

## **JAMES CHRISTOPHER MIZES, PhD**

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Researcher

Institut de Recherche Interdisciplinaire en Sciences  
Sociales (IRISSO) | Université Paris-Dauphine  
Paris Sciences et Lettres

Place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny  
5775 Paris Cedex 16

## **Education**

- 2019      Doctor of Philosophy in City & Regional Planning  
University of California, Berkeley  
Department of City & Regional Planning  
Committee: Teresa Caldeira, Stephen Collier, Ananya Roy, Gillian Hart  
Dissertation title:  
*Fiscal Autonomy: Urban Democracy and the Politics of Public Finance in Dakar, Senegal*
- 2014/5    Doctoral Exchange Scholar  
Columbia University (New York, NY)  
Department of Anthropology
- 2012      Master of Arts in Geography and Urban Studies  
Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)  
Department of Geography and Urban Studies
- 2009      Bachelor of Arts in Political Science  
Webster University (St. Louis, MO)  
Department of History, Politics, and International Relations
- 2007      Associate of Arts in General Transfer Studies  
St. Louis Community College at Meramec

## **Academic Positions**

- 2023-2024    Research Fellow  
The Hau of Finance, European Research Council Grant  
Social and Cultural Anthropology Lab  
Dipartimenti di Beni Culturali, Università di Bologna
- 2023      Contractual Researcher  
The Urban Revolution and the Political, European Research Council Grant  
Laboratoire techniques territoires sociétés (LATTTS)  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)
- 2020-22    Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Université Paris-Dauphine, Paris Sciences et Lettres  
Institut de Recherche Interdisciplinaire en Sciences Sociales (IRISSO)  
Funded by the Institut Francilien Recherche Innovation Société (IFRIS)

## Qualifications

Qualifié aux fonctions de maître de conférences par le Conseil national des universités (France) :  
 Section 20 - Anthropologie biologique, ethnologie, préhistoire  
 Section 23 - Géographie physique, humaine, économique et régionale  
 Section 24 - Aménagement de l'espace, urbanisme

## Publications

### Refereed Journal Articles

- Forthcoming 2023 Mizes, J.C. "Anti-public finance? The democratic effects of municipal creditworthiness." **International Journal of Urban and Regional Research**.
- 2022 Mizes, J.C. & Donovan, K.P. "Capitalizing Africa: High finance from below" in *Capitalizing Africa* (eds) Mizes, J.C & Donovan, K.P. **Africa: Journal of the International African Institute**, 92(4), 540-560. Access at [link](#).
- 2022 Mizes, J.C. "Investing in independence: Popular shareholding on the West African Stock Exchange." in *Capitalizing Africa* (eds) Mizes, J.C & Donovan, K.P. **Africa: Journal of the International African Institute**, 92(4), 644-662. Access at [link](#).
- 2021 Mizes, J.C. "Refusing relocation: Urban street vendors and the problem of the neoliberal device." **Environment and Planning A: Economy & Space**. Access at [link](#).
- 2019 Cirolia, L.R. & Mizes, J.C. "Property tax in African secondary cities: Insights from the cases of Kisumu (Kenya) and M'Bour (Senegal)." **International Center for Tax and Development Working Paper 90**. Access at [link](#).
- 2018 Mizes, J.C. & Cirolia, L.R. « Contournements: Fiscalité et exceptions informelles dans les villes de M'Bour et de Kisumu » In *Gouverner par la Fiscalité*, (ed) Olly Owen. **Politique Africaine**, 151(3), 17-37. Access at [link \(English version online\)](#).
- 2016 Mizes, J.C. "Who Owns Africa's Infrastructure?" in **Limn** Issue Number Seven: Public Infrastructure/Infrastructural Publics. Access at [link](#).
- 2016 Collier, S. J, Mizes, J. C, & Von Schnitzler, A. "Preface: Public Infrastructures/Infrastructural Publics" in **Limn** Issue Number Seven: Public Infrastructures/Infrastructural Publics. Access at [link](#).
- 2014 Kondo, M., Mizes, C., Lee, J. & Burstyn, I. "Black carbon concentrations in a goods movement neighborhood of Philadelphia, PA." **Environmental Monitoring and Assessment**. 186, 4605-4618.
- 2014 Kondo, M., Mizes, C., Lee, J., McGady-Saier, J., O'Malley, L., Diliberto, A., & Burstyn, I. "Towards Participatory Air Pollution Exposure Assessment in a Goods Movement Community." **Progress in Community Health Partnerships**, 8(3), 291-304.

