

Curriculum Vitae

Othandwayo Mgqoboka

PhD Candidate - Department of Anthropology, with a designated emphasis on Global Black
Diaspora Studies

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EDUCATION

2021 - Present **University of California, Riverside** , Riverside, CA, USA

PhD candidate, Anthropology

4.0 GPA

2024 **University of California, Riverside**, Riverside, CA, USA

Masters Degree in Anthropology

2020-2022 **University of the Witwatersrand**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Masters Degree in Sociology

Graduated with Cum Laude

2019 **University of the Witwatersrand**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Honours Degree in Sociology,

Graduated with Cum Laude

2016-2018 **University of the Witwatersrand**, Johannesburg, South Africa

Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies and Sociology

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2025 Center for Ideas and Society, Summer Dissertation Writing Fellowship, University of
California, Riverside

2024 Drs. Wendy A. Ashmore and Thomas C. Patterson Fund, University of California,
Riverside

- 2023** Center for Ideas and Society Humanities Graduate Student Research Grant, University of California Riverside
Drs. Wendy A. Ashmore and Thomas C. Patterson Fund, University of of California Riverside
- 2022** Sylvia Broadbent Memorial Fund Award, University of California Riverside
- 2021** Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship Award, University of California Riverside
Post Graduate Merit Scholarship Award, The University of the Witwatersrand
Award of Excellence in Sociology Master’s Degree, The University of the Witwatersrand
- 2020** Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Masters Scholarship Fellow 2020 , The University of the Witwatersrand, The History Workshop
- 2019** Award of Excellence in Sociology Honours degree 2019, Witwatersrand University
- 2017** Certificate of First Class- African Literature: Gender and Writing II (AFRT2001)
Certificate of First Class- African Literature: Performing Power in Post-independence Africa (AFRT2002)
Certificate of First Class- Political Sciences: Feminist theory and Politics II (POLS2001)
Certificate of First Class- Political Sciences: Black Consciousness Thought and the Politics of Anti-racism (POLS2021)
Certificate of First Class- Sociology: Contemporary Social Issues in Southern Africa II (SOCL2001)
- 2016** Certificate of First Class- International Relations of South Africa and Africa (INTR1010)

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

2026

Associate In/Lecturer, University of California, Riverside– **Introduction to Black Study: Black People Domestically and Globally Now (Winter)**

71 students

2025

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside– **Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology (Fall)**

Lecture size: 300 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Winter)**

Lecture size: 517 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Spring)**

Lecture size: 498 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Associate in/Lecturer, University of California, Riverside – **Political Anthropology (Summer)**

19 students

Associate in/Lecturer, University of California, Riverside – **Linguistic Anthropology (Summer)**

12 students

2024 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside– **Introduction to Black Study: Black People Domestically and Globally Now (Fall)**

Lecture size: 46 students

Discussion section total students: 46 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside– **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Winter)**

Lecture size: 400 students

Discussion section total students: 69 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology (Spring)**

Lecture size: 197 students

Discussion section total students: 61 students

Associate In/Lecturer, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Summer)**

100 students

2023

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Fall)**

Lecture size: 500 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (winter)**

Lecture size: 566 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Spring)**

Lecture size: 223 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Associate In/Lecturer, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Summer)**

95 students

Associate In/Lecturer, University of California Riverside – **Pre World History (Summer)**

10 students

2022 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**

Lecture size: 565 students

Discussion section total students: 70 students

Graduate Research Assistant (under Professor Ayana Flewellen)- Archiving and analysis of the portrayal and representation of the enslaved in Royal Danish American Gazette in St Croix.

- 2021** Teaching Assistant, The University of the Witwatersrand, Third years Students—
Sociology of Africa,
Environmental Sociology
The Sociology of Race and Gender
- 2020** Teaching Assistant, The University of the Witwatersrand, Third years —**Sociology of Africa**
- 2019** Teaching Assistant, The University of the Witwatersrand, First years— **Introduction to Sociology**
- 2018** Student Representative Council (SRC) Treasurer General, The University of the Witwatersrand
- Student Representative Council Club, Societies and Organisation officer, The University of the Witwatersrand
- 2017** Chairperson of the School of Social Sciences, The University of the Witwatersrand
Deputy Secretary General of the Humanities Faculty, The University of the Witwatersrand

PUBLICATIONS

Mgqoboka, O. 2021. *Blackness as Permanent Exile: Black female Flesh Against the Human*, MA Thesis, the University of the Witwatersrand

PRESENTATIONS, TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

Panelist, “Fanon, Biko and the Conjectures of Afropessimism”. University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg South Africa. (February 26th 2026)

Panelist, “*Sexual Terror and the Question of Blackness*”. University of São Paulo - USP

Event name: 4th Black Consciousness Week of the Faculty of Law of Ribeirão Preto, USP

Date: November 19th 2025

Mgqoboka. O (2025, November 18th). *Racism and Democracy: Contemporary Rights, Struggles and Resistance* [Guest Lecture]. University of São Paulo - USP Event name: 4th Black Consciousness Week of the Faculty of Law of Ribeirão Preto, USP

Mgqoboka. O. (2024, July 24th). *Ways of dying: Antiracism, Democracy and the Question of (un)Freedom in South Africa*" [Guest Lecture]. *XVII CURSO DE ATUALIZAÇÃO: A TEORIA E AS QUESTÕES POLÍTICAS DA DIÁSPORA AFRICANA N A S AMÉRICAS*. . Criola: Rio de Janeiro. Virtual

Mgqoboka, O. (2024, February 16th). *Care and Repair in Death's Shadow* [conference paper presentation]. Care and Repair: 2024 UC Graduate Student Virtual Conference, UCR

Panelist, "On the Anniversary of the Assassinations of MLK and Lil'Bobby Hutton—A discussion on Captive Maternals and War Resistance, with Joy James & Kalonji Changa". Center for ideas and Society at UCR.(April 6, 2023)

Panelist, *Till* Film screening, in conjunction with the exhibition The Impact of Images: Mamie Till's Courage from Tragedy, in conversation with Dr Courtney R. Baker. UCR Arts (February 8th, 2024)

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Global antiracism, racial slavery, democracy, nation states, gender and sexuality, Africa, Black women and the histories of Black Radicalism, Speculations on the possibilities of Black freedom and futures.

LANGUAGES

English – fluent speaking and writing

IsiXhosa – Native fluent speaking and writing

IsiZulu – Adequate speaking and writing
Afrikaans- Adequate speaking and writing

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Dr Joao Costa Vargas: Professor of Black Study and Anthropology, University of California, Riverside

Relationship: PhD Committee Chair

Email: joao.vargas@ucr.edu

Dr Yolanda Moses: Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside

Relationship: PhD Committee member

Email: yolanda.moses@ucr.edu

Dr Dylan Rodrigues: Professor of Media and Cultural Studies and Black Study, University of California Riverside

Email: dylan.rodriguez@ucr.edu

Dr Ayana Flewellen: Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University

Relationship: GSR Supervisor (2022)

Email: ayanaf@stanford.edu

Dr Shireen Ally: Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Email: shireenadamally@gmail.com