Rita Ange Kagaju

rkagaj1@lsu.edu | +1 (727)370-6869 | Baton Rouge, LA

EDUCATION

Hope College, Holland, MI

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Global French Studies,

Minor in Environmental Studies

Honors & Awards: Mortar Board, Alpha Kappa Delta, Sigma XI Research Award, Dean's List: 5/5

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Sociology PhD Candidate

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

August 2024 - May 2030

Expected Graduation: May 2030

Graduation: May 2024

GPA: 3.65/4.0

Graduate Assistant - Sociology Department

• Assisting professors with research and undergraduate courses grading and occasionally lesson preparation

Hope College, Holland, MI

June 2022 - May 2023

Research Assistant - Sociology & Social Work Department

- Conducted a research study on identity and race, which involved developing interview protocols, conducting interviews, and analyzing data.
- Presented research findings at leading national conferences such as Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities and North Central Sociological Association.

Hope College, Holland, MI

June 2023 - August 2023

Research Assistant - Geology and Environmental Science

- Researched faulted subsurface reservoirs in the Gulf of Mexico to assess their CO2 sequestration potential.
- Presented findings at the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' Image 2023 conference.

Van Wylen Library

Summer 2021 - Present

Research Help student assistant

 Provide assistance to students and library patrons in navigating databases, finding relevant resources, and offering citation guidance.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES

Hope College, Holland, MI

August 2021 - Present

Resident Assistant - Residential Life and Housing

- Organize bi-weekly events aimed at fostering connections and building a sense of community and belonging among residents.
- Coordinate community engagement activities, enforce policies, and conduct walkthroughs of residential facilities for on-campus residents.

Pan-African Student Organization

Fall 2021 - Present

President

- Develop diversity goals and oversee community engagement initiatives to celebrate various cultures, promote cultural awareness, and address issues such as racism and microaggressions.
- Manage an executive board to efficiently organize responsibilities and events related to diversity initiatives and community engagement efforts.

Society of Exploration Geophysicists' Chapter at Hope College

January 2023- Present

Vice President

- Co-lead a student chapter dedicated to promoting geophysics and environmental studies, where I oversee an executive board.
- Organize events to foster collaboration and leadership experiences among members.

Academic Success Center & Sociology & Social Work Department Student office assistant

Fall 2021 - Present

• I provide administrative support for professors' schedules in the Social Work and Sociology departments, assist members of the community with Disability and Accessibility Center services, and aid students in accessing academic coaching and tutoring for their academic development needs.

SKILLS, DISTINCTIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Intermediate proficiency in NVivo data analysis software
- Advanced level of oral proficiency in French, English, Kirundi, and Kinyarwanda.