

OMEDI OCHIENG

**Associate Professor, Department of
Communication, University of Colorado Boulder**

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2022-Present Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of
Colorado Boulder

2021-2022 Associate Professor, Communication Department and Black Studies,
Denison University

2015-2021 Assistant Professor, Communication, Denison University

2005-2015 Assistant Professor, Communication, Westmont College

PUBLICATIONS:**Books:**

*The Intellectual Imagination: Knowledge and Aesthetics in North Atlantic and
African Philosophy* (Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2018)

*Groundwork for the Practice of the Good Life: Politics and Ethics at the
Intersection of North Atlantic and African Philosophy* (New York: Routledge,
2017).

Edited Books:

Segun Ige, Gilbert Motsaathebe, and Omedi Ochieng. *A Companion to African
Rhetoric* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022).

Special Issue Journal Editor:

- *Philosophy & Rhetoric* special issue: “The Time of Africana Philosophy,” 56, no. 1 (2023), (coedited with Louise du Toit and Bryan Mukandi).

Journal Articles:

“Guest Editor’s Introduction: The Time of Africana Philosophy,” *Philosophy & Rhetoric* 56, no. 1 (2023): 1-7

"After Philosophy, Black Thought: Sylvia Wynter and the Ends of Knowledge." *Philosophy & Rhetoric* 56, no. 1 (2023): 92-113

“What Cannot Be Done,” *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 55 (1), 2022.

“Prophecy and Wisdom in the African American Intellectual Imagination,” *Raritan: A Quarterly Review*, 40 (4), Spring 2021

“Meaning at the End of Meaning: Nihilism, Great Nonsense, and Praxis in the Shadow of Extinction,” *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 53 (3), 2020.

“A Social Movement for the Anthropocene: Wangari Maathai’s African Feminist Environmentalism,” *African Journal of Rhetoric*, 9 (1), Sep. 2017.

“W.E.B. Du Bois and the Imagination of the Public Intellectual,” *African Journal of Rhetoric*, 8, Jan. 2016.

“A Ruthless Critique of Everything Existing: Frederick Douglass and the Architectonic of African American Radicalism,” *Western Journal of Communication*, Vol. 75(2), March-April 2011.

“The African Intellectual: Hountondji and After,” *Radical Philosophy*, Nov-Dec. 2010.

“The Epistemology of African Philosophy: Sagacious Knowledge and the Case for a Critical Contextual Epistemology,” *International Philosophical Quarterly*, September 2008, vol. 48, 191, pp. 337-359.

Book Chapters:

"Africa in the Political Imagination of the African Diaspora." In *Routledge Handbook of African Political Philosophy*. (New York: Routledge, 2023).

“What is African Rhetoric? The Constitutive Imagination in Olaudah Equiano’s The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings,” in *A Companion to African Rhetoric*, ed. Segun Ige, Gilbert Motsaathebe, and Omedi Ochieng (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022).

“Interviewing Across Difference,” in *Reporting Inequality: Tools and Methods for Covering Race and Ethnicity*, ed. Sally Lehrman and Venise Wagner (New York: Routledge, 2019).

“The Ideology of African Philosophy: The Silences and Possibilities of African Rhetorical Knowledge,” in *Silence and Listening as Rhetorical Arts*, ed. Cheryl Glenn and Krista Ratcliffe (Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 2011).

“Sisyphus at Starbucks: Complicity Through Resistance in the Satire of Liberties,” in *Rhetorical Democracy: Discursive Practices of Civic Engagement*, ed. Gerard A. Hauser and Amy Grim (Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc., 2004).

Book Reviews:

“Exploring the Ethics of Individualism and Communitarianism: Multidisciplinary Essays in Honor of Professor Segun Gbadegesin,” *African Journal of Rhetoric*, vol. 9 (1), September 2017, pp. 224-228.

“From Douglass to Duvalier: U.S. African Americans, Haiti, and Pan Americanism, 1870-1964,” *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, vol. 14(3), Fall 2011, pp. 556-559.

Essays for the General Public:

[“African Philosophy and Rhetoric,”](https://ashr.org/teaching-resources/diversifying-teaching/african-philosophy-rhetoric/) Teaching Module for Diversifying the Curriculum, American Society for the History of Rhetoric (October 2019), <https://ashr.org/teaching-resources/diversifying-teaching/african-philosophy-rhetoric/>

[“What African Philosophy Can Teach You About the Good Life,”](#) *iai news: An Online Magazine of Big Ideas* (September 10, 2018).

[“African Philosophy is More Than You Think It is,”](#) *iai news: An Online Magazine of Big Ideas* (June 20, 2018).

[“What is African Rhetoric?”](#) *The African Association for Rhetoric*, March 15, 2018.

