

Donghyun Danny Choi

Stephen Robert Assistant Professor of Political Science

Brown University

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Brown University
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Current Appointments

Brown University, Providence, RI

2025–	Stephen Robert Assistant Professor of Political Science
	+ Faculty Affiliate, Africa Initiative, Watson School of Int'l & Public Affairs
	+ Faculty Affiliate, Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics
	+ Faculty Associate, Population Studies and Training Center
2022–25	Assistant Professor of Political Science

Georgetown University, Washington DC

Spring 2026	Visiting Researcher, Mortara Center for International Studies
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Previous Appointments

Fall 2025	Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, MIT, Cambridge, MA
2019–22	Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
2017–19	Pre/Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Education

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

2018	Ph.D. in Political Science
	Dissertation: <i>Severed Connections: Political Parties and Responsiveness in Africa</i>
	+ 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 <i>Highest Honors</i>)
	Minor in Public Administration and Policy

Book Projects

Severed Connections: How Intraparty Politics Erodes Representation in Democratic Africa (Under Review at Cambridge University Press)
Donghyun Danny Choi

- 2022 [Native Bias: Overcoming Discrimination Against Immigrants*](#)
Donghyun Danny Choi, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis
 Princeton University Press, *Princeton Studies in Political Behavior*. 2022.
 + 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 A. Blair, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Laura Gamboa, Jessica Gottlieb, Amanda Lea Robinson, Steven C. Rosenzweig, Megan M. Turnbull, and Emily A. West
Political Behavior. 47, 1363-1388.
- 2025 [Policymakers' Abortion Preferences: Understanding the Intersection of Gender and Wealth](#)
 Leonardo R. Arriola, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, Justine M. Davis, Melanie L. Phillips, and Lise Rakner
Comparative Political Studies. 2025. 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. 2023. 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. 2023. 11, 198–206.
- 2022 [Increasing Intergroup Trust: Endorsements and Voting in Multiethnic Societies](#)
 Leonardo R. Arriola, **Donghyun Danny Choi**, and Matthew K. Gichohi
Journal of Politics. 2022. 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. 2022. 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, 2022. 55(4), 754–758.

2022	Paying to Party: Candidate Resources and Party Switching in New Democracies Leonardo R. Arriola, Donghyun Danny Choi , Justine M. Davis, Melanie Phillips, and Lise Rakner <i>Party Politics</i> . 2022. 28(3), 507–520.
2021	Linguistic Assimilation Does Not Reduce Discrimination Against Immigrants Donghyun Danny Choi , Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis <i>Journal of Experimental Political Science</i> . 2021. 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 <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> . 2019. 116(33), 16274–16279.
2015	Fuzzy Sets on Shaky Ground? Parametric and Specification Sensitivity in fsQCA Chris Kroglund, Donghyun Danny Choi , and Mathias Poertner <i>Political Analysis</i> . 2015. 23(1), 21–41.

Work-in-Progress

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| | *=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] | Legacies of Institutionalized Discrimination: Evidence from Chinese Exclusion and Japanese Internment (with Jonathan Chu and Jaemin Woo*, Analysis in Progress) |
| [9] | The Politics of Foreign Aid Allocation in Africa (with Yucong Li*, Draft Available) |
| [10] | Calendars of Conflict: Intersecting Holidays and Political Violence (with Nicholas Sambanis and Lee-Or Ankori-Karlinsky* Analysis in Progress) |

Fellowships, Grants, & Awards

2025	Henry Merritt Wriston Fellowship, Brown University.
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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 & stipend), Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies.

External Affiliations

2025–	Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)
2025–	Visiting Scholar, Peace and Democracy Institute, Korea University
2023–	Faculty Affiliate, Identity and Conflict Lab, Yale University
2018–	Non-resident Associate, Center on the Politics of Development, UC Berkeley

Invited Presentations & Lectures

2026	<i>Identity and Politics Seminar</i> , OSU (scheduled); <i>Mortara Research Seminar</i> , Georgetown University (scheduled); <i>Political Economy Seminar</i> , Georgetown University (scheduled)
2025	<i>Toronto Political Behavior Workshop</i> , University of Toronto; <i>Global Diversity Lab</i> , MIT; <i>Gender and Politics in East Asia Workshop</i> , USC; <i>Intergroup Interventions Workshop</i> , Hertie School of Governance, Berlin; <i>Diversity Institute, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS)</i> , Stanford University; <i>Watson Africa Initiative Conference</i> , Brown University

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

Teaching

Brown	POLS2590 Quantitative Methods IV (G), S2025; POLS2590 Quantitative Methods II (G), S2024; POLS0200 Introduction to Comparative Politics (U), S2023, S2025; POLS1445 Contemporary African Politics (U), S2023, F2024; Identity Politics in Global Perspective (U), F2022, S2024, F2024.
Pitt	Experiments in Social Science Research (G), S2022. Dissertation Overview (G), F2020, S2021, F2021, S2022. Identity Politics (U), F2020. Computational Social Science (U), S2020. Comparative Politics Capstone (U), F2019. Introduction to African Politics (U), F2019, S2021, F2021.
Penn	African Political Economy (G/MBA), Wharton School of Business, Lauder Institute, S2018, S2019

Advising

Brown	Shreya Singh (In Progress); Daniel Cabral (In Progress); Leja Joe Mathew (In Progress); Débora Duque (In Progress); Lee-Or Ankori-Karlinsky (In Progress); Joshua Weitz (2024, Research Associate, Brown University)
Pitt	Nicole Loncaric (2024, Lecturer, Duquesne University); Hyunjung Park (2024, University of York Postdoc); Matthias Avina (2023, University of Copenhagen Postdoc)

Disciplinary Service

2023–	Co-convener, Northeast Workshop on Empirical Political Science
2025–	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, MPSA
2019	Chair, Best Fieldwork Award Committee, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA
	Reviewer: <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>American Sociological Review</i> , <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>Cambridge University Press</i> , <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , <i>Comparative Politics</i> , <i>International Interactions</i> , <i>International Migration Review</i> , <i>Journal of Elections</i> , <i>Public Opinion & Parties</i> , <i>Journal of Experimental Political Science</i> , <i>Journal of Modern African Studies</i> , <i>Journal of Politics</i> , <i>Nature Human Behavior</i> , <i>Party Politics</i> , <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> , <i>Politics, Groups, and Identities</i> , <i>Political Analysis</i> , <i>Political Behavior</i> , <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> , <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> , <i>Public Choice</i> , <i>Sociological Research and Methods</i> , <i>World Politics</i> .
	Grant Reviewer: Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation.

Department & 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.