

Donghyun Danny Choi

Stephen Robert Assistant Professor of Political Science
Brown University

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Current Appointments

Brown University, Providence, RI

2025–present Stephen Robert Assistant Professor of Political Science

- Faculty Affiliate, Africa Initiative, Watson School of International & Public Affairs
- Faculty Affiliate, Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
- Faculty Associate, Population Studies and Training Center

2022–2025 Assistant Professor of Political Science

Georgetown University, Washington DC

Spring 2026 Visiting Researcher, Mortara Center for International Studies

Previous Appointments

Fall 2025 Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, MIT, Cambridge, MA

2019–2022 Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

2017–2019 Pre/Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Education

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

2018 Ph.D. in Political Science

Dissertation: *Severed Connections: Political Parties and Responsiveness in Africa*
Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation in the Study of Democracy, APSA 2020

2012 M.A. in Political Science

Korea University, Seoul, Korea

2007 B.A. in Economics (with Highest Honors); Minor in Public Administration and Policy

Book Projects

- 2026+ [*Severed Connections: How Intraparty Politics Erodes Representation in Democratic Africa.*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi.
Forthcoming, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics.
- 2022 [*Native Bias: Overcoming Discrimination Against Immigrants.*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis.
Princeton University Press, Princeton Studies in Political Behavior.
 - *Best Book Award, Experimental Research Section, APSA, 2023*
 - *Featured in Scope Conditions Podcast, Season 3 Episode 1*
 - *Reviewed in Perspectives on Politics, H-Migration, LSE Review of Books, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Choice, Political Science Quarterly*

Journal Articles

- 2025 [*How Oppositions Turn Authoritarian.*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi and Fiona Shen-Bayh.
Journal of Democracy. 36(4), 75–91.
- 2025 [*Couples Therapy for a Divided America: Assessing the Effects of Reciprocal Group Reflection on Partisan Polarization.*](#)
Hannah Baron, Robert Blair, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Laura Gamboa, Jessica Gottlieb, Amanda Lea Robinson, Steven Rosenzweig, Megan Turnbull, and Emily West.
Political Behavior. 47, 1363–1388.
- 2025 [*Policymakers' Abortion Preferences: Understanding the Intersection of Gender and Wealth.*](#)
Leonardo Arriola, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Justine Davis, Melanie Phillips, and Lise Rakner.
Comparative Political Studies. 58(1), 78–121.
- 2023 [*The Hijab Penalty: Feminist Backlash Against Muslim Immigrants.*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis.
American Journal of Political Science. 67(2), 291–306.
 - *Gregory Luebbert Prize for Best Article in Comparative Politics, APSA, 2022*
 - *Best Paper Award, European Politics & Society Section, APSA, 2021*
- 2023 [*Temperature and Outgroup Discrimination.*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis.
Political Science Research and Methods. 11, 198–206.
- 2022 [*Increasing Intergroup Trust: Endorsements and Voting in Multiethnic Societies.*](#)
Leonardo Arriola, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, and Matthew Gichohi.
Journal of Politics. 84(4), 2107–2122.

- 2022 [Ethnic Bias in Judicial Decision-making: Evidence from Criminal Appeals in Kenya.](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, J. Andrew Harris, and Fiona Shen-Bayh.
American Political Science Review. 116(3), 1067–1080.
 • *Fiona McGillivray Award for Best Paper in Political Economy, APSA, 2020*
- 2022 [Navigating Insider and Outsider Status as Researchers Conducting Field Experiments.](#)
 Eunji Kim, Sumitra Badrinathan, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Sabrina Karim, and Yang-Yang Zhou.
PS: Political Science & Politics. 55(4), 754–758.
- 2022 [Paying to Party: Candidate Resources and Party Switching in New Democracies.](#)
 Leonardo Arriola, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Justine Davis, Melanie Phillips, and Lise Rakner.
Party Politics. 28(3), 507–520.
- 2021 [Linguistic Assimilation Does Not Reduce Discrimination Against Immigrants.](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis.
Journal of Experimental Political Science. 8(3), 235–246.
 • *Rebecca Morton Award for best article in JEPS, Experiments Section, APSA, 2022*
- 2019 [Parochialism, Social Norms, and Discrimination Against Immigrants.](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis.
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 116(33), 16274–16279.
- 2015 [Fuzzy Sets on Shaky Ground? Parametric and Specification Sensitivity in fsQCA.](#)
 Chris Kroglund, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, and Mathias Poertner.
Political Analysis. 23(1), 21–41.

Work in Progress

Note: asterisk (*) denotes graduate student coauthors.

