

Curriculum Vitae
IBRAHIM YAHAYA IBRAHIM

Department of Political Science
234 Anderson Hall
P.O. Box 117325
The University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611 - 7325

Contact:
Office: 109 Rolfs Hall
E-mail: abrayaim@ufl.edu
Phone: (352) 281-0861

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Florida, (expected December 2017).
Dissertation: “Political Contestation and Islamic Discourse in the Sahel: Comparative Analysis of Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.”
Areas of Specialization: Comparative Politics; Islam and Politics; Comparative Methods, International Development; International Relations.

M.A. in Political Science, University of Florida, May 2013.
Major: Comparative and African Politics.

B.A. in Sociology, University Abdou Moumouni Dioffo, Niamey, Niger, May 2010.
Thesis: “The Structural Factors of Food Insecurity in Niger: A Case Study of Filingué”
 (“Les Facteurs Structurels de l’Insécurité alimentaire au Niger: Cas de Filingué”).
Major: Population and Development.

B.A. in Sharia and Islamic Studies, Islamic University of Say, Niger, June 2006.
Thesis: “Malthus’s Theory of Birth Control in the Perspective of the Islamic Law.”
، (نظرية مالتوس في تحديد النسل و موقف الشريعة الإسلامية منها)
Major: Islamic Jurisprudence and Fundamentals (فقه و الأصول).

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- French (Fluent in speaking, reading, and writing)
- English (Fluent in speaking, reading, and writing)
- Arabic (Fluent in speaking, reading and writing)
- Hausa (Native language, reading and writing in both Roman and Arabic alphabet)
- Zarma/Songhai (Conversational in speaking and reading)

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

University of Florida, Gainesville
Graduate Research Assistant, Sahel Research Group, 2015 – May 2017.

University of Florida, Gainesville
Research Associate. Funded by a Minerva Initiative Grant: “Political Reform, Socio-Religious Change, and Stability in the African Sahel.” 2013-2015.

Albasar International Foundation (International NGO), Maradi, Niger
Executive Director of Makkah specialist eye hospital in Maradi, Niger, April 2009 –
July 2011.

Institute of Research in Human Sciences, University Abdou Moumouni Dioffo, Niamey
Research Assistant in the Department of Arabic and Ajami manuscripts, 2007 – 2009.

Complexe Scolaire Franco-Arabe Annasiriyya, Niamey
French Language Teacher at the middle school level in a private Franco-Arabic
school, October 2007 – June 2008.

Complexe Scolaire Iqra'a, Niamey
Teacher of French and Arabic Language at Middle School Level, October 2006 –
June 2007.

PUBLICATIONS AND SCHOLARLY PAPERS

Publications

The Wave of Jihadist insurgency in West Africa: Global Ideology, Local Context, Individual Motivations,” West African Papers, No. 07, OECD Publishing, Paris.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eb95c0a9-en>

“Niger in the face of the Sahelo-Saharan Islamic Insurgency: Precarious Stability in a Troubled Neighbourhood.” *Paper Series: The Stakes of the Malian Crisis in the Sahel* produced by The Sahel Research Group, Working Paper No. 004, University of Florida, August 2014. Available at: <http://sahelresearch.africa.ufl.edu/resources/>

“Managing the Sahelo-Saharan Islamic Insurgency in Mauritania: The Local Stakes of the Sahelian Crisis,” *Paper Series: The Stakes of the Malian Crisis in the Sahel* produced by The Sahel Research Group, Working Paper No. 003, University of Florida, August 2014. Available at: <http://sahelresearch.africa.ufl.edu/resources/>

Work in Progress

“The Jihadist Challenge in the Sahel,” invited chapter in progress for *The Oxford Handbook of the African Sahel*, Leonardo A. Villalón, ed. Oxford University Press. Expected publication 2018.

“Islamic Insurgency and Socio-Political Processes in the Sahel: A Comparative Analysis of Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.” Paper, in progress.

“Is Democracy related to Islamic Insurgency?: A Cross-National Quantitative Analysis.” Paper, in progress.

“Starvation Representation and Power Relations: Media Coverage of the 2005 Food Crisis in Niger.” Paper, in progress.

“Politicization of Islamic Humanitarian Aid in the Sahel,” Paper, in Progress.

