Samira Diebire

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Samira Diebire
Department of Government
University of Essex
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Research Interests

Survey Experiments, Political Violence, Decolonisation, Ethnic Representation, Public Opinion, Foreign Policy, Democratisation, Ideology, African Politics, Race Politics and Gender Politics

Education

PhD Government   *2022 - Submission February 2026*
University of Essex

Thesis titled *Power, Ideology, and Representation: Essays on Public Attitudes in Burkina Faso and Contemporary Africa.*
Supervisor: Dr Florian Kern and Dr Martin Steinwand
Board Members: Prof Han Dorussen, Dr Rabia Malik

MSc Conflict Resolution (Distinction)   *2021 - 2022*
University of Essex

BA International Relations (1st Class Hons)   *2018 - 2021*
University of Essex

Teaching Experience

Senior Postgraduate Teaching Assistant
UCL   Department of Political Science

Policy Making	*2025 - Pres*
Politics and Policy in Practice	*2024 - Pres*
Science, Scientific Discovery and Statistics	*2023 - 2024*

Instructor
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis

Introduction to R Programming	*2025*
Introduction to Quantitative Methods in R	*2023 - 2024*

Assistant Lecturer
University of Essex   Department of Government

Violent Non-State Actors: Violence, Conflict and Crime	*2022 - 2023*
Conflict Analysis	*2022 - 2023*
International Institutions	*2022 - 2023*

Research Experience

United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research *2024*

PhD Research Fellow in the Conflict and Development Cluster, assisting Dr Laura Saavedra-Lux

King's College London   *2022 - 2023*
Research Assistant in the Conflict, Security, and Development Research Group, assisting Dr Kseniya Oksamytna

University of Essex   *2021 - 2022*
Research Assistant in the Department of Government assisting, Dr Florian Kern

University of Essex   *2021*
Research Assistant in the Department of Government, assisting Prof Sarah Shair-Rosenfield

University of Essex   *2021*
Research Assistant in the Department of Language & Linguistics, assisting Prof Hannah Gibson

Publications

Kern, F., Steinwand, M. & Diebire, S. (2025) "How does government foreign policy reflect constituent attitudes in Africa? Comparative evidence on free movement and trade". *Afrobarometer Working Paper Series*

Justino, P., Saavedra-Lux, L. & Diebire, S. (2024) "Beyond Ukraine and Gaza: five consequences of overlooking other conflicts". *The Conversation UK*

Working Papers

Diebire, S. "How does clientelism affect public support for democracy? Evidence from Burkina Faso" - Nominated for the Francesco Kjellberg Award for Outstanding Papers Presented by New Scholars at IPSA

Diebire, S. "Layers of Belief: A Hierarchical Model of Ideology in Africa"

Awomodu, A., Costley, T., Dancheva, Y., Diebire, S., Gibson, H., Reilly, C. "Reflections on decolonising linguistics as a collaborative practice". Revise and Resubmit for *APLA Book Chapter*

Work in Progress

Diebire, S. "Are African Governments Representative of Women's Preferences on Free Movement and Free Trade?"

Diebire, S. "Collateral Damage: A Comparative Analysis of Afrobeat Influence on African Politics"

Talks and Conferences

International Political Science Association Annual Conference   *2025*
Presented

European Conference on African Studies Annual Conference   *2025*
Presented

African Studies Association of the UK Annual Conference   *2024*
Presented

UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office Africa Research Group Talk Series *2023*
Presented

European Conference on African Studies Annual Conference   *2023*
Presented

Afroconnect University of Sant'Anna Pisa Transdisciplinary Seminars   *2023*
Presented

International Studies Association Annual Conference   *2023*
Presented

American Political Science Association Annual Conference   *2022*
Presented

Software

Statistics	R
Front-end	HTML, Jekyll
Markup	Markdown, LaTeX, R Markdown, Sweave
Version Control	Git, Github
Survey Design	Qualtrics

Languages

Italian (native), Bissa (native), French (fluent), English (fluent), Japanese (beginner)

Professional Development

Survey Methods in Migration Research   *2023*
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments   *2023*
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis

Methods for Fieldwork in Social Science   *2022*
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis

Awards and Grants

UCL Department of Political Science Excellence in Student Feedback   *2024 - 2025*

Early Career Mobility Grant by the Italian Society of Political Science - €400   *2023*

SeNSS Research Training Support Grant for ECAS Conference - £1,197   *2023*

University of Essex Conference Travel Grant - £900   *2022*

American Political Science Association - £400   *2022*

Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis Scholarship - £1,100   *2022*

SeNSS Research Training Support Grant for APSA Conference - £1,467   *2022*

South East Network for Social Sciences 1+3 Studentship   *2021*

University of Essex Undergraduate Excellence Scholarship   *2021*

University of Essex Big Essex Award Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum	*2021*
Academic Prize–Included in the Dean's List for Excellence	*2020*
International Student of the Year Award Grant - £2,500	*2020*
Dubai Model United Nations Outstanding Diplomacy Award	*2019*

Professional Service

Section Editor	*2023-2025*
Sentio Journal	
Black Students Community Officer	*2019-2020*
Student Union Black Network, Student Union, University of Essex	

Further Work Experience

University of Essex	*2020 - 2021*
Member of the Tackling Racism Working Group	
University of Essex Student Union	*2020 - 2021*
Charity Board Trustee	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso	*2019 - 2020*
Legal and Consular Affairs intern	

References

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Reader
Department of Government
University of Essex
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Han Dorussen
Professor
Department of Government
University of Essex
hdorus@essex.ac.uk

Martin C. Steinwand
Senior Lecturer
Department of Government
University of Essex
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John-Paul Salter
Associate Professor
Department of Public Policy
University College London
john-paul.salter@ucl.ac.uk