

Curriculum Vitae for Assan Sarr

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EMPLOYMENT:

Aug. 2018 to date: Associate Professor, Department of History, Ohio University
July 1 2025 - : CIS Director of African Studies, Ohio University
July 1 2024-June 30 2025: Interim CIS Director of African Studies, Ohio University
July 1 2018-June 30 2022: Director of Graduate Studies, History, Ohio University
Aug. 2013 –July 2018: Assistant Professor, Department of History, Ohio University
Aug. 2010 –May 2013: Assistant Professor, History, College of Charleston, SC.

OTHER OHIO UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Program
Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program
Contemporary History Institute
War and Peace Studies Program

VISITING PROFESSORSHIP:

Dec. 2020-June 2021: Visiting Associate Professor of History, University of The Gambia
Aug. 16-Dec. 31 2015: Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Michigan State University

EDUCATION:

Aug. 2010: Ph.D., History, Michigan State University
Aug. 2005: M.A., International Studies/African Studies, Ohio University
2004: B.A., History (Honors) & Development Studies, University of The Gambia

AREAS OF INTEREST: African agricultural history, Land Tenure, Islam, Women and Gender, Peace and Conflict, and environmental History

FELOWSHIPS AND/GRANTS:

a. External awards

August 2024: Fulbright Hays Group Project Abroad with Drs. Haley Duschinki & Cat Cutcher, Center for International Studies, Ohio University
August 2022: Visiting Research Scholar, the Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA), the University of Ghana, Legon-Campus, Accra

May 2022-August 2022: Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship, (3 months residence at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Kumasi-Ghana

April 2022: West African Research Association (WARA) Postdoctoral Fellowship

Nov. 2020: Gerda Henkel Stiftung 8-Months Research Grant to The Gambia

2011: Oral History Association (OHA) Scholarship

b. Internal awards

2023: Glidden Visiting Professorship Fund, Office of the Provost, Ohio University

2022: OURC/Baker award, Office of the Vice President for Research, Ohio University

2020: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2019: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2018: 1804 Library Endowment & Arts and Humanities Junior Faculty Endowment Award

2018: Baker Award, Office of the Vice President for Research, Ohio University

2018: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2017: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2016: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2016: 1804 Special Library Award

2015: Humanities Research Fund, Co. of Arts and Sciences, Ohio University

2015: Ohio University Research Committee (OURC) award

2014–2017: Fellow, Charles Ping Institute for the Teaching of the Humanities, Ohio U.

2014: International Travel Fund, Ohio University

2013: Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities, College of Charleston

2012: School of Humanities & Soc. Sciences' Dean's Discretionary Fund, College of Charleston

2012: Faculty Research and Development Grant, College of Charleston

2012: School of Humanities & Soc. Sciences' Dean's Discretionary Fund, College of Charleston

Fall 2008: Maryland Heritage Fellow, St Mary's College of Maryland

AWARDS AND/RECOGNITION:

April 2025: African Hero's Award, African Students' Union, Ohio University

Spring 2021: CIS Excellence in Teaching Award, Center for International Studies, Ohio Un.

2019-20 Outstanding Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Award in the Humanities, Ohio University

2016-17 Jeanette G. Grasselli Brown Faculty Teaching Award in the Humanities, Ohio University

2016: Faculty of the Year Award, Ohio University African Students' Union

2014: Student Outreach Award, The Ohio University History Association

LANGUAGES: Wolof (fluent), Fula (fluent), Mandinka (fluent)

PUBLICATIONS:

Book:

In production -*Umarian Tijaniyya in Southern Senegambia: Fulbe Itinerant Scholars and the Expansion of Islam in West Africa, c. 1803-1996*, Michigan State University Press
2016: *Islam, Power and Dependency in the Gambia River Basin: The Politics of Land Control, 1790-1940*. Rochester, NY: The University of Rochester Press

Peer-Reviewed scholarly journals and book chapters:

2025: "Political Cultures" in Mariana P. Candido (ed.) *A Cultural History of Slavery and Human Trafficking in the Age of Empire* Vol. 4. London, New York, Oxford: Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 49-65

2020: "Islamic Philosophy in Africa" *Handbook of Islam in Africa* edited by Fallou Ngom, Mustapha H. Kurfi & Toyin Falola. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 267-277

2019: "Women, Land and Power in the Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Gambia River Region" in *African Women and the Atlantic World: Power, Labour, and Mobility* edited by Adam Jones and Mariana Candido. Suffolk, GB: James Currey, pp. 38-54

2017: "Gender, Spirituality and Economic Change in Rural Gambia: Agricultural Production in the Lower Gambia Region, Eighteenth through the Twentieth Centuries," *African Economic History*, Volume 45 (2), pp. 1-26

2017: "Sir Samuel John Forster, 1873-1940" in *Profiles of Gambian Political Leaders in the Decolonisation Era* edited by Jeggan C. Senghor. Leicester, UK: Global Hands Publishing, pp. 18-46

2014: "Land, Power and Dependency along the Gambia River, Late Eighteenth to Early Nineteenth Centuries," *African Studies Review*, Vol. 57 (Issue 03), pp. 101-121

2013: "A Story of Bathurst's (Gambia) Black-Coated Workers, c1929-1941," *Childhood in Africa: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. 3 (1), pp.1-15

2009: "Fighting Over the Swamps: Conflict and Community across the Gambia River Basin, Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries," *Mande Studies*. 11, pp.135-153

Co-authored articles & essays:

2019: "Gambia" with Donald R. Wright in *Oxford Bibliographies in African Studies*. Ed. Paul Zeleza. New York: Oxford University Press

2017: "Briefing: Autocracy, Migration, and The Gambia's 'Unprecedented' 2016 Election" with Niklas Hultin, Baba Jallow & Benjamin Lawrence in *African Affairs*, (Lond) Volume 116, Issue 463, 1, pp. 321-340

