

# Serah Shani

Westmont College  
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## Education

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- 2011-2013 Postdoctoral, Visiting Research Scholar, Teachers College Columbia University, Department of International and Transcultural Studies, Anthropology Program, 2011-2013
- 2010 Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology and Education, Columbia University
- 2009 M.Phil., Cultural Anthropology and Education, Columbia University
- 2008 Ed.M., International and Transcultural Studies, Columbia University
- 2003 M.A., Sociology of Health and Medicine, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- 2000 B.A., Community Development and a minor in Music, Daystar University, Nairobi Kenya

## Other Education Qualifications

Grade 4-8 in Music Theory, London Royal Schools of Music

HIV/AIDS counselling and certificate of training of trainers (TOT), Danish Embassy (DANIDA), Kenya

Special Education Certificate for the physically handicapped, Kenya Institute of Special Education, Kenya

P1 Primary School Teaching Certificate (equivalent to associate degree), Kilimambogo Teachers Training College, Kenya

## Research Projects and Fieldwork Experiences

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2021-2024 **Serah Shani, PI.** The Cultural Evolution of the Conscience, Virtues, Character Development, and, Human Progress: For research in Africa-Kenya funded by **The John Templeton Foundation: \$ 230,304**

2020-2025 **Serah Shani (collaborator)** with Daniel Balliet, PI. Vrije U University Amsterdam. A large-scale collaboration on: The Ecological Origins of Cross-Societal Variation in Cooperation. **European Research Council(ERC) Consolidator Grant: €2 million euros**

2006 -2007, 2008-2019 African Immigrant Parents, Transnational Lives in the United States: The Case of Ghanaians in New York City

2017-2019 *West African Muslim youth in the US: Our voices and experiences*

2019, 2017 & 2013 Elite Formation Among Marginalized Groups in Kenya: The Case of Maasai Ethnic group

2015- Contemporary indigenous parenting practices in Kenya: consciousness, character building and economic autonomy

2011-2013 Visiting Research Scholar, Columbia University Department of International and Transcultural Studies, programs in Anthropology

*Revising my dissertation for publication to a book. More ethnographic research with African immigrants from Ghana living NYC, to further enrich this project.*

2007-2010 Dissertation Field Work:

*Ethnographic fieldwork and archival research on the influence of Ghanaian-born immigrant parents in New York City on children's academic achievement in primary schools.*

2006 Summer Research, Required for PHD students in the Anthropology Department:

Conducted an exploratory ethnographic research in New York City that became the foundation for my dissertation research. The topic of the research report was "will I lose my children?"

2006-2007 Water and Sanitation research in Ruiru, Kenya:

*Conducted a water quality and environmental surveys in Ruiru, Kenya as a member of a team of researchers from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. The published report can be found at:*

<http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/academics/concentrations/epd/documents/2006-7/Building%20RUJUWASCO%20in%20Ruiru%20Kenya.pdf>

2005-2008 Graduate Assistant at EdLab, a research, design, and development unit within Teachers College Columbia University:

*EdLab envisions and pilots' knowledge projects for a fundamentally different education sector that is attuned to the emerging post-industrial world. EdLab also engages in work that has the potential to contribute to the improvement of educational institutions today and the broader evolution and reconfiguration of future educational services*

## Academic Appointments

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### Fulltime Academic Appointments

2016-present Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Cultural Anthropology, Westmont College

African Studies (Cultures and societies in Africa)  
Anthropology of Immigration  
Theories in Anthropology  
Introduction to Anthropology  
Applied Anthropology  
Anthropology of education

2014-2016 Visiting Professor, Eastern University Department of Anthropology

Social Justice  
Field Research in Anthropology (Methods and supervising fieldwork research)  
Theories in Anthropology  
Cultural Geography: People in Places

