

## Message from the Director

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you had a lovely winter break!

We are writing to share some exciting updates about plans for Spring 2025 and beyond. We also want to take a moment to share a few highlights from our Fall 2024 programming.

On February 11th, we will co-sponsor Dr. Jennifer Riggan's book talk -- *Hosting States & Unsettled Guests: Eritrean Refugees in a Time of Migration Deterrence*. Please join us in-person at Teachers College or online (details below).

Please save the date—April 11th—for our mini conference on Pan-Africanism & Education: Interdisciplinary & Critical Approaches in the 21st Century, co-hosted with the Institute for African Studies and the Society for International Education. We'll circulate the call for papers for graduate students across our Columbia community shortly. This will be a great opportunity to share your work and to interact with students and faculty across campus.

Finally, we are thrilled to announce a new study abroad course (with me!) to learn more about education, refugee, and migration policies and practices in Morocco in July 2025. Complete the interest form below to receive more information about this learning opportunity. Stay tuned for updates about a CAE scholarship opportunity to support

We deeply appreciated your engagement during the fall term (see highlights below), and we look forward to collaborating with you again this semester!

Mary Mendenhall  
CAE Director

Spring 2025: Save the Date!

Pan-Africanism & Education: Interdisciplinary & Critical Approaches in the 21st Century  
- April 11, 2025 -

**SAVE THE DATE**

Pan-Africanism & Education:  
Interdisciplinary & Critical  
Approaches in the 21st Century

April 11, 2025  
525 W 120th St, New York, NY  
10027



Center for African Education  
Teachers College, Columbia University



SOCIETY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



COLUMBIA | IAS  
INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES



Office of the Vice President for  
Diversity & Community Affairs  
Teachers College, Columbia University

The Center for African Education, the Society for International Education, and the Institute for African Studies are pleased to announce the upcoming mini conference co-sponsored by the Teachers College Vice President's Diversity and Community Initiatives Grant Fund, titled Pan-Africanism & Education: Interdisciplinary & Critical Approaches in the 21st Century. This event will be held on Friday, April 11th. More details and call for papers coming soon!



- February 11, 2025 -

INTERNATIONAL & TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES WORKSHOP


“MY DREAM IS SO MANY THINGS”

CHOICE, FUTURE-MAKING AND PRECARITY AMONGST  
ERITREAN REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA 2016-2019

DR. JENNIFER RIGGAN | ARCADIA UNIVERSITY

HOSTING  
STATES AND  
UNSETTLED  
GUESTS


Eritrean Refugees in a Time of  
Migration Deterrence



Jennifer Riggan  
and Amanda Poole


Why would a refugee migrate to another country knowing the grave risks of secondary migration? Why would a refugee drop out of university despite understanding how lucky they are to have this much-coveted opportunity? Why would a refugee reject the chance to be resettled to the United States or Europe? Much attention has been paid to stuckness, waiting, and other forms of temporal suffering experienced by refugees. But temporal suffering coexists with efforts to take agency over the future, and what we call teleological violence—or the violence done by the false promises of progress. Drawing on research conducted for our 2024 book, “Hosting States and Unsettled Guests: Eritrean Refugees in a Time of Migration Deterrence” (Riggan and Poole) this talk explores how refugees take agency over the future amidst precarity to make choices when there are few good options.


TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025  
12:30-1:30 PM  
455 GRACE DODGE HALL  
REFRESHMENTS & LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED  
TO JOIN ONLINE:  
[CLICK HERE](#) OR REGISTER WITH QR CODE



SCAN ME

TO REQUEST DISABILITY-RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS CONTACT OASID AT OASID@TC.EDU,  
(212) 678-3689, (212) 678-3853 TTY, (646) 755-3144 VIDEO PHONE, AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

International &  
Transcultural Studies  
Teachers College, Columbia University

Center for African Education  
Teachers College, Columbia University

Join the Center for African Education and the department of International & Transcultural Studies for a workshop with Dr. Jennifer Riggan of Arcadia University on the challenging decisions many refugees face in their journeys toward self-determination with a focus on the temporal suffering of Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia.

To join online, please register here:

[https://teacherscollege.zoom.us/meeting/register/\\_3pY5wYwRim5GUkPLRViNw](https://teacherscollege.zoom.us/meeting/register/_3pY5wYwRim5GUkPLRViNw)

## Spring 2025 Africa-Focused Graduate Courses Outside of Teachers College

- [Family, Household, & History in Africa \(GR8770\)](#)
- [African Development Strategies \(U6163\)](#)

- [Global Immersion: Lessons from Rwanda on Conflict, Leadership, and Business Opportunities \(B8772\)](#)
- [Global Immersion: South Africa’s Ongoing Transformation \(B8778\)](#)
- [Global Immersion Tech in Africa: Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Nairobi, Kenya \(B8708\)](#)
- [Pan Africanism \(GU4154\)](#)
- [Social Movements and Citizenship in Africa \(U6410\)](#)
- [Sustainable Development in Rwanda \(GU4400\)](#)

## Summer 2025 Course Abroad



Office of  
Global Engagement  
Teachers College, Columbia University

TC Study Abroad  
Global Access  
Program



### Education, Refugee & Migration Policies & Practices in Morocco and Europe

July 11 - July 22, 2025

Dr. Mary Mendenhall

Associate Professor of International and Comparative Education  
Director, George Clement Bond Center for African Education

#### Topics

- EU-Morocco Migration Policies: Impact on education for migrants.
- Educational Interventions: Bridging gaps in schooling and credential recognition for refugees.
- Community-Based Education: Local initiatives offering language training, literacy, and psychosocial support.
- Urban School Policy Innovations: Adapting curricula and services for migrant students in Moroccan public schools.