Invited Papers and Public Presentations

“Insurrections Djihadistes en Afrique de l’Ouest: Ideologie Djihadiste, Contexte Locale, Motivation Individuelle,” at the Sahel and West Africa Club’s annual meeting, OECD Conference Room in Paris, France, June 16th 2017.

“Jihadism in the North Islamism in the South: The New Dynamics of Islam and Politics in Mali,” paper presented at the African Studies Association’s annual conference, Washington DC, December 2nd, 2016.

“Jihadism, Separatism, or Tribalism? The Insurgency in Northern Mali” invited presentation at the University of North Carolina Center for African Studies, Chapel Hill, NC, October 13th, 2016.

“Democratization and Islamic Insurgency: A Comparative analysis of MOJWA in Gao and Boko Haram in Zinder,” invited presentation at the UC Berkeley Centre for African Studies, Berkeley, CA, November 3rd, 2015.

“Contentious Politics and Religious Discourse in the Sahel,” invited presentation at Pomona College, Claremont, CA, October 30th, 2015.

“Understanding the Dynamics of Violent Extremism in the Sahel: A Comparative Study of Mauritania, Mali and Niger,” invited presentation at the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) workshop organized by the USAID West-Africa regional office, Accra (Ghana), September 14th, 2015.

"Explaining Participation in Jihadi Movements in the Context of State Collapse: The Case of the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (MOJWA) in Mali" presentation at the 2015 Minerva annual meeting, US Department of Defense, Washington DC, September 9th, 2015.

“Insurrection Islamique et Processus Socio-politique au Sahel: Analyse comparative entre le Mali, le Niger, et la Mauritanie,” invited presentation at the Faculté des Sciences Sociales of the Université de Ségou, Mali, June 15th, 2015.

“Niger’s Security Challenges and institutional Capacities,” invited briefing (via conference call) for the US Government’s Security Governance Initiative (SGI), organized by the US State Department, January 20th, 2015.

"Islamic Insurgency and Socio-religious and Political Processes in the Sahel (1990-2012): A Comparative Perspective between Mali Mauritania and Niger,” paper presented at the African Studies Association's annual conference, Indianapolis, IN, November 22nd, 2014.

“Factors of Resilience in Niger: Maintaining a Precarious Stability in a Troubled Neighbourhood.” Invited presentation at the US State Department “Executive Analytic Exchange on Niger,” Washington D.C, August 28th, 2014.

“Overcoming an Islamic Insurgency: Resilience and Vulnerability in Mauritania.” Invited Presentation at the US State Department “Executive Analytic Exchange on Mauritania,” Washington DC, August 28th, 2014.

"L'Islam politique au Sahel à l'épreuve du conflit d'interprétation des textes religieux," présentation at the Workshop “L’Islam au Sahel : Nouvelles tendances et dynamiques locales,” Université Gaston Berger, Saint Louis, Sénégal, June 27th 2014.

“Problématique de l’Insurrection Islamique au Sahel: Cas de Boko Haram au Nord du Nigeria,” présentation at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Sénégal, June 25th, 2014.

“Stability in the Heart of an Unstable Region: Factors of Resilience in Niger,” Presentation at the Conference “Saharan Crossroad: Views from the Desert-Edge,” co-organized by the American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS) and the West-African Research Association (WARA), Oran, Algeria, June 2nd, 2014.

"Islam and Islamic Insurgency in the Sahel: Current Debates" Invited presentation at a US State Department conference, “Socio-Economic Trends in The Sahel,” Washington DC, March 20th 2014.

“Mauritania and Niger in the face of the Islamic Insurgency,” paper presented at the African Studies Association’s annual conference, Baltimore, MD, November 22nd, 2013.

"Islamic Insurgencies in the Sahel: Factors of Resilience and Points of Vulnerability in Niger," Invited presentation at a conference on "Governance and Security in the Sahelian States: From Crisis to Sustainable Recovery," School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC. April 11th, 2013.

"Politicization of Islamic Humanitarian Aid: The case of Al-basar International Foundation in Niger," Invited presentation in a Symposium on "Islamic NGOs and Development Aid in Africa," University of Florida, Center for African Studies, April 13th, 2013.

Invited Participant in a Global Roundtable on “The Many Faces of Religion: Connection to Love, Hate, and Cultural Endangerment,” Santa Fe College, Gainesville Florida, January 31st 2013.

Chair and Discussant of a panel on “States and their Discontents” at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Orlando, Florida, January 5th, 2013.

