

**Laura Chrisman**  
**Nancy K Ketcham Endowed Chair**

Department of English  
University of Washington  
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## Education

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**Ph.D., English**, University of Oxford, 1992.

**B.A., Hons**, English, University of Oxford, 1984. First Class.

## Employment History

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**University of Washington, 2005—**: Professor, Dept of English. Affiliated to Depts of American Ethnic Studies; Cinema and Media Studies

**University of York, 2002-2005** Professor, Dept of English and Related Literature, 2004-5;  
Lecturer (Associate Professor), 2002-4

**The Ohio State University, 2000-2002**: Associate Professor, Dept of African American and African Studies

**Brown University, 1999-2000**: Visiting Associate Professor, Depts of English and Modern Culture/Media

**University of Sussex, 1988-2000**: Lecturer (Asst/Associate Professor – US), English Subject Group,  
School of African and Asian Studies

## Honors, Fellowships, Grants and Awards

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Nominee, UW Honors Excellence in teaching award, 2025.

Writing @UW Fellowship, Center for Teaching and Learning, 2024.

Third Book Fellowship, Simpson Center for the Humanities, UW, 2023.

Humanities Seed Grant, UW, 2019-20 [unable to implement because of COVID]

ACLS Research Fellowship in the Humanities, 2011-2012.

Society of Scholars Research Fellowship, Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington, 2011-2012. [declined]

Research Fellowship, Royalties Research Fund Award, University of Washington, 2008.

Nominee, Marsha L. Landolt Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award, UW, 2008.

Research Grant, British Academy, 2004.

Research Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center, 2001-2002.

Research Fellowship, Carter G Woodson Institute, 2001-2002. [declined] Teaching and Learning Grant, University of Sussex, 1997-1999.

Research Fellowship, Nuffield Foundation, 1994-1995.

Research Fellowship, University of Cape Town Centre for African Studies, 1993.

Research Grant, British Academy, 1993.

Conference Grants from British Council; Arts Council of Great Britain; British Academy; South East Arts; Sainsbury Charitable Trust; University of Oxford English Faculty; University of Sussex School of African and Asian Studies, 1990.

Research Grant, University of Oxford Beit Fund, 1986.

D Phil studentship, Scottish Education Department, 1985-1988.

Merit Fellowship, Columbia University, 1984-1985.

Academic Achievement Award, Worcester College Oxford, 1984.

Scholarship, Worcester College Oxford, 1982-1984.

## **Publications**

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### **BOOKS**

*Postcolonial Contraventions: Cultural Readings of Race, Imperialism and Transnationalism*. Manchester University Press, 2003.

*Rereading the Imperial Romance: British Imperialism and South African Resistance in Haggard, Schreiner and Plaatje*. Oxford University Press, 2000.

*Annotated Bibliography of Post-colonial Theory and Criticism*. (*Annotated Bibliography for English Studies*, volumes 320-1). (With Anita Rupprecht.) Swets and Zeitlinger, 1997. CD-ROM.

### **EDITED BOOKS AND JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUES**

*The Politics of Biracialism*. Special issue of *The Black Scholar. Journal of Black Studies and Research* 39, 3-4, 2009. (With Habiba Ibrahim and Ralina Joseph.)

*World Poetry*. Special issue of *Wasafiri. Journal of Caribbean, African, Asian and Associated Literatures in English* 38, 2003. (With Steve Yao.)

*Race and Nation*. Special section of *New Formations. A Journal of Culture/Theory/Politics* 47, 2002.

*"The Rendez-Vous of Conquest": Rethinking Race and Nation*. Lawrence and Wishart, 2001.

*Transcending Traditions: Afro-American, African Diaspora and African Studies*. Special issue of *The Black Scholar. Journal of Black Studies and Research*, 30, 3-4, 2000. (With Farah Jasmine Griffin and Tukufu Zuberi.)

*Postcolonial Theory and Criticism*. English Association: *Essays and Studies*, volume 52, 2000. (With Benita Parry.)

*Altered State? Writing and South Africa*. Dangaroo Press, 1994. (With Elleke Boehmer and Kenneth Parker.)

*Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader*. Harvester Wheatsheaf Press, 1993/Columbia University Press, 1994. (With Patrick Williams.)

*Colonial and Post-colonial History*. Special issue of *History Workshop Journal* 36, 1993. (With John Barrell.)

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Afterword: Engendering New Century Black Transnationalisms”, in *Revising the Black Atlantic: African, Diasporic, Queer and Feminist Perspectives*, special issue of *Cultural Studies*, guest ed. Aretha Phiri, 37, 2 (2023), 341-347. Reprinted in *Revising the Black Atlantic: African, Diasporic, Queer and Feminist Perspectives*, ed. Aretha Phiri. London: Routledge, 2024, 341-347.

Review article of Monica Popescu’s *At Penpoint. African Literatures, Postcolonial Studies, and the Cold War*, *Modern Language Quarterly*, 83, 2 (2022), 223-26.

Madhu Krishnan, Christopher Ouma, Laura Chrisman & Mukoma wa Ngugi, “Roundtable: What Was African Fiction?”, *The Black Scholar*, 51, 3 (2021), 39-71.

“American Jubilee Choirs, Industrial Capitalism and Black South Africa”, *Journal of American Studies*, 52, 2 (2018), 274-296.

“In Memoriam, Robert Chrisman”, *The Black Scholar*, 44, 1 (2014), 53-4.

“Introduction: Special Issue on the Writing of Robert Chrisman”, *The Black Scholar*, 43, 3 (2013), 5-9.

“The Sight, Sound and Global Traffic of Blackness in *Blood Diamond*”, *African Studies Review*, 55, 3 (2012), 123-44.

“The Vanishing Body of Frantz Fanon in Paul Gilroy’s *Against Race* and *After Empire*”, *The Black Scholar*, 41, 4 (2011), 18-30.

“Historicising African and Caribbean Literatures”, *Postcolonial Studies*, 10, 3 (2007), 321-25. (Review essay on *The Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literature*, ed. by F. Abiola Irele and Simon Gikandi).

“Black Transnationalisms Revisited”, *Postcolonial Studies*, 9, 2 (2006), 213-23.

“Du Bois in Transnational Perspective. The Loud Silencing of Black South Africa”, *Current Writing. Text and Reception in Southern Africa* 16, 2 (2004), 18-30.

“Rethinking Black Atlanticism”, *The Black Scholar*, 30, 3-4 (2000), 12-17.

- “The Transnational Production of Englishness: South Africa in the postimperial metropole”, *Scrutiny* 2, *Issues in English Studies in South Africa*, 5, 2 (2000), 3-12.
- “Teaching Postcolonial Studies: a British experience”, *Jouvert. Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, 3, 3 (1999). <http://social.chass.ncsu.edu/jouvert/>
- “Imperial Space, Imperial Place. Theories of Culture and Empire in Fredric Jameson, Edward Said and Gayatri Spivak”, *New Formations. A Journal of Culture/Theory/Politics* 34 (1998), 53-69.
- “Local Sentences in the Chapter of the Postcolonial World”, *Diaspora. A Journal of Transnational Studies*, 7, 1 (1998), 87-112.
- “Journeying to Death: Paul Gilroy's *Black Atlantic*”, *Race and Class*, 39, 2 (1997), 51-64. ”. Reprinted in *Black British Culture and Society: A Text Reader*, ed. by Kwesi Owusu. Routledge 1999, 453-64.
- “Fathering the Black Nation of South Africa: gender and generation in Sol Plaatje’s *Native Life in South Africa and Mhudi*”, *Social Dynamics*, 23, 2 (1997), 57-73.
- “Questioning Robert Young’s Postcolonial Criticism”, *Textual Practice*, 11, 1 (1997), 38-45.
- “Inventing Post-Colonial Theory: polemical observations”, *Pretexts: Studies in Writing and Culture*, 5, 1-2 (1995), 205-12.
- Review article of Seithlhamo Motsapi, *earthstepper/the ocean is very shallow* (poetry), *New Coin*, 1996. Reprinted on Deep South Books, 2024: <https://deepsouth.co.za/product/earthstepper-the-ocean-is-very-shallow/>
- Review article of *Imperial Leather. Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest* (Anne McClintock), *Southern African Review of Books*, winter 1995.
- “Theorising “Race”, Racism and Culture: some pitfalls in idealist critiques”, *Paragraph. A Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, 16, 1 (1993), 78-90.
- “Colonialism and Feminism in Olive Schreiner’s 1890s Fiction”, *English in Africa*, 20, 1 (1993), 25-38.
- “Allegory, Feminist Thought and the *Dreams* of Olive Schreiner”, *Prose Studies. History, Theory, Criticism*, 13, 1 (1990), 126-50. Reprinted in *Routledge Historical Resources: History of Feminism*, 2017 (online).
- “The Imperial Unconscious? Representations of Imperial Discourse”, *Critical Quarterly*, 32, 3 (1990), 38-58. Reprinted in *Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader*, 498-516.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- “A Crude, Empty, Fragile Shell? Postcolonial Consciousness in an Era of Global Capitalism”, *Ideology in Postcolonial Texts and Contexts*, ed. Katja Sarkowsky and Mark Stein, 'Cross/Cultures' series, Brill/Rodopi Press, 2020, 30-42.
- “The Imperial Romance”, *The Cambridge History of South African Literature*, ed. David Attwell and Derek Attridge, CUP, 2012, 226-45.
- “Whose Black World is This Anyway?”, *New Perspectives on the Black Atlantic: Definitions, Readings, Practices, Dialogues*, ed. Bénédicte Ledent and Pilar Cuder-Domínguez, Peter Lang (Bern, Germany), 2012, 23-57.
- Introduction to Gebreyesus Hailu, *The Conscript: A Novel of Libya's Anticolonial War. (African Modern Classics)*. Trans. Ghirmai Negash. Ohio University Press, 2012.
- “Exploring New Critical Directions: Materialism, History and Theory”, *African Literatures at the Millennium*, ed. Arthur Drayton et al, Africa World Press 2007, 293-99.
- “Black Modernity, Nationalism, Transnationalism: The Challenge of Black South African Poetry”, *Beyond the Black Atlantic: Relocating Modernisation and Technology*, ed. Saskia Schabio and Walter Goebel, Routledge 2006, 29-46.
- “Beyond Black Atlantic and Postcolonial Studies: the South African 'differences' of Sol Plaatje and Peter Abrahams”, *Postcolonial Studies and Beyond*, ed. Ania Loomba, et al, Duke University Press 2005, 252-71.
- “Postcolonial Studies”, *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas, volume 5*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005, 1857-59.
- “Nationalism and Postcolonial Studies”, *Cambridge Companion to Postcolonial Literary Studies*, ed. Neil Lazarus, Cambridge University Press, 2004, 183-95.
- “‘The Killer That Doesn't Pay Back’: Chinua Achebe's Critique of Cosmopolitics”, *Proceedings of the Ohio Academy of History*, ed. Vladimir Steffel, The Ohio Academy of History 2002, 13-19.
- “Rethinking the Imperial Metropolis of *Heart of Darkness*”, *Conrad at the Millennium: Modernism, Postmodernism, Postcolonialism*, ed. Gail Fincham and Attie de Lange. Social Science Monographs/Maria Curie-Sklodowska University/ Columbia University Press 2002, 399-427.
- “Gendering Imperial Culture: *King Solomon's Mines* and feminist criticisms”, *Cultural Readings of Imperialism. Edward Said and the Gravity of History*, ed. Keith Ansell-Pearson, Benita Parry and Judith Squires. Lawrence and Wishart/St Martin's Press 1997, 290-304.
- “Appropriate Appropriations? Developing Cultural Studies in South Africa”, *Transgressing Boundaries. New Directions in the Study of Culture in Africa*, ed. Brenda Cooper and Andrew Steyn. University of Cape Town Press/Ohio University Press 1996, 184-95.
- “Empire, “Race” and Feminism in the *Fin de Siècle*: the work of George Egerton and Olive Schreiner”, *Cultural Politics and the Fin de Siècle*, ed. Sally Ledger and Scott McCracken. Cambridge University Press 1995,

45-65. Reprinted in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Vol. 235, ed. Lawrence J. Trudeau. Detroit: Gale, Cengage Learning, 2010, 77-86.

