

Curriculum Vitae

Reginald M.J. Oduor, Ph.D.
(Political Philosophy)
ORCID:
<http://orcid.org/0000-0001-7519-0433>

P.O. Box 41693-00100
Nairobi, Kenya
Cell: 254-722-625555
Primary Email:
rmjoduor@gmail.com
Secondary Email:
rmjoduor@uonbi.ac.ke
Skype:
reginald.oduor

I was the first person with total visual disability to be appointed to a substantive teaching position in a public university in Kenya. Over the past twenty-eight years, I have lectured philosophy in five universities, with special interests in political philosophy, ethics, philosophy of religion, and African philosophy. I have also published my doctoral thesis in political philosophy, an introductory textbook in ethics, as well as a number of journal articles and book reviews. In addition, I played a pivotal role in establishing the New Series of *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, in which I served as founding Editor-in-Chief from 2009 to 2015. Moreover, I have presented conference papers in Kenya, Germany and the U.S.A., as well as public lectures in Germany, Austria and the U.S.A. I am currently Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

Membership of Professional Associations

- African Studies Association
- Philosophical Association of Kenya

Personal Information

NATIONALITY : Kenyan
DATE OF BIRTH : 19th May, 1963
DISABILITY : Total visual disability
MARITAL STATUS : Married

Academic Background

<i>Certification</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Doctor of Philosophy (Degree in Political Philosophy)	University of Nairobi	2006-2011
Master of Arts (Degree in Philosophy)	Kenyatta University	1987-1992
Bachelor of Education (Arts) (Upper Second Class Honours)	Kenyatta University	1984-1987
Advanced Level Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education: Four principals and one subsidiary (20 points)	Thika High School	1981-1982
Ordinary Level Kenya Certificate of Education: Second division (19 points)	Thika High School for the Blind	1977-1980

Professional Experience

Teaching/Lecturing

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Position and Responsibilities</i>	<i>Dates</i>
University of Nairobi Department of Philosophy and Religious studies	Senior Lecturer in Philosophy	March 2016 to date
University of Nairobi Department of Philosophy and Religious studies	Lecturer in Philosophy: <i>Lecturing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Philosophy • Logic and Critical Thinking • Introduction to Ethics • Comparative Ethics • Ethics of International Relations • Professional Ethics • Epistemology • Metaphysics • Contemporary Philosophy • Philosophy of the Social Sciences • African Social and Political Philosophy • African Philosophy • Philosophy of Religion 	November 1992 to March 2016
University of Nairobi Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Tutorial Fellow in Philosophy: <i>Lecturing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophy of Religion • Introduction to Ethics • Moral Education • Social Education 	March - November 1992
Kenyatta University Department of Philosophy	Tutorial Fellow in Philosophy: <i>Lecturing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking • Philosophy of Religion 	May 1991 to March 1992
Kenyatta University Department of Philosophy	Graduate Assistant in Philosophy: <i>Lecturing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking 	November 1989 to May 1991
Nairobi School	Graduate High School Teacher: <i>Teaching</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature • Moral Education • Christian Religious Education • General Paper 	May-October 1987

Post-Graduate Research Supervision

<i>Title of Research</i>	<i>Type of Research</i>	<i>Name of Student</i>	<i>University</i>	<i>Status</i>
Cheating in National Examinations in Kenya: Aristotelian Akratic Analysis of Causes and Remedies	Masters Project in Philosophy of Education	KIBOGO ZILPAH KEMUNTO	University of Nairobi	Graduated in September 2016
The Need for Enhanced Critical Thinking among Kenyan Secondary School Students as a Solution to the Problem of Drug Abuse	Masters Project in Philosophy of Education	Elvis Omondi Kauka	University of Nairobi	Graduated in December 2015
Character Development through Education: A Pragmatic Perspective in Kenya	Masters Project in Philosophy of Education	Johnstone Onyino Akanga	University of Nairobi	Graduated in August 2014
Adoption and Use of Information and Communication Technology by Persons with Visual Impairments in Nairobi County, Kenya	Masters Project in Communication Studies	Lydia Njeri Kimundu	University of Nairobi	Graduated in December 2013

