

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

THE UBUNTU DIALOGUES SEMINAR PROGRAM

The African Studies Center at Michigan State University (MSU) is pleased to invite applications for participation in the 2020 Ubuntu Dialogues Seminar Program to be held at Stellenbosch University in Cape Town, South Africa.

The seminars are part of *Ubuntu Dialogues*, an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded partnership between the MSU African Studies Center and the Stellenbosch University Museum. The partnership is geared toward a) transforming the function and practice of the museum as an institution, both within Africa and around the world; b) strengthening connections between universities and communities; and c) developing a replicable framework for universities to become dynamic sites for the co-creation and dissemination of knowledge and practice. It is conceived around transnational dialogue and engagement among students, faculty and community partners in South Africa and the U.S. The program is comprised of three main components: virtual student conversations; the dialogues seminars program; and a student exchange program.



African Studies Center

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The Ubuntu Dialogues Seminar Program will take the form of transnational intellectual engagements focusing on institutional histories; the meaning of Ubuntu; Pan-Africanism; knowledge and institutional decolonization and transformation both as concepts and practice; and the place of South Africa in Africa and of the U.S. in the Americas. Applicants may be academics, professionals, and advanced doctoral students in museum and heritage studies, public history, and other related fields in the Social Sciences and Humanities, from MSU or elsewhere in the U.S.

Eligible candidates are invited to submit a detailed CV and an abstract of up to 500 words highlighting how their research or work will inform, add to, or complicate the concept of Ubuntu and related moral/ethical philosophies, worldviews, and value systems in the context of debates on knowledge generation within and outside of Africa. Four applicants will be selected and each will be expected to workshop their paper at one of 4 seminars planned for 2020 (2 each in the spring and fall) hosted by the Stellenbosch University Museum. Successful applicants will be required to develop their seminar paper into an article to be submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed book manuscript or journal special issue as part of the Ubuntu Dialogues Series. Travel, lodging and per diem will be covered by the MSU African Studies Center.

The CV and abstract should be sent as one PDF file over email to **Upenyu Majee** at majeeupe@msu.edu by **Monday October 21, 2019**.