

ESTHER FAITH NJOKI MAINA

Adjunct Lecturer | PhD Candidate in Public Policy | +254 721 634961 |
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Professional Summary

A dynamic educator and public policy scholar with over six years of teaching experience at both university and technical college levels. Passionate about fostering critical thinking through impactful instruction in political science, public administration, communication, and governance. Currently pursuing a PhD in Public Policy, with a research focus on policy communication, gender inclusion, and citizen engagement in Africa. Skilled in translating complex policy frameworks into accessible and actionable messages, with experience in research, qualitative data analysis, curriculum development, and community-based advocacy.

Areas of Interest

- Public Policy & Governance
- Gender & Development
- Political Communication
- Social Movements & Political Economy
- Inclusive Urban Transport Systems

Education

PhD in Public Policy (Ongoing)

University of Nairobi, Kenya

Thesis in progress: The Role of Media in National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy Implementation in Kenya: A Case Study of Meru County.

Master of Research and Public Policy (MRPP)

University of Nairobi, Kenya (2018–2020)

Thesis: Policy, Perception, and Socio-cultural Determinants of Male Involvement in Female Contraceptive Uptake

BA in Political Science & Public Administration / Communication

University of Nairobi, Kenya (2013–2016)

Second Class- Upper Division

Professional Training & Certifications

- Excel Data Analysis for Research & Reporting – *Ajira Digital, Kenya* (2025)

- Software Development Engineering Program – *Power Learn Project (PLP)*, Africa (Ongoing, 2025)

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Lecturer

Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Nairobi | Oct 2023 – Present

- Deliver undergraduate courses both online and in-person
- Collate teaching materials based on course outlines
- Conduct student mentorship and exam supervision
- Enter grades on university portals

Units Taught:

- Politics and Government in Africa
- Politics of Social Movements
- Comparative Foreign Policy
- Administrative Theory
- Political Economy of Agriculture in Kenya
- Public Administration and Development in Africa

Lecturer & Head of Journalism and Media Studies Department

Kenya Institute of Professional Studies Technical College, Nairobi | Oct 2016 – Feb 2021

- Taught Journalism and Communication courses
- Mentored over 50 students annually
- Conducted workshops and seminars to support student learning

Research Activities

Principal Researcher

Women Transporters in Nairobi's Public Motorcycle Transportation Business | April – June 2024

- Collected qualitative data on gender and informal transport
- Lead author (manuscript underway)

Research Assistant

Nordic Africa Institute, Sweden | Jan – Feb 2024

- Conducted interviews in Nairobi, Nakuru, Uasin Gishu
- Transcribed interviews and engaged with key informants
- Co-authoring manuscript in progress

Editorial Experience

- **Editorial Assistant**, *Routledge Handbook of Public Policy in the Global South*
Edited by Gideon Onyango & Ishtiaq Jamil, Taylor & Francis (2025)
Responsible for managing editorial workflows, including coordinating manuscript submissions, handling correspondence with contributors, and supporting the editing process. Credited in the published volume as an Editorial Assistant.

Publications

- Njoki, E. F., Onyango, G., & Magutu, J. M. (2025). Women as Motorcycle Taxi Operators in Kenya: Is the Public Transport Sector in Africa Becoming More Gender-Inclusive?
Available on ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381854951>
- Njoki, E. F. (2020). *How Would Kenya Look Like Under Proportional Representation?*
In: **Rethinking Democracy: Elections – Past, Present and Future**, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.
<https://www.kas.de/documents/286528/286577/Rethinking+Democracy.pdf>
- Njoki, E. F. (2020). Policy, Perception, and Socio-cultural Determinants of Male Involvement in Female Contraceptive Uptake: A Case of Korogocho, Nairobi County.
University of Nairobi Repository: <http://repository.uonbi.ac.ke/handle/11295/154035>

Community Engagement and Advocacy

The Oslo Center – Kirinyaga County Chapter | 2022 – Present

- Convening forums for women candidates in politics
- Promoting youth engagement in democratic governance
- Advancing gender-mainstreaming in county development

Founder, Kariti “Pick-Me-Up” Initiative | 2021 – Present

- Supports teenage mothers’ school re-entry in line with the Re-Admission Policy
- Offers counseling, mentorship, and empowerment training

Skills

- Teaching & Mentorship: University & College-level instruction
- Research: Qualitative & quantitative methods, SPSS, STATA, Excel
- Writing: Reports, academic articles, policy briefs
- Leadership: Departmental management, program coordination
- Communication: Strong interpersonal and writing skills