

Forrest Owens

PHD CANDIDATE · POLITICAL SCIENCE

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✉ flowens@ucdavis.edu

Education

University of California, Davis

PHD POLITICAL SCIENCE

Davis, CA

2021-present

- Major Fields: International Relations; Comparative Politics
- Areas of Interest: Climate Politics; Political Economy; International Development; Foreign Aid; Survey Research; African Politics
- Dissertation: *Climate Shocks and Political Behavior Across Sub-Saharan Africa*
- Committee: Gabriella Montinola; Lauren Peritz; Daniel (Yuch) Kono
- Major Advisor: Gabriella Montinola

College of William & Mary

BA PUBLIC POLICY *with honors*

Williamsburg, VA

2014-2018

- Minor in Hispanic Studies
- Undergraduate Research Advisor: Dan Maliniak

Academic Experience

2021-2023;

2024-2025;

2026-

Present

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, Davis

2025-2026 **Pre-doctoral Fellow**, Global Climate Policy lab, Stanford University

2022-2024 **Graduate Student Researcher**, Environmental Science and Policy, University of California, Davis

Professional Experience

2022-2022 **Special Researcher for Environment and Energy**, Shapiro-Davis Pennsylvania Gubernatorial Transition Team

2021-2021 **Senior Research Associate**, Breakwater Strategy

2020-2021 **Research Manager**, WBA Research

2018-2020 **Data Reporting Specialist**, TargetSmart Communications

Research

WORKING PAPERS

Owens, F., Verley, D., Constantino, C., De la Cuesta, B., Kennard, A. *Automated Survey Harmonization via Source-Consistent Entity Resolution*. Under Review.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Owens, F., de la Cuesta, B. *Competitive Climate: Climate Shocks and the Strategic Expansion of Vote buying in Africa*. Presented at the American Political Science Association Conference. 2025.

Owens, F., *Green Aid and Chinese Soft Power in Africa*. Presented at the American Political Science Association Conference. 2024.

Owens, F., *Green Aid and Chinese Soft Power in Africa*. Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference. 2024.

Owens, F., Montinola, G. *Rewarding Ambitious Climate Pledges*. Presented at the Western Political Science Association Conference. 2023.

Owens, F., Parajon, E. *Climate Change, Sea Level Rise, and City Preparation*. Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference. 2018.

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

2026	Dean's Graduate Summer Support Award , University of California, Davis	\$ 6,000
2025	Pre-doctoral Fellowship , Stanford University	\$ 63,000
2025	Faculty-Graduate Student Summer Collaborative , University of California, Davis	\$ 5,000
2025	Living Expense Fellowship , University of California, Davis	\$ 3,000
2024	APSA Travel Grant , University of California, Davis	\$ 1,000
2023	Conference Travel Grant , University of California, Davis	\$ 1,000
2022	Faculty-Graduate Student Summer Collaborative , University of California, Davis	\$ 5,000
2018	Undergraduate Travel Grant , College of William & Mary	\$ 500

Teaching Experience

Spring 2025; Winter 2025	Intro to International Relations , Teaching Assistant and Section Leader	UC Davis
Fall 2024	Scientific Study of War , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis
Summer 2024	Mass Media & Politics , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis
Winter 2023	International Law , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis
Fall 2022	Global Inequality , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis
Spring 2022	Politics and Inequality , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis
Winter 2022	Politics of Sports , Teaching Assistant	UC Davis

Mentoring

2021-2022 **Kieran Cabezas**, Student, UC Davis

Languages

Native: English **Fluent:** Spanish

References

Gabriella Montinola, Professor, UC Davis grmontinola@ucdavis.edu

Lauren Peritz, Associate Professor, UC Davis lperitz@ucdavis.edu

Daniel (Yuch) Kono, Professor Emeritus, UC Davis dykono@ucdavis.edu

Brandon de la Cuesta, Research Scientist, Stanford University brandon.delacuesta@stanford.edu