

S.N. Nyeck, Ph.D.

Visiting Senior Research Fellow
Canterbury Christ Church University, UK
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EDUCATION

- ✓ Ph.D., Political Science, 2013
University of California Los Angeles, USA
Dissertation: *The Political Economy of Ways and Means: Procurement Contract and Development in Africa 1619-1919*, Chair Edmond Keller
- ✓ Bachelor of Arts, 2007
Swarthmore College, USA
High Honors

RESEARCH AND POLICY INTEREST

I am generally interested in the political economy of development; government outsourcing or public procurement reform and social justice; non-state actors; comparative institutional & historical analysis; contentious politics; gender, sexuality and politics; law and culture.

- ✓ **Identity economics and politics:** I am interested in the ways in which our personal and collective sense of “who we are” impacts economic and institutional relations.
- ✓ **Government outsourcing and human rights:** is public procurement and public-private partnerships displacing or reinforcing human rights and especially the wellbeing of vulnerable groups in society? How do we create a more accountable partnership between the public and the private sector while promoting socio-economic wellbeing? How can public procurement improve governance in the world?
- ✓ **Gender, sexuality and politics:** how is gender and sexual identity negotiated in contexts where human rights are contested? What are other mechanisms besides state-centered approaches that could foster inclusive and sustainable communities? How is the idea of individual freedom manifested in different socio-cultural and political contexts? How is gender and sexual identity subverted in otherwise well functioning institutions? What role does religion play in sexual identity negotiation?
- ✓ **Strategic interactions:** How do people and communities establish lasting relationships in a context of asymmetric power and inequalities? Under which circumstances contracting transforms economic and political inequalities for worse or better? Applying a game theoretic framework to identity negotiation analysis.
- ✓ **Ethics and social transformation.** What are the frontiers of Western liberalism and what is the role of spiritual imagination in socio-cultural and political transformation? What values can one derive from indigenous ethical frameworks to imagine more equal and inclusive societies today?

CURRENT PROJECTS

- ✓ Completing a monograph about the colonial contractual encounters between African polities and European early transnational firms and states: *Patchwork Hierarchies: A Study of Practical Reasoning & Procurement Contracts in Africa 1620-1920*.
- ✓ Special Journal Issue. *Frontiers in Gender, Sexualities in African Studies in Africa*, the premier journal devoted to the study of African societies and culture, Cambridge University). Co-editing with Rachel Spronk (University of Amsterdam), 2019-2020.

- ✓ Book monograph: *African Queer Politics and Dialectics: Simulation and Simulacra* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2019), **manuscript under contract**.
- ✓ Book (edited volume, editor). *Routledge Handbook on Queer Africa* (Routledge, 2019), **manuscript under contract**.

EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Senior Visiting Research Fellow, Canterbury Christ Church University, UK, 2016-present.

Affiliated Senior Research Fellow, University of Amsterdam, NL 2016-present.

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Clarkson University, USA, 2013-2016.

Teaching Assistant, University of California Los Angeles, 2007-2011.

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Peer-Reviewed)

- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. Editor. *Public Procurement Reform and Governance in Africa*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2016.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. and Marc Epprecht. Editors. *Sexual Diversity in Africa: Politics Theory and Citizenship*, McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013.

Journal Guest Editor (Peer-Reviewed)

- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. and Orly Benjamin. Special issue "Women, Gender and Government Outsourcing in Comparative Perspectives" *Wagadu: A Transnational Women's and Gender Studies Journal*, 2015.

Articles and Book Chapters (Peer-Reviewed)

