

Omolade Adunbi

Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
Department of Anthropology
University of Michigan
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Research and Teaching Interests

Transnational Institutions, Energy Practices, Oil, NGOs, social theory, environmental politics, climate politics, resource distribution, governance, human rights, multinational corporations, Infrastructure, the post-colonial state, China in Africa, politics of belonging and special economic zones, Niger Delta, Nigeria and West Africa.

Education

- Ph.D. 2010 Yale University (Anthropology)
M.Phil. 2006 Yale University (Anthropology)
M.A. 2004 Yale University (African Studies with Politics and Political Economy Concentration)
B.A. 1992 Ondo State University (Philosophy)

Academic Appointments

- 2022- Professor, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, U. Michigan
2023- Professor, Department of Anthropology
2022- Director, African Studies Center, U. Michigan
2023- Professor of Law (courtesy), U. Michigan Law School
2020 – 2022 Associate Professor of the Honors Program, College of Literature Science and the Arts, U. Michigan
2018 – 2022 Associate Chair, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, U. Michigan
2016 – 2022 Associate Professor, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, U. Michigan
2016 – Faculty Associate, Program in the Environment (PitE), U. Michigan (courtesy)
2016 – Faculty Associate, Donia Human Rights Center, U. Michigan
2016 – Faculty Associate, Institute of Energy Solutions, U. Michigan
2017 – Dow Distinguished Faculty Fellow for Sustainability

- 2017 – Faculty Fellow, Institute for Advanced Social Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
- 2010 – 2016 Assistant Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies, U. Michigan
- 2010 – 2016 Faculty Associate, Program in the Environment (PitE), U. Michigan
- 2023- Faculty Fellow, Institute of Africa and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Honors, Fellowships and Research Grants

- 2025 Fulbright Scholar to Nigeria
- 2024 Co-PI: Racial capitalism and Anti-Racism in Kenyan Conservation (\$100,000)
- 2024 African Studies Association of the United Kingdom Best Book Prize Finalist
- 2023 African Studies Association Best Book Prize Award (Honorable Mention)
- 2023 Fellow, Institute of Energy Solutions, U-M
- 2023 Glasscock Short-term Visiting Fellow, Texas A and M University
- 2022 John Dewey Award for Excellence in Teaching and Research
- 2022-2026 US Department of Education National Resource Center, Title VI
- 2022-2026 US Department of Education, Title VI Award, U-M African Studies Center
2023-2026, Total Award \$290,000 per annum for Foreign Language Area
Studies Program,
- 2022-2023 Network Fellow, KU Leuven, Brussels, Belgium (Declined)
- 2021 Outstanding Service in African Studies and Anthropology, an Award presented by the Association of Africanist Anthropology, a section of the American Anthropological Association.
- 2021 Nominated for Golden Apple Undergraduate Award for Teaching Excellence
- 2020 Associate Professor Support Fund, College of Literature Science and the Arts, University of Michigan
- 2018 University of Michigan Office of Research Grant for Oil, Infrastructure, Displacement and the Politics of Free Trade Zones in Nigeria (\$10000)
- 2017 Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology, 2015, Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland
- 2017 Nominated for Golden Apple Undergraduate Award for Teaching Excellence
- 2017 Africa-China Conference: Infrastructure, Resource Extraction and Environmental Sustainability (Institute for the Humanities, UMOR, DAAS, ASC, Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies, International Institute, Erb Institute for Sustainable Business, School for the Environment and Natural Resources)

- 2016 Class of 1923 Memorial Teaching Award, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 2015 “Who Owns the Oil: Corporations, The State, Heritage and the Politics of Claim-Making in Africa” International Conference, ((Institute for the Humanities, International Institute, Program in the Environment, UMOR, DAAS, ASC, School for the Environment and Natural Resources)
- 2014 “Imagining Communities, Contesting Cultural Heritage: Oil and the Production of Cultural Meanings among the Ilaje Yoruba of Southwest Nigeria,” African Heritage Initiative Grant, African Studies Center, U- M
- 2014 “When China Comes to Town: Environment and the Politics of Development in Africa,” New Course Development Grant, Dept. of Afroamerican and African Studies, U-M
- 2014 Council on Global Education Honoree, U-M (Nominated by Students)
- 2012 “Unintended Consequences of Technology Use: A Cross Sectional Analysis,” (with Bilal Butt, U-M School of Natural Resources and Environment; and Joyojeet Pal, U-M School of Information), M- CUBED Grant, U-M
- 2007 Program in Agrarian Studies Fellowship, Yale University
- 2007 Lindsay Fellowship for Research in Africa, Yale University
- 2007 McMillan Center Dissertation Award, Yale University
- 2006 Simon Kirby Human Rights Fellow, Yale University Law School
- 2006 Program in Agrarian Studies Fellowship, Yale University
- 2005 Center for International and Area Studies Pre-dissertation Fellowship, Yale University
- 2003 Coca Cola World Fund at Yale Fellow
- 2003 Orville Schell Yale Law School Human Rights Fellow
- 2001 Social Science Research Council Global Security Program Research Grant in Conflict Zones

