

Olivier Nyirubugara

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Profile

A highly motivated, multilingual new media scholar, journalist and media trainer, with considerable analytical insight into digital media and substantial experience in journalism, as well as proven expertise in alternative and community journalism.

Key skills

- Proven teaching skills both in academic and professional settings.
- Demonstrable analytical capabilities regarding new media and their impact on users.
- Substantial reporting experience both in Africa and Western Europe.
- Considerable knowledge and expertise in alternative media, in particular alternative journalism and grassroots journalism.
- Extended experience in online coaching of journalists

Achievements

- Taught 'Contemporary Media Culture' at the University of Amsterdam.
- Gave guest lecture on Alternative Journalism to international M.A. Students at Groningen University's Media Studies Department.
- Trained and coached more than 100 journalists in community reporting with mobile phones both in national and international settings.
- Coordinated a training project that was among the Webby Awards honorees in 2008, won the World Summit Award–category E-inclusion in 2009 and the Best of the Blogs Award – category videoblog, in 2009.
- Spoke about new media and inclusion at the WSA Award winners' conference in Monterrey, Mexico [2–5 September 2009].
- Regularly speak at the Deutsche Welle's Global Media Forum [2009, 2010, 2011].
- Spoke about 'Communication for change' at the Global Forum on Sanitation and Hygiene in Mumbai, India [9-14 October 2011].
- Spoke at many academic conferences including the 'MIT7 Unstable Platforms: the promise and peril of transition' held at the MIT, Cambridge (USA) from 13–15 May 2011, and at the 'McLuhan Galaxy conference "Understanding Media, Today"' in Barcelona from 23-25 May 2011.
- Four forthcoming publications [including a monograph], three of which are peer-reviewed.

Education

- 2008–2011: University of Amsterdam
PhD Media Studies [Approved, defense scheduled 10 January 2012]
- 2005–2006: University of Leiden
M.A. Digital Media Studies
- 1998–2002: *Université de Bangui* (Central African Republic)
M.A. English

Publications

Peer reviewed:

- Nyirubugara, Olivier, 'Gedigitaliseerd maar onderbenut: Erfgoed-websites en hun gebruik in het geschiedenisonderwijs', *Tijdschrift voor Mediageschiedenis* 14-2. (Publication scheduled Dec. 2011)
- Nyirubugara, Olivier, 'Memory Crisis: Remembering and forgetting in post-genocide Rwanda' in *The Cultural Life of Catastrophes and Crises* (De Gruyter: In Press). Book chapter.
- Nyirubugara, Olivier, *Memories, Victories, Histories Understanding Hutu-Tutsi Conflicts in Rwanda* (Transaction: In Press).

Others:

- Nyirubugara, Olivier, ' "Everything About the Past": Wikipedia and History Education', in Ciastellardi, Matteo, Miranda de Almeida, Cristina & Scolari, Carlos (eds.), *McLuhan Galaxy Conference Understanding Media Today* (Barcelona: Universidad Oberta de Catalunya, 2011), pp. 130–141.
- Nyirubugara, Olivier, 'Clickable Memories: Hyperlinking and Memory Contextualisation', in Maj, Anna & Riha, Daniel (eds.) *Digital Memories: Exploring Critical Issues* (Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2010), pp. 51-60.

Career history

- *PhD Researcher* *University of Amsterdam* 2009– Nov. 2011

Conducting academic research into digital media with a particular focus on their uses and impact on education. The tasks also included teaching.

- *Coordinator & Senior Trainer/Coach* *Voices of Africa Media Foundation* 2007– present

Training reporters or those aspiring to become reporters in community reporting using mobile phones. The tasks involve preparing and designing pedagogical materials, conducting workshops and online coaching.

- *Content Coordinator* *Africa Interactive B.V.* 2007– 2008

Assigning reporters all over Africa and editing articles and video reports for online publication. The tasks also included managing theme-based reporting (business reports for instance) for third-party partners.

- *Freelance journalist* *UN humanitarian news and analysis agency, among others* 2002–2006

Monitoring, gathering information and writing news articles for the UN's Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN). The topics related mostly to humanitarian issues, including refugees, the displaced, health, HIV, gender, etc. The Economist Intelligence Unit, Deutsche Welle, Radio France International, Reuters, The New York Times, were among the media outlets I freelanced for.

Personal summary

- *Languages*: English, French, Dutch [+ 4 African languages].
- *Software knowledge*: Office, Video & audio editing, Web design, Publishing, Windows & Mac OS.
- *Hobbies*: Piano, basketball, reading, cinema.