

CURRICULUM VITAE
GODWIN SIUNDU W., PhD

Citizenship: Kenyan

Gender: Male

Date of Birth: 4th May, 1975

Contact Address:

OFFICIAL

P.O. Box 283 - 30200,
KITALE ,
KENYA

PERSONAL

Department of Literature
University of Nairobi,
P.O. Box 30197 - 00100,
GPO Nairobi

E-Mail Address: godwinsiundu@yahoo.com

godwin.siundu@uonbi.ac.ke

PHONE NUMBER: + 254 724 891 940

ACADEMIC RECORD

- **June 2002 – December 2004: PhD, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.** Thesis title: “Multiple Consciousness and Reconstruction of Home in the Novels of Yusuf Dawood and Moyez Vassanji.” The thesis interrogates the intersection between ideas of marginality and centrality as they may be used to read the place of East African Asians, especially in their attempts to reconstruct “homes” in East Africa, Europe and North America.
- **September 1999 – April 2002: M.Phil, Moi University.** Thesis Title: “The Vision of Multiculturalism in Selected Novels of Yusuf K. Dawood.” The thesis examines the possibilities of transcending multiracialism, interrogating the concept and practice of multiculturalism in the post-independence Kenya imagined by Yusuf Dawood.
- **November 1995 – April 1999: B. Ed (Hons) Moi University,** majoring in the English Language and Literature in English.
- **May 1994 – December 1994: Certificate in Computer Applications,** Kitale Computer College.
- **February 1990 – November 1993: Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (K.C.P.E),** Chesamisi High School, Bungoma Kenya.
- **January 1981 – November 1989: Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (K.C.P.E),** Kiptenden Primary School, Kitale Kenya.

EMPLOYMENT

- **July 2009 – : Lecturer**, Department of Literature, University of Nairobi
- **2006 – June 2009: Lecturer**, Department of Language and Literature Education, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology.
- From 2005 – 2008, I taught at Moi University (Main Campus) as a part-time lecturer.
- June 2002 – November 2004: During this time, I tutored students undertaking literary courses at undergraduate level, at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. .

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate Level Courses Taught and Examined

1. CLT 514: Theoretical Perspectives in African Literature (University of Nairobi)
2. CLT 516: The African Autobiography (University of Nairobi)
3. LIT 800: Principles and Practice of Literary Criticism (Moi University)
4. LIT 800: Narratives of Postcolonialism (Masinde Muliro University)

Some of the Undergraduate Courses Taught and Examined

1. CLT 203: Language Use in Literature (University of Nairobi)
2. CLT 102: Introduction to Drama (University of Nairobi)
3. LIT 421: Studies in Postcolonial Discourse (Masinde Muliro University)
4. LIT 410: The African Novel (Masinde Muliro University)
5. LIT 413: Modern African Poetry (Masinde Muliro University)
6. LIT 414: African American Poetry and Drama (Moi University)
7. LIT 200: Literary Theory and Criticism (Masinde Muliro University)
8. LIT 318: Caribbean Poetry and Drama (Moi University)
9. LIT 314: European Poetry (Moi University)
10. LIT 200: Humanist Literary Theory (Moi University)

SUPERVISION:

I have supervised six M.A. students in their proposal and thesis writing from the onset to completion.

PUBLICATIONS*Book*

1. (2009) *Imagining Home and Community in East African Asian Writings*. VDM Verlag.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

