

Academic CV: David Dare Olusanjo

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INFORMATION Political Science Department Gmail: olusanjodavid5595@gmail.com
Florida International University <https://www.linkedin.com/in/olusanjo-david>
Miami, Florida 33199.

RESEARCH INTEREST

Substantive: Ethnicity, Nationalism, Identity Politics, Democratization in Africa, Elections, Decolonization, Informal Institutions, African International Relations and African Politics

TEACHING INTEREST

Substantive: Comparative Politics, Authoritarian Politics, Democratization, Political Parties & Legislative Politics, Political violence, Democratic Transition and African Politics.

Methodology: Survey Research design, Quantitative methods, Qualitative methods, mixed methods.

EDUCATION

Florida International University, Miami, Florida

Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science, **Expected December 2026**

- Subfields: Comparative Politics (major), International Relations (minor), and African Politics

Dissertation Topic: Old Faces, New Offices: Progressive Ambition and Voter Evaluations of Political Career Advancement in Nigeria

- Professor John Clark (Chair), Todd Makse (Co-chair), Tatiana Kostadinova, Saheed Aderinto

Florida International University, Miami, FL

M.A., African and African Diaspora Studies (Distinction) **August 2023**

- Thesis: The Impact of Ethnicity and Religion on Nigeria's National Development in the Fourth Republic
- Advisor: Professor John Clark

Lagos State University, Lagos, Nigeria

• B.Sc. Political Science (First Class) **April 2019**

SUMMER AND VISITING PROGRAM

University of California, Merced

Spring 2026

Served as a Visiting Doctoral Researcher in Political Science and worked with Professor Leonardo Arriola, Dean of SSHA.

Institute for Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan

July-Aug 2025

Awarded Opportunity Scholarship to attend the Second General Session in Quantitative Research

University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education, St Anthony's College

International Politics Summer School 2024

July- August 2024

Certificate in Critical Approaches to African Politics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Florida International University, Miami, FL

Fall 2022– Summer 2026

Teaching Assistant

CPO 3403, Politics of the Middle East, Dr Eric Lob

CPO 3102, European Politics, Professor Marcus Thiel

POS 4931, US Presidential Elections, Dr Dario Moreno and Dr Sara Moats

POS 3063, Floridian Politics, Dr Sara Moats

POS 3065, Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations, Dr Sara Moats

POT 2002, RVC 1238, Political Theory, Dr Joaquin Pedroso

Lagos State University, Lagos, Nigeria.

Academic Researcher

Assisted in conducting research for publications and presentations.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Lagos, Nigeria

Research Intern

July – December 2021

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Olusanjo, D. (2025) Political Forgiveness and Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Africa and Hannah Arendt Power to Forgive and Promise. *African Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Research (AJSSHR)* (Volume 8, Issue 1).

Olusanjo, D. (2025) West African Crises: Why is ECOWAS Successful in Imposing Democratic Norms in Some West African Countries and Unsuccessful in Others? *African Journal of Law, Political Research and Administration (AJLPRA)* (Volume 8, Issue 1).

Olusanjo, D. (2024) Political Violence and Democratic Transition in West Africa: A Vicious Circle of Relationship. *Florida Political Chronicle* (vol.31, n.1, Spring-Summer 2024) pp 54-65. <https://www.fpsanet.com/florida-political-chronicle.html>

WORKING PAPER

Who Trusts Democracy? Electoral Winners, Losers, and Democratic Legitimacy in Nigeria (Under Review)

Does Trust Depress Participation? Institutional Trust and Political Participation in Nigeria. (Under Review)

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Matteo Bonotti and Zim Nwokora. *Money, Parties, and Democracy: Political Finance Between Fat Cats and Big Government* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2025). Political Studies Review Sage Journal. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14789299261450440>

Review of Daren Ray, *Ethnicity, Identity, and Conceptualizing Community in Indian Ocean East Africa*. (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2024) *African Studies Quarterly*, Volume 23, Issue 2, September 2025: 117 <https://journals.flvc.org/ASQ/article/view/139646/145147>

Review of Rosenthal, *From Immigrants to Refugees: The Politics of Aid along the Tanzania-Rwanda Border* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2023), *Journal of Global South Studies*, Fall 2025 Issue, Volume 42 Number 2, pp322-324. <https://journals.upress.ufl.edu/JGSS/article/view/3314>

Review of Wariboko, *Lifemaking: Political Philosophy for Human Flourishing in African Perspective* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2024), *Journal of Global South Studies*, Fall 2025 Issue, Volume 42 Number 2: 328-330. <https://journals.upress.ufl.edu/JGSS/article/view/3317>

Review of Degani, *The City Electric: Infrastructure and Ingenuity in Post Socialist Tanzania* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2022), *Journal of Global South Studies*, Fall 2025 Issue, Volume 42 Number 2: 304-306. <https://journals.upress.ufl.edu/JGSS/article/view/3307>

Review of Emma Park, *Infrastructural Attachments: Austerity, Sovereignty, and Expertise in Kenya* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2024), *Journal of Global South Studies*, Fall 2025 Issue, Volume 42, Number 2: 319-322. <https://journals.upress.ufl.edu/JGSS/article/view/3313>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026, September 2-7, American Political Science Association (APSA), "Progressive Ambition and Voters' Choice in Nigeria", Boston, USA.