### Manuscripts in Preparation

- In Progress Mizes, J.C. *Communal liberation: city, economy, democracy*. (Book Manuscript).
- In Progress Mizes, J.C. “Les Halles” in *Lieux Communs*. Bussi, M., Argounès, F., & Drozd M. (eds.) Fayard: Paris, France.
- In Progress Mizes, J.C. & Ngom, C.A. “Les controverses fiscales urbaines: Dakar” *Métropolitiques*.

### Other Publications

- 2021 Drozd M., Guironnet A., Halbert, L (2021) Cities in the age of Financialization (trans. by Mizes J.C. & Waine O.) *Metropolitiques*. Access at [link](#).
- 2020 Mizes, J.C. “The Capitalism effect: A review of ‘The Licit Life of Capitalism’ by Hannah Appel.” **Environment and Planning D: Society and Space**. Access at [link](#).
- 2015 Mizes, J. C. Book Review of Ato Quayson’s “Oxford Street, Accra: City Life and the Itineraries of Transnationalism” for the **International Journal of Urban and Regional Research**. 39 (4), 855-856.
- 2013 Mizes, C. “The small indiscretions of Lagos.” **The Urban Fringe**. Access at [link](#).
- 2013 Mizes, C. “Taking up space in the vacant city: The politics of inclusion in Philadelphia.” Conference proceedings e-publication by **Centro Estudos Sociais (CES)** at University of Coimbra, Portugal. Access at [link](#).
- 2013 Mizes, C. “Feeling Climate Change Along the Chemical Estuary.” **Hidden City Philadelphia**. Access at [link](#).
- 2012 Mizes, C. “Rethinking the hazardous waterfront.” **Hidden City Philadelphia**. Access at [link](#).

## **Grants, Fellowships, and Awards**

### External Research Grants

- 2020-2022 Institut Francilien Recherche Innovation Société, Université Gustave Eiffel  
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship  
5% success rate of 103 proposals
- 2018 African Property Tax Initiative Research Grant  
International Center for Tax and Development  
Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex  
Co-funded by African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town
- 2017-2018 National Science Foundation  
Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (Cultural Anthropology)  
15% success rate of 120 annual proposals
- 2017-2018 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research  
Dissertation Fieldwork Grant

- 15% success rate of 650 annual proposals
- 2017 Fulbright-Hays Program, United States Department of Education  
Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Grant  
20% success rate
- 2015 Social Science Research Council  
Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship
- 2015 West African Research Association  
Pre-Dissertation Fellowship for Summer Research
- 2012 United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Environmental Justice Small Grants  
Community-Based Participatory Research Project  
Clean Air Council & University of Pennsylvania

### Internal Research Grants

- 2019 Department of City & Regional Planning at UC Berkeley  
Michael B. Teitz Fellowship
- 2018 Center for Global Metropolitan Studies at UC Berkeley  
Summer Research Grant
- 2016 Institute of International Studies at UC Berkeley. John L. Simpson Memorial  
Research Grant in International and Comparative Studies.
- 2016 Center for African Studies at UC Berkeley  
Rocca Dissertation Research Grant
- 2015 Center for African Studies at UC Berkeley  
Rocca Pre-Dissertation Research Grant
- 2015 Center for African Studies at UC Berkeley  
Summer Language Grant (Wolof)
- 2014 Center for Global Metropolitan Studies at UC Berkeley  
Pre-Dissertation Summer Fieldwork Grant
- 2013-2016 UC Berkeley's Graduate Division  
Chancellor's Multi-Year Doctoral Fellowship

### Awards

- 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award. Nominated by the  
Department of International and Area Studies at UC Berkeley for the course  
"History of Development and Underdevelopment" with Gillian Hart.

### **Teaching Appointments**

- 2023 (Spring) Lecturer of record (with Boris Samuel) « Economie et Sociétés en Afrique  
Contemporaine ». Sciences Po Paris, Collège Universitaire.

