

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## PERSONAL DETAILS

**NAME** : Olungah Owuor Charles  
**ADDRESS** : Institute of Anthropology, Gender & African Studies,  
University of Nairobi,  
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**NATIONALITY** : Kenyan

## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

2006 University of Nairobi/DBL, Ph.D. (Reproductive Health). Title of Thesis:  
“**The socio-cultural context of maternal health care in Bondo District,  
Western Kenya: Implications for Safe Motherhood Interventions.**”

2001 Danish Bilharziasis Lab., University of Copenhagen. Post Graduate Diploma  
in Research Methodology.

1998 Downing College University of Cambridge, UK. MPhil. Social  
Anthropology (Option: Anthropology and the Community). MPhil  
Dissertation title: “**The Role of Traditional Medicine in Community  
Health care: The Kenyan Case**”.

1996 University of Nairobi. B.A. (Anthropology) (**1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours**).  
Undergraduate Dissertation title: “**Anthropological Perspective on the  
Social understandings of Street Children in Nairobi, Kenya**”

1990 St. Mary’s School Yala (Passed KCSE)

1986 Luoka Primary School (Passed KCPE)

## PRESENT RESEARCH INTERESTS:

- ◆ Reproductive Health
- ◆ Ethnic Identity and Relations
- ◆ Gender Violence and Conflict Resolution
- ◆ Medical Anthropology
- ◆ Social Anthropology
- ◆ Gender and Development
- ◆ Development Anthropology
- ◆ Research Methods in Anthropology
- ◆ Applied Anthropology

## Research/Consultancy Experiences

- 2014 Reviewing the UNICEF/UNFPA FGM/C interventions in Garissa and Meru
- 2013 Development of the Gender and Equality Guide for the County Governments on behalf of the National Gender & Equality Commission
- 2013 Situation Analysis of Reproductive Health Medicines in Kenya in conjunction with the Royal Tropical Institute Netherlands on behalf of the Concept Foundation
- 2012 Panelist in African Research & Resources Forum (ARRF) Seminar Series on 2013 Elections. Researched and wrote a paper on the topic “Social Identities and Political Mobilization: The case of Kenya in the run-up to 2013 General Elections”
- 2012 Gender assessment of USAID programs and engendering the strategic plan for the next five years.
- 2011 APHIA II OR FGM/C project post training assessment commissioned by Population Council.
- 2011 **Final External** Evaluation of TOSTAN programmes on eradication of FGM/C and women’s rights abuses in Somaliland and Puntland by UNICEF Somalia
- 2009 Trained on a short course on Advancing Sexuality Studies: A short Course on Theory and Research Methodologies by Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society.
- 2009 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Social transformation process of the beneficiaries of the Jamii Bora housing estate at Kaputei in Kajiado
- 2009 Research on HIV/AIDS discordant couples in Thika and Nairobi in conjunction with the University of Washington Seattle and Kenyatta National Hospital
- 2008 An operations research on the effects of FGM/C among the Maasai of Narok and the Kamba of Kyuso District on behalf of GTZ (Principal researcher).
- 2007 A baseline survey on the practice of Female Genital Mutilation among the Munyoyaya Community of Tana River District, Coast Province (Lead researcher on Ministry of Gender and UNICEF project)
- 2007 Women’s concerns on their fertility in Nyanza Province (Lead researcher on a PATH project).
- 2007 “Wife Inheritance vis-à-vis Sexual Rights and HIV and AIDS and Property Rights in Mathare, Kiambio and Mukuru Slums in Nairobi (CREAW Project).
- 2007 Poverty and Vulnerability Mapping in Nyanza and Coast Provinces on behalf of ILEG (FORD Foundation Project).

- 2004 Research on the effectiveness of the Focused Antenatal Care Package in three Districts of Busia, Lugari and Siaya in conjunction with Pop Council (Co-Principal Investigator).
- 2001 Research on Maternal Healthcare in a socio-cultural Context in Bondo District of Nyanza Province.