- Introduction to Anthropology  
 Graduate student thesis advisor  
 Cross Cultural Skills and Understanding (Graduate class in Africa: -Rwanda)
- 2013-2014 Visiting Lecturer Yale University, Council on African Studies at the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies (2013- 2014)
- Graduates (Masters and PhD students): AFST 764: Topics in African studies (A required Core Course for all graduate students in African studies cross registered with an ANTH 622: Topics in African Studies, a Department of Anthropology graduate course) Graduates and Undergraduates: Swahili language and culture  
 Graduate and undergraduate advisement
- 2011-2013 Postdoctoral, Visiting Research Scholar, Teachers College Columbia University, Department of International and Transcultural Studies, Anthropology Program, 2011-2013

### Other Teaching Experiences

- 2014-2017 Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at Eastern University, masters degree program, international development  
 Cross cultural skills and understandings
- 2013 Adjunct Assistant Professor Southern Connecticut State University Department of Anthropology  
 Interpreting Cultures  
 Cultural Anthropology
- 2011-2013 Adjunct Assistant Professor Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mercy College New York City  
 Theory/Classics in the Social and Behavioral Sciences
- 2011-2013 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Kean University New Jersey  
 Introduction to Sociology  
 Introduction to Anthropology
- 2010-2011 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, William Patterson University of New Jersey  
 Foundations of Teaching: Anthropology of Education  
 Diversity and Equity in schools  
 Intercultural Communication
- 2008 Teaching Fellow, Department of Sociology, Columbia University  
 Sociology of Education
- 2008-2010 Teaching Fellow, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University

- Culture through Film and Media (Co-taught with Professor Pegi Vail)  
Major Debates in the Study of Africa (Co-taught with Prof. Mahmood Mamdani)
- 2009 Teaching Fellow, Department of History, Columbia University
- History of the Modern Middle East
- 2005 Social Studies Teacher, Bronx International High School, 2005 (Teachers College Columbia University community outreach program)
- 2005 English language teaching, first graders in Harlem elementary schools, New York City (Teachers College Columbia University community outreach program)
- 200-2001 Lecturer, Teachers Service Commission, Kenya: Narok Teachers Training College, currently known as Maasai Mara University (2000-2001)
- Teacher Trainees, Music theory grade 1-5.  
Teacher Trainees, Teaching Methods in Primary Schools  
Teachers Trainees, Practicum on Teaching Practice Class Observations and Supervision

## Publication and works in progress

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### Books

- Shani, Serah. Configurations and Consolidation of Indigenous Elites in Africa: The Case of Maasai, Kenya (Manuscript in preparation, 90% complete, to be submitted to Cornell University Press)
- Shani, Serah. 2018. African Immigrant Families in the United States: Transnational Lives and Schooling. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

### Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- Shani, Serah. "You are only a pen less from them": Maasai parents' hope in educating their children for future economic autonomy. (*revise and resubmit with the Journal on Education in Emergencies (JEiE)*).
- Shani Serah, "Muslim youth, religion and educational aspirations: the case of West African immigrants in New York City" (*submitted to the Journal of Anthropology and Education Quarterly*)
- In Press. Shani, S. "Islam as a Mechanism for Socioeconomic Mobility: African parenting practices in New York City" in *Islam and World Peace: Perspectives from African Muslim Nonviolence Traditions (Book Chapter Accepted for publication in both English and French languages, Columbia University Press)*
- Shani, Serah. 2020. "Education and human capital among geographically isolated regions and marginalized Groups in Kenya" in *Education and the Development of Human Capital: Outcomes for Equality and Governance in Africa, Ndulo, Muna B., Assié-Lumumba, N'Dri T. (Eds.), London: Palgrave Macmillan*
- Shani, Serah. 2019. *Studying the Image: Critical Issues in Anthropology for Christians* Eugene, OR: WIPF and STOCK Publishers (*Book forward*)
- Shani, Serah. 2015. & Coe, C. Cultural Capital and Transnational Parenting: The Case of Ghanaian Migrants in the United States. *Harvard Educational Review: Winter 2015, Vol. 85, No. 4, pp. 562-586.*