2017: "The Ambiguity of Gender: Ifi Amadiume and The Writing of Gender History in Igboland" with Marion G. Mendy in *Journal of West African History*, Volume 3, issue 2, pp. 109-116

Encyclopedia Entries:

2017: "The Intellectual World System of the Senegal River Basin: Saint-Louis (Ndar), the Gambia River Basin, and the Work of Sheikh Saad Bouh" in *Le Cheikh Des Deux Rives: Actes du Colloque International Centenaire Cheikhna Cheikh Saad Bouh 1917-2017*. Dakar,

Presses Universitaires De Dakar, pp. 63-77

2013: "Fodi Kabba Dumbuya" in *The Encyclopaedia of Islam*, Three, edited by Kate Fleet, Gudrun Krämer and e-tal. Leiden and Boston: Brill, pp. 112-113

2012: "Fenda Lawrence" in Henry Louis Gates and Emmanuel K. Akyeampong (editors) *Dictionary of African Biography*, Vol. 3. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 474-476

Book Reviews:

2019: Review of John H. Hanson, *The Ahmadiyya in the Gold Coast: Muslim Cosmopolitans in the British Empire*. Bloomington, Indiana University Press in *American Historical Review*, pp. 1186-1187

2017: Review of Michael F. Robinson, *The Lost White Tribe: Explorers, Scientists, and the Theory That Changed a Continent*. New York, Oxford University Press in *Journal of Historical Geography* 58, pp. 116-117

2015: Review of Carola Lentz, *Land, Mobility and Belonging in West Africa*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press in *Journal of West African History*, 1.1, pp. 179-81

2014: Review of Todd Cleveland, *Stones of Contention: A History of Africa's Diamonds*. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press) in *Ohio Today*

2013: Review of Nwando Achebe, *The Female King of Colonial Nigeria: Abebi Ugbabe*. Bloomington, Indiana University Press in *Journal of World History* 24:2, pp. 485-87

2012: Review of K. Cuno and T. Walz, *Race and Slavery in the Middle East: Histories of Trans-Saharan Africans in the Nineteenth-Century Egypt, Sudan, and the Ottoman Mediterranean*. Cairo, New York: The American University in Cairo Press in *Journal of Northeast African Studies*, Volume 12, Issue 1, pp. 313-15

2009: Review of A. E. Afigbo, *The Abolition of the Slave Trade in Southeastern Nigeria, 1885-1950*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press in *African Studies Quarterly*, Volume 10, Issue 4, pp. 92-94

INVITED LECTURES:

Jan. 4th 2024: Guest Speaker, Georgetown Bicentennial Commemoration & symposium, Ministry of Tourism and Culture & the National Council for Arts and Culture, The Gambia

Oct. 11 2023: "Fulbe Itinerant Clerics and the Founding of The Tijaniyya in Southern Senegambia, c. 1803-1996," David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies, Brigham Young University, Utah

Feb. 24 2023: "A Sufianke's Family Tradition: Agriculture, Spirituality and Change, c. 1940s-1950s," Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, New Haven.

Dec. 2 2022: "The Making of a Tijaniyya Muslim Community in Southern Senegambia: Itinerant Fula Clerics in the Gambia, Upper Casamance and Guinea-Bissau, c. 1870s-1997," *Timbuktu Talks*, Center for African Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Aug. 12 2021: "Political and Ethnic Divisions in the Post-Jammeh Era: Land Disputes and Ethnic Polarization in The Gambia since 2016," *Inaugural Lecture Edward Francis Small Lecture Series, University of The Gambia*, Kanifing, MDI Road, The Gambia

Oct. 3 2019: "Tijaniyya in the History of Niumi (Gambia): Reflections on Jihad and

Conversion,” *African Lecture Series*, University of Pennsylvania

March 21 2019: “The Clerics of Madina Cherno,” 201 International Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Jan. 22 2015: “Recent Trends in Large-scale Land Acquisition in Africa and their Implications on Food Security” Panel discussion organized by the Michigan State University *African Studies Center*, East Lansing, MI.

Nov. 7-9, 2012: “African-American pilgrimage to the African homeland: The Roots Homecoming Festival in Gambia and the Alex Hailey Story” St. Mary’s College of Maryland

Oct. 15 2012: “Islam, Slavery in the Upper Guinea Coast and the Connection with the South Carolina Sea Islands and Gullah Culture,” Beaufort County Library

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

June 19 2024: “Cherno Muhammu Jallow’s Army of Tijani Disciples: A History of Islamic Networks,” *Senegambian Studies Group Conference*, The West African Research Center, Dakar, Senegal.

Jan. 13 2024: “Building Research and Educational Partnerships with African Universities,” *Seventh Stake in The Nation Forum*, Sir Dawda Jawara Conference Centre, Kerr Serign, The Gambia

July 14 2023: “History and Memory of Cherno Muhammu Baba Jallow, c. 1890-1996,” *Histoire, Mémoires et biographies, Colloque International Hommage et Reconnaissance au Professeur Ibrahima Thioub*, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal

Dec. 14 2019: “Land Disputes and Ethnic Polarization in The Gambia: The Post-Jammeh Era” in *Sweat is Invisible in the Rain: A Conference on Culture, Politics and Contemporary Issues in The Gambia*, Paradise Suites Hotel, Kololi, The Gambia

Nov. 11 2017: “Female Farmers in the Lower Gambia River: Analysis of Land & Agricultural Production, Late 18th and 19th Centuries” at *African Studies Association* annual conference, Chicago, IL

Nov. 29th 2017: “Islam and the end of *Soninke* Rule in the Nineteenth Century Gambia Region” at *Classics and World Religions Colloquium*, Ohio University

April 12 2017: “Conversion of *Jinns* to Islam and the ‘Defeat’ of the Wild Spirits: Ecological change in Nineteenth Century Gambia,” *Comparative Religion Club*, Ohio University

Jan. 26 2017: “Gambia’s ‘Unprecedented’ 2016 Election: Accounting for the Recent Crisis in the Small West African Nation,” *Contemporary History Institute*, Ohio University

Dec. 1, 2016: “New Perspectives on the Development of Cash Crop Production in West Africa’s the Gambia River Basin, c. 1830s-1940s,” *59th African Studies Association Conference*, Washington, DC.

