

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**CASSANDRA RACHEL VENNEY**

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**EDUCATION**

PhD, Political Science, University of Missouri-Columbia, 1995

MA, African Studies, Howard University, 1988

BA, Political Science, Syracuse University, 1982

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

November 2023-Present      Executive Director, Center for Women, Gender and Global  
Leadership  
Howard University  
College of Arts and Sciences, Washington, DC

July 2021-October 2023      Executive Director, Humanities in Leadership Learning Series  
Case Western Reserve University  
College of Arts and Sciences, Cleveland, Ohio

July 2018-June 2021      Chair, Department of International Relations  
United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

January 2016-May 2021      Professor, Department of International Relations  
United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

February 2015 -  
December 2016      Professor, Department of Philosophy and  
Political Science, Quinnipiac University,  
Hamden, Connecticut

August 2013-February 2015      Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy and  
Political Science, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Connecticut

- August 2010-August 2013 Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California
- March 2009 Promotion and Tenure to Associate Professor, Departments of Gender and Women's Studies and African American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
- January 2007-April 2009 Assistant Professor, Departments of Gender and Women's Studies and African American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
- August 2003-December 2006 Assistant Professor, Departments of Gender and Women's Studies and African and African American Studies, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania
- August 2001-December 2003 Associate Professor, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
- Fall 1995-Spring 2001 Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Refugee Studies  
African International Relations  
Introduction to Peace and Conflict  
Introduction to Human Rights  
Development Issues in Africa  
Critical Issues in Africa  
Human Rights in Africa (Senior Seminar)  
Comparative Political Systems  
Introduction to Women's Studies (Honors Section)  
The Politics of Africa  
American Government and Politics  
Forced Migration in Africa  
Gender and Human Rights in Africa  
Gender and International Migration  
Race, Ethnicity, and Inequality  
Nations and Narrations  
Democracy and Development in Africa  
Contemporary Social Movements  
Politics of the Civil Rights Movement  
Global Perspectives on Women and Gender  
Comparative Politics Seminar (Graduate)  
Comparative Politics (Undergraduate)

Issues in Politics (Global Human Rights)  
Issues in Politics (Global Health)  
International Migration in a Global Perspective  
Blacks in the Twentieth Century

## **AWARDS**

Outstanding Professor Award, African Student Association, Illinois State University, 2003

Phi Sigma Alpha, Outstanding Teaching in Political Science Award, Illinois State University, 2000

Who's Who of American Women, 2000-2001

College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Initiative Award, Illinois State University, 1999

Rotary International Group Study Exchange to India, January-February 1995

University of Missouri Dissertation Travel Grant, 1993

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

*China and Taiwan in Latin America and the Caribbean*, (co-edited with Sabella Abidde). New York, Palgrave-Macmillan, forthcoming 2024.

*U.S.-Africa Relations: From Clinton to Obama*, editor. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2014.

*Democracy and Development in Post-Conflict African Nations* (co-edited with Dick Simpson). Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2012.

*Forced Migration in Eastern Africa: Democratization, Structural Adjustment, and Refugees*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2007.

*Leisure in Urban Africa* (co-edited with Paul Zeleza). Lawrenceville, New Jersey: Africa World Press, 2003.

*Women in African Studies Scholarly Publishing* (co-edited with Paul Zeleza). Lawrenceville, New Jersey: Africa World Press, 2001.

### **Book Chapters**

“Switching Sides: Nigeria and Senegal’s Relations with China and Taiwan,” in *China and Taiwan in Africa: The Struggle for Diplomatic Recognition*, editor, Sabella O. Abidde. Switzerland: Springer Nature, 172-192.

“Women and the New African Diaspora,” in  *Holding the World Together: African Women in Changing Perspective*, editors, Nwando Achebe and Claire Robertson. Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 2019:255-272.

“Nigeria: Views from the Hegemon in West Africa on the Obama Administration,” in *The World Views of the Obama Era: From Hope to Disillusionment*, editor, Matthias Maass. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2017:31-48.

“African Diasporas, Immigration, and the Obama Administration,” (co-authored with Paul Tiyambe Zeleza) in *The Global Obama: Crossroads of Leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, editors, Dinesh Sharma and Uwe P. Gielen. New York: Routledge, 2014:99-114.

“The Effects of Immigration and Refugee Policies on Africans in the United States: From the Civil Rights Movement to the War on Terrorism,” in *The New African Diaspora*, editors, Isidore Okpewho and Nkiru Nzegwu. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2009:196-214.

