

ALISON AVERY

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EDUCATION

CLARK UNIVERSITY

Worcester, MA

Ph.D. (ABD)

EXPECTED DECEMBER 2023

The Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

- Albert J. Tapper Fellow; GPA: 3.96
- Dissertation: “A Sociohistorical Analysis of the ‘*Interahamwe*’ Militia”

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

New York, NY

Master of Science in Global Affairs

2016

- Concentration: Human Rights and International Law; GPA: 3.79
- Thesis: “A Comparative Analysis of Individual Participation in Genocide: The Symbiosis of Economic and Psychosocial Motives”

ECKERD COLLEGE

Saint Petersburg, FL

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French (with Honors)

2013

- Minor: History; GPA 3.74
- Senior Thesis: “Le Rôle de la France dans le Génocide des Tutsis au Rwanda” [researched and written entirely in French]

L'UNIVERSITÉ DE HAUTE BRETAGNE (Rennes II)

Rennes, France

August, 2011 – December, 2011

- Completed six courses taught in French through the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) undergraduate study abroad program

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society (2021)
- Leadership Award for Service as President of the Human Rights and International Law League (THRILL) at NYU’s Center for Global Affairs (2016)
- Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society (2013)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Genocide studies; Rwanda and the Great Lakes Region; militias and rebel groups; militias and genocide; causes and drivers of mass violence and genocide; genocide perpetrators; economic factors of mass violence and genocide; the dynamics of collective violence

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

VOLUNTEER

Trenton, NJ

New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education

July, 2016 – September, 2016

- Researched and designed lesson plans on the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide for NJ public high school Holocaust education programs
- Assisted the development of an ongoing outreach project intended to identify new approaches for connecting with third generation Holocaust survivors

MASTER'S THESIS FIELD RESEARCH PROJECT

New York University (NYU)

Rwanda and Germany

January, 2016 – February, 2016

- Designed and implemented an original research project and pilot study for a doctoral dissertation, investigating economic motives for genocide perpetration in the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi and in the Holocaust; incorporated data from field interviews conducted [in French] in Rwanda, and archival research in Germany

GRADUATE RESEARCHER

NYU Global Field Intensive

Kigali, Rwanda

January, 2016

- Researched local, national, and international accountability and reconciliation mechanisms in the aftermath of genocide, including meetings with the Kigali Genocide Memorial Center, the National Commission for the fight against Genocide, Ministry of Justice, U.S. Embassy, AVEGA, and the Prison Fellowship

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Center for Global Affairs, NYU

New York, NY

September, 2015 – June, 2016

- Conducted research and analysis on international humanitarian law topics for Professor Jennifer Trahan (Chair of the International Law and Human Rights Concentration at NYU's Center for Global Affairs), including sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated against women and girls, as well as men and boys, particularly in the Balkan and Rwandan armed conflict contexts, genocidal acts perpetrated in the current Syrian strife, and rape committed as a weapon of war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), for use in briefing notes and preparation materials for high-level expert panel events, guest lectures, academic legal research papers, and op-eds
- Provided detailed background, factual and legal research on genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, as needed

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Center for Global Affairs, NYU

New York, NY

September, 2015 – December, 2015

- Assisted in compiling research data on development issues in South Africa, such as housing and poverty, crime and the legal system, inequalities and justice, and health, for members of the Carnegie Council

GRADUATE RESEARCHER

NYU Global Field Intensive

Tanzania

May, 2015 – June, 2015

- Researched humanitarian assistance delivery and psychosocial programming for children in the Nyarugusu refugee camp as well as in urban poor settlements

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE EDITOR/PROOFREADER

Worcester, MA

2018 – Present

- Provide editing and proofreading services on projects including undergraduate and graduate course papers, master's theses, doctoral dissertations, grant and fellowship applications, graduate school applications, cover letters, and research proposals

KUPFERBERG HOLOCAUST CENTER (KHC)

Administrative Coordinator

Bayside, NY

2016 – 2017

- Provided overall coordination for colloquia lecture series events, survivor discussion events, student fellowship courses and internships, and tours of the Center's museum exhibits
- Managed regular communication between the KHC leadership and Queensborough Community College (QCC) business, administrative, and academic departments, and assisted with semi-annual planning for the development of future KHC programs, events, and exhibitions

- Conducted various independent research projects on topics of mass atrocities, genocide, and human rights for the Director of the KHC, including genocide denial, reparations for victims of genocide, international justice mechanisms, the Holocaust, and the Armenian Genocide

EXTERNAL RELATIONS ASSISTANT

New York, NY

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

2015 – 2016

- Engaged in country-specific International Task Force (ITF) and Crisis Management meetings, including those on Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, and country-specific contingencies of the UN Peace Building Commission; assisted the WFP focal point at meetings related to all countries within the East Africa and West Africa regional bureaus, as well as on the thematic issues of displacement
- Prepared analytical summaries of high-level meetings on a variety of related thematic issues, including human rights, peacekeeping, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), and emergency operations during conflict
- Contributed to the development of a comprehensive country profile database of UN Member States by researching and recording their committee memberships, roles in peacekeeping processes, and national (State) positions on a variety of issues of concern to WFP, including food security, health and nutrition, human rights, sustainable development, and humanitarian assistance
- Participated in WFP Mission to the Bugesera Refugee Camp, Rwanda, during graduate field research travel

