
CHIELOZONA EZE

English Department Northeastern Illinois University 5500 North St. Louis Avenue Chicago, IL 60625	Office 773 442 5807 Home: 312 391 9180 Chieloz@gmail.com C-eze@neiu.edu
--	--

EDUCATION

2003 Ph.D., English/Philosophy, Purdue University
 2003 MFA, (Fiction), Purdue University
 1996 M.A., Comparative Literature/German, University of Bayreuth, Germany
 1984 B.A., Philosophy (*Magna cum laude*), St. Joseph's Seminary, Ikot-Ekpene, Nigeria

EMPLOYMENT

2017 - Professor, African and African Diaspora Literary and Cultural Studies
 The Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor
 2010 - Associate Professor, African and African Diaspora Literary and Cultural Studies
 2005- 2010 Assistant professor, NEIU
 2004-2005 Visiting Assistant Professor, UCLA

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

African and African Diaspora Literary and Cultural Studies
 Black Feminist Writing
 Black Social and Political Thought
 Literature and Human Rights
 Literature and Ethics
 Cosmopolitanism and Reconciliation Studies
 Postcolonial and Transcultural Studies

PRIZES/AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2020 NEIU Excellence Award (Research) \$1700
 2020 African Literature Association Executive Councilor Award (For outstanding service as an Officer of the African Literature Association)
 2020 Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor (University-wide recognition for the most outstanding professor whose scholarship has made appreciable global impact).
 2020 Research Fellowship: Emengini Institute for Comparative Global Studies, Worcester, Massachusetts (August-December 2020. Postponed because of Covid)
 2019 NEIU African and African American Studies Faculty Excellence Award (Research)
 2018 Research Fellowship: Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS), South Africa (July – December, 2018)
 2018 Extraordinary Professor, Stellenbosch University, South Africa (2019-2021)
 2016 Carnegie African Diaspora Research Funding (\$20,000)
 2016 NEIU Excellence Award (Research) \$1500

- 2016 Research Fellowship: Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS), South Africa (January – June, 2016)
- 2014 NEIU Profiles in Excellence (Research)
- 2013 NEIU African and African American Studies Faculty Excellence Award (Service/Teaching)
- 2013 NEIU, Faculty Excellence Award, (Research) \$1500
- 2013 NEIU Summer Fellowship (\$5,000) for my manuscript in progress, *Feminist Empathy: African Gender Politics, Human Rights, and Narrative Ethics*
- 2010 Finalist, Hurston-Wright Legacy Award (Fiction, for *The Trial of Robert Mugabe*)
- 2009 NEIU Faculty Excellence Award, (Research) \$1500
- 2004 Visiting Assistant Professor Postdoctoral Fellowship, UCLA
- 2003 Research Award English/Philosophy Interdisciplinary Program, Purdue University

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

A: Published Refereed Contributions

Monographs (Single authored)

1. *Justice and Human Rights in the African Imagination: We, Too, Are Humans*. (London: Routledge, 2021). pp. 184. OPEN ACCESS: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003148272>
2. *Race, Decolonization, and Global Citizenship in South Africa*. Rochester, New York: The University of Rochester Press, 2018. Pp.226.
3. *Ethics and Human Rights in Anglophone African Women's Literature: Feminist Empathy*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. pp.230.
4. *Postcolonial Imagination and Moral Representations in African Literature and Culture*. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2011). Pp.135
5. *The Dilemma of Ethnic Identity: Alain Locke's Vision of Transcultural Societies*. Edwin Mellen Press, 2005. pp.206

Monographs (Co-edited)

1. *Critical Perspectives on African Genocide: Memory, Silence, and Anti-Black Political Violence*, edited with Alfred Frankowski and Jeanine Ntahirageza. (Rowman and Littlefield, April 2021)

Monograph under review at Princeton University Press

1. *The Quiet Radicalness of Desire: Zora Neale Hurston, Black Women, and the Pursuit of Happiness* (Complete, 95,000 words).