- 2022 (Fall) Invited lecturer (Martine Drozd et Jonathan Rutherford) “Introduction to Urban Studies”. Ecole d’urbanisme de Paris, Université Gustave Eiffel.
- 2021 (Summer) Lecturer of record (with Ricardo Huerta Niño) for “The Urban Community” in the Department of City & Regional Planning at UC, Berkeley.
- 2019-2020 (Summer) Lecturer of record for “Urbanization in Developing Countries” in the Department of City & Regional Planning at UC, Berkeley.
- 2019 (Fall) Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Stephen Collier and Sarah Vaughn. “Vulnerability, Adaptation, Resilience: Critical Perspectives on Climate Change” in the Department of City & Regional Planning and Department of Anthropology at UC, Berkeley.
- 2018 (Fall) Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Stephen Collier. “History of City and Regional Planning” graduate course in the Department of City & Regional Planning at UC, Berkeley.
- 2016 (Spring) Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Joan Walker. “Global Metropolitan Studies: Introduction to Theories, Histories, & Methods” graduate course in the program for Global Metropolitan Studies at UC, Berkeley.
- 2015 (Spring) Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Gillian Hart. “History of Development and Underdevelopment” in the Department of International and Area Studies at UC, Berkeley.
- 2012-2013 Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Urban Studies at Temple University.  
 2013 Spring: Environmental Policies  
 2012 Fall: Global Cities  
 2012 Fall: Coping with the Vacant City

## Thesis Advising

- 2021 Dutilleul, Maxence. Master’s Thesis I : “Naissance et mort du franc CFA. Les métamorphoses d’un problème scientifique et politique”. École Normale Supérieure, Paris-Saclay. Co-directed with Frédéric Lebaron.

## Academic Experience

- 2022-present Editor for anglophone contributions to the collective book project “Lieux Communs” (eds. Michel Bussi, Fabrice Argounès, and Martine Drozd) under contract with Fayard. Expected publication in 2024.
- 2022-present Co-organizer of the “Flow/Overflow/Shortage Research Project” (with Sylvy Jaglin, Andrea Pollio, Demetra Kourri, Sophia Abbas, Suyash Barve, and Mortiz Kasper).

- 2020-2021 Guest Editor (with Kevin Donovan) “Capitalizing Africa: Global finance in the new millennium.” Africa: Journal of the International African Institute.
- 2015-2016 Guest Editor (with Stephen Collier & Antina Von Schnitzler) Limn Issue Number 7: Public Infrastructures/Infrastructural Publics.
- 2016/18 (Summer) Program Assistant for Professor Rosalind Fredericks’ summer study abroad course in Dakar (Senegal) entitled “Postcolonial Urbanisms: Development, Environment, and Social Movements in Senegal”. Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University.
- 2013-2019 Reviewer & Editor  
Berkeley Planning Journal (print) & The Urban Fringe (online)
- 2013-2019 Co-organizer  
Critical Urbanisms Graduate Student Group  
University of California, Berkeley

## Invited Speaking Engagements

- 2022 Invited discussant for the book release symposium on Jennifer Robinson’s “Comparative Urbanism: Tactics for Global Urban Studies” at the African Infrastructure Futures Conference organized by the African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town.
- 2022 “Geopolitics of Urban Infrastructure Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa”. Invited speaker for a panel session organized by the Governing the Urban Transition in Africa research programme at the Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI). Paris, France.
- 2022 “Securitizing Social Housing in Senegal”. Invited paper presentation for the Africa’s Urban Futures Conference, co-organized by the University of Geneva and the Swiss Society for African Studies. Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2022 Invited discussant for the International Roundtable Workshop, “Infrastructures as urban solutions? Critical perspectives on transformative socio-technical change”. Organized by Laboratoire Techniques Territoires Sociétés (Université Gustave Eiffel) and Department of Human Geography and Spatial Planning (University of Utrecht).
- 2022 “Capitalizing Africa: Global Finance in the New Millennium”. Invited speaker for round table series in the School of Architecture and Planning, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2021 Invited round table discussant. « Pour une Afrique des villes à taille humaine reconnues et autonomes ». For the conference « Du Rabat au Cap : l’Afrique Continent Durable du 22<sup>e</sup> Siècle ». Le Monde Afrique | Cities.
- 2021 “Sovereign Sabotage: dissolving a financial public in postcolonial Dakar”. Invited lecture for the seminar series at the Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

