

**Fall 2009**  
**The Walter Rodney African Studies Seminars**

September 28: Samba Gadjigo  
(Mount Holyoke College)  
Ousmane Sembene: The Making of a Militant Artist

October 5: Solimar Otero  
(Women's Studies in Religion Program, Harvard Divinity School)  
Coming Home: Nation, Gender, and Diaspora in Afro-Cuban Religion

October 12: Columbus Day / No seminar

October 19: Athuman Msangi  
(Kwala Secondary School, Tanzania /Newton-Tanzania Collaborative)  
"The Tanzanian Education System: A Teacher's Perspective"

October 26: Tucker Childs  
(Portland State University)  
"The disappearance of African languages, who cares?"

November 2: Laurence Breiner  
(Boston University)  
"Your presence is our past': Anglophone Caribbean Poets and Africa"

November 9: Ann & Robert Seidman  
(Boston University)  
"Using Law for Good Governance and Development: The Boston University Africa i-Parliaments Legislative Policy and Drafting Clinic"

November 16: Michael A. Grodin  
(Boston University MED & SPH)  
"Caring for African Survivors of Torture and Refugee Trauma"  
The Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights at BU Medical Center

November 23: No seminar (after ASA)

November 30: Richard Werbner  
(University of Manchester)  
"Holy Hustlers: Charismatic Youth and Apostolic Reformation in Botswana"

December 7: Magaly Koch  
(Boston University)  
"Agroecology of Malaria: Images of a Changing Landscape"

## **Spring 2010**

### **The Walter Rodney African Studies Seminar presents:**

Monday, January 25:

Nirvana Tanoukhi (Harvard)

"From Scale to Setting: Reflections on J.M. Coetzee's Disgrace"

Monday, February 1:

Melissa Graboyes (Boston University)

"Facts in the Fantastic and Truth in the Tall Tales: East African Understandings of Medical Research, 1950-present."

Monday, February 8:

Shaheen Mozaffar (Bridgewater State College)

"Role Perceptions of Cross-Pressured Legislators: Preliminary Findings from the African Legislatures Project"

Monday, February 15: Holiday, no seminar

Monday, February 22:

Theodore Trefon (MRAC Tervuren)

"Reform failure in the Congo"

Monday, March 1:

Thomas Kilduff (Freelance journalist/Travel writer)

"Missionaries, Snakes and Survivors: Depictions of Africa with The Poisonwood Bible"

Monday, March 8: Spring recess, no seminar

Monday, March 15:

Christopher LaMonica (US Coast Guard Academy)

"The Politics of Strengthening Local Governments in a Sub-Saharan State: The Case of Zambia."

Monday, March 22:

Carlos Robles Fraga (Consul General of Spain in Boston)

Spain and Africa, A Long and Narrow Road

Monday, March 29:

Teresa de Almeida Cravo (Cambridge University/ Harvard)

What's In a Label? The Donor Community's Perceptions of 'Success' and 'Failure' in Africa

Monday, April 5:

Cheikh Anta Babou (U. of Pennsylvania)

"God's politics, People's politics: The Rise and Retreat of Political Islam in Senegal"

Monday, April 12:

James Webb (Colby College)

"Malaria Control in Liberia, 1945-1962: Lessons from the First Large-Scale Use of Synthetic Insecticides in Tropical Africa"

Monday, April 19: Holiday, no seminar

Monday, April 26:

Régine Jean-Charles (Boston College)

"Precious and Pauline: Urban Girls in the African Diaspora and Narratives of Dysfunction"

Fall 2010

The Walter Rodney African Studies Seminar presents:

Monday, September 29: Susanne D. Mueller  
(International Development Consultant/Visiting Researcher, BU)  
**"Kenya's New Constitution: Will Old Incentives Undermine Formal Legal Changes?"**

Monday, September 27: Kwasi Konadu  
(CUNY)  
**"African Diasporic History to African World History"**

Monday, October 4: Jeleel Olasunkanmi Ojuade  
(University of Ilorin)  
**"The Yoruba Bata and Dundun Music/Dance In Nigeria: Theological Perspectives"**

Monday, October 11: Holiday

Monday, October 18: Sanjay Krishnan  
(Boston University)  
**"Naipaul's Disorientation"**

Monday, October 25: Naaborko Sackeyfio  
(Dartmouth)  
**"The Politics of Destoolment in Colonial Accra"**

Monday, November 1: Anne Serafin  
(Independent scholar)  
**"African Women Writing Resistance: Contemporary Voices"**

Monday, November 8: Doris Sommer  
(Harvard University)  
**"Slaps and Embraces: A rhetoric of particularism"**

Monday, November 15: Thomas Turner  
(Independent scholar /author)  
**"Mass Killings and Rapes in Eastern DR Congo: Who is Responsible?"**