“Allegory, Feminist Thought and the *Dreams* of Olive Schreiner”, *Edward Carpenter and Late Victorian Radicalism*, ed. by Tony Brown. Frank Cass 1990, 126-50.

## PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Speaker, Celebrating the Life of Robert Allen, October 2, 2024 (live streamed; published in the UC Berkeley African American Studies & African Diaspora Studies newsletter), <https://africam.berkeley.edu/news/robert-allen-and-black-scholar-tribute>

“Staging Choices Undermine *The Copper Children*’s Potential”, (co-written with Stevi Costa and Kate Forster), August 2020: <http://www.deconstructcollective.com/performancecritique#/copperchildren/>

“Playful Rebellion in the Era of Trump: the Absurd, Comic Dance-Theater of AJnC’s *Young Manic/I Wanted to be on Broadway*”, April 2018:  
<http://www.deconstructcollective.com/performancecritique#/ajncyoungmaniac/>

“Exploring the Politics of Fear: *The Crucible* and *Eight Abigails*”, January 2018:  
<http://www.deconstructcollective.com/performancecritique#/exploring-the-politics-of-fear-the-crucible-and-eight-abigails/>

“Celebrating Warrior Women and Seattle’s South Asian Diaspora: *Chitragada*”, May 2017:  
<http://www.deconstructcollective.com/performancecritique#/chitragada/>

“Performing Immigration (sort of): Donald Byrd’s *The Immigrants*”, April 2017:  
<http://www.deconstructcollective.com/work#/performingimmigration/>

“Staging Race in Seattle, 2016: Paternalism and its Discontents”, *Seattle Star*, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016:  
<http://www.seattlestar.net/2016/11/staging-race-in-seattle-2016-paternalism-and-its-discontents/>

Pre-show lecture: “American Whiteness: contexts and contradictions”, *Is She Dead Yet?*, Dir. Brandon Simmons, Annex Theatre, Seattle, Aug 20, 2015.

Panelist, Seattle Repertory Theatre, “Speak Up” series, March 30, 2014, *The Suit*, Dir. Peter Brooks. [unable to attend]

## REVIEWS

Scholarly book reviews published in *African Affairs*; *The Black Scholar*; *Cambridge Quarterly*; *Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa*; *Feminist Review*; *International Feminist Journal of Politics*; *New Coin*; *Nineteenth-Century Literature*; *Research in African Literatures*; *SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing)*; *Socialist*; *South African Review of Books*; *Times Higher Education Supplement*

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Book projects:

*Changing Tides: transnational blackness across the US and South Africa, 1870-1925*

*Forging a Black World: A History of The Black Scholar Journal*

*Forging a Black World: Essays on The Black Scholar Journal*

*Art from the Periphery: the Political Aesthetic of Byron Randall*

## Professional Activities

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### CONFERENCE ORGANIZING AND CONSULTANCY

Organizer, “The Black Scholar Journal: Legacies and Futures of Black Radicalism”, online, April 6-7 2024.

Co-organizer, Puget Sound Workshop on Africa and the African Diaspora, 2007 (co-organizers: Stephanie Camp and Lynn Thomas).

Conference advisor, “New Directions: postcolonialism, histories and identities”, University of Sussex, 1997.

Conference co-organizer, “Literature in Another South Africa”, University of Oxford, 1990 (co-organizers: Elleke Boehmer and Kenneth Parker).

### INVITED TALKS, CONFERENCE PANELS, CHAIRING

“The Transnational Roots of African Identity: Zulu nationalism in 1890s America”, University of Oregon African Studies Lecture Series, May 25, 2022.

“Stretching Marxism beyond the Global North”, *Marxist Internationalism*’ panel, MLA Convention, Jan. 2022.

Chair, *Writing the Aftermath: Uncanny Spaces of the Postcolonial* panel, MLA Convention, Jan. 2020.

“African Atlantics and Imperial Culture: Critical Directions Past, Present and Future”  
The Ian Fletcher Memorial Lecture, Arizona State University, October 23, 2018.

Panel discussion, “Non-Binary Post/Colonialisms”, with Dr Melissa Free, Arizona State University, October 23, 2018.

Keynote Address, “ ‘That Place of Bubbling Trepidation’: Reflections on Nations and the Transnational Turn”,

"Nationalism and the Postcolonial" Association for Anglophone Postcolonial Studies conference, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany, May 10-12, 2018.

Chair, *New Pedagogies for Embedding African Literatures in the Lower-Division Classroom* panel, African Literature Association, New Haven, Connecticut, 2017 (panel of UW English PhD candidates Steph Hankinson; Erik Jaccard; Liz Janssen). [unable to attend]

Roundtable, "Fanon at 90: Lewis R. Gordon's *What Fanon Said*", African Studies Association, San Diego, 2015.

"Sounding Blackness in the 1890s: Choral Music and the American South in black South African nationalism", *The US South in the Black Atlantic: Transnational Histories of Jim Crow Since 1865* Workshop, German Historical Institute, Washington DC, June, 2015.

Roundtable, *New Perspectives on the US South in the Black Atlantic*, German Historical Institute, Washington DC, June, 2015.

Keynote Address, "A Crude, Empty, Fragile Shell? Postcolonial Consciousness in an Era of Global Capitalism", *Ideology in Postcolonial Texts and Contexts*, Gesellschaft für Anglophone Postkoloniale Studien Conference, University of Munster, May 2015.

Roundtable, "Re-Evaluating "Ideology" Across the Disciplines", *Ideology in Postcolonial Texts and Contexts*, Gesellschaft für Anglophone Postkoloniale Studien Conference, University of Munster, May 2015.

