

Oghenetoja H. Okoh

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Education

New York University, New York City, NY

Ph.D., African History, 2012

Making Minorities: The Western Niger Delta in Colonial Nigeria, 1927-1960

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

M.A., African History, 2003

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN

B.A. (Summa cum Laude), History and African/African American Studies, 1999

Research Interests

Primary Research and Teaching Fields: 19th & 20th Century African History, History of West Africa, Social and Political History of the Niger Delta, Gender and Citizenship.

Secondary Research and Teaching Fields: Empire and Postcolonial Studies, African Diaspora History, and Studies of Race and Ethnicity.

Courses Taught

University of Akron, Department of History

Civil Dialogues, Civil Communities, Spring 2018

Graduate Seminar in African History, Spring 2017

History of Modern Africa, Fall 2014, 2016, 2017

Gender and Power in Africa, Spring 2015

Historical Methods, Spring 2015, 2017

Humanities in the World since 1300, Fall 2013 – Spring 2018

Questioning Empire: Decolonization in Africa & the African Diaspora, Spring 2014

World Civilizations-Africa, Fall 2013, Spring 2017

New York University, Department of History

Africa since 1940, Spring 2008

World Cultures: Africa, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

University of Wisconsin, Center for African Studies

Africa: An Introductory Survey, Fall 2001

Academic Service

University of Akron, African Students Association

Faculty Advisor, Fall 2013 – Present

Nigerian Studies Association

Secretary, Fall 2012 – Fall 2014; *Website Manager*, Fall 2012 - present

African Studies Association

Lead organizer, Emerging Scholars Caucus, Fall 2007-Fall 2008

Other Professional Experience

Council on Foreign Relations: Consultant, Education Strategy & Marketing, January 2016-June 2017

I supported several projects aimed at maximizing the impact of the Council's educational content for university and high school audiences. Specifically, reviewing and editing existing material, evaluating content, identifying additional resources, and testing various forms of social media outreach.

JSTOR: Content Development Associate, March 2009 – October 2012

I built disciplinary collections by working with publishers to include their journals in the JSTOR archive. In this role I secured foundational African Studies journals produced in Africa, including the journals of the Ghanaian and Nigerian Historical Societies, as well as several other African society publications. I also supported and promoted the African Access Initiative, which provided free access to the entire JSTOR archive to more than 700 African educational and non-profit institutions. I also managed JSTOR's various primary source collections.

ITHAKA Harbors, Inc., New York City: Research Consultant and Content Developer, Aluka Initiative (Mellon Foundation/ITHAKA), Summer 2004 – Summer 2008

I contributed research and fostered relationships with various librarians and archivists in Africa, Europe and the United States to build a primary source digital archive for and about Africa.

Awards and Honors

University of Akron Faculty Research Grant

Summer Research in England. Summer 2014

Doris Quinn Award

Doris Quinn Foundation, New York University. Fall 2008 – Spring 2009

Fulbright IIE

Field research in England and Nigeria. June 2006 – August 2007

History of Women and Gender Program Travel Grant

Department of History, New York University (preliminary research, England). June 2005

IHR Mellon Fellowship for Pre-Dissertation Research in the Humanities

Institute for Historical Research, London. Summer 2005

Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University. 2003-2008

Foreign Language HEA Title VI Fellowship

Center for African Studies, University of Wisconsin (Yoruba language study). 2002-2003

Leave of Absence: Fall 2015-Spring 2016

Publications

"The Ogoni Nine: Pretext, Context, Legacy," in Kadija Sesay (ed.), *21 February: The Impact, Progress and Possibilities for Pan-Africanism*. WOW Publishing, forthcoming, 2019.

