

# AJUME H. WINGO, PH.D.

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## PRESENT POSITIONS

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- Associate Professor, University of Colorado-Boulder
- Director, Center for Values and Social Policy, University of Colorado-Boulder
- Associate, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University
- Fellow, Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA), Pretoria, South Africa

## EDUCATION

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- **University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
Ph.D., 1997, Philosophy  
M.A., 1995, Philosophy
- **University of California-Berkeley**  
B.A., 1991, Philosophy
- **University of Yaounde-Cameroon, Faculty of Law and Economic Sciences**  
Full-time study, 1985-1988
- **Cameroon College of Arts, Science and Technology**  
Studied Economics, History and Geography, 1981-1983

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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- Social and Political Philosophy
- Comparative Political Philosophy
- African Political Thought

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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- Ethics
- Aesthetics
- History of Political Philosophy
- African Philosophy

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Fall 2009 to present Associate Professor, University of Colorado-Boulder.  
Associate Professor, University of

Fall 2006–Spring 2008	Massachusetts-Boston Assistant Professor, University of
Fall 2000–Spring 2006	Massachusetts-Boston
Fall 1999–Spring 2000	Visiting Assistant Professor, Emerson College.
Summer 1999	Visiting Lecturer: Medical Ethics, Boston Health Education Center.
Fall 1998	Visiting Assistant Professor: African Art and Aesthetics, Clark University.

## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

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Fall 1997–2007	W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University.
Fall 1998–Spring 2000	Institute on Race and Social Division, Boston University.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book

- *Veil Politics in Liberal Democratic States* (Cambridge University Press, 2003). Published in the series Cambridge Studies in Philosophy and Public Policy.

### Articles

- “African Socialism,” in Michael Gibbons, Ed., *Encyclopedia of Political Thought* (New York: Blackwell Publishing, 2014).
- “Elections by Contract: A Covenant of Peace in African Communities,” in Laura DeLuca and Sylvester Maphosa (Pretoria: Africa Institute of South Africa Press, 2014).
- “Freedom in the Grounding of Transitional Justice,” in Allen Spieght and Alice Maclachlan, eds, *In the Wake of Conflict: Justice, Responsibility and Reconciliation*, Notre Dame Press, 2013.
- “The Odyssey of Human Rights: Reply to Diagne,” *Transition*, 202, 2010.
- “The Aesthetics of Freedom,” in Boudewijn de Bruin and Christopher Zurn, eds., *New Waves in Political Philosophy* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2009).
- “To Love your Country as your Mother: Patriotism after 9/11,” *Theory and Research in Education* 5 (2007): 23–39.
- “Akan Philosophy of Personhood,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2007.

- “The Joy in Living Together: Towards an Appreciation of Laughter,” *Journal of Political Philosophy* 18 (2006): 186–202.
- “Africa at Crossroads: From Subject to Citizen” (co-authored with Michael Kruse, translated into Italian by Elena Alonzo), *Iride* 18, no. 45 (2005): 1–15.
- “The Many Layered Aesthetics of African Art,” in Kwasi Wiredu, ed., *Companion to African Philosophy* (Blackwell, 2004), pp. 425–32.
- “Fellowship Associations as a Foundation for Liberal Democracy in Africa,” in Kwasi Wiredu, ed., *Companion to African Philosophy* (Blackwell, 2004), pp. 450–459.
- “What Makes Liberal Democrats Tick? The Role of Non-Rationality in Liberal Democratic Politics,” *Politeia* 19, no. 71 (2003): 84–98.
- “Living Legitimacy: A New Approach to Good Government in Africa,” *New England Journal of Public Policy* 16, no. 2 (2001): 49–71.
- “Good Government is Accountability,” in Tedros Kiros, ed., *Perspectives in African Politics* (Routledge, 2001), pp. 151–71.
- “African Art and the Aesthetics of Hiding and Revealing,” *British Journal of Aesthetics* 38, no. 1 (1998): 251–65.
- “Civic Education: A New Proposal,” *Studies in Philosophy and Education* 16, no. 3 (1997): 277–91.

