

PROFILE

I am in my second year reading for the MPhil in International Relations at the University of Oxford, and I hold an offer for the DPhil (PhD) in International Relations, also at Oxford, which I will begin in October 2023. I strive to improve prospects for sustainable and inclusive development in Africa through my research into regional powers' roles in regional energy integration on the continent, supervised by Prof Ricardo Soares de Oliveira. A Rhodes Scholar and a Fellow at the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, I developed a strong background in International Relations during my two degrees at the University of Cape Town (UCT). I hold multiple student leadership roles at Oxford, including Postgraduate Divisional Representative to the Social Sciences Division, and founding Secretary of the Postgraduate Consultation Group (PGCG). My research is infused with personal experience in the South African political space, having worked underneath the former Leader of the Opposition, Mmusi Maimane, in his organisation's preparations for the 2021 Local Government Elections, and also serving at the highest levels of student leadership at UCT, advocating for the needs of marginalised students at the institution.

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

DPhil in International Relations (Offer-Holder) 2023-2025

University of Oxford (Department of Politics & International Relations (DPIR))

Thesis topic: "Regional Powers and Energy Integration: Nigeria, South Africa, and Their Regional Power Pools"

Supervisor: [Prof Ricardo Soares de Oliveira](#)

MPhil in International Relations 2021-2023

University of Oxford (Department of Politics & International Relations (DPIR) | University College)

Thesis topic: "The Political Economy of Regional Energy Integration: South Africa in the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)"

Supervisor: [Prof Ricardo Soares de Oliveira](#)

Distinctions for all *Research Design & Methods* courses (see [Methods Certificate](#))

Examination for the *IR Core Course*: 64%

Bachelor of Social Science Honours in International Relations 2020

University of Cape Town (UCT) (Department of Political Studies)

Graduated with distinction and distinctions for all courses and thesis (78.43% GPA)

Thesis topic: "The Divergence between the African Union's Peace Mandate and the Interests of Its Member States"

Supervisor: [Prof John Akokpari](#)

Class medals (top student in class): *International Political Economy*, *International Mediation*, and *Theories of IR* (3/4 classes)

Bachelor of Commerce in Politics, Philosophy & Economics (PPE) 2017-2019

University of Cape Town (UCT)

Graduated top student in class with distinction in Economics (78.33% GPA)

Majors in Politics (International Relations pathway) and Economics

Dean's Merit List every year

Golden Key International Honour Society

Class medals (top student in class): *South Africa Public Policy Analysis* and *Introduction to Information Systems*

National Senior Certificate (South Africa) 2012-2016

Bishops Diocesan College, Cape Town, Western Cape

First in grade, 8 distinctions, and 96% GPA

Top 20 students in the province

SCHOLARSHIPS

Rhodes Scholarship (2021-)

Univ-Rhodes Trust Studentship (2021-)

Allan Gray Fellowship (2017-2020)

Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship (UCT) (2017-2019)

Provincial Education Department Merit List (2016)

LANGUAGES

English (native)

French (10 years' study; 2-week exchange in France)

Spanish (3-month exchange in Argentina and Chile)

Afrikaans (6 years' study)

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Forthcoming: Speaker at Africa Energies Summit & Youth Energy Summit May/June 2023

Africa Energies Summit, London / Africa Energy Forum & Youth Energy Summit, Kenya

Renowned energy conferences featuring policymakers, industry leaders, and investors

Presentations: Leveraging the Energy Master Plan / Energy Sector Students & Educators Focus

Teaching Assistant for Dr Marnie Howlett March 2023

Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods

Teaching assistant for the Qualitative Methods in Political Science course

Research Assistant for Prof Karolina Milewicz July 2022 - Dec 2022

University of Oxford/University of Bayreuth

More than 120 hours' work creating course syllabi and content for *Introduction to IR* and *Research Design* courses

Teaching the *Critical Theory in IR* class (remotely to University of Bayreuth students)

Yale Model African Union 2022 May 2022

Kigali, Rwanda

Simulation of African Union committee debates, crafting solutions to Africa's most pressing issues

Awarded Best Delegation

"Change the World" Model United Nations 2020 June 2020

Virtual Conference

Largest international youth forum globally, simulating United Nations committee debates

Awarded Best Delegation and Delegates' Award

UCT Teaching & Learning Conference 2018 July 2018

University of Cape Town (UCT)

Annual university conference on the themes of teaching and learning in higher education

First-ever undergraduate presenter, co-presenting on the "Impact of Student-Staff Interaction in Leadership"

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE & LEADERSHIP

Founding Secretary, Oxford Postgraduate Consultation Group (PGCG) 2022-

- Group within Student's Union providing policy and consultative advice to University management

Postgraduate Divisional Representative to the Social Sciences Division, Oxford 2022-23

- Student representative sitting on the Division's senior committees ([list of committee membership](#))

- Also Course Representative for the MPhil in International Relations programme

Intern at the One South Africa Movement (now Build One South Africa) 2021

- Worked underneath former Leader of the Opposition, Mmusi Maimane, in preparation for 2021 local elections

- Columns and op-eds / speeches / electoral submissions / policy on education / municipal profiles

- Advisory role / debate preparation / presenter on "Maimane Mondays" Twitter Spaces show

Residences & Housing Coordinator, UCT Students' Representative Council (SRC) 2018-19

- Top student leadership body at UCT / student governance and advocacy / [list of committee membership](#)

Secretary & Management Committee, UCT Student Parliament 2018-19

Chairperson, UCT Academic Representatives' Council (ARC) 2017-18

Deputy Head Student, Leo Marquard Hall Residence, UCT 2017-18

Junior Councillor, Junior City Council of Cape Town 2014-15

Leadership awards:

- 2x UCTPlus Gold Leadership Awards 2018-19

- UCT Student Leadership Excellence Award 2018

- President's Award Bronze, Silver and Gold Level Holder 2013-2016

RELEVANT TRAINING & SKILLS

Oxford-Bayreuth Doctoral Workshop, hosted by Profs Karolina Milewicz and Duncan Snidal 2023

Qualitative Methods in Political Science (University of Oxford; distinction) 2022

Critical Historical Methods in IR (University of Oxford; distinction) 2022

Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences (University of Oxford/UCT; all distinctions) 2021 & 2018

Future Candidates' School (School of Governance, South Africa) 2021

Allan Gray Fellowship Programme (four-year leadership and entrepreneurial programme) 2017-2020