March 31 2016: “Islam, Power and Dependency in The Gambia River Basin: The Politics of Land Control, 1790-1940,” *African Studies Program*, Baker Center, Ohio University

Nov. 18 2015: “Islam, Spirits and the History of a Toranka Muslim Cleric in the Gambia, C. 1890s-1990s,” *58th African Studies Association Conference*, San Diego, Calif.

March 12 2015: “African Epics” presented *The Gawande Speaker Series and the Becoming Human Theme Present: Epic Fail?: Comparing Myths, Monsters, and Metaphors Across Cultures An Interdisciplinary* --Roundtable Discussion with Shubha Pathak (American University), Ohio University

Jan. 20, 2015: “Situating Athol Fugard in Apartheid History” in *Fugard at Ohio: Apartheid*

Aftertaste: contemporary Realities in the Works of Athol Fugard
Nov. 23 2014: "Women, Land and Politics in Gambia River States of the Nineteenth-Century," *57th African Studies Association*, Indianapolis

Oct. 27 2014: "Liberated African slaves in The Gambia, c. 1830-1900s," *International Conference on Slavery in Africa*, Nairobi, Kenya

Nov. 21 2013: "Migrant Farmers, Cash Cropping and Changes in the Land, 1893-1930," *56th African Studies Association*, Baltimore, Maryland

Nov. 8 2013: "Register of Liberated African slaves": Nineteenth-century 'freed' slaves in the Gambia Colony" *Biographies: Atlantic Slave Database Conference*, Michigan State University, East Lansing

Dec. 1 2012: "Land, Conflict and Memory: Uses of Tradition in the Lower Gambia River Basin, Pre-colonial and Early Colonial Era," *55th African Studies Association*, Philadelphia

Nov. 18, 2011: "The Evolution of the Political System and the Decline of Traditional Authority in The Gambia," *54th African Studies Association*, Washington DC.

Oct. 15, 2011: "Migration, Conquest and Oral Traditions in the Pre-colonial History of the Lower Gambia Region" *Oral History Association Annual Meeting*, Denver, Colorado

Nov. 2010: "Slavery and Ethnicity in Pre-colonial Senegambia," *53rd African Studies Association*, San Francisco, California

April 30 2010: "Why Land and Not Wealth— in—People? The Centrality of Land in Africa Before the Twentieth-Century" *David Robinson and the Writing of African History Conference*, MSU, East Lansing

Nov. 2009: "Seeking Chiefly Authority and Conquering Fetish Lands: *Land, Power and Society In The Nineteenth Century Lower Gambia River Valley*" *52nd African Studies Association*, New Orleans, Louisiana

March 14, 2009: "Being Children and Black-Coated Workers": The Young Clerks From the Bathurst Elementary Schools in the 1930s and 1940s" *Institute of the African Child Conference*, Ohio University

June 25, 2008: "Mande Land Ownership on the Atlantic Rim: Senegal and Gambia" *MANSA* Lisbon, Portugal

July 4 2007: "A Member of Parliament and an Abolitionist": The Contribution of Oxford University's Sir William Dolben in the Anti-Slavery Movement, c. 1768-1806," *CMRS, Oxford University*, England

Feb. 16 2007: "The Many Hands on Private Property": Changing Notions of Property Ownership Among the Mandinka of the North Bank Territory of the Gambia Protectorate, 1890-1960," *Graduate Student Conference*, York University, Canada

May 18 2006: "Gambia and Anglo-French Relations: The Importance of the Port Town of Albreda" *The Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society*, Dakar, Senegal

Feb 24 2006: "What happens when Neighbors meet in the field?: Sports and trans-border conflicts in Postcolonial Senegambia" *Women, Gender and Sports in Africa Symposium*, Ohio University

June 18 2005: "The Politics of Children's Rights in the Gambia," The *Children at Work: From Farm To Street in Africa*, *6th Annual institute of the African Child Conference*, Ohio University

PANEL CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT

Nov. 2 2022: Discussant to the Keynote address on “Self and Other in African Religious Education Projects” by Prof. Abdulkader Tayob of the University of Cape Town at the *MLASA Conference on Religious Diversity in Urban Africa*, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.

Dec. 1 2018: discussant at the ASA panel “Contemporary Politics and Media across Muslim Africa,” *African Studies Association* conference, Atlanta, GA

Nov. 11 2017: discussant at the ASA panel “Women and Power in Atlantic Africa before the 20th Century II,” African Studies Association conference, Chicago, IL

Nov. 11 2017: “Author Meets Critic: Twenty Years--and Counting--of Viewing the Global through the Local in Niumi, The Gambia” (Sponsored by the Mande Studies Association), *African Studies Association* conference, Chicago, IL

Nov. 19 2015: Panel Chair, “The West African States in Historical and Contemporary Perspectives: Public Health, Muslim identities, Soccer and Globalization,” *58th African Studies Association Conference*, San Diego, California

March 18 2017: discussant at the “Identity and Change in West Africa,” *12th Annual Graduate History Conference*, Ohio University

April 12 2014: Panel Chair, “Politics of Race and Development,” *Sports in Africa and the Global South Conference*, Ohio University

April 12 2014: Discussant, “Identity in the Larger African World,” *9th Annual Graduate History Conference*, Ohio University