Internal Examination of Doctoral Thesis

NAME OF CANDIDATE: Theophilus Chando

TITLE OF THESIS: Balancing Power in Democracy: A Philosophical Analysis of Popular Sovereignty

DATE OF GRADUATION: December 2014

Special Responsibilities at the University of Nairobi

<i>Task</i>	<i>Date</i>
Member of the Disability Mainstreaming Committees at the Central Administration and at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences	2012 to date
Member of the Faculty of Arts Planning Committee	2012-2015
Member of the Task force on Working Conditions of Academic Staff in the Faculty of Arts	2011-2012
Member of the Committee appointed by the Vice-Chancellor to formulate a Disability Mainstreaming Policy for the institution	2010-2011
Member of the Philosophy Syllabus Review Committee in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	2005-2006
Review of the Social Education and Ethics Syllabus at the College of Education and External Studies and presentation of the reviewed syllabus at Senate	1992

Research and Publications

Theses

Ph.D. Thesis: "Ethnic Minorities in Kenya's Emerging Democracy: Philosophical Foundations of their Liberties and Limits". University of Nairobi, 2011.

M.A. Thesis: "Social Education and Ethics Programme: Its Main Sources and their Justification in Post-colonial Kenya". Kenyatta University, 1990.

Books

Oduor, R.M.J. 2012. *Ethnic Minorities in Kenya's Emerging Democracy: Philosophical Foundations of their Liberties and Limits*. Ph.D. thesis published by Lambert Academic Publishing, Saarbrücken, Germany. www.lap-publishing-house.com

Oduor, R.M.J. 2009. *Introduction to Ethics*. Nairobi: Sophia Publications Ltd.

Forthcoming Edited Volume

Oduor, Reginald M.J., Oriare Nyarwath and Francis E.A. Owakah. Eds. *Odera Oruka in the Twenty-first Century*. To be published by The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Gibbons Hall B-20, 620 Michigan Avenue, North East, Washington, D.C., 20064, U.S.A.; Telephone: 202/319-6089; Email: cua-rvp@cua.edu; Website: www.crvp.org

Forthcoming Book Chapter

Oduor, R.M.J. "The Relevance of Odera Oruka's Political Thought to Early Twenty-First Century Kenya". In Reginald M.J. Oduor, Oriare Nyarwath and Francis E.A. Owakah eds. *Odera Oruka in the Twenty-first Century*. To be published by The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Gibbons Hall B-20, 620 Michigan Avenue, North East, Washington, D.C., 20064, U.S.A.; Telephone: 202/319-6089; Email: cua-rvp@cua.edu; Website: www.crvp.org

Journal Articles

- Oduor, R.M.J. 2016/2017. "Western Liberalism, African Communalism, and the Quest for an Adequate Ideological Foundation for the Recognition and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Kenya". *East African Law Journal*, Special Issue on Disability Rights, pp.29-49.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2015. "Eternal Damnation: A Reply to Karori Mbugua's "Gentler Theology of Hell". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya (PAK)*, New Series, Vol.7 No.2, December 2015, pp.123-140. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp>
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2012. "Odera Oruka's Account of the Foundation of Human Rights: A Critique". *Special Issue: Odera Oruka Seventeen Years On - Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Vol.4 No.2, December 2012, pp.219-240. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- Ebert, R. and R.M.J. Oduor. 2012. "The Concept of Human Dignity in German and Kenyan Constitutional Law". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, Vol.4 No.1, June 2012, pp43-73. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2011. "Justifying Non-Violent Civil Disobedience within the Kenyan Context: A Moral Assessment". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Vol.3 No.1, June 2011, pp.21-59. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2010. "Research Methodology in Philosophy within an Interdisciplinary and Commercialised African Context: Guarding against undue Influence from the Social Sciences". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Vol.2 No.1, June 2010, pp.87-118. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2009. "Mental Impediments to Desirable Social Transformation in Contemporary Africa". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Premier Issue, Vol.1 No.1, June 2009, pp.1-29. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>

Forthcoming Journal Article

- Oduor, R.M.J. 2016. "Nationhood and Statehood: The Impact of a Conflated Discourse in Post-colonial African States". *Hekima: A Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*.