Ongoing Research – Monograph

1. *Black Political Thought and the Challenges of Multiracial Democracy in America*

Refereed Journal articles

1. "The Aesthetics of Proximity and the Common Good" *Cambridge Journal of Postcolonial Literary Inquiry*, 6(2) April 2019), pp 283–290.
2. "Empathetic Cosmopolitanism: South Africa and the Quest for Global Citizenship" *Strategic Review for Southern Africa*, Vol 39 no. 1 (May 2017): 236-255.
3. "Decolonisation and its Discontents: Thoughts on the Postcolonial African Moral Self" *Journal of South African Philosophy*. Vol 34. 4 (2015): 408-418.
4. "We, Afropolitans." *Journal of African Cultural Studies*. Vol. 28. Issue1. (2016):
5. "Transcultural Affinity: Thoughts on the Emergent Cosmopolitan Imagination in South Africa." *Journal of African Cultural Studies*. 27. 2. (2015): 216-228.
6. "Feminist Empathy: Unsettling African Cultural Norms in *The Secret Lives of Baba Segi's Wives*. *African Studies*. Vol. 74 Issue 3. (2015): 310-326.
7. "Feminism With a Big "F": Ethics and the Rebirth of African Feminism in Chika Unigwe's *On Black Sisters' Street*" *Research in African Literature*. Vol. 45.4. (2014): 88-103.
8. "The Open Wounds of Being: The Poetics of Testimony in the Works of Patricia Jabbeh Wesley." *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies*. Vol. 16, No.2 (Fall 2014): 282-306.
9. "Rethinking African culture and identity: the Afropolitan model." *Journal of African Cultural Studies*. 26. 2 (2014): 234-247.
10. "Death, Here I Am: Violence and Redemption in Zakes Mda's *Ways of Dying*." *Journal of Narrative Theory*, 43.1. (2013): 87-107.
11. "Nelson Mandela and the Politics of Empathy: Reflections on the Moral Conditions for Conflict Resolutions in Africa." *African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review*. 2, 1, (2012): 122-135.
12. "Ambits of Moral Judgement: Of Pain, Empathy and Redemption in J.M.Coetzee's Age of Iron," *Journal of Literary Studies*, 27:4, (2011):17-35.
13. "African Feminism: Resistance or Resentment. *Quest: An African Journal of Philosophy* XX, 1-2, (2008): 97-117.
14. "The Pitfalls of Cultural Consciousness," *Philosophia Africana* 10. 1 (March 2007): 37-47.
15. "Cosmopolitan Solidarity: Negotiating Transculturality in Contemporary Nigerian Novels." *English in Africa*. (Spring 2005):99-112.

Refereed book chapters

16. "Ethics and the Politics of the Ordinary in African Literature" *Handbook of African Literature*. Edited by Moradewun Adejunmobi and Carli Coetzee. London: Routledge, 2018.
17. "African Postcolonial Imagination and the Moral Challenges of Our Times" in *Debating African Literature*, edited by Maik Nwosu and Obiwu (Syracuse University Press, 2015): 110-126.
18. "African Literature as a Handmaid of African Philosophy," in *African Philosophical and Literary Possibilities: Re-reading the Canon*, edited by Aretha Phiri. New York: Lexington Books, 2020.
19. "Afropolitan Aesthetics as an Ethics of Openness." *Afropolitan Literature as World Literature*, edited by James Hodapp. London: Bloomsbury, Jan. 2020.

Conference Proceedings

20. "Autochthony, Cultural Purity, and Cosmopolitan Solidarity: Doreen Baingana and the Virtues of Uprootedness," in *Cultural Dynamics of Globalization and African Literature*. Selected Papers of the African Literature Association (ALA) Edited by Sandra Dixon and Janice Spleth. 2015.
21. "The City, Hyperculturality, and Human Rights in Contemporary African Women's Writing," ASNEL Papers (2013 ASNEL Conference Proceedings, Forthcoming Fall 2015). Vol 21: *Re-Inventing the Postcolonial (in the) Metropolis*.

Book Chapters un-refereed

22. "Ethnocentric Representations and Being Human in a Multiethnic World: Alain Locke Critique" in Leonard Harris and Jacoby Adeshei Carter, editors, *Philosophic Values and World Citizenship: Locke to Obama and Beyond*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2010.

CREATIVE WORKS

1. *The Trial of Mugabe* (Novella). Chicago, Okri Books, 2009.
2. *Survival Kit* (Chapbook Poems). New York: Akachic Books, 2016.
3. *Prayers to Survive Wars that Last* (Poems). Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Cissus World Press, 2017.

