

Organized by:
Kansas African Studies Center
Center for Global & International Studies
Dept of African & African-American Studies



April 2025
In-person & online
Lawrence, Kansas
University of Kansas

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

GRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP (GRW)

14:00-21:30 UTC | 9:00 am-4:30 pm CT

This is an opportunity for students to present their research and receive insightful and helpful feedback.

Organized by Kansas African Studies Center and Dept of African & African-American Studies. See kasc.ku.edu/graduate-research-workshop.

Global Africa Opening Reception

109/110 Bailey Hall 5:00 pm CT

Everyone is welcome to the reception—GRW presenters, audience, and people attending the Global Africa conference!

Meet, greet, and enjoy refreshments.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

109/110 Bailey Hall

REGISTRATION

13:00 UTC | 8:00 am CT

109/110 Bailey Hall

WELCOME by Charlie Bankart, KU International Affairs

13:30-14:00 UTC | 8:30-9:00 am CT

Introduction by Glenn Adams, Director of Kansas African Studies Center & Professor, Psychology, KU

109/110 Bailey Hall

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

14:00-15:00 UTC | 9:00-10:00 am CT

Introduction by Luciano Tosta, Director, Center for Global & International Studies & Associate Professor, Spanish & Portuguese, KU

Nexus of Unfreedom: The Global Geographies of Abolition in West Central Africa

Roquinaldo Ferreira, PhD, Henry Charles Lea Professor, History, University of Pennsylvania

SESSION 1

15:00-16:15 UTC | 10:00-11:15 am CT

SESSION 1A

110 Bailey Hall

Convener/Chair: Glenn Adams, University of Kansas, USA

Africa(n)-centering Psychologies as a Site Global African Imagination

From Ghana to the globe: Reimagining psychological science through Africa(n)-centred well-being studies; Annabella Osei-Tutu, University of Ghana

Khaze eyozala nkonomi?: The Future of Africa-centring psychologies' in global white hegemony; Siphon Dlamini, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

Exploring storytelling in clinical psychology: A framework for clinical indigenous psychology; Ismahane Soukeyna Diop, University Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal

Global African psychology; Kopano Ratele, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

SESSION 1B

202 Bailey Hall

Convener/Chair: Jaira Harrington: University of Illinois-Chicago, USA

Decolonial Critiques of Disability Studies: African Perspectives

Economic and infrastructural support needs in the rural families of children with intellectual disabilities in Limpopo Province, South Africa; Julia Modula, University of the Free State, South Africa

Decolonizing the ethics committees in disability studies: Reflections from the Global South-the Zambian experience; Joachim Nyomi, World Project, Min. of Education, Zambia

A call to reimagine research methodologies in disability research in the African continent; Rachael Wanjagua, University of Texas, USA

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 (cont.)

SESSION 2

16:30-17:45 UTC | 11:30 am-12:45 pm CT

SESSION 2A
110 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Asmaha Heddi, University of Kansas, USA

Exploring conceptual metaphors of diasporic identity in Orlanda Amarílis's short stories; Francesca Deli Atti, Università del Salento, Italy

"A minha avó negra sabia": Mariza's hybridism and Luso-tropicalism; Caio Mourão, INET-md/Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal

The living tradition: Mapping genealogies of memory and meaning through A.R.T. (A Revolutionary Tool); Lasana Kazembe, Indiana University Indianapolis, USA

SESSION 2B
202 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Luciano Tosta, University of Kansas, USA

Territory and identity: Afro-Brazilian cultural heritage as a tool for territorial planning; Alyne Fernanda Reis, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil

Espaços e territórios em África e na Diáspora Africana – Fenômenos de resistência; Josane Oliveira, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil

Inhabiting ancestral futures: Technologies of non-forgetting in Afro-referenced economic strategies; Azânia Nogueira, Rutgers University, USA Interpreter

SESSION 2C
109 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Mike Wuthrich, University of Kansas, USA

Connections, technologies, and implications: Examining ancient metals from the Swahili Coast of Tanzania; Thomas Fenn, University of Oklahoma, USA

AI and education in Africa by 2050: Transformative opportunities and emerging challenges; Anatole Balma, US Army Command & General Staff College, USA

