

ZINE MAGUBANE

Boston College
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Education

Harvard University, Ph.D. in Sociology granted June 1997.
Harvard University, M.A. in Sociology granted March 1994.
Princeton University, B.A. in Politics granted June 1991.

Professional Experience

2019-present

Professor of Sociology, *Boston College*

Courtesy Appointment: Department of African and African Diaspora Studies

Chair, Global and Transnational Section, American Sociological Association (2020-2021)

2005-2019

Associate Professor of Sociology, *Boston College*

Courtesy Appointment: Department of African and African Diaspora Studies

2008-2011

Chairperson, Department of Sociology, *Boston College*

2003-2005

Associate Professor of Sociology and African Studies,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Faculty member of Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois
(August 2000-2005)

Faculty member, Department of African-7(en)-10(t)5(of)3(A)-4(f)3(r)e1(00000912 0 612 792 reW*ñBT/F1 10.56

Publications

Books

Another Sociology is Possible: Slavery, Colonialism and the (Re)making of the Classical Canon. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (forthcoming)

Bringing the Empire Home: Race, Class and Gender in Britain and Colonial South Africa. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004.

Edited Books

Race, Gender and the Status of Black South African Women in the Academy
Pretoria: University of South Africa Press, 2004. [with Reitu Mabokela]

Postmodernity, Postcoloniality, and African Studies. Trenton: Africa World Press, 2003.

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Articles

2025

“Of Ghosts and Ghostwriters: How the History of Sociology Complicates Our Understanding of Critical Race Theory and the ‘War on Woke’.” *The Pluralist* 20 (1): 58-82.

2023

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“Oprah in South Africa: The Politics of Coevalness and the Creation of a Black Public Sphere.”

2016

“The Politics of Gender in the ANC: Reflecting Back on Twenty Years.” In *Twenty Years of South African Democracy*, edited by Thembele Kempe. (Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press): 149-166.

2014

“The Black Man’s Burden: African American Celebrities and Philanthropy.” In *U.S-Africa Relations: From Clinton to Obama*, edited by Cassandra Rachel Veney (New York: Rowman & Littlefield): 149-168.

2013

“Women and the Struggle for Gender Inclusivity During the South African Transition, 1990-1994.” In *The Road to Democracy in South Africa*, Volume 5, edited by South African Democracy Education Trust. (Pretoria: UNISA Press): 3-52.

“Saviors and Survivors: Western Passivity, African Resistance, and the Politics of Genocide in *Hotel Rwanda*.” In *Genocide in Film*, edited John Michalczyk (New York: Peter Lang): 220-225.

2010

“I’m Real Black When I Wanna Be: Examining J.Lo’s Racial Assets.” In *Black Berries and Redbones: Critical Articulations of Black/Hair Body Politics in Africana Communities*, edited by Regina Spillers and Kimberly R. Moffitt. (Virginia: Hampton University Press): 245-260.

“Attitudes Towards Feminism Among Women in the ANC 1950-1990: A Theoretical Interpretation.” In *The Road to Democracy in South Africa*, Volume 4, edited by South African Democracy Education Trust. (Pretoria: UNISA Press): 975-1036.

2009

“Ethnographic Showcases as Sites of Indigenous Knowledge Production and Resistance.” In *Contesting Knowledge: Museums and Indigenous Perspectives*, edited by Susan Sleeper-Smith. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press): 45-64.

“The Boundaries of Blackness: African American Culture and the Making of a Black Public Sphere in Colonial South Africa.” In *Empires and Boundaries: Rethinking Race, Class, and Gender in Colonial Settings*, edited by Harald Fischer Tiné and Susanne Gehrman. (New York: Routledge): 214-234.

2006

“Globalization and Gangster Rap: Hip Hop in the post Apartheid City” in *The Vinyl Ain’t Final: Hip Hop and the Globalization of Black Popular Culture*, edited by Sid Lemelle and Dipa Basu. (London: Pluto Press): 208-229.

