

Kate Alexander

(formerly Peter Alexander)

Current position

Professor of Sociology
South African Research Chair in Social Change
Director: Centre for Social Change

Background

Born: 29 October 1953, Southampton, UK.

Schools: Bandle Hill Infant School, Stevenage; Roebuck Junior School, Stevenage;
Nobel Grammar School, Stevenage; Havant Grammar School, Havant.

Schoolteacher (Voluntary Service Overseas): Ngwane Central School, Nhlangano,
Swaziland (1972-73).

Part-time and temporary jobs (1964-79): Included newspaper delivery, garden centre
assistant, shop assistant, library assistant, pub worker, construction worker,
milk delivery, schoolteacher.

Undergraduate: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

President: Students' Union (1975-76). Awarded BA (Honours) in African
History and Social Anthropology (1977).

Political affiliation: From 1974, member of the International Socialist, later the
Socialist Workers' Party (SWP).

Organising: National Secretary, Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign (1976-77);
West London Organiser, SWP (1977-79); National Organiser, Anti-Nazi
League (1970-81); Treasurer, Campaign against Racist Laws (1981-86);
Student Organizer, SWP (1981-82); Industrial Organiser, SWP (1982-83).

Leadership: Member, Central Committee, SWP (1983-89). Included National
Organiser, SWP (1983-89), Treasurer: Miners' Defence League (1984-85),
solidarity visit to South Africa (1985), Organiser: Annual Marxism festival
(1985-89).

Doctoral research: Institute for Commonwealth Studies, University of London (1990-
94). Awarded PhD in History. Title: 'Industrial Conflict, Race and the South
African State, 1939-1948'. Supervisor: Prof. Shula Marks.

Academic positions

Part-time and temporary lectureships (1993-95): Birkbeck College, University of
London (South African History), Middlesex University (Sociology of Race
Relations), University of Westminster (Social and Policy Studies, and Third
World Politics), University of Oxford (Politics of sub-Saharan Africa).

University of Oxford: Junior Research Fellow in Ethnic Relations (1995-98).

Rhodes University: Senior Lecturer in Sociology (1998-99).

Rand Afrikaans University, later University of Johannesburg (1999 onwards): Senior
Lecturer in Sociology (1999-2000); Associate Professor in Sociology (2000-
05); Professor of Sociology (2005 onwards); Director, Centre for Sociological
Research (2000-09); South African Research Chair in Social Change (2010 to
present); Director, Centre for Social Change (2016 to present).

Select publications

Most available at ResearchGate.

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Peter_Alexander9

Books

- 2019: Stefan Berger and Peter Alexander (eds), *Making Sense of Mining History – Themes and Agendas*. Abingdon and New York: Routledge.
- 2013: Peter Alexander, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, Luke Sinwell and Bongani Xezwi, *Das Massaker von Marikana*. Vienna: Mandelbaum - Kritik und Utopie. Translator: Werner Giltis. Editor: Jakob Krameritsch. German translation of Ohio University Press edition (below) with two extra chapters and other additional material.
- 2013: Peter Alexander, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, Luke Sinwell and Bongani Xezwi, *Marikana: Voices from South Africa's Mining Massacre*. Athens: Ohio University Press. Contents similar to revised edition of Jacana edition (below).
- 2013: Peter Alexander, Luke Sinwell, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, and Bongani Xezwi, *Marikana: A View from the Mountain and a Case to Answer*. London: Bookmarks Publications. Contents similar to revised edition of Jacana edition (below).
- 2013: Peter Alexander, Claire Ceruti, Keke Motseke, Mosa Phadi and Kim Wale. *Class in Soweto*. Pietermaritzburg: UKZN Press.
- 2012: Peter Alexander, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, Luke Sinwell and Bongani Xezwi, *Marikana: A View from the Mountain and a Case to Answer*. Johannesburg: Jacana Media. Revised edition published in 2013.
- 2006: Peter Alexander, Marcelle C. Dawson and Meera Ichharam (eds), *Globalisation and new Identities: a View From the Middle*. Johannesburg: Jacana Media.
- 2000: Peter Alexander, *Workers, War and the Origins of Apartheid: Labour and Politics in South Africa, 1939-48*. Oxford: James Currey; Athens: Ohio University Press; Cape Town: David Philip
- 2000: Peter Alexander and Rick Halpern (eds), *Racializing Class, Classifying Race: Labour and Difference in Britain, the USA and Africa*. Basingstoke: Macmillan; New York: St. Martin's Press.
- 1987: Peter Alexander, *Racism, Resistance and Revolution*. London, Chicago and Melbourne: Bookmarks Publishing Co-operative.