April 9 2014: Moderator and discussant, “Congo: White King, red Rubber, Black Death” film, hosted by Ohio University’s African Student Union and the African Studies Program

Nov. 23 2013: Panel Chair: “Colonialism, Urbanization and Economic Change in Africa,” *56th African Studies Association*, Baltimore, Maryland

Sept. 22 2012: Chair and Discussant: “Black Power in Transnational Perspective: Latin America and Africa,” *Black Power Conference, The College of Charleston’s Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture*

Dec. 1 2012: Panel Chair: “New Approaches to the Social and Economic History of Senegambia: Women’s Economic, Social, Cultural Endeavors,” *55th African Studies Association*, Philadelphia, PA

Nov 19, 2011: “Panel Chair: Religion and Everyday Life: Politics, Morality and Behavior,” *54th African Studies Association*, Washington, DC.

INVITED WORKSHOPS:

May 20-23 2025: invited to present “Radical Islamic Messages and the potential for Violent Islamic Extremism in the Gambia” at an International Workshop on Current Trends in Biographical Study of Youth in Violent Extremism in Africa co-sponsored by Point Sud & L’Institut Fondamental d’Afrique Noire (IFAN) de l’Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal.

October 18-20 2022: invited to present “Decolonizing Knowledge: History, Precolonial Worldviews and Critical Oral History in The Gambia” at the Symposium *Gambian Cultural Heritage Going Digital*, Senegambia Hotel, Kololi, The Gambia

May 9th - 11th 2017: invited to present “The Future of Oral Traditions?: The Precolonial Senegambian Past, Digital History and the Modern Historian” at the Symposium *Oral Tradition Archives in the Digital Age: Opportunities and Challenges*, Paradise Suites Hotel,

Kololi, The Gambia.

May 1 – May 3rd 2017: invited to present "Land and Spirits in the History of the Western Mandinka" at The Islamic Multiverse and Histories of Everyday Social Discourse Agenda," New York Abu Dhabi Institute, Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates.

March 23rd –March 24th 2017: invited to present "The Intellectual world system of the Senegal River basin: St Louis (Ndar), the Gambia River Basin, and the Work of Sheikh Saad Bouh, Dakar, Senegal" at *The Centennial of History: Celebration of Sheikh Saad Bouh's Work and Legacy (1848-1917)*.

March 9-11th 2017: invited to present "Female 'Warriors' of the Swamps: analysis of the Impact of African and European Encounters in the Gambia River Region, Late 18th -19th centuries" at the workshop *Atlantic Encounters and Female Initiatives: Women in Coastal West and West Central Africa, 1500-1880*, Dublin, Ireland.

June 24-26 2015: invited to present a paper "Land as Spiritual Value" at the workshop *Identities in Greater Senegambia and Beyond: Interdisciplinary Approaches Through History and Music in Dialogue* convened by the Centre of African Studies, SOAS (the Social of Oriental and African Studies) University of London and King's College London, SOAS - VERNON SQUARE CAMPUS.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS:

Jan. 18 2017: RFI (Radio France Internationale, Paris) interview with **Claire Bargelès** on post-election crisis in The Gambia

Jan. 25 2017: NPR, Connections with **Evan Dawson** on "political crisis in The Gambia"

Jan. 22 2017: Al Jazeera English TV London (LIVE) interview with **Maryam Nemazee** on Gambian Political Crisis

Jan. 22 2017: Al Jazeera English TV Inside Story with **Emily Ragobeer** on Gambian political crisis

Jan. 22 2017: Al Jazeera English TV London (LIVE) interview with **Nick Clark** on Gambian Political Crisis

Jan. 18 2017: BBC World Service (LIVE) London interview BBC **Mike Embley** on Gambian Political Crisis

June 4, 2012: Interviewed for a video documentary for Charleston County on the historical and Cultural significance of the Low-country's inland rice fields

OHIO UNIVERSITY COURSES:

Spring 2025: History of Africa to 1850 (2 sections undergrad and grad)
INST 5702 Professional Development in International Studies II

Fall 2024: Readings in African Studies (graduate seminar)
Introduction to World History since 1750

Spring 2024: Women in African History (grad and undergraduate students)
Colloquium in African History (graduate seminar)

Fall 2023: Introduction to World History since 1750
Readings in African Studies (graduate seminar)

Spring 2023: Introduction to World History since 1750

History of Africa to 1850 (grad and undergraduate students)
Fall 2022: History of Africa Since 1850 (grad and undergraduate students)
Readings in African Studies (graduate seminar in International Studies)
Spring 2022: Introduction to World History since 1750
Women in African History (combined graduate and undergraduate course)
Fall 2021: History of Africa since 1850 (grad and undergraduate students)
Spring 2020: Colloquium in African History (graduate seminar)
Fall 2019: History of Africa to 1850
Spring 2019: Colloquium in African History (graduate seminar)
Fall 2018: African History through Film
Spring 2018: Introduction to World History to 1750 & History of Africa to 1850
Fall 2017: African History Through Film & Women in African History
Spring 2017: Islam in Africa & Introduction to World History to 1750
Fall 2016: History of Africa Since 1850 & Introduction to World History to 1750
Spring 2015: Colloquium in African History (grad seminar) & History of Africa Since 1850
Fall 2014: History of Africa to 1850 & Women in African History
Spring 2014: History of Africa Since 1850 & Introduction to World History Since 1750
Fall 2013: Introduction to World History Since 1750 & History of Africa to 1850

INDEPENDENT STUDIES, OHIO UNIVERSITY:

