

Christa Charbonneau Kuntzelman

Chicago, IL

ChristaKuntzelman2022@u.northwestern.edu

Education:

Northwestern University

PhD Candidate, Political Science Department, conferral anticipated summer 2022.

M.A. Political Science, conferred 2017, GPA 3.86

Major Field: Comparative Politics; Minor Field: International Relations

Dissertation title: Refugees' understanding of rights and governance structures: A study of urban refugees in Uganda

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Wendy Pearlman (chair), Dr. Galya Ben-Arieh and Dr. Rachel Riedl

Educational focus: Refugees, Forced Migration, Non-Citizen Political Behavior

DePaul University

M.S. International Public Service, conferred 2015, *Summa Cum Laude*, GPA 4.0

Inducted into the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, May 2014.

B.A. Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution, conferred 2013, *Summa Cum Laude*, GPA 3.97.

Recipient Outstanding Senior Award, Deans List Scholar, Member Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Alliance Française, Completed basic, intermediate and advanced French level courses. 2008 - 2013.

Research Awards:

2019 Kellogg School of Management, Dispute Resolution Research Center Research Grant

2019 Northwestern Graduate School, Graduate Research Grant

2017 Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Graduate Student Dissertation Research Award

2016 Hans Panofsky Research Award, Program of African Studies

2016 Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Graduate Student Dissertation Research Award

Fellowships:

Buffett Institute at Northwestern University, Global Impacts Graduate Fellowship, AY 2021-22

Northwestern Kaplan Center for the Humanities, Public Humanities Fellows Working Group, AY 2020-21

Oxford University Refugee Studies Centre, Visiting Research Fellows Programme, Accepted Trinity Term 2020. Fellowship cancelled due to COVID.

Conference Presentations:

“Owning the Wood That Becomes the Table: Moving Beyond Asking for A Seat at the Table,”

IAFSM 2018 Conference on ‘Disrupting Theory, Unsettling Practice: Towards Transformative Forced Migration Scholarship and Policy,’ accepted for July 2020. Conference delayed for COVID.

“What explains variation in tactics and targets of urban refugees’ grievance expression in Uganda?” Midwest Political Science Association annual conference, accepted for April 2020, Conference cancelled due to COVID.

“Examining Variation in Tactics and Targets of Urban Refugee Political Claims Making” Oxford University’s Conference on ‘Democratizing Displacement,’ March 2019.

“Refugees and the ‘state’: How do non-citizens understand and claim rights in exile?” Northwestern University’s AfriSem Conference, May 2018.

“Narrative Representation: Examining Agency & Power of Urban Refugees.” Northwestern University’s AfriSem Conference, April 2017.

“South Sudan: Envisioning Ways to Utilize Refugees and Diaspora Networks in Conflict Mediation and Post-Conflict State Building.” DePaul Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, 2015.

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Publications:

- Power and the Margins: The State of Refugee Participation. *The Global Refugee-Led Network's Recommendations for the 2021 UNHCR High-Level Officials Meeting*. Coauthored with Shaza Alrihawi, Anila Noor, John Bolingo Ntahira, and Najeeba Wazefadost. December 2021.
- Refugee-Led Organizations as Emergency Providers During A Global Pandemic. *People Forced to Flee: History, Change and Challenge*. Coauthored with Robert Hakiza. November 2021.
- The Importance of Refugee Inclusion in Research Design. *Scholars Strategy Network*, Memo published April 2021.
- Compassion and pragmatic action: The restoring family links program. *Refugee Review: Re-conceptualizing Refugees & Forced Migration in the 21st Century*. May 2015.
- South Sudan: Solutions for moving beyond an “ethnic conflict”. *International Research and Review: Journal of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars*. October 2014.

Research Experience:

Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, Doctoral Research (July-October 2019)

Research Advisors: Dr. Wendy Pearlman, Dr. Galya Ben-Arieh, and Dr. Rachel Riedl

- Three months research for dissertation question, “What explains variation in refugees’ political knowledge in Uganda?” Research conducted in Gulu, Mbarara, and Kampala Uganda
- Conducted over 200 individual surveys, four focus groups, and other ethnographic and archival research
- Research approved by Northwestern IRB (STU00209843) and Uganda’s UNCST (SS305ES)

Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, Research (June-July 2017)

Research Advisors: Dr. Wendy Pearlman and Dr. William Reno

- 6 weeks exploratory investigation on urban refugee coping and livelihood strategies in Johannesburg, Pretoria, and Cape Town, South Africa, with a focus on refugee understanding of the state, and refugee-initiated efforts to claim and expand rights
- Established strong connections to refugee rights organizations, legal advocacy groups, and iNGOs to facilitate connections to asylum-seekers and refugees; and established foundational connections to refugee-led organizations and refugee communities

Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, Initial Research (June-August 2016)

Research Advisor: Dr. William Reno

- 9 weeks exploratory investigation of urban refugee coping and livelihood strategies in Kampala, Uganda with a focus on refugee self-understanding of refugee agency and power
- Established contacts among urban refugee population, Government of Uganda, and iNGOs to facilitate in forthcoming doctoral research
- Extensive time spent with refugee-led organizations to understand refugee self-organization, mobilization, and grassroots initiatives to claim and expand rights
- Exploratory research to hone research question and ensure feasibility of research location

University Professional Experience:

Book Editing and Indexing, for Dr. Ian Hurd’s *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, Third Edition, Published August 2020

Graduate Assistant, Northwestern Office of Fellowships (September 2018- June 2019)

Research Assistant, Dr. Elizabeth Shakman-Hurd (2018)

Research assistant on forthcoming book project on religious asylum applicants.

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Global Café Mentor, Northwestern International Studies (September 2016-June 2018). Mentorship in a weekly program for undergraduate students in International Studies.

Graduate Student Coordinator, Northwestern Center for Forced Migration Studies (2015-2018). Coordination of monthly meeting and other events hosted by the center.

Student Program Coordinator, DePaul University's Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies (2013-2015). Responsible for the department's social media profiles, wrote the quarterly newsletter, provided support to professors and students, and event coordination.

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Assistant (2017 – 2018)

- International Environmental Politics and Policy with Dr. Kimberly Suiseeya
- Environmental Politics and Policy with Dr. Kimberly Suiseeya
- Contemporary African Politics with Dr. Martha Wilfahrt

Guest Lecturer:

- Refugee Crisis and Human Rights: The Politics of Refugee Protection (2017)

Skills:

Mixed qualitative and quantitative research methods training and applied usage in field research. Relevant data analysis software: Qualtrics, Stata, NVivo, and R.

Professional Associations:

Scholars Strategy Network, Member, inducted April 2021

International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, Student Member, 2016 - present

Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues (ESPMI), Peer Editor, 2016 - present

External Volunteer Service:

Child Advocate, Young Center for Immigrant & Children's Rights (2015-2020)

Case Worker, American Red Cross Restoring Family Links (August 2012- 2019): Extensive experience as a case worker conducting client interviews and delivery of sensitive family news.

Refugee Mentor, Pan-African Association of Chicago (November 2012-April 2014)

Languages:

French- Advanced

References:

Available on Request