

**Curriculum Vitae**  
ANITA W. PLUMMER, PhD

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**CURRENT APPOINTMENTS AND LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

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**Assistant Professor**, Department of African Studies (August 2015 to Present)

**Director of Undergraduate Studies**, Department of African Studies (August 2020 to Present)

**Associate Director of Research and Faculty Engagement**, Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership (March 2022 to Present)

**Co-Coordinator**, US State Department Diplomacy Lab at Howard University (January 2022 to Present)

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**EDUCATION**

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Ph.D.            Howard University  
African Studies, May 2012

The University of California at Los Angeles  
Post-doctoral Fellow, 2012-2013

University of Virginia  
Pre-doctoral Fellow, 2010-2012

M.A.            Howard University  
African Studies, May 2008

B.A.            Goucher College  
English, May 2007

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**PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS**

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**Visiting Senior Lecturer**, International Studies, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA (2013-2015)

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Political Science, International Studies, Global Studies, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA (2012-2013)

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**AWARDS, HONORS, AND MEMBERSHIP IN HONORARY SOCIETIES**

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**Outstanding Teaching Award**, Assistant Professor, College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University, March 2021

**Phi Beta Kappa**

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**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

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African political economy; Sino-African diplomatic and trade relations; Sino-African history; colonial and post-colonial African politics; African foreign policies; Chinese foreign policy

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

Plummer, Anita. *Kenya's Engagement with China: Discourse, Power, and Agency*, Michigan State University Press, Forthcoming November 1, 2022.

Clark, Msia Kibona and Anita Plummer Eds. *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

### Peer-reviewed articles

Plummer, Anita. "Kenya and China's Labour Relations: Infrastructural Development for Whom, by Whom?" *Africa* 89, no. 4 (2019): 680–95. doi:10.1017/S0001972019000858.

Plummer, Anita. "China's public diplomacy in Kenya: History, Power and Politics." *National Political Science Review*, 20, no.2 (2019): 2-19.

Wheeler, Anita. "Cultural Diplomacy, Language Planning, and the Case of the University of Nairobi Confucius Institute." *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, March 2014, Vol. 49 Issue 1, p 49-63.

### Book chapters

Plummer, Anita. "Perceptions of Africa." *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Edited by Msia Kibona Clark and Anita Plummer, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

Plummer, Anita. "Africa's Geographies." *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Edited by Msia Kibona Clark and Anita Plummer, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

Plummer, Anita. "A Brief History." *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Edited by Msia Kibona Clark and Anita Plummer, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

Plummer, Anita. "African Politics." *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Edited by Msia Kibona Clark and Anita Plummer, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

Plummer, Anita. "The International System." *Introduction to Contemporary Africa*, Edited by Msia Kibona Clark and Anita Plummer, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2020.

### Non-peer-reviewed publications

Plummer, Anita, Minter, William and Volman, Daniel. "US Cold War with China — first stop, Equatorial Guinea." *Responsible Statecraft*. (December 2021). <https://fpif.org/u-s-cold-war-with-china-first-stop-equatorial-guinea/>

Plummer, Anita. "An inspiring climate victory in Kenya: Ahead of global climate talks, activists in Kenya successfully blocked a Chinese-backed coal plant at World Heritage Site." *Foreign Policy in Focus*. Washington, DC: Institute for Policy Studies, (September 2019).

Wheeler, Anita and William Minter. "Climate Change and Africa's Natural Resources: African Governments and Outside Powers must be Accountable." *Foreign Policy in Focus* and *Pambazuka News*. Washington, DC: Institute for Policy Studies, (November 2009).

### **Book reviews**

Wheeler, Anita. Review of *Contemporary India and South Africa: Legacies, Identities, Dilemmas*, by Sujata Patel and Tina Uys. *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review*, May 2013, Vol. 4 no. 2 p196-200.

Wheeler, Anita. Review of *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late-Century Africa*, by Robert Bates. Unchain Africa Press, (September 2009).

Wheeler, Anita. Review of *Saviors and Survivors: Darfur Politics and the War on Terror*, by Mahmood Mamdani. Unchain Africa Press, (June 2009).

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS, AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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"DisemPOWERing Africa? China's Engagements in Africa's Energy Sector." Invited lecture given at the EU-China Cooperation: Between Green Transition and Global Energy Competition Summer School hosted by the Centro Studi Sulla Cina Contemporanea, (July 22, 2022).

"Who Benefits? Africa-China Relations and their Implications for Development." Walter Rodney Speaker's Series hosted by YAALI of Howard University (April 13, 2022).

"China's Role in Africa in the New Global Era: The Threats and Opportunities of Forging Strategic Partnership for Development ." 26th Annual Women Ambassadors Conference at Howard University (April 1, 2022).

"Indebtedness: Kenyan Political Mobilization in Response to China's Development Finance." National Council of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting. Virtual: NCOBPS, (March 9-12, 2022).

"Discordant Discourses: Kenya, China, and the online public sphere." African Studies Colloquium at the University of Virginia (September 22, 2021).

"Red Table Talk A Discussion on China Africa Relations." Keynote speaker hosted by Nubia Sorority International Inc., the Knights Fraternity Inc., the Chinese Culture Club, and ASGSA at Howard University, (April 16, 2021).

*What's the word on the street? Unpacking Kenyan street-level discourses on China.* Webinar presentation hosted by School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, (March 2021).

*Deliberations on Kenya and China: Context, Contestations, and Change.* Webinar presentation hosted by the Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies at Indiana University, (March 2021).