1. The Party's Hand in Primary Elections: Evidence from Party Primaries in a New Democracy (Draft Available).
2. Arrested Debate: Opposition Repression and Parliamentary Speech (with Fiona Shen-Bayh, Draft Available).
3. Legislating with Women: How Gender Composition Affects Issue Advocacy (with Leo Arriola, Junwoo Suh*, and Soosun You, Draft Available).
4. Do Voters Respond to Cross-Cleavage Campaigning in Polarized Societies? (with Leo Arriola, Matthew Gichohi, and Ken Ochieng' Opalo, Draft Available).
5. Lasting Effects of Transient Exposure to the Greek Refugee Crisis: Affective versus Cognitive Responses to Tragedy and Realistic Threat (with Nicholas Sambanis, Draft Available).
6. Mobile Internet Technology and National Identity in Sub-Saharan Africa (with Benjamin Laughlin and Anna Schultz, Draft Available).

7. Framing the Fight for LGBT Rights: How Human Rights and Public Health Narratives Shape Policymaker Support (with Leo Arriola, Justine Davis, Melanie Phillips, and Lise Rakner, Draft Available).
8. Captured or Insulated from Influence? The Politics of Foreign Aid Allocation in Africa (with Yucong Li*, Draft Available).
9. Weaponizing the Backlash Against Renewable Energy (with Jeff Colgan, Draft Available).
10. Legacies of Institutionalized Discrimination: Evidence from Chinese Exclusion and Japanese Internment (with Jonathan Chu and Jaemin Woo*, Analysis in Progress).
11. Calendars of Conflict: Intersecting Holidays and Political Violence (with Lee-Or Ankori-Karlinsky*, Analysis in Progress).

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

2025	Henry Merritt Wriston Fellowship, Brown University.
2024–27	SSK Project: The Politics of Immigration: Diversity, Coexistence, and Integration, Korea National Research Foundation (Overseas co-PI, KRW 750 Million, equivalent to \$567,154).
2024	The Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Diversity Institute: Why and How Difference Makes a Difference, Stanford University.
2024	Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award (\$15,000), Brown University.
2023	Best Book Award, Experimental Research Section, APSA.
2022	Gregory Luebbert Prize for Best Article in Comparative Politics, APSA.
2022	Rebecca Morton Best Article Award, Experimental Research Section, APSA.
2021	Best Paper Award, European Politics & Society Section, APSA.
2020	Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA.
2020	Fiona McGillivray Award for Best Paper, Political Economy Section, APSA.
2016	Dean's Completion Fellowship (\$21,000), Graduate Division, UC Berkeley.
2016	African Studies Fellowship (\$1,500), Center for African Studies, UC Berkeley.
2015	Rocca Dissertation Fellowship (\$5,000), Center for African Studies, UC Berkeley.
2015	Simpson Memorial Fellowship (\$12,000), Institute for International Studies, UC Berkeley.
2015	Graduate Division Fellowship (\$15,000), Graduate Division, UC Berkeley.
2014	Graduate Division Fellowship (\$15,000), Graduate Division, UC Berkeley.
2011–16	Doctoral Scholarship (full tuition and stipend), Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies.

External Affiliations

2025–present	Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP).
2025–present	Visiting Scholar, Peace and Democracy Institute, Korea University.

2023–present Faculty Affiliate, Identity and Conflict Lab, Yale University.

2018–present Non-resident Associate, Center on the Politics of Development, UC Berkeley.

Invited Presentations and Lectures

- 2026 Identity and Politics Seminar, OSU; Mortara Research Seminar, Georgetown University; Political Economy Seminar, Georgetown University.
- 2025 Toronto Political Behavior Workshop, University of Toronto; Global Diversity Lab, MIT; Gender and Politics in East Asia Workshop, USC; Intergroup Interventions Workshop, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin; Diversity Institute, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford University; Watson Africa Initiative Conference, Brown University.
- 2024 Comparative Politics Workshop, University of Pennsylvania; Comparative Politics Seminar, New York University; Summer School on Democratic Decline and Resilience, University of Montreal; CEPDISC Seminar, Aarhus University; Riker Seminar Series, University of Rochester; Research in Comparative Politics Workshop, Boston University; Invited Seminar Series, Department of Global Public Administration, Yonsei University.
- 2023 Gui2de Development Seminar, Georgetown University; Center for Political Studies Seminar, University of Michigan; Sustainable Democracy Roundtable, Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute; The Cooperation Colloquia, jointly hosted by U Amsterdam, Vienna, and Copenhagen; Invited Book Talk, LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; Comparative Politics Seminar, MIT; Political Science, Political Economy, African Politics Joint Seminar, LSE; Experimental Politics Working Group, Seoul National University.
- 2022 Methods Winter Lecture Series, Seoul National University; Identity and Conflict Lab Workshop, University of Pennsylvania; Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy; Replication Seminar, UC San Diego; Political Behavior Seminar, UC Davis; European Politics Online Workshop; 20th Anniversary Alumni Lecture, Korea University; Global Scholar Seminar, Sungkyunkwan University.
- 2021 Institute for Governmental Studies, Korea University; Intergroup Relations Workshop.
- 2020 Political Science Seminar, Korea University; Pennsylvania State University (canceled due to COVID); European University Institute (canceled due to COVID); Comparative Politics Workshop, Vanderbilt University.
- 2019 Organizational Behavior Seminar, Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University; Department of Government Seminar, College of William and Mary; Institute for Politics Seminar, Seoul National University; Economic History Conference, KDI School of Public Policy and Management.
- 2018 Cultural Transmission and Social Norms Workshop 3, MIT; Peace-building Workshop, Economic Research Forum (ERF).