#### Stakeholder Engagement

- Government Agencies: Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Migration Affairs Unit), local education authorities.
- International Governance Organizations
- NGOs: grassroots, humanitarian and education-focused organizations.
- Academic Institutions: Mohammed V University, Abdelmalek Essaâdi University, and migration researchers.
- Private Sector: language schools and multinational firms.

#### Program Details:

- Locations: Rabat, Casablanca, Tangier, Ceuta (Spain), and Fez.
- Attributes: 2-3 credits; non-credit
- On-site partner: IES Abroad
- Application deadline: March 15, 2025
- Academic tuition: \$2,049 per credit
- Study abroad fee\*: \$2,700

\*Study abroad fee includes:

- Shared housing for 9 nights
- Group meals
- Site visits
- Field trips (Tangier and Ceuta)
- Day Trips (Fez, Casablanca)
- Business visits
- Excursions
- Cultural activities
- \*Please note that purchasing flight tickets is the responsibility of the student.

Visit our website for more information:  
<https://www.tc.columbia.edu/office-of-global-engagement/study-abroad/>





Dates: July 11–22, 2025

Faculty Leader: Dr. Mary Mendenhall, Associate Professor of International and Comparative Education and Director of the Center for African Education.

Please see the attached flyer for detailed information about the program itinerary, costs, and activities. If you're interested in participating, complete this [interest form](#) to receive the application link, be informed of all program updates, and join our upcoming information session which will be announced soon.

## Seeking New Leaders and Members to join the African Studies Working Group!

The Center for African Education is seeking TC students who are passionate about African studies and the African Diaspora to be leaders and members of the African Studies Working Group (ASWG).

**ASWG Goals:**

- Develop a dynamic, and sustainable network of African and diaspora studies scholars and practitioners who have research and work interests in this field
- Facilitate opportunities for graduate and doctoral students to develop and showcase their scholarly interests and academic pursuits related to Africa
- Establish and maintain partnerships with other African-focused student organizations and groups within Columbia University and other institutions.

**As a leader or member of the ASWG, your role will involve:**

- Creating and supporting opportunities for members to connect and collaborate
- Advancing academic pursuits and research
- Building robust relationships with other organizations and institutions
- Following the guidelines laid out for TC student organizations by the Graduate Student Life & Development office

# Fall 2024 Highlights

## CAE Welcome & Open House - September 19, 2024 -

In September, the Center for African Education held our annual welcome back event to kick off the new school year and share exciting opportunities for students, faculty, and community members to engage with African Education throughout the semester. Summer 2024 CAE travel grant recipients Alicia Banks, Paola Abril, and Sarita Ore Quispe also had the opportunity to give lightning talks on their experiences working abroad in African Diasporic Contexts while attendees enjoyed coffee and pastries from Les Ambassades.





Opening remarks from CAE Director Dr. Mary Mendenhall.





where she conducted in-depth interviews with primary school teachers.

Horn of Africa as an intern with the Life & Peace Institute.