- Boahen-Wilks Outstanding Scholarly Article Prize in Ghana Studies (Honorable Mention), Ghana Studies Association, 2016

Shani, Shani. 2005. Regional Economic Stratification and its Impact on Women's Educational Access and HIV/AIDS Prevalence in Kenya: A Comparison between the Nyanza and Central Provinces. *Society for International Education* (4) 8-13

## Book Reviews

- 2020 Shani, S. Mobile urbanity: Somali Presence in Urban East Africa. By Neil Carrier & Tabea Scharrer Berghan Publishers: 2019 *Journal of City and Society*
- 2020 Shani, S. From Pews to Politics: Religious Sermons and Political Participation in Africa by Gwyneth H. McClendon and Rachel Beatty Riedl. *United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press. 2019. African Studies Quarterly*
- 2019 Shani, S. Downwardly Global: Women, Work, and Citizenship in the Pakistani Diaspora. By Lalaie Ameeriar. Duke University Press: 2017 *Journal of City and Society, September.*
- 2018 Shani, S. Becoming elite in a contested terrain: The post-colonial experiences of the Franco-Mauritian population in Mauritius. A review of *The Franco Mauritian Elite: Power and Anxiety in the face of change.* By Tijo Salverda. *New York: Berghahn Books. Anthropology Book Forum and also Anthropology News, August 27*
- 2017 Shani, S. "Elusive Janna: The Somalis Diaspora and the Borderless Muslim Identity. Cawo M. Abdi. 2015. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 289 pp. *African Studies Quarterly, December, pp. 89-90*
- 2017 Shani, S. Mothers on the move: Reproducing belonging between Africa and Europe. By Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg Chicago: University of Chicago Press. *Journal of City and Society, October.*
- 2017 Shani S. Doing Development in West Africa: A Reader by and for Undergraduates by Charles Piot. Durham: Duke University Pres. *Research Africa Review, June.*
- 2017 Shani, S. West African non-migrant youth in the wake of migration and transnationalism. "Bush Bound: Young men and rural permanence in Migrants in West Africa" by Paolo Gaibazzi, 2015. New York: Berghahn Books Inc. *Anthropology Book Forum, also in Anthropology News.*
- 2017 Shani, S. *Engaging the Diaspora: Migration and African Families* by Pauline Ada Uwakweh, Jerono P. Rotich, and Comfort O. Okpala (eds.) Lanham, MD: Lexington Books. 192 pp. *African Studies Quarterly, March., 150-152.*

## Works in progress

### Books

- Shani, S. (Book manuscript in preparation) Configurations and Consolidation of Indigenous Elites in Africa: The Case of Maasai, Kenya (90% complete)
- Shani, S. (Book manuscript in preparation) *West African Muslim youth in US: Our voices and experiences* (40 % complete)

## Articles

- Shani, S. From family wealth to global wealth: the constructions of contemporary indigenous elites in a small town. (Manuscript 95% complete)
- Shani, S. Elite women struggle and triumphs in small town: the case of Maasai indigenous elite women trajectories (Manuscript 95% complete)
- Shani, S. Religion as capital in elite constructions (Manuscript 95% complete)
- Shani, S. "Doing ethnography in an urban setting" (manuscript in preparation)
- Shani, S. "Socioeconomic status from a global and transnational perspectives: The case of African immigrants in New York City"
- Shani, S, "The role of religious leaders in children wellness among the Maasai of Kenya"

## Other Works

- 2010 Shani, S. "I will not lose my children": The New York City Ghanaian Network Village and their Academic Success Pursuits, Doctoral Dissertation, Columbia University
- 2007 Shani, S. and Beard, A: Information Seeking Habits Among Different Demographics: An Exploratory Research. *A Working Paper at EdLab, a research, design, and development unit within Teachers College Columbia University.*
- 2007 Shani, S., Antao, C., Bonner, B., Franco, J., Goyal, S., Iyer, D., Luengo, M and Pascual, J : Building Community, Building RUJUWASCO: An Integrated Water, Sanitation, and Health Strategy for the Municipality of Ruiru, Kenya. *A senior research project report submitted to the World Bank and School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University.*  
<http://csud.ei.columbia.edu/sitefiles/file/SIPA%20-%202007%20-%20Workshop%20Report.pdf>

## Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

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### Conference Presentations

- 2019 "Contemporary indigenous elite formation in Kenya: the case of the Maasai ethnic group"  
African Studies association conference, Boston, MA
- 2019 "How to Avoid Becoming "too American": A Ghanaian Solution. Society for Psychological Anthropology  
Santa Ana Pueblo, NM
- 2018 "Muslim youth, religion and educational aspirations: the case of West African immigrants in New York City"  
American Anthropological Association conference, San Jose, CA
- 2018 "Contemporary indigenous elite formation in Kenya: the case of the Maasai ethnic group"  
African Studies association conference, Atlanta, GA (Paper accepted)
- 2018 "Muslim youth, religion and educational aspirations: the case of West African immigrants in New York City"

3<sup>rd</sup> Conference on Anthropology and Education: The Work of Education at Teachers College, Columbia University in New York, NY

- 2017 *"Islam as a Mechanism for Socioeconomic Mobility: African parenting practices in New York City"* American Anthropological Association conference, Washington, DC
- 2017 *"The role of religious institutions, community and country of origin resources as mechanisms for education success: Ghanaian transnational migrants"* Childhoods in Motion: Children, Youth, Migration, and Education Conference, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2017 *"You are only a pen less from them": Maasai parents' hope in educating their children for future economic autonomy"* African Studies Conference, Chicago Illinois
- 2017 *"Leadership and the Issue of Immigration: Becoming American While Preserving Your Past."* Leadership Conference at Westmont College, CA
- 2017 *"Coming of age in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: the case of contemporary parenting practices among indigenous Maasai of Kenya"* Society for Applied Anthropology in Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 2017 *"Coming of age in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: the case of contemporary parenting practices among indigenous Maasai of Kenya"* Childhoods in Motion: Children, Youth, Migration, and Education Conference, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2015 *"Muslim Transnational Parenting Practices and Education: Negotiating Inner-City Strangeness for Ghanaians in New York City"* American Anthropological Association, Denver, Colorado
- 2015 *"Education and human capital among geographically isolated regions and marginalized groups in Kenya"* Institute for African Development Cornell University Spring Symposium
- 2015 *"Transnational parenting among Ghanaian immigrants in New York City"* Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting
- 2015 *"I will not lose my children": Ghanaian transnational parenting and schooling in New York City.* Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting New York City
- 2015 *"Islam as a Mechanism for Socioeconomic Mobility: African parenting practices in New York City"* Islam and Peace International Conference, Islam and World Peace: Perspectives from African Muslim Nonviolence Traditions, Columbia University, New York City
- 2014 *"Regional Integration: Cultural Perceptions of Education in Africa and the African Diaspora"* Invited talk, African Empowerment Conference SANCOFA54, Yale Association for African Peace Development
- 2014 *"The New York City Ghanaian Network Village: Sociocultural Transnational lives and Identity Formation"* American Anthropological Association, DC
- 2014 *"The New York City Ghanaian Network Village: Sociocultural Transnational lives and Identity Formation"* Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 2013 *"2013 Swahili Startalk: Three Weeks Transform-ative Journey from Native Speakers to Productive Language Instructors"* (panel). National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages Conference, Chicago
- 2013 *"Language, culture and transnational experiences: The case of Ghanaians in New York City"* National Council of