## **FORTHCOMING**

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- “African Socialism: Myth or Reality” Frederick Ochieng-Odhiambo, ed., *African Culture, History and Civilization*, Encyclopedia of Life Support (EOLS) a UNESCO Publication series, 2014.
- “Modes of Public Reason in the Islamic/West Debate,” Institute for American Values, *Ishtihad/Reason*, forthcoming (2014).
- “Hey, You Never Know: Thrift in the Age of Lottery” (co-authored with Glenn Loury), forthcoming from the Institute on American Values, to be published as a working paper.

## **UNDER REVIEW**

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- “The Peril of Leadercentrism in Africa,” *African Studies Review*.
- “Learning How to Lose: Coping with Political Defeat in Honor/Shame Cultures,” *African Studies Review*.
- “Promises to Keep: Rationality, Morality, and Diversity” (co-authored with Michael Kruse), *Open Philosophy Journal*.

## **PROJECT IN PROGRESS**

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- *The Citizen of Africa*. Book Manuscript.
- *The Open Counsel of States*. Book Manuscript.
- The Relationship between Traditional Family Structure and Equality of Opportunity as an Ideal.”
- “Educating Our Minds and Our Hearts in a Liberal Democracy.”
- “In Followers, Leaders: Followership Education in a Liberal Democracy,

## **INVITED WORKS**

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- “Law and Responsibility,” invited by Diego A. von Vacano, Texas A&M University, Workshop, 2013.
- “The Shape of the State: The Future of Fellowship Associations in Modern African States,” Fanon Ngomo, Ed, *Festschrift: Living African Philosophers’ Series*.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- “The Shape of a Free State,” University of Ghana at Lagon, Sept. 2013.
- “The Good State and the Legitimate State,” University of Hawaii Philosophy Dept. April 24, 2013.
- “Focus: On Political Power and Its Promises,” Think! Lecture, CU Boulder, April 16, 2013.
- “The Point of the Unconscientious Objectors,” CU Philosophy Center Talk, April 12, 2013.
- “On the Nature of Electoral Corruption in African States,” Brown University’s Department of Africana Studies, Oct. 15, 2012.
- “Governance, Development and Transformation in Africa: Research, Learning, and Policy Priorities,” Workshop, Brown University’s Watson Institute for International Studies, Oct. 16, 2012.
- “Virtue (Moral and Epistemic): Can we be taught to Act and Believe Wisely?” Conference, Stanford University, School of Education, Oct. 12-13, 2012.
- Africa Command Academic Symposium: A Partnership of the U.S. Africa Command and Africa Center for Strategic Studies, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, July 9-12, 2012.
- “Elections by Contract in African Communities,” London School of Economics (LSE), at a conference entitled “Domesticating Global Justice: Africa Perspective,” July 6-7, 2012.
- “Elections by Contract,” African Studies Program 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Reunion, University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 21, 2012.
- “Elections by Contract: A Covenant of Individual Freedom and Legitimacy,” THINK! Lecture, University of Colorado, Boulder, April 2012.
- “The Perils of Leadercentrism in African States,” Conference on Cooperative Engagement for Partnership Capacity: Africa as a Model for Whole of Government, Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Monterey, January 2012.
- “The Perils of Leadercentrism,” presented at *Empire and Economics* Conference, University of Johannesburg, Jan. 5-6, 2012.
- “Elections by Contract: A Covenant of Individual Legitimacy and Peace in African Countries,” Africa Institute of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa, January 2012.
- “Elections by Contract,” Institute for Security Studies, Pretoria, South Africa, January 2012.
- “Human Rights and Community,” University of Colorado at Colorado Spring, May 2011.