"Sounding Blackness: The Sonic Sensibility of Early Black South African Nationalism", Postcolonial Studies Seminar, University of Cambridge, March 2015.

Roundtable, "African Cinema", Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington, 2013.

Roundtable, "The Trans-Atlantic, the Diaspora, and Africa", *Callaloo* Conference, Oxford Research Centre for the Humanities, 2013. [unable to attend]

Roundtable, "*The Black Scholar* journal, Its Legacy and New Directions", National Council for Black Studies conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2013. [unable to attend]

Roundtable, Ghirmai Negash's translation of *The Conscript* by Gebreyesus Haile", African Literature Association, Charleston College, South Carolina, 2013. [unable to attend]

"Black Internationalism", "*Marxism & the Interpretation of Culture at 25: Theories for the New Millennium* symposium, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2013.

Chair, "Reading African/Caribbean Literatures in/through Frantz Fanon", African Literature Association, Athens, Ohio, 2011 (panel of UW graduate and undergraduate students).

“Rethinking Black Studies from a Postcolonial Studies Framework”, “A Celebration of the First 40 Years of *The Black Scholar Journal*” conference, UC Berkeley African American Studies, 2009.

Respondent, “Alternative Languages” panel, University of Washington “Dialoguing Difference” Conference, 2009.

Panelist, Workshop on “Workings of Culture in Africa and Its Diaspora”, University of Washington, 2008.

Keynote address, “The Challenge of Black Worldliness”, Canadian Association for Commonwealth Language and Literature Studies conference, 2008.

“The Challenge of Black Worldliness”, English Department Guest Speaker series, Rhodes College, 2008.

“The Vanishing Body of Frantz Fanon in Paul Gilroy’s Recent Work”, “The Work of Paul Gilroy” Symposium, Institute of Arts and Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2008.

Discussant, Panel on “Western Discourses on Africa and the Necessity of Privileging African Indigenous Knowledges”, African Studies Association conference, Chicago, 2008.

Respondent, Joycelyn Moody presentation, “The Perilous Travels of Elleanor Eldridge, 1830’s Rhode Island Entrepreneur”, University of Washington Diversity Research Institute, 2008.

Introduction and Seminar Chair, Achille Mbembe seminar, “At the Edge of the World” Revisited, University of Washington, 2008.

Discussant, University of Washington WISER Conference panel on “Cultural Manifestations of (Non)Racial Identity”, 2007.

Panel Chair, “Discovering History through Literature”, Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation Annual Conference, Seattle, 2007.

“Rethinking Black Diaspora and Transnationalism”, University of British Columbia Postcolonial Research Cluster, 2007.

“Uses and Abuses of Black Atlantic Theorising”, “European Perspectives on the Black Atlantic”, European Science Foundation Exploratory Workshop, University of Huelva (Spain), 2007.

“Du Bois and South Africa”, UC Berkeley, English Dept and Townsend Humanities Center, 2007.

“Black Transnationalism: Linking African Americans and Black South Africans, 1900-1945”, African Studies talk, University of Washington, 2006.

Panelist, University of Washington Women Studies Brown Bag, 2006.

Discussant, “Problems and Challenges of Area Studies”, Caribbean Research Seminar in the North and British Association for American Studies, University of Central Lancashire, 2005.

Panelist, “The Postcolonial Caravan: Locations in Movement” Colloquium, University of Kent, 2005.

“Black Modernity and Transnationalism: contemporary poetry of black South Africa”, University of Edinburgh Research Seminar, 2005; University of Cambridge English Graduate Seminar, 2004; University of Strathclyde, 2004; Sheffield Hallam University, 2003.

“Du Bois in Transnational Perspective”, Hamilton College, 2004; University of Leeds, 2004; *The Souls of Black Folk* Centenary Symposium, Northwestern University, 2003.

“Nationalism and Postcolonial Studies”, “Re-framing Theories of Narrative and Nationalism” conference, School of Oriental and African Studies, 2003.

Keynote address, “Technology, Modernization and Intercultural Conflict” conference, University of Stuttgart, 2003.

“More Thoughts on Black Atlanticism”, English Research Seminar, Queen Mary College, University of London, 2003; ‘South Africa Texts and Contexts Seminar’, St. Anthony’s College, University of Oxford, 2003.

“Comparative Modernist Cultures” peer-seminar organizer (with Steve Yao), Modernist Studies Association convention, Birmingham, UK, 2003.

Panel chair, “Writing Women, Women’s Traditions”, “New South Africa: Reading, Writing, Resistance” colloquium, Nottingham Trent University, 2003.

Panel chair, “Colonial Senegal”, 8th Stanford-Berkeley Law and Colonialism Symposium, 2002.

“Beyond Black Atlantic and Postcolonial Studies”, African Studies Resource Center and English Department, University of Kansas, 2002. “Postcolonial Studies and Beyond” conference, University of Illinois, 2002.

“Rethinking Black Atlanticism”, Stanford University African and African American Studies Lecture Series, 2002; Black History Month Brown Bag series, Ohio Wesleyan University, 2001; “Transcending Traditions: African, Afro-American and African Diaspora Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” conference, University of Pennsylvania, 2000; Faculty Seminar, English Department, Michigan State University, 1999.

Roundtable Panelist on “Defining and Redefining the African Diaspora”, “30 Years of Black Studies. Transforming Our Discipline, Transforming Ourselves”, The Ohio State University Department of African-American and African Studies National Symposium, 2001.

Plenary address, “Resistance Theory and/or Postcolonial Studies”, A Conference in Honor of Benita Parry, University of Warwick, 2001.

“The Killer That Doesn’t Pay Back: Chinua Achebe's Critique of Cosmopolitics”, The Ohio Academy of History, Annual Spring Meeting, Columbus, 2001.

Roundtable Panelist, “Interdisciplinarity and African Literary Criticism”, African Literature Association, Richmond, Virginia, 2001.