## **WORK/TRAINING EXPERIENCE**

- 2014 Training on Gender Mainstreaming at Institutional Level for the University of Nairobi Health Services staff
- 2013 Sensitization Seminar for the National Gender and Equality commission on Gender Mainstreaming in Institutions
- 2013 Training of Trainers and development of Training Manual and Engendered Responses to Emergency/Humanitarian Situations commissioned by UN-WOMEN
- 2013 Training of trainers on “Enhancing Gender and GBV capacities in the Humanitarian Hubs/Hot spots as preparedness for the 2013 elections, commissioned by UN-WOMEN
- 2012 Training of the Constitutional Commissions on Gender and Reproductive Health- “Action to Reduce Maternal Deaths from Unsafe Abortions in Kenya” Commissioned by National Gender and Equality Commission and IPAS
- 2012 Promoted to Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Anthropology, Gender & African Studies, University of Nairobi.
- 2011 Panelist on KNHCR Public Inquiry into the allegations of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Violations in Kenya by Healthcare Providers
- 2011 Development of a National Training Curriculum on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Kenya for the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC)
- 2011 Training 21 NGOs on the Proper Engagement of Men and Boys in Reproductive Health in Kenya on behalf of WOFAK and its partners at the Soi Safari Lodge Lake Baringo.
- 2010 Gender Mainstreaming Training for several Institutions among them Ministry of State for Public Service, Ministry of Information, Kenya Industrial Research & Development Institute among others at the KCB training College and Embu GTI
- 2009 Gender Responsive Budgeting Training for the Gender Officers in the Parastatals and Government Ministries at the Travelers Beach Hotel, Mombasa
- 2009 Gender Responsive Budgeting training for the Gender Officers in NGOs and Government Departments
- 2008 Facilitator in Post-Violence Conflict Resolution Mechanisms for various NGOs in Kenya.

- 2007 Gender mainstreaming into the Health sector Training sponsored by GTZ and commissioned by DRH, Ministry of Health
- 2007 Training of key officers on Gender in Agriculture at the Ruiru Coffee Foundation
- 2007 –to date On-site Resident Director for the Nairobi Exchange Programme (NEP)
- 2007 Coordinator of the Gender, Governance and Human Rights Seminar Series sponsored by UNIFEM and mounted by University of Nairobi.
- 2006 Gender Training of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Gender Based Violence (GBV) focusing on Reproductive Health. The primary focus was on Gender Violence and Female Genital Mutilation sponsored by UNICEF
- 2005-2011 Adjunct Faculty Member at the St. Lawrence University Kenya Semester Program in charge of the Course on Health, Sickness and Healing in Kenya.
- 2005-2007 Academic Advisor for Nairobi Exchange Programme (NEP) This is an African Studies Consortium involving students from Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Swarthmore and University of Pennsylvania and the University of Nairobi.
- 2005 Field training in Kisii Western Kenya of students for a WHO funded Malaria control programme course. My area of focus was on the use of anthropological research techniques in data collection.
- 2002 Promoted to Research Fellow, Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi
- 1999 Engaged as a Junior research Fellow, Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi.
- 1996 Halls Officer, Students Welfare Authority, University of Nairobi.

**LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY WORK AND EXPERIENCE**

- 2014 Appointed Director of the Institute of Anthropology, Gender & African Studies, University of Nairobi
- 2014 Appointed Vice Chairman and Staff Commissioner of the SONU electoral commission, University of Nairobi by the university Senate
- 2012- 2014 Elected Chairman of the Supervisory Committee of CHUNA SACCO
- 2012- to date Appointed Board Member of Rang’ala Girls High School, Ugunja District
- 2012-2013 Member of the Management Committee of the Nairobi Primary School
- 2011 Appointed Chairman of the Performance Appraisal Peer Review Panel, IAGAS, UoN.

- 2000-to date Appointed by the Vice-Chancellor as the Strategic Management Unit Manager (SMU) and Warden, Students Welfare Authority, University of Nairobi
- 2009-2011 Elected Organising Secretary of Universities Academic Staff Union (UASU), University of Nairobi Chapter
- 2000- 2014 Careers Coordinator and link between Academia and Industry at the Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies, UoN.
- 2008- to date Appointed Board Member of Madungu Secondary School, Ugunja District
- 2000- to date Patron of the Luoka Primary School, Ugunja District.