- “Individual and Community,” Metropolitan College, Denver, June 2011
- “The Politics of the Apolitics of Racism,” Center for Values and Social Policy, University of Colorado at Boulder, November 12, 2010.
- Planning session of the Transformative Education Forum, United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, May 27-30, 2010.
- “In Followers, Leaders: Followership Education in a Liberal Democracy, Harvard Graduate School of Education, November 19, 2009.
- “The Nature of Justification in Political Philosophy, African Political Science Association Toronto, 2009
- “Freedom in the Making of Peace, THINK! Lecture series, Philosophy Department, University of Colorado, April 14, 2009.
- “Relational Freedom in the Making of Transitional Justice, paper presented at a conference on Reconciliation, Moral Obligation, and Moral Reconstruction in the Wake of Conflict, Boston University, March 20, 2009.
- “Constitutions as Narratives to Losers,” Philosophy Department, The College of Wooster, Sept. 25, 2008.
- “Aesthetics and Traditional African Art,” Sussel Gallery at The College of Wooster Art Museum, Sept. 24, 2008.
- “An Aesthetics Framework for Understanding Human Rights,” Philosophy Department, University of Colorado at Boulder, September 2008.
- “Trustees of Themselves: An Aesthetic Framework for Understanding Human Rights in Africa,” Harvard Kennedy School of Government, April 17, 2008.
- “The Aesthetic Basis of Equal Respect for Human Beings, Workshop on Equal Respect for Persons,” University of Genoa, Italy, Dec. 14, 2007.
- “The Aesthetics of Freedom,” Philosophy Department, University of Pavia, Italy, Dec. 12, 2007.
- “The Virtue of Outrage in Politics,” Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of Colorado, Boulder, March 2007.
- “Learning How to Lose: Coping with Political Defeat in Honor/Shame Cultures,” Center for Values and Social Policy, University of Colorado, Boulder, February 20, 2007
- “An Image of Responsive Government,” International Conference on the State of Affairs in Africa, Institute for Justice and Development, October 2006.
- “An Image of Freedom for Imaging African Democracies,” Lecture Series on Current Issues in Africa, Primary Source, Watertown, February 2006.
- “An Image of Freedom for Imaging African Democracies,” University of Montreal, Canada, February 2006.

- “Love your Country as your Mother: Patriotism after 9/11,” Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts, April 2006.
- “Love your Country as your Mother: Patriotism after 9/11,” Association for the Philosophy of Education (APE), Eastern Division American Philosophical Association (APA), December 2005.
- “An Image of Freedom for Imaging African Democracies,” Lecture Series on Current Issues in Africa, Primary Source, Watertown, October 2005.
- “Modes of Public Reasoning in the Islamic/West Debate,” presented at the October 2005 meeting of the Malta Forum, Casablanca, Morocco, November 2005.
- (With Glenn Loury.) “Hey! You Never Know: Thrift in the Age of Lottery,” presented at the October 6–9, 2005 conference in Prouts Neck, Maine, sponsored by the Thrift and the American Culture project and publication in *After Thrift: Culture and Practice in Late Modern America*.
- “Putting the Public Back into John Rawls’ Public Reason,” Boston University, April 2005.
- “Learning How to Lose: Coping with Political Defeats in Honor/Shame Cultures,” United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO Conference on Philosophy and Democracy, Beirut, Lebanon, November 2004.
- “A Promising African Image of Political Freedom,” Boston College, October 2004.
- “The Ethics of Image in Business,” ASSOETHICA (a school for training future business and political leaders for the European Union), Milan, Italy, April 2004.
- “Africa at the Crossroads—From Subject to Citizen,” University of Genoa, Italy, Philosophy Department, April 2004.
- “The Trouble with Civil Society and the Palestinian/Israelis Crisis,” Boston University, January 2004.
- “The Promises and Perils of Civil Society in Africa,” Harvard University School of Education, February 2004.
- “Taking Customs and Traditions Seriously in the Medical Field: The Case of Cameroon Customs,” BBH School of Nursing, Cameroon, August 2003.
- “What Makes Liberal Democrats Tick?: The Role of Non-Rationality in Liberal Democratic Politics,” *Politeia*, Milan, Italy, May 2003.
- “Freedom, Control and Nyang: A New and Usable Political Theory for African States,” University of Genoa, Italy, Philosophy Department, May 2003.
- “An African Conception of Freedom with an Image,” Smith College, March 2003.