- ✓ Nyeck, SN. "From Oblivion to Post History: The West and Sublime Othering in Rider Haggard and W.E.B. Du Bois," *The European Legacy* (2019, upcoming, accepted for publication).
- ✓ Nyeck, SN. "Heretical Falsification and the Challenge of Theorizing Queerness from the South." In *The Oxford Handbook on LGBT Global Politics*. Edited by Mike Bosia, Sandra McEvoy and Monin Rahman. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019 (upcoming, accepted for publication).
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "Africa and Neoliberalism." An entry in *Global Encyclopedia of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer History*. Edited by Howard Chiang, Anjali Arondekar, Marc Epprecht, Jennifer Evans, Ross Forman, Hanadi al-Samman, Emily Skidmore, and Zeb Tortorici. New York: Cengage Learning, 2019 (upcoming, accepted for publication).
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "Contractual Schemes in Africa's Political Development: Conceptualizing Old Practices and Establishing Relevance with New Governance Models in the 21st Century" *The European Legacy* Vol. 22, Issue 4 (2017): 385-405.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "Why Does Gender Equality Matter to Public Procurement? An African Perspective." *International Learning Lab on Public Procurement and Human Rights*. 14 March 2017 <<https://goo.gl/xD41bn>> .
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "African Religions, the Parapolitics of Discretion and Sexual Ambiguity in Oral Epics." *Journal of Theology for Southern Africa*, no. 155 (2016): 88-104.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "Implicit Dimensions of Public Procurement Contracts: African History and Debates" in *Public Procurement Reform and Governance in Africa*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2016.
- ✓ Ekwekwuo, Chibuzo and S.N. Nyeck. "The Role of New Technologies of Communication and Social Audits in Procurement Monitoring" in *Public Procurement Reform and Governance in Africa*. New York: Palgrave, 2016.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. "Queer Fragility and Christian Social Ethics: A Political Interpolation of the Catholic Church in Cameroon." in *Christianity and Controversies in Contemporary Africa*, edited by Ezra Chitando and Adriaan van Klinken. New York: Routledge, 2016.

- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. and Orly Benjamin. “Women, Gender and Government Outsourcing in Comparative Perspectives” in *Women and Government Outsourcing in Transnational Perspectives* a special Issue of *Wagadu: A Transnational Journal of Gender and Women’s Issues* Vol. 14, 2015.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “(Out)bidding Women: Public Procurement Reform, Policy Diffusion and Gender Equality in Africa.” In *Women and Government Outsourcing in Transnational Perspectives* a special Issue of *Wagadu: A Transnational Journal of Gender and Women’s Issues* Vol. 14, 2015.
- ✓ Nyeck, SN. “Stretching the Margins and Trading Taboos: A Paradoxical Approach to Sexual Rights Advocacy in Africa.” in *Sexuality and Politics: Regional Dialogue from the Global South* edited by Sonia Corrêa, Rafael de la Dehesa and Richard Parker. *Sexuality Policy Watch* Vol. 1, (2014): 63-95.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “The Autobiography of Things Left Undone: Politics of Literature, Hyphenation and Queered Friendship in Africa.” *Transcript* Vol. 1, February (2011): 172-198
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “To Be or Not to Be a Lesbian: The Dilemma of Cameroon's Women Soccer Players.” In *African Women Writing Resistance An Anthology of Contemporary Voices* edited by Jennifer Browdy et al. University of Wisconsin Press, 2010.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Critique de la Violence Sexuelle et l’Etat au Cameroun.” in *New Perspectives on Sexuality in Africa (Special issue) Canadian Journal of African Studies* Vol. 43, no. 1 (2009): 188-190.

OTHER RESEARCH AND POLICY-BASED CONSULTANCIES

- ✓ Lead researcher. *The Economic Cost of Stigma and Exclusion in South Africa*. USAID-funded research implemented by the Williams Institute at the University of California Los Angeles. July-October 2018.
- ✓ Lead Reviewer. *Gendering Social Science Research Methods Module*. Partnership for African Social & Governance Research. Nairobi, Kenya, March 2017.

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Invited speaker. South African Embassy in Washington D.C., November 13, 2018 NGLCC National Business Week. Conversations in line with South African President, Cyril Ramaphosa’s appointment of a team of business and finance experts to attract \$100 billion in investment to boost the South African economy over the next 5 years.
- ✓ Invited Speaker. *Eurodad’s Launching Report on Untying Aid and International Aid*. Brussels, September 24th, 2018.
- ✓ United Nations invited Plenary Speaker. “Women’s Economic Empowerment Global Summit,” *UN Women* in Collaboration with NAMA Women’s Establishment, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, December 4-5, 2017.
- ✓ Workshop leader. “Phases and Face of LGBT Human Rights Movement in Africa.” Graduate School of Humanities, University of Cologne, Germany, September 26, 2017.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Animism Revisited: An Africanist Perspective on Rhizomatic Queerness” *Queering Paradigm VIII* conference, Vienna, Austria Sept. 20-23, 2017.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “From Rainbow to Rainmaking Diplomacy: The Role of Public Procurement in Global Human Rights Activism.” *American Society of Public Administration* Annual Conference, Atlanta, March 4-7, 2017.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “From Status to Contract: A Political Analysis of Treaty-Making in Africa 1620-1919” in the panel *The Global Diffusion of Economic Ideas and Policies*, IPSA World Congress of Political Science, Poznan, Poland. July 11, 2016.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Queer Fragility and Christian Ethics: A Political Interpolation of the Catholic Church in Cameroon” public lecture, Center for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge, UK. June 15-16, 2016.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Embedding Queer Rights in Africa: The Premises of a Dialogical Approach to Advocacy” public lecture, University of Washington & Lee, VA. April 1, 2016.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “(Out)bidding Women: Public Procurement Reform Diffusion and Gender Equality in