Monday, November 24 - November 29  
Fall Recess

Monday, December 6: Christopher Fomunyoh  
(National Democratic Institute)  
TBA

## The Walter Rodney Seminar Series -Spring Semester 2011

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| <b>Monday Jan 24</b> | <b>Pauline Peters (Harvard University)</b><br><b>“Contested 'culture' in a time of AIDS in Malawi”</b>   |
| <b>Monday Jan 31</b> | <b>Pearl Robinson (Tufts University)</b><br><b>“Islam and Female Empowerment among the Tidjaniyya in Niger:<br/>A civic engagement film project”</b>                                     |
| <b>Monday Feb 7</b>  | <b>Duana Fullwiley (Harvard University)</b><br><b>“Mapping 'Mild' Sickle Cell Disease in Senegal: How Genetic Reductionism<br/>gave rise to Genetic Indeterminacy on African Ground”</b> |
| <b>Monday Feb 14</b> | <b>Rodolfo Fattovich (University of Naples - L’Orientale)</b><br><b>“The Role of Archaeology in Africa Today: the case of Ethiopia.”</b>   |
| <b>Monday Feb 21</b> | <b>Holiday – no seminar</b>  |
| <b>Monday Feb 28</b> | <b>Ron Wyman (Independent filmmaker)</b><br><b>“Agadez, the Music and the Rebellion”</b>   |
| <b>Monday Mar 7</b>  | <b>Darren Kew (University of Massachusetts, Boston)</b><br><b>“The 2011 Elections, Conflict, and Democratic Development in Nigeria”</b>  |
| <b>Monday Mar 14</b> | <b>Spring Recess</b>   |
| <b>Monday Mar 21</b> | <b>Candace M. Miller (Boston University, SPH)</b><br><b>“Cash Transfers in Africa: Exciting Impacts and Enormous Challenges”</b>   |
| <b>Monday Mar 28</b> | <b>S everine Auteserre (Barnard/ Columbia University)</b><br><b>“The Trouble with the Congo”</b>   |
| <b>Monday Apr 4</b>  | <b>Leigh Payne (University of Oxford)</b><br><b>“Unsettling Accounts: The Politics of Perpetrators' Confessions<br/>to Past Authoritarian State Violence”</b>                            |
| <b>Monday Apr 11</b> | <b>Heran Sereke-Brhan (Boston University)</b><br><b>“Coffee, Culture and Intellectual Property:<br/>Lessons for Africa from the Ethiopian Fine Coffee Initiative”</b>                    |
| <b>Monday Apr 18</b> | <b>Holiday - no seminar</b>  |
| <b>Monday Apr 25</b> | <b>Kim Miller (Wheaton College)</b><br><b>“Regarding Heroes: The Visual Geographies of South African<br/>Women’s Activism Against Apartheid”</b>   |
| <b>Monday May 2</b>  | <b>Babacar M’Baye (Kent State University)</b><br><b>“Africa and Colonial New England in Phillis Wheatley’s Poetry”</b>   |
| <b>Monday May 9</b>  | <b>Study period</b>  |
| <b>Monday May 16</b> | <b>Final exams</b>   |

## WALTER RODNEY SEMINAR – FALL 2011

Monday 12 September	Michael McGovern (Yale University) "This is Play": Explaining Self-Regulating Aspects in the Ivorian Civil Conflict
Monday 19 September	Holly E. Hanson (Mt.Holyoke College) Reading Transformations in Political Accountability on the Landscape of Kampala
Monday 26 September	Brian Nowak (BU Niger Program) The Spirits' Niche: Hausa and Zarma-Songhai Possession Culture and Nigerien Society
Monday 3 October	Ikem Stanley Okoye (University of Delaware) Reading Architecture Back: Two "Houses of Discourse and the Igbo Fear of Twins before Christianity
Monday 10 October	Holiday / No seminar
Monday 17 October	Odile Cazenave (Boston University) & Patricia Célérier (Vassar) Writing the Political Today: Francophone African Literature and the Burden of Commitment
Monday 24 October	Vicki L. Brennan (University of Vermont) The Politics of "Praise and Worship" in Contemporary Nigeria
Monday 31 October	Susan Thomson (Hampshire College) Propaganda, Charm Campaigns and Image Management: Comparing Leadership Styles in Pre- and Post-Genocide Rwanda
Monday 7 November	Randa Wilkinson (Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy) Positive Deviance: Honoring Community Wisdom in Africa
Monday 14 November	Michelle D. Holmes (Harvard Medical School) The Next Health Frontier: Chronic Diseases in Africa
Monday 21 November	(Week of Thanksgiving)
Monday 28 November	Alex Zito (Boston University) Elements of the Localization of Islam in Murid Ajami Literature
Monday 5 December	Hassane Cisse (The World Bank) The Challenge of Rebuilding Legal and Judicial Institutions in the Aftermath of Conflict In Africa

## The Walter Rodney Seminar - Schedule, Spring 2012

Monday, January 23	Zhongwei Liu (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) "Chinese Aid to Africa: a Case Study in Rwanda"
Monday, January 30	Walter H. Sangree (University of Rochester) "Soul Allocation and Patrilineality: Traditional Irigwe (Nigeria) Conjugal and Parenthood Rites"
Monday, February 6	Christa Clarke (Newark Museum of Art) "Curating a Continent: African Art at the Newark Museum"
Monday, February 13	Victor Manfredi (Boston University) "Before Wazobja; Òminigbõn and polyglot culture in medieval 9ja"
Monday, February 20	Holiday-No seminar
Monday, February 27	Roger Claude Liwanga "The Process of Democratization in the DRC: What Lessons to Learn from the 2011 Election?"
Monday, March 5	Houchang E. Chehabi (Boston University) "The Discreet Relationship: Iran and South Africa in the Apartheid Era"
Monday, March 12	Spring recess
Monday, March 19	Christopher B. Mugimu (Makerere University) "Best practices of incorporating effective pedagogical strategies in HIV/AIDS materials in Teacher Education in Africa"
Monday, March 26	Eyamba G. Bokamba (U. of Illinois @Urbana-Champaign) "The Geopolitics of the Congo"
Monday, April 2	Daivi Rodima-Taylor (Boston University) "Money, Growth, and Mutual Help in Tanzania: African Savings and Credit Revisited"
Monday, April 9	Douglas L. Wheeler (University of New Hampshire) "Rediscovering Lusophone African History, one archive at a time"
Monday, April 16	Holiday - No seminar
Monday, April 23	Katrien Pype (KUL-MIT) "Risk and Reciprocity in Kinshasa's News World"
Monday, April 30	Jeanne Koopman (Boston University) "Land Grabs, Family Farms, and Food Security in Senegal"