“The Ties That Bind: Lessons from the Historic Diaspora,” *Negotiating Modernity: Africa’s Ambivalent Experience*, editor, Elisio Salvado Macamo. Dakar: Codesria Book Series, 2005:44-66.

“The African Growth and Opportunity Act: A Renaissance for Whom?,” in *The Role of the Educated Class in Africa: between African Renaissance and Globalisation*, editor, Lawford Imunde, Loccum, Germany: Evangelische Akademie, 2004:145-166.

“A Sustainable US Foreign Policy Toward Africa: Promoting Human Rights, Development, and the Rule of Law,” in *Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Africa*, editors, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Philip McConaughay. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004:175-187.

“Building on the Past: African and African American Linkages in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” in *African Universities in the twenty-first century*, editors Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Adebayo Olukoshi. Dakar and Pretoria: Codesria Book Series and the University of South Africa Press, 2004:263-280.

“To Carry a Heavy Burden in the Heat of the Day: Refugee Migration to and From Tanzania,” in *Migration and Immigration: A Global View*, editors, Maura Toro-Morn and Marixsa Alicea. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood, 2004:197-208.

“Refugees and Leisure in Urban Africa,” in *Leisure in Urban Africa*, editors, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Cassandra R. Veney. Lawrenceville, New Jersey: Africa World Press, 2003:249-268.

“No Place to Call Home: Refugee and Internally Displaced Women in Kenya,” in *Stepping Forward: Black Women in Africa and the Americas*, editors, Catherine Higgs, Barbara Moss, and Earline Ferguson. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2003:117-129.

### **Journal Articles**

“The Role of the United States in Nigeria’s Conflicts – The Niger Delta and Northeastern Nigeria,” *Africa Insight*, Vol 49, No. 3(2020):116-129.

“The Political Economy of Development and Democratic Transitions in Kenya,” (co-authored with Paul Tiyambe Zeleza), *Yale Journal of International Affairs*, May 14, 2013. Available at <http://yalejournal.org/2013/05/14>.

“Human Rights and Black Refugee and Immigrant Women in the Post-9/11 Era,” *Labrys*, (November 2009):1-18.

“Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: Internally Displaced Women in Liberia and Uganda and the Role of the International Community,” *Journal of International Women’s Studies*, Vol. 7, No. 4 (May 2006):209-226.

“The Ties That Bind: The Historic African Diaspora and Africa,” *African Issues, Special Edition of Issue, The African Brain Drain to the North: Pitfalls and Possibilities*, XXX, 1(2003):308.

“Taiwan and Africa: Taipei’s Continuing Search for International Recognition,” (co-authored with Richard J. Payne), *The Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 36,4 (November 2001):437-452.

“India’s Relations with South Africa During the Post-Apartheid Era,” *The Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 34,3 (August 1999):321-335.

“The Formation of Ethnic Identity in Somalia: Implications for Refugees in Kenya,” *The Scandinavian Journal of Development Alternatives and Area Studies*, 17,2 and 3 (June and September 1998):5-16.

“China’s Post-Cold War African Policy,” (co-authored with Richard J. Payne), *Asian Survey*, 38,9 (September 1998):867-879.

“The Abolition of Apartheid and Its Implications for Nigeria,” (co-authored with Richard J. Payne), *The Journal of Developing Societies*, 13,2 (December 1997):208-228.

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

“Julius Nyerere,” *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*, Second Edition, Vol. 3:J-R, editor, Patrick L. Mason. Detroit: MacMillan Research USA, 2013:259-260.

“Abolitionism,” *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 1, editor in chief, Maryann Cline Horowitz. Detroit: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2005:1-4.

“Segregation,” *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 5, editor in chief, Maryann Cline Horowitz. Detroit: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2005:2198-2200.

“James Herman Robinson, *African American Lives*, editors, Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004:721-723.

“Randall Robinson,” *African American Lives*, editors, Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004:725-726.

“Human Rights,” *Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century African History*, editors, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Dickson Eyoh. London: Routledge, 2003:263-266.

“Refugees,” *Encyclopedia of twentieth-Century African History*, editors, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Dickson Eyoh. London: Routledge, 2003:461-464.

### **Book Reviews**

John W. De Gruchy and Lynn Holness. *The Emerging Researcher: Nurturing Passion, Developing Skills and Producing Output*. Cape Town, University of Cape Town Press, 2007. *Journal of the Musical Arts in Africa*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2011):99-101.

Marjorie Keniston McIntosh. *Yoruba Women, Work and Social Change*. Bloomington, Indiana University Press. *Feminist Africa*, Issue 12 (December 2009):115-119.