2. (2011) “Metaphors and the Economy of Hope in Jared Angira’s *Lament of the Silent & Other Poems*.” In J.K.S Makokha, Egara Kabaji & Dominica Dipio, eds., *East African Literature: Essays in Written and Oral Traditions*. Berlin: Logoa Verlag. Pp. 176-186.
3. (2011) “Locating Cultural Ambivalence and Afropolitanism: Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam as Heterotopia in the Fiction of Dawood and Vassanji.” In Jennifer Wawrzinek & J.K.S. Makokha, eds., *Negotiating Afropolitanism: Essays on Borders and Spaces in Contemporary African Literature and Folklore*. Rodopi: Amsterdam & New York. pp. 259 – 280.
4. (2010) **Siundu, Godwin** & Busolo Wegesa. 2010. “Christianity in Early Kenyan Novels: Ngugi Wa Thiong’o’s *Weep Not, Child* and *The River Between*” in *Journal of Language, Technology & Entrepreneurship in Africa* Vol. 2 No. 1: 292 – 310.
5. (2010) “Chinweizu”, in Abiola Irele & Biodun Jeyifo, eds. *The Oxford Encyclopedia of African Thought*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 225 – 226.
6. (2010) “Nadine Gordimer”, in Abiola Irele & Biodun Jeyifo, eds. *The Oxford Encyclopedia of African Thought*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 413 – 414
7. (2010) “The Musical Reconfiguration of the Luhya Postcolony in Jacob Luseno’s Lyrics” *Nairobi Literature Journal* No. 6, ISSN 1814-1706. Pp. 67 – 80.
8. (2009) “The *Miganda* Economy and Men’s Self-Help Groups in Bungoma Districts, Kenya” in *Economic History of Kenya*, Maurice Amutabi, ed., The Edwin Mellen Press, New York, U.S.A. pp. 81 – 106.

9. (2008) “The Poetics of Journeying and the Dilemma of Baggage in Moyez Vassanji’s *No New Land* and *Amriika*” *J-STEM, Journal of Science, Technology and Education*, Vol. 2 Nos. 1&2, ISSN. 1991-2889. Pp. 219 – 226.
10. (2008) “Imagining Manhoods: Voyeurism and Masculine Anxieties in East African Asian Fiction” in Marie-Luise Kohlke & Luisa Orza, eds. *Negotiating Sexual Idioms: Image, Text, Performance*. Rodopi: Amsterdam & New York, 2008. Pp. 191 – 206.
11. (2008) An earlier draft of the same chapter appears in *Probing the Problematics: Sex and Sexuality*, an e-book edited by Marie-Louise Kohlke and Luisa Orza.

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/publishing/idp/eBooks/ptpsasindex.html>
Published by the Inter-Disciplinary Press, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2008. ISBN: 978-1-904710-43-1. Pp. 311 – 323.
12. “An Overview of Our Research on Women’s Involvement in Informal Sector Enterprises” in *Development’s Futures*, an e-book on Conference Proceedings edited by Carol Healy

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/dern/ebook.html>

by Jacquie O’Riodan Florence Swai and **Godwin Siundu**
13. (2005) “The Homeliness and the Unhomeliness of the Nation: Reading East Africa Asians in Moyez Vassanji’s Novels.” *Africa Insights*. ISSN 0256 2804. Pp. 15 – 25.
14. (2004) “For Christopher and his Mother” a poem in *Botsotso: Journal of Contemporary South African Culture* Number 13. ISSN 156 276 32. P. 215.
15. (2004) “Transcending Racial / Cultural Spaces: the Power of the Woman in Yusuf Dawood’s Works.” *African Identities* Volume 2 Number 2, 2004. ISSN 147 258 43. Pp. 203 – 213.
16. An earlier version of the above paper appears in *Nairobi Literary Journal*, Number 2, March 2004. Pp. 56 – 64.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED AND PAPERS PRESENTED

