

CURRICULUM VITAE

ALTA GROBBELAAR

Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State
Tel. +2751 401 2364 | Email: GrobbelaarA1@ufs.ac.za

Research interests: Terrorism in Africa; Conflict Studies, Critical Discourse Analysis; Cyber Security in Africa, Terrorism Studies, Terrorism and the Media

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Languages	English (native) Afrikaans (native) Arabic (beginner) Sesotho (beginner)
ORCID ID	0000-0003-2246-4810
Professional Memberships	Golden Key International Association, South African Association of Political Science (SAAPS), International Political Science Association (IPSA)

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

2020	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) University of the Free State, South Africa Thesis title: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Interrelationship between the Media and Terrorist Groups in Africa
2015	Master of Arts (MA) *cum laude University of the Free State, South Africa Thesis title: Reassessing Terrorism and Counter Terrorism in Africa: A Critical Terrorism Study
2013	B.A Honours *cum laude University of the Free State
2012	B.A in Media and Journalism University of the Free State

EMPLOYMENT RECORD

2019-Present	Program Director Team of Bachelor of Social Science at UFS, Bloemfontein Campus
2017-Present	Lecturer, Political Studies and Governance, UFS Bloemfontein Campus
2014-2017	Junior Lecturer, Political Studies and Governance, UFS Bloemfontein Campus, South Campus Module Coordinator, Political Studies and Governance, UFS South Campus

- 2013-2014** Facilitator, Department of Political Studies and Governance UFS
Coordinator, Teaching and Learning Academic Facilitation Program
- 2010** Tutor, Department of Political Studies and Governance, UFS

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020** Recognition as #TeachOn Champion, University of the Free State
- 2011** Daan Wessels-award for Best Third Year student in Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State

PUBLICATIONS

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

Grobbelaar, A. (2021) Updating Africa: Tweeting Terrorism. In *Directions in International Terrorism*, edited by Hussein Solomon. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan.

Grobbelaar, A. (2021) Africa's Online Terror: The increased reliance of African terrorist organizations on Social Media. In *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*. Edited by: Glen Segall, Sergey Kostelyanets, Hussein Solomon. Moscow: Institute for African Studies

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Grobbelaar, A. (With Hussein Solomon) (2014). Understanding the Rise of Boko Haram and its Discontents. *Journal for Contemporary History*. 39 (2). Pp 277-249

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

Grobbelaar, A (With Hussein Solomon) (2015). The origins, ideology and development of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. *Africa Review*.

Grobbelaar, A (2017). Dog Bites Man Vs Man Bites Dog: How The World Misses Africa's Deadliest Terror Attacks. *RIMA Occasional Papers*. Vol. 5 No. 19

Grobbelaar, A (2013). Post-Gaddafi Libya – a 'Not-So-Easy' Road to Democracy. *RIMA Occasional Papers*. Vol. 1 No 16

Grobbelaar, A (2013). The Scramble between France, AQIM and Other Regional Terrorist Groups: It's All about Sibling Rivalry. *RIMA Occasional Papers*. Vol. 1 No. 3.

Grobbelaar, A (With Hussein Solomon) (2013). Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb: Ruthless Idiots or Clever Opportunists. *RIMA Occasional Papers*. Vol. 1 No 10.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (INTERNATIONAL)

- March 2021** "Africa's Online terror: The increased reliance of African terrorist organizations on Social Media." New Frontiers of Terrorism in Africa. Conference with Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia. Department of Political Studies and Governance, University

of the Free State, South Africa. Ezri Center for Iran & Gulf States Research, University of Haifa, Israel.

- July 2021** "Updating Africa: Tweeting Terrorism". Forthcoming conference. New Nationalisms in an Open World. 26th IPSA World Congress of Political Science. NOVA University Campolide Campus, Lisbon, Portugal.
- July 2018** "Terrorists in Africa communicating with the outside world." Presentation delivered at International Political Science Association (IPSA) World Conference in Brisbane, Australia.
- November 2017** "Blink and you'll miss it. Does the world miss the destruction of Africa's heritage sites?" Presentation delivered at Conference on Historical Heritage and Security. Hosted by Osaka School of International Public Policy, in collaboration with the University of the Free State in South Africa and Mzuzu University in Malawi. Conference held at Osaka University, Japan.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (LOCAL)

- July 2021** "Discourse analysis and Critical Discourse analysis in Politics. Nelson Mandela's "I am prepared to die" speech 1964" Virtual presentation delivered at the annual research seminar hosted by the Governance and Political Transformation Post Graduate programme of the University of the Free State.
- May 2021** "Online terrorism in Africa: Is social media the new frontline?". Prospective Trajectories of Terrorism in Africa. North West University School of Government Studies.
- August 2020** "What makes critical research, critical?" Virtual presentation delivered at the annual research seminar hosted by the Governance and Political Transformation Post Graduate programme of the University of the Free State.
- February 2018** "The importance of new methods for old problems: Using Critical Discourse Analyses in the study of terrorism in Africa." Presentation delivered at conference jointly hosted by the Department of Political Studies and Governance and the Centre for African Studies and the University of the Free State and the Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University.
- September 2017** "Discourse Analysis, News and Reporting on Terrorism in Africa" Presentation delivered at the Regional Colloquium of the South African Association of Political Studies.
- February 2017** "How can the power of media be used to fight terrorism in Africa?" Presentation delivered at conference co-hosted by the Centre for African Studies, Jawahrlal Nehru University (India), Centre for the Engagement on African Peace and Security, Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State, and Southern African Centre for Collaboration on Peace and Security and the Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University (Japan).