Publications: Books (*peer reviewed)

- Forthcoming* *The Post-Global City: Technologies, Urbanism, Development and the Imaginary from Africa*, (editors) with Katrien Pype and Michael J Fischer, (University of Michigan Press)
- 2022* *Enclaves of Exception: Special Economic Zones and Extractive Practices in Nigeria* (Indiana University Press)
- 2015* *Oil Wealth and Insurgency in Nigeria*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press
- 2002 (Ed.) *Behind the Mask: An Insight Into Informal Repression in Nigeria*. Lagos, Nigeria: HURIDEC

Publications: Journal Articles, Book Chapters (*peer-reviewed)

- 2023* "The Petrostate in Africa." In The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History. Oxford University Press. Article published [forthcoming]. doi:10.1093/acrefore/9780190277734.013.ORE_AFH-01072.R2
- Forthcoming (with Babajide Ololajulo) "Who Morality Epp"? Economic Anxiety and the Practice of Faking Militancy in Nigeria's Oil Rich Niger Delta, *Current Anthropology* (Forthcoming)
- Forthcoming* Extractivism as Whiteness: Crude and the racial Construction of oil in Nigeria, (Book Chapter in an edited volume to be published by Princeton University Press)
- Forthcoming* The City and the Oil: Of Engineers and Innovators in an Affective and Imagined Enclave in The Post-Global City: Technologies, Urbanism, Development and the Imaginary from Africa, (editors) Katrien Pype, Omolade Adunbi and Michael J Fischer, (University of Michigan Press)
- Forthcoming* The Post-Global City: An Introduction in The Post-Global City: Technologies, Urbanism, Development and the Imaginary from Africa, (editors) Katrien Pype, Omolade Adunbi and Michael J Fischer (University of Michigan Press)
- 2020* "Crafting Spaces of Value: Infrastructure, Technologies of Extraction and Contested Oil in Nigeria," *Cambridge Journal of Anthropology*, 38(2), 38- 52.
- 2020 Cloning a President: Social Media and the Politics of Elections in Nigeria, POLAR : Political and Legal Anthropology Review, Virtual Edition of Digital Politics, (March 16, 2020)
- 2020* (with Babajide Ololajulo) "Proceed to your Death": Lakuwa, Environmental Disaster Management and the Culture of Oil Politics in Nigeria," *Journal of Material Culture* 25, no. 1 (2020): 36-59.
- 2020* "Extractive Practices, Oil Corporations and Contested Spaces in Nigeria," *The Extractive Industries and Society*, (2020) 7(3), pp.804-811.
- 2019* "(Re)Inventing Development: China, Infrastructure, Sustainability and Special Economic Zones in Nigeria," Part Issue of *Africa, Journal of the International Institute* 89, no. 4 (2019): 662-679.
- 2019* (with Bilal Butt) "Introduction: Afro-Chinese Engagements: Infrastructure, Land, Labour and Finance," Part Issue of *Africa, Journal of the International Institute* (2019) 89(4), pp.633-637.
- 2019* (with Howard Stein) "The Political Economy of China's Investment in Nigeria: Prometheus or Leviathan." In Arkebe Oqubay and Justin Lin (eds), *China-Africa and An Economic Transformation*, London: Oxford University Press. Pp 192-215
- 2018* (with Brenda Chalfin) "Governance." In Gaurav Desai and Adeline Masquelier (eds) *Critical Terms for African Studies*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press Pp 145-163
- 2018* "The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of Niger Delta Rebellions." In Carl Levan and Patrick Ukata (ed) *Handbook of Nigerian Politics*, London: Oxford University Press, Pp. 636-651

