

Rehana Thembeka Odendaal

Personal Details

Citizenship:
South African
Languages:
English
Home Language
Afrikaans
Reading & Conversation
isiXhosa
Basic Conversation
Pronouns:
She/Her/Hers
D.o.B
23 July 1992

Education

PhD (joint) Education, Culture and Society & Sociology •

University of Pennsylvania • Advisor: Dr Kathleen Hall

Concentration: International Education and Development

2019 – expected Graduation Dec 2025

Master of Arts: Historical Studies • University of Cape Town •

Title: Wits Imagined: An investigation into Wits University’s public roles and responsibilities, 1922 -1994 • Advisors: Prof Carolyn Hamilton & Dr Bodhisattva Kar

2015 to 2020 Awarded with Distinction

Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) • University of Cape Town •

Title: *You Never Hear People Talk About It You Know* Popular

remembering of the Athlone Trojan Horse Shootings 1985-2014 •

Advisor: Prof Sean Field

2014 First Class Pass

Bachelor of Social Sciences • University of Cape Town • Triple

Major: Historical Studies (Distinction), Sociology and Economics

2011 to 2013

Leadership Awards:

- Fulbright International Fellow (2019 & 2020)
- UCT Abe Bailey Travel Bursar (2016)
- Deputy Director of Student Affairs Award for Student Leadership (2013)
- Humanities Student Council Chairperson (2013)
“Undergraduate Student Council of the Year”

Publications

Strong, K; Odendaal, R. T; and Kelly Kallon, C. (2022) “Education for Subordination: Youth and the Afterlives of Coloniality and Racialization in Africa,” in (Eds) Scott, J. & Baja, M. *World Handbook of Education 2023: Racialization and Educational Inequality in Global Perspective*. New York: Routledge

Shakeir, R; Odendaal, R. T., and Rosado-Virques, A. M, (2021) “Decolonizing Educational Mindsets” in *Critical Leadership Praxist: Leading Educational and Social Change*. (Eds.) Pak and Ravitch (Teachers College Press, New York)

Odendaal, R., Morar, J., Conradie, B. (2013). A cost-benefit analysis of a technology bundle aimed at improving the resilience of urban households in Rocklands Mitchells Plain. CSSR working paper 332.

Academic Prizes & Awards

- Univ. of Dalarna African Studies Lineus-Palme Exchange Fall 2015
- Masters Research Fellow with Archive and Public Culture research group 2015- 2020
- David and Elaine Potter Scholarship 2015 & 2016
- Diocesan College UCT 150 Memorial Book Prize 2014 "Most meritorious essay or research report at Undergraduate/Honours level on the history of Cape Town and the Peninsula"
- AW Mellon Honours Scholarship 2014
- Class Medal HST3037S & SOC1005S 2013 & 2011
- Dean's Merit List 2011,2013
- Student partner of UCT's Knowledge Co-opt 2013
- Humanities Entrance Scholarship 2011

Grants

National Research Foundation (South Africa) • International Doctoral Studies • \$20000 x 4 years

SUSI Democracy and Citizenship Cultural Exchange Seed Funding Grant (2014) *Towards 'Siyakhula' intercultural workshop* • \$2000

Teaching & Facilitation Experience

Spring 2021 & 2022

Teaching Assistant • Education, Culture & Society, GSE Qualitative Research Design & Methods for Masters students

April 2018 – May 2019

Program Coordinator: JustLead! • Frederick van Zyl Slabbert Leadership Institute
14 weeks • course design, content management, and creation, recruiting, and coordination • 100 participants • 8 institutions • Online • Residency Period • Aims: understanding of critical socio-economic challenges & inclusive community interventions.

Fall 2017

Oral History Project Coordinator • Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education
Lead coordinator and trainer • Project Title: *Remembering 1976 Through the Eyes of Our Current Generation* • Trained six youth activists in basic oral history methodology, interviewing and project management • 30 life history interviews with student activists of 1976

2015-2017

History Summer Course Convener • Council for International Education and Exchange
Curriculum design, content development, teaching and grading • 2 x 6 weeks courses on Pre & Post-Colonial South African History for American students • Guest lectures on South African History, Student politics & Community Engagement

2014-2016

Course Facilitator: Active Citizenship & Democracy Short Course • Frederick van Zyl Slabbert Leadership Institute
Curricular Design & Revision • Facilitation • Multi-sited Hybrid Teaching • Undergraduate Students

