

JANEK K. SUNGA

POLITICAL ANALYSIS • GOVERNANCE • PUBLIC POLICY

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Political analyst and researcher with advanced training in Comparative Politics and Public Administration, a published research record, government experience and extensive political writing. Research and teaching experience spans African politics, democratic governance, political institutions, political economy, security, identity and bureaucracy. Brings strong analytical writing, research synthesis, presentation and public-affairs communication skills.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Political Analysis • African Politics • Governance & Institutions • Political Research • Comparative Politics • Political Economy • Democratic Governance • Security Analysis • Research Writing • Current Affairs Analysis • Briefing & Presentation • Qualitative Research

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Northern Illinois University

2023–2025

- Taught Introduction to Public Policy across four semesters.
- Designed and delivered course material, facilitated discussion, assessed student work, and managed course requirements and deadlines.

Teaching Assistant

Northern Illinois University

2018–2024

- Supported teaching and student engagement in Political Violence; Contemporary Topics in Politics: Race, Ethnicity, and Globalization; Political Islam; Politics of Russia and Eurasia; Introduction to Comparative Politics; and Nonprofit Management.

Management Fellow

City Manager's Office, City of Wichita, Kansas

2017–2018

- Prepared weekly reports for City Council and department directors.
- Created a new take-home vehicle inventory management system.
- Developed internal City policy on CCTV cameras.

Research and Policy Intern

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City

Summer 2015

- Performed literature reviews.
- Attended a STEM education conference and prepared summary reports for a supervisor.
- Updated a database of past grantees of the Kauffman Emerging Scholar Awards.

Media & Political Writing

People Daily Kenya · Nairobi Law Monthly · The Stylus

2012–2018

- Op-ed Columnist, People Daily Kenya (2015–2018) — political and public-affairs opinion writing for a Kenyan newspaper audience.
- Contributor, Nairobi Law Monthly (2018) — written analysis and commentary.
- Staff Reporter and Writer, The Stylus (2012–2014) — student journalism and editorial writing.

EDUCATION

Doctoral Studies, Political Science

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

2018–2026

Comparative Politics (Major); Public Administration (Minor)
All But Dissertation (ABD)

M.P.A., Public Management

Park University, Kansas City, MO

2014–2017

Passed Comprehensive Examination with Distinction

B.A., English (Writing)

Park University, Parkville, MO

2009–2014

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Sharmin, Farzana, & Sunga, Janek. (2024). “#BlackLivesMatter: Where Do the Paradigms of Public Administration Fit?” *Journal of Social Equity and Public Administration*, 2(2), 20–45. doi.org/10.24926/jsepa.v2i2.4811

Sunga, Janek. (2024). Book review of Matthew Graham's *Contemporary Africa*, published in *African Studies Review*, 67(2), 473–474.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Political Economy of the Third World
- Identity Politics
- Security Studies
- Bureaucracy

LANGUAGES & MEMBERSHIPS

Languages: English, Swahili, Luo

Memberships: American Political Science Association;
Midwestern Political Science Association; Public
Administration Theory Network

SELECTED WRITING AWARDS

Missouri College Media Awards — Editorial Writing, 1st Place

2017

Missouri College Media Awards — Editorial/Op-Ed Page, 1st Place

2017

Missouri College Media Awards — Column, 1st Place

2015–2016

Missouri College Media Awards — Column, 2nd Place

2014–2015

Missouri College Media Awards — Column, Honorable Mention

2013–2014