## Invited Talks and Presentations

- 2020 "Diaspora": Guest Speaker at the Graduate Students Reading Group in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Zoom Webinar, Princeton University, NJ
- 2020 "COVID-19 Education and the Crisis of Teenage Pregnancy in Maasai Land: A Conversation with Community Leaders, Policy Makers, and Grassroots Influencers Zoom Webinar-Kenya
- 2020 "*African Immigrant Parents in United States: Transnational Lives and Schooling.*" Invited book talk by the African Studies Working Group, University of California at Riverside, Riverside, CA
- 2019 "*African Immigrant Parents in United States: Transnational Lives and Schooling.*" Invited book talk at the Center for the Study of International Migration, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), CA
- 2019 "*African Immigrant Parents in United States: Transnational Lives and Schooling.*" Invited book talk at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA
- 2019 "Westmont College President's tour to South Africa." Travelling, Presenting and facilitating discussions to the president's group during travel in South Africa on the following topics:
- South Africa culture and the dynamics of culture in general
  - Education and transformation
  - Contemporary land issues in South Africa
- 2019 "*Education and social mobility: Role model and mentorship session*" invited guest speaker at Compassion International Youth Camp Meeting in partnership with Kenya Assemblies of God Church, Narok Town, Kenya
- 2019 "*Africa: Perspectives from Three Westmont Scholars: Cynthia Toms, Serah Shani, and Carmen McCain*" The Gaede Institute of Liberal Arts Lecture Series: The Pascal Society Lectures, Westmont College
- 2018 "*Sub-Saharan African immigrants in the United States: The emerging "new model minority."*" Invited lecture. Department of Black Studies University of California Santa Barbara, CA (postponed)
- 2018 "*What I Wish I'd Known When I Started – Comments from the Field*", Faculty Panel at New Faculty Orientation Westmont College, CA
- 2018 "*Lessons Learned about Teaching During my First Years in the Classroom*" Faculty Panel, Lilly Graduate Fellows Training. Westmont College, CA
- 2017 "*Leadership and the Issue of Immigration: Becoming American While Preserving Your Past.*" Leadership Conference at Westmont College, CA
- 2017 "*Contemporary Indigenous Elite Formation in Kenya: The Case of Maasai Ethnic Group.*" Faculty Forum - Pre-tenure scholarship panel, Westmont College, CA
- 2017 "*Global Immigration and identity*" invited guest speaker, Global Studies Seminar, by Provost Mark L. Sargent Westmont, College, CA
- 2016 "*Exhibiting Culture: The new lens of virtual reality*" Margaret Mead Film Festival, American museum of natural history, New York City, NY



- 2016 “*Minority Experiences in higher education*” ICP connect retreat: Round table faculty presentation. Westmont College, CA
- 2016 “*The Visitor*” Reel Talk panel, Gaede Institute for Liberal Arts, Westmont College, CA 2016 “*African Identities*” invited discussant, imperialism seminar by Prof. Chandra Mallampalli, Westmont College CA
- 2016 “*Contemporary witchcraft functions in Kenya and various Christian responses to it*” invited guest speaker, mission’s seminar, by Prof. Andrew Bush, Eastern University Pennsylvania, PA
- 2016 “*Engaging in ethnographic research: Sharing fieldwork experiences*” invited guest speaker, graduate research seminar in anthropology, by Prof. Eloise Meneses, Eastern University, Pennsylvania
- 2015 “*Engaging in ethnographic research: Sharing fieldwork experiences*” invited guest speaker, graduate research seminar class in anthropology, by Prof. Eloise Meneses, Eastern University
- 2014 “*Regional Integration: Cultural Perceptions of Education in Africa and the African Diaspora*” Invited talk, African Empowerment Conference SANCOFA54, Yale Association for African Peace Development
- 2013 “*African Immigrant Parents, Transnational Lives and Schooling in the United States: The Case of Ghanaians in New York City.*” Duke University sponsored by the Center for African and African American Research, Cultural Anthropology, and Program in Education, NC
- 2013 “*I will not lose my children*”: *The New York City Ghanaian Network Village and their Academic Success Pursuits.*” Yale University lecture series at the Macmillan Center for international and Area Studies, Council on African Studies, CT
- 2013 “*A Comparative stance: Ghanaian-Born Parents Schooling in New York City.*” Presentation at Davidson College, North Carolina
- 2012 “*A disciplined child: New York City Ghanaian-born Transnational Parenting Ideals.*” Presentation Wheaton College, Illinois
- 2012 “*I will not lose my children*”: *The New York City Ghanaian Network Village and their Academic Success*, Poster presentation as a visiting research Scholar, Teachers College Columbia University International Students workshop
- 2011 “*A Comparative stance: Ghanaian-Born Parents Schooling in New York City.*” Presentation at William Paterson University of New Jersey
- 2009 “*Academic challenges and success among Maasai primary school’s children*” At Oloikirikirai Primary school, Teachers Service Commission Narok-Kenya
- 2008 “*Maasai History, Culture and Change,*” Yearly lectures on Conversation with the Content. At the Museum for African Art, Long Island City, NY
- 2008 “*Colonialism in Africa: Kenya.*” Invited guest speaker in “Major Debates in African History” Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, by Prof. Mahmood Mamdani
- 2007 “*Maasai Genealogy.*” Invited guest speaker in “Graduate Research Methods Seminar” Department of international and area studies Teachers College Columbia University, by Prof. Lambros Comitas