Media Commentaries

“Bad Boys Not Boko Haram: How the Media Misinterpret African Violence,” *The Guardian*, June 20th, 2016. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/20/bad-boys-not-boko-haram-how-the-media-misinterprets-african-violence?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other

“Are we Animals?” Nigeriens Respond to Foreign Policy’s ‘Dead Man’s Market’,” *African Arguments*, June 13th, 2016. Available at: <http://africanarguments.org/2016/06/13/are-we-animals-nigeriens-respond-to-foreign-policys-dead-mans-market>. (One of 5 articles nominated for best article of the year 2016 in *African Arguments*)

“The 2016 Elections in Niger: A Missed Opportunity?” *Sahel Blog*, 30 March 2016. Available at: <https://sahelblog.wordpress.com/2016/03/30/guest-post-the-2016-election-in-niger-a-missed-opportunity/>

“Niger: Expert Briefing” *Africa Research Institute*, 02 February 2016. Available at: <http://www.africaresearchinstitute.org/niger-expert-briefing/>

“Niger: Yet Another Coup?!” *Sahel Blog*, 31 December 2015. Available at: <https://sahelblog.wordpress.com/2015/12/31/niger-yet-another-coup-guest-post/>

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Editorial Service

Member, editorial board, *African Studies Quarterly*. Open-access peer-reviewed journal housed at The Center for African Studies, University of Florida. Various semesters: Fall 2012-Spring 2017.

Professional Consultancy

Freedom House, sub-Saharan Africa Analyst for *Freedom in the World* (Niger and Mauritania expert), 2016 and 2017 reports.

Natural Resource Governance Institute, Analyst for the 2016 Resource Governance Index (Niger expert), 2016.

Fellowship and Awards

University of Florida Center for Leadership, Project for Peace Grant to send a container of medical equipment and supplies to Zinder, Niger (\$10,000.00), March 2015.

American Institute for Maghrib Studies, Donna Lee Bowen Graduate Student Travel Award, to attend the 2014 AIMS conference in Oran, Algeria (\$1,000.00), May 2014.

UF Center for Leadership, Clinton Global Initiative University’s annual meeting, grant for “Health Care for the People of Zinder, Niger,” a project that consists of collecting medical equipment and supplies from the United States and sending them to Zinder, Niger (\$1,500.00), April 2014.

UF Center for Leadership’s grant to attend the Clinton Global Initiative University’s 2014 annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ (\$400), February 2014.

Fulbright Fellowship, Student Program, awarded for M.A. study in Political Science at the University of Florida, July 2011 – May 2013.

Master’s Degree in Political Science awarded “With Distinction,” May 2013.

Involvement and Volunteering

Coordinator of the Sahel Seminar weekly meeting, under the supervision of Professor Leonardo A. Villalon. Duties include selecting discussion topics and materials, and periodic leading discussion. Various semesters: Fall 2013 to Spring 2017.

Co-organizer (with Professor Leonardo A. Villalón) of the Sahel Research Group's Conference "The Politics of Institutional Reform in Sahelian Africa." Center for African Studies at the University of Florida, 21 and 22 February 2013.

Volunteer Graduate Assistant. Trans-Saharan Elections Project, directed by Professors Daniel A. Smith and Leonardo A. Villalón. Duties included helping to coordinate and run a three-week seminar for fifteen West African elections specialists from six countries, in Gainesville and Tallahassee. May-June 2012

Research Assistance for "African Politics and Power Programme (APPP) for the research project "Formalizing Schooling: Religion and Education in the Sahel." Carried out fieldwork in Niger and participated in research group meetings, 2009 – 2011.

Member of the American Institute of Maghrib Studies (AIMS), since May 2014.

Member of the African Studies Association (ASA), since March 2013.

Member of the West African Research Association (WARA), since October 2012.

LEADERSHIP, PUBLIC SERVICE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Co-founder and President of "Project Global Health," a Non-profit corporation that works to improve the access and quality of health care in developing countries. August 2014 to date.

Member of the University of Florida Branch of Amnesty International, The Humanitarian Interaction on Campus, and the African Graduate Students Association, University of Florida, 2012 – 2015.

Co-founder and Secretary General of Club Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), National Commission of UNESCO and ISESCO, Niamey, 2007-2009.

Secretary in Charge of External Affairs, Nigerien Student Union of the Islamic University of Say, Niger, Academic Year 2003-2004.