- Africa” Association of African Women for Research and Development conference, Dakar, Senegal. December 7-9, 2015.
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “How the US is Not Evolving Towards Africa: Critical Estrangement in USAID New Global LGBT Development Public-Private Partnerships” African Studies Conference, San Diego, California. November 19-22, 2015.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Ideal of Public Procurement Reform and Governance Challenges in Africa: A Comparative Survey of Legislations and Practices” Consortium for International Management, Policy and Development conference. Livingstone, Zambia. June 22-26, 2015.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Contractual Schemes in Africa’s Political Development: Conceptualizing Old Practices and Establishing Relevance with New Governance Models in the 21 Century” General Assembly Meeting of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research (CODESRIA), Dakar, Senegal. June 6-12, 2015.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Women of Faith, Women of Doubt” Panelist at the UN Commission on the Status of Women; Panel Organized at the Riverside Church in Manhattan. March 13, 2015.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Toasted Rights and Baked Freedoms: A Reflection on the Paradoxes of Queer Advocacy in Africa” presented at The State of Art of Sexuality Research in Africa Conference, Naivasha, Kenya. Feb. 15-19, 2015.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Incomplete Contracting and State Formation in Africa 1620-1919.” Practices of Order: Colonial and Imperial Projects Conference, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. January 28-30
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Human Sexuality, Religion and Equality,” a presentation at the University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa. August 2014.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. The Means and Ends of the State: Negotiable Sovereignty in Historic State Systems, a panel in collaboration with Ariel Salzman (Canada). Social Science History Association, Toronto, Canada. November 6-9, 2014.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Incomplete Contracting and State Formation in Africa 1629-1919,” a paper prepared for the Social Science History and Association, Toronto, Canada. November 6-9, 2014.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Government Outsourcing in Africa,” Public lectures in St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. August 2014.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Government Contract Valuation: A Comparative Analysis of Firm-Level Evidence in Manufacturing and Services,” a paper presented at the New York Association of African Studies conference, New York. April 4-5, 2014.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Sexual Rights Advocacy in Africa: A Glass Full or Empty?” a paper presented at the African Studies Center Speaker Series at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. January 29th, 2014
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. Public Procurement Reform in Africa: History, Regulation, and Practice a panel organized at the African Studies Association conference in Baltimore, USA. November 21-24, 2013.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “A Political Theology and Eschatology of Imported and Exported Homophobia in Africa,” a paper presented at the African Studies Association conference in Baltimore, USA. November 21-24, 2013.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Government Spending in Developing Countries: What Don’t We Know about Public Procurement?” a paper presented at the American Political Science Association conference, Chicago, USA. August 30th, 2013.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “A Political Theology and Eschatology of Imported and Exported Homophobia in Africa,” a paper presented at the African Studies Association conference in Baltimore, USA. November 21-24, 2013.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Public Procurement ‘Revolution’: Does Politics Matter?” Midwest Political Science Association Annual conference in Chicago, USA. April 11-14, 2013.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “The Fiscal-Military Origin of Procurement Contracts: A Reappraisal of the ‘Revolutionary’ Thesis,” a paper prepared for the Fifth International Public Procurement conference in Seattle, USA. August 17-19, 2012.
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Accounting for Paradoxical Emptiness in Contentious Intersections: ‘Colonial Blackmail,’ Token Causation and Sexuality in Africa,” a paper presented at the American Political Science Association conference in Washington D.C., USA. September 2-5, 2010
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “International Trade Cooperation, Hierarchy and Political Coordination in the Periphery: The Case of Incomplete Contracts in Africa 1651-1919,” a paper presented at the Association of

- Private Enterprise Education in Las Vegas, USA. April 2010
- ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “ ‘The Dependent-Variable Problem’ of the Colonial State: Conceptual Stretching and Discontent in Development Studies,” a paper presented at the American Political Science Association conference in Toronto, Canada. September 3-6, 2009
 - ✓ Nyeck, S.N. “Assessing Obsolescing Bargain in Middlemen’s Contracts: Uncertainty and Home Base Factors in Kamerun-German Encounters in 1880s,” a paper presented at the Association of Private Enterprise Education, Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala City, Guatemala. April 5-7, 2009.