- September 2016** “Is it time to rethink the fundamentals of Political Research? Starting with the greatest modern threat in Africa – Terrorism.” Presentation delivered at the 13th National Conference of the South African Association of Political Studies.
- October 2015** “Why African lives are deemed less newsworthy: A study of terrorism, its effects and the global perceptions thereof.” Presentation delivered at the Regional Colloquium of the South African Association of Political Studies.
- February 2015** “I am Charlie, but I am Baga too. Why are African lived Deemed less Newsworthy?” Presentation delivered at Workshop on Perspectives on African Peace and Security (in collaboration with Osaka School of International Public Policy)

POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION

- 2021** Master of Arts (Governance)
University of the Free State
“Challenges of Corporate Governance in State-Owned Enterprises: The South African Post Office and the Gauteng Gambling Board”
- Master of Arts (Politics)
University of the Free State
“What makes a revolution successful? A Comparative Study of the Bulldozer and Orange Revolutions in Serbia and Ukraine.”
- 2019** Honours Research Project
“Alleviating Youth Unemployment through the Informal economy in South Africa”
- 2016** Honours Research Project
“A Political Analysis of the Water Crisis in the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LECTURES (ALL COURSES PRESENTED AT UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE)

- POLS1514** Introduction to Political Science (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)
- POLS1524** Introduction to Global Politics (2014 – 2016, Afrikaans sessions only)
- POLS1544** Introduction to Governance and Transformation (2013, 2014, 2015)
- POLS2624** Governance and Political Transformation in Africa (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)
- POLS3724** Political Theory and Ideology (2021)
- POLS6816** Political Science Research Methodology and Proposal (2021)

SERVICE TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

PEER REVIEWER

- 2021** SAGE publishers: "Political leadership, corruption, and the crisis of Governance in Africa: A Discourse for Insight on Africa."
SAGE publishers: "Piracy and Maritime Security in the North-Western Indian Ocean: From the Gulf of Oman to the Waters off the Somali Coast."
- 2020** SAGE publishers: "Implementing the African Security Regime through a 'Multiple-Speed' Approach: Challenges and Prospects" submitted to Insight on Africa.

INTERNAL EXAMINER, UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

- 2021** Master's Thesis, Department of Political Studies and Governance:
"The Narco-Terror Nexus: The cases of Afghanistan, Colombia and West Africa."
- 2020** Master's Thesis, Department of Political Studies and Governance:
"Liberal democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Social and political analysis of constitutional liberalism with application to Senegal, Botswana and Mauritius"
- 2017** Honours research project, Centre for Africa Studies:
"The Effectiveness of Power sharing as a Post-election Conflict Resolution Measure: A study of Kenya and Burundi"
- 2016** Honours research project, Centre for Africa Studies:
"Interested Mediators: The Case of South Africa in Lesotho"

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- 2017** Co-organizer of the SAAPS Colloquium for the North-West/Free State region

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

- 2021-present** Humanities Quality Committee in preparation for UFS' Institutional Audit, UFS
2020-present Marketing Committee in the Faculty of the Humanities, UFS
2020-present Learning and Teaching Committee in the Faculty of the Humanities, UFS
2019-2020 General and Humanities Ethics Research Committee (GHREC), UFS
2017-present Undergraduate Directorate Committee for Political Studies and Governance, UFS

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING ---

2021	Thesis Examination Webinar Hosted by Post-Graduate School, Prof Judith Bruce (Wits) Training Workshop on Quick Enroll and Curriculum Management Webinar Series: Capacity Development for Institutional Audits by Council on Higher Education (CHE) ConnectYard Blackboard Integration Training Study Guide Development Workshop
2020	Training Workshop on Programme Enrollment Professional Development Programme Webinar series taking place via 10 webinars throughout 2020, hosted by the UFS Post-graduate School Webinar for Departmental Course catalog uploaders Blackboard assessment, Rubrics Assessment training
2019	General/Human Research Ethics Committee (GHREC) Reviewer training
2018	Blackboard training, Bb quizzes Blackboard training, Turnitin From paper to e-assessment
2017	Designing MCQ's

COMMUNITY SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT ---

2021-present	Consultation and advising for Rhula Intelligent Solutions Ltd.
2017-present	Analysis of local politics on Pretoria FM
2015-present	Consultant to Oranje Meisieskool debating teams to prepare for various competitions
2021	Adjudicator and consultant to Oranje Meisieskool junior and senior debating teams preliminary rounds
2020	Political Analysis regarding US elections for Newzroom Afrika
2019	Panelist on book discussion with the author of "Gangster State", Pieter Louis Myburgh, hosted by the UFS Business School
2015-2019	Adjudicator for the ATKV "Dink-of-Sink" High Schools Debating Tournament
2016	Adjudicator for the University of the Free State Debating (Preliminary Rounds)

REFERENCES

1. Prof Hussein Solomon. Head of Department, Political Studies and Governance: University of the Free State. Email: solomonh@ufs.ac.za Ph. (051) 401-9454 (Office)
2. Prof Theo Neethling. Head of Department, Political Studies and Governance: University of the Free State. Email: neethlingt@ufs.ac.za, Ph. (051) 401-9783 (Office)
3. Ms. Jackie Storer. UFS Centre for Teaching and Learning (RETIRED). Email: Jckstrr916@gmail.com
4. Ms. Renette van der Walt. Oranje Meisieskool. Email: Renette1961@gmail.com, Ph. 0832335461