“Africana Sociology: A Critical Journey from Pluralism to Postcolonialism.” In *Transnational and Transdisciplinary Studies: The African Challenge*, edited by Paul T. Zeleza. (Paris/Senegal: CODESRIA Press): 62-74.

2005

“Overlapping Territories and Intertwined Histories: Historical Sociology’s Global Imagination” in *Remaking Modernity: Politics, History, Sociology*, edited by Julia Adams, Elisabeth S. Clemens, and Ann S. Orloff (Durham: Duke University Press): 92-108.

“Mazrui as Debater: Passion, Power, and Polemic in Africanist Scholarship” in *The Mazruiana Collection Revisited: Ali A. Mazrui Debating the African Condition*,” edited by Abdul Samed Bemath. (London: New Dawn Press, Inc.): 338-353.

2004

“Globalization and Africa’s Intellectual Engagements” in *The Ideological Dimensions of Globalization* edited by Manfred

“Science and Society in Southern Africa” by Saul DuBow. *Current Anthropology* Vol. 43 No. 5 (December): 823-825.

1999

“Beyond Inequalities: Women in South Africa, Tanzania, and Malawi,” *Counterpoise* (October): 64-65

“Rugby and the South African Nation,” by David Black, *Africa Today*. Vol 46: No.3/4 (Summer/Autumn): 225-226

“Warmth of the Welcome: The Social Causes of Economic Success for Immigrants in Different Nations and Cities,” by Jeffrey G. Reitz. *Social Forces* Vol. 77 no. 4 (June): 1629-1630.

2000

Presentations

2024:

May: “W.E.B DuBois and Pan Africanism: The Impact of Decolonization on His Sociological Imagination.” Geneva Graduate Institute, Switzerland.

October: “Dependency Theory and Intersectionality: Perspectives from Sociology.” Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies, Bonn Germany.

2019

May: “Understanding the ‘pre-history’ of African and African-American Studies.” Rupture and Relation: A Workshop on Black Critical Thought, Northwestern University, Evanston IL.

“Building the DuBoisian Intellectual Agenda.” DuBoisian Scholar Network 2nd Annual Convening, Brown University, Providence RI.

March: “De-Colonizing Sociology: Eastern Sociological Society Presidential Panel.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston MA.

“Decolonizing Sociology: The View From African and African Diaspora Studies.” Global Africa: African and African Diaspora Studies in the 21st Century, The African Institute, United Arab Emirates.

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August: "Decolonizing African and African American Studies." Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation, Johannesburg, South Africa.

October: "Race, Epistemology, and the Sociological Cannon." Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

2017

November: "American Political Economy and the Production of Vulnerable Populations," Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston MA

October: "The Politics of Time in International Relations: Historical Sociology and the Coloniality of Time," London School of Economics.

August: "Diaspora is Good to Think With: The Sociology of Race as a Challenge to Methodological Nationalism," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal Canada.

June: "Stuart Hall: Pan Africanism, Diaspora, and the Making of a Postcolonial Sociologist," Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation, Johannesburg South Africa.

2016

Feb: "Is the 'New Racism' Really New?: A Postcolonial Perspective," Eastern Sociological Society, Boston MA.

"The Imperial History of Public Sociology." Presidential Panel: Eastern Sociological Society, Boston MA.

"MOOCs as Public Sociology," Eastern Sociological Society, Boston MA

June: "Decolonizing Sociology," Keynote South African Sociological Society, Grahamstown, South Africa.

Oct: "Color Blind Racism and the Problem of History," Brown University Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America," Providence RI.

"The American Construction of the Poor White Problem in South Africa," Stellenbosch University, Stellen

2015

May: "Sociology as Colonial Knowledge," Keynote Rhodes University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

April: "Decolonizing Sociology," Keynote Address, University of Cape Town, Van Zyl Slabbert Chair, Cape Town.

April: "Social Science and Colonialism," Keynote Address Stellenbosch University, Cape Town.

April: "Sexual Difference and the Construction of the Human: Bodies, Property, and Bodily Properties," Keynote Address, *Doing Human Conference*, Johannesburg.