- “The Relationship between the U.S. Supreme Court and the Nso’ Nocturnal Court: The Case for Symbolism in Supreme Courts,” University of Texas at Austin Law School, Fall 2002.
- “What Makes Liberal Democrats Tick?” University of Colorado, Boulder, Philosophy Department, November 2001.
- “Conflict of Power Resolution in an Indigenous African State,” Committee on African Studies. Harvard University, Cambridge, February 2001.
- “Living Legitimacy: Accountability in African Politics,” Program on African Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, February 2001.
- “Why We Dance in Africa,” Dance Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison, February 2001.
- “The Joy in Living Together: Towards a Civic Appreciation of Laughter,” Conference on Moral Education in a Diverse Society, Duke University, Durham, April 2001.
- “Voluntary Social Organizations as Foundation for Liberal Democracies in Africa,” University of Wisconsin–Madison, African Studies Center, May 1999.
- “Liberating and Democratizing African States: Why Civil Society Matters,” Committee on African Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, May 1999.
- “The Place of Race in Liberal Democratic Civic Pedagogy,” Conference on Moral Education in a Diverse Society, Duke University, Durham, April 1999 (invited panelist).
- “Lessons for the Living: A Death Ceremony as Demonstrative Civic Pedagogy,” Harvard University, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Cambridge, April 1999.
- “Liberating and Democratizing African States: Why Civil Society Matters,” Boston University, Institute on Race and Social Division, Boston, March 1999.
- (With Glenn Loury) “The Moral Poverty of Welfare,” Second Annual Communitarian Network, Washington National Hilton, Crystal City, Virginia, February 27–28, 1999 (invited paper).
- Panel Chair, Symposium: “Breaking the Cycles of Hatred: Memory, Law, and Repair,” Brown University, November 3, 1999.
- “Lessons for the Living: Death Ceremonies as Demonstrative Civic Pedagogy in Liberal Democracies,” American Political Science Association [APSA] Conference. Boston, September 1998 (invited panelist).
- “African Art and the Aesthetics of Hiding and Revealing,” Bell Gallery, Brown University. Providence, April 1998.
- “African Art and the Aesthetics of Hiding and Revealing,” Harvard University, Committee on African Studies, Cambridge, May 1998.



- “Lessons for the Living: Death Ceremonies as Demonstrative Civic Pedagogy in Liberal Democracies,” Conference on Moral Education in a Diverse Society, Duke University. Durham, April 1998.
- “Liberal Democracy Care of Culture,” Walter Rodney Seminar Series, Boston University. Boston, January 1998.
- “African Art and the Aesthetics of Hiding and Revealing,” Department of African-American Studies, Northeastern University, Boston, February 1998.
- “African Art: The Aesthetics of Hiding and Revealing,” African Studies Center, Boston University, Boston, November 1997.
- “The Place of Rationality in Liberal Democratic Politics,” Department of Philosophy, Graduate Students’ Colloquium, University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 1997.
- “Veil Politics,” African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 1996.

## **EDITOR**

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- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Co-editor, African and African-American Philosophy.

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

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- Theoria: A Journal of Social and Political Theory.
- The African Prospect: A Journal of Contemporary African Issues.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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- Referee for Oxford University Press.
- Referee for Wadsworth Publishing.
- Referee for McGraw-Hill.
- Referee for University of California Press.
- Referee for *African Studies Review*.
- Referee and critic, annual exhibitions for the MFA program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Spring 1996.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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- The Himalayan Institute, Cameroon
- Founder, Developing Opportunities for Orphans and Residence (DOORS), an NGO operating in Cameroon and the United States.
- Founder, Transformative African Roads Engineering Consortium (TAREC), an NGO operating in Central and West Africa.
- Founder, the Ark of Literacy Life in Africa (ALL Africa) an African Writers Colony located in Kumbo, Cameroon.

## OTHER MEDIA

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- ABC Radio Australia, Philosopher's Zone: Interview with Allen Saunders on the African Conception of Person, archived interview available at <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/philosopherszone/stories/2010/2998440.htm>.
- **Interview on Leadership and leadercentrism Following the Arab Spring**, archived interview available at <http://www.kosmosonline.org/podcast/arab-spring-institutional-reform-and-leadercentrism>
- Op-Ed: "Power Sharing in Zimbabwe is the Wrong Move," *Cambridge Chronicle*, February, 2009.
- Op-Ed: "What Obama's Presidency Means to Africans," *Denver Post*, November, 2008.

## LANGUAGES

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- Fluent in English, Lamnso, Fulani, Cameroon/Nigeria Pidgin, and French.
- Competent in Arabic and Hausa.