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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, English and Global Black Studies, Clemson University, 2023-Present
Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2017-2023
J. William Fulbright Fellow, Yale University, 2014-2015

EDUCATION

Ph.D., African Cultural Studies, Minor in History, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2023
M.A., African Languages and Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018
M.A., International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, 2017
PGD., Mass Communication, Kenya Institute of Mass Communication, 2013
B.Ed., English Literature, Minor in Linguistics, University of Nairobi, 2011
Non-Degree, English and African Studies, Yale University, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Ongoing Book Projects

The Poetics of Arrested Transcendence: Ebrahim Hussein and the Politics of Theatre in East Africa.
Hospital as Nation: Medicine and Postcolonial Literature.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

“Narrating Fractures: Teaching Notes on Yaa Gyasi’s *Homegoing*.” *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*, vol. 13, no. 2, 2025, pp. 247-262.
“Unbreakable Bodies: Maji Maji and Ebrahim Hussein’s *Kinjeketile*.” *Matatu: Journal for African Literary and Cultural Studies*, vol. 56, no. 2, 2025, pp. 364-389.

- “The Poetics of Second Liberation: Revisiting Aimé Cesaire’s *King Christophe*.” *Nordic Journal of African Studies*, vol. 33, no. 3, 2024, pp. 203-218.
- “Voicing Afro-Modernity: How Black Atlantic Audiobooks Speak Back.” *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, vol. 35, no. 4, 2023, pp. 392-407.
- “Soundscape and Narrative Dynamics in Chinelo Okparanta’s *Under the Udala Trees*.” *Journal of the African Literature Association*, vol. 13, no. 3, 2019, pp. 291-305.
- “Traveling Images: Photography and Visual Peace in Africa.” *Journal of Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies* (Accepted).
- “Specters of the Self: Anxiety, Political Subjectivity, and Ebrahim Hussein’s *Mashetani*.” *Journal of African Literature Association* (Revisions Under Review).
- “Living in the Ruins: Salvaging Afro-Asian Relations in Hafsa Zayyan’s *We Are All Birds of Uganda*.” *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* (Under Review).

Creative Works

- Echoes of Green: A Play*. Spotlight Publishers (EA) Limited, 2025.
- A Shadow in the Sun: A Play*. Pearls Publishers Limited, 2019. [Premiered at the University Nairobi, August 2019].
- Beacon of Hope: A Novella* [Undergraduate thesis. University of Nairobi, 2011].
- Apocalypsis: A Play* [Premiered at the University of Nairobi, 2010].
- Masks for the Soul: A Play* [Under Review – Spotlight Publishers (EA) Limited].
- Zora, The Photographer: Children’s Book* [Under Review – Oxford University Press].

Select Conference Presentations

- “Medical Humanities and the Politics of Enactment: Transmedial Storytelling in Omobowale’s *The President’s Physician*.” African Literature Association (ALA), Knoxville, Tennessee, May 2026. [Upcoming]
- “The Hospital as Nation: Literature, Medicine, and the Politics of Decolonization.” African Literature Association (ALA), Knoxville, Tennessee, May 2026. [Upcoming]
- “From Aural to Visual Archives: *Pichadithi* Comics as Cultural Resistance in 1980s Kenya.” African Studies Association (ASA), Atlanta, November 2025.
- “Displacement, Ruination, and Salvaging of Racial Relations in Hafsa Zayyan’s *We Are All Birds of Uganda*.” African Literature Association (ALA), Nairobi, Kenya, June 2025. [Virtual]

