

**Subject:** EM: Religious Studies Department - Job Candidate "Ruth Amwe"  
**Date:** Friday, February 21, 2025 at 1:48:15 PM Pacific Standard Time  
**From:** Inform  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, image002.png

*Sent on behalf of the Religious Studies Department*



### **Religious Studies Department**

Invites you to attend the

#### **African American/African Religions Candidate Job Talk**

**Ruth Amwe, Ph.D. Candidate**  
Princeton Theological Seminary

**"Embodied Spiritualities: Religion and Gender in Africa and the African Diasporas."**

**Abstract:**

Across West Africa, women invoke their nakedness to rebuke power and criticize social transgressions. The cultural potency of this agelong practice is in indigenous religious ritual powers believed to be embedded in women's genitalia. This lecture will engage the longue durée of women's naked assertion in Africa and among its diaspora unpacking its meaning and legitimacy within the broader discourse of gender and ritual power in African indigenous religions and cosmology. It focuses on a recent occurrence and unique expression of the practice among evangelical women in northwestern Nigeria which nuances previous debates on the deployment of women's naked bodies. Based on ethnographic research including with participants, this lecture challenges previous understanding of the practice. It takes seriously contemporary religious and social transformations within Northwestern Nigeria and across Africa and its diasporas and suggests new frontiers for engaging African women's spiritualities.

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025**  
**9:45 am-11:00 am**  
**Kravis 165**

**Receptions – Come Meet Ruth Amwe**  
**1:00 pm-1:30 pm CMC Faculty only**  
**1:30 pm – 2:05 pm All CMC, 5Cs & CGU Faculty**  
**Kravis 361**

**Linda Chavez-Nunez (She/her/hers)**  
*Coordinator - Psychological Science & Religious Studies*



**Faculty Support West**

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Mon-Fri 8-5pm