

M A S A C H S J . B O U N G O U

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Global Studies/Social Policies Fall 2021
University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML) Lowell, MA
Dissertation Title: “Exploring the influence of conflict experiences in understanding entrepreneurialism, personality traits, and personal stories among sub-Saharan African immigrants.”

M.A. in Coexistence and Conflict Studies August 2016
M.A. in Sustainable International Development August 2016
Brandeis University, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management Waltham, MA
Master’s Thesis: “To what extent does the African Union consider cultural sensitivity in resolving conflicts in Africa: Case studies of Burundi and Democratic of Republic Congo?”

B.A. in Rural Development February 2011
Marien Ngouabi University, Rural Development Institute, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

- Commencement Graduate Keynote Speaker of the Class of 2022, UML
- Bradford Morse Research Stipend on International Relations, UML’s Bradford Morse fund, 2021
- Award Grant for Social Change, The Pollination Project, 2020
- New Leaders Group Award, Institute of International Education (IIE), 2018
- Fulbright/IIE Scholar, the United States of America, 2016

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Journal Article under Review

Bougou, J. M. & Kras, K., (2021). “Empowerment and Employment: Expanding our understanding of agency and entrepreneurship related to desistance” *International Journal of Therapy and Comparative Criminology*

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Masachs Bougou, (2022). The Power of Personal History: Turning one’s life tragedies into triumph. A Memoir. Independently published on Amazon.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Lecturer

Political Science Department Lowell, MA
UMass Lowell
Courses on Introduction to Comparative Politics Fall, 2020

- Developed the syllabus, taught weekly course material, grading undergraduate essays, and advising undergraduate students
- Facilitated and prompted the class discussion

Teaching Assistant

Philosophy and Political Science Department Lowell, MA
UMass Lowell
Courses on Popular Culture, and Political Comparative Systems Fall, 2019

- Assisted in teaching weekly course material, grading undergraduate essays, and advising

- Graduate Lecturer** Lowell, MA
 Political Science Department UMass Lowell
 Courses on Introduction to Comparative Politics Spring, 2019
- Developed the syllabus, taught weekly course material, grading undergraduate essays, and advising undergraduate students
 - Facilitated and prompted the class discussion
- Co-Teacher/Teaching Assistant** Lowell, MA
 Political Science and Philosophy Department UMass Lowell
 Courses on Introduction to Comparative Politics and Bioethics Fall, 2018
- Taught and assisted weekly course material, grading undergraduate essays, and advising, and lectured on Safe and Just Innovation, Moral Status, and Enhancement
 - Facilitated and prompted the class discussion
- Teaching Assistant** Lowell, MA
 Philosophy and Political Science Department UMass Lowell
 Courses on Popular Culture, and Political Comparative Systems Spring 2018
- Assisted in teaching weekly course material, grading undergraduate essays, and advising
 - Lectured on the world politics as “culture-areas” and Anti-American Sentiments
- Teaching Assistant** Lowell, MA
 Philosophy and Political Science Department UMass Lowell
 Courses on Engineering and Ethics, and International Politics Fall 2017
- Assisted in teaching weekly course material and grading undergraduate essays, and lectured on Ethics and Medicine, Ethics and Environment, and Ethics and Design,
 - Lectured on the influence of NGOs in international affairs.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Project Lead** July 2020 to December 2021
 Lowell Public Schools Portrait of a Graduate Project, Lowell, MA
- Led as a volunteer and directed the African community team efforts in designing research questions, collecting data through in-person interviews within the African community (including families, students, alumni, and business owners), and in analyzing data for identifying strategies and resources to improve how the public-school system can (a) invest in the education of African immigrant children and (b) partners with community-based businesses to support students to enter business world.

- Individual Research Project** UMass Lowell (Fall, 2018)
 Qualitative Research Methods
- Theme:** “How does the university-based entrepreneurial initiative foster an entrepreneurial mindset and innovation?”