- 2007 *“Building Community, Building RUJUWASCO: An Integrated Water, Sanitation and Health Strategy for the Municipality of Ruiru, Kenya,”* project presentation at the School for International and area studies (SIPA) Columbia University
- 1996 *“HIV/AIDS causes and prevention: Creating awareness among high school students”* Danish Development Assistance Programs (DANIDA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Kenya,

## Media Appearances

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- 2020 Why Sub-Saharan African Immigrants to America Are the Most Educated, By Joshua Eferighe, from OZY <https://www.ozy.com/around-the-world/why-sub-saharan-african-immigrants-to-american-are-the-most-educated/349123/>
- 2018 Becoming elite in a contested terrain: The post-colonial experiences of the Franco-Mauritian population in Mauritius. Anthropology News. <http://www.anthropology-news.org/?book-review=becoming-elite-in-a-contested-terrain-the-post-colonial-experiences-of-the-franco-mauritian-population-in-mauritius>
- 2017 West African Non-Migrant Youth in the Wake of Migration and transnationalism. Anthropology News [http://www.anthropology-news.org/?post\\_type=book-review&review-author=Serah+Shani](http://www.anthropology-news.org/?post_type=book-review&review-author=Serah+Shani)
- 2016 New publications in Anthropology of Education. Anthropology News <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1556-3502.2016.570404.x/epdf/>
- 2014 The Network Doesn't Stop at the Door": Intentional Practices and the Everyday Reproduction of Community Organizing, Part I. Society of applied anthropology podcasts <http://sfaa.net/podcast/index.php/podcasts/2014/network-doesnt-stop-door-intentional-practices-and-everyday-reproduction-community-organizing-part-i/>
- 2013 Race, Culture and Education, SANCOCHO: Newsletter of the center of African and African American research at Duke University [https://caaar.duke.edu/uploads/media\\_items/spring-2014-newsletter.original.pdf](https://caaar.duke.edu/uploads/media_items/spring-2014-newsletter.original.pdf)

## Grants, Awards and Scholarships

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### External Funds, Awards and Scholarships

- 2021-2024 **Serah Shani, PI.** The Cultural Evolution of the Conscience, Virtues, Character Development and, Human Progress: **The John Templeton Foundation: \$ 230,304**
- 2020-2025 **Serah Shani, collaborator,** with Daniel Balliet, PI Vrije U University Amsterdam. A large-scale collaboration on: The Ecological Origins of Cross-Societal Variation in Cooperation. **European Research Council(ERC) Consolidator Grant: €2 million euros**
- 2019 **The John Templeton Foundation** in support of my research at Westmont College: **\$5000**
- 2016 Published Article Honorable Mention, **Wilks-Boahen prize**
- 2015 Sponsored Conference Attendance and presentation by and at **Columbia University**, all expenses Covered
- 2014 **Shirley Brice Heath** New Council of Anthropology and Education Scholar Travel Award: **\$250**

