

Dr. Martin J. WILLIAMS

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Academic Positions

- University of Oxford**, Oxford, UK **2016-present**
- Associate Professor in Public Management
 - Blavatnik School of Government
 - Research Fellow, Green Templeton College
- University College London**, London, UK **2015-2016**
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Economics

Education

- London School of Economics and Political Science**, London, UK **2011-2015**
- PhD Government
 - Dissertation: “The Organizational Basis of Government Performance: Management and Policy Implementation in Ghana’s Public Sector”
 - Supervisors: Patrick Dunleavy and Joachim Wehner
 - Examiners: Catherine Boone and Christian Breunig
- University of Oxford** **2008-2009**
- MSc Economics for Development
 - Distinction on dissertation: “Does Acceleration Equal Transformation? Entry into New Export Sectors and Rapid Economic Growth”
 - Supervisor: Tony Venables
- University of Oxford** **2007-2008**
- MSc African Studies, with Distinction
 - Anthony Kirk-Greene Award for best overall course performance
 - Dissertation: “The Gold Standard of Governance: Mining, Decentralization, and State Power in Senegal”
 - Supervisor: Hélène Neveu
- Williams College**, Williamstown, MA, USA **2003-2007**
- BA with Highest Honors in Economics, *magna cum laude*
 - Jack Larned ’42 International Management Prize for thesis: “The Social and Economic Impacts of South Africa’s Child Support Grant”
 - Supervisor: Michael Samson

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Research

Published Articles

- “The Political Economy of Unfinished Development Projects: Corruption, Clientelism, or Collective Choice?”. Forthcoming: *American Political Science Review*, November 2017.

Working Papers

- *With Imran Rasul and Daniel Rogger*: “Management of Bureaucrats and Public Service Delivery: A Scientific Replication”. Under review: *Economic Journal*.
- “External Validity and Policy Adaptation: From Impact Evaluation to Policy Design.” Blavatnik School of Government Working Paper, July 2017.
- “From Institutions to Organizations: Management and Informality in Ghana’s Public Bureaucracies”
- “One Size Does Not Fit All: Budget Institutions and Performance in Ghana’s Spending Ministries”

Work in Progress

- *With Imran Rasul and Daniel Rogger*: “Training for Productivity: An Experimental Study of Civil Service Reform in Ghana”
- *With Nahomi Ichino and Erik Wibbels*: “The Delivery and Spatial Distribution of Development Projects: Evidence from a USAID Governance Project in Ghana”
- “Fiscal Decentralization and the Efficiency of Public Good Delivery: Evidence from Ghana”
- “Beyond State Capacity: Bureaucratic Effectiveness, Policy Implementation, and Reform”
- *With Chris Adam*: Recurrent Costs and the Macroeconomic Impacts of Infrastructure Investment

Other

- “There Is More Than One ‘Public Sector Way’: The Diversity of Management Practices in Ghana’s Government”. November 2013 Policy Brief for Government of Ghana.
- “Different Problems, Different Solutions? Budget Performance and Practices in Ghana’s Ministries”. November 2013 Policy Brief for Government of Ghana.
- “Aid, Trade, Investment, and Dependency.” In Anderson, David, and Nicholas Cheeseman (eds), *The Routledge Handbook of African Politics*, London: Routledge, 2013.
- “The Gold Standard of Governance: Mining, Decentralization, and State Power in Senegal.” *Politique Africaine* 117, March 2010.
- Review of Beck, Linda, “Brokering Democracy in Africa: The Rise of Clientelist Democracy in Senegal,” *Politique Africaine* 115, October 2009.
- “The Social and Economic Impacts of South Africa’s Child Support Grant.” Cape Town: Economic Policy Research Institute Working Paper #39 (extended version) and #40 (short version), November 2007.

Selected Research Funding and Awards

- Co-PI, with Imran Rasul and Daniel Rogger: “Training for Productivity: An Experimental Evaluation of Civil Service Reform in Ghana” (i2i, \$100,000) **2017-19**
- Co-PI, with Imran Rasul and Daniel Rogger: “Training for Productivity: An Experimental Evaluation of Civil Service Reform in Ghana” (International Growth Centre, £100,000) **2017-19**
- Co-PI, with Imran Rasul, Daniel Rogger, and Stefan Dercon: “Training for Productivity: An Experimental Evaluation of Civil Service Reform in **2017-19**