### Walter Rodney Seminars - Fall 2012

The Walter Rodney Seminar lecture series was inaugurated in the fall of 1977, at the initiative of two doctoral candidates in Boston University’s political science department. It was named after Walter Rodney, the Guyanese scholar and political activist murdered in his native country in 1980, whose best-remembered book, “How Europe Underdeveloped Africa” (1972), has long been considered a classic in African studies. Over the past 35 years, the Walter Rodney Seminar has brought more than five hundred guest speakers to BU’s African Studies Center. The lecture series is interdisciplinary, and has included presentations by established and incipient scholars in all Africa-related disciplines, including history, anthropology, political science, economics, sociology, public health, literature, visual arts, musicology, religion, Islamic studies, international relations, and public diplomacy

**The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Rm 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.**

- Sept. 17: Katherine A. Luongo (Northeastern) & Matthew P. Carotenuto (St. Lawrence)  
 “Revising the Nation: Obama and the New Historiography of Kenya”
- Sept. 24: Pamela Allara (Brandeis)  
 "Training the Artist-Citizen: 21 Years at Artist Proof Studio, Johannesburg"
- Oct. 1: Micaela Díaz-Sánchez (Mount Holyoke)  
 “*Habla, Habla, Negra*: Articulations of Gender and Sexuality in Afro-Puerto Rican Bomba”
- Oct. 8: Holiday – No seminar
- Oct. 15: Jean Borgatti (Fitchburg Art Museum)  
 “Ways of Seeing: The Okpella Viewpoint”
- Oct. 22: Martha Saavedra (University of California, Berkeley)  
 “*Fin de siècle?* Commanding the Court in Senegalese Women’s Basketball”
- Oct. 29: Susanne D. Mueller (Boston University)  
 “Kenya and the International Criminal Court”
- Nov. 5: Iba Mar Faye (Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale, Senegal)  
 "The Peasant Movement's Struggle to Influence Land Tenure Policy in Senegal"
- Nov. 12: William F. S. Miles (Northeastern)  
 “Bar Mitzvah in Abuja”  
 (Based on his book, *Jews in Nigeria: An Afro-Judaic Odyssey*)
- Nov. 19: Chakanetsa Mavhunga (MIT)  
 "African Innovation and the Fate of Incoming Technologies: Historicizing the Mobility and Indigenization of Guns in Zimbabwe"
- Nov. 26: Hugh Roberts (Tufts University)  
 “After the Liberation: Algeria 1962-2012: reflections on the experience of independence”
- Dec 3: Manga Kuoh (Cameroonian author)  
 “Socialism and Political Leadership in Africa in the Twentieth Century”
- Dec. 10: Michael Woldemariam (Boston University) & Dan Connell (Simmons College)  
 “Views of the Eritrea / Ethiopia Conflict”



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## WALTER RODNEY SEMINARS – SPRING 2013

- January 28 Laura Ann Twagira (History, Boston University)  
"Metal Pots and Buckets: The Power of Modest Household Technologies at a Colonial Irrigation Project in the French Soudan (Mali), c. 1940-1960"
- February 4 Cheryl Sterling (Literature, NYU)  
"Traveling the Road of the Orishas: From Yoruba Identity to the Nagô Ideal in Brazil"
- February 11 Rodolfo Fattovich (Archeology, U. of Naples 'L'Orientale')  
"Colonial, Postcolonial, or Simply Archaeology in Africa: The Case of Northern Ethiopia and Eritrea in the First Millennium BC"
- February 18 Holiday – No seminar
- February 25 Amanda Gilvin (Mt. Holyoke)  
"Hot and Haute: African Fashion, FIMA, and Globalization"
- March 4 Casey Golomski (Brandeis University)  
"The Macabre Market: The Rise of Life Insurance in Swaziland"
- March 11 Spring Recess
- March 18 Joshua D. Walker (U. Chicago /Harvard)  
"Regulation, Reproduction, and Commodification: A Brief History of Diamond Mining in Kasai, Democratic Republic of Congo"
- March 25 NImi Wariboko (Andover-Newton Theological School)  
"Spell of Invisibility and the Logic of Sovereignty in Nigerian Pentecostalism and the Nigerian State"
- April 1 Joanna Davidson (Anthropology, BU)  
"School is the path now: Gendered Dimensions of Environmental Change in Rural West Africa"
- April 8 Taryn Vian (BU-SPH)  
"Discontent of Per diems: Qualitative research on allowance payments in Malawi and Uganda"
- April 15 Holiday – No seminar
- April 22 Ruha Benjamin (Sociology, Boston University)  
"Sankofa Science: Social Histories, Medical Futures, and Public Participation on the Stem Cell Frontier"
- April 29 Kehinde Ajayi (Economics, Boston University)  
"School Choice in Ghana"

## Walter Rodney Seminar Schedule - Fall 2013

The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Room 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.