Book Reviews

Oduor, R.M.J. 2014. "A Critical Review of Leonhard Praeg's *A Report on Ubuntu*". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Vol.6 No.2, December 2014.

<http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>

Oduor, R.M.J. 2014. "Review of Helen Lauer and Kofi Anyidoho's *Reclaiming the Human Sciences and Humanities through African Perspectives*". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, New Series, Vol.6 No.1, June 2014, pp.1-8. <http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>

Oduor, R.M.J. 2012. "A Critical Review of D.A. Masolo's *Self and Community in a Changing World*". *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*, Vol.4 No.1, June 2012, pp1-24.

<http://ajol.info/index.php/tp/index>

Journal Editing

Founding Editor-In-Chief of the New Series of *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya*,

<http://ajol.info/index.php/tp> from 2009 to 2015, with the following fourteen issues published:

Vol.7 No.2, December 2015.

Vol.7 No.1, June 2015.

Vol.6 No.2, December 2014.

Vol.6 No.1, June 2014.

Vol.5 No.2, December 2013.

Vol.5 No.1, June 2013.

Vol.4 No.2: Special Issue - Odera Oruka Seventeen Years On, December 2012.

Vol.4 No.1, June 2012.

Vol.3 No.2, December 2011.

Vol.3 No.1, June 2011.

Vol.2 No.2, December 2010.

Vol.2 No.1, June 2010.

Vol.1 No.2, December 2009.

Vol.1 No.1: *Premier Issue*, June 2009.

Conference Papers

- Oduor, R.M.J. 2017. "Reviving African Sage Philosophy: Continuities and Discontinuities in the Research Methodology". Paper presented at the "Reviving Sage Philosophy" Workshop at the Institute of African Studies, Columbia University, New York, U.S.A., 8th December, 2017.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2017. "The Impact of Language on the Success of the Sage Philosophy Project: The Kenyan Luo Experience". Presented on 27th May 2017 at the 30th Swahili Colloquium, Bayreuth University, Germany
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2017. "In Defence of Ethnically-based Federations in Post-Colonial African States, with Special Reference to Kenya". Presented on 23rd May, 2017 at 2:00 p.m., at an international conference titled "Beyond Liberal Democracy: The Quest for Indigenous African Models of Democracy for the Twenty-First Century", University Towers, University of Nairobi, Kenya, organised by the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi and the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., 22nd to 23rd May, 2017.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2016. "Indigenous African Political Thought and Practice as a Basis for Democratic Models Suitable for Post-colonial African States". Presented on 3rd December, 2016 at 2:00 p.m., at the panel on "Expanding Citizenship & Democracy in Africa" during the 59th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association held in the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., 1st-3rd December, 2016.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2016. "Concrete Data and Abstract Notions In the Philosophical study of Indigenous African Thought: The Struggle for Identity in the Era of Hegemonic Natural and Social Sciences". Paper presented on 22nd October, 2016 at 12:00 noon, at the panel on "Endogenous Epistemologies?" during the workshop on "Thinking through Concepts/Thinking through Data: Processes of Mediation and Pitfalls in Academic Dealings with African Lifeworlds" organized by [Benedetta Lanfranchi](#) and [Benedikt Pontzen](#) at the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth, Germany, 21st-23rd October, 2016.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2015. "Nationhood and Statehood: The Impact of a Conflated Discourse in Post-Colonial Africa". Presented at a conference panel at 2:00-3:45 p.m. during the 58th Meeting of the African Studies Association held in the Sheraton Hotel, San Diego, California, U.S.A. 19th-22nd November, 2015.
- Oduor, R.M.J. 2013. "The Relevance of Odera Oruka's Political Thought to Early Twenty-First Century Kenya". Presented on Thursday 21st November, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., at the H. Odera Oruka International Symposium organised by the Goethe Institute in Collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi, held at the Goethe Institute, Nairobi, Kenya, 19th to 21st November, 2013.