- 2014 Sponsored Symposium Attendance and Presentation by **Cornell University**, all expenses covered
- 2013 Sponsored Invited Lecture by **Duke University** all expenses covered plus: **\$500**
- 2004-2007 Funds for African Students, Inc., for payments towards a Ph.D. degree at Columbia University: **\$22,000**
- 2001-2003 **Funds for African Students, Inc.**, for payments towards a masters' degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania: **\$ 14, 500**
- 1997-2000 **Danish Embassy Fellowship Fund** towards undergraduate studies at Daystar University: **KSh. 214,000**
- 1996-2000 **Kenya Ministry of education** student Scholarship, towards undergraduate studies at Daystar, University: **KSh. 70,000**
- 1997-2000 **Narok-Kenya County Council Bursary Scholarship**, towards undergraduate studies at Daystar University: **KSh. 140, 000**

#### **Internal Funds, Awards and Scholarships**

- 2019-2020 Faculty collaborative writing projects, faculty development fund, **Westmont College: \$1000**
- 2017 Provost Office Extra Ordinary **Funds, Westmont College: \$ 3, 600**
- 2017 Sponsored invited conference attendance and presentation at **Westmont College: \$1000**
- 2017 Provost Award Summer Research Fund, **Westmont College: \$ 3000**
- 2017 Faculty Development Research Fund, Westmont College: **\$ 3,700**
- 2016-2018 Conference travel grants at **Westmont College: \$4,500**
- 2014-2016 Two years Conference Travel Grants at **Eastern University: \$2,000**
- 2011-2012 Post-doctoral visiting research scholar in the department of international and transcultural studies at **Columbia University**
- 2009-2010 Grant in Aid, Teachers College, **Columbia University**, Dissertation Writing: **\$9,000**
- 2008 Fund from Dean 's office, Teachers College **Columbia University: \$ 7,000**
- 2007 Wolfensohn Family Foundation Grant at Teacher College **Columbia University**
- 2007-2010 **Columbia University** Graduate School of Art and Sciences Teaching Associate, paid for tuition and stipend
- 2008 Teachers College **Columbia University** General Scholarship: **\$300**
- 2006-2009 Teachers College **Columbia University** Graduate Research Assistant, paid for tuition and stipend

- 2006 Teachers College **Columbia University** Challengers Grant, Office of International Students Scholarship: **\$3,000**
- 2005 Teachers College **Columbia University** International Scholarship: **\$3,000**
- 1997-2000 **Daystar University Scholarships** towards undergraduate studies at Daystar University, paid for most of my Tuition **KSh. 14, 000**

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### Dissertation and Thesis Supervision/Reader/Advisor

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#### Masters thesis

- 2014 **Yale University**: The Macmillan Center for International and Area studies.  
**Topic**: The Effects of Short-Term Volunteers on Host Communities; submitted in partial fulfillments of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in African Studies in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Yale University  
**Author**: Kevin Winn
- 2015 **Eastern University**: Department of Anthropology  
**Topic**: Being Nepali without Nepal: The imaginative process of ethnicity among the Nepali diaspora in Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
**Author**: Luis Ortiz

#### Undergraduate thesis

- 2020 **Westmont College**: Social studies  
**Topic**: Our Bodies and the Church Body: How should churches allocate resources for discussing abortion, promoting human flourishing, and meeting the needs of our community?  
**Authors**: Kayla Petersen
- 2015 **Eastern University**: Department of Anthropology  
**Topic**: Homer in America: An ethnography of storytelling and ordinary narrative,  
**Author**: Carolyn Wason (Currently pursuing to a PHD program at Cambridge University and has a Masters from Oxford University)
- 2014 **Eastern University**: Department of Anthropology  
**Topic**: Building D: Commitment in an American psychiatric hospital  
**Author**: Frances Curley (Pursued a master's degree program at Eastern University)
- 2014 **Eastern University**: Department of Anthropology  
**Topic**: The Possible Benefits of Primary Health Care in Rural Cities in Developing Countries Such as Bolivia.  
**Author**: Christine Rempel