Fall 2024: Directed Study in History (3 graduate students)
Spring 2024: INST 6940 Professional Project (1 African Studies MA student)
Fall 2023: Directed Study in History (3 graduate students in History)
INST 6940 Professional Project (2 African Studies MA students)
Spring 2023: Directed Study in History (1 grad student)
INST 6940 Professional project chair (2 graduate students)
Fall 2022: Directed Study in History (3 grad students)
Spring 2022: Directed Study in History (1 grad student)
Fall 2021: Directed Study in History (1 grad student)
Spring 2020: Directed Study in History (2 grad students)
INST 6940 Professional Project (1 graduate student, African Studies)
Fall 2019: Directed Study in History Women in African History (2 grad student)
Spring 2019: Directed Study in History Ghanaian History (1 grad student)
Fall 2018: Directed Study in History Women in African History (1 grad student)
Spring 2018: Directed Study in History the British Empire-Africa (1 grad student)
Fall 2017: Directed Study in History Islam in Africa (1 undergraduate student)
Fall 2017: Directed Study in History the British Empire-Africa (1 grad student)
Fall 2017: Directed Study in History African environmental History (1 grad student)
Fall 2017: Directed Study in History Francophone West Africa (1 grad student)
Spring 2017: INST 6940 Professional Project (1 graduate student, African Studies)
Spring 2017: Directed Study in History (2 graduate student)
Fall 2016: Directed Study in History (4 graduate student)
Spring 2016: Directed Study in History (2 graduate student)
Spring 2015: Directed Study in History (1 graduate student)
Spring 2015: Directed Study in History (1 undergrad student)

Fall 2014: Directed Study in History (1 graduate student)
Fall 2013: Directed Study in History (1 graduate student)

CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISEES, HISTORY:

Fall 2024-to present: Nomahlubi Jakuja, PhD. Student, African History
Fall 2024-to present: Kemo Danso, MA, African History
Fall 2023 -to present: Julie Kaunga, MA, African History
Fall 2022-to present: Gideon Yeboah Asante, PhD. student, African History
Fall 2021-to present: George Ofori-Atta, PhD. student, African history
Fall 2018-to present: James Fisher, PhD. student, African History
Fall 2018-to present: Sana Saidykhana, PhD. student, African History

FORMER GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISEES, HISTORY

Fall 2022-Spring 2024: Omar Sarr, MA student, African History
Fall 2019-Spring 2021: Fatou Janneh, MA student, African History
Fall 2016 -Fall 2018: James Fisher, MA student, African History
Fall 2016 -Fall 2018: Sana Saidykhana, MA student, African History
Fall 2015-Summer 2017: Tereza Kidane, MA, African History
Fall 2015-2019: Grant Brown, PhD. student, African History

CAPSTONE PROJECTS, MA STUDENTS, OHIO UNIVERSITY

May 2025: Jessica E. Chima Eme: “Decolonizing Ghana’s Basic Education System: A Review of the Standards-Based Curriculum and the Challenges of Implementation” with Prof. Diane Ciekway (chair) and Prof. Dwan Vanderpool Robinson
May 2025: Richard Aboetaka: “Trokosi: History of Female Ritual Servitude among the Ewe of Southeastern Ghana from the Precolonial to the Post-Independence Period” (chair) with Prof. Diane Ciekway & Prof. Uzoma Miller.
May 2025: Bismark Owusu: “Legacies of Foreign Intervention in Post-Colonial Africa: Socio-Political, Economic, and Environmental Impacts,” (chair) with Prof. Edna Wangui & Prof. Diane Ciekaway
May 2025: Faakor F. Nutakor: “Women in Nollywood: The Problem of Patriarchy and Gender Stereotypes in Nigerian Films,” (chair) with Prof. Diane Ciekaway & Prof. Andrea Frohne
Dec. 2024: Isatou Sowe: “Evolution of Islamic Financing in West Africa” (chair) with Prof. Diane Ciekway & Prof. Ghirmai Negash
Dec. 2023: Benjamin Obeng Kyei: “The Changing Landscape of Power Dynamics for Asante Women from the Precolonial to the Colonial Times,” with Ghirmai Negash
Spring 2023: Phyllis Ang-E-Mwin Gyang: “Environmental and Economic Concerns of Charcoal Production in Ghana: A Literature,” with Edna Wangui & Dr. Thomas Smucker
Spring 2023: Mohamed Sallieu Kamara, “The Effects of the Sierra Leone Civil War, 1991-2002,” Chair, African Studies Program with Dr. Ghirmai Negash and Dr. Pascal Younge
Spring 2023: Amie Bah, “Exploring food and Nutrition Insecurity Among Children and its

Prospect in The Gambia's Development Policies: A Critical Review," African Studies Program with Dr. Edna Wangui and Dr. Thomas Smucker

Spring 2023: John Akoeda, "Public-Private Partnership in Ghana's Educational System: Achievements, Challenges, and Prospects," African Studies Program with Dr. Leslie Johnson & Dr. Pascal Younge

Spring 2023: Kemo Danso, "The Murid's Digital Media Complex: Conversion to the Muridiyya Order in The Gambia," with Dr. Ghirmai Negash & Dr. Loren Lybarger

Spring 2021: George Ofori-Atta "Rise of Cocoa Export Economy and Colonial Capitalism: A Study of the Socio-Economic Continuities and Changes in the Asante, 1896-1918," African Studies Program with Dr. Ghirmai Negash and Dr. Diane Ciekawy

Fall 2020-Spring 2021: Amadou Jallow, "Review and evaluation of Policies to Regulate Illegal Logging in The Gambia," International Development Studies with Dr. Tom Smucker (chair)

Spring 2020-to Spring 2021: Jacqueline Atieno Abok, "Protected Areas and Livelihoods: The Effects of the Maasai Mara National Reserve on the Maasai Community," Communication & Development Studies Program with Dr. Edna Wangui (chair) & Dr. Saumya Pant.

