

# Tonya Kenny Dodez, Ph.D.

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Department of Political Science and  
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## Academic Appointments

### Mississippi State University

Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2023–present

### United States Institute of Peace

Minerva Peace and Security Scholar (Predoctoral), September 2022–June 2023

## Education

### Indiana University-Bloomington, PhD in Political Science (October 2023)

*Dissertation title:* Fight or Flight in Africa's Emerging Democracies: The Consequences of Low-intensity Electoral Violence for Citizens in Senegal

*Committee:* Lauren M. Maclean (Co-chair), Timothy Hellwig (Co-Chair), Jennifer Brass, and Jacob Bielasiak

*Subfields:* Comparative Politics and Political Methodology, minor in African Studies

### Louisiana State University

MA in Political Science (May 2016)

BA in Political Science, Louisiana State University (May 2011), Cum Laude

## Research and Teaching Interests

Electoral Violence, Democracy and Governance, Human Rights, State Repression, Political Corruption, Comparative Political Behavior, Electoral Institutions, and Elections in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Works in Progress

1. Dodez, Tonya K. "Don't Rock the Boat: Opposition Viability and the Limits to Economic Voting in sub-Saharan Africa" *Revise and Resubmit*
2. Hellwig, Timothy and Tonya K. Dodez. "Choosing Challengers: Opposition Party Success in Hard Times" *Revise and Resubmit*

## Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

1. Dodez, Tonya K. (September 2021). "The Anxieties of Disrupted Fieldwork: Reconciling Practicality and Passion in Redesigning a Research Plan" *Digital Fieldwork: Reflections*

## Working and Conference Papers

1. Dodez, Tonya K. "Reconceptualizing Electoral Violence and Intimidation: The importance of targeting in Senegal" Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association and previously presented at Indiana University's Ostrom Research Series on February 9th 2022
2. Dodez, Tonya K. "Elite Learning and Coordination in the Aftermath of Electoral Repression: Insights from Senegal" Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association
3. Dodez, Tonya K. "Populism and Demagoguery in West Africa: capitalizing on violence and democratic retrenchment" To be presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the African Studies Association.
4. Dodez, Tonya K. "Voting Against Violence: the Role of Civic Engagement in African Elections" Presented at the 2022 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association and previously presented at the Ostrom Workshop Research Series in November 2020
5. Dodez, Tonya K. "Assessing the Electoral Consequences of Repressive Actions against non-violent protests." working paper
6. Dodez, Tonya K. "Pre-empting Electoral Threats: Legislative Representation, Insecurity, and Repression" working paper
7. Dodez, Tonya K. "The Challenges of Virtual Teaching in the Era of Misinformation" working paper

## Awards and Honors

The College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship at Indiana University, Bloomington – *Academic Year 2022-2023; Awarded but Declined*

Ostrom Fellow at Indiana University, Bloomington – *Academic Year 2021-2022*

Outstanding Associate Instructor Award – *Academic Year 2020-2021*

Ostrom Research Award – *Academic Year 2020-2021*  
(\$3,500)

Graduate and Professional Student Government Research Award – *Spring 2020*  
(\$1,000)

Bentley Dissertation Field Research Fellowship – *Academic Year 2020-2021*  
(\$3,000)

Conference Travel Award from the Walter Laves Memorial Fellowship – *Spring 2019*  
(\$600)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Indiana University's African Studies department – *Academic Year 2018-2019*

Katharine Greenough Fellowship Award – *Fall 2018*  
(\$1,000)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Indiana University's African Studies department – *Summer 2018*

Bentley Chair Fellowship for Pre-dissertation Fieldwork – *Summer 2018*  
(\$2,000)

Graduate Fellowship Grant in Indiana University's Political Science department – *August-December 2016*

RA assistantship in Louisiana State University's Political Science department – *August 2015 - May 2016*

## Teaching Experience

### *Mississippi State University*

African Politics; Fall 2024  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration and African American Studies

Honors Comparative Government; Fall 2024  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration and Honors College

Special Topics in Political Science - Human Rights; Spring 2024  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

Introduction to Comparative Government; Fall 2023, Spring 2024  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

*Indiana University, Bloomington*

Instructor of Record: The Anxieties of Elections Across the Globe; Summer 2021  
Department of Political Science

Instructor of Record: Human Rights and State Repression; Summer 2019, Spring 2020  
Department of Political Science

Associate Instructor - various courses; January 2017–December 2018, Fall 2019, August 2020 –  
May 2021  
Department of Political Science

*Other Institutions*

Graduate Teaching Assistant; August 2014–May 2015  
Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University

High School English Teaching Assistant; October 2011–May 2012  
Lycee Joliot Curie; Rennes, France

## Service

*Mississippi State University Service*

Member, Undergraduate Committee (2023-present)  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

Member, Pi Sigma Alpha (2023-present)  
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

*Public Service: Invited Talks*

Dodez, Tonya K. "Life and Politics in Senegal" (October 10, 2023), Informational session for Model UN delegates at Mississippi State University.

Dodez, Tonya K. "Taking Civic Action: Contacting your local representatives" (January 14, 2021) in panel series *Know Your Rights*, provided by Southwest Louisiana Legal Services

## Professional Memberships

African Studies Association

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

## Additional Professional Experience

Country Expert Coder for Mali; July 2017–December 2017  
Global Leadership Project at University of Texas

Graduate Research Assistant for Joshua D. Potter; August 2015–May 2016  
Department of Political Science at Louisiana State University

## Foreign Language and Computational Skills

Advanced proficiency in French

Intermediate proficiency in Wolof

Proficient in R, STATA and LaTeX

## Fieldwork and Travel Experience

Senegal – Summer 2018 (pre-dissertation field research), August 2022 (dissertation field research), Summer 2024

## References

### **Lauren M. MacLean**

Professor of Political Science  
Arthur Bentley Chair, Political Science  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Phone: 812.856.2376  
Email: [macleanl@indiana.edu](mailto:macleanl@indiana.edu)

### **Timothy Hellwig**

Professor of Political Science  
University at Buffalo - SUNY  
Phone: 716.645.8440  
Email: [thellwig@buffalo.edu](mailto:thellwig@buffalo.edu)

### **Jennifer Brass**

Associate Professor  
Paul H. O'Neill School of Public & Environmental Affairs  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Email: [brassj@indiana.edu](mailto:brassj@indiana.edu)