*International Interdependence and the New Normal: China's Belt and Road Initiative in East Africa,* Paper presented at the Conference of Globalization and Technology: The Fourth Industrial Revolution. Virtual: International Studies Consortium of Georgia and Indiana University, (March 2021).

"Critical Assessment of US-Africa Policy in the post-Cold War era" panelist at Re-Shaping US-Africa Policy and the Role of HBCUs hosted by the Center for African Studies. Virtual: Howard University, (February 2021).

*Is coal the past or the future? Environmental justice, growth and sustainability in Kenya*, African Studies Association Annual Meeting. Virtual: African Studies Association, (November 2020).

*Engagement: Africa and the Global World*. Panelist at the Congressional Black Caucus' Africa Braintrust. Washington, DC, (September 2018).

*Street-level Perspectives on Kenya and China*. Presentation at the Summer Institute for Educators. Washington, DC: Georgetown University, (August 2018)

Congressional Testimony: Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations, March 7, 2018, "China in Africa: The New Colonialism?"

*Kenya and China's Labor Relations: Development for whom? By whom?* Presentation at the conference, Africa-China: Infrastructure, Extraction and Environmental Sustainability. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan, (April 2017).

*Dependency or Development Prospects for China's Role in Africa's Political Economy*. Presentation at the conference, "The World and Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: China, The West and Economic Interventions on the African Continent. Washington, DC: Howard University, (March 2017).

*The Scramble for Africa and the Legacy of Colonialism*. Seminar at the U.S. Foreign Service Institute of the State Department, (February 2017).

*Teaching on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa*. Presentation at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting 'AfricaNow! Session' "The Panama Papers and Stop the Bleeding Africa: Implications for US-Africa Relations." Washington, DC: African Studies Association, (December 2016).

*Digital Tools of Dissent: Black Youth, Social Media and Social Justice*. Roundtable chairperson and presenter at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC: African Studies Association, (December 2016).

*Online Nations and Netizens: Kenyan Perspectives on Africa and China*. Paper presented at Seventh Annual Mellon Conference "Shifting Scales of Transnationalism." Los Angeles, CA: UCLA, (April 2013).

*Rumor, Race and Standards for Truth in Sino-African Relations*. Paper presented at the Mellon Postdoctoral Cultures in Transnational Perspective Public Workshop. Los Angeles, CA: UCLA, (March 2013).

*Sino-African Optics: Mediating the line between image and reputation among African publics*. Lecture at the University of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA: Carter G. Woodson Institute for African and African-American Studies, (March 2012).

*The Diplomatic Value of Chinese Language in Kenya: The Case of the Confucius Institute at the University of Nairobi*. Paper presented at the African Studies Association 54th Annual Meeting. Washington, DC: African Studies Association, (November 2011).

*Africa and China: A New Scramble? or Equal Trade on Equal Footing?* Two-part lecture series delivered at the Programs in International Education Resources Summer Institute. New Haven, CT: Yale University, (July 2011).

*Multiple Challenges to Africa's Economic Development--China's Role*. Paper presented at The Obama Administration, Africa and the Diaspora: Promises, Prospects, and Realities Conference. Washington, DC: TransAfrica Forum, (January 2010).

*The Infrastructural Route to Development: Can China's Aid Help Africa?* Paper presented at the African Studies Association 52nd Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA: African Studies Association, (November 2009).

*The Social Impacts of China's Foreign Direct Investment in Sudan.* Paper presented at the African Studies Graduate Students' Symposium. Washington, DC: Howard University, (October 2009).

*Redefining the Rules of Engagement: African Interests and China's Demand.* Paper presented at Africa and China Issues and Insights. Washington, DC: Georgetown University, (November 2008).

*The Evolving Spheres of Influence: Africa's Positioning in a New Third World Order.* Paper presented at the African Studies Graduate Students' Symposium. Washington, DC: Howard University (October 2008).

*The Oil Factor in China-Angola Relations: Bilateral Trade and Its Domestic Implications.* Paper presented at Chinese-African Policy: Challenges and the Quest for Viable Peace, Stability and Development. Washington, DC: Howard University (March-April 2008).

*Sinophone Africa? The Emergence of Chinese Language in Africa and Its Implications for Development.* Paper presented at the African Studies Association 50th Annual Meeting. New York, NY: African Studies Association, (October 2007).

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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### **Howard University, Department of African Studies**

AFST 101 Introduction to Contemporary Africa  
 AFST 110 African Development and Underdevelopment  
 AFST 125 Africa and China  
 AFST 157 African Film, Literature and Society  
 AFST 182 Seminar in Regional Studies  
 AFST 271 The Rising Powers? Brazil, Russia, India and China in Africa

### **Spelman College, International Studies Program**

SIS 300b Africa and China  
 SIS 325 Globalization & Development  
 SIS 211 Introduction to International Studies  
 SIS 411 Senior Thesis Capstone/Scope and Methods

### **UC Los Angeles, Department of Political Science and the Global Studies Program**

IAST Introduction to International and Area Studies  
 POL SCI 139/GLBL 160 Special Topics in IR--Africa and China's Contemporary Relations  
 GLBL 188B Variable Topics Seminar-- The Rising Powers: Brazil, Russia, India and China

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Member, African Studies Association  
 Member, National Council of Black Political Scientists

## **LANGUAGES**

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Mandarin (Chinese), Conversational, Keats School, Kunming, China  
 Swahili, Basic knowledge, Howard University, Washington, DC