## Paper Presentations

- 2022 “Africa’s infrastructure, a paradox for whom?” Presentation for the panel *Finance as & of infrastructure/ reframing financial and fiscal frontiers* at the African Infrastructure Futures Conference organized by the African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town.
- 2022 “Democratizing finance in postcolonial Dakar”. International Roundtable Workshop: “Beyond Splintering Urbanism: New agendas for infrastructure, urbanisation and city futures,” Autun, France. Organized by the Laboratoire Techniques Territoires Sociétés, Université Gustave-Eiffel.
- 2021 “The emergence and dissolution of ‘pro-poor’ project bonds on the West African Stock Exchange”. Paper presentation at the conference, *Finance’s Pandemic Promises: Questioning Impact and the COVID-driven surge in sustainable investing*. European Research Council funded project *Hau of Finance: Impact Investing and the Globalization of Social and Environmental Sustainability*. Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Bologna, Italy.
- 2021 « De-risking Africa : Politiques et instruments du développement par les marchés financiers au XXIe siècle ». Séminaire Sociologie Politique de l’Economie, Institut de Recherche Interdisciplinaire en Sciences Sociales, Université Paris Dauphine.
- 2019 “Continental Planning: A New Scale”. Paper presentation at the annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Greenville, South Carolina. (Paper accepted, but declined to participate due to [the State of California's ban on travel to South Carolina](#)).
- 2019 “Bypass: Informal exceptions to property taxes in M’Bour and Kisumu”. Paper presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers for the panel *Post-crisis fiscal geographies*. Washington, D.C.
- 2019 “Learning from urban tax administrators”. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the International Center for Tax and Development. Kigali, Rwanda.
- 2018 “Privatization, transparency, and the ‘culture of the stock exchange’ in West Africa.” Paper presentation for the panel *Postcolonial capital II: Risk from the financial “periphery”* at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA.
- 2018 “Sub-national territories and the politics of global prestige”. Paper presentation for the panel *The political economy of urban decline* at the annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Buffalo, NY
- 2018 “Property taxation in African secondary cities: Comparisons from M’Bour and Kisumu” with Liza Rose Cirolia (African Center for Cities). African Property Tax Initiative Annual Conference 2018: Stimulating and Promoting Effective Property Tax Systems in Africa. Hosted by the International Center for Tax and Development and the Direction Générale des Impôts et des Domaines in Dakar, Senegal.
- 2018 Municipal fiscal autonomy and technopublics in Dakar, Senegal. Paper presented for the panel *Reframing public finance in African cities*. African Centre for Cities’ International Urban Conference. Cape Town, ZA.

- 2016 Decongesting infrastructures in Dakar's Urban Street Markets. Paper presented for the panel *New Urban Political Ecologies in Dakar: Infrastructures, Land, Labor* at the conference "Innovation, Transformation, and Sustainable Futures in Africa" in Dakar, Senegal (sponsored by African Studies Association, American Anthropological Association, and Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa).
- 2016 *Les rues sont propres*: The congested publics of Dakar's urban street markets. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers for the panel, *Infrastructures of Resistance*. San Francisco, CA.
- 2015 Circulating Risk in Urban West Africa. Paper presented at Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers for the panel *Grounding Knowledge, Assembling Policies*. Chicago, IL.
- 2014 Infrastructural urbanism and new cartographies of risk in West Africa. Paper presented at Critical Geography Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2012 Taking up space in the vacant city: The politics of inclusion in Philadelphia. Paper accepted for presentation at Rethinking Urban Inclusion: Spaces, Mobilizations, Interventions. University of Coimbra, Portugal.
- 2012 Towards an ethnography of economic diversity: Community land trusts as urban policy. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. New York, NY.

