

Christian A. Williams
P.O. Box 22504, Exton Road
Bloemfontein 9313, South Africa
+27-714254032, williamsca@ufs.ac.za; caw0004@yahoo.com

Appointment: University of the Free State

Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology
Previously appointed in the department as a Senior Lecturer (2015 – 2023).

Education: University of Michigan

Ph.D. in Anthropology and History (2003 – 2009).
Dissertation: “Exile History: An Ethnography of the SWAPO Camps and the Namibian Nation.”
Preliminary Exam fields: Ethnology, Southern Africa, Human Rights and Humanitarianism.

University of Cape Town

M.A. in Social Anthropology by dissertation only (2001 – 2002).
Dissertation: “Remembering St. Therese: A Namibian Mission School and the Possibilities for its Students.”

Yale University

B.A. in Anthropology and German Studies, distinctions in both majors (1995 – 1999).
Senior Thesis: “Witchcraft in Early Modern Germany: Historical and Anthropological Perspectives.”

**Fellowships &
Awards:**

Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers

Awarded to support research while affiliated with the Anthropology Department at the University of Freiburg in Germany. The project explored the interplay between anti-colonial nationalism and Christian faith through the life of a Namibian exile/refugee. The research features in my recent conference presentations and forthcoming monograph (October 2019 – January 2020; July 2021– April 2022).

C2 Rating from the South African National Research Foundation

Awarded to “established researchers” in their respective fields of study for a five-year cycle (2018).

University of the Free State Book Prize for Distinguished Scholarship

Awarded for the best scholarly monograph published by a staff member at the UFS (2016).

University of the Free State Prestige Scholars’ Program

Selected to be a member of an interdisciplinary program for promising early career researchers (2015 – 17).

University of the Free State Postdoctoral Fellowship

Awarded to support research at UFS’s Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice (2014 – 2015).

South African National Research Foundation Freestanding Postdoctoral Fellowship

Awarded to support research on “the International Relations of Everyday Life at Kongwa Camp” while based at the University of the Western Cape (2012 – 2013).

“Performance and the Politics of Difference in Africa” Postdoctoral Fellowship

South African National Research Foundation project, led by Prof. Heike Becker in the Department of Anthropology & Sociology at the University of the Western Cape (2012).

“Programme on the Study of the Humanities in Africa” Postdoctoral Fellowship

Andrew Mellon and Ford Foundation supported fellowship based at the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of the Western Cape (2010 – 2011).

Rackham Distinguished Dissertation Nomination, University of Michigan (2009).

Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan (2008 – 2009).

US Fulbright Scholarship, awarded to support doctoral research in Namibia (2007).

University of Michigan Regent's Fellowship, awarded to support doctoral studies (2003 – 2009).

Henry S. Scott Senior Thesis Prize, German Department, Yale University (1999).

Publications: MONOGRAPHS

Christian Faith and Namibian Liberation: An Ethnographic Biography of Salatiel Ailonga. James Currey and University of Namibia Press (under contract; publication anticipated in 2025).

National Liberation in Postcolonial Southern Africa: A Historical Ethnography of SWAPO's Exile Camps. Cambridge University Press, 2015.

Remembering St. Therese. Windhoek: Out of Africa Publishers, 2003.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

"SWAPO's 1976 Crisis and Nordic Transnational Solidarities: The Ailongas' Detainee Letters." In Leila Koivunen and Raita Merivirta, eds. *Colonial Aspects of Finnish-Namibian Relations (1870–1990)*. Helsinki: Finnish Literature Society (forthcoming).

"Liberation Movement Camps in Southern Africa." In *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History*. Oxford University Press. Article published (forthcoming). DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190277734.013.ORE_AFH-01216.R1](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277734.013.ORE_AFH-01216.R1).

"Defining and Aiding 'the Namibian Refugee': A History of the Chaplaincy to Namibians in Exile, 1974-76." *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, Special Issue on African Refugee 55, no. 3 (2021): 543-561. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00083968.2020.1869049>.