Journal articles

- 2018: Peter Alexander, Carin Runciman, Trevor Ngwane, Boikanyo Moloto, Kgothatso Mokgele and Nicole van Staden, 'Frequency and Turmoil: South Africa's community protests, 2005-2017', *SA Crime Quarterly* 63.
- 2017: Narnia Bohler-Muller, Benjamin James Roberts, Jarè Struwig, Steven Lawrence Gordon, Thobeka Radebe and Peter Alexander, 'Minding the protest:

- Attitudes towards different forms of protest action in contemporary South Africa', *SA Crime Quarterly* 62.
- 2016: Peter Alexander, Carin Runciman and Boitumelo Maruping, 'The use and abuse of police data in protest analysis: South Africa's Incident Registration Information System (IRIS)', *SA Crime Quarterly* 58.
- 2016: Peter Alexander, 'Marikana Commission of Inquiry: from narratives towards history.' *Journal of Southern African Studies* 42(5).
- 2016: Gavin Andersson and Peter Alexander, 'The Community Work Programme: Potentials and Problems'. *Transformation: Critical perspectives on Southern Africa* 91.
- 2015: Peter Alexander, 'Thomas Piketty und das Massaker von Marikana', *Peripherie* 137.
- 2014: Peter Alexander, 'Marikana, autopsie d'un massacre de sang-froid'. *Journal des Anthropologues* 136/137.
- 2014: Peter Alexander, 'Recreación y resistencia: La cultura de los trabajadores negros las minas de carbón de Witbank, 1900-1950', *ISTOR: Revista de Historia Internacional* 14(56).
- 2013: Peter Alexander and Peter Pfaffe, 'Social Relationships to the Means and Ends of Protest in South Africa's Ongoing Rebellion of the Poor: the Balfour Insurrections.' *Social Movement Studies* 13(2).
- 2013: Peter Alexander, 'Marikana, turning point in South African history', *Review of African Political Economy* 40(138).
- 2013: Peter Alexander, 'Le context historique de Marikana – un bref aperçu', *Contretemps*, 6 December 2013. Translated by Lila Chouli.
- 2012: Karl von Holdt and Peter Alexander, 'Collective Violence, Community Protest and Xenophobia'. *South African Review of Sociology* 43(1).
- 2010: Peter Alexander, 'Class, Subjectivity and Parochialism: A Reflection and an Introduction.' *South African Review of Sociology* 41(3).
- 2010: Peter Alexander, 'Rebellion of the poor: South Africa's service delivery protests – a preliminary analysis.' *Review of African Political Economy* 37(123).
- 2009: Peter Alexander, 'Location and Orientation: Introducing Indian Sociology,' *South African Review of Sociology* 40(1).
- 2009: Peter Alexander, Phil Bonner, Jon Hyslop and Lucien van der Walt, 'Labour Crossings in Eastern and Southern Africa,' *African Studies* 68(1).
- 2008: Peter Alexander, 'Challenging Cheap-Labour Theory: Natal and Transvaal Coal Miners, c1890-1950,' *Labor History* 49(2).
- 2007: Peter Alexander, 'Women and Coal Mining in India and South Africa, c1900-1940,' *African Studies* 66(2&3).
- 2007: Peter Alexander, 'History, Internationalism and Intellectuals: the Case of Harold Wolpe,' *Transformation: Critical perspectives on Southern Africa* 63.
- 2006: Peter Alexander, Lauren Basson and Prudence Makhura, 'Sociology Research in Contemporary South Africa,' *South African Review of Sociology* 37(2).
- 2004: Peter Alexander and Anita Chan, 'Does China Have an Apartheid Pass System?' *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 30(4).
- 2004: Peter Alexander, 'The National Research Foundation and Priorities for Critical Research.' *Society in Transition* 35(2).
- 2004: Peter Alexander and Rick Halpern, 'Introduction: Comparing Race and Labour in South Africa and the United States,' *Journal of Southern African Studies* 30(1).
- 2004: Peter Alexander, 'Race, Class Loyalty and the Structure of Capitalism: Coal

- Miners in Alabama and the Transvaal 1918-22,' *Journal of Southern African Studies* 30(1).
- 2003: Peter Alexander, 'Paternalised Migrants, Policing and Political Economy: Highveld Colliery Strikes, 1925-49,' *Social Dynamics* 29(1)
- 2002: Peter Alexander and Tina Uys, 'AIDS and Sociology: Current South African Research,' *Society in Transition* 33(3).
- 2002: Peter Alexander and Meera Ichharam, 'Spitting for Science at RAU: Quality in Quantitative Research on HIV/AIDS,' *Society in Transition* 33(3).
- 2002: Peter Alexander and Lindsey Martin, 'Getting up to Speed: South Africa's Tertiary Institutions and HIV/AIDS,' *Society in Transition* 33(3).
- 2001: Peter Alexander, 'Globalisation and Discontent: Project and Discourse,' *African Sociological Review* 5(1).
- 2001: Peter Alexander, 'Oscillating Migrants, "Detribalised Families" and Militancy: Mozambicans on Witbank Collieries, 1918-1927,' *Journal of Southern African Studies* 27(3).
- 2000: Peter Alexander, 'Zimbabwean Workers, the MDC and the 2000 Election,' *Review of African Political Economy* 85.
- 1999: Peter Alexander, 'Coal, Control and Class Experience in South Africa's Rand Revolt of 1922,' *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle-East* 19(1).
- 1996: Peter Alexander, 'Collaboration and Control: Engineering Unions and the South African State, 1939-45,' *South African Journal of Sociology* 27(2).
- 1991: Simon Phillips (pseud.), 'The South African Communist Party and the South African Working Class,' *International Socialism* 51.