LIST OF COURSES TAUGHT

- ✓ *Introduction to African Politics*. This course is designed to look at contemporary African politics from the perspective of State and non-state actors to discuss ideas and practices of citizenship. Spring, 2016.
- ✓ *Introduction to Methods (Game Theory)*. This course introduces the core concepts of game theory and how it helps understand political and social phenomena. It emphasizes decision-making, model building skills and problem solving. Spring, 2016.
- ✓ *Introduction to Public Policy*. This course uses both theory and practical examples to provide a better understanding of public policy analysis at local, national and international levels. Fall, 2015.
- ✓ *Strategic Choice*. This is a freshmen seminar that introduces students to the idea of strategic choice and thinking. Some of the questions we explore are “what is strategy? What does it mean to choose? How do people go about influencing circumstances with no a little choice? In addition to case studies, students deal with the theories and concepts that help us understand choice and strategy for individuals and organizations. Fall, 2015.
- ✓ *Public Procurement and Global Governance*. Master Class offered to public servants and scholars in Zambia. Summer, 2015.
- ✓ *Senior Research Seminar*. This capstone seminar provides students with the opportunity to conduct research and present their results through writing and public presentations. Spring, 2015.
- ✓ *Introduction to Global Politics*. This course surveys current themes in global politics. It introduces students to key concepts, theories and patterns for understanding politics in the international arena. It aims to expose students to a broad spectrum of ideas in international relations and comparative politics, and does so by examining some enduring questions in the study of politics. Spring, 2015.
- ✓ *International Development and Social Change*. The course moves from a starting point presentation of theories and explanations of how nations have historically attempted to modernize themselves and develop their economies, and concludes with a brief introduction to current discussions of the global economy and globalization. Fall, 2014
- ✓ *Strategic choice*. Same as above. Fall, 2014.
- ✓ *Introduction to American Politics*. This is an introduction course level on American politics and government. We specifically focus on democracy, its origin, evolution, institutions and challenges in a changing world. Spring, 2014
- ✓ *The business of war*. This course introduces students to the history and origin of war contracting in the history of the United States from the Revolutionary War until World War I. Spring, 2014.
- ✓ *International Development and Social Change*. Same as above, Fall, 2013.
- ✓ *Identity Negotiation*. The course is concerned with sexual identity negotiation in non-western settings. Fall, 2013.
- ✓ *Introduction to American Politics*. This is an introduction course level on American politics and government. We specifically focus on democracy, its origin, evolution, institutions and challenges in a changing world. Fall, 2012.
- ✓ *International Relations of China part II*. The course introduced students to the political history of China from the Cultural Revolution to early reform under Deng Xiaoping. Spring, 2010.

- ✓ *International Relations of China part I*. The course introduced students to the political history of China from the Cultural Revolution to early reform under Deng Xiaoping. Fall, 2010.
- ✓ *World Politics*. The course introduced students to world affairs. Fall, 2010.

INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION, SERVICE AND FUNDING

My publications have received positive reviews in the *Washington Post* and in top journals in Africa studies such as *African Affairs*.