“Rethinking Black Atlanticism”, “Globalcities” conference, Michigan State University, 2001.

Discussant, “Transatlantic Cultural Studies” panel, “Crossroads in Cultural Studies” conference, University of Birmingham, 2000.

“Race, Gender and Postimperial England: metropolitan uses of South African culture”, North Eastern Workshop on Southern Africa Annual Conference, 2000.

“The Transatlantic Aura? African Nationalism in the Age of Global Criticism”, “Africa and the African Diaspora” Lecture Series, University of Pennsylvania, 2000.

Plenary panelist, African Literature Association conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 2000.

“Race, Gender and Postimperial England: metropolitan uses of South African culture”, Department of Modern Culture and Media, Brown University, 1999.

Panelist, “Writing and Politics”, Writing Fellows Annual Forum, Brown University, 1999.

“Poetry in the New South Africa”, Cultural Connections Seminar, University of Brighton, 1998.

“Short Circuits: British metropolitan representations of South Africa”, Faculty Seminar, University of Witwatersrand (South Africa); Faculty Seminar, University of Vista at Soweto (South Africa), 1998.

“Poetry and Politics in the new South Africa”, “Africa in the New Millennium” conference, University of Sussex, 1998.

Keynote address, *Conrad and Postcoloniality: Heart of Darkness* centenary conference, Cape Town and Potchefstroom, 1998.

“Teaching Postcolonialism: a British experience”, *Postcolonial Pedagogy: problems of close readings and contexts* panel, MLA, 1998.

Keynote address, *Beyond Orientalism* conference, Royal Holloway College, University of London, 1997.

Plenary panel, *Pacific Asia: cultural and postcolonial studies* conference, University of Essex, 1997.

“Imperial Place, Imperial Space: theories of empire”, Graduate Seminar, Centre for Critical and Cultural Theory, University of Wales Cardiff, 1997; Graduate Seminar on Social Identities, Pembroke College, University of Cambridge, 1997.

“The Limits of British Empire: imagining opposition in Olive Schreiner's fiction”, English Faculty Seminar, University of Sussex, 1996.

“Identity and Non-Identity in Contemporary Black Culture: the work of Paul Gilroy”, American Studies Seminar, University of Sussex; Social and Political Thought Seminar, University of Sussex, 1996.

“Gendering Empire: problems in feminist post-colonial criticism”, “The Politics of Identity, Secular Criticism, and the Gravity of History” Edward Said conference, University of Warwick, 1996; English Graduate Seminar, University of Southampton, 1996; English Graduate Seminar, Nene College, 1994.

Plenary panelist, New Directions for African Cultural Studies conference, University of Cape Town, 1993.

“Inventing Post-Colonial Theory”, English Faculty Seminar, University of Cape Town, 1993.

“Sex, Nation and Culture in Sol Plaatje”, Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town, 1993.

Panel convenor, “Europe and Its Others”, History Workshop conference, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1992.

Panel chair, “Feminism and Race in South Africa: Past, Present and Future”, Mary Wollstonecraft Centenary conference, University of Sussex 1992.

“Sex, Nation and Culture in Sol Plaatje”, “Gender and Colonialism” conference, University College Galway, 1992.

“Some Pitfalls in Recent Idealist Critiques of “Race”, Culture and Colonial Subjectivity”, “Inequality/Theory” conference, University of Nottingham, 1992.

“Gender and Colonialism in Olive Schreiner”, “Feminist Criticism in the 90s” conference, University of Exeter, 1992.

“Nationalism and Shakespeare in the early ANC”, English Research Seminar, Queen Mary College University of London, 1991.

“Irony and Empire: the emergence of national discourse in black South Africa”, Literature Graduate Seminar, University of Essex, 1991.

Panel chair, “Colonial Discourse”, Radical Philosophy conference, London, 1990.

“Sol Plaatje’s Cultural Nationalism”, School of African and Asian Studies Graduate Seminar, University of Sussex, 1989.

“Rider Haggard’s Imperial Discourse”, Victorian Studies Graduate Seminar, University of Oxford, 1988.

## **EDITORIAL BOARDS AND ADVISORY BOARDS**

Editor-in-Chief, *The Black Scholar. Journal of Black Studies and Research*, 2012-15

*The Black Scholar* Editorial board, 2004-2011

*Literature Compass*, 2005-

*MLQ (Modern Language Quarterly)* Editorial Board, 2021-

*New Formations. A Journal of Culture/Theory/Politics*, 1997-2010

*Research in African Literatures*, 2000-24

*Red Letters. A Quarterly Review of Cultural Politics*, 1988-92

*Scrutiny*2. *Issues in English Studies in South Africa*, 1996-  
*Textual Practice*, 1995-2003  
*Wasafiri. Journal of Caribbean, African, Asian and Associated Literatures in English*, 1996-2012

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

President, The Robert Chrisman Foundation (501c3), 2017—  
President, The Black World Foundation (501c3), 2013-17  
Vice President, The Black World Foundation (501c3), 2011-13  
Founding Member, DeConstruct Performance Review Collective, 2016—  
Cofounder and Manager, The Byron Randall Art Project, 2011—  
Board of Directors, The Seagull Project (Seattle theatre company), 2016-17  
Advisor to curator Carolyn Peters, and lender of seven 1940s artworks by Byron Randall, for  
“Woody Woodpecker & the Avant-Garde” exhibit, Laband Art Gallery,  
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, September 22-November 20, 2016.  
<http://cfa.lmu.edu/labandgallery/exhibitions/pastexhibitions/2016/woodywoodpeckertheavant-garde/>  
Co-organizer, with Adena Atkins, Writers’ Retreat, Simpson Center for the Humanities, Aug 30-Sept 1,  
2014.  
Co-organizer, Seattle International Film Festival “African Cinema”/UW African Studies Partnership,  
2013.  
Co-curator, with Gavin Reub, of The Seagull Project’s art show of Byron Randall paintings at ACT (A  
Contemporary Theatre) Seattle, January-February 2013.  
Co-curator, with Chris Weber and Kerri McGar, of Seattle Vermillion Art Gallery’s exhibit of paintings  
and prints by Byron Randall, November 2011.