"Nationalism in Namibia." Scholarly Review Essay. *African Studies Review* 63, no. 4 (2020): 927-937. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2020.89>.

"SWAPO's Struggle Children and Exile Home-Making: The Refugee Biography of Mawazo Nakadhilu." *African Studies Review*, Forum on African Refugee History 63, no. 3 (2020): 593-615. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2019.89>.

"Dissident Refugees: A History of 200 Namibians in Zambia, 1977-89." *Journal of Southern African Studies* 46, no. 5 (2020): 863-879. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2020.1768685>.

"Decolonising Knowledge: Reflections on Colonial Anthropology and a Humanities Seminar at the University of the Free State." *Strategic Review for Southern Africa*, 40, no. 1 (2018): 82-103.

"Exile Biography and Un-National History: The Story of Kaufilwa Nepelilo." *Journal of Eastern African Studies*, Special Issue on Legacies of Struggle in Southern and Eastern Africa: Biography, Materiality and Human Remains 11, no. 1 (2017): 151-165.

"Education in Exile: International Scholarships, Cold War Politics and Conflicts among SWAPO Members in Tanzania, 1961-1968." *Journal of Southern African Studies*, Special Issue on Southern Africa Beyond the West: The Transnational Connections of Southern African Liberation Movements 43, no. 1 (2017): 125-141.

“Refugees and Social Theory: From the Politics of ‘Bare Life’ to Refugees as Political Subjects.” *Acta Academica*, Special Issue on Social Theory, Human Rights and Philosophy 46, no. 4 (2014): 117-131.

“Practicing Pan-Africanism: An Anthropological Perspective on Exile-Host Relations in Kongwa, Tanzania.” *Anthropology Southern Africa* 37, nos. 3&4 (2014): 223-238.

“‘The Spy’ and the Camp: SWAPO in Lubango, Angola, 1980-1989.” In Hilary Sapire and Chris Saunders, eds. *Southern African Liberation Struggles: New Local, Regional and Global Perspectives*. Cape Town: UCT Press, 2013.

“Silence, Voices and ‘the Camp’: Perspectives on and from Southern Africa’s Exile History.” *Humanity*, 3, no. 1 (2012): 65-80.

“Living in Exile: Daily Life and International Relations at SWAPO’s Kongwa Camp.” *Kronos: Southern African Histories*, Special Issue on Africa and the Cold War, 37 (2011): 60-86.

“Ordering the Nation: SWAPO in Zambia, 1974-1976.” *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 37, no. 4 (2011): 693-713.

“National History in Southern Africa: Reflections on the ‘Remember Cassinga?’ Exhibition.” *Kronos: Southern African Histories*, 36 (2010): 207-250.

“Student Political Consciousness: Lessons from a Namibian Mission School.” *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 30, no. 3 (2004): 539-558.

PUBLICATIONS GUEST EDITED

African Studies Review, Editor for Forum on **“African Refugee History,”** 63, no. 3 (2020).

Acta Academica (with Yehonatan Alsheh, Robert Gordon and Anja Henebury), Co-editor for Special Issue on **“Silence after Violence,”** 47, no. 1 (2015).

Social Dynamics, Editor for Special Section on **“Camps and Liberation in Southern Africa,”** 39, no. 1 (2013).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Review of Lennart Bolliger, *Apartheid’s Black Soldiers: Un-national Wars and Militaries in Southern Africa*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 2021. In *Southern Journal for Contemporary History* 48, no. 1 (2023): 147–150. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.38140/sjch.v48i1.7446>.

Review of Nathan Riley Carpenter and Benjamin N. Lawrance, *Africans in Exile: Mobility, Law and Identity*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018. In *African Studies Review* 64, no. 1 (2021): E37-E39. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2020.120>.

Review of Joanna T. Tague, *Displaced Mozambicans in Postcolonial Tanzania: Refugee Power, Mobility, Education and Rural Development*. Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2019. In *Africa Review* 13, no. 1 (2021): 118-120. DOI: [10.1080/09744053.2020.1842994](https://doi.org/10.1080/09744053.2020.1842994).