- 2017* “‘We own this oil’: artisanal refineries, extractive industries, and the politics of oil in Nigeria.” *Governance in the Extractive Industries*. Routledge, 2017. 87-104.
- 2017* “The Facebook President: Oil, Citizenship, and the Social Mediation of Politics in Nigeria.” *POLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 40(2): 226-244.
- 2016* “Embodying the Modern: Neoliberalism, NGOs and the Culture of Human Rights Practices in Nigeria,” *Anthropological Quarterly*, 89(2): 397-430.
- 2016* (with Amal Hassan Fadlalla) “Introduction – Dossier on Africa, Human Rights, And Humanitarianism,” *Humanity, an International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism and Development*, 7(1): 1-6.
- 2015* (with Seyram Avle) “‘Whose Freedom? Whose Information?’ Discourses on Freedom of Information Policies,” *Journal of Information Policy*, 5: 179-203.
- 2013* “Mythic Oil: Resources, Belonging and the Politics of Claim-Making among Ilaje Yorùbás,” *Africa, Journal of the International African Institute* 83(2): 293-313.
- 2011* “Oil and the Production of Competing Subjectivities in Nigeria: ‘Platforms of Possibilities’ and ‘Pipelines of Conflict,’” *African Studies Review* 54(3): 101-120
- 2000 “State of Socio-economic Rights in Nigeria,” In Ayo Obe (ed) *Annual Report on the State of Human Rights in Nigeria*. Lagos: Civil Liberties Organization, 101-110.
- 1999 “Sharia and the Future of Nigeria,” *Religion and Society* (Lagos: Civil Liberties Organization) 2(5): 10-15.

Edited Journals

- 2019* (co-edited with Bilal Butt) “Afro-Chinese Engagements: Infrastructure, Land, Labour and Finance,” Part-special issue of *Africa, Journal of the International Institute* vol. 89 no. 4.
- 2016* (co-edited with Amal Hassan Fadlalla) “Dossier on Africa, Human Rights, And Humanitarianism,” special issue of *Humanity* vol.7, no.1 (Spring 2016).

Publications: Book Reviews, Handbooks, and Manuals (**solicited)

- 2023* Review of *Cryptopolitics: Exposure, Concealment, and Digital Media*, New York, Berghahn Press, (\$135.00/£99.00- 978-1-80539-029-9) 2023, vii-245pp., *Africa Journal of the International Institute*
- 2023* Review of *They Eat Our Sweat: Transport Labor, Corruption and Everyday Survival in Urban Nigeria*, New York, Oxford University Press, *POLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2021* Review of *An Ethnography of Hunger: Politics, Subsistence, and the Unpredictable Grace of the Sun*, by Kristin D. Phillips (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2019), *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2019** Review of *Contemporary Nigerian Politics: Competition in a Time of Transition and Terror*, by A. Carl LeVan (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 57(3): 492-493.

- 2018** Review of *This Present Darkness: A History of Nigerian Organized Crime* by Stephen Ellis (London and New York: Oxford University Press, 2016), *The Journal of African History* 59(1): 168-170.
- 2016** "The Petro-Developmental State in Africa: Making Oil Work in Angola, Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea by Jesse Salah Ovadia London: Hurst, 2016. Pp. 246.£ 40 (hbk)." *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 55(2): 341-343.
- 2015** "Resources for Reform: Oil and Neoliberalism in Argentina Elana Shever (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2012)." *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, POLAR, (2015): 192-195
- 2015** "Criminal Resistance?: The Politics of Kidnapping Oil Workers." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 44(3): 391-392.
- 2001 (with Bamidele Aturu and Chima Ubani) *A Handbook on Facilitating Human Rights Training Courses*. Lagos: Civil Liberties Organization.
- 1999 *The Church and Human Rights: A Human Rights Education Training Manual for Churches in Nigeria*. Lagos: Civil Liberties Organization.
- 1999 *Islam and Human Rights: A Human Rights Education Training Manual for Islamic Groups in Nigeria*. Lagos: Civil Liberties Organization.

Invited Presentations

- 2024 Ubiquitous Infrastructures: Oloibiri, Climate Politics and Energy Futures in Nigeria, Keynote address at the Energy, Waste and Environment in West Africa, Rice University, September 2024
- 2024 Escravos and Forcados: Crude and the Racial Construction of Oil Enclaves in Nigeria, Conference on Energy Humanities and the South: Energy Justice in a Period of Transition, Texas A and M, University, October 2024.
- 2024 Social Media and Youth Engagement in Nigeria, A special Lecture Delivered in Honor of the Late Political Scientist, Professor Abubakar Momoh, Lagos State University, July 2024.
- 2023 Let's Set Them Blaze: Energy Practices, Environment and the Social Death of the Environment in Nigeria, University of Oklahoma, October 2023
- 2023 They Just Want Us to Die a Slow Death: Energy Practices, Environment and the Social Death of the Environment in Nigeria, Texas A and M University, September, 2023
- 2023 Extractivism as Whiteness: Crude and the Racial Construction of Oil Enclaves in Nigeria. Fossil Capitalism in the Global South: A Symposium. Neubaum Collegium, University of Chicago, May 2023.
- 2023 Guest Speaker, Launch of Cryptopolitics: Exposure, Concealment, and Digital Media, New York, Berghahn Press, KU Leuven University, Belgium, June 2023
- 2023 Speaker, After Bandung: Africa and China in a New Era, Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs, New Haven, April 2023.