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- DANIDA (Danish International Development Agency) Fellowship
- Fellow of Cambridge Commonwealth Society (FCCS).
- Cambridge Commonwealth Trust/ODA Scholar.
- Gandhi Memorial Best Student Award 1995/96 Academic Year.
- CODESRIA research award for research and dissertation writing
- Deans Committee Award for Thesis writing, University of Nairobi

## **PUBLICATIONS**

1. Olungah O. C. (2012) “Social Identities and political mobilization: the case of Kenya in the run-up to 2013 general elections” ARRF Seminar Series.
2. Olungah, O. C. (2012) *Culture and Reproductive Health: The Politics of Pregnancy and Childbirth among the Luo of Western Kenya*. Lambert Academic Publishers, Germany
3. Daniel, A and Olungah, C. (2012). *Women’s Indigenous Knowledge in Household Food Security: The Case of Mulili Sub-location, Eastern Kenya*. Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany.
4. Olungah, O. C. and Atieno D. (2012). “Stigma and access to care and treatment services in Nyatike, Western Kenya”. In *African Journal of Sociology*
5. Kenneth Ngure, Nelly Mugo, Connie Celum, Jared M. Baeten, Martina Morris, Owuor Olungah, Joyce Olenja, Harrison Tamoooh & Bettina Shell-Duncan (2011): A qualitative study of barriers to consistent condom use among HIV-1 serodiscordant couples in Kenya, *AIDS Care*, pp 1-8.

6. Olungah, O. C. (2009) “The Role of Academia in Democratization in Kenya” in Wanyande, P. and Okebe, M.A. (Eds.) *Discourses on Civil Society in Kenya*. African Research and Resources Forum (ARRF), Nairobi-Kenya
7. Olungah, O. C. (2009) Pregnancy in a socio-cultural context: The case of the Luo of Western Kenya. *Hekima Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences* IV (1): 102-116.
8. Olungah Owuor, C. (2006) Caring for the unborn: Antenatal care in a socio-cultural context. *Mila, Vol. 7: 21 – 31*.
9. Olungah Owuor, C. (1999) The position of traditional medicine in health care delivery: The Kenyan case. *Mila, Vol. 4: 27 – 36*.
10. Olungah Owuor, C. (1999) A Non-participant observation of social gathering: Differing actions, responses and attitudes of women and men at a discotheque (Monte Carlo in Nairobi, Kenya and Devonshire arms in Cambridge, U.K.) *Mila, Vol. 4: 64 – 73*.

### **SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS ATTENDED AND PAPERS PRESENTED**

- 2012 Presented a paper on “Gender Dimensions of Migration” at the AMADPOC Stakeholders Seminar on Migration out of Poverty at the Kisumu Hotel.
- 2011 Presented a paper on Gender, Population and Development at the Parliamentary Retreat on Draft Population Policy for National Development at the Serena Beach Hotel
- 2011 Presented a paper on Gender and Development at the PSRI Retreat at the UNES Conference, Chiromo Campus.
- 2011 Presented papers on Gender and Development at the regional levels in forums in Kisumu, Embu, Garissa and Nairobi as part of the NCAPD draft Population Policy
- 2011 Presented a paper on Culture and FGM at the International Conference on Research, Healthcare and Preventive Measures for FGM and Support for Capacity Strengthening of Leadership and Research in Africa at the Southern Sun Mayfair Nairobi-Kenya.
- 2011 Presented a paper on “Abortion Politics in Kenya” at the Kenya Medical Association Workshop on the 2<sup>nd</sup> state of Maternal Mortality in Kenya Conference at KICC
- 2009 Panelist on TV discussion on Hatua talk show on the topic “Bride Price”
- 2007 Presented a paper on “Graffiti as a form of Frustrated Sexuality among University Students” at the second UoN/UNIFEM Seminar Series at the University of Nairobi.
- 2006 Presented a paper on “Sexual rights as Human rights” at the All African Sexuality Conference at the Hilton Hotel, Nairobi.
- 2005 Presented a paper on “Sexual Health as Human Rights” at the CREAM/Faculty of Law University of Nairobi Workshop at the Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi.