- “Anatomies of Resistance: The Body Politic and Mau Mau Memory in Kenneth Watene’s Drama.” African Literature Association, Nairobi, June 2025 [Virtual]
- “Greening the Grassroots: Motherhood and Melodramatic Imagination in East African Eco-Drama.” African Studies Association (ASA), Chicago, December 2024.
- “Braiding Peace: Drama and the Politics of Speaking of Violence.” University of Nairobi, Kenya. October 30-31, 2024. [Virtual]
- “The Body and the Institution of the Imaginary.” African Literature Association (ALA), University of Louisville, KY, May 23-25, 2024.
- “Globalization and Multiculturalism in East Africa: Yusuf Dawood’s *Return to Paradise* and Hafsa Zayyan’s *We are all Birds of Uganda*.” African Studies Association, San Francisco, December 2023.
- “From Homeland to the Host Land and Back: Yusuf Dawood’s *Return to Paradise*.” African Literature Association, University of Tennessee, May 2023.
- “Creative Innovations in West African Literature: Accentuating Sound in Chinua Achebe’s Poetics.” Integrating West African Perspectives and Voices into the Curriculum Conference, Oakton College, April 2022.
- “Animated Corpses: Martyrology and the Invention of a Parrhesiatic Figure in African and Caribbean Drama,” African Studies Association, Philadelphia, November 2022.
- “Medicine for a Multiracial Nation: Yusuf Dawood’s Fiction and the Writing of the New Kenyan Multiracialism,” African Literature Association, May 2022.
- “The Poetics of Unbreakable Bodies.” 16th Annual University of Maryland History Graduate Student Association Conference, March 18, 2022.
- “New Orality and African Literary Forms in the Era of Audiobooks.” African Studies Association, November 2021 (with Reginold Royston).
- “Islam in Post-Genocide Rwanda.” African Studies Association (ASA), November 2021.
- “Space Traitors: The Politics of Narrating Strategic and Structural Censorship in Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s Works.” African Literature Association, May 2021.
- “Frontline Literati: Gender, Sexuality, and Academic Resistance in African Literary Studies.” African Literature Association, May 2021.
- “Contending Modernities: Staging Legal, Religious, and Secular Sexuality Narratives.” UW-Madison QLaw Conference, Pyle Center, Madison, October 2019.
- “Arts for Social Change and the Politics of Speaking of Violence in Africa.” Sustainable Peace Conference, Notre Dame, IN, October 2019.

- “African Literature and Aurality in the Age of Audiobooks.” African Literature Association, Columbus, Ohio, May 2019.
- “Cartooning Kenyan Educational System: A Social Semiotic Analysis of Gado’s Works.” African Literature Association, Columbus, Ohio, May 2019 (with Cecilia Kyalo).
- “Images that Speak: The Politics of Visualizing Everyday Violence in Darfur.” African Cultural Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 2019.
- “Doing African Cultural Studies: The Idea of Africa and the Legacy of Afrocentrism.” AfriSem, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, April 2019.
- “Border Crossings: Transnational Hip Hop and the Search for Alternative Future.” Critical Ethnic Studies Association Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, June 2018.
- “A Bom(b) Nation: Soundscape and Narrative Dynamics in Chinelo Okparanta’s *Under the Udala Trees*.” African Cultural Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 2018.
- “Narratives of Peace and Conflict in Israel and Palestine and their Implication on Peace Negotiations.” Notre Dame Peace Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, March 2017.
- “Telling the Truth Laughingly: Using Comedy to Challenge Ethnic Stereotypes in Africa.” Notre Dame Peace Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, April 2016.
- “Engaging Educators in Peacebuilding: Creating a Culture of Peace among Children through Collaborative Writing.” Young Scholars Peace Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, November 2015.

FELLOWSHIPS

- Lightsey Fellowship, 2026-2027
Humanities Hub, Clemson University
- Andrew W. Mellon Public Humanities Fellowship, 2022-2023
Center for Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Teaching Academy Fellow, 2023
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Odyssey Beyond Bars and African Studies Program Fellowship, 2021-2022
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- African Studies Program Fellowship, 2020-2021
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ebrahim Hussein Fellowship for Research in African Expressive Cultures, 2020-2021
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Graduate School Fellowship, 2019-2020
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies Fellowship, 2015-2017
University of Notre Dame

Fulbright Fellowship, 2014-2015
US Fulbright Program, Yale University

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Idol-South Award, 2024
English Department, Clemson University

Campus-Wide Teaching Award for Exceptional Service, 2023
University of Wisconsin-Madison

