

Eleanor Tiplady Higgs

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

- 2024–27 **Honorary Research Fellow**
Department of Social and Political Sciences, Brunel University of London – UK
- 2024–26 **Lecturer in Christianity and Judaism (0.4 FTE)**
University of Gloucestershire – UK
- 2024–25 **Part-time lecturer in Social Sciences and History (fractional contract)**
University of Gloucestershire – UK
- 2021–24 **Lecturer in Sociology**
Department of Social and Political Sciences, Brunel, University of London – UK
- 2018–20 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
Department of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town – South Africa

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 **BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grant (£8,643.63)**
- 2022 **Junior Fellow**, Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa – Ghana
- 2020–21 **Fellow**, Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence – Germany
- 2011–12 **Small grants for field research** Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust, Sidney Perry Foundation, Gilchrist Educational Trust, Roger and Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust

EDUCATION

- 2018 **PhD Gender Studies** Centre for Gender Studies, SOAS, University of London – UK
- 2009 **MSc Global Ethics** Centre for the Study of Global Ethics, University of Birmingham – UK
- 2007 **BA (Hons) Philosophy and Theology/Religious Studies** University of Greenwich – UK

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Christianity, coloniality, 'development', ethics, feminisms, imperialism, institutional ethnography, narrative

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Single-authored monograph

- 2021 *Narrative, Identity and Ethics in Postcolonial Kenya: The Young Women's Christian Association*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- 2024 'The YWCA of the USA "in service for the girls of the world", 1947-1985.' *Women's Studies International Forum*, 105 (102925).
- 2022 with Steven A. Kapinde. 'Global Anglican discourse and women's ordination in Kenya: The controversy in Kirinyaga, 1979–1992, and its legacy.' *Journal of Anglican Studies*, 20 (1): 22–39.

- 2021 'Christianity, coloniality, and social change: Everyday ethics of the two YWCAs of South Africa.' *Religion & Gender*, 11 (1): 39–61.
- 2020 "'We are Christians": The shifting narrative identity of the Young Women's Christian Association in Kenya.' *ARIA: Annual Review of Islam in Africa*, 17: 59–63.
- 2019 'From "imperial maternalism" to "matricentrism": Mothering ethics in Christian women's voluntarism in Kenya.' *African Journal of Gender & Religion*, 25 (1): 20–44.
- 2015 '#JusticeforLiz: Power and privilege in digital transnational women's rights activism.' *Feminist Media Studies*, 15 (2): 344–347.

Book chapters and encyclopaedia entries

- 2024 'The Young Women's Christian Association in Anglophone Africa.' In Spear, T. (Ed.) *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press: www.doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277734.013.1590/
- 2019 'Ethics.' In Gregg, S.E., and Chryssides, G.D. (Eds.) *The Bloomsbury Handbook to Studying Christians*, London: Bloomsbury: 179–182.
- 2017 'Postcolonial feminist theologies.' In Hawthorne, S. M. (Ed.) *Gender: God*. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA: 79–93.
- 2016 'Becoming "multi-racial": The Young Women's Christian Association in Kenya, 1955–1965.' In Glimps, B.J., and Ford, T.N. (Eds.) *Gender and Diversity Issues in Religious-Based Institutions and Organizations*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global: 24–50.

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 'Christianity, gender, and bodies in YWCA discourse.' William & Mary College, US (online).
- 2019 'Race, gender, and ethics in "organisational (auto)biography": Researching the Young Women's Christian Association.' Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice, University of Western Cape, South Africa.

RECENT CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2025
- Panel co-organiser, 'Faith in a World of "Unprecedented" Challenges.' Woolf Institute annual conference, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2024
- British Association for the Study of Religions (BASR) conference, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2023
- Co-organiser of 'The Coloniality of Research' roundtable dialogue. Brunel Research Festival, Brunel, University of London.
 - 'Shaping Body and Spirit: Gender, Religion and Reform in the Colonial Era' research workshop, Universität der Bundeswehr München, Germany.
 - Memory Studies Association conference, Newcastle University, UK.
 - 'Democracies in flux: LGBTI+ struggles, feminist politics, and anti-gender contestations.' SEXDEM, LEGS, & Lectures Féministes conference, Campus Condorcet, Paris, France.
- 2022
- British Association for the Study of Religions (BASR) conference, Open University, Milton Keynes, UK.

2021

- Christian Left Conference, Centre for Religion and Its Contexts, Emmanuel College, Victoria University, University of Toronto (online), Canada.
- Meeting of the Yale-Edinburgh Group on World Christianity and the History of Mission. New College, University of Edinburgh (online), UK.
- Implicit Religion UK Conference, Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln (online), UK.
- African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies annual conference, Nairobi, Kenya.

