

Tarik A. Richardson, PhD
Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor
Department of African American and Diaspora Studies
Xavier University of Louisiana
College of Arts & Science
New Orleans, Louisiana
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Africology and African American Studies, July 2022

Temple University, Philadelphia PA

Doctoral Dissertation:

“The African Roots of Swahili Ontology: An Investigation into the Africanity & Historiography of a Coastal Society”

Masters of Africology and African American Studies, June 2019

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Bachelor of Arts in History, June 2016

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Minors: African Studies and Religious Studies

Undergraduate Thesis:

“The Continuous Struggle for Black Education”, March 2015

Certificate in Kiswahili for Foreigners: Intermediate Level, August 2015

The State University of Zanzibar, Tanzania

Thesis: *Africanity of the Kiswahili Language*

Presented to the faculty and staff of the State University of Zanzibar

Academic Honors & Awards

- Selected, Temple University 30 Under 30 - 2024
- Awarded, Temple University Dissertation Completion Grant, Temple University - 2022
- Selected, Stephen Couvillion Scholar, Temple University - 2018
- Awarded, College of Liberal Arts Travel Grant, Temple University – 2018
- Awarded, The Community Service Award, Black Student Union, Univ. of Oregon - 2016
- Selected, Gilman Scholar, Univ. of Oregon – 2015
- Selected, *Ebony Man*, Black Women of Achievement, Univ. of Oregon, 2014
- Awarded, Freshman Initiative Award, Black Student Union, Univ. of Oregon, 2013

- Selected, Diversity Excellent Scholar, Univ. of Oregon - 2012

Courses Instructed

- Professor, “Trans-Atlantic Blackness”, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA.
 - Spring 2024
- Professor, “Intro to African American History and Culture”, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA.
 - Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
- Professor, “African Americans, Africa, & Pan-Africanism”, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA.
 - Spring 2023
- Professor, “Representing Race”, Temple Univ., Phila., PA.
 - Fall 2022
- Professor/Instructor, “Blacks in World History”, Temple Univ., Phila., PA.
 - Fall 2020, 2021, 2022
- Instructor, “African Civilization”, Temple Univ.
 - Fall 2021 & Spring 2022
- Instructor, “Black Folklore: African and African American”, Temple Univ.
 - Spring 2021
- Instructor, “Black Politics in America”, Temple Univ., Phila., PA.
 - Fall 2020 & 2021
- Instructor, “The History of Blacks in Cinema”, Temple Univ., Phila., PA.
 - Summer 2020
- Assistant/Lecturer, “The History and Significance of Race in America”, Temple Univ., Phila., PA,
 - 2019-2020

Publications

- Editor, *Black Grad: Navigating into Success in Higher Education* [Pending]
- Reviewing Author, *W.E.B. Du Bois’ Africa: Scrambling for a New Africa* by T. Ade [Pending]
- Contributing Author, “The Intellectual Genealogy of Africology”, *Africology: Afrocentricity & The Transdisciplinary Legacy of Diopian Epistemology*, edited by Victor Okafor, [Pending]
- Author, “Folklore & the Origins of the Swahili: Discourse and Developments in the Study of Swahili Ancestry”, *National Council for Black Studies: Annual Report on the State of Affairs for Africana Communities*, The National Council for Black Studies, 2024
- Contributing Author, “Swahili Asili: Dismantling Exceptionalism and Revisiting the African Origins of Swahili Ontology”, *Transcendental Africanity: The Key to Defeating Afrophobia and Reclaiming Global Africa*, edited by Mohamed Saliou Camara, Universal Write Publications, 2024
- Author, *The Lion’s Storyteller: An Introduction to Pan-African Folktales*, Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2023
- Author, “Locating Du Bois, a Product of His Time. Ahead of his Time: Du Bois’ Contributions to the Development of an Afrocentric Discipline”, *Journal of Black Studies*, 2022

- Author, “The African Medical Paradigm: Delineating Tradition from Pathology during the Coronavirus Pandemic”, *NCBS Annual Report 2022*, The National Council for Black Studies, 2022
- Author, “Review of *Black Cultural Mythology*”, by Christel N. Temple, *Journal of Black Studies*, 2022
- Author, “Kuumba: Kwanzaa and the Strategic Importance of Creativity”, *Academia Letters*, Article 1559, 2022
- Author, “Pan-Africanism”, *African-American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment*. Spring 2023
- Author, “The Dredd Scott Decision”, *African-American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment*. Spring 2023
- Author, “The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)”, *African-American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment*. Spring 2023
- Author, “The Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)”, *African-American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment*. Spring 2023
- Author, “Executive Order 9981”, *African-American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment*. Spring 2023
- Author, “Multicultural Curricula & The Portland Baseline Essays: The Ongoing Struggle for Black Education”. *The Journal of the Alliance of Black School Educators (JABSE)*, Vol. 11 Number 2, Fall 2021
- Author, “Critical Extrapolation: An Analysis of the Methodological Deciphering of Runaway Advertisements”. *Academia Letters*, Article 924, Apr. 2021
- Editor, *The Imhotep Graduate Student Research Journal*. DAAS. Phila. PA. 2019. ISSN 2160-6188