- Sept. 16 Shaheen Mozaffar (Bridgewater State University)  
"Do Legislatures Promote or Hinder Democratic Development In Africa?"
- Sept. 23 Rodolfo Fattovich (U. of Naples 'L'Orientale')  
"Colonial, Postcolonial, or Simply Archaeology in Africa: The Case of Northern Ethiopia and Eritrea in the First Millennium BC."
- Sept. 30 Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie (University of the Western Cape)  
"Inside the Immigration Bureaucracy in South Africa, 1905 to 1916."
- Oct. 7 Lauren Nicole Coyle (University of Chicago)  
"Valences of Sacrificial Mining and the Blood of the Body Politic in Ghana"
- Oct. 14 Columbus Day Holiday - no seminar
- Oct. 21 Meredith Terretta (University of Ottawa)  
"Nation of Outlaws, State of Violence: Nationalism, Grassfields Tradition and State-Building in Cameroon"
- Oct. 28 Charlotte Walker-Said (University of Chicago)  
"Family, Society, and Nation: Nationalist Articulations in Cameroon After Brazzaville, 1944-1960."
- Nov. 4 James McCann (Boston University)  
"Malaria and the Optimism of Bioscience in Ethiopia, 1962 - 1991"
- Nov. 11 Lynsey Farrell (Boston University)  
"Hustling NGOs: Coming of Age in Kenya's Kibera Slum"
- Nov. 18 Elizabeth Foster (Tufts University)  
"'Completely Catholic and Completely African': Francophone Catholic African Students and Africa's Future in the 1950s"
- Nov. 25 Christopher Wise (University of Western Washington)  
"From The Sa'dian Conquest to the Ansar Dine: The Plundering of Northern Mali, Past and Present"
- Dec. 2 Janet McIntosh (Brandeis University)  
"Autochthony and 'Family': The Tempopolitics of Kinship in White Kenyan Bids to Belong."
- Dec. 9 Véronique Hélénon (University of Massachusetts/Boston)  
"Redefining citizenship. French Caribbeans in West Africa, 1900-1939"

## Walter Rodney Seminar Series - Spring 2014

The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Room 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.

- January 27 John Harris and Daivi Rodima-Taylor (Boston University)  
"Rebuilding Post-Conflict Africa through Remittances: Perspectives from Economics and Anthropology"
- February 3 Kwamina Panford (Northeastern University)  
"Ghana's Petroleum: What needs to be done to Avoid the Resource Curse"
- February 10 John Thornton (Boston University)  
"Kongo Christianity and the Formation of Afro-Cuban Religion"
- February 17 Holiday - No seminar
- February 24 Samuel Mendlinger (Boston University)  
"Motivation of Safari Tourists visiting Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania"
- March 3 Elizabeth Parsons (Boston University)  
TBA
- March 10 Spring recess - No seminar
- March 17 Senzeni Marasela (SA Artist)  
TBA
- March 24 Lucia Luzi (Boston University)  
"Long-Term Impact of Health and Nutrition Status on Education Outcomes for Children in Rural Tanzania"
- March 31 Marek Pawełczak (University of Warsaw)  
TBA
- April 7 Kim Miller (Wheaton College)  
"The place that used to be Hell has been changed to heaven": Women's incarceration, agency, and the reinvention of space in a South African prison.'
- April 14 Linda Heywood (Boston University)  
"Politics, Memory and the Re-making of Queen Njinga in contemporary Angola"
- April 21 Holiday - No seminar
- April 28 Lidwien Kapteijns (Wellesley College)  
"Writing about Communal Violence in the Somali Civil War: Intent and Outcomes"
- May 5 Study Period - No seminar



## WALTER RODNEY SEMINARS – FALL 2014

The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Room 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.

Monday Sept.15	Drew Thompson (Bard College) "Archiving Prints: The Politics of Frelimo, Photography, and History in Mozambique"
Monday, Sept. 22	Walter Sangree (Rochester) "The Heroic People [Ne Sūa]: Social Cohesion in Irigwe, Jos Plateau, Nigeria"
Monday Sept. 29	Kheireddine Djamel Bekkai (Boston University) "The Pax Algeriana: How the Algerian army 'domesticated' the political opposition"
Monday, Oct. 6	Catherine Kelly (Harvard) "Party-Building and Democratization in Contemporary Senegal"
Monday, Oct. 13	Columbus Day (no seminar)
Monday, Oct. 20	M. Chloe Mulderig (Boston University) "Future Imperfect: Social Sanctioning and Religious Subjectivities Among Young Women in Fes, Morocco"
Monday, Oct. 27	Amber Murrey (Oxford/Boston College) "Narratives of Violence Along the Chad-Cameroon Oil Pipeline"
Monday, Nov. 3	Laura E. Seay (Colby College) "Governing Congo: states, non-states, and local realities"
Monday, Nov. 10	Jane Parpart (U. Mass. Boston) "Militarized Masculinities, Heroes and Gender Inequality during and after Nationalist Struggles in Southern Africa: the Zimbabwe Case"
Monday, Nov. 17	Rosalind Hackett (Harvard Divinity School/ U. of Tennessee, Knoxville) "Registration of religious groups in Africa: Historical and political vagaries"
Monday, Nov. 24	Fall recess
Monday, Dec. 1	Rosalind Shaw (Tufts) "In the town where youth ruled their fathers: reimagining reconciliation in a postwar Sierra Leonean community"
Monday, Dec. 8	Sam Kauffmann (Boston University) "African Children Talk, and Adults Learn to Listen"
Monday, Dec. 15	Final Exams begin

# Walter Rodney Seminar Revised Schedule- Spring 2015

- January 26: William F.S. Miles (Northeastern University)  
"Scars of Partition: Franco-British Colonial Legacies in Borderlands"
- February 2: Cancelled – rescheduled for Monday, April 27
- February 9: Cancelled – rescheduled for Friday, April 17
- February 16: Holiday – no seminar
- February 23: Bruce Larson (Boston University / SPH)  
HIV/AIDS, Adult Health, and Agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa: How PEPFAR Changed the Story
- March 2: Ousmane Kane (Harvard Divinity School)  
"Religion and Politics in Post-colonial West Africa"
- March 9: Spring recess – no seminar
- March 16: Jeremy De Silva (Boston University)  
"New fossil discoveries from the Cradle of Humankind, South Africa"
- March 23: Victor Manfredi (Boston University)  
"The BK Expansion- Grammar, demography and lexical tone"
- March 30: Abel Djassi Amado (BU/BC)  
"The Illegible State in the PALOP"
- April 6: Prita Meier (Clark Museum, Williamstown)  
"Trading the Gaze: African Photography at the Indian Ocean Crossroads."
- April 13: Dan Connell (ASC/BU)  
"Eritrea: Refugees, migration & trafficking: How it works & what to do about it"
- April 17 \* :** Robin Wolfe Scheffler (MIT/American Academy of Arts and Sciences)  
"From Tropical Disease to Molecular Cancer: The Global Politics of Biomedical Research, 1958-1978"
- April 20: Holiday – no seminar
- April 27 \* :** Diana Wylie (Boston University)  
"Part of who we are": Historic Preservation in North Africa

**\* rescheduled events**



## WALTER RODNEY SEMINARS – FALL 2015

The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Room 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.

