

# Annette Alfina LaRocco, PhD

Florida Atlantic University  
Department of Political Science  
777 Glades Road, Social Science 391C  
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

Phone: (201) 903-6047  
Fax: (561) 297-2997  
laroccoa@fau.edu  
<https://annettelarocco.com/>

## Education

---

### PhD, Politics and International Studies

Trinity College, University of Cambridge, June 2016

Thesis: *The politics of land, conservation and the state in postcolonial Botswana*  
Committee: Dr. Sharath Srinivasan (chair), Professor Christopher Clapham, Professor Jocelyn Alexander, Dr. Elizabeth Watson  
Cambridge Overseas Trust Scholar

### MSc, African Studies with Distinction

St Anne's College, University of Oxford, July 2011

Supervisor: Professor William Beinart, Grade: First Class, Distinction  
Clarendon Scholar

### BA, Political Science and English

Barnard College, Columbia University, May 2010

Supervisor: Dr. Séverine Autesserre, GPA: 4.02, Summa cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

## Academic Positions

---

### Florida Atlantic University, Department of Political Science

Assistant Professor, August 2016-present

## Publications

---

### Refereed Journal Articles

LaRocco, A. A. (2020a). "Botswana's Hunting Ban and the Transformation of Game-Meat Cultures, Economies and Ecologies" *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 46(4): 723-741. DOI: [10.1080/03057070.2020.1773083](https://doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2020.1773083)

LaRocco, A. A. (2020b). "Infrastructure, wildlife tourism, (il)legible populations: A comparative study of two districts in contemporary Botswana" *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 3(4):1074-1095. DOI: [10.1177/2514848619877083](https://doi.org/10.1177/2514848619877083)

LaRocco, A. A., Shinn, J. E., Madise, K. (2019). "Reflections on Positionalities on Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana: A call for Decolonizing research" *Politics and Gender*, 16(3): 845-873.  
DOI: [10.1017/S1743923X19000059](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X19000059)

## Refereed Book Chapters

LaRocco, A. A. (2019). “The Biodiversity for Life (B4L) flagship initiative: The EU, Africa, and biodiversity conservation” in Thiel, M., Maier, S., and Beringer, S. L. (eds.) EU Development Policies: Between Norms and Geopolitics. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 55-77.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-01307-3>

LaRocco, A. A. (2016). “The comprehensive hunting ban: strengthening the state through participatory conservation in contemporary Botswana” in Ramutsindela, M., Miescher, G., and Boehi, M. (eds.) The Politics of Nature and Science in Southern Africa. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, pp. 179-207.

## Invited Publications

LaRocco, A. A. (2018). “Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” in Lakhani, V. and de Smalen, E. (eds.), *Sites of Remembering: Landscapes, Lessons, Policies, RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society*, no. 3, pp. 27-32. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5282/rcc/8483>

## Works In Press

---

### Refereed Journal Articles

“Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth? Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State”, with Emmanuel Mogende for special issue, ‘Fallen from Grace? Debating the legacy and state of Southern African conservation’, *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* [accepted 4/2022]

## Works Under Review

---

### Book Manuscript

*The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana*  
Under review at the Ohio University Press

## Works In Progress

---

### Journal Articles

“Mother’s Nature?: A Preliminary Analysis of All-Female Conservation Initiatives in Eastern and Southern Africa”

“‘These Elephants Belong to the World’: The impact of the global conservation movement on conservation policy in Botswana”

### Book Review

Solicited review of Ramutsindela, Matose, and Mashunga (2022) *The Violence of Conservation in Africa: State, Militarization and Alternatives* for the *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, November 2022 issue

## Refereed Presentations and Proceedings

---

### International

“Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth?: Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State”, with Emmanuel Mogende, Political Ecology Network (POLLEN) Biennial Conference, Remote due to COVID-19, September 2020

**\*\*Resulted in article in press for a special issue, ‘Fallen from Grace? Debating the legacy and state of Southern African conservation’, *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space***

“Walking on Eggshells: Tensions between Conservation and Development in rural Botswana” European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, June 2019

“The hunting ban and the transformation of game meat cultures, economies, and ecologies in contemporary Botswana” Political Ecology Network (POLLEN) Biennial Conference, Oslo Metropolitan University, Oslo, Norway, June 2018

**\*\*Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Botswana’s Hunting Ban and the Transformation of Game-Meat Cultures, Economies and Ecologies” *Journal of Southern African Studies*,**

“Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” Sites of Remembering: Landscapes – Lessons – Policies, ENHANCE ITN, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, April 2018.

