

Curriculum Vitae

(LEO) JONATHAN SCHOOTS

E-MAIL: JONATHANSCHOOTS@UCHICAGO.EDU

EDUCATION

PhD Student, Department of Sociology, (2014 - present), University of Chicago

MA: Sociology, (2014/15), University of Chicago

MPhil Sociology: Development Studies Specialization, (2013 - 2014), University of Cape Town

Thesis: The Sociological Imagination of S.E.K. Mqhayi: Towards an African Sociology,

Degree awarded with Distinction

BA Honours: English Literature, (2012), University of Cape Town

Graduated: First Class Pass and Recipient of the De Villiers Smuts Scholarship Award (Dux: First in the Class)

BSc: Information Technology, (2008-2010), University of Cape Town

Majors: Computer Science, English Literature. **Specialisation:** Applied Computing

Graduated: Degree with Distinction, Computer Science with Distinction, English Literature with Distinction

ACADEMIC AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Fellowships, Scholarships, and Grants

Lloyd and Susanne Rudolph Field Research Award, Center for International Social Science Research - 2019/2020

University of Chicago Sociology Department Scholarship (Tuition and Stipend) – 2014 - 2019

Evelyn M. Kitagawa Scholarship – 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18

Committee on African Studies Research Grant – 2018, 2019

Committee on African Studies African Language Fund Grant – 2016

David and Elaine Potter Fellowship – 2013, 2014

NRF–DAAD Fellowship– 2013, 2014

De Villiers Smuts Scholarship – 2013

Harry Crossley Foundation Research Fellowship – 2012

A.W. Mellon Fellowship – 2012

Misys Scholarship – 2009, 2010

Link – SA Fund Scholarship – 2009, 2010

UCT Science Faculty Scholarship – 2009, 2010

Academic Awards

De Villiers Smuts Scholarship awarded for Top of the Class (English Hons)

Deans Merit List – 2008, 2009, 2010

Excellence in Computer Science (top 5% of a Senior course): 2009, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Schoots, J. Under Review. "S.E.K. Mqhayi and African Social Analysis: African Sociological Thought in Colonial South Africa". Submitted to *Social Dynamics*.

Schoots, J., Rohr, B., Prajda, K., Padgett, J. Forthcoming. "Conflict and Revolt in the Name of Unity: Florentine Factions in the Consulte e Pratiche on the Cusp of the Ciompi Revolt". *Poetics*, Special Issue on 'Discourse, meaning, and networks: Advances in socio-semantic analysis'.

Padgett, J., Prajda, K., Rohr, B., Schoots, J. Forthcoming. "Political Discussion and Debate in Narrative Time: The Florentine Consulte e Pratiche, 1376-1378". *Poetics*, Special Issue on 'Discourse, meaning, and networks: Advances in socio-semantic analysis'.

de Wet, J. P., & Schoots, J. 2016. "The learning organisation: conditions of possibility in a feminist NGO." *Development in Practice*, 26(1), 64-76.

Schoots, L. J. 2014. "The Sociological Imagination of S.E.K. Mqhayi: Towards an African Sociology." Minor MA diss., University of Cape Town.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

isiXhosa intellectual Traditions under Colonialism: Digital and Computational Project, University of Cape Town, Sociology Department

Joint Primary Investigator and Project Co-leader, (Jan 2019 – Present)

An *African Digital Humanities* project funded through A.W. Mellon Foundation and WiSER

Project goals: Digitize early isiXhosa language newspapers (1860-1912) and isiXhosa literature in image and e-text format. Produce materials in 'research ready' format for qualitative and quantitative computer assisted text analysis. Train researchers in methods of qualitative and quantitative text analysis on isiXhosa texts. The first research outputs will include a series of papers which explore the development of indigenous African intellectual traditions in South Africa, both the development of traditions of sociological analysis and the development of emerging African nationalist and Pan-Africanist political imaginaries.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Networks into Nation: Innovation and consolidation in the emergence of African nationalist organizing, South Africa (1880-1890)."

Paper presented at American Sociological Association Conference. September 2019. New York, NY, USA.

"Siphuma eKoloni Isizwe [the nation emerges from the colony]: the emergence of African Nationalist and Pan-Africanist Politics in the Eastern Cape, 1870-1900."

Paper presented at iMpuma-Koloni Bearings: An Other Cape? Workshop. June 2019. Rhodes University, Makhanda (Grahamstown), South Africa.

"Crossing boundaries, transforming biographies: Conditions of innovation in African political responses to colonialism in South Africa."

Paper presented at Social Science History Association Conference. November 2018. Phoenix, AZ, USA.

“Becoming African: Political transformation, Multivocality and the birth of African Nationalism, South Africa 1860-1890”

Paper presented at American Sociological Association. August 2018. Philadelphia, PA, USA.

“Networks into Nation: The relational foundations of African nationalist politics in South Africa (1870-1890)”

Paper presented at African Studies Association Conference. November 2017. Chicago, IL, USA.

“The Multivocality of the Nation: The birth of African Nationalism in South Africa, 1860-1890”

Paper presented at Social Science History Association Conference. November 2017. Montreal, Canada.

“An African Sociology? The Sociological Imagination of S.E.K. Mqhayi”.

Paper presented at University of Minnesota International African Studies Conference: “Fault Lines: Rethinking Temporal and Disciplinary Traditions in African Studies”. April 2016. Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

“The Birth of African Politics in South Africa: A network analysis of the institutional foundations and ideological roots of nationalist politics (1860-1890)”.

Paper presented at York University: African Nationalisms, History and Development Conference. November 2015. Toronto, Canada.

“In Search of Something Novel: African Literature and the Possibility of new Futures”.

Paper presented at University of Indiana: “Breaking Futures: Imaginative (Re)visions of Time”. March 2015. Bloomington, Indiana, USA.

“Alternate Intellectual Traditions: The Sociological Imagination of S.E.K. Mqhayi”.

Paper presented at University of Cape Town conference: “In our Own Words: South African Intellectual Traditions and the Shape of Social Action”. August 2014. Cape Town, South Africa.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Social Theory
Political Sociology
Social Movements**

**African Studies
Historical Sociology
Sociology of Knowledge**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Joint Primary Investigator, isiXhosa intellectual Traditions under Colonialism Project, (2019 – Present), University of Cape Town

I co-lead a project aimed at digitizing historical isiXhosa newspapers and texts and applying qualitative and quantitative textual analysis to these digitized sources (see Research projects section above). My role includes designing the project scope, selection of materials, developing the technical infrastructure to host and preserve materials, co-management of the team who digitize the materials and archive these

materials into our custom developed database, and teaching quantitative text analysis techniques for working with these materials.

Research Assistant, Florentine political debates project, (2017 – Present), University of Chicago

This project collects and analyses political debates in Florence's *Consulte e Pratiche* political body over 150 years from 1350-1500. My contribution has been primarily in using natural language processing (NLP) and computational content analysis tools; building the database of speeches and speakers and analyzing this corpus using computational content analysis and semantic network methods.

Research Assistant, Florentine social networks project, (2016 – Present), University of Chicago

I develop and manage a Python based program to integrate new historical records into a unique database containing 250 years of social network data. The program automatically identifies individuals using available data and custom built language dictionaries in order to match and integrate new records into the existing data set.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Technical Research Methods

Social Network Analysis, Semantic Network Analysis, Computational Content Analysis, Natural Language Processing (NLP)

Computer Programing Skills

Python, SQL, R, Database Development and Management, Java, C++, C#

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Student evaluations available by request.

Lecturer, 2017, Sept – Dec. SOSC 11400: “Power, Identity, Resistance”. Social Science Core Sequence, University of Chicago.

Teaching Assistant, 2018, Mar – May. SOCI 20005: Sociological Theory, University of Chicago.

Teaching Assistant, 2017, Jan – June. SOSC 11100 & 11300: “Power, Identity, Resistance”. Social Science Core Sequence, University of Chicago.

GUEST LECTURES

“Fight with the Pen: Network analysis methods, and the rise of new African political ideas and action in the Eastern Cape, 1860-1890”

Presented at University of Cape Town, 2nd year Social Theory Class (Soc2019S). July 2016.

“Sociological Traditions and South Africa: S.E.K. Mqhayi as an African Sociologist”.

Presented at University of Cape Town, 2nd year Social Theory Class (Soc2019S). August 2014.

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Visiting Researcher – isiXhosa intellectual Traditions under Colonialism Project

Jan 2019 – March 2019, Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town, Cape Town

Student Research Associate – Society, Work and Development Institute (SWOP)

July 2016 – July 2017, Wits University (University of the Witwatersrand), Johannesburg

REFERENCES

Academic or work references available on request.