A.C. Jordan Prize for Best Research Paper on Africa, 2022
African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Conference Travel Grant, Philadelphia, PA, 2022
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Summer Dissertation Writing Award, 2022
African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Summer Fieldwork Award, 2021
Institute for Research in International Studies (IRIS)

Research Travel Grant, Washington, DC, 2020
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Conference Travel Grant, Notre Dame, Indiana, 2019
Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame

African Studies Program Fieldwork Award, 2019
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Conference Travel Grant, Columbus, Ohio, 2019
University of Wisconsin-Madison

African Studies Program Conference Travel Grant, 2019
AfriSem, Northwestern University

Conference Travel Grant, University of British Columbia, Canada, 2018
African Cultural Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Conference Travel Award, United Nations, New York, 2017
University of Notre Dame

Field Experience Grant, Kenya National Archives, Nairobi, 2016
Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies

Conference Travel Grant, Washington DC, 2015
Council on African Studies, Yale University

ACADEMIC TEACHING

Clemson University

ENGL 3650 Science Fiction (Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025, Spring 2026).
ENGL 4300/6300 Dramatic Literature (Spring 2024, Fall 2025, Fall 2026).
ENGL 2160 African American Literature (Summer 2024).
ENGL 6420 Cultural Studies (Fall 2024).
GBS 1000 Introduction to Global Black Studies (Spring 2026).
GBS 1010 Africa and the Atlantic World (Fall 2024).
ENGL 4830/6830 African American Literature 1920 to Present (Spring 2025).
ENGL 4190/6190 Postcolonial & World Literature (Fall 2025).
ENG 3490 Technology and the Popular Imagination (Fall 2026)

University of Wisconsin-Madison

AFRICAN 100: African Cultural Expression (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020).
AFRICAN 203: Literature, Medicine, and Healing (Summer 2023).
AFRICAN/AFRO-AM 233: Hip Hop and Social Justice (Spring 2018, Spring 2019).
AFRICAN/HIST/ANTH 277: Introductory Survey to Africa (Summer 2020).
HIST 130: Introduction to World History (Spring 2020).
INTL ST 401: Nonviolence and Social Change (Summer 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022).

Yale University

AFST 161: Introduction to African Studies (Spring 2015).
SWAH 170: Topics in Swahili Literature (Spring 2015).

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editor, *The Lightbulb Journal*, 2021-present.
Social Media Editor, *Brittle Paper*, 2018-2019.
Creative Works Editor, Longhorn Publishers, 2012-2014.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Member, Global Engagement Committee, Clemson University, 2024-2025.
Member, Curriculum Committee, Clemson University, 2024.
Member, Advisory Committee, Interdisciplinary Studies, Clemson University, 2024.
Grant Reviewer, National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), 2020.
Reviewer, *Tydskrif vir Letterkunde Journal*, 2020-2024.
Reviewer, *The Global South*, 2025
Reviewer, *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*, 2024.
Member, African Cultural Studies Curriculum Committee, UW-Madison, 2020-2021.
Representative, Associated Students of Madison, 2019-2020, 2022-2023.

DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Galen R. Faison (Member, Ph.D. in Rhetorics, Information Design, and Communication Dissertation Committee).
Benjamin Akinlabi (Member, M.A in English Thesis Committee).
Moyinoluwa Priscilla Oripeloye (Member, M.A in English Thesis Committee).

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Volunteer at Every Campus is a Refugee (ECAR), Clemson University, 2023-Present.
Mellon Public Humanities Fellow, Madison Youth Arts Center (MYArts), 2022 to 2023.
Tutor at Oakhill Correctional Institution, Madison, Wisconsin, Fall 2022.
Instructor at Oakhill Correctional Institution, Madison, Wisconsin, Spring 2022.
African Literature Curator, Brittle Paper and Wisconsin Public Libraries, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

African Literature Association (ALA), since 2017.
African Studies Association (ASA), since 2020.
Critical Ethnic Studies Association (CESA), since 2017.
International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), since 2016.
Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSa), since 2015.