**\*\*Resulted in publication of invited journal article, “Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” *Sites of Remembering: Landscapes, Lessons, Policies, RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society*, no. 3, pp. 27-32.**

“We’ve stopped this killing’: The Hunting Ban and Postcolonial Shifts in Botswana’s Wildlife Regime” Decolonization and the Politics of Wildlife in Africa, Point Sud Programme, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies, Stellenbosch, South Africa, September 2017.

“State infrastructure provision across Botswana’s rural tourism areas – a study in contradictions” European Conference on African Studies, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, July 2017.

**\*\*Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Infrastructure, Wildlife Tourism, (Il)legible Populations: A Comparative Study of Two Districts in Contemporary Botswana” *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.**

“The Politics of Nature: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” European Conference on African Studies, Paris Sorbonne University, Paris, France, July 2015.

## International (Continued)

“The comprehensive hunting ban: the reassertion of the State in the processes of ‘participatory’ conservation in contemporary Botswana” African History Workshop – The Politics of Nature and Science in African History, Centre for African Studies, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, May 2014.

**\*\*Resulted in publication of refereed book chapter “The comprehensive hunting ban: strengthening the state through participatory conservation in contemporary Botswana” The Politics of Nature and Science in Southern Africa. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, pp. 179-207.**

## National

“Mother’s Nature?: A Preliminary Analysis of All-Female Conservation Initiatives in Eastern and Southern Africa” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Remote Conference, November 2021.

“Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Remote Conference, November 2020.

**\*\*Resulted in article in press for a special issue, ‘Fallen from Grace? Debating the legacy and state of Southern African conservation’, *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space***

“Elephants and Accountability in Botswana: Making Sense of the Hunting Ban and the 2019 Elections” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2019.

“Race, Gender and Class Positionalities in Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2018.

**\*\*Resulted in publication of refereed journal article “Reflections on Positionalities on Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana: A call for Decolonizing research” *Politics and Gender***

“Shifting Global Representations of African Landscapes and Wildlife: The Case of Environmental Politics in Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2016.

“The Comprehensive Hunting Ban: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 2014.

“Rural incorporation, neglect and contestation: An examination of the strategic use of conservation policy in postcolonial Botswana” African Studies Association of the United Kingdom Biennial Conference, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom, September 2014.

## **Regional/Local**

“The Politics of Land, Conservation, and the State in Postcolonial Botswana: Doctoral Research Findings” Research Seminar, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, June 2017.

“The Politics of Land, Conservation, and the State in Postcolonial Botswana: Doctoral Research Findings” Research Seminar, Okavango Research Institute, Maun, Botswana, May 2017.

“Is there welfare in conservation? Locating everyday lives in a global movement” Researching Africa Day, African Studies Centre, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, March 2015.

“Authority and rural space: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” Africa Research Forum PhD Students’ Workshop, Centre for African Studies, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, February 2015.

“Conservation Politics in Botswana: Presentation of Preliminary Findings” Research Seminar, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana, August 2014.

“Conservation Politics in Botswana: Presentation of Preliminary Findings” Research Seminar, Okavango Research Institute, Maun, Botswana, August 2014.

“The comprehensive hunting ban: conservation, resource-use, and contestation in postcolonial Botswana” Resources of Resistance: The Postcolonial Studies Association Postgraduate Conference, University of York, York, United Kingdom, July 2014.

“Postcolonial conservation—crisis of opportunity?: resource rights, state-building and rural contestation in Botswana” POLIS Annual PhD Conference, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, June 2014.

## **Non-Refereed Presentations and Proceedings**

---

### **Invited Talks**

“Women, Conflict and Inequality in the World” *Current Topics 2019 – A Series of Panel Lectures Presented by FAU Faculty*  
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL, February 2019

“The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana” *Turning a Doctoral Dissertation into a Book*  
ENHANCE ITN and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, October 2018.

“EU Securitization of Conservation Policy in Africa” *Transatlantic Security Coordination in a New International Order*

Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, Florida International University,  
Miami, FL, February 2018.