## **MEDIA APPEARANCES**

Podcast, “Early Black South African Intellectuals and the United States of America”, recorded Apr 23, 2021, for  
*Goodnight Azania* podcast series (Cape Town, SA).  
WOSU-AM Black Studies Radio Journal, February 4, 2001.

## **SCHOLARLY READER/PEER REVIEWER**

Bloomsbury Press; Broadview Press; Cambridge University Press; Edinburgh University Press; Harvester  
Wheatsheaf Press; Manchester University Press; Norton; Oxford University Press; Palgrave; Pluto Press;  
Routledge; State University of New York Press; University Press of Florida; University of Minnesota  
Press; Witwatersrand University Press

*Ariel: A Review of International English Literature; Contemporary Literature; Cultural Critique; English in  
Africa; Environment and Planning D; JALA (Journal of the African Literature Association); Journal of Victorian  
Culture; Meridians. Feminism, Race, Transnationalism; Modern Language Quarterly; National Women’s Studies  
Association Journal; New Formations; Novel. A Forum on Fiction; PMLA; Safundi; Signs; Tulsa Studies in  
Women’s Literature; Victorian Studies; Western Journal of Black Studies.*

## **ACADEMIC CONSULTANCIES**

University of Vienna, Department of English and American Studies, 2021.  
Stanford University Humanities Center, 2011, 2005, 2006.  
The Leverhulme Trust, 2004.  
University of Cambridge (Emmanuel College), 2003.  
National Research Foundation of South Africa, 2002, 2003.

## **EXTERNAL PH.D. EXAMINER**

Ken Barris, *Fractious Form: the Trans/Mutable Post-Apartheid Novel*, University of Cape Town, 2009.  
Georgina Horrell, *White Women and White Guilt in Southern African Postcolonial Literature*, University of Cambridge, 2005.  
Tanya Dalziell, *Fictive Europeans: Uncertain Figurings of Gender, Whiteness and Mimicry in Popular Settler Fictions*, University of Western Australia, 1999.

## **EXTERNAL M.A. THESIS EXAMINER**

Pumla Dineo Gqola, *Black Women You Are on Your Own: Images of Black Women in Staffrider Short Stories*, University of Cape Town, 1997

## **EXTERNAL B.A. COURSE ASSESSOR**

University of Hertfordshire. *South African Writing: An Introduction*, 1996

## **Departmental and University Service**

### **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON—ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

Awards and Scholarships Committee: 2024-5.  
Visiting Lecturers Committee: 2023-4; 2013-14; 2005-6.  
Tenure/Promotion Committees: Janelle Rodrigues, 2023; Habiba Ibrahim, 2021; Stephanie Clare, 2019; Louis Chude-Sokei, 2014.  
Graduate Studies Committee, 2022; 2017-19; 2005-7.  
Search Committees: Latinx Literature and Culture, 2022-23; African-American Literature 1770-1940, 2009; Chair, 19<sup>th</sup> c African-American Literature [search frozen Dec 2008]; 18<sup>th</sup> c Literature, 2007-8; African-American Literature, 2005-6.  
Undergraduate Executive Committee: 2014-17.  
Diversity Committee: 2019-20; 2007-9; Chair, 2007-8.  
Executive Committee: 2021-2.  
Peer reviewer of teaching: Frances McCue, 2023; Janelle Rodrigues, 2023; Charles LaPorte, 2020;

Louis Chude-Sokei, 2011; Suhanthie Motha, 2010; Colette Moore, 2009; Chandan Reddy, 2008; Habiba Ibrahim, 2007.  
 Department Mentor of Janelle Rodriques (Simpson Center/College of Arts & Sciences initiative), 2022-3.  
 Judge, Brown Essay Prize for best Graduate Student Essay Publication: 2020.  
 Organiser and moderator, Nalo Hopkinson campus visit, May 26 2017: Conversation with Students and Charles Johnson Lecture.  
 Ad-hoc Committee to design Job Description and Procedure, Medieval English Asst Prof Position, 2015.  
 Ad-Hoc Undergraduate Curriculum Revision Committee, 2007-8.  
 Organiser of Robert Chrisman's poetry reading for Visiting Speakers Committee, 2009.  
 Co-proponent, English Dept "Colonial/Anti-Colonial/Diasporic Cultures" cluster hire, 2007-8.

## **INTERDEPARTMENTAL**

Reviewer, Graduate School International Fellowships: 2024, 2011.  
 GSR: Nicole Sanchez, Dept of Astronomy, 2020; Jerry A. Watson, School of the Built Environment, 2019; Sabina Ivenas, Scandinavian Studies, 2014-15; Britta Anson, History, 2014; Caroline Lanza, Social Work, 2013-16; Christopher Holmes, History, 2010; Amanda Poole, Environmental Anthropology, 2009; Leonie Newhouse, Geography, 2009-12.  
 Promotion and Tenure Review Committee: Sonnet Retman, AES, 2009.  
 American and Ethnic Studies Graduate Program Ad-Hoc Committee, 2008-10.  
 Co-organizer, with Lynn Thomas and Ron Krabill, of Achille Mbembe and Sarah Nuttall lectures, seminar and workshop, African Studies: 2008-9.  
 Introduction to Pat Brantlinger talk, sponsored by the Hilén Endowment, English Dept and Simpson Center, 2008.  
 Organizer and host of Gary Younge's visit, sponsored by Ketcham Endowment, Hilén Endowment, Simpson Center and Communication Dept, 2008.  
 Library consultant and co-organizer, with librarians Glenda Pearson and Faye Christenberry, for acquisitions of 20<sup>th</sup> c Black American and Black South African newspapers/periodicals; Caribbean, African, and Black Diaspora literatures, 2007-11.  
 Nominator of Benita Parry for Walker-Ames Lectureship [successful], 2007-8.  
 Co-proponent, "Popular Culture and Arts in Africa" proposal to Simpson Center for the Humanities [successful], 2007-8.  
 College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee: 2007-8.  
 Women Studies Standing Committee: 2007-10.  
 Introduction, Derek Attridge Katz lecture: 2007.  
 African Studies Chair's Advisory Group: 2006-7.  
 Co-nominator of Derek Attridge for Katz Lectureship [successful], 2006-7.  
 Peer reviewer of teaching: Amanda Swarr, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, 2006.  
 Organizer, Mona Lisa Saloy's poetry reading and Rainier Scholars visit, sponsored by Ketcham Endowment and Go-Map, 2005-6.

