JENNIFER RIGGAN

Associate Professor of International Studies

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## CURRENT POSITION

**Arcadia University, Department of Historical and Political Studies**

Associate Professor of International Studies, August 2014- present

Assistant Professor of International Studies, September 2008-August 2014

Director of International Studies, September 2009-August 2012

Visiting Assistant Professor of International Studies, September 2007-August 2008

## EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Graduate School of Education, Education, Culture and Society Program

Ph.D. May 2007

Dissertation Title: *The Teacher State: Remaking the Nation Amidst Political Instability and Policy Change in Eritrean Secondary Schools.*

Committee: Dr. Kathleen Hall, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Sandra Barnes, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Ritty Lukose, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania

**Trinity College**, Hartford, CT

B.A. with Honors, English, 1992

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND GRANTS

National Academy of Education/ Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Postdoctoral Fellow, 2012 to 2014

Penn Humanities Forum

First Alternate for Regional Fellows Program, 2013

Social Science Research Council

SSRC International Dissertation Field Research Fellowship, 2004-2005

Fulbright International Institute of Education

Fulbright Student Research Fellowship, 2004-2005

Spencer Foundation

Finalist for Spencer Dissertation Fellowship, 2003 Competition

African Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, 2003-2004

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, 2002-2003

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, 2001-2002

# PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2016. *The Struggling State: Nationalism, Mass Militarization and the Education of Eritrea.*  Philadelphia: Temple University Press. In Press.

In Press. “Slippery Citizenship: Nationalism, Democracy and the State in Africa.”

Muna Ndolu & Mamoudou Gazibo, Eds. *Democracy, Elections and Accountability in Africa.* Oxford: James Curry.

2015. “Prison State, Pariah and Proxy War: Human Rights Narratives and the Sovereignty Backlash in Eritrea.” African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review. In Press.

2014. “Biopolitical Departures: A Love Story.” *Journal of Narrative Politics* 1(1).

2013. “Imagining Emigration: Debating National Duty in Eritrean Classrooms.” *Africa Today.* 60(2).

2013. “ ‘It Seemed Like a Punishment’: Teacher Transfers, Hollow Nationalism and the Intimate State in Eritrea” *American Ethnologist.* 40(4) 749-763.

2011. “In Between Nations: Ethiopian-Born Eritreans, Liminality and War”. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review.* 34(1) 131-154.

2011. “Meta-travel: A critical inquiry into a China study tour” Riggan, Gwak, Olitsky, Lesnick & Jackson. *Frontiers: The Journal of Study Abroad.* 21: 236-253.

2009. “Avoiding Wastage by Making Soldiers: Technologies of the State and the Imagination of the Educated Nation” In *Biopolitics, Militarism, and the Developmental State: Eritrea in the 21st Century,* Editors: David O’Kane and Tricia Redeker Hepner, Berghahn Books, Dislocations Series.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

2011. Book Review of *Blood and Culture: Youth, Right Wing Extremism and National Belonging in Contemporary Germany* by Cynthia Miller Idriss*. American Ethnologist.* 38(3) 609-610.

2009. Book Review of *Warring Souls: Youth, Media and Matryrdom in Post-Revolution Iran* by Roxanne Varzi.In *Arab Media and Society*.

2013. “In Praise of Question Marks: Reflections on ‘Critical Methodologies: Narrative Voice and the Writing of the Political- The Limits of Language’*”. The Disorder of Things*. <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2013/03/18/in-praise-of-question-marks-reflections-on-critical-methodologies-narrative-voice-and-the-writing-of-the-political-the-limits-of-language/>

**INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS**

2014. “Human Capital, Freedom and the Multiple Meanings of Being Educated: Using Eritrea to Reflect on Education, Nationalism and the State in Africa.” Presentation to the Institute of African Development Fall Seminar Series: *Education, Human Capital, Skills and their Relationship to Development and Governance.* Institute of African Development, Cornell University. October 30, 2014.

2013. “The Teacher State: Militarization and the Reeducation of the Nation in Eritrea.” Presentation Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Education and the Fall Retreat for Spencer/ National Academy of Education Fellows. Washington, DC. October 2013.

2013. “Debating the Nation: Nationalism, Teacher Sovereignty and Unusual Forms of Civic Engagement Under Authoritarian Rule in Eritrea.” Presentation to International Education and Development Program. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. September 12, 2013.

2013. “The Teacher State: Militarization, Resistance and Discipline in the Making of Eritrean Citizens.” Invited Poster Session Presented at the Promising Early Career Scholars Poster Session at the American Educational Research Association. San Franciso, CA. April 2013.