- Developed a research project design in collaboration with the research lead
- Completed a literature review on the above identified topic that was investigated
- Interviewed 2 key program administrators who were involved in (1) developing entrepreneurial initiative curriculum, (2) implementing hands-on practices or policies, and (3) enabling to produce the next generation of student entrepreneurs on campus
- Interviewed a sample of 4 student participants who were already involved in the entrepreneurial initiative to get their perspectives about the university-based entrepreneurial initiative and to understand the nature of their projects.
- Collected visual data, focusing on (1) the space setups of the main site and subsites where the university-based entrepreneurial initiative has its office and organized campus-based entrepreneurial activities through workshops, mentorships, trainings and competition pitch, and (2) the drawings of the research participants about what they felt and hoped to see as the outcomes of the program
- Wrote a paper as the result of the research project

- Research Intern** June - August 2015
 International Mediator Community of Practice, Communities in Transition Washington, DC
- Completed a literature review and analysis on the project on the influence that the culture has on conflict resolution styles

- Mapped and analyzed culture and conflict resolution styles in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, East Asia, and the West

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Venture Analyst/AmeriCorps Fellow

February 2022 to Present

Social Enterprise Greenhouse,

Providence, RI

- Analyze all aspects of executing the Ideator program, evaluating the curriculum of Incubator and Accelerator and deepening the storytelling capacity.
- Identify, develop and execute some research projects, including design strategic programs and partnerships with other communities such as African immigrants and university-based social enterprise programs
- Manage the on-ground execution of the university-based partnerships, including Wheaton fellowship

Project Lead

December 2020-January 2021

Kolos: Inspiring Youth through Vegetable Farmed Food

Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

- Wrote a grant proposal, managed and implemented the project to promote food security along with community leadership and business driven through workshops with 25 youths aged between 18-24
- Partnered with farming organizations to participate in the project to help participants learn about food production and security, especially vegetable farming

Project Lead

June-July 2018

Nunga's Youth Champions Project

Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

- Wrote a grant proposal, managed and implemented the project to promote cross-ethnic understanding, entrepreneurship, ethics-based leadership for public affairs management, and self-leadership and management through workshops 25 young adults aged between 18-20
- Collaborated with other youth organizations to participate in the project
- Identified opportunities to improve partnerships with other organizations and business leaders

Founder

October 2016-2018

Nunga Program

Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

- Founded and managed the Nunga Program Project to promote at-risk youth development in the context of entrepreneurialism, peacebuilding, leadership and critical thinking
- Developed strategic initiatives or opportunities to collaborate with other partnerships, including the U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, young entrepreneurs, and youth organizations
- Produced a couple of documentaries to highlight human development projects about the Nunga Project
- Identified and analyzed policies and incentives that promote investment in youth development

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Bilingual (English: fluent; French: native)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/LEADERSHIP

- Guest Speaker, *Personal History as a lever for [Social] Entrepreneurship*, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA April 2022
- Guest Speaker, *Tapping into one's personal history to survive and thrive in the Ph.D. and Beyond*, Brandeis University, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Waltham, MA April 2022
- Guest Speaker, Community Voices Dialogue, The African Community Center of Lowell, Lowell, MA March 2020
- Guest Speaker, *Rethinking Youth Engagement: The Nunga Program*, Center of Women Work of UMass Lowell, UMass Lowell February 2019
- Guest Speaker, *Learning with Purpose*, American Cultural Center, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo June 2019

- Guest Judge, Middlesex Community College Shark Tank Contest, Lowell, MA May 2018
- Volunteer, Annual Lowell Folk Festival, Lowell, MA August 2018
- Guest Speaker, *Rethinking Youth Engagement: The Nunga Program*, Brandeis University, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Waltham, MA December 2018
- Idea Challenge Finalist, Difference Maker Program, UMass Lowell, Lowell, MA December 2018
- Guest Speaker, *Congo Elikia: A Spontaneous Generation*, a documentary on young Congolese entrepreneurs produced by the Nunga Program, Fulbright National Conference, D.C. November 2017
- Guest Speaker, *Can the Congolese youth accept the challenge of success?* Brazzaville Youth Center, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo June 2017
- Guest Speaker, *Congo Elikia: A Spontaneous Generation*, a documentary on young Congolese entrepreneurs produced by the Nunga Program, Fulbright National Conference, D.C. November 2017
- Guest Speaker, The Spring Fulbright Celebration, Waltham, MA April 2016
- Guest Speaker, American Cultural Center, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo October 2016
- Featured Speaker, The Spring Fulbright Celebration, Waltham, MA April 2015
- Co-founder & first elect President, Brandeis University Fulbright Chapter, Waltham, MA August 2015
- Volunteer, TEDx Fulbright Event, Santa Monica, CA September 2015

REFERENCES

Dr. Deina Abdelkader (Dissertation Chair)
 Professor, Ph.D.
 Department of Political Sciences
 University of Massachusetts Lowell
 Deina_abdelkader@uml.edu

Dr. Elizabeth Ambe
 Professor, Ph.D.
 School of Education
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Dr. Urmitapa Dutta
 Professor, Ph.D.
 Psychology
 University of Massachusetts Lowell
 Urmitapa_dutta@uml.edu