LUNCH BREAK

18:00-19:00 UTC | 1:00-2:00 pm CT

SESSION 3

19:00-20:15 UTC | 2:00-3:15 pm CT

SESSION 3A
110 Bailey Hall
Moderator: TBD

A Garawoun sound nation: Garifuna-based music as the Honduran musical identity; Cesia Espinal, University of Kansas, USA

Music, anti-racism, and the Black Movement in 1970s Brazil; Stephen Bocskay, State University of New York at Albany, USA

Between textuality and orality: Ajami sources and religious chanting among the Layene Sufi Community of Senegal; Emily Riley, El Colegio de México

SESSION 3B
202 Bailey Hall

Round Table Discussion: Africa and the Global AI Arms Race; Oluwakorede Ajibona, Oluwaseun Sanwoolu, David Tamez, & Kyrian Chinemeze Adimora, University of Kansas, USA

SESSION 4

20:30-21:45 UTC | 3:30-4:45 pm CT

SESSION 4A
110 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Elizabeth MacGonagle, University of Kansas, USA

Missions, medicine, and meaning: A history of perception and medical place-making in Pokot, East Africa; Julie Morris, University of Kansas, USA

Representing Luanda in global art circuits; Krista Brune, Pennsylvania State University, USA

"Critical but Stable": Agricultural propaganda, hunger and power in Zimbabwe, c.2000-the Present; Brian Kauma, Southwestern University, USA

SESSION 4B
202 Bailey Hall

Round Table Discussion: African Languages Presence in Global Settings: Opportunities and Challenges; Amal El-Haimeur, Peter Ojiambo, University of Kansas, USA

The epistemic creative & theatrical space of the Global African: King Oedipus' daughter in America; Peter Ukpokodu, Kai Goff, Seth Bruey, University of Kansas, USA

Organized by:
Kansas African Studies Center
Center for Global & International Studies
Dept of African & African-American Studies



April 2025
In-person & online
Lawrence, Kansas
University of Kansas

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

109/100 Bailey		REGISTRATION	13:30-14:00 UTC 8:30-9:00 am CT
		SESSION 5	14:00-15:15 UTC 9:00-10:15 am CT
SESSION 5A 105 Bailey Hall Moderator: Brian Rosenblum, University of Kansas, USA		SESSION 5B 110 Bailey Hall Moderator: Julie Morris, University of Kansas, USA	
<i>Nature in Yorùbá thought and right to healthy environment for sustainable development</i> ; Noah Balogun, Afe Babalola University, Nigeria		<i>China's digital state capitalism and its impact on Africa's digital economic transition</i> ; Qingxiu Bu, University of Sussex, UK	
<i>Past, present and future: Africa's biographical tradition and the quest for epistemic justice and decolonial futures</i> ; Neo-Aidan Allert, University of Cambridge, UK		<i>Cultural exchanges between communist Romania and West Africa in the 1960s and 1970s</i> ; Domnica Gorovei, University of Bucharest, Romania	
<i>Mistranslation of Yoruba: A case study of three words</i> ; Ajara Jagne, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA		<i>Becoming beneficiaries of occupational wellness: Re-imagining the workplace for African Diasporic women in South Africa and the United States</i> ; Di-Tu Dissassa, Independent Scholar, USA	

SESSION 6			15:30-16:45 UTC 10:30-11:45 am CT
SESSION 6A 103 Bailey Hall Moderator: Luciano Tosta, University of Kansas, USA	SESSION 6B 105 Bailey Hall Moderator: Alexis Trouillot, University of Kansas, USA	SESSION 6C 110 Bailey Hall Moderator: TBD	
<i>Colonial legacies, migration and diasporic identities: case study of Yoruba migrants in Ghana, 1900-1957</i> ; Olawale Yemisi, University of Ibadan, Nigeria	<i>From colonies to carriers: a quantitative analysis of postcolonial African Airlines</i> ; Reese Hollister, North Carolina State University, USA	<i>Postmodern matabicho: João Melo's irreverent "authors"</i> ; Luis Felipe Gómez Lomelí, University of Florida, USA	
<i>The Nagô Tree of Freedom. Three Black generations between slavery and post-abolition on the island of Itaparica</i> ; Wellington Castellucci Junior, Universidade Federal do Recôncavo da Bahia, Brazil	<i>The geopolitical shifts in the Sahel: The Sino-Russian strengthening vs. the Franco-American decline</i> ; Yoslan Silverio González, El Colegio de México	<i>Africana Intimacies: Slavery and colonial afterlives in the dilemma of a ghost</i> ; Tobi Idowu, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA	
<i>Trans-local ritual families as supranational spiritual communities (the case of Cuban religions of African antecedents)</i> ; Arisbel Lopez Andraca, University of Texas, USA	<i>"Two Africas": The historical construction of the North-South divide and its implications for Global Africa</i> ; Aidan Huang, Harvard University	<i>Black girlhood and child slavery in Um Defeito de Cor (2006)</i> ; Leticia Barbosa, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA	