Lectures Given

- Guest Lecturer, “African Environmentalism & The Toll of Neo-Colonialism in the Congo”, Alpha Kappa Alpha Informational Seminar on the Silent Holocaust in the Congo and African Environmentalism, 2023
- Guest Lecturer, “Contemporary Black Leadership and Community Organizing”, Cassandra Shepard’s XULA Teach-a-thon, 2023
- Guest Lecturer, “History of The Theater I”, Temple University, Department of Theater, Apr. 8, 2022
- Lecturer, “The Historiography and Politics of the African Medical Paradigm”. *African Historiography & the Contemporary Challenge*. ASCAC Mid-Atlantic. 2021
- Lecturer, “Dimensions of African Unity”. ARISE Oslo, Norway. 2021
- Lecturer, “Keeping Religion in the Closet: Implications of Ignoring Paradigm”, RBG Centennial Conference – 2020
- Lecturer, “Confronting Americanism and the Paradigm of the West”. *Race, Racism, and Anti-Racism: Redefining the Social Contract*. Temple Univ. Department of Africology. 2020
- Lecturer, “Afrikan Consciousness, Unity, and the Necessity of Afrocentric Organization & Mobilization in the Black Community”. ASCAC Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference. 2020

- Lecturer, “African Studies: Africology: The History, Philosophy, Legitimacy and the Study of Africa”, NAACP Lane County .2020
- Lecturer, “Intellectual Maroonage and Unity in Our Community”, ASCAC Lecture Series. 2018
- Lecturer, “Swahili Culture on the East Coast of Africa”, Pleasant Hill High School, Pleasant Hill, Ore. 2015

Talks & Speeches

- Book Talk, “The Lion’s Storyteller: An Introduction to Pan-African Folktales”, Temple University, Department of Africology & African American Studies, April 5th, 2024
- Panelist, “The Forgotten Occupation: Jim Crow Goes to Haiti”, Film Discussion, Xavier University Office of Student Affairs, New Orleans, LA, 2023
- Podcast Guest, “Are Democracy and Capitalism the African Way?”, Gumbo the Podcast, Season 2 Episode 7, 2023
- Keynote Speaker, “Unity in the Community: First Day of Kwanzaa Celebration”, Lane County Kwanzaa Celebration, 2023
- Keynote Speaker, “An Evening of NIA (Purpose)”, Nu Day Resurrection and Liberation, 2023
- Keynote Speaker, “Day of Kuumba”, AFCOM Kwanzaa Celebration, 2023
- Keynote Speaker, “Navigating into Success in Higher Education”, Nommo: An Afrocentric Intellectual Forum, DAAS Temple University, Sep. 22, 2022
- Keynote Speaker, “The Black Family: A Virtual Discussion”, Net Community Carre CUA-1, Feb. 22, 2022
- Panelist, “Neo-Renaissance and the Search of the Talented Tenth”, Conducting Creativity, Words with KAvery, & Pyramid: Art, Books, & Custom Framing, Feb. 24, 2022
- Podcast guest, “Implications of European Patriarchy”. Gumbo: The Podcast. Feb. 13, 2022
- Podcast guest, “The Other ‘Slave’ Trade”. Gumbo: The Podcast. Nov. 7, 2021
- Radio Guest, “WURD Radio College Tour Live”. WURD Radio. Philadelphia PA Sep. 27, 2021
- Podcast guest, “The Importance of Kwanzaa: Nguzo Saba in Practice”. Gumbo: The Podcast, Episode 3. Dec. 2020
- Keynote Speaker, “AVIDize Event”, Eugene 4j School District, Apr. 5, 2019
- Co-MC, NAACP Martin Luther King Day Celebration, Eugene, Ore. Jan. 17, 2016
- Speaker, “Kiswahili & the African Studies Program”. University of Oregon, Freshmen Orientation. Sep. 16, 2015