Gants, Honors and Awards

- ✓ Fulbright Specialist Roster, 2017-2020.
- ✓ Research Grant, New York Public Library, December 2017.
- ✓ Interdisciplinary Research Grant, “Religious Entrepreneurship in the Age of Sexual Rights: An Inquiry into the Dynamics of Resilient Innovation and Competition in Kenya,” \$37000 awarded but not disbursed, The Nagel Institute, 2016.
- ✓ Travel Award, Association of African Women for Research and Development, Dec., 2015.
- ✓ Travel Award, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, June 2015.
- ✓ Travel Award, University of Amsterdam, February, 2015.
- ✓ Honorable Mention Book Award, New York African Studies (NYASA), April 2014.
- ✓ National Endowment for Humanities Summer research grant, February 2014, awarded.
- ✓ Nominated Student Marshal, Doctoral Commencement, University of California Los Angeles, 2013.
- ✓ Institute for Humane Studies, Dissertation Fellowship 2011 and 2012.
- ✓ UCLA International Institute, Fieldwork Fellowship, 2011.
- ✓ Special Guest, Ministry of Information, State of Kuwait, 2011.
- ✓ Visiting Scholar, American University in Nigeria, Yola, Nigeria, 2011.
- ✓ Visiting fellow, Transparency Morocco, Casablanca-Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, 2011.
- ✓ Brown International Advanced Research Institute, Brown University, 2010.
- ✓ Institute for Social Science Research Summer Fellowship, University of California Los Angeles, 2010.
- ✓ Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, University of California Los Angeles, 2009.
- ✓ Cota Robles Fellowship, University of California Los Angeles, 2007-2011.
- ✓ Coordinator of the International Resource Network in Africa, 2-year Ford Foundation grant administrator, Graduate Center CUNY 2007-2011.
- ✓ Editor and founder, *Outliers Journal* 2008-2010.
- ✓ The Ruskin Prize for best thesis in political science, Swarthmore College, 2007.
- ✓ Edward Said / Audre Lorde Scholar Activism Award, Swarthmore College, 2007.
- ✓ Highest Academic Achievement Award, Swarthmore College, 2007.
- ✓ E. Lang Graduate Scholarship, Swarthmore E. Lang Foundation, 2007.
- ✓ E. Lang LOS Grant, Swarthmore E. Lang Foundation, 2006-2007.
- ✓ Distinguished CUNY Alumna, City Universities of New York, 2007.
- ✓ Best Academic Achievement, City University of New York and the *New York Times*, 2006.
- ✓ Columnist, *A Globe of Witnesses Magazine*, 2001-2005.

MEMBERSHIP

- ✓ African Peace Fellows International Network (International Steering Committee Member).
- ✓ Consortium for International Management, Policy, Administration and Development (Executive Board Member).
- ✓ African Studies Association (American).
- ✓ African Queer Studies Association (American).
- ✓ African Studies Association (UK).
- ✓ International Political Science Association.
- ✓ Association of African Women for Research and Development (International Scientific Committee).

SERVICE

- ✓ Paper reviewer for the American Political Science Review, Enterprise and Society, Journal of Homosexuality (ad hoc reviewer), The European Legacy.
- ✓ *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in late-century Africa* by Robert Bates Cambridge University Press, 2008). *African Affairs* (October, 2010): 672-674.
- ✓ *Voice of the Leopard: African Secret Societies and Cuba* by Ivor Miller (University of Mississippi Press, 2009) *Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies* June 2010.
- ✓ *Population Control: Real Costs, Illusory Benefits* by Steven W. Mosher (Transaction Publishers, 2009) *In-Spire Journal of Law, Politics and Societies* Vol. 4, No. 1, (2009): 103-4.
- ✓ *Nuclear Terrorism: The Ultimate Preventable Catastrophe* by Graham Allison (Holt, 2005), *The Witness Magazine*, January 2005.
- ✓ *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East*, Rashid Khalidi (Beacon Press, 2004), *The Witness Magazine*, January 2005.
- ✓ *Peace Time: Cease-Fire Agreements and the Durability of Peace* by Virginia Page Fortna (Princeton University Press, 2004), *The Witness Magazine*, June 2004.

LANGUAGE AND MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

- ✓ English (excellent), written and spoken.
- ✓ French (excellent), written and spoken.
- ✓ Bassa (West African) written and spoken.

REFERENCES

- * Achille Mbembe, Distinguished Professor of African Studies/Critical Studies, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa. (Email will be provided privately).
- *Professor Edmond Keller, ekeller@ucla.edu University of California Los Angeles, United States.
- **Professor Marc Epprecht, epprecht@queensu.ca Queens University, Canada.
- **Professor Kathleen O'Mara, Kathleen.OMara@oneonta.edu State University of New York at Oneonta, United States.
- **Professor Michael Chwe, michael@chwe.net University of California Los Angeles, United States.
- *Professor Orly Benjamin, orly.benjamin@biu.ac.il Bar-Ilan University, Israel.
- *Professor Ariel Salzmann, as45@queensu.ca Queens University, Canada.
- **Professor Rachel Spronk, R.Spronk@uva.nl University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- **Professor Peter Geschiere, P.L.Geschiere@uva.nl University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- *Professor Richard Weiner, RWeiner@ric.edu Rhode Island College, United States.

(*) Familiar with my work on procurement and gender, (**) familiar with my work on LGBT issues.