- 2023 Speaker, Working Together to Tackle Climate Change, Presidential Inauguration Symposium, University of Michigan, March 2023.
- 2023 The Contract Promise: Negotiated Space and the Shift from MOU to GMOU in Nigeria's Oil Enclaves. Advancing the Anthropology of Contract Workshop, School of Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico, March 2023.
- 2023 China, Infrastructure, Oil and Special Economic Zones. Global Africa Meets Global Asia Workshop, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE, January 2023.
- 2021 Speaker, Presidential Award on Distinguished Service in International Education in honor of Rackham Graduate School Assistant Dean John Godfrey
- 2021 The City and the Oil: Of Engineers and Innovators in an Affective and Imagined Enclave, KU Leuven, Brussels, Belgium, August 2021
- 2020 "Anthropological Thoughts on Research and Writing in the Age of COVID," University of Rochester, November 2020.
- 2020 "Affective Spaces of Value: Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure and Artisanal Refineries in Nigeria," University of Bologna, Italy, November 2020.
- 2020 "Crafting Spaces of Value: Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure and Artisanal Refineries in Nigeria," University of Pittsburgh, February 2020
- 2019 "Enclaves of Exception: Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure, Energy and Extractive Practices in Nigeria," Keynote address at the University of Florida, Gainesville Carter Conference on Energy: Africa from Technopolitics to Technofutures, March 2019
- 2019 "Fastest Path to Zero: Conference on Climate Change," University of Michigan, April 2019
- 2018 "Crafting Spaces of Value: Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure and Artisanal Refineries in Nigeria," Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, October 2018
- 2018 "China, Infrastructure, Oil and Special Economic Zones in Nigeria," Georgetown University, August 2018
- 2018 "Oil and its Politics in Nigeria," Department of Anthropology, University of Rochester, March 2018
- 2018 "Resource Distribution and Oil Politics in Nigeria," Emory University, April 2018
- 2018 "Artisanal Refineries, Economic Zones and Insurgency in Nigeria," School of Foreign Service, American University, Washington, April 2018
- 2017 "'We Own This Oil': Artisanal Refineries, Extractive Industries and the Politics of Displacement," Middle East Studies' Displacement and the Making of the Modern World, Brown University, April 2017
- 2016 "Hybridized Governance: Artisanal Refineries, Extractive Industries and the Politics of Oil in Nigeria," African Studies Center, Michigan State University, April 2016

- 2015 “Hybridized Governance: Artisanal Refineries, Extractive Industries and the Politics of Oil in Nigeria,” Polson Institute for Global Development and Africana Studies and Training Center, Cornell University, October 2015
- 2015 “Proclaiming Amnesty, Constructing Peace: Truth Telling, Oil Insurgency and the Silencing of Violence in Nigeria,” Center for Human Rights and Peace Studies, Lehman College, City University of New York, May 2015
- 2015 “The Politics of Resource Extraction in Africa,” Emory University, March 30, 2015
- 2015 “The State’s Two Bodies: Oil Creeks of Violence and the City of Sin in Nigeria,” Northwestern University, Feb. 25, 2015
- 2014 “Proclaiming Amnesty, Constructing Peace: Oil and the Silencing of Violence,” presented at “The Comparative Politics of Accountability, Transnational Justice and Civil Conflict: On the Deployment of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law” panel, University of Michigan Law School, Sep. 18, 2014
- 2013 “The Nation’s Two Bodies: Nigeria’s Creeks of Violence and the City of Sin” presented to The Institute of African Studies, Emory University, Oct. 10, 2013
- 2013 “Mythic Oil: Corporations, Protests and the Politics of Claim-Making in Nigeria,” presented at the “A Contested Resource: Oil in Africa Conference,” The African Studies Program, Indiana University and the Indiana Consortium for International Programs (Bloomington), March 2013
- 2013 “Contested Spaces: Conflicting Nation: Oil, Violence and the Cultural Production of a Nation,” presented at the “Global Ecologies: Nature, Narrative and Neo-liberalism Conference,” University of California Los Angeles, March 2013
- 2012 “The Politics of Oil Conflict in Nigeria,” presented at the Teachers Outreach Conference, Indiana University, June 20, 2012
- 2010 “Oil Citizenship in Nigeria,” presented at the “Science, Environments in Africa” conference, University of Michigan, May 2010