Conference Organising

Member of the Organising Committee of the International Conference on “Reviving Sage Philosophy”, Organised by the Institute of African Studies, Columbia University, New York, U.S.A., in Collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya, to be held at the Goethe Institute in Nairobi on 25th May, 2018.

Co-Chair of the International conference on "Beyond Liberal Democracy: The Quest for Indigenous African Models of Democracy for the Twenty-First Century", organised by the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies of the University of Nairobi, Kenya, in collaboration with the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVp), held from 22nd to 23rd May, 2017 at the University of Nairobi.

Chair of the panel on “Philosophical Reflections on African politics” on 3rd December, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. during the 59th Meeting of the African Studies Association, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C., 1st-3rd December, 2016.

Chair of the Organising Committee of the H. Odera Oruka International Symposium held at the Goethe Institute, Nairobi, Kenya, 19th to 21st November, 2013, organised by the Goethe Institute in Collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi.

Guest Lectures and Short Talks

<i>Title of Presentation</i>	<i>Organiser</i>	<i>Venue and nature of Presentation</i>	<i>Date</i>
Research Methodology in Philosophy: Preserving the Identity of Philosophy	Prof. D.A. Masolo, Department of Philosophy, University of Louisville	University of Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A.: Visiting Lecture to an undergraduate finalist philosophy class	29 th November, 2016
Liberal Democracy: An African Critique	Commonwealth Centre for the Humanities and Society, University of Louisville	University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A.: Public Lecture	28 th November, 2016
In Search of a Practicable Model of Democracy for Post-colonial African States (https://youtu.be/TbyI3PQrtYo)	Department of Philosophy, Rice University	Rice University, Houston, Texas, U.S.A.: public lecture (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6q5RFqS6P4)	23 rd November, 2015

Guest Lectures and Short Talks (Contd.)

<i>Title of Presentation</i>	<i>Organiser</i>	<i>Venue and Nature of Presentation</i>	<i>Date</i>
African Philosophy : Thought and Practice	Philosophy Club, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: public lecture (https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=YQQPurqxAlc AND https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaep1a5iYys)	17 th November, 2015
African and Asian Philosophy: Comparison and Contrast	Centre for Public Humanities, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: short talk to an undergraduate class	17 th November, 2015
Academic Writing from a Visual Disability Perspective	Centre for Public Humanities, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: short talk to an undergraduate class	17 th November, 2015
Equity and Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities in Kenya	Collaboratory Students Organisation, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: short talk	17 th November, 2015
How Africa can Help America	Centre for Public Humanities, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: Public Lecture	16 th November, 2015

Guest Lectures and Short Talks (Contd.)

<i>Title of Presentation</i>	<i>Organiser</i>	<i>Venue and Nature of Presentation</i>	<i>Date</i>
What it Means to be a Christian African and an African Christian	Departments of Biblical and Religious Studies, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: short talk to an undergraduate class	16 th November, 2015
Reimagining the Human Sciences and Humanities through African Perspectives	Centre for Public Humanities, Messiah College	Messiah College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.: short talk to academic members of staff from human sciences and humanities during the International Education Week Faculty Lunch at Messiah College	16 th November, 2015
The Present Situation of Philosophy in Kenya	<i>Gesellschaft für Afrikanische Philosophie</i> (Association of African Philosophy [GAPh])	Berlin, Germany: public lecture	6 th February, 2014
Identity Politics in the Twenty-First Century: A Kenyan Perspective	<u><i>Institut für Wissenschaft und Kunst (Institute for Science and Arts)</i></u>	Vienna, Austria: public lecture	5 th February, 2014
Identity Politics in the Twenty-First Century: A Kenyan Perspective	<u><i>OSI Club (Political Science alumni organisation of the Free University Berlin) and the Institute of Political Science, Free University Berlin</i></u>	Free University Berlin, Germany: public lecture	4 th February, 2014
Identity Politics: Kenya after the 2007/2008 Post-Elections Crisis	<u><i>OSI Club (Political Science alumni organisation of the Free University, Berlin)</i></u>	Free University, Berlin, Germany: short talk to an undergraduate seminar	4 th February, 2014