“African Refugee History.” *African Studies Review*, Forum on African Refugee History 63, no. 3 (2020): 560-567. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2020.76>.

With Tichaona Mazarire. Review of The Namibian Independence Memorial Museum, Windhoek, Namibia, Opened 2014. In *The American Historical Review* 124, no. 3 (2019): 1809-11.

Review of Reinhart Kössler and Henning Melber, *Völkermord – und was dann? Die Politik deutsch-namibischer Vergangenheitsbearbeitung*. Frankfurt a.M.: Brandes and Apsel Verlag, 2017. In *The*

American Historical Review 124, no. 3 (2019): 1192-4.

Review of Kelly Oliver, *Carceral Humanitarianism: Logics of Refugee Detention*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2017. In *Refuge: Canada's Journal of Refugees* 53, no. 1 (2019): 86-7.

Review of Derek R. Peterson, Kodzo Gavua and Ciraj Rassool, eds. *The Politics of Heritage in Africa: Economies, Histories, and Infrastructures*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015. In *Acta Academica*, 48, no. 2 (2016): 147-150.

"Humanitarian Discourse and the Politics of National Liberation: Remember Cassinga?" In Christina Bennett, Matthew Foley and Hanna B. Krebs, eds., *Histories of Humanitarian Action in Sub-Saharan Africa*. London: ODI, 2016, 49-60.

With Robert Gordon. "Conclusion: What is telling 'if telling is all there is?'" *Acta Academica*, 47, no. 1 (2015): 266-273.

Review of Andrew Bank and Leslie Bank, eds. *Inside African Anthropology: Monica Wilson and Her Interpreters*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013. In *Acta Academica* 46, no. 2 (2014): 153-156.

Review of Thomas Friedman, *Imagining the Post-Apartheid State: An Ethnographic Account of Namibia*. New York, Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2011. In *Anthropology Southern Africa* 36, nos. 3&4 (2013): 157-159.

Review of Bennett Kangumu. *Contesting Caprivi: A History of Colonial Isolation and Regional Nationalism in Namibia*. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, 2011. In *South African Historical Journal* 65, no. 3 (2013): 474-477.

"Introduction: Thinking Southern Africa from 'the Camp.'" *Social Dynamics*, 39, no. 1 (2013): 1-4.

Review of Marion Wallace with John Kinahan. *A History of Namibia*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2011. In *South African Historical Journal* 65, no. 1 (2013): 157-161.

Review of John Liebenberg and Patricia Hayes. *Bush of Ghosts: Life and War in Namibia 1986-1990*. Cape Town: Umuzi, 2010. In *South African Historical Journal* 63, 2 (2011): 348-351.

"Namibia." In Sean Jacobs and Krista Johnson, eds. *Encyclopedia of South Africa*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2011.

Review of André du Pisani, William Lindeke and Reinhart Kössler, eds. *The Long Aftermath of War: Reconciliation and Transition in Namibia*. Freiburg: Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institut, 2009. In *The Journal of Namibian Studies* 7 (2010): 131-133.

Presentations: CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Reimagining Contemporary Africa: Circulations of Objects, Knowledges, and Spiritual Practices, University of the Western Cape, Department of Anthropology

Presented "Becoming Christian and Namibian in South West Africa: The Early Life of Salatiel Ailonga, 1932-63"

International Conference on Language, Multilingualism and Decolonization Practices in Higher Education, University of the Free State

Invited to present at a panel titled "Advocating for a Decolonized University in the Global South" (2023).

Vereinigung für Afrikawissenschaften in Deutschland (VAD), University of Freiburg

Convened and presented a paper at a panel titled "African Exiles/Refugees and European Solidarity: Histories from Southern Africa's Anti-colonial Struggles, 1960-1990" (2022).

Basler Afrika Bibliographien's "Namibian and Southern African Studies Series," Basel

Presented "Dissident Solidarity: SWAPO's Crisis in Zambia and the Ailongas' Letters in Finland" (2022).