Spring 2020: Doreen Tutera, "Comparative Analysis of Ohio University and the University of Ghana Student Services," African Studies Program with Emmanuel Jean Francois and Diane Ciekawy.

Spring 2020: John Ernest Ashietey, "The State of Language Instruction in Post-Colonial Education in Ghana," African Studies Program with Emmanuel Jean Francois.

Spring 2019: Rosa Armstrong, "Examining Hurston and Gyasi's Works: Understanding Socio-cultural change in two West African Societies during the Transatlantic Slave Trade," African Studies Program with Diane Ciekawy and Arthur Hughes

Spring 2019: Doreen Siilo Maanuor, "History of Public Health Intervention in Ghana," African Studies Program with Diane Ciekawy and Caroline Kingori

Spring 2018: Musa Dampha, "Islam and Politics in The Gambia Since Independence," African Studies Program with Ghirmai Negash and Loren Lybarger

Spring 2018: Samba Bah, "Ballal' Rural Family Support for Education and Health Enhancement [Grant Proposal]," International Development Studies Program with Edna Wangui and Yeong-Hyun Kim

Spring 2018: Ifeoluwa Oluwatobi Adedeji, "Our Herd is Our Life': Nigeria's Farmer-Herder Conflict as a Political Question," African Studies Program with Dr. Brandon Kendhammer and Dr. Edna Wangui

Spring 2017: Nura Abubarkar, "The Politics of Gender, Sexuality and Islam in Hausa Movies," African Studies with Dr. Brandon Kendhammer and Dr. Steve Howard

Spring 2016: Goitom Negash, "The Atlantic slave trade and its impact on Decentralized Societies in Africa," African Studies Program with Dr. Steve Howard

Spring 2016: Chioma Uchefuna, "Gender Stratification, Power and Agency in Precolonial and Colonial Igboaland," African Studies Program with Dr. Steve Howard

Spring 2015: Andrew B. Stadekar "The Africanness of Ancient Egypt," African Studies Program with Steve Howard and Edna Wangui

Spring 2015: Maxwell Nimako, "Colonialism and how it led to Underdevelopment in Africa," African Studies Program with Dr. Steve Howard

Spring 2015: Kwame Owusu, "Islam, Hausa, and the Akan Muslim reform interface in

Ghana,” African Studies Program with Dr. Steve Howard
Summer 2015: Hadiza Amadou, “Ending Child Marriage in Niger” International
Development Studies with Dr. Bob Walter and Dr. Patricia Stokes

MA COMMITTEE INCLUDING THESIS SUPERVISION

Spring 2025: Mariam P. Alhassan, MA, Department
Chair, Thesis Committee, MA thesis title “African Auxiliaries of a British
West African Colony: A History of Sanitation Workers and Public Health Inspectors
In the Gold Coast, 1870-1950” with Prof. Mariana Dantas & Prof. Michele Clouse

Spring 2024: Omar Sarr, MA, Department of History
Chair, Thesis Committee, MA thesis title: “Transformations in Rural Farming
Communities: Of-Plows, Mixed Farming Centers and Agricultural Production in The
Gambia, c. 1960s-1970s” with Dr. Katherine Jellison & Dr. Paul Milazzo.

Spring 2023: Bryan Hall-Jones, MA War and Peace Studies, Center for International Studies
Comprehensive Exams Committee with Dr. Jonathan Agensky & Dr. John
Brobst.

Spring 2022: Leah Warren, MA War and Peace Studies, Center for International Studies
Comprehensive Exams Committee with Dr. Matthew LeRiche & Dr. Matthew
Layton

Summer 2021: Fatou Janneh, MA, Department of History
Chair, Thesis Committee, MA Thesis Title: “Grassroots Movements in Postcolonial
Gambia” with Dr. Mariana Dantas and Dr. Edna Wangui

Fall 2019: Rukhsana Aziz, MA, Department of History
Committee member, MA Thesis “A Historical Reflection on the Egyptian Women’s
Movement from 1919 to 1952” with Dr. Ziad Abu-Rish (chair) & Dr. Steve Howard

Fall 2018: James Fisher, MA, Department of History
Chair, Thesis Committee, MA thesis “An Intellectual History of Thomas Sankara”
with Dr. Ziad Abu-Rish and Dr. John Brobst

Fall 2018: Sana Saidykhhan, MA, Department History
Chair, Thesis Committee, MA thesis “The Only Good Crocodile is a Dead One”:
Contradictions in Conservation Policies and Agricultural Activities in the Gambia,
1938-1965” with Dr. Paul Milazzo and Dr. Ziad Abu-Rish

Spring 2017: Andrew Howard, MA, Department of History
Committee member, MA Thesis: “Problems, Controversies, and Compromise: A
Study on the Historiography of British India during the East India Company Era”
with Dr. John Brobst and Dr. Alec Holcombe.

Fall 2015-Summer 2017: Tereza Kidane, MA, African History
Chair, Thesis committee, MA thesis: “Subversive Victims Eritrean Women Freedom
Fighters’ Pursuit for Gender Liberation (1970- present day)” with Dr. Ziad Abu-Rish
and Dr. Edna Wangui.

DOCTORAL COMMITTEE SUPERVISION

Spring 2025: Samba Bah, PhD. Counseling/Higher Education, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "cost-sharing in Public Higher Education: A Phenomenological of Graduates of the University of The Gambia," (dean's rep), with Profs. Yegan Pillay, Laura Harrison & Lijing Yang.

Fall 2024: Sana Saidykhani, PhD. History, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Legacies of Colonial Conservation History of Forestry Management in The Gambia, from the 1930s to c. 2005" (chair Assan Sarr) with Prof. Paul Millazo, Mariana Dantas, Edna Wangui & Robyn d'Avignon (NYU)

Spring 2024: Musa Dampha, PhD. Media Arts & Studies, Ohio University
Diss. title: "Digital Da'wah: Youth, Rap, and the Call to Islam in Senegambia" with Professor Steve Howard (chair), Prof. Laeeq Khan & Prof. Jatin Srivastava.