### **Editorial Board**

African Political Science and International Relations in Focus Book Series, University of Johannesburg Press

African Studies Association Book Award Committee

Contemporary African Political Economic Series Palgrave-Macmillan

Africa Insight Journal

National Political Science Review

Journal of Asian and African Studies

African Studies Review

Politikon: South African Journal of Political Studies

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Curriculum

The Geographical Journal  
Civil Wars  
Gender and Society  
Journal of Black Studies  
Longman Publishers  
Goellier Educational  
The Postcolonialist

### **Research Proposal Evaluator**

Meaning-Making Research Initiatives, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa

### **Book Review Editor**

*Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*

### **CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

“The African Diaspora in the United States and Its Response to the War on Terrorism,” The Annual Toyin Falola International Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora, Lagos, Nigeria, July 1-3, 2012.

Invited Panelist, “Women in Peacebuilding in Post-Conflict Liberia and Uganda,” 106<sup>th</sup> Annual American Sociological Association Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, August 18-21, 2011.

Invited Panelist, “The Presence of Africa in American Politics,” Rethinking Cultural Imperialism, Symposium on Rethinking America and Africa, University of Oxford, The Roehrmere American Institute, September 20, 2010.

“African Refugee Women: A Journey from Violence/A Path to Peace,” Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts Forum, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, October 25-31, 2009.

“Politics and the Making of Diasporas in the United States,” First Global Conference: Diasporas – Exploring Critical Issues, Mansfield College, University of Oxford, July 5-7, 2008.

“The Effects of Immigration and Refugee Policies on the African Diaspora in the United States: From the Civil Rights Movement to the War on Terror,” Migration and the New African Diaspora Workshop, Department of African American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 18-19, 2008.

“Gender, Human Rights, and Refugees in a Post-911 Era,” African Studies 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting, New York, October 18-21, 2007.

“For a Taste of Freedom, Keep Moving: The Experiences of African Refugees in the United States,” The African Diaspora: Assessing the Pains and Gains of Exile: A Symposium, State University of New York, Binghamton, April 7-8, 2006.

“Adding to the Pot: Black Immigrants’ Contribution to Diversity and Democracy,” Western Political Science Association Conference, Albuquerque, March 16-18, 2006.

“Redefining Citizenship: The Role of Refugees in Their Host Countries’ Development,” 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, Maputo, Mozambique, December 6-10, 2005.

“From Open Door to Closed Door: Kenya’s and Tanzania’s Changing Refugee Policies,” National Conference of Black Political Scientists Conference, Arlington, Virginia, March 23-27, 2005.

“The African Growth and Opportunity Act: A Renaissance for Whom?,” The Role of the Educated Class in African Renaissance and Globalisation, Evangelische Akademie, Loccum, Germany, March 21-23, 2003.

“Just Us: Refugee Law, Human Rights, and Refugee Policies Toward Women in Tanzania,” 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Women, Kampala, Uganda, August 3-6, 2002.

“The Ties That Bind: African American Linkages With Africa,” 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, December 10-14, 2002.

“The Movement of Women’s Voices: Refugee Women in East Africa,” Oral History Association Meeting, St. Louis, October 18-20, 2001.

“Building Educational Linkages With Malawi: The Role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States,” Historical and Social Science Research in Malawi: Problems and Prospects, Chancellor College, Zomba, Malawi, July 10-13, 2000.

“No Place to Call Home: Refugee and Internally Displaced Women in Kenya,” Black Women in the Old World and the New, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, September 19-21, 1999.

“A Sustainable U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Africa: Promoting Human Rights, Development, and ‘the Rule of Law’,” Human Rights and Development in Africa – Establishing the ‘Rule of Law’ Symposium, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, July 18-21, 1999.

“Doubly Disadvantaged: The Plight of Refugee Children in East Africa,” Zimbabwe International Book Fair Conference, Harare, Zimbabwe, July 15-18, 1998.



“Protecting the ‘Unprotected’: Refugees and the Internally Displaced in Kenya,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 17-20, 1996.

“The Politics of Refugee Relief Operations in Kenya,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 13-16, 1994.

“An Assessment of Refugee Relief Operations in Kenya,” National Conference of Black Political Scientists Conference, Hampton, Virginia, March 13-16, 1993.

### **CONFERENCE PANELIST/ORGANIZER/DISCUSSANT**

Roundtable Participant, Virtual Social Impact Roundtable, “Building Bridges to Maximize Social Impact,” Acume and the Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg, January 31, 2022.