2026, April 22-25, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), "From Statehouse to Senate: Understanding Elite Circulation and Progressive Ambition among Former Governors and Senators in Nigeria" Chicago, USA.

2026, March 2nd "Do Voters Prefer Former Governors as Senatorial Candidates in Nigeria: Evidence from a Conjoint Survey Experiment. Presented at the University of California, Merced, Political Science Department.

2025, June 21-25, Lagos Studies Association 9th Annual Conference "'Go Back to your State': Identity, Belonging and State Formation in Nigeria's Fourth Republic" University of Lagos, Nigeria.

2025, April 3-6, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) "Politics of Recycling: Voters' Response to Progressive Ambition Among Ex-Governors and Senators in Nigeria". Palmer House, Chicago, USA

2025, March 30, Florida Political Science Association (FPSA). "Does State Power Determine Allegiance to National Identification? Ethnicity, National Identity and the State in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. University of South Florida, St Peterburg, Florida.

2024, October 5, International Studies Association South, St. Petersburg 2024 "West African Crises: Why is ECOWAS Successful in Imposing Democratic Norms in Some West African Countries and Fail in Others?" Eckerd College, Florida, USA.

2024, June 4, Electoral Integrity Project's 4th Annual Conference "The Impact of Electoral Law Reforms on Voters' Turnout in Sub-Saharan Africa Countries" Participated Virtually.

2024, June 12 -16, Canadian Association of African Studies Association, "Postcolonial State and Ethnicity in Africa: A Decolonial Turn". McGill University; Montreal, Canada. Participated Virtually.

2024, April, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) "The Impact of Electoral Law Reform on Voter's Turnout in Sub-Saharan Africa". Palmer House, Chicago, USA.

2024, March 9, Florida Political Science Association (FPSA). “Political Violence and Democratic Transition in West Africa: A Vicious Circle of Relationship”. University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.

2023, November 30th –2nd December, African Studies Association “Postcolonial State and Ethnicity in Africa: A Decolonial Turn”. San Francisco, California, USA.

2023, November 7 – 8th, 2023, 4th International Politics and Security (IPSe) Conference Fall School “Political Violence and Democratic Transition in West Africa: A Vicious Circle of Relationship”. Presented at the “Memory & Oblivion, between Political Violence and Organized Crime”, University of Padova, Venice, Italy.

2023, October 6 and 7th International Studies Association (ISA South 2023) “Electoral Integrity: Leveraging AI and Data Science for Transparent and Inclusive Elections in Africa”. Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

2023, July 3-7, Electoral Integrity Project’s 3rd Annual Conference “Do Elections enable Voters to remove non-performing leaders? Quality and Legitimacy of Elections in Sub-Saharan Africa” Participated Virtually.

2023, June 20 -24, Lagos Studies Association 7th Annual Conference “ ‘*Ja pa Syndrome*’: Youth Migration as the New Urban Culture and its Impact in Nigeria.’ University of Lagos, Nigeria.

2023, May 17-18, Second International Conference on “African Women, Civil Wars, and Peacebuilding”, Paper titled “Armed Conflicts and Women’s Economic Opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparative Study of Women in Northern Nigeria and Northern Ethiopia”. Presented at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

2022, December, Wed. 14th-Fri 16th. The First Joint International Conference - University of Georgia and Bowen University “Religion and Ethnicity in the Making of Nigeria’s Fourth Republic”. Presentation topic “The Impact of Ethnicity and Religion on Nigeria’s Political Development in the Fourth Republic”

2019, July, National Association of Political Science Students, Annual Conference “The Implication of Fake News on Nigeria's National Development” Lagos State University, Lagos, Nigeria.

PANEL ORGANIZATION AND ROUNDTABLES

2025 and 2026, June, Lagos Studies Association (LSA) Annual Conference. Panel Organizer “Identity and Conflict: Exploring the Nexus Between Intergroup Relations and Violence in Africa,” University of Lagos, Nigeria.

2024, June 26- 30, **Lagos Studies Association 7th Annual Conference**, “On the Fringes of Power: Informal Institutions of Governance in Africa,” University of Lagos, Nigeria

2024, March 3rd, Florida Political Science Association 2024 Annual Conference, **Chair and Discussant** “Comparative Systems and Politics”. University of Florida, Gainesville.

