

Abdurraouf Elakder, Ph.D.

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LECTURER & RESEARCHER – Political Science

Highly analytical expert in Comparative Politics, International Politics, and Political Economy with a keen interest in Africa, the Middle East, and the United States. Excel in curriculum development, innovative instructional delivery, coordinating academic programs, leading high-quality research efforts, and assessing learning outcomes across the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Skilled in analyzing political systems and behavior, identifying patterns and disparities across regions, and exploring the interactions between global actors and regional dynamics with a focus on conflict, cooperation, and foreign policy. Proficient in qualitative research methods and the application of descriptive statistical techniques. Able to gather, analyze, and present social science data and conduct comprehensive literature reviews. Possess strong interpersonal and communication skills.

Areas of Expertise

- Teaching & Course Curriculum
- International Political Economy
- Comparative Politics
- International Relations Theory
- Foreign Aid & Diplomacy
- Public Administration and Policy
- Post & Undergraduate Programs
- Qualitative Research & Analysis
- Economic Development & Trade
- Student Mentorship & Supervision
- Lectureship & Research Projects
- High-Quality Research Outcomes
- Human Rights Consulting
- Political Institutions
- Geopolitical Literature Review

Education

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Politics and Political Science, 2023

Claremont Graduate University – Claremont, CA | GPA: 3.823

Transferred from Southern Illinois University's Ph.D. Program in Comparative Politics and Public Administration (2017)

Ph.D. Dissertation – The Effect of Bureaucracy on the Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment: A Comparative Study Between Libya and the United Arab Emirates

Master of Arts in Political Science and International Politics, 2019

Claremont Graduate University – Claremont, CA | GPA: 3.808

Master of Arts in Political Science, 2014

Western Illinois University – Macomb, IL | GPA: 4.00

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 2007

The University of Tripoli – Tripoli, Libya | First Rank Student

Academic Experience

Claremont Graduate University | Western Illinois University

PH.D. / MASTER'S PROGRAM – Political Science and International Politics

2016 to 2023

Navigated a rigorous academic journey with a focus on Comparative Politics, spanning multiple institutions, including Western Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, and Claremont Graduate University. Displayed a thorough understanding of Comparative Politics by engaging in coursework covering topics such as regime types, political systems, and social movements. Excelled in advanced Comparative Politics classes at Claremont Graduate University, including Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Institutions, Comparative Political Economy, and Democracy and Development.

Key Achievements and Contributions:

- Conducted an in-depth analysis of the impact of regime type, political systems, and political institutions on economic growth, development, stability, and modernity in various regions.
- Executed extensive research on the comparative political economy of the Middle East and North Africa region, contributing to a nuanced understanding of regional dynamics.

- Authored a Master's thesis comparing the effects of selective and comprehensive international sanctions on domestic politics in Libya, Eritrea, and Iraq.
- Drafted a Ph.D. dissertation involving a qualitative and quantitative comparison of Libya and the United Arab Emirates, specifically investigating the influence of bureaucracies on foreign direct investment inflows.
- Cultivated expertise in International Relations as a secondary field, participating in courses and seminars related to peace and war, civil conflict, and international political economy.
- Presented a research paper at the ISA Annual Convention 2021, titled "Power Transition Theory and the Third Libyan Civil War of 2019", driving the application of international relations theories to real-world conflicts.
- Explored the interdisciplinary nature of Comparative Politics by delving into the literature of public administration and public organization, enhancing the depth of understanding in the field.
- Engaged with a diverse range of courses in public administration, local government, public budget, public organization, and public policy to further enrich knowledge of public institutions and policies.
- Connected public organization and policy to the broader context of public economic and political institutions through extensive research and literature exploration.

Career Experience

Public Administration Instructor (Spring 2009)

Department of Political Science, University of Tripoli – Tripoli, Libya

- Successfully conducted an additional semester of instruction in the Principles of Public Administration for undergraduate students.
- Developed and delivered engaging lectures on diverse political science topics to undergraduate students.
- Stayed updated with the latest advancements in the field through continuous reading of contemporary literature.
- Actively participated in and contributed to two professional conferences for enhancing knowledge and networking within the academic community.

Coordinator (Fall 2008)

Department of Political Science, University of Tripoli – Tripoli, Libya

- Assumed the role of an Assistant to the Department Director, enhancing communication channels and facilitating teaching support for improving the overall learning experience.
- Ensured seamless support and clear communication to students during the registration phase.
- Guided students in understanding the sequencing system for study materials and enhanced the study experience.
- Coordinated exam schedules to ensure students were well-informed about exam dates and requirements.

Professional Development & Credentials

Volunteering

- Delivered vital support to the Director of the Communication Department Office in Brevard County, Florida. Attended weekly meetings with county commissioners and demonstrated a commitment to continuous learning and gaining valuable experience. 2015.
- Assisted Somali Delegation at the Conference of African Popular Event in Tripoli, Libya. 2008.

Key Projects & Publications

- Geopolitics and Political Instability in Libya; From the Middle Ages to the Modern Era – In Progress, Spring 2024
- The Effect of Bureaucracy on the Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment: A Comparative Study Between Libya and the United Arab Emirates – ProQuest, December 2023
- Research: Power Transition Theory and the Third Libyan Civil War of 2019 – ISA Annual Convention, April 2021
- Sanctions and the Salvation of the Authoritarian Regimes: Libya, Eritrea, and Iraq – ProQuest, January 2015

Certifications & Training

- Certificate in Human Rights Consulting – US Institute of Diplomacy and Human Rights, 2021
- Diplomacy Course – Claremont Graduate University, 2019 (Taught by a Former Ambassador and State Delegate)
- Local Administration Course – Southern Illinois University, 2017 (Attended City Council meeting of Carbondale, Illinois)
- English for Graduate Studies & American Culture – CESL Institute SIUC, 2015
- Advanced English Language Level – WESL Institute WIU, 2011

- English as a Second Language Courage for Beginners – English Academy at the University of San Diego, 2010

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized for initiating the first research project in Political Science at the level of Libya’s institutions of higher education: Sabha, 2008.
- Commended for leading a first rank research project in Political Science at the level of Tripoli’s higher education institutions in the Outstanding Students Competition: Tripoli, 2008.
- Graduated with the First Rank at the undergraduate level at University of Tripoli, Political Science Department: 2007.

Memberships & Affiliations

- American Political Science Association (APSA), 2023
- Institute for Humane Studies, 2020
- International Studies Association, 2017
- Golden Key International Honor Society, 2013

Conferences & Competitions

- Presenter – CGU's Research Symposium on Realizing Equity & Justice (Virtual), Spring 2021
- Presenter – International Studies Association (Virtual), Spring 2021
- Guest Keynote Speaker – MENA Conference at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, Spring 2014
- Attendee – Illinois Economic Association Annual Conference at DePaul University, Chicago, Fall 2014
- Competitor – Students' Scientific Competition of Universities and Higher Institutes, Sabha, Summer 2008