"Colonial Aspects of Finnish-Namibian Relations (1870-1990)," University of Turku, Finland

Presented "SWAPO's 1976 Crisis and Nordic Anti-Colonial Solidarity: Salatiel and Anita Ailonga's Detainee Letters" (2022).

Sixth European Congress on World and Global History (on-line)

Presented "Liberation Movement Camps in Southern Africa" (2021).

African Studies Association Annual Meeting (on-line)

Presented "Faith and Exile: Seeing 'National Liberation' through the Christian Lives of Salatiel and Anita Ailonga" (2020).

African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts

Presented "Dissident Refugees: A History of Two Hundred Namibians in Zambia, 1977-89" (2019).

"Rethinking Refuge: Processes of Refuge-Seeking," *Forum Transregionale Studien*, Berlin

Presented "Defining 'the Namibian Refugee': Reflections on Displaced People and Knowledge Production in Africa's Frontline States" (2019).

"Liberation Beyond the Nation," University of the Western Cape

Presented "SWAPO Dissidents or Namibian Refugees? A History of Namibians at Meheba, 1977-89" (2019)

"A Double Colonialism: New Directions in the History and Culture of Namibia and South West Africa," Indiana University, Department of History

Participated in this workshop for Namibia specialists and presented recent work on "the Namibian refugee" (2018).

African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia

Chaired and introduced roundtable on "Refugee Mobilities in Africa" (2018).

"Africa Refuge," Canadian Association of African Studies, Queens University;

"Transnational Connections in Southern Africa and with Countries in the East," *Vereinigung für Afrikawissenschaften in Deutschland (VAD)*, University of Leipzig

Presented "Defining and Aiding 'the Namibian Refugee': A History of the Chaplaincy to Namibians, 1974-76" (2018).

"Decolonizing the South African University?" Centre for Africa Studies and Department of Philosophy, University of the Free State

Presented "Decolonizing Knowledge: An Anthrohistorical, Seminar-centric Perspective" (2017).

"Workshop on Refugees and African History" and "Northeast Workshop on Southern Africa," Burlington, Vermont

Presented "Children of the Liberation Struggle: Seeing SWAPO's Struggle Children and the Exile Family through 'Refugee Biography'" (2017).

"Africa in the 21st Century Classroom," Africa Network, St. Olaf College, Minnesota

Presented "Decolonizing Knowledge: Perspectives on a Seminar" (2017).

Southern African Historical Society Biennial Conference, University of the Witwatersrand

Presented "The Camp and the Postcolony: Where is Lubango?" for a panel on "Liberation Movement Camps" (2017).

**The Politics of Armed Struggle in Southern Africa, University of the Witwatersrand
Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, University of Venda, Thohoyandou**
Presented “Exile Biography and Un-National History: The Story of Kaufilwa Nepelilo” (2016).

**Transnational Connections in Southern Africa: Decolonizing and Postcolonial Experiences,
University of Évora, Portugal**
Presented “Education in Exile: International Scholarships, Cold War Politics and Conflicts among
SWAPO Members in Tanzania, 1961-1968” (2016).

Struggle History Film Workshop, Onjala Lodge, Namibia
Presented “Experiences of Exile” to Namibian film-makers and historians collaborating on documentaries
about Namibia’s history of anti-colonial struggle (2016).

**Four Decades of Independence: Challenges and Possibilities in Contemporary Angola, Stanford
University**
Presented “Exile Biography and Un-National History: The Story of Kaufilwa Nepelilo” (2015) and
delivered a lecture on “National Liberation in Postcolonial Southern Africa” to accompany the launch of
my book.

Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, North-West University (Potchefstroom)
Presented “Imagining the Postcolony: Political Imaginaries among Namibians living at three sites in
1960s Tanzania” (2015).

**“The History of Humanitarianism in Africa,” Humanitarian Policy Group (UK), convened in Addis
Ababa**
Presented “Liberation Movement Camps and Humanitarianism in Southern Africa: Remember Cassinga?”
(2015).