2012. “Ethnographic Crossroads: The View from Anthropology of IR; The View from IR of Anthropology.” Critial Methodologies, Narrative Voice, and the Writing of the Political: The Limits of Language. York Centre for International and Security Studies, York University, Toronto, Canada, October 26-27, 2012.

2012. “Everyday Resistance and Dreams of Flight: Schooling, Nationalism and Mass Militarization in Eritrea.” Executive Analytic Exchange on Eritrea, Sponsored by U.S. Department of State. Meridian International Center, Washington DC, August 16, 2012

2012. “In Between Nations: Liminality, Citizenship and the State in Africa.” International Symposium on Democracy, Elections and Accountability in Africa. Institute for African Development, Cornell University, April 21-22, 2012.

# CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2014. Debating the Nation: Competing Imaginaries of the Future for Educated Eritrean Citizens. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. April 3-7, 2014. Philadelphia, PA.

2014. The Prison State in the Post-National Era: Narratives of Flight from Eritrea and the Disintegrating Hyphen Between Nation and State. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association on panel entitled: *Recovering IR’s Space Amnesia: Bringing Together Critical Geopolitics and Postcolonial Studies.* March 25-29, 2014. Toronto, Canada.

2014. Struggling against The Struggle: Trauma, Conflicted National Narratives and the State in Eritrea. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association in Workshop entitled: *Collective Memory and Trauma Studies*. March 25-29, 2014. Toronto, Canada.

2014. “Soldier or Student? Militarization, Teacher Morality and the Making of Educated Citizens in Eritrea” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society. Toronto, Canada. March 10-15, 2014.

2013. “Is Freedom Just Another Word? Coercive State Effects and Their Side Effects in Eritrea.”Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL. November 2013.

2013. “Soldier or Student? Militarization, Teacher Morality and the Making of Citizens in Eritrea.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. San Franciso, CA. April 2013.

2013. “Struggling against The Struggle: Conflicted Nationalism, Resistance and Impotence in Eritrea.” Paper presented at the Joint Spring Meeting of the American Ethnological Society and the Association of Political and Legal Anthropology. Chicago, IL. April 2013.

2012. “Biopolitical Departures: An Autoethnographic Tale of Fertility, Friendship and the Micropolitics of Emigration Policy” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2012.

2012. “One Heart”: Nationalism, Militarism and Contested Commonalities in Eritrea

Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 2012.

2012. “Escaping Eritrea: An Autoethnographic Tale of Fertility, Friendship and the Micropolitics of Emmigration Policy.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, San Diego, CA, 2012.

2011. “Imagining Emigration: Debating National Duty in Eritrean Classrooms.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington, DC, November 2011.

2010. “Children Should be Punished Sometimes: Intimate Violence, Teacher Sovereignty and the Authoritarian State in Eritrea”. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. New Orleans, LA. November, 2010.

2010. “Intimacy and Imprisonment: Teachers Transfers and the Reconstitution of the Eritrean Nation and State” Paper presented at the European Association of Social Anthropologists Biannual Meeting. Maynooth, Ireland, Auguts 24-28 2010.

2010. “Prison State, Pariah and Proxy War: Human Rights Imaginaries and the Sovereignty Backlash in Eritrea”. Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting New Orleans, LA February 16- 20, 2010.

# 2010. “Intimacy and Imprisonment: Teachers Transfers and the Reconstitution of the Eritrean Nation and State”Paper presented at the Internatinal Studies Association Annual Meeting New Orleans, LA February 16-20, 2010.

# 2009. “In Between Nations: Ethiopian-Born Eritreans, Conflict and Nationalism.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA December 2-6, 2009.

2009. “The Intimate State: Eritrean Teachers Navigating the Carceral Nation”. Paper presented at the International Studies Association Northeast Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD. October 2009.

# 2009. “In Between Nations: Ethiopian-Born Eritreans, Conflict and Nationalism,” presented at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, February 2009, New York, NY.

2008. “The Story of Walls: Containment, Pure Spaces and Eritrean Teachers Struggles to Produce Educated Citizens.”Paper presented at an invited session at the 107th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 2008, San Francisco, CA.

2008. “In Between Nations: Ethiopian-Born Eritreans, Conflict and Nationalism,” presented at the International Studies Association Northeast Annual Meeting, October 2008, Baltimore, MD.

