

Thiha Smith-Zaw

CONTACT INFORMATION	7750 Haven Hall, 505 S State St Ann Arbor, MI 48109 Website: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/htzaw/ htzaw@umich.edu
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Historical Political Economy, Conflict Studies, Education, Colonialism, Southeast Asia
EDUCATION	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor , Ann Arbor, MI M.A. Political Science, April 2021 Ph.D., Political Science, <i>Expected:</i> May 2023 Dissertation: “Building States within Societies: Repression and Education in British Burma” Dissertation Committee: Mark Dincecco (Chair), Allen Hicken, Nahomi Ichino (Emory), Dan Slater, Marlous van Waijenburg (Harvard Business School) Chinese University of Hong Kong , New Territories, Hong Kong B.Sc. (Hons), Global Economics and Finance, July 2016
BOOK PROJECT	<i>Building States within Societies: Repression and Education in British Burma</i> (in progress)
WORKING PAPERS	“The Societal Origins of State Education: Evidence from British Burma.” Under Review. “The Pre-colonial Roots of Colonial Coercion: Evidence from British Burma.” Under Review. - Winner of Judith Becker Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research on Southeast Asia (2020). - Featured in the American Political Science Association (APSA) Comparative Politics Section Newsletter (Fall 2021). “Gender Gaps in the ICT Skills of Youth: Evidence from MICS6 Data in Low- and Middle-Income Countries.” (with Karen Avanesyan, Suguru Mizunoya, and Margaret Kelly) Under Review.
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	2021. Zaw, Htet Thiha , Suguru Mizunoya, Dominic Richardson, Despina Karamperidou, Hiroyuki Hattori, and Monika Oledzka-Nielsen. “Teacher Training and Textbook Distribution Improve Early Grade Reading: Evidence from Papua and West Papua.” <i>Comparative Education Review</i> 65, no. 4 (2021): 691-722. 2021. Zaw, Htet Thiha , Suguru Mizunoya, and Xinxin Yu. “An Equity Analysis of Pre-primary Education in the Developing World.” <i>International Journal of Educational Research</i> 109 (2021): 101806. 2017. Mizunoya, Suguru, and Htet Thiha Zaw . “Measuring the Holes of the Ship: Global Cost Estimations of Internal Inefficiency in Primary Education.” <i>International Journal of Educational Development</i> 54 (2017): 8-17.

POLICY PUBLICATIONS	<p>2020. Muroga, Atsuko, Htet Thiha Zaw, Suguru Mizunoya, Hsiao-Chen Lin, Matt Brossard, and Nicolas Reuge. “COVID-19: A Reason to Double Down on Investment in Pre-primary Education”. <i>UNICEF Innocenti Working Paper</i> 2020-06 (2020).</p> <p>2016. Chan, Loritta, Esther Erlings, Suguru Mizunoya, and Htet Thiha Zaw. “A City Fit for Children: Mapping and Analysis of Child Friendly Cities Initiatives.” <i>The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law Research Paper</i> 2016-35 (2016).</p>
CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLICY PROJECTS	<p>2017. “Report on the Policy Gaps between Myanmar National Education Strategic Plan 2016-21 and Sustainable Development Goal 4.”</p> <p>2016. “Syria Education Sector Analysis: The Effects of the Crisis on Education in Areas Controlled by the Government of Syria, 2010-2015.”</p> <p>2016. “The Cost and Benefits of Education in Iraq: An Analysis of the Education Sector and Strategies to Maximize the Benefits of Education.”</p>
WORK IN PROGRESS	<p>“Redistribution and Propaganda through Education in Authoritarian Regimes.”</p> <p>“Repression in Time: Learning from the British Indian Army Troop Movements, 1890-1936.”</p> <p>“Colonial Education after Franchise Expansion: Evidence from British India, 1916-1940.” (with Mitchell Bosley)</p> <p>“Schooling Resistance: Societal Extractive Capacity and Educational Development in Colonial Mexico.” (with Edgar Franco Vivanco)</p>
HONORS AND AWARDS	<p>University of Michigan - Ann Arbor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, 2022 (US\$ 34,794) • WCED Graduate Student Research Grant (with Mitchell Bosley), 2021 (US\$ 4,000) • Rackham International Research Award, 2021 (US\$ 6,000) • Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, 2020 (US\$ 4,500) • WCED Graduate Student Research Grant, 2019 (US\$ 2,000) • Weiser Emerging Democracies Fellowship, 2017 (US\$ 18,000) <p>University of British Columbia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UBC Myanmar Research Fellowship, 2021 (US\$ 2,000) <p>Southeast Asia Research Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEAREG Fellow, 2022 (invited to present at the summer conference) • SEAREG Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, 2020 (US\$ 4,000)
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<p>“The Societal Origins of State Education: Evidence from British Burma.”</p> <p>2022. SEAREG Summer Conference (Bangkok)</p> <p>2022. Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (Toronto)</p> <p>2022. Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science (Virtual)</p> <p>2022. Economic History Society (Virtual)</p> <p>2021. Canadian Council of Southeast Asian Studies (Virtual)</p> <p>2021. Virtual Historical Political Economy Workshop (Virtual)</p> <p>2021. American Political Science Association (Seattle)</p>

2021. Midwest Political Science Association (Virtual)

“Pre-colonial Origins of Colonial Coercion: Evidence from British Burma.”

2023. International Studies Association (2023)

2021. American Political Science Association (declined)

2021. Virtual Historical Political Economy Workshop (Virtual)

2019. Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (Stockholm)

2019. Politics and Historical Legacies Conference (Ann Arbor)

“Institutional Change after Franchise Expansion: Evidence from British India, 1916-1940.” (with Mitchell Bosley)

2022. Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago)

“Measuring the Holes of the Ship: Global Cost Estimations of Internal Inefficiency in Primary Education.”

2014. Japan Society for International Development (JASID) (Chiba, Japan)

INVITED TALKS

2021. “Burma in the Context of Global Uprising against Militarized Violence” (Speaker at Virtual Panel)

2021. “The Political Crisis in Myanmar: Nuanced Perspectives on the Nation’s Past, Present & Future” (Speaker at Virtual Panel)

SERVICE

Coordinator, Exploring Historical Legacies and Memories	Fall 2020 – Winter 2021
Coordinator, Political Economy Workshop	Fall 2019 – Winter 2020
Coordinator, Conflict and Peace Workshop	Fall 2018 – Winter 2019

REVIEWER

Comparative Education Review
International Journal of Childcare and Education Policy

OTHER SKILLS

Language : Burmese (native), English (fluent)
 French (intermediate), Standard Chinese (intermediate)
 Software : R, Stata, ArcGIS, QGIS

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

November 2021 - December 2021: British Library (London, UK)

REFERENCES

Mark Dincecco, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Michigan
E-mail: dincecco@umich.edu

Allen Hicken, Professor of Political Science, University of Michigan
E-mail: ahicken@umich.edu

Dan Slater, Professor of Political Science, University of Michigan
E-mail: slaterpolitics@gmail.com

DATE LAST
UPDATED

January 6, 2023