**“Legacies of Struggle in Southern and Eastern Africa: Biography, Materiality and Human
Remains,” British Institute for East Africa, Nairobi**
Presented “National History and Exile Biography: The Story of Kaufilwa Nepelilo” (2015).

Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, University of the Witwatersrand
Presented “Practicing Pan-Africanism: Tanzanian-Exile Relationships at Kongwa Camp” (2013).

“Legacies of Apartheid Wars Project,” Rhodes University
Presented “Revisiting an Image of a Camp: Remember Cassinga?” (2013).

History Department Seminar Series, University of Dar es Salaam
Presented “Practicing Pan-Africanism: Tanzanian-Exile Relationships at Kongwa, 1964-1969” (2013).

“Mobile Soldiers and the Un-national Liberation of Southern Africa,” University of Sheffield
Presented “Practicing Pan-Africanism: International Relations at Kongwa Camp in 1960s Tanzania”
(2013).

“Engaging the Other: Breaking Intergenerational Cycles of Repetition” University of the Free State
Presented “National Reconciliation in Namibia: ‘Silences’ and their ‘Victims’” (2012).

Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, University of Cape Town
Presented “Camp, Nation, History” (2012).

**“Independence Celebrations, National Days and the Politics of Commemoration in Africa,”
Bamako**
Presented “National Histories and the Politics of Commemoration: Remember Cassinga?” (2012).

“50 Years of African Liberation,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.

Presented “National History in Southern Africa: Remember Cassinga?” (2011).

“New Frontiers in Namibian Historiography,” National Archives of Namibia, Windhoek

“100 Years of the ANC: Debating Liberation Histories and Democracy Today,” Johannesburg

Presented “Living in Exile: Daily Life and International Relations at SWAPO’s Kongwa Camp” (2011).

Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, Stellenbosch University

Presented “An Anthropology of the Spy: SWAPO Camps in Lubango, Angola, 1980-1989” (2011).

“Camps, Liberation Movements, Politics,” University of the Western Cape

Presented opening address on “Camps, Liberation Movements, Politics” at this workshop which I convened (2011).

Southern African Historical Association, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Presented “Ordering the Nation: SWAPO in Zambia, 1974-1976” (2011).

“Love and Revolution,” University of the Western Cape

Anthropology Southern Africa Conference, Chintsa, South Africa

Presented “Silence, Voices and ‘the Camp’: Perspectives on and from Southern Africa’s Exile History” (2010).

Historical Association of Southern Africa, Potchefstroom University

Presented “The Production of National History: Remember Cassinga?” (2010).

“Reconciliation and the Aftermath of War: Perspectives on and from Angola and Namibia,”

Omaruru, Namibia

Presented “Reconciliation?: ‘Silences’ and their ‘Victims’” (2009).

“Colloquium on War and the Everyday,” University of the Western Cape

Presented “Ordering the Nation: Hierarchy in the SWAPO Camps” (2008).

African Studies Association Annual Conference, San Francisco;

“Locations of Power,” a conference on Southern Africa, Emory University

Presented “Negotiating Exile: Nationalism, Knowledge and ‘The Facts’ about SWAPO Detentions in Lubango, Angola, 1985, 1989, 2005” (2006).

“Decontaminating the Namibian Past,” University of Namibia

Presented “Student Political Consciousness: Lessons from a Namibian Mission School” (2004).

Midwestern Graduate Student Conference of African Studies, Northwestern University

Presented “From Liberation to Ubuntu: An Historical Perspective on Desmond Tutu, Reconciliation and the Making of a Discourse” (2004).

GUEST LECTURES

“Liberation Movement Camps in Southern Africa”

Invited by the *Institute for African Studies at the University of Bayreuth* to deliver a lecture in its “Sprint Lectures on African Mobilities” series. The lecture is available as a podcast. See: <https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de/en/Podcasts/index.html> (2021).