Martin J. WILLIAMS

- Ghana” (Economic Development and Institutions, £100,000)
- Co-PI, with Nahomi Ichino and Erik Wibbels: “The Delivery and Spatial Distribution of Development Projects: Evidence from a USAID Governance Project in Ghana” (AidData, \$200,000) **2015-17**
 - With Imran Rasul and Dan Rogger: “Management and Productivity in Ghana’s Civil Service: An Experimental Study of Reform”, (International Growth Centre, £150,000) **2015-16**
 - PI: International Growth Centre project grant “Infrastructure Delivery and Management in Ghana’s Local Governments” (International Growth Centre, £12,000) **2014**
 - London School of Economics and Political Science PhD Scholarship **2011-14**
 - Donovan-Moody Scholarship, Exeter College, University of Oxford **2007-09**
 - Anthony Kirk-Greene Prize for best overall performance in MSc African Studies **2008**
 - Jack Larned ’42 International Management Prize **2007**
 - Muhammad Kenyatta ’66 Community Service Prize **2007**
 - Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, elected as a junior (top 5% of class) **2006**
 - Van Duyne Prize for best honors thesis proposal, Economics Department **2006**
 - Class of 1960 Scholar, Williams College Economics Department **2006-07**
 - Kershaw Fellowship for economic research in South Africa **2005**
 - Tyng Scholar, Williams College **2003-07**

Conferences and Invited Presentations

2017 (to date and planned)

- Implementation Seminar, Johns Hopkins University
- American Political Science Association 2017 Annual Conference, San Francisco, invited panel on “The Politics of Public Service Provision in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa”
- Public Management Research Conference 2017, convening a panel on “What Makes Bureaucrats Tick? Recent Methodological Advances in Studying Bureaucratic Performance”
- Public Management Research Conference 2017, pre-conference workshop on “Designing Public Sector Performance”
- Centre for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford

2016

- Blavatnik School of Government Research Seminar, University of Oxford
- American Political Science Association 2016 Annual Conference, Philadelphia
- Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE) National Conference, Washington DC
- Georgetown University
- Pacific Conference for Development Economics, Stanford University
- Management Innovation in the Public Sector, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
- International Monetary Fund, Fiscal Affairs Department seminar
- Midwest Political Science Association 2016 Annual Conference, Chicago
- Civil Service Training Centre (Ghana), IGC-funded research dissemination seminar at invitation of the Head of Civil Service

2015

- American Political Science Association 2015 Annual Conference, San Francisco
- European Political Science Association 2015 Annual Conference, Vienna
- UK Department for International Development (DFID), Chief Economists’ seminar
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure seminar

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- London School of Economics and Political Science, Political Science and Political Economy workshop
- Civil Service Training Centre (Ghana), IGC-funded research dissemination seminar

2014

- American Political Science Association 2014 Annual Conference, Washington, DC
- European Political Science Association 2014 Annual Conference, Edinburgh
- Civil Service Training Centre (Ghana), research dissemination seminar at invitation of the Head of Civil Service

Teaching

- Co-Convenor, Policy Evaluation** **Since 2017**
• *Blavatnik School of Government, Masters in Public Policy (MPP)*
- Teaching Fellow, Economic Development in Africa** **Spring 2015**
• *School of Oriental and African Studies, Economics Department*
- Instructor, Microsimulation in Social Grant Analysis** **Summer 2008**
• *Economic Policy Research Institute (Cape Town) short course*
- Teaching Assistant, Statistics/Econometrics: Advanced Section** **Fall 2006**
• *Williams College Center for Development Economics MA program*
- Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics** **Spring 2005**
• *Williams College, Economics Department*

Professional

Review Service

Journal of Politics, Oxford Development Studies, Governance, Research and Politics, Politique Africaine

Professional Memberships and Affiliations

Public Management Research Association, American Political Science Association, European Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, AidData Research Consortium, Centre for the Study of African Economies

Committee Membership

Blavatnik School of Government Departmental Research Ethics Committee

Employment

- Ministry of Trade and Industry, Accra, Ghana** **2009-2011**
Trade Economist – Fellow of the Overseas Development Institute
Economic and legal analysis of trade and investment agreements and negotiation positions, industrial policy, private sector development, and tariff reform.
- Economic Policy Research Institute, Cape Town, South Africa** **2005-2009**
Senior Researcher (consulting and in residence part-time)
Econometric, statistical, and theoretical analysis of social policy; designed and instructed short courses for policymakers. Designed and implemented a national household survey.

Languages

- Native English speaker; advanced French; proficient in Twi (Ghana) and Wolof (Senegal)