[“Tongue: An Exhibition on Orality, Textuality, and Visuality,”](#) Angela Meleca
Gallery: Summer Group Exhibition (July 2016).

Work in Progress:

- *Keywords for a Black Ecology*

Interviews:

“BAR Book Forum: Omedi Ochieng’s ‘Groundwork for the Practice of the Good Life’” Interview conducted by Roberto Sirvent, Black Agenda Report (BAR), 25 May 2022, <https://www.blackagendareport.com/bar-book-forum-omedi-ochiengs-groundwork-practice-good-life>

“Nihilism and Utopia,” Interview conducted by David Rutledge, The Philosopher’s Zone, Australian Broadcast Corporation (ABC), Sun 26 Jul 2020, 5:30pm, <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/philosopherszone/philosophy-nihilism-and-utopia/12489774>

“Interview with Omedi Ochieng,” conducted by Azuka Nzegwu, *Journal on African Philosophy* (forthcoming).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Selection)

“Mediation in the Racial Capitalocene: On Armond R. Towns’s ‘On Black Media Philosophy.’” National Communication Association (NCA) conference, New Orleans, November 17-20, 2022.

“Punctuation in the Hold: Writing in the Afterlife of Slavery.” University of South Carolina Conference on Rhetorical Theory, Oct. 3-5, 2019.

“North Atlantic Fascism and African Anti-Politics: Notes toward a Global Political Theory.” International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR), New Orleans, July 24-27, 2019.

“A Philosophy of Encounter: Author Meets Critic Roundtable.” Paper response at the African Studies Association (ASA), Chicago, November 16-18, 2017.

“What is Africa? Historiography, Philosophy, and Comparative Rhetoric.” Paper presented at the International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR) in London, July 28–31, 2017.

“Social Movements in the Age of the Anthropocene: Wangari Maathai’s Green Belt Movement and the Rhetoric of African Environmentalism,” African Association for Rhetoric (AAR), Windhoek, Namibia, July 4-6, 2016.

“The Rhetoricity of Culture: Performance, Power and Possibility in the Critique of (African) Culture.” International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR), Tübingen, Germany, July 28–31, 2015.

“Imagining the Good Life: Rhetorics of the Future in African Political Discourses.” African Association for Rhetoric (AAR), Cape Town, South Africa, July 2-4, 2014.

“Performing Utopia: Rhetoric, Agency and Subjectivity in African Politics.” International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR), Chicago, July 24-27, 2013.

“A Ruthless Critique of Everything Existing: Frederick Douglass and the Architectonic of African American Radicalism.” National Communication Association (NCA), American Society for the History of Rhetoric Division, San Francisco, CA, Nov. 14-17, 2010.

“The Rhetoric of African Philosophy: *Episteme*, *Doxa* and the Politics of Intellectual Capital in African Knowledge Production,” National Communication Association (NCA), Association for Rhetoric and Communication in Southern Africa Division, Chicago, IL, Nov. 15-18, 2007.

“The History of Rhetoric and the Rhetoric of History: Articulating the History of Rhetoric as *Chronotopia*.” National Communication Association (NCA), American Society for the History of Rhetoric Division, San Antonio, TX., Nov. 16-19, 2006.

“Orality, Literacy, and Context: On the (Im)possibility of (African) Rhetoric.” National Communication Association (NCA), Rhetorical and Communication Studies Division, Boston, MA., Nov. 17-20, 2005.

“Against Idealism: The Rhetoric as Epistemic Debate and the Case for a Critical Contextual Epistemology.” Central States Communication Association Conference (CSCA), Rhetorical Theory & Criticism Division, Kansas City, MO, April 6-10, 2005.

“A Kinder, Gentler, Othering: Introductory Communication Texts and the Production of Cultural Difference.” Central States Communication Association (CSCA) Conference, Intercultural Communication Division, Cleveland, OH, March 31-April 4, 2004.

“Rhetoric as Articulation: Absolute Knowledge, Performance, and the Case for a Critical Contextual Epistemology.” National Communication Association (NCA) Doctoral Honors Seminar, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, August 3-6, 2003.

“Staging Democracy: Elite Media and the Framing of the 2000 Election Impasse.” National Communication Association (NCA), Critical and Cultural Studies Division, New Orleans, La., November 21-24, 2002.

“The Irony of Satire: The Rhetoric of Maureen Dowd's *Liberties*.” Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Conference, Las Vegas, Nv., May 23-26, 2002.

“An American Manifesto: A Narrative Paradigm Analysis of the Unabomber Manifesto.” Central States Communication Association (CSCA) Conference, Rhetorical Theory & Criticism Division, Milwaukee, WI, April 4-7, 2002.

“Split-Eyed Vision: Reexamining the cultural-religious dichotomy in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *The River Between*.” Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature (MCCL), Chicago, IL 2001.