“Defining and Aiding ‘the Namibian Refugee’”

Invited by the *University of New Mexico’s International Studies Institute* to deliver a public lecture in their “Peacemaking in Africa” series. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8Wt9Gvs29s> (2019).

“Decolonizing Knowledge”

Invited to deliver lectures on this topic by the *UFS Postgraduate Student Council* (2017), the *UFS QwaQwa Campus* (2017; 2019) and *St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY* (2017).

“SWAPO’s Exile Camps”

Hosted by *The Namibian* newspaper to deliver a public lecture and launch my book in Windhoek, Namibia (2016).

“National History and Historical Ethnography”

Invited to deliver a lecture to faculty and students in the *Department of Anthropology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India* (2016).

“Legacies of Apartheid’s Wars: Remember Cassinga?”

Invited to deliver a lecture for the *Ted Talk* series at the University of the Free State (2015).

PUBLIC HISTORY WORK

Podcasts

Interviewed about my book on SWAPO’s exile camps for the New Books Network. See: <https://newbooksnetwork.com/national-liberation-in-postcolonial-southern-africa> (2021).

Co-presented episode 121 of “Africa Past and Present” on *“Refugees in African History.”* See: <http://afripod.aodl.org/2018/12/afripod-121> (2018).

Blogs

Published blogs on refugee history for “Africa is a Country” and “RefugeeHistory.org”. See: <https://africasacountry.com/2020/10/refugee-debates-have-an-african-history-problem> and <http://refugeehistory.org/blog/2021/4/15/swapos-struggle-children-and-exile-home-making-the-story-of-mawazo-nakadhilu> (2020-21).

Newspaper Articles

Have written several articles based on my research for *The Namibian*, Namibia’s most widely read newspaper.

Film

Worked as a researcher for *“Paths to Freedom,”* a documentary film about the birth of Namibia’s armed struggle against South Africa. Research entailed collecting archival materials in New York and Dar es Salaam. The film has won multiple awards at international film festivals since its release in 2014.

Photo Exhibitions

Drew from archival and personal photographs to prepare *“Remember Cassinga?”* The exhibition was displayed at the University of the Western Cape, the National Archives of Namibia, the Outapi War Museum and the Eenhana Heroes Memorial Shrine (2010 – 11).

Drew from archival photographs to prepare an exhibition titled *“Living in Exile.”* The exhibition was displayed at multiple sites in Namibia as part of my doctoral research (2007).

Research
Experience:

Postdoctoral Research in Namibia

Ethnographic fieldwork, oral history interviews and archival research conducted with Namibian former exiles and their interlocutors scattered throughout the country. I began my research in Namibia as a graduate student and, with the exception of the COVID-19 pandemic period, have returned to Namibia at least once annually since completing my PhD to meet with research participants there (2010 – present).

Research for Humboldt Project in Vaasa, Finland and Wuppertal, Germany

Archival research, oral history interviews and ethnographic fieldwork conducted with research participants in my current book project. Archives consulted include the private archives of Anita Ailonga, Salatiel Ailonga’s widow, in Vaasa and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church’s archives in Wuppertal (June 2019, February – April 2022).

Research for the Film “Paths to Freedom” in New York, USA

Archival research conducted at the United Nations (December 2013).

Postdoctoral Research in Kongwa and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Ethnographic fieldwork and oral history interviews conducted near the site where Kongwa camp was located in central Tanzania; archival research at the National Library and Archives of Tanzania and the Tanzanian Broadcasting Corporation in Dar es Salaam (July – August 2012; May – June 2013).

Postdoctoral Research in Cape Town, Alice and Pretoria, South Africa

Archival research at the Mayibuye Centre at the University of the Western Cape, the ANC Archives at Fort Hare University and the South African National Defense Force Archives in Pretoria (repeated trips from 2010 to 2013).

Doctoral Research in Namibia and in southern Angola

Ethnographic fieldwork, oral history interviews and archival research with Namibian former exiles. Research was conducted primarily in the capital, Windhoek, and in Ovamboland, northern Namibia. Trips were also made to parts of southern Namibia where I conducted my MA research and to sites in southern Angola where Namibian exiles once lived (January 2007 – August 2008).