“American Perceptions of African Wildlife” *Speaker Series*  
Myrtle Beach Humanists and Freethinkers, Myrtle Beach, SC, February 2018.

## Grants and Funding

---

### External – Funded

2022-2023 Fulbright Africa Regional Research Program  
Botswana and Zimbabwe (Host countries)  
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”  
**\*\*Major Competitive Award**

Dissertation-into-Book ENHANCE ITN Workshop Participant, Rachel Carson Center  
for Environment and Society, €1,500, October 2018  
Munich, Germany

Sites of Remembering ENHANCE ITN Conference Participant, Rachel Carson Center  
for Environment and Society, €2,000, April 2018  
Munich, Germany

Decolonization and the Politics of Wildlife Point Sud Programme Conference Participant,  
*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG), €4,500, September 2017  
Stellenbosch, South Africa

### External – Not Funded

Fulbright Africa Regional Research Program – Botswana and Zimbabwe  
Applied September 2020  
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”  
**\*\*Alternate Candidate**

Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program – FAU Junior Scholar Nominee, Carnegie  
Corporation of New York, \$200,000, Applied November 2019  
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”  
**\*\*Rated as Finalist**

NSF CAREER Grant – Division of Social and Economic Sciences, Directorate of Social  
and Political Sciences, \$386,987, Applied July 2019  
Project title: “*CAREER: Social Environments and Identities in an Era of Biodiversity  
Crisis – Generating Knowledge from the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation  
Area*”

**External – Not Funded (Continued)**

Crisis Conservation Writeshop, Applied March 2019

Project Title: *“Elephant Poaching in Botswana – Crisis of Just ‘Fake News’?”*

Rachel Carson Center Residential Fellowship, Applied January 2019

Project Title: *“Buying Wilderness, Saving Nature? Locating Competing Notions of Conservation in the Ecotourism Industry in Southern Africa”*

Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program – FAU Junior Scholar Nominee, Carnegie Corporation of New York, \$200,000, Applied November 2018

Project title: *“The elephants are political refugees”: Human and animal rights in southern African biodiversity conservation”*

**Internal – Funded**

Morrow Fund Research Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,750, 2021-2022

Peace, Justice and Human Rights (PJHR) Research/Creative Activity Grant, Florida Atlantic University, \$4,600, 2020 [unable to use due to COVID-19]

Distinguished Lecture Series Faculty Research Support Award, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,500, 2019-2020

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,700, 2019-2020

Scholarly and Creative Achievement Fellowship, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, two-course release, PI, Spring 2019

Project title: *The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana* (Book Manuscript)

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,200, 2018-2019

Distinguished Lecture Series Faculty Research Support Award, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,000, 2017-2018

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,200, 2017-2018

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,200, 2016-2017

## **Courses Taught at FAU**

---

### **Undergraduate**

INR 2002: Introduction to World Politics  
(Spring & Fall 2017; Spring, Summer, & Fall 2018; Summer & Fall 2019; Summer & Fall 2020; Spring & Fall 2021; Summer 2022)  
CPO 4033: Global Development and Inequality of Nations (Spring 2020; Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021)

*Developed and taught the following new courses:*

CPO 4204: African Politics (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2022)  
CPO 4932: Environmental Politics (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)  
INR 4054: Comparative Environmental Politics (Spring & Fall 2020, Spring 2022)

### **Graduate**

*Developed and taught the following new course:*

POS 6934: African Politics (Spring 2018, Spring 2020)  
Directed Independent Study: Marx's *Capital* (Summer 2020)

### **Supervision of Undergraduate Students**

Morton Research Fellow Supervision, Johann Cifuentes, Spring 2022  
Honors Compact Supervision, Daniela Diaz, Global Development, Fall 2021  
Morton Research Fellow Supervision, Rishiraj Bandi, Spring 2021  
Honors Compact Supervision, Megan Gastineau, Environmental Politics, Spring 2017

## **Service to the Institution**

---

### **Department**

Faculty Assembly Representative, 2016-present.