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| Monday, Sept. 14 | Daivi Rodima Taylor (Boston University)<br>Contested Sovereignities and Informal Authority<br>in Post-Socialist Tanzania                          |
| Monday, Sept. 21 | Muhammad Zaman (Boston University)<br>Bitter Pills: The challenges and impact of a compromised drug supply in<br>Africa                           |
| Monday, Sept. 28 | Jennifer Johnson (Yale)<br>Nyanja is Not Lake Victoria: Ontological Problems and Possibilities<br>Around an Inland African Sea                    |
| Monday, Oct. 5   | Sarah Westwood (Boston University)<br>Brothers in Arms: Tirailleur Forces in the<br>Franco-Dahomean Wars, 1890-1894                               |
| Monday, Oct. 12  | Columbus Day. No seminar  |
| Monday, Oct. 19  | Ellen E. Foley (Clark University)<br>Regulating sex work: subjectivity and stigma in Senegal  |
| Monday Oct. 26   | Daniel Jordan Smith (Brown University)<br>AIDS, Morality, and Social Change in Nigeria  |
| Monday, Nov. 2   | Karl Haas (Boston University)<br>Music, masculinity, and grassroots cultural preservation in Northern<br>Ghana                                    |
| Monday, Nov. 9   | Priya Lal (Boston College)<br>African Socialism in Tanzania: A Postcolonial Project in a Cold War<br>World  |
| Monday, Nov. 16  | Richard B. Allen (Framingham State College)<br>Slaves, Convicts, Indentured Laborers and the Tyranny of the Atlantic                              |
| Monday, Nov. 23  | Thanksgiving  |
| Monday, Nov. 30  | Nathalie Etoké (Connecticut College)<br>Memory and the Black Diaspora in France: Theoretical Fragments  |
| Monday, Dec. 7   | Misty L. Bastian (Franklin & Marshall College)<br>The Murder of Amelia: Taking Liberties with a Girl's Commoditized Body<br>in Mercantile Onitsha |

## Walter Rodney Seminars - Spring 2016 Calendar

The seminars are held every Monday from noon to 1:30 pm in the William O. Brown Seminar Room, Room 505, of the African Studies Center, 232 Bay State Road. Feel free to bring a lunch.

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| Monday, January 25   | Heidi Gengenbach (U. Mass. Boston)<br>“The Hungry State: African Diets, Nutrition, and Imperial Power in Central Mozambique”   |
| Monday, February 1   | Elliot Fratkin (Smith College)<br>“Ethiopia’s Dams and Pastoralist Policies: Development, Displacement and Resettlement”   |
| Monday, February 8   | Anitra Nettleton (U. of the Witwatersrand)<br>“Beads and embodied aesthetics; Performing Indigenous Modernities in South Africa”   |
| Monday, February 15  | Holiday - No seminar   |
| Tuesday, February 16 | Mustapha Hashim Kurfi (Boston University)<br>“Religion, Gender and Civil Society: The Role of a Muslim Women’s Organization in the Evolution of a Nigerian State”        |
| Monday, February 22  | Darren Kew (U. Mass. Boston)<br>TBA (Nigeria)  |
| Monday, February 29  | Gareth McFeely (Boston University)<br>“Screening Hollywood: Ghana, the Studios, and the Political Big Picture, 1950s-1960s”  |
| Monday, March 7      | Spring recess - No seminar   |
| Monday, March 14     | Valentina Peveri (U. of Bologna)<br>“Beloved recipes and lost ingredients from Southern Ethiopia: Resistance and commensality in a fast-changing agricultural landscape” |
| Monday, March 21     | Daniel G. Maxwell (Tufts University) (pending)<br>TBA (The Somalia Famine of 2011)   |
| Monday, March 28     | Ben Twagira (Boston University)<br>“Gendered strategies of protecting the urban family and home in militarized Kampala”  |
| Monday, April 4      | Beth Bennett (Boston University)<br>“Race and Ethnicity in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century: Pan-Africanism in Ghana and Beyond”   |
| Monday, April 11     | Len Lyons (Ethiopian Jewry Committee)<br>“The Remarkable and Unfinished Exodus of the Ethiopian Jews”  |
| Monday, April 18     | Holiday - No seminar   |
| Monday, April 25     | Benaouda Lebdaï (Université du Maine, Le Mans)<br>“Winnie Madikizela Mandela: the construction of a South African political icon: History and Memory in progress”        |

# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

## African Studies Center Fall 2018

232 Bay State Road, Room 505 12:15pm to 2pm

### SEPTEMBER

**9.10** **Robert Mattes and Shaheen Mozaffar**  
"The 'Dumbing Down' Effect of Proportional Representation Electoral Systems in Africa"

**9.17** **Catherine L. Kelly**  
"Meanings of Justice and Security in Bangui, Central African Republic"

**9.24** **Rita Kiki (Nkiru) Edozie**  
"Pan 'Africa' Rising: The Paradox of Culture, Third Ways, and Coproducing Global Development"

