

Miriam Jerotich Kilimo

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Department of Sociology and Anthropology
James Madison University, Harrisonburg VA, 22807

EDUCATION

- 2022 **PhD in Anthropology**
Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA
Dissertation: “The Making of Female Politicians: Gender Quotas and Political Subjectivity in Kenya”
- 2019 **MA in Anthropology**
Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA
- 2016 **MSt in Women’s Studies**
University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Thesis with High Distinction: “‘What it is to be a [Kenyan] Woman’: Redefining the Female Body in the Legislative Process against Female Circumcision”
- 2014 **BA in Anthropology modified and Senior Fellow**
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, USA
Salutatorian, Summa cum Laude, Senior Fellowship with High Honors:
“Interethnic Friendship in Urban Kenya”

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Anthropology; Anthropology of Law; Governance; Development Policy and Practice; Feminist Ethnography; African Feminisms; Anthropology of Gender; African Diasporas; East Africa; Kenya

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Aug 2022-
present **Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology & Postdoctoral Fellow**
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, James Madison University
- Aug 2021-
May 2022 **Pre-doctoral Fellow**
Office of Access and Inclusion and Department of Sociology and Anthropology,
James Madison University

RESEARCH GRANTS

External Grants

- 2019-2020 Social Science Research Council (SSRC) International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) (\$16,700)
- 2019-2020 National Science Foundation (NSF) Cultural Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG) (\$3,150)
- 2019-2020 Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (\$7,140)

Internal Grants

- 2017-2018 Professional Development Funds, Emory University (\$4,000)
- 2013 Kaminsky Family Fund, Dartmouth College (\$8,000)
- 2012 Robert G. McGuire III Research Fund, Dartmouth College (\$4,000)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

External Fellowships & Awards

- 2021 Bennetta Jules-Rosette Graduate Essay Award, Association for Africanist Anthropology (AfAA), American Anthropological Association (AAA), Honorable Mention
- 2021 Preparing Future Faculty Predoctoral Fellowship, James Madison University
- 2019 Society of Humanistic Anthropology (SHA) Prize for 1st Place in Ethnographic Fiction and Creative Nonfiction Writing
- 2018 Royal Air Maroc-African Studies Association Student Travel Award
- 2015 Rhodes Scholarship, University of Oxford

Internal Fellowships & Awards

- 2020 The Kristin Mann Award in African Studies, Emory University
- 2016 The George W. Woodruff Fellowship, Emory University
- 2014-2015 Richard D. Lombard '53 Public Service Fellowship, Dartmouth College
- 2014 The Phillip D. McInnis '36 Award, Dartmouth College
- 2014 Phi Beta Kappa, Dartmouth College
- 2014 The Class of 1962 Award for Excellence in Peer Tutoring, Dartmouth College

- 2014 Aimé Césaire Award for Excellence in the Humanities, Dartmouth College
- 2011-2014 Dr. W.E.B DuBois Award for Academic Excellence, Dartmouth College
- 2011-2013 Rufus Choate Scholar, Dartmouth College
- 2012-2013 James O. Freedman Presidential Scholarship, Dartmouth College
- 2011 Tucker Fellowship, Dartmouth College

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- 2022 ‘You Can’t Do Politics Without Money’: Female Politicians, Matronage, and the Limits of Gender Quotas in Kenya. *Africa* 92 (2): 210-229
**Honorable Mention, Bennetta Jules-Rosette Graduate Essay Award, Association for Africanist Anthropology (AfAA), American Anthropological Association (AAA)*
- 2020 Rebirth. *Anthropology and Humanism* 45 (1): 88-91
**Society of Humanistic Anthropology (SHA) Prize for 1st Place in Ethnographic Fiction and Creative Nonfiction Writing*
- 2016 Brown, Eleanor, Faith Mwangi-Powell, Miriam Jerotich and Victoria Le May. “Female Genital Mutilation in Kenya: are young men allies in social change programmes?” *Reproductive Health Matters* 24 (47): 118-125

Book Chapter

- 2022 “Redefining the Female Body: The Legislative Process against Female Circumcision in Kenya.” In *Gender and Sexuality in Kenyan Societies*, edited by Besi Brilliant Muhonja and Babacar M’Baye, 75-100. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Public Scholarship

- 2020 “Beyond the Nobel Peace Prize.” In *Africa Is a Country*.
<https://africasacountry.com/2020/11/beyond-the-nobel-peace-prize>
- 2016 “The Black Woman’s Natural Hair.” In *Mystiques: a feminist homage to Roland Barthes*, edited by Kerrie Thornhill, 12-19. Oxford: The Feminist E-Press, International Gender Studies

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- 2021 “Elusive Equality: Contesting Women’s Political Representation in Kenya’s Constitutional Amendment Initiatives.” Invited Presentation for Institute of African Studies Research Seminar, Emory University
- 2020 “Female Politicians, Money, and the Limits of Gender Quotas in Kenya.” Invited Presentation for Yale University course *Africa, Politics, Anthropology*.
- 2020 “Understanding and Analyzing Qualitative Studies.” Invited Presentation for Summer Opportunity for Academic Research (SOAR), Office of Emory Diversifying Graduate Education (EDGE)