- 2003 Presented a paper to the Faculty members at the Nazareth College, Rochester New York on the 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2003 On the Position of the African Woman on Health care delivery issues.
- 2003 Presented a paper entitled “Caring for the un-born in a socio-cultural context” at the 102<sup>nd</sup> American Anthropological Association Conference in Chicago.
- 2001 Participated in a one month training course on people and medicine at the Makerere Institute of Social Research Uganda
- 2001 Participated in a seminar on Qualitative Research Methodology in Medical Anthropology at the Department of International Health University of Copenhagen- Denmark.
- 2000 Presented a paper on the Cultural Engineering towards the control of HIV/AIDS and How to handle social stigma associated with the disease during the Nairobi Province Cultural Week.
- 1998 Participated in a one week residential course entitled: Professional Practice in Multi-disciplinary work” organized by Group for Anthropology in Policy and Practice (GAPP), Association of Social Anthropologists of the Commonwealth (ASA) and the University of Cambridge.
- 1995 Attended and participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Pan African Association of Anthropologists’ Conference in Nairobi.

### **Supervision of graduate students (MA Anthropology & MA Gender and Development Studies)**

#### **MA Anthropology Dissertations**

1. Community participation in Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects in Kangemi Ward, Westlands Constituency by Dalmas Ochieng’ Omia graduated in 2011.
2. Community perceptions and practices regarding transmission and management of human and porcine cysticercosis in Angonia rural District, Mozambique by Carlos Eduardo Cuinhane graduated in 2010 (Co-supervised with Prof. Isaac Nyamongo).
3. Lay people’s knowledge, perceptions and practices regarding the transmission and management of human and porcine cysticercosis in Mbeya rural district of Tanzania by Rose Elisante Kalage graduated in 2009 (Co-supervised with Prof Isaac Nyamongo).

#### **MA Gender and Development Studies Projects**

1. Factors affecting the uptake of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Services among the Youth in Kisumu County by Margaret Akinyi Egesa graduated in 2012.
2. Sexual maturation and school participation for girls in rural Kenya: A case of Kasighau Location, Taita District by Zipporah Nyamauncho Ongwenyi graduated in 2012

3. Divorce and Child Socialization: The case of Garissa County, North Eastern Kenya by Wilkister A. Were graduated in 2012.
4. Assessing the role of microfinance services on the reproductive health of women in Kibera, Nairobi by Ellyjoy Karimi Kithure graduated in 2012.
5. Effects of Dry Sex practices on reproductive health among women in Asego Division, Homa-Bay County by Stephen Odhiambo Ochieng' graduated in 2012.
6. Reproductive health seeking experiences of women with disabilities in Mombasa County by Faith Redemptor Atieno, graduated in 2011.
7. Gender-Based division of labour and rural development in Ololulung'a Division by Jane Milanoi Kuluo, graduated in 2011.
8. The Legal Challenges of New Reproductive Technologies in Kenya by Opondo Evelyne graduated in 2010.
9. Mobile Telephony and its influence on gender roles among Maasai women of Ngong' Division, Kajiado North District by James Sankale, graduated in 2010.
10. Male Participation in Reproductive Health in Kibera Slums by Elijah Ochieng' Odhiambo graduated in 2010.
11. Women's indigenous knowledge in household food security in Mulilii sub-location, Makindu District of Eastern-Kenya by Agatha Daniel Mumbua, graduated in 2010.
12. Motivators and obstacles of voluntary counselling and testing among the young people in Usigu division: the case of Got Agulu Sub-district hospital by Buoro Edward Omondi, graduated in 2010.
13. Lay-care providers' lived experiences in HIV/AIDS management: the case of Kaptembwa Division, Nakuru Central District by Elizabeth Jerop Kimutai, graduated in 2010.
14. Access to Reproductive health services: The case of women with physical disabilities in Nairobi by Grace S W. M. Mukasa graduated in 2008.
15. Behavioral Factors that contribute to the risk of HIV infection among college students: The case of Co-operative College of Kenya by Ongwae Omosa Joshua graduated in 2008
16. Influence of Maternal levels of education on child mortality: A case study of Kinango division of Coast Province, Kenya by Njagi Joyce Muthoni graduated in 2008.
17. The Impact of HIV Stigma on Access to care and Treatment Services in Nyatike Constituency, Migori District by Otieno Dorothy, graduated in 2008.
18. Violence against Women: The case of Kiogoro Division, Kisii Central District by Nyamwega Eunice Moraa, graduated in 2008