LUNCH BREAK

17:00-18:00 UTC | 12:00-1:00 pm CT

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025 (cont.)

SESSION 7

18:00-19:15 UTC | 1:00-2:15 pm CT

SESSION 7A

110 Bailey Hall

Convener/Chair: Elizabeth MacGonagle, University of Kansas, USA

SESSION 7B

105 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Luciano Tosta, University of Kansas, USA

Museums as Sites of Trauma and Healing

Double-edged displays: reproductive trauma and healing in Afro-Atlantic museologies. Ridwan Muhammed, University of Kansas, USA

Khadija Saye, Diaspora, and decolonial museum practice; Sarah Crawford-Parker, University of Kansas, USA

Reckoning with slavery in the Caribbean; Elizabeth MacGonagle, University of Kansas, USA

Tranças no mapa: um patrimônio imaterial na identidade da Diáspora Africana nas periferias de Brasília; Layla Maryzandra, Universidade de Brasília, Brazil

Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Candomblé temples: A study on the transformations in religious community spaces in Alto das Pombas (Salvador-BA); Constança Metzker, Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo, Universidade Federal da Bahia

Transatlantic connections: Exploring African heritage in the Brazilian Festivals; Adedolapo Adewuyi, University of Kansas, USA

SESSION 8

19:30-20:45 UTC | 2:30-3:45 pm CT

SESSION 8A

110 Bailey Hall

Moderator: Asmaa Benbaba, University of Kansas, USA

SESSION 8B

105 Bailey Hall

Moderator: James Yékú, University of Kansas, USA

The fugitive body: Xica da Silva and the rupture of racial and gender power; Laryssa Rodrigues, University of Kansas, USA

Inheritance and return: Diasporic time, repetition, and postcolonial dislocation in Heredarás la tierra (2015); Alejandro Marin, University of Oregon, USA

When Kwa and Igbo became Bende: The complexities of an Afro Caribbean identity in colonial San Andrés Islands; Monica Ayala Martinez, Denison University, USA

Documenting presence: How colonial documentation practices shape modern Afro-Mexican identity; Ariadna, Tenorio, University of Florida, USA

Up from empire: Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee, and Pan-Africanism in the age of U.S. and European imperialism; Kenneth Smith, Taft College, USA

Colonial legacies and the ongoing struggles of education in Malawi: A historical analysis of foreign-funded literacy interventions; Annie Shaba, Virginia Tech University

110 Bailey Hall

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

21:00-22:00 UTC | 4:00-5:00 pm CT

Introduction by Shawn Alexander, Professor & Chair, African & African-American Studies, Director, Langston Hughes Center, KU

St. Clair Drake and the Praxis of Diaspora: Rethinking the Roots and Routes of a Global Africa in the Modern Age

Andrew Rosa PhD, Associate Professor, History Western Kentucky University, USA

Updated April 24, 2025, 8 pm

Organizers of the Global Africa conference:

Luciano Tosta, Director of Center for Global & International Studies; Associate Professor, Department of Spanish & Portuguese: lucianotosta@ku.edu

Glenn Adams, Director of Kansas African Studies Center; Professor, Department of Psychology: adamsg@ku.edu

Shawn Alexander, Professor & Chair; Department of African and African-American Studies; Director of the Langston Hughes Center: shawnalexander@ku.edu