Chapters

- 2019: Peter Alexander, 'Culture and classed identity in shaping unionisation on mines.' In Stefan Berger and Peter Alexander (eds), *Making Sense of Mining History – Themes and Agendas*. Abingdon and New York: Routledge.
- 2018: Peter Alexander, 'Thomas Piketty and the Marikana Massacre'. In Raquel Sosa Elízaga (ed), *Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology*. Lose Angeles and London: SAGE Publishing.
- 2018: Peter Alexander, 'On the road to global labour history - via comparison'. In Karl Heinz Roth, *On the Road to Global Labour History: A Festschrift for Marcel van der Linden*. Leiden: Brill (Historical Materialism Book Series).
- 2017: Peter Alexander, 'La doble rebelión de Sudáfrica: Una protesta bifurcada.' In Breno Bringel y Geoffrey Pleyers (eds), *Protesta e Indignación Global: Les Movimientos Sociales en el Nuevo Orden Mundial*. Buenos Aires: Classico and Rio de Janeiro: Faperj. First appeared in English as 'South Africa's twin rebellions: bifurcated protest', in *Open Movements* section of *Open Debate*, 6 October 2015.
- 2013: Peter Alexander, 'Marikana ein Jahr danach – ein Wendepunkt und anhaltende Ungerechtigkeit', in Peter Alexander, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, Luke Sinwell and Bongani Xezwi, *Das Massaker von Marikana*. Vienna: Mandelbaum - Kritik und Utopie.
- 2013: Peter Alexander, 'Skizze zum historischen Hintergrund von Marikana', in Peter Alexander, Thapelo Lekgowa, Botsang Mmope, Luke Sinwell and Bongani Xezwi, *Das Massaker von Marikana*. Vienna: Mandelbaum - Kritik und Utopie.
- 2012: Peter Alexander, 'Barricades, Ballots and Experimentation: Making Sense of

- the 2011 Local Government Election with a Social Movement Lens,' in Marcelle C. Dawson and Luke Sinwell (eds), *Contesting Transformation: Popular Resistance in Twenty-First Century South Africa*. London: Pluto Press.
- 2006: Peter Alexander, 'Globalisation and new Social Identities: a Jig-saw Puzzle from Johannesburg,' in Peter Alexander, Marcelle C. Dawson and Meera Ichharam (eds), *Globalisation and new Identities: a View From the Middle*. Johannesburg: Jacana Press.
- 2005: Peter Alexander, 'A Moral Economy, an Isolated Mass and Paternalized Migrants: Transvaal Colliery Strikes, 1925-49,' in Stefan Berger, Andy Croll and Norry LaPorte (eds), *Towards a Comparative History of Coalfield Societies*. Aldershot: Ashgate.
- 2002: Peter Alexander, 'Labour, Globalization and a Region in Crisis: The Case of Southern Africa,' in *Industrial Relations and Labour Policies in a Globalizing World*. Beijing: Chinese Workers' Publishing House.
- 2000: Peter Alexander and Rick Halpern, 'Introduction,' in Peter Alexander and Rick Halpern (eds), *Racializing Class, Classifying Race: Labour and Difference in Britain, the USA and Africa*. Basingstoke: Macmillan; New York: St. Martin's Press.
- 1999: Peter Alexander, 'Rising From the Ashes: Alabama Coal Miners 1921-1941,' in Edwin L. Brown and Colin J. Davis (eds), *It Is Union and Liberty: Alabama Coal Miners and the UMW*. Tuscaloosa and London: University of Alabama Press.
- 1997: Peter Alexander, 'South African and US Labour in the era of the Second World War: Similar Trends and Underlying Differences,' in Rick Halpern and Jon Morris (eds), *American Exceptionalism: US Working-class Formation in an International Context*. Basingstoke: Macmillan; New York: St. Martin's Press.

Recognition

- Visiting and honorary fellowships: Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna (2018); Human Sciences Research Council, Pretoria (2016); University of Kyiv-Mohyla, Kiev (2013); St. Cross College, Oxford (2011); Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Advanced Study, Delhi (2010); St. Antony's College, Oxford (2004).
- Academy of Science of South Africa: Member (from 2015).
- Prizes: *Class in Soweto* awarded National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences prize for best 'non-fiction edited volume, 2013-15' (2016); *Class in Soweto* named as one of the Outstanding Books of 2014 by *Choice* (review journal for academic libraries in the USA).
- National Research Foundation: Rated as a 'researcher who enjoys considerable international recognition' (since 2008). Only about 100 scholars have a higher rating, and none of these are sociologists.
- South African Research Chair in Social Change: Appointed (2010), first renewal (2015), second renewal (2020).
- Editorial advisory committees: *Global Networks; Work, Employment and Society; Review of African Political Economy; Workers' Movements and Global Capital* (Pluto Press book series); *Global Social History* (Brill book series); *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements*.