

## **Oghenetoja H. Okoh**

Department of History  
Loyola University, Maryland  
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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:** 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century African History, History of West Africa, Social and Political History of Nigeria, History of Gender and Citizenship.

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

### **Courses Taught**

#### **Loyola University, Maryland, Department of History**

*Making of the Modern World, Africa*, Fall 2018-Spring 2019

*Contesting Empire*, Spring 2019

#### **University of Akron, Department of History**

*Civil Dialogues, Civil Communities*, Spring 2018

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

*Graduate Seminar in African History*, Spring 2017

*World Civilizations-Africa*, Fall 2013, Spring 2017

*History of Modern Africa*, Fall 2014, 2016, 2017

*Historical Methods*, Spring 2015, 2017

*Gender and Power in Africa*, Spring 2015

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

#### **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**

#### **Loyola University, Maryland**

*Steering Committee Member*, African & African American Studies Minor, Spring 2019 – present

*Steering Committee Member & Advisor*, Global Studies Program, Fall 2019 – present

#### **U.S. Asylum Cases**

Expert Witness on the Social and Political History of the Niger Delta (New Jersey), May 2019  
**Contemporary Journal of African Studies**

*History Editor*, Spring 2019 – present

**Nigerian Studies Association**

*Secretary*, Fall 2012 – Fall 2014; *Website Manager*, Fall 2012 – present; *Social Media Officer*, Fall 2018 – Fall 2019

**University of Akron**

*Rethinking Race Committee Member*, Fall 2016-Spring 2018

*Faculty Advisor – African Students Association*, Fall 2013 – Spring 2018

**African Studies Association**

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

**Other Professional Experience**

**University of Akron, Department of History:** Assistant Professor, African History, August 2013 – June 2018

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

**JSTOR:** Content Development Associate, March 2009 – October 2012

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

**Awards and Honors**

**Dean's Summer Writing Grant, Loyola University Maryland**

Summer writing toward completion of book manuscript. Summer 2019

**University of Akron Faculty Research Grant**

Summer writing toward book manuscript (returned as a result of new appointment at Loyola). Summer 2018

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**

“Bornu: Territorial and Cultural Endurance in Nigeria,” Book Review for the *Journal of African History*, v. 60, n. 3 (November 2019): 497-499.

- Cruz, Joelle, Oghenetaja 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**

- Minority Identities in Nigeria: Contesting and Claiming Citizenship in the Twentieth Century*, book manuscript under contract with Cambridge University Press.
- Spates, Kamesha, Oghenetaja 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.
- "The Ogoni Nine: Pretext, Context, Legacy," in Kadija Sesay (ed.), *21 February: The Impact, Progress and Possibilities for Pan-Africanism*. WOW Publishing.

### **Conference Papers, Workshops, and Public Presentations**

- Guest Interlocutor: Halimat Somotan, "Who Speaks for Lagos? The Political Debates and Mobilization Surrounding the Status of Lagos, 1949-67," Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, November 2019.
- "Crisis and Resistance: The Decline of the Palm Oil Economy and Formal Colonial Incorporation," Junior Faculty Symposium, February 2019.
- "Crisis and Resistance: The Decline of the Palm Oil Economy and Formal Colonial Incorporation," The Africa Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, April 2019.
- "Minority Citizenship: Rethinking the Nigerian National Project," African Studies Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, November 2018.
- "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