Conference Organizer, “US-Africa Relations,” Dilemmas of Democracy Conference, The Institute for Leadership Studies, Loyola Marymount University, March 8, 2011.

Panel Organizer, “African Women Artists and Activism,” Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts Forum, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, October 25-29, 2010.

Co-Organizer, International Conference, “Development and Democracy in Post-Conflict African Nations,” Department of African American Studies, Department of Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 28-29, 2009.

Co-Organizer, “Migration and the New African Diaspora,” Department of African American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 18-19, 2008.

Section Chair, “African Politics and Inter-State Relations,” National Conference of Black Political Scientists Conference, Atlanta, March 6-9, 2002.

Invited Panelist, “Conflict Resolution in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Impact of US Foreign Policy,” 31<sup>st</sup> Quad Cities World Affairs Council Conference, Davenport, Iowa, April 14, 2000.

Panel Organizer, “Human Rights and Current Conflicts,” African Studies Association Annual Conference, Chicago, October 18-21, 1998.

Invited Panelist, “Human Rights Implications for Women and Children,” International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies, Hartford, Connecticut, July 10-12, 1998.

Invited Discussant, “Human Rights Across the Globe,” International Association of Human Rights Agencies, Hartford, Connecticut, July 10-12, 1998.

Chair, “The United Nations and Its Agencies After the Cold War,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 18-21, 1996.

### **INVITED LECTURES**

“All the King’s Men and Women,” Siegal Lifelong Learning Center, Case Western Reserve University, Beachwood, Ohio, January 2023.

“To Carry a Heavy Burden in the Heat of the Day: The Struggle for Racial Equality from Wells to Mandela, Peace Islands Institute, New Haven, Connecticut, February 26, 2014.

“Forging and Strengthening Relations Between Africa and China,” Capital Normal University, Beijing, China, May 28, 2012.

“A Long Road to Freedom: From Washington to Obama,” Sun Yat Sen University, Zuhai, China, May 22, 2012.

“Africa-US Foreign Policy: Al-Qaeda, Oil, and AGOA,” Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow, Illinois Farm Bureau, DeKalb, Illinois, March 10, 2010.

“The Effects of Structural Adjustment Programs on Refugee Host Communities in Kenya and Tanzania,” Women’s Studies International Seminar Series, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, November 14, 2007.

“Democratization, Globalization, and Refugees in Africa,” 2003 International Summer for Pre-collegiate Educators on World Governments and Politics: Democracy, Democratization, and Globalization: Models, Problems and Challenges, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, July 10, 2003.

“Refugee Women in East Africa,” Department of Political Science and African American Studies, Eastern Illinois University, April 4, 2001.

“Globalization and Human Rights in Africa,” Human Rights Symposia, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, March 20, 2001.

“The Role of the State in Tanzania’s Refugee Crisis,” Center for African Studies, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, December, 18, 1999.

“Connecting Africa to the US: Reality Over Image,” Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow, Illinois Farm Bureau, Lake Rend, Illinois, February 16, 1997.

## **SERVICE**

Member, School of Humanities and Social Sciences Tenure and Promotion Committee, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, 2019-Present.

University Senate, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, July 2018-Present.

Faculty Patron, Black History Month Committee, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, Fall 2018-Spring 2019.

Convener and member of the Local Arrangements Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> Toyin Falola Annual International Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora, July 3-5, 2018, United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya.

Member, Education Effectiveness Committee, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, July 2018-Present.

Chair, Hiring and Promotions Committee, Department of International Relations, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, December 2018-Present.

Chair, Academic Committee, Department of International Relations, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, December 2018-Present.

Member, University Tenure and Promotion Committee, United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya, 2016-Present.

Reader, 2014-2015 Washington Young African Leadership Fellowship Committee, Spring 2014.

Herskovits Book Award Committee, African Studies Association, 2011-2013.

College Fourth Year Review Committee, Loyola Marymount University, 2011-2013.

Undergraduate Research Symposium Committee, Loyola Marymount University, 2011-2012.

Assessment and Curriculum Committee, Department of Political Science, Loyola Marymount University, 2010-Present.

Search Committee, Department of Political Science, Loyola Marymount University, Fall 2010

Local Arrangements Committee, 51<sup>st</sup> African Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois November, 18-21, 2008.

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Curriculum Vitae

Search Committee, Department of Latino and Latin American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, Fall 2007.

Curriculum Committee, Gender and Women's Studies Program, University of Illinois at Chicago, Spring 2007-Spring 2009.

## **REFERENCES**

Mark A. Thompson, PhD  
President  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
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Boston, Massachusetts 02115  
(617) 989-5350  
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