Conference Panels and Presentations

- 2024 Co-Organizer, Reluctant Transitions: Energy, Affect, and Postcarbon Futures, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 20-14, Tampa, Florida
- 2024 Ubiquitous Infrastructures: Oloibiri, Climate Politics and Energy Futures in Nigeria, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 20-14, Tampa, Florida
- 2024 Ubiquitous Infrastructures: Oloibiri, Climate Politics and Energy Futures in Nigeria, Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, December 14-18, Chicago,
- 2023 Oil Infrastructures, Climate Politics and Energy Futures in Nigeria, European Conference on African Studies, ECAS, May-June, 2023, Cologne, Germany,
- 2023 Co-Organizer, Africa’s Energy Futures, European Conference on African Studies, ECAS, May-June, 2023, Cologne, Germany,

- 2021 Environmental Degradation, Infrastructure and the Complicated Technologies of Extraction, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, Maryland.
- 2021 Energy Landscapes in Transition: Techniques of Extraction, Environment, and Eco-Justice in East and West Africa, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, Maryland (Chair and panel organizer)
- 2019 “Proceed to Your Death: Lakuwa, Environmental Disaster Management and Oil Distribution Politics in Nigeria,” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, ASA November 21-23, 2019, Boston Massachusetts.
- 2019 “Negotiating Corporate Capitalism: African Encounters with Agribusiness and Extractive Industries,” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, ASA November 21-23, 2019, Boston Massachusetts, Panel Chair
- 2018 “Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure, Energy and Extractive Practices in Nigeria,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, November 2018
- 2018 “Crafting Spaces of Value: Special Economic Zones, Infrastructure, Energy and Extractive Practices in Nigeria,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia December 2018
- 2017 “‘We Own This Oil’: Artisanal Refineries, Extractive Industries and Oil Politics in Nigeria,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC December 2017
- 2017 “Oil, Artisanal Refineries, Extractive Practices and Corporate Politics in Nigeria,” African Studies Association, Chicago, December 2017
- 2016 “The Facebook President: Citizenship, Oil and the Social Mediation of Politics in Nigeria,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2016
- 2016 “Forensis, Evidence, Social Media and Oil Politics,” presented as part of Ethnography And Forensis: Anthropology as Field and Forum, Executive Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2016
- 2016 “Contentious Citizenship: Negotiating Political Identity and Rights in Africa,” panel chair, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2016
- 2016 “When China Comes to Town: Economy, Structure and Governance in Free Trade Zones in Nigeria,” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington, December 2016
- 2015 (with Seyram Avle) “‘Whose Freedom? Which Information?’: Discourses on Freedom of Information Policies,” presented at the International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference (Montreal, Canada), July 2015

- 2015 Organizer and presenter, “Imagining Communities, Contesting Cultural Heritage: Oil and the Production of Cultural Meanings in Nigeria,” at the “Who Owns The Oil? Corporations, the State, Heritage and the Politics of Claim-Making in Africa Conference,” University of Michigan, April 3, 2015
- 2014 “Oil Pipelines of Wealth: Imaginary Landlords and Resource Surveillance Contractors in Nigeria,” presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (Washington, DC), Dec. 3, 2014
- 2014 Chair and Co-organizer of the “Oil Citizenship in Emerging Energy Economies” panel, African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Indianapolis, Indiana), Nov. 23, 2014
- 2014 “Proclaiming Amnesty, Constructing Peace: Oil Insurgency and the Silencing of Violence in Nigeria,” presented at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Indianapolis, Indiana), Nov. 23, 2014
- 2013 Chair and Co-Organizer, “Politics of Dispossession: Contested Resources and the Production of Place in Africa” panel, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, (Chicago), November 2013
- 2013 “Contested Spaces, Conflicting Nation: Violence, Oil and the ‘City of Sin’,” presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, (Chicago), November 2013
- 2012 Chair and Co-organizer, “Humanitarianism and Human Rights: Conceptualizing Development, Security and Justice in Africa” panel, African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), December 2012
- 2012 “Embodying the Modern: Neoliberalism, NGOs and the Culture of Human Rights Practices in Nigeria,” presented at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), December 2012
- 2012 “Neoliberalism, NGOs and the Culture of Human Rights Practices in Nigeria,” presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (San Francisco), November 2012
- 2011 “Contested Spaces, Conflicting Nation: Modernity, Oil Violence and the Production of Competing Subjectivities in Nigeria,” presented at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Washington DC), Nov. 20, 2011
- 2011 “Contested Landscapes: Modernity, Oil Violence and the Production of a Nation,” presented at the Anthropology and History Workshop, The University of Michigan, Nov. 11, 2011
- 2011 “Mythic Oil: Resources, Belonging and the Politics of Claims Making among Ilaje Yorùbás,” presented to The Mellon-Sawyer Seminar on “Ethnicity in Africa: Historical, Comparative and Contemporary Investigations,” University of Michigan, April 2011
- 2009 “Oil Modernity, Violence, Resistance and the Cultural Production of Alternative Subjectivities in Nigeria,” presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), December 2009