19. A Socio-cultural analysis of factors influencing gender participation in informal sector business: The case of Kangemi market and its environs, Nairobi by Kalekye Musyoki Geraldine, graduated in 2008.
20. Dramatherapy as a form of group counselling among drug and substance abusers/addicts: The case of Mathari Mental Hospital drug rehabilitation unit by Zippora A. Okoth, graduated in 2008.
21. Gender Injustice: the determinants of violence against women and access to human rights in Kenya; A case of Mathare and Korogocho slums in Nairobi by Fredrick O. Ochieng graduated in 2007.
22. Societal Perceptions of Sexual violence: The case of Westlands Division, Nairobi by Anne Nyambura Mbuthia graduated in 2007.
23. Violence among Boys: The case of Nairobi-Kenya by Emma Nungari Munyambu graduated in 2007.
24. Integrating men in the fight against gender violence: The case of Kibera Division, Nairobi by Edna Mutua Nduku graduated in 2007.
25. The Role of Women in Peace Building: The case of Women Networks in Somaliland by Kinyanjui, R. Njoki, graduated in 2007.
26. New Reproductive Techniques: The case of Caesarean births in Nairobi by Samuel Owuor Ogolla graduated in 2006.
27. The role of corporate social responsibility in the Achievement of the Gender Equality Goal of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): A critical Analysis by Jane Onoka graduated in 2006
28. Gender Politics in decision making at the Household level: The case of North Kanyamkago Location by Bertha Kokach Juma graduated in 2005.
29. Domestic Labour in Embakasi Division: The Gender Perspective by Betty Ngendo Mugo graduated in 2005.
30. Violence Against women in Kenya: An Exploration of the Underlying Factors by Josephine Anyango Obonyo graduated in 2004.

#### **BA Anthropology dissertation**

The Death of Academia: Exploring the relationship between the decline in academic Quality and the decline in quality of the student social life by Peggy Nyamai Kalie, graduated in 2011.

#### **Works currently being supervised (MA Anthropology & Gender & Development Studies)**

1. Maternal Health care Choices: A Case study of Nyang'oma Sub-location, Bondo District by Andrew Aura

2. Cash Transfer for orphans and vulnerable children as a form of human capital investment in Homa-Bay County by Shadrack Okumu.
3. Effects of Community Perceptions on the Physically Challenged at work Places in Kisumu County by Dan Ogola.
4. Intimate partner violence and maternal health outcomes: Experiences prior to and during pregnancy among women in Kakamega Central District by Winnie Osullah.
5. Career progression of women in the banking sector: The case of the Standard Chartered Bank Li Nairobi Limited, Nairobi City County by Rozalyne Akinyi.
6. The Impact of attitudes of informal sector workers towards saving for old age (Pensions) at Kamukunji jua kali, Nairobi by Cynthia Akinyi.
7. “Invisible Half” Recognising the role of Kenyan women in Agricultural production: Case of Karachuonyo Small Holder Farmers by Judith Atieno.
8. An assessment of male attitudes on involvement and participation in antenatal care and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV: Exploring men’s perceptions in Athi River- sub-location of Mavoko Constituency by Eunice Kidero.
9. Challenges affecting career development among women in Kenya: a case of motor industry in Nairobi by Purity Muthuri.

**Doctoral Works currently being supervised**

1. Induced Abortion Practices among the Igembe community of Eastern Kenya by Charity Koronya
2. Feminization of the HIV and AIDS Scourge: the case of female care-givers in Uriri District, Migori County by Dalmas Ochieng Omia.
3. Climate Change and Forest dwelling women’s rights; Experiences of the Ogiek of the Mau Forest Complex in Kenya by Monday Busengi, School of Law.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

2013 Appointed external examiner, Department of Gender and Development Studies, Kenyatta University

2012 Appointed a Doctoral Thesis Examiner by the University of Cape Town, South Africa

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

- Member of the Pan African Association of Anthropologists (PAA).
- Member of the East African Association of Anthropologists (EAAA)
- Member of the Kenya National Academy of Sciences (KNAS)

**OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Acted as Director IAGAS in several occasions
- Member of Postgraduate Studies Committee, IAGAS
- Representative of IAGAS to College Academic Board (2009-2011)

- Representative of IAGAS to Population Studies and Research Institute Board (2006-2009)

## **REFEREES**

1. Prof. Collete A. Suda,  
Principal Secretary  
Higher Education, Science and Technology  
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2. Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo  
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3. Dr. Washington Onyango-Ouma  
Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Anthropology, Gender & African Studies  
University of Nairobi  
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