Teaching

Brown University

POLS2590 Quantitative Methods IV (Graduate, S2025); POLS2590 Quantitative Methods II (Graduate, S2024); POLS0200 Introduction to Comparative Politics (Undergraduate, S2023, S2025); POLS1445 Contemporary African Politics (Undergraduate, S2023, F2024); Identity Politics in Global Perspective (Undergraduate, F2022, S2024, F2024).

University of Pittsburgh

Experiments in Social Science Research (Graduate, S2022); Dissertation Overview (Graduate, F2020, S2021, F2021, S2022); Identity Politics (Undergraduate, F2020); Computational Social Science (Undergraduate, S2020); Comparative Politics Capstone (Undergraduate, F2019); Introduction to African Politics (Undergraduate, F2019, S2021, F2021).

University of Pennsylvania

African Political Economy (Graduate/MBA), Wharton School of Business, Lauder Institute, S2018, S2019.

Advising

Brown University

Robert Dietterick (in progress, committee member); Shreya Singh (in progress, committee member); Daniel Cabral (in progress, committee member); Leja Joe Mathew (in progress, committee member); Débora Duque (in progress, committee member); Lee-Or Ankori-Karlinsky (in progress, committee member); Joshua Weitz (2024, Research Associate, Brown University, committee member).

University of Pittsburgh

Nicole Loncaric (2024, Lecturer, Duquesne University); Hyunjung Park (2024, University of York Postdoc); Matthias Avina (2023, University of Copenhagen Postdoc).

External

Lionel Ong (Columbia, 2026).

Disciplinary Service

- 2023–present Co-convener, Northeast Workshop on Empirical Political Science.
- 2025–present Co-convener, Boston Area Working Group on African Political Economy (BWGAPE).
- 2025 Best Dissertation Award Committee, African Politics Conference Group, APSA/ASA.
- 2024 Best Book Award Committee, Experimental Research Section, APSA.
- 2024 Program Co-Chair, Democracy and Autocracy Section, APSA Annual Meeting.
- 2023 Program Co-Chair, Political Economy Section, APSA Annual Meeting.
- 2023 Sage Best Paper Prize Committee, Comparative Politics Section, APSA.
- 2019–22 Co-convener, Midwest Workshop on Empirical Political Science.

- 2022 Best Paper Award Committee, European Politics & Society Section, APSA.
- 2020 Best Book Award Committee, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA. Program Co-Chair, African Politics Section, MPSA Annual Meeting.
- 2019 Chair, Best Fieldwork Award Committee, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA.

Reviewer

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, American Sociological Review, British Journal of Political Science, Cambridge University Press, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, International Interactions, International Migration Review, Journal of Elections Public Opinion and Parties, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Journal of Modern African Studies, Journal of Politics, Nature Human Behavior, Party Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Politics Groups and Identities, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, Political Science Research and Methods, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Public Choice, Sociological Research and Methods, World Politics.

Grant Reviewer

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC); Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation.

Department and University Service

Brown University

- 2024–25 Graduate Affairs/Admissions Committee, Department of Political Science.
- 2023 University Fulbright Scholarship Committee.
- 2022 International Relations Faculty Search Committee, Department of Political Science.

University of Pittsburgh

- 2021–22 Graduate Education Committee, Political Science.
- 2021 Chair Selection Committee, Political Science.
- 2021 Comparative Politics Field Exam Committee, Political Science.
- 2021–22 Structural Racism Junior Faculty Search Committee, Political Science.
- 2020 Structural Racism Target of Opportunity Search Committee, Political Science.
- 2020–21 Co-convener, Historical Political Economy Seminar, Political Science.
- 2019–20 Co-convener, Human Rights and Migration Seminar, Political Science.
- 2019–21 Undergraduate Committee, Political Science.