- 2009 Co-organizer, “Violence and Power: NGOs and the Production of the “Other” in the Gulf of Guinea”, panel African Studies Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans), November 2009
- 2009 “Platforms of Possibilities, Pipelines of Conflicts: Oil and the Production of Alternative Subjectivities in Nigeria,” presented at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans), November 2009
- 2009 “Oil Modernity, Violence, Resistance and the Cultural Production of Alternative Subjectivities in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria,” presented to the Ethnography and Social Theory Colloquium, Department of Anthropology, Yale University, April 2009

Research and Field Experience

- 2014-2024 Summer field research in Lagos, Ibadan, Abuja, Yenegoa, and Port Harcourt on Special Economic Zones and Artisanal Refineries in Nigeria
- 2014-2016 Preliminary summer research in Lagos, Ibadan, and Port Harcourt on China’s engagement in the oil industry in Nigeria
- 2013-2014 Research on oil at the intersection of heritage and politics in Ilaje, Niger Delta, Nigeria
- 2012-2013 Field study in Maasai Mara and Nanyuki region of Kenya on Environment and conservation in national parks
- 2011-2012 Field study in Maasai Mara and Nanyuki region of Kenya on Environment and conservation in national parks
- 2011-2012 Summer fieldwork in the Niger Delta on oil wealth and insurgency
- 2007-2009 Dissertation fieldwork in the Niger Delta, Nigeria
- 2005-2006 Pre-dissertation summer field research on the politics of belonging in Ilaje, Nigeria
- 2003-2004 M.A. thesis research in Nigeria on democratization, economic growth, and truth commissions

Professional Service: Departmental and University

- 2022- present Director, African Studies Center
- 2024-Present Summer Faculty Mentor for Race and Ethnicity Course Development Program
- 2022-Present Member, Raoul Wallenberg Medal Executive Committee
- 2022-2023 Member, Rackham International Graduate Student Diversity Committee
- 2021-2022 Member, LSA Race and Ethnicity Curriculum Review Committee
- 2021-2022 Member, Search Committee, Bentley Chair in African History, Department of History
- 2021-2022 LSA Anti-Racism Curriculum Working Group
- 2021-2022 Member, Fulbright Campus Interview Committee
- 2020- Member, Donia Human Rights Center Advisory Board

2020- Member, Presidential Award Committee on Distinguished Service in International Education

2020-Present Member, University of Michigan Press Executive Committee

2022-Present Member, DAAS Fellowship Committee

2020- 2022 Chair, DAAS Fellowship Committee

2019-2020 Chair, Ad hoc committee on Dual Career Hire Brian Klein

2019-2020 Chair, Search Committee, Yoruba Lecturer

2018- Present Associate Chair, Department of Aframerican and African Studies

2018- Present Member, Advisory Board, LSA ADVANCE

2018- 2019 Co-Chair DAAS Fellowship Committee

2018- 2022 Chair, SAIO Committee

2018- 2022 Member, DAAS Executive Committee

2018- Present Member, African Studies Center Executive Committee

2018- 2020 Chair, MIRS Africa Subplan Admissions Committee

2018-Present Faculty Advisor, African Graduate Students Association

2018- 2019 Member, MIRS Executive Committee

2018- Present Member, African Social Research Initiative, African Studies Center

2018- Present Member, Graduate Certificate Program Committee

2016-2022 Member, Presidential Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights

2016-2018 Co-Coordinator, African Humanities and Heritage Initiative, African Studies center

2016-2018 Member, African Social Research Initiative, African Studies Center

2016-2018 Member, Working Group, SNRE Transition to New School for the Environment and Sustainability, SEAS

2016-2018 Coordinator, Africa Workshop

2016-2018 Member, Graduate Certificate Program Committee

2015-2016 Member, Fulbright Campus Interview Committee

2014-2017 Member, Curriculum Committee, DAAS

2014-2017 Director, Honors Program, DAAS

2014-2015 Member, Executive Committee, DAAS

2014-2016 Member, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, University of Michigan Senate Assembly Representative

