

Further information

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📘 African Studies Centre Leiden

📷 [@africanstudiescentreleiden](https://www.instagram.com/africanstudiescentreleiden)

🐦 [@ASCLeiden](https://twitter.com/ASCLeiden)



Photo: Omar Salim



Photo: Annachiara Raia



Photo: ASCL



Africa Thesis Award 2024

The African Studies Centre Leiden is the national knowledge centre on Africa in the Netherlands. The ASCL undertakes research and is involved in teaching about Africa and aims to promote a better understanding of and insight into historical, current and future developments in Africa. It is an interfaculty institute of Leiden University and has a world-famous library and documentation centre that is open to the general public.

Previous winners

2023: **Rachel Dubale** "They think we can eat the condominium". Chronicles of Economic, Social and Political Practices in Addis Ababa's Condominiums

2022: **Robert Okello** Rural women's legal empowerment through digital technology: a case study from Northern Uganda

2021: **Tamia Botes** Where have the midwives gone? Everyday histories of voetvroue in Johannesburg

2020: (no award due to COVID-19)

2019: **Nsima Udo** Visualizing the body: Photographic clues and the cultural fluidity of mbopo institution, 1914-2014

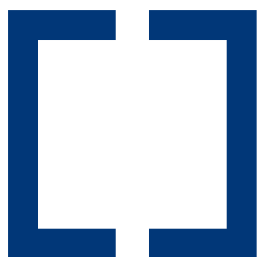
2018: **Cynthia Olufade** Oath taking and the transnationalism of silence among Edo female sex workers in Italy

2017: **Adriaan Steyn** A new laager for a "new" South Africa: Afrikaans film and the imagined boundaries of Afrikanerdom

2016: **Tanja Hendriks** "Home is always home": (Former) street youth in Blantyre, Malawi, and the fluidity of constructing home

2015: **Merel van 't Wout** Entrepreneurs by the grace of God: life and work of seamstresses in Bolgatanga, Ghana

2014: **Pedzisai Maedza** Theatre of testimony: an investigation in devising asylum



africanstudies
centre leiden

Have you conducted Master level research on a topic relevant to the African continent and written your thesis about it?

If so, the African Studies Centre Leiden is offering you the chance to win € 500, and to get your thesis published in the ASCL's African Studies Collection.

www.ascleiden.nl/content/africa-thesis-award

The award

The award aims to encourage students to conduct research and write on African topics and to promote the study of African cultures and societies. It is presented annually to a student whose master's thesis has been completed on the basis of empirical research. The award consists of a prize of €500,- and publication of the winning thesis in the ASCL's African Studies Collection. All theses submitted will be made available fulltext online via the ASCL's library catalogue.

For who

Master students who completed their thesis at a university on the African continent or in the Netherlands between 31 August 2023 and 31 August 2024 can apply. Students in the Netherlands must have received an 8 out of 10 or above. Students from non-Dutch universities with a grade A (or equivalent) may apply if the accompanying letter from the supervisor confirms the excellence of the thesis.

Conditions and quality

The thesis should be based on independent empirical research with a geographical focus on an African country, region, or its migrant communities elsewhere in the world. Theses in the fields of the social sciences or humanities can be submitted (geography, political science, anthropology, development studies, economics, history, religion, literature) in English, French, or Dutch. Should the thesis be in Dutch, a five-page English summary has to be attached.

The ASCL invites theses that stand out in terms of subject, theory and methodology. The jury values an original approach, new insights, and a combination of scientific and societal relevance. In addition, the jury considers the importance of the thesis in relation to development-related issues, its style and readability, and interest for the general public.

Photo: Hella Nijsen



Photo: Mirjam de Bruijn



Photo: Jozua Douglas



Award winner 2023: Rachel Dubale

“They think we can eat the condominium”. Chronicles of Economic, Social and Political Practices in Addis Ababa’s Condominiums

Submitting

If a student or supervisor considers the thesis to fulfill the above criteria and to merit an award, the thesis may be submitted. Every submission must include:

- a digital version of the thesis in PDF
- a summary (max. 300 words)
- a signed letter of recommendation from the student's supervisor, detailing the quality of the thesis and an explanation of the grade, and details of the educational institution from which the student has graduated.

Only full applications will be processed. All documents can be sent to asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl.

Deadline

The deadline for applications is **Thursday 31 October 2024**. The prize will be presented to the winner during the Africa Thesis Award Ceremony in 2025, where the winner will present his/her/their thesis.

More information

For more information regarding the submission of a thesis, please contact Jessie van Moorsel (ASCL Secretariat) through asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl. The jury's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.