Consultancies

INSTITUTION	TASK	DATES
Communications Authority of Kenya	Facilitated a half-day training on “Disability Mainstreaming” for the Authority’s staff.	28 th May, 2015
Multimedia University College, Nairobi, Kenya	Part-time Lecturer, lecturing Logic and Critical Thinking	2012-2013
Communications Commission of Kenya	Moderated a two-day multi-sectoral workshop on “E-accessibility for Persons with Disabilities” at the LAICO Regency Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, and prepared the workshop report.	10th to 11th May, 2012
Kenya National Commission on Human Rights	Facilitated a half-day workshop for the Commission staff on “How to Interact with Persons with Disabilities”	8th July, 2011
Bright Leadership Centre, International Leadership University, Nairobi, Kenya	Part-time Lecturer, lecturing Leadership Ethics, Values and Social Responsibility (M.A. course)	2010-2011
Kenya Institute of Special Education, Nairobi, Kenya	Facilitated a three-day training for student-teachers on how to use a screen-reader (software that enables persons with visual disabilities to use a computer without assistance).	20th to 22nd November, 2006
Africa Nazarene University, Nairobi, Kenya	Part-time Lecturer, lecturing Introduction to Philosophy (undergraduate course)	2004
Africa Nazarene University, Nairobi, Kenya	Part-time Lecturer, lecturing the following undergraduate courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Society • Christian Ethics • Introduction to Philosophy 	1999-2000

Awards

- African Studies Association Presidential Fellow 2016
- Kenyatta University Staff Development Scholarship for M.A. in Philosophy 1987-1989.

Social Engagement

- Co-founder and former Chairman of the Society of Professionals with Visual Disabilities.
- Member of the Disability Caucus for the Implementation of the Constitution.
- Former Vice-Chairman of the Kenya Society for the Blind Council.
- Former Board Member of the Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa.

Disability Rights Advocacy Conferences Attended

<i>Conference Title</i>	<i>Organiser</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Capacity Building Workshop	Kenya National Commission on Human Rights	Mombasa, Kenya	23rd to 26th August, 2010
Millennium Development Goals and Disability Africa Regional Conference	Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network	Nairobi, Kenya	15th to 17th September, 2008
Fourth Africa Forum on Blindness and Low Vision	Institutional Development Programme	Nairobi, Kenya	6th to 12th May, 2007
Third Africa Forum on Blindness and Low Vision	Institutional Development Programme	Pretoria, South Africa	23rd to 27th May, 2004

Interests

- Music and Literature.
- Mentoring the youth.
- Disability rights advocacy.

Referees

Prof. C.M.P. Oniang'o

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
University of Nairobi
P.O. Box 30197-00100
Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: clement.oniango@uonbi.ac.ke
Cell phone: 254 728 246 677

Prof. Samson O. Gunga

Department of Educational Foundations
University of Nairobi
P.O. Box 30197-00100
Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: gungasamson@googlemail.com
Cell phone: 254 722 610 869

Prof. Aloo Osotsi Mojola

St. Paul's University
P.O. Box, 42726
Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: aloo.mojola@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 254 733 918 141

Prof. K. Wambari

Formerly of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Kenyatta University
P.O. Box, 14964-00800
Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: kaguongowambari@gmail.com
Cell phone: 254 733 798 662