- 2013-2016 LSA Representative, University Senate Assembly
- 2014-2017 Member, Pite Environmental Justice Minor Development Committee
- 2014-2017 Fellowship Applications Reviewer, International Institute
- 2014-2017 Grant Application Reviewer, U-M Office of Research
- 2014-2016 Member, DAAS PhD Exploratory Committee
- 2012-2014 Member, DAAS Curriculum Committee
- 2013-2014 Co-Director, DAAS Honors Program
- 2013-2016 Member, PitE Environmental Justice Minor Development Committee
- 2010-2012 Member, South Africa Initiatives Office (SAIO) Committee

Professional Service: National and International

- 2024-2025 Co-President, Association of Africanist Anthropologists, a section of the American Association of Anthropologists
- 2022-present Editorial Board, Journal of Modern African Studies
- 2021-Present Editorial Board, Political and Legal Anthropology Review, POLAR
- 2021-Present Member, Interdisciplinary Advisory Board, C-Urge, an interdisciplinary Doctoral Network of some European universities funded by the European Union with the objective of recruiting and supervising doctoral students working on Climate Change
- 2020-Present Program Chair, Association of Africanist Anthropologists, a section of the American Anthropological Association
- 2020-Present Editorial Board, Social Analysis
- 2020- 2022 National Science Foundation Advisory Panel
- 2018- Present Member, Members Programmatic Advisory and Advocacy Committee, American Anthropological Association
- 2019- Present Corresponding Editor and Member of the Editorial Board, Current Anthropology
- 2019-2022 Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Africa, Journal of the International African Institute
- 2017-Present Faculty Fellow, Ife Institute of Advanced Studies, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
- 2016 -Present Member, Governing Board, Social Development Integrated Center, Nigeria
- 2016 -Present Member, Advisory Board, Social Action International, Canada
- 2015 -Present Member, Chinese in Africa/Africans in China Research Network
- 2013-2014 Co-Chair, Program Committee, African Studies Association 2014 Annual Meeting

2013-2015 Member of the application review committee of the Obama administration's Young African Leaders Initiative/Mandela Fellowship, The Washington Fellowship for African Leaders

2010- Book manuscript, article, and proposal reviewer for:

African Studies Review
Political Science Quarterly
Africa, Journal of the International African Institute
National Science Foundation
Political and Legal Anthropology Review
Niger Delta Research Digest
Africa Today
Culture, Theory and Critique
Global Change, Peace and Security
Contemporary Sociology
Journal of African and Asian Studies
Journal of Material Culture
Indiana University Press
Wiley-Blackwell
Landscape and Urban Planning
Journal of Modern African Studies Palgrave-McMillan
Canadian Social Science and Humanities Research Council
African Arguments/Hurst
Routledge
Cambridge University Press
Transforming Anthropology
Oxford University press

Foreign Languages

Yoruba (fluent), West African Pidgin (fluent)

Related Professional Experience

2003-2006 Postgraduate Researcher, Department of African-American and African Studies, University of California, Davis

1994-2002 Head, Human Rights Education Department, Civil Liberties Organization, Lagos

1996-2002 Editor, *Religion and Society*, a quarterly publication on religion, human rights, and democracy in Nigeria published by the Civil Liberties Organization, Lagos

1996-2002 Editor, *Labor Rights*, a quarterly publication on labor and human rights issues in Nigeria published by the Civil Liberties Organization, Lagos

Special Educational Certificates

- 9/00-11/00 Amnesty International, United Kingdom Section, Human Rights Education Dept. Training on the application of human rights to local communities London, England
- 9/00-12/00 Council for Education in World Citizenship Training on Human rights enforcement procedures, London, England
- 3/00-5/00 Danish Center for Human Rights Training in information and human rights education, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2/99-6/99 Institute of Social Studies (ISS) Development Law and Social Justice, The Hague, The Netherlands
- 9/96-11/96 Human Rights Institute of South Africa Training in human rights procedures and application, Harare, Zimbabwe

Doctoral Committees

- | Mandy Davis (Comparative Literature, graduated)
- | Achirri C. Ishmael (Anthropology and SNRE, graduated)
- | David Suel (Political Science, graduated)
- | Amanda Kaminsky (Anthropology)
- | Marlotte DeJong (SEAS)
- | Amanda Ndaw (Romance Languages and Literature, graduated)
- | Aderayo Sanusi (Anthropology, Princeton University)
- | Talitha Pam (Anthropology and History)
- | Inhae Yap (Anthropology)
- | Saifullah Nasar (Anthropology)
- | Congy Dai (SEAS)
- | Nanah-Yaw Andoh (Architecture and Urban Planning, graduated)
- | Ryan Glauser (History)
- | Seohyung Kim (Anthropology)