2024, March 15, FIU University Graduate School Poster Presentation. “Political Violence and Democratic Transition in West Africa: A Vicious Circle of Relationship”. FIU, Miami, USA.

INVITED TALKS

2025, **Guest Speaker**, “Immigration and Multiculturalism in Europe: A Lens from the African Perspective” in CPO 3103 Class: Comparative Politics of Western Europe. Spring 2025, CP 117; Florida International University.

2024, October 5th, International Studies Association -South (ISA). **Discussant**, “The Joseph M. Scolnick Memorial Roundtable: US Foreign Policy Flashpoints”, Eckerd College, Florida, USA.

2023, October 6th, International Studies Association -South (ISA). **Discussant**, “The Joseph M. Scolnick Memorial Roundtable: US Foreign Policy Flashpoints”, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

2023, March 22nd. “Chris Gay Annual Memorial Lecture” **Moderator**. Florida International University, Miami, Florida.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

\$300 APSA Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations Section Travel Grant, July 2026

\$18,8991 FIU Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF) Summer and Fall 2026

\$18,8991 FIU Dissertation Evidence Acquisition (DEA) Fellowship Award for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026

\$300 The Barnes and Noble Book Scholarship-FIU Summer 2025, July 2025

\$350 FIU-UGS Graduate Student Advisory Board Member Award Spring 2025, April 2025

\$5,500 Opportunity Scholarship Award to attend the ICPSR Summer Program in July 2025

\$500 Lagos Studies Association to attend the African Studies Association 2023.

\$250 Prize for 2024 Florida Political Science Association (FPSA) Best Graduate Paper Award

€400 Travel grant from the University of Padova, Venice, Italy to attend the International Politics and Security Conference.

SERVICE

Reviewer: *The African Review (The Brill Publication)*, *Journal of Political Science and International Relations*.

Volunteer as a Tech support for the West African Archaeological Association Conference at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, October 2025.

Member, African Graduate Student Association, Florida International University Constitution Drafting Committee, 2023.

Amnesty International, Nigeria – volunteered for the reports of human rights violations and digital advocacy.

Google Digital Skills for Africa – collected over 100 data points from participants at a digital training and empowerment in Lagos, Nigeria.

Served as on-field enumerator for the collection of data for decision-making for the Lagos State Office for Sustainable Development Goals.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025, Finalist “Outstanding Civic Leadership Award”, Florida International University.

2025, Opportunity Scholarship Award – ICPSR Summer Program

2024, September. Certificate of Appreciation from African Graduate Student Association AGSA-FIU for being part of the Working Committee that set up the Graduate Organization.

2024 Florida Political Science Association (FPSA) Best Graduate Paper Award

2023, July. Certificate of Excellence from African and African Diaspora Studies (AADS)- FIU

2021, April. Best Student in University of Lagos Master of Public and International Affairs Qualifying Exam

2021, January. Best Behaved and Most Outstanding Employee During Globacom New Employee Orientation.

2019, May. Honorable Farooq Sekoni Award for the Best Student in Political Science 2017/2018 session.

2019, May. Dean's Prize for Best Student in Political Science Department in 2017/2018 Session

2019, May. NAPSS-LASU Award for the foremost First-Class Graduate in Political Science Department.

2019, June. Daniel Olukoya Excellence Award for First Class Graduate

2019, May. Barrister Olatunji Endowment Fund for First Class Graduate (Faith-Based)

2015 – 2018. Lagos State University Excellence Award for University Scholars

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2026, May. Member, American Political Science Association (APSA)

2024, April. Member, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

2023, August. Member, International Studies Association (ISA)

2023, November. Member, African Studies Association (ASA)

2023, December. Member, Emerging Scholars Network – Africa Studies Association (ASA).

2022, August. Member, Lagos Studies Association (LSA)

2019, July. Member, Youth Lead, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

October 2024, Member, UGS-Graduate Student Advisory Board (GAB), Florida International University 2024/2025 session

2023, January- December. President, African and African Diaspora Studies Graduate Student Association.

2016, Honorable and Department Representative, Faculty of Social Science, Lagos State University.

SKILLS

R, Stata, Latex, SPSS, Causal Inference and Regression Analysis.

Language: Proficient in English and Yoruba.

CERTIFICATIONS

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) – Data Science and Text Analysis – October 2025

Introduction to Peace Building – Certificate of Completion – United States Institute of Peace

UN- Civil-Military: Working in Complex Emergencies – Certificate of Completion - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

UN- Civil Military: Working in Natural Disaster – Certificate of Completion- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Understanding Election and Civic Responsibility – Certificate of Completion – Young Africa Leadership Initiative Network (YALI)

Promoting Public Service – Certificate of Completion – Young Africa Leadership Initiative Network (YALI)

Responsible Conduct of Research – Certificate of Completion – Collaborative Institutional Training Institute (CITI) 2023

REFERENCES: Available on Request