1. **Nov. 2010:** “Liberal Arts and the Achievement of vision 2030. Some Reflections.” Paper presented at the 1st Alexander Van Humboldt Alumni Kenyan Kolleg Conference, themed ‘Synergy and Networking to Enhance Research and Development’ Meridian Court Hotel, Nairobi.
2. **April 2010:** “What Has History Got to do with it? Random Currents and Trans-National Identities in Abdulrazak Gurnah’s Novels”. Paper presented as part of the Departmental Seminar Series, Department of Literature, University of Nairobi
3. **October 2009:** “The East African Female Immigrant Semi(auto)biography: A Reading of Neera Kapur-Dromson’s *From Jhelum to Tana*.” A paper presented at the “Eastern African Literary and Intellectual Landscapes: Rethinking Eastern African Cultural and Intellectual Trans/National Legacies Through History,” University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.
4. **April 2008:** “Examining Masculine Anxieties in Traditional Religious Practices: The Case of *Dini Ya Musambwa* in Western Kenya” A Paper presented at the Edinburgh University’s Centre of African Studies for the Conference themed “Exploring Religious Spaces in the African State: Development and Politics from Below”
5. **Nov. 2007:** “Material Cultures and Identities Among Asian Kenyans.” Paper read at a VW Foundation funded Pre-proposal Workshop held at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria.
6. **Nov. – Dec., 2006:** “Imagining Manhoods: Voyeurism and Masculine Anxieties in East African Asian Fiction.” Paper for the 3rd Sex and Sexuality – Exploring Critical Issues Conference, Cracow, Poland November 29th – December 2nd, 2006v 4cvbn
7. May, 2006: “Reading Religion in Kenyan Novels: Ngugi Wa Thiong’o’s Early Novels.” Paper presented (with Busolo Wegesa) at the AMECEA Writers’ Conference, Eldoret Kenya.
8. April, 2006: “Performing Belief in Charismatic Churches: The Case of Archbishop Gilbert Deya International Ministries, Kenya.” Paper presented at the Volkswagen Foundation-funded Workshop themed “Negotiating Culture in the Context of Globalisation,” Dakar, April 3 – 8, 2006.
9. October, 2004: “Imagining Indian Belonging in East Africa: Moyez Vassanji’s *The Gunny Sack* and Yusuf Dawood’s *Water Under the Bridge*.” Paper read at the

- International Conference on Nation Space and Citizenship, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
10. February, 2004: "Mapping Fear by Typing Groups: The Dar – Nairobi Connection." Paper Presented at the Wits Institute for Social Science Research (WISER), during the International Summer School Program on Risk, Rationality and the City.
 11. November, 2003: "Family Life and Materialism in Margaret Ogola's *I Swear by Apollo* and Yusuf Dawood's *The Price of Living*." Paper read at the Popular Culture Colloquium held at Hofmeyr House, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.
 12. September, 2003: The WITS / RAU Postgraduate Conference. "Compelling Thoughts, Terrible Experiences: Journeying Motif in Moyez Vassanji's Novels." Paper presented at a Conference held at the Randse Afrikaans University, South Africa.
 13. September 2003: The WITS / RAU Postgraduate Conference. "Asian Presence and Nation Formation in M. G. Vassanji's Works." Paper presented at a Conference held at the Randse Afrikaans University, South Africa.
 14. (This paper had earlier been presented at the "International Conference on Culture and the State" held at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, 2nd -5th May 2003.)
 15. November, 2002: "Journeying in Quest for Self and Home: Abdulrazak Gurnah's *By the Sea*." Paper read at a PhD Forum, a conference organized for Doctoral Candidates at the Wits Institute for Social Science Research (WISER), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.
 16. September, 2002: "Transcending Racial / Cultural Spaces: The Power of the Woman in Yusuf Dawood's Novels." Paper Presented at the School of Literature and Language Studies Postgraduate Conference, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. (This paper won the 1st Prize in the subsequent rating conducted by independent reviewers).

APPLIED RESEARCH

2008: I was a member of a research team headed by Prof Godfrey Okoth and Prof John Shiundu, both of Masinde Muliro University, on the impact of the Mt Elgon Clashes on Education. This research project is co-ordinated by Dr Judy Achoka and funded by SNV.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sept. 2009 to date: Coordinator, Department of Literature Theatre Arts Projects.
- 2007 – June 2009: Member of the Faculty of Education and Social Sciences Graduate Studies Committee.
- May – August 2008: Acting Chairman of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee.
- August 2006 – June 2009: Departmental timetable and examinations coordinator, overseeing the successful administration, marking and processes of external moderation of the examinations and subsequent results.
- 2004: Tutored “Business Communication” to first year undergraduate students in the School of Accounts, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.
- September 1999 – 2001: I occasionally tutored undergraduate students in the Literature Department as I undertook my M.Phil studies.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

1. February 2002 – November 2004: Postgraduate Merit Award, for pursuit of Doctoral Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.
2. February – November, 2003: Wits University Council Scholarship.
3. February – November, 2004: The Harold and Doris Tothill Prestigious Scholarship for doctoral research.
(All the above scholarships were administered by the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg)
4. September 1999. Partial Scholarship to pursue Master of Philosophy degree in Literature, administered by Moi University, Kenya.

REFEREES

Available on Request