Graduate Certificate Mentees

- | David Suel (Political Science, graduated)
- | Taru (Urban Planning, graduated)
- | Sadiyah Malcolm (Sociology, graduated)
- | Colleen Hill (SNRE and Ross School, graduated)
- | Amanda Kaminsky (SNRE and Anthropology)
- | Marlotte DeJong (SEAS, graduated)
- | Claire Poekling (SEAS, graduated)

Master's Thesis Advisee

- | Amanda Kaminsky (SNRE, graduated)
- | Marlotte DeJong (SEAS, graduated)
- | Roshan Krishnan (SEAS, graduated)
- | Meghna Patnaik (SEAS, graduated)
- | Alyson Grisby (MA in Transcultural Studies, graduated)

Undergraduate Mentees

- | Zachary Petroni (Winner of the 2013 Raoul Wallenberg Fellowship)
- | Shani Campbell
- | Victoria Lucas (Winner of the Energy Institute Summer Research Award 2018)
- | Michelle Liu
- | Hannah Kuriakose (Winner of the Lyle E. Craine Undergraduate Award 2021)

Honors Thesis Advisee

- | Terra Schneider, (Anthropology)
- | Hannah Kuriakose (Pite) (Urban Farming and Food Insecurity in Detroit and Toronto 2021)
- | Sara Hodin (Anthropology) (Mothers Know Best: Women's Birthing Experiences in East Africa and Implications for Maternal Health and Child Health, 2013)
- | Alyssa Elaine Feenstra (DAAS) "*Making A Living, Making Meaning: Exploring the Lives of Senegambian Female Immigrants Living in Southeastern Michigan*" (2016)

Undergraduate Independent Study

- | Hannah Kuriakose (Pite)
- | Michelle Liu (Pite)

Graduate Independent Study

- | Marlotte DeJong (DAAS/SEAS)
- | Taru (Urban Planning/DAAS)
- | David Suel (Political Science/DAAS)
- | Collen Hill (SEAS/Ross/DAAS)
- | Claire Poelking (DAAS/SNRE)

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Students

- | Olubisi Ajetunmobi, "China and Oil Extraction in Nigeria"
- | Angelice Floyd, "China, Migration and Oil in Africa"
- | James Griffith, "Chinese Immigration and Oil Relations with Angola and Nigeria"
- | Chinemelu Okafor, "The Business of Oil Extraction in Nigeria"
- | Shreya Pattel, "Contestations over Oil Benefits in Africa"
- | Madison Lay "Social Media and Climate Advocacy"
- | Adele Flores-Noel "Social Media and Climate Advocacy"
- | Shao Shuan Wu "Social Media and Climate Advocacy"

Abrams Sustainability Fellows Mentees

- | Mikaela Taylor

| Maddie Bianchi

Postdoctoral Mentee

| Adrian Deese

| Adwoa Opoku-Agyemang

| Roseline Armange

Faculty Mentee

| Brian Klein

UMAPS Mentee

| Dr. Rosemary Popoola, Covenant University, Nigeria (2020-2022)

| Dr. Olubunmi Brainard, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria (2020-2022)

| Dr. Babajide Ololajulo, University of Ibadan, Nigeria (2016-2017)

| Dr. Okechukwu Nwafor, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nigeria (2018-2019)

Graduate MCUBED Research Team

| Seyram Avle (Communication Studies)

| Charisse Willis (English and Women's Studies)

| Abigail Celis (Romance Languages and Literature)

| Christina DeLarose (English and Women's Studies)

| Tanya Camela Logan (Romance Languages and Literature)

Graham Sustainability Institute Study Abroad

| 2013 Field Study in Maasai Mara National Reserve and Mpala Research Center (12 University of Michigan Students and 6 University of Nairobi Students in cultural Immersion and Conservation study)

| 2012 Field Study in Maasai Mara National Reserve and Mpala Research Center (12 University of Michigan Students and 6 University of Nairobi Students in cultural Immersion and Conservation study)

Courses Taught

| Conservation & Development in Cultural Landscapes: Field Study in Kenya

| Introduction to African Studies

| Introduction to Environmental Politics: Race, Class and Gender (Class produced two Excellence in Upper-Level Writing Prize winners)

| Transnational Human Rights Formations and New Sovereignties

| Social Media and the Culture and Politics of Human Rights

| Energy Matters: Environment, Culture, Power and the Oil State

| Violent Environments: Oil, Development and the Discourse of Power

| When China Comes to Town: Environment and the Politics of Development

| Social Media and the New Age of Activism

| Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Africa

| Africa, China Environment and Development
| Honors Social Science Track