2008. “Nationalizing the Global-Local Divide: Transnational Teaching, Globalized Policy and Nation Building in Eritrea” Paper presented at the Comparative and International Education Society Meeting, New York, New York, March 17-21, 2008

2007. “Two Flag Ceremonies: How Discipline and Resistance Produce the Eritrean Citizen and State” Paper presented at the 106th Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 28- December 2, 2007

2006. “Promotion Policies, Technologies of the State and the Imagination of the Educated Eritrean Nation” Paper Presented at Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA., November 2006

2004. “The Uses of the Past in Eritrea and Somaliland” Lee Cassanelli and Jennifer Riggan, Paper presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. New Orleans, LA; November , 2004.

**PANELS ORGANIZED**

2013. Panel Organizer. *Everyday Authoritarianism: Engagements With and Beyond Anthropology.* Panel Organized for the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL, November 2013.

2010. Panel Organizer, Political Lives of Teachers: Intimate Encounters with Violence, Identity and Power. Panel organized for the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. November 2010.

2010. Panel Organizer. Intimate Institutions, Everyday Encounters and Imaginaries of Power: Contributions from the Ethnography of the State to International Studies. Panel Organized for the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 16-20, 2010.

2009. Panel Organizer. Citizenship in the Margins of the State: Violence, Borders and Belonging. Panel Organized for the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Philadelphia, PA. December 2009.

2006. Panel Organizer. *Biopolitics, Militarism and The Developmental State: Eritrea in the 21st Century*, Panel Organized for American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting

San Jose, CA. November 2006.

**DISCUSSANT ON PANELS**

2014. Discussant. *Accidental Research(ers): Reflecting on Field Experiences That Don’t Fit the Script.* International Studies Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, CA, March 2014.

2013. Discussant. *Authoritarianism from Below: New Directions for the Anthropology of the State and It’s Agents.* 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL, November 2013.

2013. Discussant. Spencer/ National Academy of Education Dissertation Fellows Presentations. Spencer/ National Academy of Education Spring Retreat. Washington DC, March 2013.

2010. Discussant, Gatekeeping on a Neoliberal Terrain: Controlling New Forms of Circulation in Postcolonial Africa. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. November 2010.

2009. Discussant, *Democracy.* Panel at the International Studies Association Northeast Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD. October 2009.

**ARCADIA UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITES**

**Administrative Duties and Committee Membership**

Faculty Council Member,2013-2015

Director, International Studies Program. September 2009 to September 2012

President’s Committee on Creating a Comprehensively Global University, Chair 2011-2012

Chair, International Studies Search Committee. Fall 2010 to Spring 2011.

Member, COPRS/ IRB. September 2009 to May 2012

Faculty Advisor, Amnesty International Club. Fall 2010 to present.

Provost’s Committee on International Affairs Strategic Planning. Fall 2009 to Spring 2010.

Chair, International Studies Search Committee. Fall 2009 to Spring 2010.

Member, Modern Languages Search Committee. Fall 2009 to Spring 2010.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Editorial Board Member,** 2014, *Journal of Narrative Voice.*

**Affiliated Faculty Member,** 2013 to present, *University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Education, International Education and Development Program*

**Interim Associate Editor,** 2011- 2012, *Anthropology and Education*

**Internal Reviewer,** 2009- present., *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*.

**External Reviewer,** 2012-present, *American Ethnologist*

**Consultant,** 2009-2010. University of Pennsylvia African Studies Center, Conducted Evaluation of Fulbright-Hayes Group Project Abroad to Ethiopia.

**Consultant,** 2007-2008.University of Pennsylvania South Asian Studies CenterConducted evaluation of South Asian Studies Center’s K-12 outreach and study of outreach best practices of other centers.

**Researcher,** 2006-2007. National Center on Adult Literacy/ International Literacy Institute, Learning Connections Web Design and Evaluation

**Researcher,** 2005-2006. Research for Action, Learning from Philadelphia School Reform

**GSE International Education Advisory Committee Member,** 2006-2008

Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania

**Founding member Comparative and International Education Forum**, 2002-2005

Student lecture and discussion series. Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania.

**Scholar for a day planning committee member**, 2001-2006

African Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania.

**Volunteer,** Eritrean Development Foundation, Asmara, Eritrea, 2001

**Educational consultant and evaluator of after school programs**

Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Philadelphia, PA; September, 2000-2001

**Youth Development Programs Manager**, Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Philadelphia, PA; January 1998 to May 2000

**Peace Corps English Teacher**

Eritrea, East Africa, July 1995 to July 1997