## **UNIVERSITY OF YORK (2002-2005)**

Chair of Graduate Studies, English Dept, 2004-5.  
 Director, M.A. in "Cultures of Empire, Resistance and Postcoloniality", 2004-5.

Search Committee, Teaching Fellowship in English, 2004.  
Search Committee, Lectureship in English, 2004.  
Co-Director, Modern Research Centre, English Dept, 2002-5.  
English Department Library and IT Sub-Committee, 2002-4. Search  
Committee, Lectureship in English, 2002-3.

### **THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY (2000-2002)**

Ad-Hoc Committee for PhD programme, African-American and African Studies Department, 2000-1.

### **UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX (1988-2000)**

Designer and Coordinator, *Evaluation and Development of The Teaching of English Literature to Overseas Students on the new MA in Colonial and Postcolonial Cultures*, 1997-1999.  
Director, MA in Colonial and Postcolonial Cultures, 1997-8.  
M.A. Examination Board, 1997-8.  
Bachelor of Education Examination Board, 1997-8.  
Vice-Chair, Examinations Board, School of African and Asian Studies, 1995-7.  
Designer, English M.A. programme in Colonial and Postcolonial Cultures, 1996-7.  
Guest Lecture Committee, English Subject Group, 1992-7.  
Teaching Committee, AFRAS, 1993-6.  
Chair, Ad-Hoc Post-colonial Committee for English Subject Group, 1996.  
English Subject Group Periodic Review and Teaching Quality Assessment Committee Response, 1996.  
Sub-Group, Examinations Board, AFRAS, 1992-5.  
SAIL, a scheme for recruitment of inner city students, 1990-4.  
Ad-Hoc Committee to design AFRAS Code of Practice on Race and Racism, 1992-4.  
Mentor [accredited], for new/junior faculty in English Subject Group, 1992-4.  
Junior Year Abroad project to target African-American colleges and universities, 1992-4.  
Search Committee, Senior Lecture/Readership in English, AFRAS, 1994.  
Search Committee, Lectureship in English, AFRAS, 1993.  
Convenor, visit of Higher Education Officer, National Commission for Racial Equality, 1991.  
Sussex Faculty Development Training Undertaken: African Cinema (Polytechnic of Central London);  
Diversity in Race and Culture (Sussex Counselling Centre); Improving Lecturing Skills (University of  
London)

### **Courses Taught 1988-2025**

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#### **GRADUATE**

Black Literature, Religion, and Faith Practices (UW, with Charles LaPorte)  
Black Radicalism and Anti-Colonialism: literary and critical studies (UW)  
Postcolonial Literature and Language (UW, with Colette Moore)

Black Border Crossings (UW)  
Black Transnational Studies (UW)  
The Political Thought of Frantz Fanon (UW)  
Feminist Criticisms and Women's Writing (Sussex)  
Imperial, Colonial and Postcolonial Cultures (Sussex)  
Postcolonial Studies (UW; York)  
Postcolonial and Ethnic Studies (Ohio State)  
Postcolonial Literature and Theory (Brown; UW)  
'Race', Gender and Literary History 1850-1920 (Sussex)  
Race, Space and Black South Africa (UW)  
Recent Developments in English Studies (Sussex)  
Theorizing Race (Ohio State)  
Writing Englishness (Sussex)

## **UNDERGRADUATE**

African Literatures (UW)  
African and Caribbean Literatures (Sussex)  
American Literature to 1914 (York)  
American Literature and Culture since 1914 (York)  
Anglophone Fiction since 1980 (Brown)  
Black Diaspora Literature (UW)  
Black South African Fiction (UW)  
Colonialism and its Aftermath (UW)  
Colonial Thingification (UW)  
Concepts of Culture and Community (Sussex)  
The Contemporary Novel (UW)  
English Literature 1919-the present (Sussex)  
English Literature 1880-1940 (Sussex)  
Globalization and Nationalism in the Age of Empire: The Modern Novel and Imperialism (UW)  
History of Literary Theory and Criticism (UW)  
The Imperial Romance (UW)  
Imperialism, Cultural Dependency and Resistance (Sussex)  
Introduction to African Literature (Ohio State)  
Literature, Culture and History (Sussex)  
Modern and Postmodern Literature (UW)  
Modern Black Diaspora Writing (York)  
The Modern Novel (UW)  
Nationalism, Modernity and Anti-Colonial Intellectuals (Brown)  
Novel and Nation (Sussex)  
Poetry and Postcolonialism (Sussex)  
Politics and the Novel (York)  
Political Thought in African Literature (Ohio State)  
The Political Thought of Frantz Fanon (UW)  
Postcolonial Cultures (Sussex)  
Postcolonial Literature and Culture (UW)

Postcolonial Perspectives (Sussex)  
Postcolonial Writing (York)  
Radical American Culture: Writing, Art, and Marxism (UW)  
Reading Prose Fiction: Utopian and Dystopian Fiction (UW)  
Reading Prose Fiction: Literature of Africa (UW)  
Reading Prose Fiction: Representing Slavery and Struggles for Freedom (UW)  
Revisiting History: Modern Black Narratives of Slavery, Empire and Resistance (UW)  
Semiotics, Ideology and Literature (Sussex)  
Sexual Difference: Women and Writing (Sussex)  
States of Emergency: South African Fiction of the 1980s (UW)  
Third World and Black Diaspora Writing (Sussex)  
Writing in English 1950-the present (York)

## Graduate Student Committees and Supervisions

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### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON 2005—

Current PhD Dissertation Committee Member: Sanjit Pradhananga, Nolie Ramsey, Kexin Song

Completed Dissertation Advisor and Committee Chair:

Avu Chaturvedi, *South by Southwest: Westerns and Postcolonial Resistance* (2025)

Gust Henry Burns, *Antiblackness and Fundamental Accumulation: An Aesthetic Ontology of Prohibition and Persistence Through Black Arts* (2023) (co-chair with Phillip Thurtle)

Dr Burns is Adjunct Professor, Edmonds College.

