

Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPPE)

Request for Applications: Social Science Research Methods Training

The Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPPE) brings together faculty and advanced graduate students in Economics and Political Science who combine field research experience in Africa with training in political economy methods. The group has met semi-annually to discuss the work-in-progress of its core members and invited guests. It is co-led by Daniel Posner (Department of Political Science, UCLA), Edward Miguel (Department of Economics, UC Berkeley), Brian Dillon (Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington), and Amanda Robinson (Department of Politics, Ohio State University.) The **2018 Meeting** will be hosted by **NYU-Abu Dhabi** from **January 26-28, 2018**. This year, Evidence in Governance and Politics and the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences will be organizing a training prior to the meeting on **Social Science Research Methods** on **January 22-25**.

WGAPPE Meeting Format

WGAPPE meetings are held in four regional sub-groups in the U.S. each fall, a winter international meeting, and in a U.S. national meeting each spring. This is the third international meeting hosted by NYU-Abu Dhabi, led by faculty Morgan Hardy, J. Andrew Harris, Melina Platas Izama, and Peter van der Windt.

The meeting will center on **research discussion sessions** rather than presentations. Papers are circulated and expected to be read in advance by all participants. Presenters provide brief, orienting comments before the floor is opened for an hour-long discussion of each paper. WGAPPE accepts early work, near-complete drafts, and **research designs** (see an [archive of papers](#) from past WGAPPE meetings). Submissions reflect WGAPPE's broad research agenda on **the political economy of African development**, including ethnic politics, civil conflict and violence, decentralization and democratization, corruption, local governance, public economics, and other related topics. Experimental research with field data will be given priority.

Social Science Research Methods Training

This year, in addition to our call for paper presentations, we also invite applications through this call for African scholars to attend both the WGAPPE meeting and a **special training session** led

by Evidence in Government in Politics (EGAP), co-sponsored by the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS.)

This four-day training will be held prior to the WGAPE meeting, and will focus on empirical methods for research in developing countries, including causal inference, experimental and quasi-experimental research designs, and various topics in research transparency.

Eligibility

This opportunity is limited to graduate students, post-docs, and junior faculty working in political economy who either

- a) Currently hold a faculty or research position at an African institution,
- b) Have received or are actively pursuing a graduate degree at an African institution, or
- c) Have received an undergraduate degree from an African institution and are currently in graduate school elsewhere.

To Apply

Please submit the following to <https://cega.submittable.com/submit/93943/2018-wgape-international-meeting-at-nyu-abu-dhabi-training-days-application> by **October 15, 2017**.

- a) Up-to-date Curriculum Vitae or Resume with contact information, including country of current location, position title, and degree(s) held.
- b) A statement of the applicant's research that relates to the WGAPE topics listed above or to other issues relevant to economic development in sub-Saharan Africa. This should include research interests and methods (or planned methods) and should be representative of the applicant's academic writing.
- c) The name, title, and contact information of one reference (from a current/previous collaborator or advisor) that would be able to comment on the applicant's research interests and future research trajectory as it relates to WGAPE.

Award Notification and Funding

Successful applicants will be notified by **November 6th, 2017**.

WGAPE will be able to provide funding for travel, accommodation, and related expenses for accepted participants to attend the full symposium. Visas and travel will be arranged by NYU-AD.

Further Inquiries

For further information, please contact Alex Dobyan (CEGA) at wgapeworkshop@gmail.com.