

SONIA ORLU

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science (International Relations)** **Ongoing**
Graduate Certificate in University Teaching and Learning
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Master of Arts, Political Science (International Relations)** **August 2016**
Graduate Certificate in Development and Sustainability
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (Honours with Distinction)** **August 2014**
Minor in Development and Sustainability
Certificate in African Studies
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Fellowship** **2018 - present**
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Awarded to eligible students with a minimum first-class (3.50) cumulative grade point average.
- Graduate Entrance Scholarship** **2018**
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Awarded to an outstanding graduate student enrolled in the Department of Political Science.
- Somjee Graduate Fellowship** **2014 and 2015**
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Awarded to an outstanding graduate student specializing in political and/or international development.
- Dean's Honour Roll** **2012 - 2013**
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Awarded on the basis of achievement of a minimum GPA of 3.50 calculated on all normally graded courses completed in the term being evaluated.
- Lifetime Membership** **September 2012**
Golden Key International Honor Society
- Awarded only to the top 15% of university students in second to fourth year of undergraduate studies.
- Rivers State Sustainable Development Agency Overseas Scholarship** **2010 - 2014**
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
- Full, merit-based Nigerian scholarship for the duration of undergraduate studies.

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LECTURING EXPERIENCE

Sessional Instructor

January 2017 – April 2018

Department of History, Latin and Political Science
Langara College, Vancouver, British Columbia

POLI 1195: Politics of Development (Selected Topic: A Focus on Africa)

POLI 1250: Politics in Developing Nations

- Developed and taught two introductory courses geared towards first- and second-year students.
- Designed course components and assignments to facilitate active student engagement and collaborative learning.

Sessional Instructor

September 2016 – December 2016

Department of Political Science
Columbia College, Vancouver, British Columbia

PSCI 100: Introduction to Politics and Government

- Taught an introductory Political Science course to mostly first-year international students.
- Designed course components and assignments to facilitate cross-cultural learning and encourage student participation.

Guest Lecturer

Department of Political Science
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

POL 346: International Organizations (January 2019)

- Delivered a lecture on the problem of order, organization, and governance in an international system described as ‘anarchic,’ as well as the on role of history and theory in the study of international organization(s).

POL 374: Africa in the Global Political Economy (July 2015)

- Delivered a lecture on governance and human rights in the African Union context, which focused on specific legal/organizational instruments that address women’s issues in the areas of democratic/political governance, economic empowerment, and peace and security.

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

September 2014 – Present

Department of Political Science
Department of Economics
The School for International Studies
The Development and Sustainability Program
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

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POL 100: Introduction to Politics and Government

POL 101W: Introduction to Politics and Government (writing intensive course)

DEVS 201: Introduction to Development and Sustainability

ECON 220W: Communication in Economics

IS 210: Comparative World Politics

POL 223: Canadian Political Economy

POL 339: Power and Resistance

POL 346: International Organizations

DEVS 801: Issues, Cases, and Concepts in Development and Sustainability (Graduate Course)

- Supervise tutorial sections of undergraduate and graduate courses by assessing student performance and implementing needs-based lesson plans to address weak areas.
- Grade student assignments and provide feedback that invites reflective and critical thinking.
- In collaboration with the course professor, evaluated the content difficulty, familiarity, organization of ideas, and layout of the POL 346 (International Organization) course text to ensure suitability for upper-level learning.

Project Coordinator

January 2015 – April 2017

The Development and Sustainability Program

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

DEVS 401/BUS 447: Sustainable Development Interdisciplinary Experiential Project

- Supervised an interdisciplinary experiential learning project undertaken by students in the DEVS program and the Beedie School of Business.
- Supported students in developing sustainable development project plans, in conjunction with Canadian social enterprises, designed to achieve one or more of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in African, Asian, and South American countries.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Project Coordinator and Research Assistant

May 2014 – August 2015

Institute of Diaspora Research & Engagement

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

- Assisted in the conduct of interdisciplinary scholarly and community-based research on the African diaspora and provided research-related services to communities and enthusiasts.
- Liaised with faculty members, activists, and practitioners to organize workshops and conferences that explored issues such as migration, diaspora-driven sustainable development, community engagement.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Francis, J. N. P., Hira, A., & Orlu, A. S. "Engendering Productive and Transformative Collaboration through Experiential Learning." Centre for Research on International Education Conference, Simon Fraser University, May 2016.

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UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Facilitator/Mentor - Teaching Assistant Training Program **September 2018 - April 2020**

Department of Political Science

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

- Designed and presented a workshop on *Developing Students' Writing Skills*.
- Served as a resource for feedback and advice to newer Teaching Assistants and helped brainstorm solutions to difficult teaching problems.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Certificate Program in University Teaching and Learning

April 2019

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

Instructional Skills Workshop

October 2018

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA)