

KRISTEN ROUPENIAN

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OBJECTIVE: To teach English literature at a university or liberal arts college following the completion of the PhD

EDUCATION: BA, English, Psychology. Received June 2003  
Barnard College of Columbia University, New York, NY

MA, English. Received June 2010  
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

PhD, English. Expected June 2014  
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Dissertation title (provisional): “‘Let the Fire in our Hearts Surprise Them’: Language, Politics, and the Life of a Kenyan Literary Magazine.”

RECOGNITION:

Oppenheimer Graduate Fellowship – Awarded by Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University (2012)

Dexter Summer Fellowship – Awarded by the Harvard University English Department, used for research travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo (2012)

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) – Awarded by the Committee for African Studies, Harvard University (2011)

Dexter Term Time Fellowship – Awarded by the English Department, Harvard University (2011)

Harvard University Certificate for Distinction in Teaching for English 180, awarded by Harvard University (2010)

Graduate Society Summer Pre-dissertation Fellowship, awarded by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University, used for research travel to Kenya (2009)

Sosland Family Graduate Fellowship, awarded by Harvard University (2008)

Honors in English, Barnard College (2003)

Phi Beta Kappa, Barnard College (2003)

Summa cum laude, Barnard College (2003)

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Instructor, Harvard University, Cambridge MA (2010-present)

Junior tutorials taught: *How To Write About Africa* (Fall 2010, Spring 2012)

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, Cambridge MA (2009-present)

Courses taught: *Art and Thought in the Cold War* (Spring 2011)

*Modern American Crime Narratives* (Fall 2010)

*Introduction to African-American Studies* (Spring 2010)

*Postwar British and American Fiction* (Fall 2009)

Temporary Instructor, Harvard University, Cambridge MA

Courses taught: *Haunting Homes: Major Themes in Transnational Anglophone Literature* (Delivered four lectures and led discussion during the primary instructor's absence)

#### RELEVANT WORK AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE:

Community Awareness and Prevention Volunteer, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Boston, MA

Provides sexual assault awareness/prevention workshops to various audiences: middle, high school, and college students, community groups, and service providers (Fall 2012-present)

Research Assistant, Committee for African Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge MA

Assisted Professor Caroline Elkins in preparing an expert witness statement on behalf of a group of Kenyan veterans who are suing the British government over acts committed during the Mau Mau uprising (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

Research Assistant, English Department, Harvard University, Cambridge MA

Assisted Professor Marc Shell in preparing a manuscript for publication.

Rape Crisis Counselor (state-certified), Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Boston MA

Provided counseling, advocacy and emergency support services to sexual assault victims who present to the Emergency Rooms of Boston-area hospitals (Fall 2010-Fall 2012)

Organizer and interviewer, "The Literary Magazine in a Globalized Age." Harvard University, Cambridge MA (Fall 2012)

Brought the editor of the Kenyan magazine *Kwani?* to the Harvard campus to conduct an open conversation on the future of the literary magazine

Freelance Writer, Boston MA (Fall 2005-present)

Writes popular fiction and non-fiction for a variety of publications, including *McSweeney's*, *The Hairpin*, *The Awl*, *Thought Catalog*, and *Wired* (online).

Teaching Assistant, Falmouth Academy, Falmouth MA (Fall 2005)

Assisted in a ninth grade World Civilizations classroom. Provided tutoring and remedial instruction as well as occasional classroom supervision

Community Health Educator, United States Peace Corps, Bukhalalire, Kenya (2003-2005).

Designed HIV-education curriculum for primary school students; delivered lectures on community-based health care, water sanitation, and HIV prevention

#### CONFERENCE PAPERS AND SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:

“Reading the Distance Traveled: The Global Migration of Uwem Akpan,” submitted to *PMLA* (currently under review)

“From *Kwani?* to Oprah: The Global Literary Migration of Uwem Akpan,” presented at the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual conference in Vancouver, 2011

Entry: “Caryl Phillips” in *The Encyclopedia of Black in European History and Culture*, Eric Martone, ed., 2008

#### LANGUAGES:

Kiswahili (functionally fluent), German (reading knowledge)