AMERICORPS SUMMER VISTA

Portland, ME

Maine Hunger Initiative

June, 2015 – August, 2015

- Responsible for programming, volunteer coordination, and event planning for Summer Meals for Kids Program sites in South Portland, Freeport, and Yarmouth
- Translated Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food stamp benefits and fact sheets into French for francophone African immigrants and asylum seekers

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHER TRAINEE

Worcester, MA

"The Politics of Ethnicity and Identity," Clark University

January, 2020 – May, 2020

- Assisted in teaching weekly course material and key concepts about the formation of ethnic, racial, communal, and national identities, and the ways in which these identities shape societies and individuals
- Graded student essays

TEACHER TRAINEE

Worcester, MA

"Genocide," Clark University

September, 2019 – December, 2019

- Assisted in teaching weekly course material and key concepts in comparative genocide studies with focus on the Holocaust, the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, the ongoing mass violence against the Rohingya peoples, and the genocide of the indigenous peoples in the Americas
- Prepared and led reading and review sessions for all course assignments and exams
- Graded student essays and exams

TEACHER TRAINEE

Worcester, MA

"Europe in the Age of Extremes," Clark University

January, 2019 – May, 2019

- Assisted in teaching weekly course material and key concepts about World War I and World War II history, the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, the radicalization of mass violence in Europe during the first half of the 20th century, and the nature of postwar stabilization and recovery
- Prepared and led reading and review sessions for all course assignments and exams
- Graded student essays and exams

Alison Avery

Ph.D. Holocaust and Genocide Studies

TEACHER TRAINEE**Worcester, MA***“Visualizing Human Rights,” Clark University*

September, 2018 – December, 2019

- Assisted in teaching weekly course material and key concepts about human rights
- Provided weekly tutoring in essay writing and reading comprehension, as well as on assigned course materials

TEACHING ASSISTANT**Bayside, NY****Kupferberg Holocaust Center**

September, 2016 – December, 2016

- Assisted in the lesson planning, teaching, and coordination of guest speakers for the fellowship course entitled “Identifying and Dealing with Hate Crimes in Our Communities”; expanded the course curriculum to include deeper focus on the roots of prejudice and conceptualizations of the ‘other’

TEACHING ASSISTANT**Rennes, France***École Saint Michel*

September, 2011 – December, 2011

- Designed lesson plans, and utilized the French language to teach English to French school children ages six to eight

PRESENTATIONS

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- “Historical Roots of the Rwandan Genocide and the ‘Interahamwe’ Militia.” Invited lecture in Sarah Doenmez’s *Genocide Studies* upperclassman elective course, Dublin School, Dublin, NH. December 2021.
 - “The ‘Interahamwe’ Militia.” Invited lecture in Professor Christopher Davey’s *Genocide and Civil War in Africa’s Great Lakes Region* graduate course, Clark University, Worcester, MA. November 2021.
 - “The ‘Interahamwe’ Militia: The Death Squads Behind the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi.” Invited lecture in Professor Jennifer Trahan’s *Global Field Intensive to Rwanda: A Study of Justice and Reconciliation* graduate course, New York University. November 2018.
 - “The 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda: An Overview.” Invited lecture in Lisa Herzl’s *Crimes Against Humanity* upperclassman elective course, Triton High School. October 2018.
 - “Genocide in Rwanda.” Invited presentation for “STAND” undergraduate student club on genocide prevention, Clark University. April, 2018.
 - “Genocide in Rwanda: History and Perpetrator Motives.” Invited lecture in David Gagne’s *World History* high school course, North Yarmouth Academy. April, 2017.
 - “The Emotional Impact of Living in Poverty: Economic and Emotional Motives for Genocide Perpetration in Rwanda and Germany.” Invited lecture in Professor William Felice’s *Human Rights and International Law* course, Eckerd College. November, 2016.
 - “A Comparative Analysis of Individual Participation in Genocide: The Symbiosis of Economic and Psychosocial Motives.” Public presentation, NYU Center for Global Affairs, New York, NY. May, 2016.

SERVICE**PORTLAND, MAINE WALK COORDINATOR****Portland, ME***National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)*

January, 2015 – September, 2018

- Organize and facilitate all logistics for the Portland, ME NEDA Walk: fundraising, sponsorships, public outreach and walker participation, media and PR communications, volunteer coordination. Conceived and managed inaugural event in Portland

PRESIDENT, THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW LEAGUE **New York, NY**
Center for Global Affairs, NYU September, 2014 – May, 2016

- Developed, coordinated, and implemented human rights related events at NYU, such as a discussion on Boko Haram atrocities in Western Africa, and an on-campus fundraising campaign for genocide widows and orphans in Rwanda
- Served as club liaison to the administration and student body, oversaw all club financial activities, and created community-building and professional development opportunities

FRENCH INTERPRETER AND VOLUNTEER **Portland, ME**
Preble Street Food Pantry August, 2013 – September, 2014

- Provided French interpretation skills for recent francophone African immigrants, to raise their awareness of community resources for housing, healthcare, mental health treatment, employment, conducted client customer service satisfaction surveys, interpreted at new volunteer orientation events
- Helped advocate for the homeless in Maine's largest city and raised awareness of their plight, distributed soup kitchen food to the needy, educated new volunteer staff on pantry policies

LANGUAGES

- English: Native
- French: Fluent in speaking, reading, and writing
- Kinyarwanda: Beginner level speaker, intermediate in reading and writing

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

- Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society; Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society; American Historical Association (AHA); African Studies Association (ASA); International Studies Association (ISA); International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)