### OCTOBER

**10.1** **Lawrence Were**  
"From African Socialism to Neo-Liberal Dispensation: The Case of Healthcare Reform in Kenya"

**10.9\*** **Nancy Jacobs**  
"Washington Okumu and the Miracle of South Africa's 1994 Elections"

**10.15** **Emilie Diouf**  
"On Whose Terms? African Women and Politics of Recognition in the International Refugee Regime"

**10.22** **Jennifer Johnson**  
"Negotiating Health after Empire: Rewriting the History of Family Planning in North Africa"

**10.29** **Ghirmai Negash**  
"Wounded Identities in the Clinic of Pan-Africanism"

### NOVEMBER

**11.5** **Lauren Honig**  
"The Struggle for Land: The state, customary authorities, and citizens in Senegal and Zambia"

**11.12** **Serena Stein**  
"Notes on a Donor Darling: Agribusiness, Transnational Intimacies and the Infrastructure of Obligation in Mozambique's Nacala Corridor"

**11.26** **Kenda Mutongi**  
"Reading Under the Covers: A History of Schooling in Kenya"

### DECEMBER

**12.3** **Michael Woldemariam**  
"Divide and Rule: Partition and Illiberal State-Building in the Horn of Africa"

**12.10** **George Paul Meiu**  
"Plastic Panics: Masculinity, Materiality, and Citizenship in Kenya"

\* exceptionally: Tuesday (BU Monday schedule)





# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

African Studies Center Spring 2019

232 BAY STATE ROAD, ROOM 505 - 12:15 PM TO 2:00PM

## JANUARY

- 28** **Chipo Dendere (Amherst College)**  
“Understanding Political Transitions in the Social Media (Digital Age)”

## FEBRUARY

- 4** **Hilary Matfess (Yale University)**  
“Women, War, and Agency: A Study of Boko Haram and Gender”
- 11** **Samantha Lakin (Clark University)**  
“Kwibuka: Divergent Memory and the Quest for Justice in Post-Genocide Rwanda”
- 25** **Lori de Lucia (UCLA)**  
“The Space between Borno and Palermo: Slavery and Its Boundaries in the Sixteenth-Century Saharan-Mediterranean Region”

## MARCH

- 4** **Abigail H. Neely (Dartmouth College)**  
“When Children Become Ancestors: Death and Dying in Post-Apartheid South Africa”
- 18** **Karen S. Barton (University of Northern Colorado)**  
“The Geographical Dimensions of Senegal’s Maritime Spaces”
- 25** **Brian Valente-Quinn (University of Colorado, Boulder)**  
“Staging Sufi Stories: Theater and the Murids of Senegal”

## APRIL

- 1** **Katherine Luongo (Northeastern University)**  
“The Nyayo House Torture Case: A Crucible of Human Rights in Postcolonial Kenya”
- 8** **Lilly Havstad (Boston University)**  
“‘To Live a Better Life’: The Making of a Mozambican Middle Class in Maputo City”
- 17\*** **Nadia Sabri (Université Mohammed V, Rabat)**  
“Contemporary Artistic Investigations of Morocco: Concrete Territory and Palimpsest of the Sensitive”
- 22** **Eric J. Schmidt (Boston University)**  
“‘Arid Fidelity’ and ‘Reluctant Capitalists’: Independent Record Labels and the Circulation of Tuareg Music”
- 29** **Christopher B. Steiner (Connecticut College)**  
“The Missionary as African Art Collector and Dealer: Dr. George W. Harley in Liberia, 1925-1960”

\* Wednesday lecture due to BU alternative Monday schedule

# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

African Studies Center Fall 2019

232 BAY STATE ROAD, ROOM 505 - 12:15 PM TO 2:00PM

## SEPTEMBER

- 16** **Darren Kew (U. Mass. Boston)**  
“After Nigeria’s 2019 Elections: What Implication for Democratic Development, and What Next?”
- 23** **Dinah Hannaford (Texas A&M University)**  
“Foreign Assistants: Development and Care in an African City”
- 30** **Séverine Autesserre (Columbia/Barnard)**  
“On the Frontlines of Peace: The Unlikely People Who Are Getting It Right”

## OCTOBER

- 7** **Adeline Masquelier (Tulane University)**  
“Spirited Places: Trees, Schools, and the Borderlands of History in Niger”
- 21** **Bryan Trabold (Suffolk University)**  
“Opposition Journalism: The Weekly Mail and New Nation in Apartheid South Africa”
- 28** **Katarzyna Pieprzak (Williams)**  
“Poems on Mass Housing in North Africa”

## NOVEMBER

- 4** **Sara Beth Keough (Saginaw Valley State University)**  
“Water, Life, and Profit: Water Vending in Niamey, Niger”

# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

African Studies Center

Spring 2020

232 BAY STATE ROAD, ROOM 505 - 12:15 PM TO 2:00PM

## JANUARY

**27** **Hugh Roberts (Tufts)**  
"Algeria: The People and the Power"

## FEBRUARY

**3** **Rudo Mudiwa (Princeton)**  
"You Idiot, I'm One of You!": Policing and the (Mis)recognition of Female Citizenship in Zimbabwe"

**24** **Laura E. Seay (Colby)**  
"(Re)constructing the Congolese State: International Interventions and Informal Governance"

## MARCH

**16** **Kwasi Konadu (Colgate)**  
"Communographies: Histories of Healing, Religion, Politics, and Decolonization in Africa"

**23** **Sara Berry (Johns Hopkins)**  
"On Whose Authority? 'Land Reform,' Power and Economic Uncertainty in Contemporary sub-Saharan Africa"

**30** **Anima Adjepong (Simmons)**  
"Love and Culture: On Compulsory Heterosexuality as Ghana's Neocolonial Inheritance"

## APRIL

**22** **Parker Shipton (BU)**  
"Savagism: Prejudice, Permutation, and Performance"

**27** **Jennifer Yanco & Daivi Rodima-Taylor (BU)**  
"The Process and Ethnography of the NEH Ajami Research Project"

# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

## African Studies Center Fall 2020

Hosted on Zoom | 12:15pm to 2pm ET | Register at <https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYFALL20>

A one-time registration is required to attend any or as many of this semester's Rodney Seminars as you would like.