Doctoral Research in Basel, Switzerland and Wuppertal, Germany

Library and archival research on Namibian exiles conducted at the Namibian Resource Centre in Basel and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church’s archives in Wuppertal (July – October 2006).

MA Research in southern Namibia

Ethnographic fieldwork with former students of St. Therese Secondary School at the sites where they have lived in southern Namibia (September – December 2001; repeated trips in 2002).

BA Research in Nürnberg and Bamberg, Germany

Library and archival research concerning witchcraft beliefs and persecutions during the 16th and 17th centuries (May – July 1998).

Teaching
Experience:

Undergraduate and Honours Teaching, Department of Anthropology, University of the Free State
Developed and led courses annually for anthropology students, including “*Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*” (first-year), “*The Anthropology of Identity*” (second-year; honours), “*The Anthropology of Humanitarianism*” (third-year), and “*History, Theory and Methods in Anthropology*” (honours). Of these courses, my second-year course on identity, designed for 200-300 undergraduate students, has been my most consistent teaching responsibility. The course examines the interplay between colonialism, memory, and identity in Africa and is designed to assist students improve their writing (2014 – present).

Honours, MA and PhD Supervision, Humanities Faculty, University of the Free State

Supervisor for six completed honours theses, seven MA theses (three completed, four on-going), and one completed PhD thesis. My PhD student was based at the UFS Centre for Gender and Africa Studies and completed his degree with a thesis titled “Exploring Economic Reintegration in Namibia: Individual Trajectories of PLAN Ex-fighters and SWAPO Exiles (1989 – 2018)” (2014 – present).

MA Teaching at the Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice, University of the Free State

I taught “*Violence and Memory: Approaches to Studying Violent Pasts and their Aftermaths*,” a course for students enrolled in the Institute’s interdisciplinary MA Program in Reconciliation and Social Cohesion (2016 – 2017).

Decolonising Knowledge Seminar, Humanities Faculty, University of the Free State

Initiated a bi-weekly seminar through the UFS BSocSci Program, wherein staff and students discussed seminal texts on “decolonization” and applied them to curriculum and pedagogy in their respective departments (2017 – 2018).

University of the Western Cape, Department of Anthropology & Sociology
Lecturer for “Belief and Ritual,” a course for second year students (2012).

University of the Western Cape, Department of History
Lecturer for “Africa in Transition, 1890-1960,” a course for third year students (2011).

University of Michigan, Department of History
Instructor for “Humanitarianism: African Historical Perspectives,” a writing intensive seminar which introduced students to the discipline of history (2009).

Center for Global Education, Augsburg College Program in Windhoek, Namibia
Instructor for “Racism and Resistance in Southern Africa and the U.S.,” a seminar offered to American undergraduates participating in a semester abroad program (2008).

University of Namibia, Department of History
Supervisor for history students preparing senior research theses (2007).

University of Michigan, Departments of Anthropology and History
Led discussion sections for three undergraduate courses: “African History to 1850” (2004), “Modern European History” (2005) and “Introduction to Anthropology” (2005).

University of Cape Town, Department of Anthropology
Led discussion sections for an undergraduate course: “The Anthropology of Development and Difference” (2002).

University of the Western Cape, Department of Anthropology & Sociology
Lecturer for “Classical Theory,” a course covering social theorists of the late 19th and early 20th century (2002).

WorldTeach Volunteer at St. Therese Junior Secondary School, Tses, Namibia
Teacher of English, drama, music, debate and athletics to grades 8, 9 and 10 at a rural mission school (2000-2001, 2003).

Service: **Acting Academic Head, Department of Anthropology, University of the Free State**
Appointed to manage all of the activities of my department for six months (April – September 2023).

Seminar Coordinator, Department of Anthropology, University of the Free State
Initiated and convened a bi-weekly departmental seminar series in which staff, students and invited speakers presented original research (2016 – 2019; 2023 – present).