Those We Throw Away Are Diamonds: A Refugee’s Search for Home

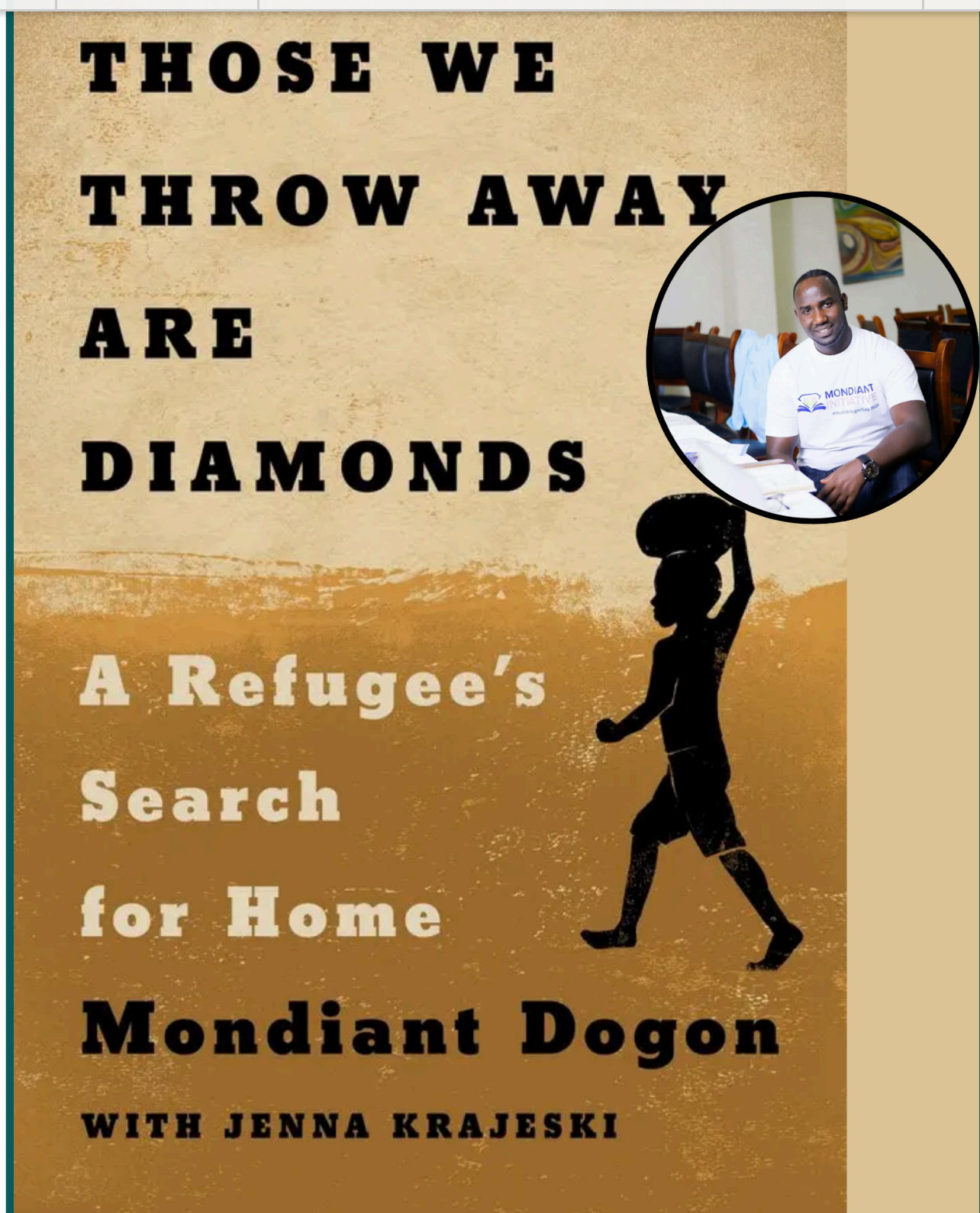
Book Talk With Mondiant Dogon

- October 9, 2024 -



Author, refugee activist, and founder of the [Mondiant Initiative](#), Mondiant Dogon, met virtually with students enrolled in the Education in Emergencies ICEd course as well as other TC community members to launch his new book that highlights the often untold stories of refugees like himself.





## Lunch & Learn: In Conversation with African Obama Scholars

*Featuring Jacob Idra, Imane Berchane, Alex Magu,  
and Jibreel Jalloh*  
- November 19, 2024 -

The 2024-2025 Cohort of African Obama Scholars at Columbia University participated in a panel discussion where they answered questions and shared insights about the projects they are developing centered around their countries of origin, their educational journeys, and their experiences with the Obama Foundation Scholars program.





Obama scholars Jacob Idra, Imane Berchane, Alex Magu, and Jibreel Jalloh pose for a photo after engaging in a captivating panel discussion.

**Diasporic Narratives: African Experiences in Media Workshop**  
*Featuring Zulfiqar Manzi*  
**- November 22, 2024 -**

At our final event of the semester, we hosted comedian, producer, and show creator Zul Manzi for an afternoon to showcase the work that goes into creating his animated TVseries, *The Matumbilas*, that focuses on a Tanzanian family living in Western Massachusetts. In this workshop Zul met with Columbia students who are part of the African diaspora or come from various immigrant backgrounds, gathering their stories and experiences to apply to his series.





Zul Manzi gives a presentation to Columbia students on integrating diasporic and immigrant narratives into his TV series.

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## CAE Study Break - December 5, 2024 -

After an exciting semester the Center for African Education hosted a casual study break where students could pop in and out to enjoy some winter treats as they wrapped up their fall semesters.





Students across TC gather for some cookies, fruit kabobs, hot chocolate and fun toppings to enjoy moments of leisure in the midst of finals season.

## CAE Resources

### Office Hours

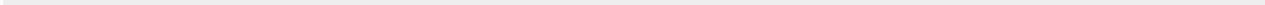
Need guidance with research, a project, or idea generation concerning African or diaspora education? Reach out to the Graduate Research Assistants [here](#) to schedule a time to chat!

Having trouble finding scholarly resources about African education?  
Click on "CAE Library" below to explore books located in the CAE library.  
Search for what you need by topic, country, or geographical region.

For further support, consider consulting with the Subject Specialists at  
Columbia University. Librarians specialize in African Studies (both  
North and South of the Sahara) and African-American Studies. Click on  
"Main Campus Library Resources: Subject Specialists" below to learn  
more about each librarian's subject expertise and schedule an  
appointment to meet with them.

CAE Library

Main Campus Library Resources: Subject Specialists



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