.S.A.

Dissertation: "Three Essays on Conflict and Displacement: Experimental Evidence from Nigeria"

Advisor: Dr. James Igoe Walsh

MA Political Science (Concentration: Environmental Politics & Policy Analysis)

Appalachian State University, Boone, U.S.A.

MIAD International Affairs and Diplomacy

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

Academic Experience

Assistant Professor

Government & Justice Studies, Appalachian State University (2022 – Present)

- **Courses Taught:** Comparative Politics, African Politics, Human Rights

Fieldwork Survey Manager (Nigeria)/Research Assistant

UNC Charlotte, "Displace, Return, and Reconstruct: Population Movement and Resilient to Instability Project" (2020 – 2022)

Graduate Teaching Assistant/Instructor of Record

UNC Charlotte, "Global Environmental Crisis and Migration" (Spring 2021 – Spring 2022)

Graduate Research Assistant

UNC Charlotte, "Public Opinion Learning and Sentiment Experimental Lab Project" (2019 – 2020)

Graduate Research Assistant

UNC Charlotte, "Counter-Terrorism Data Development (CTD) Project" (2018 – 2019)

POLS – Lab Manager & Research Assistant

UNC Charlotte, "Political Emotion and Regulation Behavior (PERAB) Project" (2016 – 2018)

Sustainability Program Coordinator

Appalachian State University (Spring 2016 – Summer 2016)

Sustainability Fellow

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

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

- **CAS Research/Proposal Development Summer Grant**, College of Arts and Sciences, Appalachian State University
 - **Displace Return Reconstruct Project**, U.S. D.O.D & Minerva Research Initiative grant NO: W911NF1810089
 - **Understanding the Dynamics of Cross-Border Conflict in the Lake Chad Basin**, XCEPT project
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Publications

- **Thompson P.O.** (Submitted): Trust and sustainability in return migration: Insights from conflict-affected communities. *Boundaries Traversed: Belonging Home and the Gradations of Return*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers.
- **Thompson P.O.**, Omitayo A., Ademu L.O., & Maiangwa B. (Submitted): African Folklore: A tool for improving sustainable resource management practices in Africa. *Sustainable Development*.
- Ogwu M., **Thompson P.O.**, et al. (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.**, et al. (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.**, et al. (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.

Conferences & Presentations

- **American Political Science Association (APSA) 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."
- **Center of Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld University 2023**: "Uncertainty, posttraumatic stress, and return intentions of displaced persons."

- **Appalachian State University Global Symposium 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.)
- **Households in Conflict Network Workshop, 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 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 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 2018:** “The Implication of Colonial Institutions in Africa’s Prevailing Conflicts: A Story of Numbers” (with Titiksha Fernandes).
- **North Carolina Political Science Association, Charlotte 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.”

Panelist/Discussant

- **University of California, Berkeley, May 2021:** “Grounding the Human Experience of Trauma.” **Human Security, Violence, and Trauma Conference
- **African Studies and Research Forum 23rd Annual Conference:** North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC, November 2014: “Panel on African Development.”

Organizer

- **4th Annual Carolinas Conflict Consortium workshop:** Hosted at Appalachian State University.

Working Papers

- **“Exposure to Violence Moderates Role of Threat and Harm in Acceptance of Displaced Persons.”** [with Jonathan Hall & James I. Walsh]
- **“Characterization of waste management practices in Ghana.”** [With Ogwu M, Kosoe E.A., Mumuni E., Akolgo-Azupogo]

- **“Armed conflict and maternal health outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa: a geospatial analysis.”** [With Adem L. & Owusu C.]
 - **“Abstract terror, safe haven, and communal trust in the Lake Chad basin.”** [With Foster J.J.]
 - **“Indigenous wisdom and sustainable development: A pathway to resilient food systems.”** [With Omitayo, A.A.]
 - **“Social ranking and transitional justice preferences: A conjoint analysis of the victims of Boko Haram insurgency.”** [With Critcher A.]
 - **“Mothering conflict? A qualitative investigation of mothers’ influence in community-government forces violent clashes in the Niger-Delta.”**
 - **“Posttraumatic stress moderates sustainable return among formerly displaced persons: Evidence from Nigeria.”**
 - **“How feeble is the mind of the young? Emotional pathway to radicalization among US college students.”** [With C.D. Maestas]
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Invited Speaker/Guest Lecture

- **Spring 2024 Economics Seminar:** Dept. of Economics, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, April 12, 2024: “Threat, empathy, and the acceptance of forcibly displaced person. Experimental evidence.”
 - **Postgraduate Studies – Honours in Political Science:** University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, April 11, 2024: “An introduction to quantitative social science.”
 - **Fall 2023 Lunch and Learn Series:** Dept. of Sustainable Development, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, October 25, 2023: “Folklore education: a vehicle for sustainable resources management practices in Africa.”
 - **Anthropology of Development Seminar:** Dept. of Anthropology, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, May 1, 2023: “Discourse on conflict and displacement: Experimental evidence from Nigeria.”
 - **Social Work Practice with Immigrants and Refugees:** Beaver College of Health, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, April 12, 2023: “Psychosocial consequences of climate-induced migration.”
 - **Global Appalachia Seminar:** Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, November 2014: “International Mountain Ranges: Connections between the Appalachians and Other mountains.”
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Scholarships, Recognition, & Awards

- **Conference Travel Grant:** American Political Science Association (APSA), 2021.

- **Nominated for Outstanding Instructor of Record Award:** Center for Graduate Life and Learning, UNC Charlotte, April 2022.
 - **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.
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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
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Methodological Expertise

- **Quantitative Analysis:** Proficient in statistical analysis using software such as STATA, ArcGIS, and Qualtrics.
 - **Computational Politics:** Experience in topic modeling and text analysis with R, multilevel modeling, and sentiment analysis.
 - **Field Research:** Extensive experience in conducting field surveys and experimental research in conflict-affected areas.
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Service

- **Journal Reviewer**
African Spectrum (2024 – present)
- **Member:** Scholarship Committee, Dept. of Government & Justice Studies, Appalachian State University (2022 – present).

- **Member:** Faculty Advisory Board, Center for Judaic Holocaust and Peace Studies, Appalachian State University (2023 - present).
- **Member:** Graduate ePortfolio Review, Dept. of Government & Justice Studies, Appalachian State University (2024).
- **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).
- **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 of 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)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- African Studies in Europe (AEGIS)