Dictionary Entries

1. "Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins (1825-1911)." *Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers* (Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2005).
2. Woodbey, George (1854-1915)." *Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers* (Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2005).

Articles under Review

1. "My Body as the Proof of Justice: The Quiet Activism of Harriet Jacobs and Zora Neale Hurston." *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*.
2. "Truth and the Politics of Human Perfectibility: Anna Julia Cooper and the Challenges of Multiracial Democracy" *Political Theory*.

B: Other Refereed Contributions

Scholarly conference presentations

Invited Lectures

2020

"Global Black Solidarity in the Age of Black Lives Matter" *Achebe/Baldwin: On the 40th anniversary of Baldwin and Achebe's historic encounter at the University of Florida*, April 2-3, 2020.

2016

“Literature as a Handmaid for African Philosophy” *Transformation of Higher Education and the Formation of Canon in African Philosophy and African Literature*. Rhodes University, South Africa, 30th – 31st May, 2016.

2013

“The City as an Ethical Space in Contemporary African Women’s Writing”
Inventing the Postcolonial (in the) Metropolis. 24th Annual GNEL/ASNEL Conference.
Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany, 09-11 May, 2013.

Other Papers (Selected)

“Albinism, Disability, and the Future of Human Rights in Africa.” African Literature Conference, The Ohio State University, USA, May 2019

“Environmentalism as a Moral Concern in African Literature” African Literature Conference, Emory University, Georgia, USA, May 2017

“Afropolitanism, Ubuntuism and Cosmopolitan Imagination in South Africa” African Literature Conference, University of Bayreuth, Germany, May 2015

“Look, a White African: Shifting Conceptions of Culture and Identity in Africa” Contemporary Orientations in African Studies. McMaster University, Canada. 2014

“The Burden of History and the Search for Redemption in Antjie Krog” 40th African Literature Association Conference, Wits University, Johannesburg, South Africa, April, 2014.

“Women as Witness to Postcolonial Dystopia in Petina Gappah – An Elegy for Easterly”
Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Rochester, New York; March 15-18, 2012

“I want to be a Widow: Portrait of Women as Guards of Human Rights in Sefi Atta’s Novels”
38th African Literature Association Conference, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, April, 2012

“Waiting for the Age of Clay: Memory: Empathy and Redemption in Age of Iron”
37th Annual ALA Conference, Ohio University, April 13-17, 2011

“Nelson Mandela and the Politics of Empathy: A New Moral Consciousness in African Cultures and Societies.” 4th European Conference on African Studies, The Nordic Africa Institute, 15-18 June, 2011 in Uppsala, Sweden.

“Globalization and Cosmopolitan Solidarity: Nurrudin Farah and Zakes Mda on the new Face of African Identity” Annual Meeting of African Literature Association, Ghana (May 2006)

“Frantz Fanon and Transculturality as an Ethical Challenge.”
EACLALS Triennial Conference 2005: Sharing Places: Searching for Common Ground in a World of Continuing Exclusion, Sliema, Malta, 21-26 March, 2005.

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

2013 – till date: Founding Member (with Jeanine Ntihirageza and Alfred Frankowski): [Genocide and Human Rights Research in Africa and the Diaspora \(GHRAD\)](#) Center. I co-organized university-wide symposia from 2013 to 2017.

Review of Promotions/Professional Advancement

- Carleton University
- Nelson Mandela University, South Africa
- Rhodes University, South Africa
- University of South Africa

Graduate Co-Supervision

(My university is a master's degree-awarding institution)

Larry Dean
Susan Landwer
Elias Cepeda

Review of book proposals and book series proposals

Routledge
University of Virginia Press
Lexington Books
Peter Lang Press (Germany)

Review of journal articles (Selected)

- *English: Oxford Journal*
- *Ariel: A Review of International English Literature*
- *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History and the Philosophy of History*
- *Philosophia Africana: Journal of African Philosophy and Literature*
- *Journal of African Literature Association*
- *Journal of African Cultural Studies*
- *Culture, Theory and Critique*
- *Melus Journal*

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. African Literature Association
2. African Studies Association
3. Philosophy Born of Struggle (Leonard Harris's Conference)
4. The International Society for the Study of Narrative

\