Conference Presentations

- 2022 “Laying Grounds for Feminist Advocacy: The Impact of Training Seminars for Female Politicians and Aspirants in Kenya.” 12th Annual African, African American, and Diaspora Studies (AAAD) Interdisciplinary Conference 2022, James Madison University, Virtual Event
- 2021 “‘The Rich Women are MCAs’: Female Politicians and Patronage Relationships in Kenya.” The 2021 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA), Virtual Event
- 2021 “‘Punguza Mizigo’ and Building Bridges: Contesting Women in Kenya’s Constitutional Reform Movements.” The 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Baltimore, MD, USA
- 2018 “Creating a New Political Habitus: The Impact of Kenya’s Constitution on Female Politicians.” The 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), San Jose, CA, USA
- 2018 “Gynocentric (Il)egibility: Women and Development in Kenya.” The 2018 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA), Atlanta, GA, USA
- 2018 “Creating a Political Habitus: The Impact of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 on Female Politicians.” The 1st Annual International Conference on the Status of African Women, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2018 “(Un)Relenting Borders: Conflicting Visions of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.” The 5th Annual Critical Juncture Conference, Atlanta, GA, USA

- 2017 “A Misrecognition of Kenyan Women: The Consequences of Interpreting the Kenyan Constitution’s “Two-Thirds Gender Principle.” The 2017 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA), Chicago, IL, USA
- 2013 “Western Discourse in Legal Approaches: A History of Female Circumcision in Kenya.” The 36th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP), Perth, Australia

TEACHING & ADVISING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **Instructor of Record**, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, James Madison University
- 2022 **Instructor of Record**, Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa, James Madison University
- 2022 **Instructor of Record**, Human Rights and Global Justice, Emory University Pre-College Program
- 2022 **Instructor of Record**, Women, Culture, and Power in Africa, James Madison University
- 2021 **Instructor of Record**, Women and Gender in Africa, Emory University
- 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, James Madison University
- 2018 **Teaching Associate**, Africa: Anthropological Perspectives, Emory University
- 2018 **Teaching Assistant**, Concepts and Methods in Cultural Anthropology, Emory University
- 2017 **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Anthropology, Emory University
- 2013-2014 **Dean’s Office Student Consultant**, Dartmouth College
- 2012-2014 **Writing Tutor and Writing Assistant**, Dartmouth College
- 2012-2013 **Academic Undergraduate Advisor**, Dartmouth College

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2020 **Dissertation Research**, Department of Anthropology, Emory University

- 2017-2018 **Preliminary Dissertation Research**, Department of Anthropology, Emory University
- 2014-2015 **Research Fellowship**, Africa Coordinating Centre for the Abandonment of FGM/C, University of Nairobi, Kenya
Projects: Baseline Survey on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in Kenya, Sexuality of Women who have undergone FGM/C, Young Men's Attitude and Perceptions of FGM in Pokot (with Options UK), Evidence to End FGM/C (with Population Council)
- 2013-2014 **Senior Research Project**, Dean of Faculty Office, Dartmouth College
Project: Inter-ethnic Friendship in Urban Kenya
- 2012-2013 **Research Assistantship**, German Department, Dartmouth College
Projects: Thomas Mann, Agnes Smedley, 19th Century Brazil

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- May 2020 – present **Founder & Director**
 Higher Ed Prep, Nairobi, Kenya
- Organize and facilitate information seminars, writing workshops, and individual advising sessions for African students interested in international Masters and PhD programs and scholarships
 - Write blogposts and design social media content about best practices in the scholarship application process
- Jul. – Aug. 2016 **Summer Consultant**
 Dalberg Global Development Advisors, Nairobi, Kenya
- Conducted research and analysis of the agricultural and digital financial landscape in Zambia
 - Synthesized research findings into deliverables and provided strategic recommendations for client engagement
- Apr. – Sep. 2015 **Assistant Coordinator**
 End FGM Guardian Global Media Campaign, London, UK | Nairobi, Kenya
- Monitored Kenyan media, as well as research, behavior change, regulatory, and enforcement initiatives on FGM
 - Developed and maintained logging system for sustained media monitoring and produced draft monthly reports on progress for donors
- Aug. 2014 – Jul. 2015 **Public Service Fellow**
 Africa Coordinating Centre for the Abandonment of FGM/C, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Engaged in grassroots training and advocacy against female genital cutting among health care providers

- Prepared work plans for consultants working in the inception phase of 5-year DFID funded research project to reduce FGM/C
- Collaborated in the creation of a database of FGM/C interventions worldwide
- Organized a national stakeholder meeting on FGM/C research and compiled report of the proceedings

RESEARCH & TEACHING DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

2020	Emory College Online Teaching Strategies (ECOTS), Office of International and Summer Programs, Emory University
2020	Emory Foundations for Online Teaching (EFOT), Center for Faculty Development and Excellence, Emory University
2019	Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA) Empowering Interdisciplinary Teaching and Scholarship Workshop, Emory University
2018	Proposal Writing Institute, Emory University
2018	Intensive Grant Writing Workshop, Emory University
2017	Beginning Grant Writing Workshop, Emory University
2017	Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity Program, Emory University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

African Studies Association (ASA)

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

- Association for Africanist Anthropology (AAfA)
- Association for Black Anthropologists (ABA)
- Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA)
- Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA)
- Association for the Anthropology of Policy (ASAP)
- Society for Humanistic Anthropology (SHA)

Anthropological Association of Kenya (AAKe)

SERVICE AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2021	Manuscript Reviewer, <i>Anthropology and Humanism</i>
2021	Research Proposal Reviewer, Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program, Emory University

- 2019-2021 Scholarship Reviewer, Rhodes Scholarships for Kenya and for East Africa
- 2016-2018 Member, Colloquium Committee, Anthropology Graduate Students Association & Department of Anthropology, Emory University
- 2018 Volunteers' Coordinator for the 61st Annual ASA Conference, African Studies Association (ASA) Local Arrangements Committee, Atlanta, GA
- 2017 Alumni Recruiter, Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Children's Fiction Writer, Storymoja 'Start a Library' Campaign, Nairobi, Kenya

LANGUAGE & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages

Swahili (Native)

German (Fluent in Reading; Conversant in Writing; Conversant in Speaking)

Technical Skills

MAXQDA

STATA