If you have questions, please email [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu).

### OCTOBER

10.19

**Kris Berwouts (Independent)**

*"Democracy in the Democratic Republic of Congo: What Are the Prospects for Real Change After the 2018 Elections?"*

10.26

**Jean Borgatti (Clark University)**

*"Ekasa Performance in Benin – Song, Dance, Prayer – Coronation 2016"*

### NOVEMBER

11.2

**John Thornton (Boston University)**

*"The Rise and Expansion of the Lunda Empire"*

11.9

**Nana Osei-Opare (Fordham University)**

*"Making the Ghanaian Citizen and State During the Cold War"*

11.16

**Shannen Hill (Smithsonian National Museum of African Art)**

*"South African Mining and Art: Imagining an Industry"*

11.30

**Eniola Ànúolúwapó Sòyemí (European University Institute)**

*"Freedom in the Political Thought of Steve Biko"*

### DECEMBER

12.7

**Kwasi Konadu (Colgate University)**

*"Communographies: Histories of Healing, Religion, Politics, and Decolonization in Africa"*



# Walter Rodney Lecture Series

## African Studies Center Spring 2021

Hosted on Zoom | 12:15pm to 2pm ET | Register at <https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYS21>

A one-time registration is required to attend any or as many of this semester's Rodney Seminars as you would like. If you have questions, please email [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu).

### FEBRUARY

**02.08** Marc Sommers (Boston University)  
*"Youth, Pop Culture and Terror Warfare in Sierra Leone"*

**\*02.16** Les Kaufman (Boston University)  
*"Food-Energy-Water Security, Biodiversity, and Climate Change in the Nilotic Great Lakes of Africa"*

### MARCH

**03.01** David Frankfurter (Boston University)  
*"Re-Modeling the Christianization of Egypt"*

**03.08** Shingirai Taodzera (Wellesley College)  
*"Nations Within a State and the Emerging Hydrocarbons Industry in Uganda"*

**03.15** Anima Adjepong (Independent Researcher)  
*"Afropolitan Vibes: Race, Class, and Cultural Politics in Accra and Houston"*

**03.22** Patricia-Pia Célérier (Vassar College)  
*"Can One Talk of a Decolonial Turn in France Today?"*

**03.29** Trent Masiki (Boston University)  
*"The Road to Kampala: African American Ambassadors and Foreign Service Officers in Uganda"*

### APRIL

**04.05** Adia Benton (Northwestern University)  
*"Spy, Patrol, Police: Black Life and the Production of Epidemiological Knowledge from Atlanta, Georgia to Freetown, Sierra Leone"*

**04.12** Tim Weiskel (Boston University)  
*"Some Troubling Chapters in the Political Ecology and History of West African Agriculture"*

**04.26** Abdoulaye Sounaye (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient)  
*"Projecting Life: Boko, Learning and Religiosity on a University Campus in West Africa"*

\* This date is a Tuesday; BU will be operating on Monday Schedule



# Walter Rodney Seminar Series

## African Studies Center Fall 2021

12:30 – 2:00pm ET | Register: [tinyurl.com/RODNEYF21](https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYF21)

All events accessible via Zoom. Register once for access to all seminars.  
Dates marked \* indicate hybrid events – attend via Zoom or in person at the ASC's William O. Brown Conference Room (Rm 505, 232 Bay State Road).

- 9.13** **Mai Hassan (University of Michigan)**  
*Coordinated Non-Coordination: Mobilization during Sudan's 2018-19 Uprising*
- 9.20** **Babacar M'Baye (Kent State University)**  
*Pan-Africanism in the Epics of Chaka Zulu and Sundiata Keita*
- 9.27** **Carolyn Holmes (Mississippi State University)**  
*What Makes "Us?": Nation Building and Democratization in South Africa after Mandela*
- 10.18** **Damascus Kafumbe (Middlebury College)**  
*"Gganga Survived Narrowly": Punishment and Forgiveness in Kiganda Royalist Song*
- \*10.25** **Jonathan Greenacre (Boston University)**  
*Bridge Institutions in Africa*
- 11.1** **Alden Young (University of California, Los Angeles)**  
*After the Developmental State: Hajj Hamad and the Geopolitics of the Horn of Africa*  
  
This talk co-sponsored by the BU Global Development Policy Center as part of the new joint series, "The Political Economy of African Foreign Policy"
- 11.8** **Pia Raffler (Harvard University)**  
*Bureaucrats versus Politicians: Political Oversight in Hybrid Regimes*
- 11.15** **Madina Thiam (University of California, Los Angeles)**  
*Seeking Freedom in the Sahel (1805-1836)*
- 11.29** **Safia Aidid (University of Toronto)**  
*Towards a History of the Somali Nationalist Imagination*
- \*12.6** **Jim McCann (Boston University)**  
*A Fish Story: The Meanings of Water in the Upper Nile*

Questions? Email us at [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu)



# Walter Rodney Seminar Series

## African Studies Center Spring 2022

12:30 – 2:00pm ET | Register: [tinyurl.com/RODNEYS22](https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYS22)

All events accessible via Zoom. Register once for access to all seminars.