Research Work:

2019 - ongoing

African Youth Leadership Study • Dr Krystal Strong
Semi Structured Interviews (Virtual) • Survey and Interview Design • Participant recruitment • NVivo data analysis • data management • Webscraping • Network Analysis

2017 - 2018

Content Intern • South African History Online (www.saho.co.za)
Researcher and writer for open-source website aimed at making quality South African History content available to all • Produced a 20 page state-of-the-field report on South African Literacy for [ACTIVATE! Change Drivers](#)

2012

Research Assistant • UCT Dept of Historical Studies
Archival Research • Newspapers • Microfiche

Selected Community Service

Faculty-Student Liaison • UPenn Graduate Sociology Student Society • 2022/23

WOAR Philadelphia Centre Against Sexual Violence • 2020 – ongoing • Hotline Advocate

InkuluFreeHeid • 2012 – 2017

National Chairperson • UCT Chapter Treasurer • Provincial Coordinator • Organizer and Researcher • Organizational Expansion

Ubunye • 2014/2015

Board Member • Deputy Director External & Monitoring and Evaluations

Thethani Debating League [TDL] • 2011

Deputy Director & Monitoring and Evaluations Officer

Siyakhula' Intercultural Workshop • 2014

Designed & implemented a 3 day History, Identity, and Civic Engagement program for Grade 9 -11

Equal Education Tutoring Program • 2009 -2010

Founder • Inter-school Academic Peer Tutoring Gr 9s

InkuluFreeHeid is a national, non-partisan, youth-led NPO with chapters in 5 of 9 provinces. It's aims were to deepen democracy, enhance social cohesion and promote economic development for young people in South Africa.

Ubunye is UCT's only fully student led development organization. **TDL** is one of three Ubunye projects. It runs debate clubs in under-resourced high schools in Cape Town.

Summer Schools:

- Penn Summer Institute for Computational Social Sciences Summer 2022
- Hasso-Plattner School of Design Thinking Foundation
Feb – June 2017
- The Global Engagement Summit for young social entrepreneurs and social development initiatives in Chicago, USA April 2015

Conferences & Invited Talks

Odendaal, R.T, et al. (2023, February 14–22). 'Education for Subordination: Youth and the Afterlives of Coloniality and Racialization in Africa.' [Conference Presentation] 67th Annual Conference for Comparative International Education Society. Washington D.C., United States.

Odendaal, R T (2022, April 13) '21st Century African Leaders: Youth Leadership for Development Participants' Views on Current and Future Leaders' [Invited Graduated Workshop] The Andrea Mitchell Centre for the Study of Democracy. Philadelphia, USA

Odendaal, R.T (2021, May 7–9). 'The Academic Freedom Campaign at South Africa's 'open' universities: 1957 to 1959' [Book Chapter Presentation] Narratives of education in times of colonization and decolonization in Africa (1920s - 1970s) Book Workshop, Paris, France (Virtual).

- Centre for Social Science Research/Afrobarometer Summer School Dec 2014
- Study of United States Institutes: Democracy and Citizenship Scholarship Jan – Feb 2014
- UCT Global Citizenship Spring 2012

Odendaal, R. T. and Strong, K. (2021, Nov 19-22) 'Negotiating a new leadership journey: The experiences of youth leaders in Nigeria and South Africa' [Conference Presentation]. 43rd Annual Meeting African Studies Association, Washington DC, United States (Virtual).

Cowling, L., Hamilton, C., Hassim, S., Dlamini, J., Molins-Iliteras, S., Modisane, L., and Odendaal, R. T. (2021, Nov 19-22) '*Babel Unbound* Panel' [Book panel discussion] 43rd Annual Meeting African Studies Association, Washington DC, United States (Virtual).

Odendaal, R. T., and De Klerk, M (2020, March 15 -April) 'Designing for (online) dialogue: can the virtual classroom become a democratic space? Lessons from a South Africa short course' [Conference Paper] 64th Annual Conference for Comparative International Education Society. (Virtual – paper accepted but not presented due to Covid).

Odendaal, R. (2019, June, 24-26) "Between Complicity and Resistance - Constructing Publicness through the discourse of Academic Freedom at Wits University." [Conference Presentation] 27th Biennial Conference of Southern African Historical Association, Makanda, South Africa.