

David Thomas Suell, MA

University of Michigan
Department of Political Science
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CURRENT POSITIONS

PhD Candidate in Political Science, University of Michigan
Assistant Editor, *Contemporary Political Theory*

EDUCATION

University of Michigan

PhD in Political Science (defending Spring 2023)

September 2017-present

Major: Political Theory, Minor: African Politics and Political Thought

Dissertation Committee: Lisa Disch (Chair), David Temin, Anne Pitcher, Omolade Adunbi (African Studies)

Dissertation title: “Temporalities of Struggle: African Political Thought and Contesting the Foundations of Colonial Capitalism”

Graduate Certificate in African Studies

Attained December 2019

University of Chicago

September 2013-August 2014

Degree Attained: MA Social Science Research

Belmont University

Fall 2009-May 2013

Degrees Attained: B.Sc. Political Science, B.Sc. History; Honors Program

PUBLICATIONS:

Suell, D.T. (2022) “The Creation of Capitalist Time: Rethinking Primitive Accumulation through Conservation.” *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. Online first. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02637758221123815>

Suell, D.T. (2020). Leave the Dead Some Room to Dance: Postcolonial Founding and the Problem of Inheritance in Wole Soyinka’s *A Dance of the Forests*. *Political Theory*, 48(3), 330–356. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0090591719878403>

BOOK REVIEWS:

Suell, D.T. (2021). Development as rebellion: A biography of Julius Nyerere. *Contemporary Political Theory*. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-021-00468-y>

TEACHING TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Preparing Future Faculty Seminar

Center for Research in Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan
Certificate Date: July 2022

Graduate Student Instructor for POLSCI 355/AAS 356: “Democracy and Development in Africa,” University of Michigan (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Anne Pitcher, instructor)

Graduate Student Instructor for POLSCI 101: “Intro to Political Theory,” University of Michigan (Fall 2018, Lisa Disch, instructor; Winter 2019, Mika LaVaque-Manty, instructor)

TEFL/TESOL Certified

Global TEFL 150 hour master course
Certificate Date: September 2016

Teacher and Tutor: Grade 8 and 9 Students and Adults

Fimpulu, Zambia 2015-2016
Subjects: English, Math, Computer Studies

SERVICE

Assistant Editor, *Contemporary Political Theory*

Referee for: *American Political Science Review*; *Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology*

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship (Fall 2022-Summer 2023)

Graduate Associate, Association for Global Political Thought (April 2022-present)

DGS Travel Grant (Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2023)

Rackham Conference Travel Grant (Fall 2021, Fall 2023)

African Studies Center Language Study Scholarship (2019-2020, 2020-2021)

Rackham Professional Development Grant for research at UN (Winter 2018)

Belmont University Presidential Scholar (2009-2013, full scholarship)

INVITED TALKS

Suell, David. “The creation of capitalist time: rethinking primitive accumulation through conservation” *AGPT Dialogue #2: Time and Politics Series*. Association for Global Political Thought (Sept. 23, 2022 via Zoom)

Suell, David. “Performing Lunda ‘Ethnicity, Inc.’: Historicizing the Commodification of Tradition,” Dag Hammarskjöld Institute for Peace Studies at Copperbelt University (Fall 2016, Kitwe, Zambia)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Suell, David. “‘To see that there is a tomorrow:’ Anticolonial Rupture and the Limits of Cosmopolitanism in Nkrumah & Fanon” at African Studies Association Conference (Nov. 17-19, 2022, Philadelphia, PA).

Suell, David. “‘To see that there is a tomorrow:’ Anticolonial Rupture and the Limits of Cosmopolitanism in Nkrumah & Fanon” at Association for Political Theory 2022 Conference (Oct 27-29, 2022, Univ. of Houston).

Suell, David. “‘To see that there is a tomorrow:’ Anticolonial Rupture and the Limits of Cosmopolitanism in Nkrumah & Fanon” at University of Chicago Graduate Conference in Political Theory (Oct. 15, 2022).

Suell, David. “History, Democracy, Socialism: Revisiting the ‘Untimely Continuities’ in Nyerere and Cabral,” at Association for Global Political Thought Inaugural Conference (Apr. 8, 2022, Harvard University)

Suell, David. “Grounding Socialist Democracy: Nyerere, Cabral, and Narrating the Anti-Colonial State” at Association for Political Theory 2021 Conference (Nov 12, 2021, UMass Amherst)

Suell, David. “Grounding Socialist Democracy: Nyerere, Cabral, and Narrating the Anti-Colonial State,” at UCLA Political Theory Graduate Conference (April 24, 2021, Online via Zoom).

Suell, David. “Primitive Accumulation in Maasailand”, at Association for Political Theory Annual Conference (Nov 10, 2020, Online via Zoom)

Suell, David. “Grounding Radical Democracy: Nyerere, Cabral, and Narrating the Anti-Colonial State” at the New School for Social Research Theory Collective Workshop *Socialist Commons: Imagining Radical Alternatives* (Oct 2020, Online via Zoom)

Suell, David. “Primitive Accumulation and Capitalist World-Making in Maasailand” at the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies Graduate Student Workshop “Colonized Geographies” (Fall 2019, Ann Arbor, MI).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Cont'd)

Suell, David. "Leave the Dead Some Room to Dance: Postcolonial Founding and the Problem of Inheritance in Wole Soyinka's *A Dance of the Forests*" at the University of Michigan Political Science Department Third Year Conference (Fall 2019, Ann Arbor, MI).

Suell, David. "Leave the Dead Some Room to Dance: Postcolonial Founding and the Problem of Inheritance in Wole Soyinka's *A Dance of the Forests*" at Northwestern University Graduate Conference *Specters of Domination: Politicizing the Terms of Resistance* (Fall 2018, Evanston, IL).

Suell, David. "Pretext and Context in Lunda Ethnicity, Inc.: Toward a Theory of Counter-Mimicry" at Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference (Fall 2015, Cincinnati, OH).

LANGUAGES:

Swahili (Reading: advanced; Speaking: Intermediate)

MEMBERSHIPS:

African Studies Association;
American Political Science Association;
Association for Political Theory
Caribbean Philosophical Association

REFERENCES:

Lisa Disch

Professor of Political Science and Women's Studies (by courtesy)
University of Michigan
ldisch@umich.edu

Anne Pitcher

Professor of Political Science and Afroamerican & African Studies
University Of Michigan
pitchera@umich.edu

David Temin

Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of Michigan
dtemin@umich.edu

Omolade Adunbi

Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies and the Honors Program
Director of the African Studies Center
University of Michigan
oadunbi@umich.edu