- Cruz, Joelle, Oghenetoja Okoh, Amoaba Gooden, Kamesha Spates, Chinasa Elue, and Nicole Rousseau, "The Ekwe Collective: Black Feminist Praxis," *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research*, v. 5.3 (Fall 2016): 77-99.
- "Who Controls Warri? How Ethnicity Became Volatile in the Western Niger Delta (1928-1952)," *Journal of African History* v. 57 (July 2016): 209-230.
- Siro Masinde and Toja Okoh, "Challenges of broadening access to scholarly e-resources in Africa – the JSTOR example," *African Research and Documentation*, no. 117 (September, 2011): 49-57.
- "District 9: A 'Real' Sci-Fi Flick in Africa?" *eSymposium on the significance of District 9 for the Zeleza Post*. October 2009 [www.zeleza.com/symposium/949 (Accessed November 9, 2009)].
- "60/60: Notes from the Field," *Sable Literary Magazine*. Fall/Winter 2007.

Publications in Progress

- Contesting from the Margins: Minority Identity and Citizenship in Nigeria, 1928-1960*, book manuscript in progress and under consideration by Cambridge University Press.
- Spates, Kamesha, Oghenetoja Okoh, Amoaba Gooden, and Chinasa Elue, "Bolding our Hashtags to Negate our Erasure: Black women and Girls Activism in the Trump Era," a continuing collaboration with the Pan-African Studies Department at Kent State University.

Conference Papers, Workshops, and Public Presentations

- "Teaching with CFR and *Foreign Affairs* Resources," Council on Foreign Affairs College and University Educators Workshop, Council on Foreign Relations Headquarters, New York, NY, April 2018.
- "Rich Literature, Fragmented Archive: Doing Historical Work in the Niger Delta," Mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes African Studies Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, March 2018.
- "Ekwe: Creating Supportive Spaces in the Academy," Summit on Women Faculty, Kent State University, Kent OH, February 2018.
- "Considering Minority Citizenship in the Context of the Nigerian Civil War," African Studies Association Annual Conference, Chicago, November 2017.
- "The Evolution of Black Feminist Thought," roundtable with co-panelists Joëlle M. Cruz, Amoaba Gooden, Kamesha Spates, Chinasa A. Elue, and Nicole Rousseau, Africa and the Global Atlantic World Conference, Kent OH, April 2016.
- "This is What a Feminist Looks Like: Black Feminism", workshop co-facilitator with Chinasa Elue, Amoaba Gooden, Joëlle M. Cruz, Kamesha Spates, and Nicole Rousseau, Kent State University Women's Center, March 2017 and February 2016.
- "The Spirit of Black Feminist Thought: Ekwe in Practice," workshop co-facilitator with Kamesha Spates, Chinasa Elue, Amoaba Gooden, Joëlle M. Cruz, and Nicole Rousseau, Kent State University, April 2016.
- "The Importance of Self Care in the lives of Black Female College Students," workshop co-facilitator with Amoaba Gooden and Kamesha Spates, Kent State University Sister Circle Organization, September 12, 2016.
- "Teaching World History," Ohio Academy of History Annual Meeting/Conference, Ohio Northern University, March 2015.
- "Disciplining the Niger Delta: Taxation and Reorganization, 1928-1938," African Studies Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, November 2013.
- "Aimé Césaire's 100 First Lights: Aesthetics, Alternative Subjectivity, and Global Human Relations," Symposium Moderator, SUNY-Buffalo, September 2013.

“Methods of Showing Dislike’: the 1927 Boycott in Warri Province and the Crisis of Native Administration,” New York University/University of Amsterdam Dissertation Workshop, Amsterdam, August 2008.

“Addressing Minority Fears in Pre-Independence Nigeria: The Willink Commission and its Aftermath, 1957-1960,” University of Ibadan, History Dept. Seminar, March 2007.

“No Condition is Permanent’: Shifting Ideals of Nigerian Masculinity through Transnational Migration, 1945-Present,” Rutgers University, New York Area Symposium on African History, March 2005.

Professional Membership

African Studies Association, Nigerian Studies Association, American Historical Association