

Ng'ang'a Wahu-Muchiri, Ph.D.

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Employment

August 2016 – present	Assistant Professor of English, University of Nebraska
June 2016 – July 2016	Faculty Director & Program Coordinator, Duke in Ghana Study Abroad
August 2015 – May 2016	Post-Doctoral Lecturing Fellow, Duke University Thompson Writing Center

Education

PhD. English Literature, University of Miami, FL	2015
• Dissertation: “Writing on the Soil: Literature’s Influence on African Land Rights.” Chair: Dr. Brenna Munro	
M.A. English Literature, University of Miami, FL	2012
B.A. Engineering Studies & English, Lafayette College, PA	2009

Teaching & Research Interests

The African Novel; African Visual & Cultural Studies; African and African Diaspora Studies; Global Anglophone Novel; Africana Digital Humanities; Decolonial Theory & Literatures in English; World Literature.

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Land & Landscape in Literature from Eastern Africa*
 - Manuscript completed (86,000 words)
- *The Memory of that First Illicit Love: A Memoir*
 - Manuscript completed (78,000 words)
 - 1 chapter featured in *Language in Contemporary African Cultures & Societies* (2019)

Peer-reviewed Essays and Interviews

In print

- a) “‘No Acts of Violence Are Alien to Me:’ Author Interview with Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor.” *African Literature Today*:38. July 2020 (2,400 words)

- b) “From Grace Ogot to Yvonne Owuor: Fifty Years of Depicting Kenyan Lands & Landscapes.” *African Literature Today*:37. 2019. 64-76. Print. (5,000 words).
 - This is a condensed version of the Routledge 2019 chapter.
- c) “Depictions of Kenyan Lands & Landscapes by Four Women Writers.” *Routledge Handbook of African Literature*. New York: Routledge, 2019. 244-257. Print. (8,000 words).
- d) "'To Revolutionary Type Love:' Interview with Kawira Mwirichia & 6 Photographers." *African Literature Today*:36. Special Issue: Queer Theory in African Film & Fiction. 2018. 38-51. Print. (7,000 words).
- e) “‘A Nation of One’s Own’: Fictional Indictment of Cannibalistic African States.” *African Dictator Fictions*. Ed. Gichingiri Ngiririgi. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2014. 221-233. Print.
- f) “Performance: Popular Culture as the People’s Intervention in Dictatorial Regimes.” *Guernica Editions - Dany Laferrière: Essays on His Work*. Ed. Lee Skallerup Besette. Toronto: Guernica, 2013. 21-50. Print.

Encyclopedia Entries

- “Gender and Land Rights.” *Encyclopedia of World Poverty*. Eds. Mehmet Odekon & J. F. Geoffrey Golson. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 2015. Print. (1,170 words).
- “Kenya.” *Encyclopedia of World Poverty*. Eds. Mehmet Odekon & J. F. Geoffrey Golson. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 2015. Print. (990 words).

Book Reviews

- “Review of *Germans on the Kenyan Coast: Land, Charity, and Romance* by Nina Berman.” *Research in African Literatures*. 50. 2. 2019. 265-267. Print.
- “Review of Ngugi, Mukoma Wa, *The Rise of the African Novel: Politics of Language, Identity, and Ownership*.” *H-Africa, H-Net Reviews*. 2019.
<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=53376>
- “Humor in the Caribbean Literary Canon.” Review Essay. Sam Vasquez, *Humor in the Caribbean Literary Canon. Interventions: International*

Journal of Postcolonial Studies. 17.5 (2015) 769-770.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1369801X.2015.1054642>

Creative Nonfiction

- “Ode to the Wanderlust.” *Language in Contemporary African Cultures & Societies*. Eds. Leonard Muaka & Esther M. Lisanza. New York: Lexington Books, 2019. 215-225. Print.

Honors & Awards

- College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award. Mar. 2020
- College of Arts and Sciences ENHANCE Award for Ardhi Initiative Africana Digital Humanities project. Oct 2019, \$5,000. PI.
- College of Arts and Sciences Honors Faculty of the Year, 2019
- Research Proposal Development Fellow for NEH grant writing. UNL Office of Proposal Development. 2017-2018. PI.
- College of Arts and Sciences International Research Collaborations Award for Ghanaian Open-Air Markets as Performative Soundscapes. May 2017, \$6,700. PI.
- Honorable Mention, Benstock Dissertation Prize, University of Miami 2016
- Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, University of Miami 2014
- Graduate Teaching Assistantship, University of Miami 2009-2014
- University of Miami Graduate Student Association Merit Scholarship, May 2013
- “Best Graduate Student Paper” African Literature Association, Mar. 2013
- \$1,800 English Department Research grant, Dec. 2012-Jan. 2013
- English Department Composition Fellowship, 2012-2013
- Gilbert Prize in English, Lafayette College, 2008

Conference Presentations

1. “Postcolonial Infrastructure: Built Environments & The African City,” Lagos Studies Association, Lagos, Nigeria. June 2021.
2. “Writing and Publishing in African Digital Humanities,” Princeton African Humanities Colloquium (PAHC), Princeton, NJ. Nov 6, 2020.
3. “Poetic Fiction & the Depictions of East African Environmental Violence,” Modern Languages Association, New York City, NY. January 2018.
4. “Land Rights, Human Rights, & Yvonne Owuor’s Construction of Environmental Justice,” African Studies Association, Chicago, IL. November 2017.