Member, Honors Program Committee, 2018-present

Morrow Committee Chair, 2019-present

Writing Enriched Curriculum Committee, 2019-2021

Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee, 2020-2021

Department Document Review Committee, 2020-2021

Political Science/WGSS Joint Hire Search Committee, 2021-2022

Department Representative, Prospective Students' Open Houses/ChooseFAU Days, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2020, Fall 2021



## **College**

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights, 2017-present

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, 2021-present

Member, Faculty Learning Community: Advocating Across the Disciplines, 2018-2019

Undergraduate Marshal, College of Arts and Letter Commencement Ceremonies, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019

## **University**

Senior Associate Director, Leon Charney Diplomacy Program, 2022-present

Associate Director, Leon Charney Diplomacy Program, 2018-2021

Guest Lecturer, College CLASS 101, First Year SOAR New Student Orientation, Spring 2019, Spring 2020

## **Service to the Discipline / Profession**

---

### **Peer Reviewer**

*Society and Natural Resources, Conservation and Society, Millennium: Journal of International Studies, Ethnography, Critical African Studies, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, Human Rights Review*, Edward Elgar Publishing

### **Conference Participation – National and International**

Panel Chair, “Critical Conservation Studies” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Remote conference, November 2020

Panel Co-Organizer, “Decolonization and Pedagogy – Disruptions and Connections in the Classroom” European Conference on African Studies, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, June 2019

Panel Co-Organizer, “Exploring Researcher Positionality in Social Science Fieldwork in Africa” African Studies Association of the US, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, November 2018

Panel Co-Organizer and Discussant, “Futures of nature in African rural and urban spaces in the post-independence era” European Conference on African Studies, Basel, Switzerland, July 2017

Panel Co-Organizer, “Experiencing the State: Constructing the Post-Colonial State in Non-Dominant Spaces” African Studies Association of the United Kingdom Biennial Conference, Brighton, United Kingdom, September 2014

## **Other Professional Experience**

---

### **Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge**

Associate Editor, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2012-2016  
Research Assistant for Dr. Mette Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, 2014-2015

### **Centre of Governance and Human Rights, University of Cambridge**

Convenor, CGHR Research Group, 2014-2016  
Coordinator, CGHR Student Group, 2012-2013

### **Professional Organization Memberships**

African Studies Association of the United States  
African Studies Association of the United Kingdom

### **Research Skills**

Qualitative data analysis (MaxQDA and NVivo); fieldwork experience in rural settings; focus groups; elite interviews; management of team of research assistants

## **Honors and Awards**

---

### **Scholarly Awards and Research Funding**

Cambridge International Trust Scholarship and Trinity College Overseas Bursary, University of Cambridge, approximately £27,000 annually, 2012-2016

**\*Major Competitive Award**

Clarendon Scholarship, University of Oxford, approximately £33,000, 2010-2011

**\*Major Competitive Award**

Research Grant, Cambridge Political Economy Society Trust, £2,000, 2015

Institutional Visit Award, University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute, £1,500, 2014

Research Grant, Smuts Commonwealth Fund, £1,500, 2014

Walter D. Head Graduate Fellowship, Rotary District 7490, \$10,000, 2013

Graduate Fellowship, Alumnae Association of Barnard College, \$5,000, 2013

Distinction Prize, St. Anne's College, University of Oxford, 2011

George Welwood Murray Prize, Barnard College, Columbia University, \$4,200, 2010

W. Cabell Greet Prize for Excellence in English, Barnard College, Columbia University, 2010

Erica Mann Jong '63 Writing Fellows Award, Barnard College, Columbia University, 2010

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society – Junior Election, Columbia University Chapter, Barnard Section, 2009

Eleanor Thomas Elliot Prize, Barnard College, Columbia University, \$1,500, 2009

### **Travel and Conference Grants**

Rouse Ball Conference Fund, Trinity College, Cambridge, £500, 2014

**Travel and Conference Grants (Continued)**

POLIS PhD Conference, University of Cambridge, £500, 2014

UAC of Nigeria Travel Grant, Centre for African Studies, University of Cambridge, £450, 2014

Rouse Ball Research Fund, Trinity College, Cambridge, £1,300, 2013

POLIS PhD Travel Grant, University of Cambridge, £500, 2013

African Studies Graduate Research Grant, University of Oxford, £500, 2011

St. Anne's College Travel/Research Grant, University of Oxford, £250, 2011