## Events Organized

- 2023 "Hau of Finance Online Seminar Series". Organizer and host of a monthly lecture and discussion featuring recent research in the anthropology of finance and morality. Invited speakers include:
- Fabio Mattioli, University of Melbourne - "The Value(s) of AI"
  - Kevin Donovan, University of Edinburgh - "Credible Citizens: Finance at the End of Empire"
  - Amiel Bize, Cornell University - "Climate Insurance at Capitalist Frontiers"
  - Anna-Riikka Kauppinen, Geneva Graduate Institute - "Charismatic Capital in Christian Megachurches"
  - Fabian Muniesa, Mines Paris – PSL - "Paranoid Finance"
  - Caroline Schuster, Australian National University - "Forecasts: a story of weather and finance at the edge of disaster"
  - Eve Chiapello, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales - "Governing Welfare in the Era of Financialization"
  - Andrea Muehlebach, University of Bremen - "A Vital Frontier: Water Insurgencies in Europe"
  - Nishita Trisal, Harvard University - "Banking on Uncertainty"
  - Véra Ehrenstein, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales - "Carbon Marketization and Global Forests"



- 2021 Table ronde : *Comment combler l'écart entre le risque perçu et le risque réel en Afrique ? Une table ronde avec Stanislas ZEZE, CEO & Chairman Bloomfield Investment Corporation.* IRISSO, Université Paris-Dauphine.
- 2021 *Mise en politique de la transparence : Instrumentation et politisation de l'(in)visibilité* three workshops co-organized with Quentin Deforge and Constantin Brissaud for the annual meeting of the École Thématique of the Institut Francilien Recherche Innovation Société (IFRIS). Avignon, France.
- 2018 *Postcolonial capital: Global finance from the "periphery"* two panels co-organized with Kevin Donovan (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) for the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.  
Discussants: Hannah Appel & Janet Roitman
- 2018 *Reframing public finance in African cities* co-organized with Liza Cirolia for African Centre for Cities' International Urban Conference.  
Discussant: Sue Parnell
- 2014 Book talk by Ato Quayson, "Urban Spatial Theory & The African City: On Oxford St. Accra" sponsored by the Critical Urbanisms Working Group and the Center for African Studies. Hosted by the Department of City & Regional Planning at UC, Berkeley.

## Professional Practice

African Property Tax Initiative  
International Centre for Tax and Development  
(October 2017-July 2018)  
Urban Policy Research Consultant

Preparing report based on collaborative research with Liza Rose Cirolia, an urban policy researcher at the African Center for Cities at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. The project examines the political dimensions of property tax collection in secondary cities through a comparison of M'Bour (Senegal) and Kisumu (Kenya). Research was conducted in November 2017-January 2018. The primary output is a policy report with recommendations, and further outputs include a policy note, an internet publication, and a submission to a scholarly journal.

The Asia Foundation  
(Fall 2014)  
Urban Policy Consultant

Prepared report titled *Metropolitan Structures and Urban Governance* for use by the Mayor's office of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia to consider urban reform options. Report reviewed the financial, political, and administrative impacts of restructuring metropolitan-level governance in cities in the global north and south. Report consisted of literature review and case-study research.

Information Technology and Society Research Group  
Department of Geography and Urban Studies-Temple University  
(May 2011-August 2012)  
Project Coordinator

Responsible for coordinating Building Information Technology Skills (bITS), a summer work skills and geographic education program for Philadelphia high school students. Program provides youth with project-based learning experiences that foster a greater understanding of geography and geographic information systems. Work includes curriculum development and supervision for urban health and environment focused field projects. National Science Foundation Funded Project (Michele Masucci, PI)

Clean Air Council

(August 2010-May 2013)

Community Health Project Coordinator

Primary coordinator for community based participatory air quality research in Port Richmond, Philadelphia. Applied for and received Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Justice SmallGrants 2011. Work includes recruiting, training and coordinating community researchers for air monitoring deployments, developing participatory research design, managing social media via [portrichmondAIR](#), and using GIS to map baseline demographic and hazard data in Philadelphia neighborhoods.

## Academic Service

Coordinator of Departmental Colloquium

DCRP, UC Berkeley, Spring/Fall 2019

Doctoral student member, PhD application review committee,

DCRP, UC Berkeley, Spring 2019

Doctoral student representative, Faculty committee,

DCRP, UC Berkeley, AY 2018-2019

Doctoral student member, PhD Application review committee,

DCRP, UC Berkeley, Fall 2017

Doctoral student member, Faculty search committee: Infrastructure Planning in the Global Context, DCRP, UC Berkeley, Spring 2017

## Languages

French           Fluent

Wolof           Basic Spoken