Dates marked \* indicate hybrid events – attend via Zoom or in person at the ASC's William O. Brown Conference Room (Rm 505, 232 Bay State Road).

Seminars marked \*\* take place on Tuesday. BU will operate on a Monday schedule due to public holiday.

- \*2.07** **Gana Ndiaye (Boston University)**  
*Contested Meanings of Africanness: African Muslim Migrants, Affirmative Action Policies, and Brazil's "New Racial Politics"*
- \*\*2.22** **Daivi Rodima-Taylor and Parker Shipton (Boston University)**  
*Book Launch: Land and the Mortgage: History, Culture, Belonging*
- \*2.28** **Mamoutou Coulibaly (Université des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines de Bamako)**  
*Translating Language and Culture*
- \*3.14** **Thiago Mota (Universidade Federal de Viçosa)**  
*Islam from Below: A Social History of Muslim Expansion in West Africa (15th-19th Century)*
- \*3.21** **Harry Verhoeven (Columbia University)**  
*Climate Change and the International Politics of Africa: Rethinking Conflict, Nationalism and State Building*
- 3.28** **Nomi Dave (University of Virginia)**  
*Big Mouth: Amplified Justice in a Guinean Trial*
- 4.04** **Sabine Mohamed (University of Illinois, Chicago)**  
*Becoming amiche: Colonial Affect and Infrastructures of Deportation in Ethiopia*
- \*4.11** **Kristen Harkness (University of St. Andrews)**  
*The Dilemma of Security Force Assistance: The Fight against Boko Haram and Deepening Autocracy in Cameroon*
- \*4.25** **Pierre Englebert (Pomona College)**  
*Explaining Variations in State Responses to the Security Crisis in the Sahel*
- 5.02** **Chérie Rivers Ndaliko (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)**  
*A Rebellion of Beans: Radical Black Ecologies of Crisis in the East of Congo*

Questions? Email us at [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu).



# Walter Rodney Seminar Series

## African Studies Center Fall 2022

African Studies Center



1953 • 70 YEARS • 2023

 Boston University  
Pardee School of Global Studies

Mondays, 12:30 – 2:00pm ET

Attend via Zoom or in person at the ASC's William O. Brown Conference Room (Rm 505, 232 Bay State Road).

Register: [tinyurl.com/RODNEYF22](https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYF22)

Register once for Zoom access to all seminars.\*

Questions? Email us: [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu)

**9.19**

**Dan Connell (BU)**

*Eritrea's Role in the Tigray War: The What, How & Why*

**9.26**

**Kapya John Kaoma (BU)**

*Intersectionality of Human Rights, Democratization, and Christianity in African Protective Homophobia*

Co-sponsored by the Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs: CURA

**10.24**

**Emily Williamson Ibrahim (Brandeis University)**

*Folded Speech: A Semiotics of Uncertainty in an Accra Zongo*

**10.31**

**Pacifique Irankunda (Independent Author)**

*When Justice Governs: Lessons from the Institution of Bashingantahe*

Co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Europe

**\* 11.7**

**Amb. Reuben Brigety (US Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa)**

*The Future is Forward: The Evolving US-South Africa Relationship*

\*This event will be online only and held on Microsoft Teams.\*

Separate registration is required: [tinyurl.com/BUASC-Brigety](https://tinyurl.com/BUASC-Brigety)

**12.5**

**Kristen Harkness (University of St. Andrews)**

*Security Force Assistance to Cameroon: How Building Enclave Units Deepens Autocracy*

**12.12**

**Jacob Olupona (Harvard University)**

*Chief Logo Bamatula: The Biography of a Nigerian Medicine Man*



# Walter Rodney Seminar Series

## African Studies Center Spring 2023

12:30 – 2:00pm ET | Register: [tinyurl.com/RODNEYS23](https://tinyurl.com/RODNEYS23)

All events are accessible via Zoom. Register once for access to all seminars.

Dates marked \* indicate hybrid events – attend via Zoom or in person at the ASC's William O. Brown Conference Room (Rm 505, 232 Bay State Road).

- 2.06** **Chao Tayiana (African Digital Heritage)**  
*Visible Histories, Invisible Data: Documenting the Histories of Migrated Objects and Archives in Africa*
- \*2.13** **Zachary Mondesire (Boston University)**  
*South Sudan and the Cultural Politics of East Africa*
- \*2.27** **Dora Moono Nyambe & Joseph Schmitt (Footprints of Hope)**  
*Under a Zambian Tree*
- \*3.13** **Oladele Ayorinde (Indiana University)**  
*"When We Sing Everyone Hears": #RhodesMustFall and #EndSars Protests as "Musicking" in the African Postcolony*
- \*3.20** **Tsitsi Musasike**  
*Green Energy in Africa*
- \*3.27** **Dina Asfaha (University of Pennsylvania)**  
*Medical Sovereignty, Self-Reliance, and Maternal Mortality in Eritrea*
- \*4.03** **Richard Joseph (Northwestern University)**  
*Nigerian Elections 2023: Prospects for Political Renewal and Stability*
- \*4.10** **Cheikh Thiam (Amherst College)**  
*The Idea of Africa, the Value of Black Lives, and the Future of Black Radicalism*
- 4.24** **Shireen Hassim (Carleton University)**  
*Genealogies of Feminism in Africa*

If you have any questions please reach out to us at [ascinfo@bu.edu](mailto:ascinfo@bu.edu).

African Studies Center



1953 • 70 YEARS • 2023

 Boston University  
Pardee School of Global Studies

Co-sponsored by the African American and Black Diaspora Studies Program, Department of the History of Art and Architecture, Department of Musicology and Ethnomusicology, Global Development Policy Center, Pardee Center for the Longer-Range Future, Sargent College Department of Health Sciences, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program