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### Other Scholarly Works

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#### Committees

2019 Faculty search committee member at the department of Anthropology and Sociology at Westmont College

2017-2018 Member of the search committee for Westmont College Chaplain

- 2017- Member of the committee on Diversity and Global Engagement at Westmont College
- 2017- Member of the committee of student affairs at Westmont College
- 2017- Member of committee for developing a minor in global studies at Westmont College
- 2015-2016 Chair of dissertation committees Doctoral Programs in Marriage and Family Therapy Eastern University

**Reviewer**

- 2018 The National Science Foundation (NSF) review panelist for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
- 2017 Grant Reviewer of *On Knowing Humanity Research Project (OKH)* for Eastern University funded by the John Templeton Foundation
- 2017 Reviewer for the 2017 Council of Anthropology and Education program conference papers: A section of the American Anthropological Association
- 2017- Reviewer for the Journal of anthropology of children and youth, *NEOS*
- 2016- Reviewer for the Journal of Anthropology and Education Quarterly
- 2015- Reviewer for the Journal of African and Asian Studies,
- 2015 Reviewer for the 2015 Council of Anthropology and Education program conference papers: A section of the American Anthropological Association
- 2012 Reviewer for the 2012 Council of Anthropology and Education program conference papers: A section of the American Anthropological Association

**Consultancy**

- 2019 Honorable Rahab Kenana Higher Education Initiative, Narok-Kenya
- 2013-2015 Consultant/Advisor with Sailor Productions Company on the Nomads Maasai Project in Kenya Documenting on the virtual reality of Maasai ethnic group in Kenya, 2013-2015

**Community Engagement**

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- 2019 Consultant/partner with the Honorable Rahab Kenana on higher education initiative for youth in Narok County (Community Based Organization)
- 2017 Loving our neighbor: Engaging the Community Westmont Faculty Faith-Learning Seminar
- 2013 Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders
- 2006 Social Studies Teacher, Bronx International High School, 2005 (Teachers College Columbia University community outreach program)
- 2005 After school enrichment program of Muslim girls in New York City sponsored by Columbia University

Teachers College (Teachers Education Zone).

- 2005 Teach minority students at Harlem New York City through a community outreach program by Teachers College Columbia University (Teachers Education Zone)
- 2004 Fourth East Harlem AIDS Walk and Health Fair
- 2002 Volunteer at St. Andrews village, home for the elderly in Indiana PA, USA
- 1997 Volunteer at Daystar University rehabilitation center for the street children in Kenya
- 1995-1996 Volunteer with the DANIDA project on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention in Narok, Kenya
- 1995 Environmental cleaning in Narok –Kenya

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### **Professional Affiliations**

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Society for Urban, National and Transnational /Global Anthropology

American Anthropological Association

African Studies Association

Anthropology of Children and Youth Interest Group

Institute of African Studies at Columbia University

Center for African Education at Teachers College Columbia University

Association of Africanist Anthropologists

Association of Black Anthropologists

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### **Five Languages Fluently spoken and written**

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English, Swahili, Maasai, Kisii and Kikuyu; spoken in Africa and the African Diaspora

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### **Administrative and Professional Experience**

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- 2006-2008 Digitization Depot Manager, Gottesman Library, Teachers College Columbia University  
*Responsibilities included supervising and researching library material to be stored in the Pocket knowledge, Teachers College's digital archive system.*
- 2005-2007 Marketing and Public Relation Officer, African Studies Working Group Teachers College Columbia University  
*Faculty and Guest Speaker/lecturer recruitment for varied topics. These included both online and print advertising to students and the Columbia University Community as well as getting in touch with faculty, members of the non-profit organizations.*
- 2003-2004 Program Officer, Community Living and Learning

*Community Living and Learning is a non-profit organization that operates resident homes for the mentally challenged in Indiana, PA.*

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