

Ayantu Kief Israel-Megerssa

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Education

Brown University, Department of Political Science, Providence, RI, on-going
PhD, Political Science (Political Theory)

Brown University, Department of Political Science, Providence, RI, 2023
Master of Arts, Political Science (Political Theory)

University of Oregon, Robert D. Clark Honors College, Eugene, OR, 2017
Bachelor of Arts, International Studies (Law and Human Rights)

- Minors in Political Science and Chinese
- Cumulative GPA 3.94/4.00, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

Awards and Fellowships

- Cogut Institute Graduate Fellowship | 2022-2023
During the fourth year of my PhD, I was awarded the Cogut Institute for the Humanities' year-long research fellowship for Brown doctoral students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. This fellowship allowed me the opportunity to participate in the institute's weekly research seminar with an interdisciplinary group of scholars from across Brown's academic community. As a part of the fellowship, I presented a work-in-progress to the seminar, during which I fielded questions and critical feedback from faculty, postdoc, graduate, and undergraduate fellows.
- P. Terrence Hopmann Award for Excellence in Teaching
Brown University | 2021
Honors the outstanding work of teaching assistants, based on section leader evaluation scores and comments, as well as nominations by the student's faculty instructor.

Conferences and Symposiums

Western Political Science Association March 2024 - Vancouver, BC

- Panel presentation of dissertation chapter, "Worlding Descartes: The Racial Politics of Skepticism."

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Summer@Brown, Division of Pre-College and Undergraduate Programs, Brown University

June-July 2024 (forthcoming), June 2023-July 2023

- Designed and taught the course, "The Racial Politics of Philosophy" for three hours daily over the course of two weeks to a classroom of 15 students.
- Responsibilities included designing a syllabus, designing daily activities to encourage student discussion and active participation, designing and facilitating a Canvas sight,

conducting daily office hours, participating in professional development workshops in teaching and learning before the course commencement,

Teaching Assistant

Political Science Department, Brown University

September 2020-June 2022

- Provided up to 20-hours per week of teaching-related activity and support. Responsibilities included conducting bi-weekly discussion sections and grading assignments.
- Courses:
 - POLS1415 Classics of Political Economy, Dr. Alex Gourevitch (Professor), Fall 2020
 - POLS 1090 Polarized Politics, Rich Arenberg (Professor), Spring 2021
 - POLS 1085 Injustice, Dr. Alex Gourevitch (Professor), Fall 2021
 - POLS 1355 Women in Politics, Dr. Michelle Rose (Professor), Spring 2022

Professional Experience

Research Assistant

Brown University, Department of Political Science

January 2022 – May 2022

- Conducted a successful project to receive permissions from over twenty publishing houses to republish my supervisor's past academic work into a new edited volume, while under time-pressure from the new publisher. This entailed communicating with over twenty publishing houses over the course of five months, managing and keeping track of a variety of distinct permissions applications and processes, and maintaining regular and clear contact with my supervisor and her publisher about my progress.
- Edited and finalized supervisor's journal articles for submission to peer review and publishing.

Research Assistant

Division of Learning and Teaching, Charles Sturt University (CSU), Australia

February 2018 – April 2019

- Conducted multi-stage focus groups with CSU faculty and staff to evaluate CSU's course design and approval process.
- Coded and analyzed focus group transcriptions, presented analyses in final reports to CSU's Division of Learning and Teaching
- Edited and finalized journal article for submission to peer review.