TEACHING

2024–26	University of Gloucestershire Undergraduate Narrative Theology Global Religions - Judaism and Christianity sections (co-taught, 40%) God, Politics and Power (co-taught, 33.3%) - Dissertation supervision in religion, philosophy, and ethics. Gender, Culture and Society (co-taught, 50%) Injustice and Freedoms (co-taught, 50%) Introductory Research and Fieldwork in the Social Sciences (co-taught, 25%) Making the Modern World (co-taught, 50%)
2021–24	Brunel, University of London Postgraduate 21 st Century Media-Bodies Undergraduate Bodies and Society Making Sense of Culture and Society Gender, Sexuality and Feminism - Dissertation supervision in the areas of feminist sociology and gender studies, social theory, racism and anti-racism, media and communication, and cultural studies.
2017–18	SOAS, University of London Undergraduate Philosophies of Interpretation and Understanding Comparative Ethics (as tutor)
2016–17	International Association for Refugees (IAFR) Voluntary work teaching English language skills with asylum seekers and refugees in Malta
2012–15	SOAS, University of London Postgraduate Gender Theory and the Study of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East (as tutor) Undergraduate Religion and Gender (as tutor)

PUBLIC-FACING SCHOLARSHIP AND BOOK REVIEWS

2024	Blog post: “‘Christianity’ and ‘Feminism’ in YWCA Discourse: Perspectives from Accra and Johannesburg.” MIASA Hypotheses blog , MIASA, University of Ghana.
2023	Review of S. Anderson-Faithful & C. Holloway, <i>Women and the Anglican Church Congress 1861-1938: Space, Place and Agency</i> . <i>BASR Bulletin</i> , 143 (November 2023): 14–16.

- 2023 Blog post with Owen Coggins: “Beyond a tick-box exercise”: Navigating ethics and social justice in research - an event report.’ [Global Lives Research Centre blog](#), Brunel, University of London.
- 2022 Review of A.H. Stasson, *Walter and Ingrid Trobisch and the Globalization of Modern, Christian Sexual Ethics*. *Religious Studies Review*, 48 (2): 273.
- 2022 Review of W.M. Gitau, *Megachurch Christianity Reconsidered: Millennials and Social Change in African Perspective*. *Religious Studies Review*, 48 (2): 273.
- 2022 Blog post: ‘Travelling with care? Transnational mobility and research during Covid-19.’ [Global Lives Research Centre blog](#), Brunel, University of London.
- 2020 Blog post: ‘Politics, religion, decolonisation: A response to “Decolonizing religious studies and its layers of complicity”.’ [Religious Studies Project](#).
- 2019 Review of A.L. Izzo, *Liberal Christianity and Women’s Global Activism: The YWCA of the USA and the Maryknoll Sisters*. *Religion & Gender*, 9: 125–127.
- 2018 Reivew of G.L. Heath & D.K. Tarus (Eds.), *Christian Responses to Terrorism: The Kenyan Experience*. [Reading Religion](#).

SERVICE, ADMINISTRATION, & COLLEGIALITY

Professional service

- 2024–26 Member of management group – International Centre for Biblical Interpretation (ICBI)
- 2023–24 Lead organiser of ‘Work-in-progress seminar series’ – UK and Ireland Institutional Ethnography Network
- 2024 Manuscript review – *Religion and Gender*
- 2024 Manuscript review – *Journal of Religion in Africa*
- 2023–24 Manuscript review – *Journal for the Academic Study of Religion*
- 2023 Manuscript review – James Currey/Boydell & Brewer
- 2019–23 Manuscript review – *African Journal of Gender and Religion*
- 2021 Independent Peer Reviewer – South African Department of Higher Education and Training journal evaluation (*Agenda*)
- 2020 Manuscript review – *Religion Compass*
- 2020 Manuscript review – *Agenda*

University service (Brunel, University of London)

- 2023–24 Originator and equal co-lead of Religion Research Group
- 2023 Equal co-applicant/co-organiser – AHRC Techne doctoral training partnership Training and Development Day ‘Navigating ethics and social justice in research’ (31 October–1 November 2023), £945 awarded
- 2021–24 Active member – Global Lives Research Centre, Brunel, University of London
- 2021–24 Active member – Brunel LGBTQ+ Staff Network

MEMBERSHIPS

- African Studies Association UK
- British Association for the Study of Religion
- Feminist Studies Association
- UK and Ireland Institutional Ethnography Network