5. "A Quest Called Home: Movement of Bodies & Words in Mukoma wa Ngugi's Nairobi," Modern Languages Association, Philadelphia, PA. January 2017.
6. "The 1962 Makerere Writers' Conference & the De-centering of Cultural Production: From Colonial Exhibitions to Black and African Cultural Festivals," Winthrop-King Institute for Contemporary French and Francophone Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. October 2016.
7. "Imaging & Writing the (C21st) African Urban Self," South East African Literatures & Languages Forum, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC. September 2016.
8. "*Molue* Aesthetics & the Performance of Cultural Citizenship," LAGOS: From the Peppercorn to the Megacity (and Beyond) - A Conference on Space, Society, and the Imagination of an African Crossroad, Barnard College, NY. May 2016.
9. "Land Rights as Social Justice in Colonial East Africa," African Literature Association, Atlanta, GA. April 2016.
10. "Violence & Colonial Transformation of African Landscapes," African Studies Association, Baltimore, MD. November 2013.
11. "Migration, Settler Mentality & (Hu)Man Alteration of African Landscapes," Association for the Study of Literature & the Environment, Lawrence, KS. June 2013.
12. "Natural Leitmotif: Land as a Symbol in East Africa's Socio-Political Movements," UT-Austin Conference by Dr. Toyin Falola, Austin, TX. March 2013.
13. "'Sibling Rivalry': Law & Literature as Competing Paths to African Liberation," African Literature Association, Charleston, SC. March 2013.
14. "Women's Relationship to Property: Pre-Colonial Great Lakes Region," African Studies Association, Philadelphia, PA. November 2012.
15. "Human Rights Discourse & Contemporary Congolese Literature," African Literature Association, Dallas, TX. April 2012.
16. "Trauma & the Hybrid Self in *Johnny Mad Dog* & *La Vie et Demie*," International Society for African Philosophy & Studies, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. April 2011.
17. "Performance: Popular Culture as the People's Intervention in Dictatorial Regimes," University of Miami English Graduate Student Conference, Miami, FL. April 2011.
18. "Shailja Patel's Poetry on Stage: Reincarnation of 21st Century African Activism," African Theatre Association, Kampala, Uganda, July 2010.

TEACHING

Study Abroad Courses Taught

Postdoctoral Lecturing Fellow, Duke University

Writing 190SA [Cross-listed as English 190A/ Cultural Anthropology 390SA] –
Duke in Ghana: Literature as Anthropology, Anthropology as Literature.
Duke University Study Abroad.

Courses Taught

Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- ENGL 344D: Caribbean Literature
- ENGL 303: The Short Story.
- ENGL 244A/ETHN244A: Introduction to African Literature.
- ENGL 205: 20th Century Fiction.
- ENGL 189H: Sanaa: The Literature & Art of Africa's Cities – Honor's Seminar.

Postdoctoral Lecturing Fellow, Duke University

- Writing 101: Academic Writing – Consuming Africa's Cities.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Miami

- ENG 214: American Literature II – Major Authors.
- ENG 202: World Literature II - Masterpieces & Autobiographies.
- ENG 107: Composition II for Science/Engineering, Spring 2011.
- ENG 105: Composition I.

SERVICE

Department-level

- Placement Coordinator for graduate students, Department of English, September 2017-Present.
- Master's Thesis Supervision, 2020-2021
Student: Zainab Saleh
Project: "Englishness and Feminism"
Chair: Prof. Kwame Dawes
Committee: Prof. Amelia Montes, **Ng'ang'a Wahu-Muchiri**

University-level

- Advisory Board, Global Studies, September 2018-Present
- Co-Faculty Advisor, African Students Association, September 2017-Present.

- Co-Faculty Advisor, Africa Forum, September 2018-Dec. 2019
- Co-Faculty Advisor, Rwandan Students Association, September 2016-August 2018.
- Grant Proposal Committee, Mandela Washington Foundation/Young African Leaders. October 2016

Community-level

- “Trevor Noah Show” Pre-Performance Speaker, Lied Center for Performing Arts, Lied Education Outreach Program, Lincoln, NE, October 6, 2017.

Professional Memberships

- African Literature Association
- African Studies Association
- Association for the Study of Literature & the Environment
- Modern Language Association

References:

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Dean Mark Button
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