Postgraduate Committee Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of the Free State
Appointed to lead postgraduate admissions and to create programs aimed at supporting postgraduate research, including a monthly seminar to guide honours students with their research proposals and theses (2023).

Decolonization Group of Senate, University of the Free State
Invited to join a group of faculty members, advising the university on its approach to “decolonization” and conceptualizing fora for discussing the university’s colonial legacies (2022 – present).

Advisory Board Member for the H-Net Cross Network Project “Refugees in African History”
(2020 – present).

Editorial Board Member for the *Journal of Southern African Studies* (JSAS) and *Anthropology Southern Africa* (ASnA)
In addition to advising and reviewing articles for these academic journals, I serve on a JSAS subcommittee dedicated to planning writing workshops and mentoring early career scholars at universities

across the Southern African region (2014 – present).

Member of Senate, University of the Free State

Represented the Humanities Faculty on this university wide decision-making body (2018 – 21).

Programme Director for the Bachelor of Social Sciences in the Faculty of Humanities, University of the Free State

Coordinated the UFS's BSocSci degree and worked with colleagues in five departments to conceptualize a shared social science curriculum (2016 – 2019).

Book Review Editor for *Insight on Africa*

Commissioned reviews for this journal associated with the African Studies Association of India (2016 – 21).

Reviewer of African Studies Book Manuscripts for Routledge, Lexington, Ohio University Press, and the University of Namibia Press

(2018 – 2023).

Examiner of MA Theses in Anthropology at the University of Zululand and Rhodes University and of Ph.D. Theses in History at the University of Johannesburg and the University of the Western Cape

(2019 – 2023)

External Examiner for the Departments of Anthropology at North-West University (Potchefstroom) and Rhodes University

Served as the external examiner of third-year exam scripts for North-West Anthropology (2015 – 2017) and of third-year exam scripts and honours theses for Rhodes Anthropology (2018 – 2020).

Secretary of Anthropology Southern Africa

Elected to serve as secretary for the professional society of anthropologists based in Southern Africa (2017 – 2019).

Reviewer for the Cultural Anthropology Program, National Science Foundation, Arlington, Virginia

Reviewed an application for a collaborative research project on refugee-host relations in Africa (2017).

Organizer for “Refugees and African History,” Burlington, Vermont

Conceptualized and organized a workshop which assembled scholars studying refugees in Africa from historical points of view (2017).

Co-Organizer for “Silence after Violence,” University of the Free State

Organized conference which assembled scholars studying social responses to mass violence in different contexts (2014).

Organizer for “Camps, Liberation Movements, Politics,” University of the Western Cape

Organized conference which assembled scholars working on Southern Africa's liberation struggles and on camps in different contexts (2011).

Search Committee for the Fred Cuny Chair in the History of International Human Rights, University of Michigan (2009).

Student Representative, Doctoral Program in Anthropology and History, University of Michigan (2004 – 2005).

International Center for Transitional Justice, New York, USA

Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, Cape Town, South Africa

Interned at both of these organizations, contributing to their literatures on reconciliation (2004).

Community Project, St. Therese Junior Secondary School, Tses, Namibia

Coordinated a reunion at St. Therese and liaised between the school, its Alumni Association, and foreign donors as they implemented educational programs for local youth (2003 – 2010).

Languages:

German (advanced)

Studied German for eight years, including a semester of German-medium studies at the University of Tübingen (1997). Worked as a German-English translator, including on the translation team for *Casper Schwenckfeld: Eight Writings on Christian Beliefs* (Ontario: Pandora Press, 2006).

Afrikaans (intermediate)

Have learned Afrikaans over sixteen years residing in Namibia and South Africa; passed proficiency exam administered at the University of Michigan (2005).

Portuguese (elementary)

Studied Portuguese for two years, including language training at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth and International House, Lisbon (2005, 2006).

Khoekhoegowab, Oshiwambo (beginner)

Have learned basic skills in several African languages, above all these two used at my Namibian fieldsites.