Stephanie Hankinson, *The Aesthetics of Catastrophe Time: Constructing Transhistorical and Artistic Archives of Disaster in Haiti and the Gulf Coast* (2023)

Dr Hankinson is Assoc. Professor of English, Drama and the Humanities at South Seattle College.

Meri Wimberly, *Zimbabwean Literature since 1980: Irrealist Style and Capitalist Modernization* (2017)

Dr Wimberly is Director of the McCourt School of Public Policy Writing Center, Georgetown University.

Erik Jaccard, *Speculative Fiction, Catastrophe, and the Devolutionary Imagination in Postwar Britain* (2017)

Awarded the Heilman Prize for outstanding dissertation of 2017.

Dr Jaccard is Assoc. Professor of English at North Seattle College.

Ilsu Sohn, *Ageing and Imperial Mobility in the British Novel, 1845–1945* (2016)

Dr Sohn is Asst. Professor of English at Pusan National University, South Korea.

Sharmila Mukherjee, *The Imperial Encounter with Shakespeare* (2016) (co-chair with William Streitburger).

Awarded the Heilman Prize for outstanding dissertation of 2016.

Raj Chetty, *Race Fundamentalism: Caribbean Theater and the Challenge of Black Diaspora* (2013) (co-chair with Louis Chude-Sokei)

Dr Chetty is Assoc. Professor of English at St John's University, NY.

Ram Prasansak, *Giving Ghana at the Edge of the Salt Water* (2011)  
Dr Prasansak is Asst. Professor, Ubon Ratchathani University, Thailand.

Dokubo Goodhead, *Toward a Critical Realist Reading of African and African Diaspora Literatures* (2008)  
Dr Goodhead is Asst. Professor, Fisk University.

Completed Ph.D. Exam Committee Chair:

Avu Chaturvedi (2022); Gust Burns (2018-2019); Stephanie Hankinson (2014-2016); Meredith Bauer (2011-2014); Erik Jaccard (2009-2011); Raj Chetty (2008-2010); Tanvi Patel (2006-2008); Ram Prasansak (2006-2008); Rania Mahmoud (2006-2008); Adele Zhang (2007-2009)

Completed Dissertation Committee Member:

Norma G. Kaminsky (Comparative Literature), *Impure Memory, Imperfect Justice: A Comparison of Post-Repression Fiction Across the South Atlantic* (2016)

Tamara Cooper (NYU Cinema Studies), *Visceral Manifestoes: Racial Trauma, the Politics of Representing Black Canada 1985-1996* (2015)

Sevim Kebeli (Near Eastern Studies), *Ottoman Reflections on Gender, Class and Race in Victorian England: Abdulhak Hamid Tarhan's Finten* (2015)

Verena Kuzmany (Comparative Literature), *To the Funhouse: W.G. Sebald's Playful Intertextuality* (2014)

Tanvi Patel, *Emerging Crimewallahs: Modern Developments in South Asian Crime Fiction* (2011)

Keith Feldman, *Racing the Question: Israel/Palestine and U.S. Imperial Culture* (2008)

Completed Ph.D. Exam Committee Member:

Nolie Ramsey (2020-2021); Andrea Delgado (Comp Lit, 2014-2016); Iisu Sohn (2013-2014); Sevim Kebeli (2010-2011); Sydney Lewis (2006-2008); Su-Ching Wang (2006-2009); Sharmila Mukherjee (2008-2009); Verena Kuzmany (2006-2008)

Completed M.A. Essay Director:

Reuven Pinnata (2019); Gust Burns (2018); Joe Concannon (2017); Kristine Kelley (2006)

Completed M.A. Essay 2nd Reader:

Luis Resendez (2021); Sanjit Pradhananga (2021); Elizabeth Brown (2010); Balbir Singh (2009); Matthew Nicdao (2008); Lauren Summers (2008); Tanvi Patel (2006)

Completed Graduate Independent Studies Supervisor:

Michael Bostic; Avu Chaturvedi; Max Lane; Gust Burns; Stephanie Hankinson

## **BROWN UNIVERSITY (1999-2000)**

PhD Committees:

Yogita Goyal, *Nationalism and Transnationalism in Postcolonial Studies* (2003); Shahara Brookins-Drew, *Insiders and Outsiders: Processes of African American Canon Formation* (2001)

## **UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX (1988-2000)**

Supervisor, DPhil research of Anita Rupprecht; Carole Sweeney; Jane Fenner; Lawrence Phillips; Jessica Dubow.

## **Undergraduate Advising**

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## **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON 2005—**

Independent Study: Rebecca Gross, Frantz Fanon and Mayotte Capecia (2018); Gabrielle Morris and Kehly Hedrick, Donald Trump Syllabus (2017); Tressa Thomas, Female South African Identities (2016)

McNair independent study: Madeleine Clifford, on hip-hop and gender (2008-2009)

CHID/Presidential Scholar independent study: Adam Hamilton, on Marxism in Richard Wright and Ralph Ellison (2007-2008)

## **BROWN UNIVERSITY (1999-2000)**

Senior Honors Theses: Cultural Politics and Arundhati Roy; The Singapore Story

Senior Independent Studies: Africa and its Interpreters; Indian Diasporic Literature and Identity; National History and Memory; Postcolonial Theory