Spring 2023: Andrew Howard, PhD. History, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Fixing the 'Happy Valley': British Sentimentality and Intervention in Kashmir, 1885-1925" with Profs. John Brobst (chair), Alec Holcombe & Haley Duschinski.

Fall 2021: Tegwa Fadl Alla, PhD., Educational Administration, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Understanding the influence of income generation activities on women's empowerment: A case study of JASMAR Human Security Organization's project for female sex workers in the republic of the Sudan" with Profs. Emmanuel Jean Francois (Chair), William Larson & Charles Lowery.

Spring 2021: Saiba Suso, PhD. Educational Administration, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Exploring Faculty's Perspectives of the Influence of Leadership Styles on Motivation Towards Work at University of The Gambia (The Gambia) and University of Cheikh Anta Diop (Senegal)" with Profs. Emmanuel Jean Francois (chair), Dwan Robinson & Charles Lowery.

Fall 2019: Lassane Ouedraogo, PhD., School of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Muslim Youth at a Crossroads: Media and Civic Engagement in Burkina Faso," with Dr. Steve Howard (Chair), Dr. Devika Chawla and Dr. Wolfgang Sutzl.

Summer 2019: Goitom Negash, PhD., School of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Unmuted by Social Media: Narratives of Eritrean and Ethiopian Migrants in the US" with Dr. Steve Howard, Dr. Laeeq Khan & Dr. Devika Chawla

Spring 2018: Jack R. Marchbanks, PhD., Department of History, Ohio University, Third field in African History
Diss. Title: "Pride and Protest in Letters and Song: Jazz Artists and Writers during the Civil Rights Movement, 1955-1965" with Profs. Kevin Mattson (chair), Katherine Jellison & Robin Muhammad.

Fall 2017: Flavius Mokake, PhD. IIP PhD. Program, Ohio University.
Diss. Title: "Isolation, Control and Rehabilitation: A Social and Medical History of Leprosy Treatment and Leprosaria in Cameroon, 1916-1975" with Profs. Steve Howard (chair), Gillian Ice and Zelalem Haile.

Spring 2017: Kingsley Antwi-Boasiako, PhD., School of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University
Diss. Title: "Reporting Health Emergency Outbreaks: African Journalists on the Frontlines of Ebola Coverage" with Profs. Steve Howard (chair), Roger Cooper & Yusuf Kalyango.

Spring 2015: Kevin Hales, PhD., School of Communication Studies, Ohio University

Diss. title: "The Moving Finger: A Rhetorical, Grammatological and Ethnographic Exploration of Nsibidi in Nigeria and Cameroon as a Writing System, Visual Rhetoric and Visual Nommo" with Profs. J.W. Smith (chair), William Rawlins & Yea-Wen Chen.

SERVICE ON OTHER GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES:

Spring 2024 -to present: Emmanuel Neequaye, PhD. student, Patton College of Education, Educational Research & Evaluation, Ohio University
Fall 2023 -to Present: Nura Abubakar, PhD. student, School of Interdisciplinary Arts, Ohio University
Fall 2020 -Spring 2025: Samba Bah, PhD. Candidate, Higher Education & Student Affairs, Patton College of Education, Ohio University
Fall 2019 –Spring 24: Musa Dampha, PhD., School of Communication Studies, Media Arts, Ohio University
Spring 2019 –Fall 2020: Kutlwano Mokgwathi, PhD. student, School of Communication Studies, Media Arts
Spring 2015-to present: Carol Hector-Harris, PhD. Student, Journalism, Ohio University

HONOR'S TUTORIAL:

Spring 2024: Annika Lindsey, HIST 2981T 101. Women in African History
Spring 2017: Nicolas Paredes, HIST 2980T-100. Islam in Africa
Spring 2014: Grace Konyar, HIST 2980T African History

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON COURSES:

HIST 104: World History since 1500
HIST 116: The Age of Global Contact
HIST 116: The Deep Roots of Globalization
HIST 250: African Slavery and the Atlantic Slave Trade
HIST 272: Pre-colonial Africa
HIST 273: Modern Africa
HIST 592: The Atlantic Slave trade (graduate course)

SUPERVISION OF PROJECTS & GRADUATE STUDENTS, COFC:

Spring 2011: Intellectual History of Colonial and Post-Colonial Africa
Fall 2011: West African Economic History Since 1800
Fall 2011- Spring 12: Myth, History and Colonialism, Bachelor's Essay
Fall 2012: The Trans-Saharan Slave Trade in World History
Fall 2012: Continuous Research Enrollment (graduate student)
Spring 2013: Women in African History
Spring 2013: Senior Paper

Summer 2022: Islamic Movements in Twentieth Century Africa

UNIVERSITY OF THE GAMBIA COURSES:

HIS 430: Problems in the History of The Gambia
HIS 209 Economic History of the Gambia since 1945
HIS 416: Seminar in African History
HIS 703: African and Transatlantic Slavery
HIS 707: Historiography Seminar
HIS 710: Political Institutions and Government in Precolonial Senegambia (grad course)
HIS 721: The Industrial Process and Economy of Colonial West Africa (grad course)