2014

November: "The South African Women's Movement: Twenty Years On," Keynote Address, Carleton University, Institute of African Studies. Ottawa, Canada.

May: "Sexual Freedom and Gender Equality: Reflections on 20 Years of Continuing Struggle,"

March: "Gender and the Politics of Celebrity Activism," Department of Women's Studies/Africa & African Diaspora Studies, Florida International University.

March: "Sarah Baartmaan in Context," Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.

2009:

October: "Black Women in the South African Liberation Struggle," Watson Institute for International Affairs, Brown University

June: "Race, Class, Gender and the Transnational Circulation of Sociological Knowledge." Keynote Address, South African Sociological Association. Johannesburg, South Africa.

June: "Opening Up Epistemes," Department of International Affairs, Brown University, Providence, RI.

April: "Gender and the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission." Wellesley College, Department of Anthropology, Wellesley, MA.

February: "Can We As Mothers Not Take Our Fight to The Enemy?: Gender and Resistance in Apartheid South Africa. Keynote Address, Spelman College, Atlanta GA.

January: "The American Construction of the Poor White Problem in South Africa: The Transnational Circulation of the Sociological Imagination." Department of Sociology, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg South Africa.

2008

June: "Keynote Address" (Mays Memorial Lecture) for UNCF/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Mellon-Mays Fellowship Program. Emory University, Atlanta GA.

April: "'No Freedom Without the Women': Women in the Anti-Apartheid Movement and Beyond." Keynote Address, Ursinus College.

March: "White Girls Behaving Badly: Women as Boundary Markers of Empire Post 9/11." Yale University, Department of Sociology

March: "Brand The Beloved Country: Africa in Celebrity Culture." Yale University, Center for Cultural Studies.

2007

October: "White Girls Behaving Badly: Reality TV and Gender Politics Post 9/11." University of Minnesota, American Studies.

September: "Ethnographic Showcases." Newberry Library, Chicago, IL. Newberry Library

June: "Africa in Celebrity Culture." University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL.:

June: Keynote Address (Mays Memorial Lecture) for Social Science Research Council, Benjamin Elijah Mays Fellowship Program. Columbia University, New York.

April: "The Genocide in Rwanda." Bunker Hill Community College, Boston MA.

March: "South African Popular Culture." Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis.

March: "Angelina, Adoption, and Africa." Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

February: "From the Mommy Wars to the War on Terror: Women as Boundary Markers of Empire in the 21st Century." Boston University, Department of Sociology, Boston MA.

February: "Gender, Race, and Class in Popular Culture." MIT, Cambridge MA

2006

October: "New Directions in Diaspora Research." Workshop on African and African Diasporic Knowledges. University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa.

September: "Race, Performance and Masculinity." Humboldt University. Berlin, Germany.

August: "Progress in Africa Reconsidered." 75th Annual Couchinching Conference. Couchinching Institute for Public Affairs. Toronto, Canada.

April: "What is African America to Me? Images of African Americans in the Black South African Imagination." Center for Black Diaspora Research. Depaul University, Chicago IL.

2002

December: "African Intellectuals and Globalization." Globalization Research Center at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

April: "Race, Representation, and Performance in the Postmodern Age". Loyola University Chicago, Department of Sociology.

2001

March: "Which Bodies Matter? Feminism, Post-structuralism, Race, and the Curious Theoretical Odyssey of the 'Hottentot Venus'." Northwestern University Program in African Studies.

2000

February: "Celts, Simians, Savages, Skulls, and Sex." Berkeley Workshop on Environmental Politics. University of California at Berkeley

1999

Nov: "Racist Images in Popular Culture: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives." National Coalition Against Racism in Sports and Media, C

Fellowships and Awards

Robin M. Williams, Jr. Distinguished Lecturer, Eastern Sociological Society (2020=2021)
Smith Fellow, The Roxbury Latin School (2020)
University of Illinois Center for Advanced Study (2000-20001)
Research Fellow, Human Sciences Research Council, Pretoria South Africa (1999-2000)
Research Fellow, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (1998-1999)

*Social Science Research Council
Volkswagen Institute*