OHIO UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTAL & UNIVERSITY-WIDE SERVICE:

a. Ohio University service

Fall 2022—Spring 2024: College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Advisory Committee, Ohio University
Sept. 2021: member, Search Committee for the Ohio University Press Director
Spring 2020-to present: Chair of the African Studies Graduate Admission Committee, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Fall 2019: University Standing Committee: Graduate Council, Faculty Senate (3-year term) –Ohio University
Spring 2019: African Studies Graduate Admission Committee, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Sept. 1 2018 –to present: Member of The Ohio University Press (OUP) Editorial Board
Spring 2017 (3-year term): Member of Robert and Rene Glidden Visiting Professorship Selection Committee (Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Ohio University)
Spring 2017: African Studies (Graduate) Admission Committee, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Fall 2016- Spring 2017: National Resource Center (NRC Grant) Committee, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Fall 2016 –present: Advisory Board, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Fall 2015: Committee Member, Search for Director of African Studies, Ohio University
Fall 2014- to present: The Faculty Director, Study Abroad Program to Senegal, African Studies Program, Ohio University
Sept. 25 2015: Fulbright Interview panel, Office of Nationally Competitive Awards, Ohio University
Summer 2015: Committee Member, Search for Associate Director for the Center for International Studies, Ohio University –search aborted
Sept. 30 2014: Fulbright Interview panel, Office of Nationally Competitive Awards, Ohio University
Fall 2014-to present: Member of the advisory board, the Executive Committee, Contemporary History Institute, Ohio University
Fall 2013- Spring 2014: Commemorative committee, 50th anniversary of the African Studies Program, Ohio University

b. Ohio University History Department service

Spring 2024: PEC Reform Committee (member)
Fall 2023: Peer Evaluation Committee (member)
Fall 2022 -to date: Chair, Curriculum and Progress Review, Graduate Committee
Fall 2022 -to date: Member, Assessment Committee
Fall 2022-to date: Chair, Awards Committee
Fall 2021: Peer Evaluation Committee (member)
Fall 2021-Spring 2022: Faculty Research Seminar
Fall 2019-Spring 2020: Peer Evaluation Committee (member)
Summer 2018-June 2022: Chair of the Graduate Committee
Fall 2018 to present: Member, Promotion and Tenure committee
Fall 2018 to June 2022: Member, Executive Committee
Fall 2014-Spring 2015: Peer Evaluation Committee (member)
Fall 2014- to present: Member, Graduate committee
Fall 2013 –Spring 2017: Library Committee
Fall 2013 –Spring 2017: Technology Committee

c. Service to the profession and community

May 2025: External Reviewer, promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer, University of Cape Coast, Ghana
June 2022: External Reviewer, promotion to the rank of associate professor, University of Sierra Leone
May 2022 -to date: Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology Advisory Committee, The Gambia
Spring 2022: Editorial Board for the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World series with the University of South Carolina Press
September 2021-to the present: Editorial board of the Journal for Slavery and Data Preservation (JSDP)
November 2020 -October 2021: elected Vice Chair, Islam in Africa Studies Group

Fall 2019 –Present: Editorial Board Member, *Enslaved Publishing Platform* www.enslaved.org
January 2019: External reviewer for contract renewal of a tenure track faculty, Pomona College, CA
May 13 2018: Grant proposal Review, National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC, Gambia), University of Hamburg & Gerda Henkel Foundation
Dec. 2017-to April 24, 2018: Associate Editor (manuscript), Journal of West African History (JWAH)
Dec. 2017 – to present: Consultant, International African American Museum (IAAM), Charleston SC
Sept. & Oct. 2017: Consulted with ORB International <https://www.orb-international.com> (unpaid service) –Security and radicalism in The Gambia
Aug. 10 2017: Committee Member on a select Taskforce to Reform Higher Education in The Gambia Selected by the Ministry of Higher Education, Republic of The Gambia

Summer 2017: Grant proposal Review, National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC, Gambia), University of Hamburg & Gerda Henkel Foundation
Summer 2012 -to present: Advisory Board Member, The NEH funded *Slave Biographies: The Atlantic Slave Database Network project* (<http://slavebiographies.org/project/advisory-board/>). The project is an effort to develop a large collaboratively created database to record information about the identities of enslaved people in the Atlantic World
Fall 2013-to Spring 2016: Editorial contributor, The Lowcountry Digital History Initiative, Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World, College of Charleston
Fall 2009: **Partner** in *African Oral Narratives* project, MATRIX, Michigan State University (<http://projects.matrix.msu.edu/aon/about/partners-collections/>)

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS FOR JOURNALS & EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

January 2022: book manuscript review for Cambridge University Press
Spring 2020: book manuscript review for the University of Michigan Press
Fall 2019: book manuscript review for African and Middle East studies series, Cambridge University Press
Fall 2019: article manuscript review for the Canadian Journal of African Studies
Spring 2019: manuscript review for African Economic History
Spring 2018: Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History, Oxford University Press
Fall 2016: Agricultural History
Spring 2016: Social Sciences and Missions
Spring 2016: Journal of West African History
Spring 2016: Islamic Africa
Fall 2015: International Communication Research Journal
2013: The Corr Analytics Journal of Political Risk
2013: "African Passages, Lowcountry Adaptations" in *Lowcountry Digital History Initiative* <http://ldhi.library.cofc.edu>
2013: "African Laborers for a New Empire: Iberia, Slavery and the Atlantic World" in *Lowcountry Digital History Initiative* <http://ldhi.library.cofc.edu>

COLL. OF CHARLESTON DEPARTMENTAL & COLLEGE-WIDE SERVICE:

Fall 2010–spring 2013: Phi Alpha Theta/Speakers/History/Social Committee
Fall 2011 – spring 2013: Advisor for dozens of History Majors
Fall 2011 – spring 2012: History Department Scheduling Committee
Fall 2011 –spring 2012: Served on search Committee, British Empire position
Fall 2012 – spring 2013: Served on Goals & Objectives/ Assessment Committee
2013: Member, organizing committee for the African Literature Assoc. Conference
Fall 2012- spring 2013: Departmental Representative, Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Committee

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP:

African Studies Association (ASA)
Senegambian Studies Group (SSG)

Mande Studies Association
West African Research Association (WARA)