Presented Research

- Presented Keynote, “Folklore as a Mirror of Culture”, 3rd Annual Graduate Student Conference, Temple University, April 6th, 2024
- Presented, “Folklore as a Mirror of Culture”, Annual Louisiana Folklore Society Conference, Hammond, LA, March 15th, 2024
- Presented, "AI and the Future of the Discipline", Annual National Council for Black Studies Conference, San Jose CA, Mar. 6-9, 2023
- Invited, First Historic Abibitumi Conference, Accra, Ghana, July 7-9, 2023

- Presented, “Spiritual Agency as Resilience and Reparations: Examples from the Field (East Africa), 47th Annual National Council for Black Studies Conference, Gainesville, FL. March 25, 2023
- Presented “Just a Story: Folklore as a Tool in the Investigation of Self”, at the ASCAC Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Philadelphia, PA. Feb. 26, 2023
- Proposed and selected to present at the Second Outstanding Thinkers Conference: Theophile Obenga-Reinventing Africa through the African Intellectual Archive, *Ubuntu Reconsidered: An Investigation into an African notion of Humanity*, University of Abomey Calavi, Republic of Benin, June 13-15, 2022
- Proposed, selected and presented research findings to the 37th National Conference of the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization, “The Great African Thinkers Series: A Literary Celebration of our Intellectual Heroes”. 2021
- Proposed, selected and presented research to The National Council of Black Studies, *Uncovering Swahili Ontology: An Investigation into the Perseverance of East African Spiritualism*. 2020
- Proposed, selected and presented research to The Annual Cheikh Anta Diop Conference, “*The Construction of Swahili Identity: Arab Imperialism’s Effect on the People and Language of East Africa*”. 2019
- Proposed, selected and presented research to African Heritage Studies Association, *Du Bois, a Product of His Time, Ahead of his Time: A Review of Du Bois’ Scholarship Concerning Africa*. 2018
- Proposed, selected and presented research to the Diopian Institute for Scholarly Advancement, *Du Bois, a Product of His Time, Ahead of his Time: A Review of Du Bois’ Scholarship Concerning Africa*. 2018
- Proposed, selected and presented research to the 35th Association of the Study of Classical African Civilization, “Evaluation of the Attempts at a Multicultural Curriculum: The Baseline Essays”. 2017.
- Proposed, selected and presented research to the 33rd Association of the Study of Classical African Civilization, “A Different Type of Barbarian: Rethinking African International Relations in the Hellenistic Period,” (Alexander the Great through Cleopatra). 2015.
- Undergraduate Research Symposium 2015

Academic Projects

- Conference Organizer, ASCAC Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, *The Role of Study Informing Afrikan Thought & Action in These Modern Times*, Feb. 26, 2023
- Editor, “Black Grad: Navigating into Success in Higher Education” [Publisher Pending]
- Lead Researcher, “The Africology Oral History Project: Documenting the Department History”, Temple University, The Charles L. Blockson Collection, Philadelphia PA. 2019-22
- Archival Specialist, “The Molefi Kete Asante Collection”, The Charles L. Blockson Collection, Philadelphia PA. 2018-2022
- Co-authored NAACP Branch #1119 “Resolution for Black Studies Curricula”, adopted Apr. 18, 2018

Work Experience

*Assistant Professor of African American & Diaspora Studies
Department of History, Xavier University Louisiana*

August 2023 – Present

Xavier University is a historically Black and Catholic University in the City of New Orleans. It is one of the leading educational institutions in the state of Louisiana. Its emerging African American studies program is developing to inspire a new generation of scholars in the field. As an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the History I:

- Instructed, developed, and taught courses in the department.
- Created syllabi for the courses that I instructed.
- Held regular office hours to facilitate student learning outside of the classroom and promote a healthy academic environment
- Successfully Enrolled AADS 2500 as part of University Core Curriculum (XCOR)

*Adjunct Assistant Professor of History
Department of History, Xavier University Louisiana*

August 2022 – May 2023

Xavier University is a historically Black and Catholic University in the City of New Orleans. It is one of the leading educational institutions in the state of Louisiana. Its emerging African American studies program is developing to inspire a new generation of scholars in the field. As an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the History I:

- Instructed and taught courses of my own in the department.
- Created syllabi for the courses that I instructed.
- Held regular office hours to facilitate student learning outside of the classroom and promote a healthy academic environment

*Adjunct Assistant Professor
Department of Africology & African American Studies, Temple University*

August 2022 – May 2023

The Department of Africology and African American Studies is a leading department in the field of Black studies as well as discourse concerning African experiences and identities trans-continentially and trans-generationally. As an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Africology and African American Studies I:

- Instructed and taught courses of my own in the department.
- Created syllabi for the courses that I instructed.
- Held regular office hours to facilitate student learning outside of the classroom and promote a healthy academic environment.

Curriculum Writer
The Re-Education Project (TREP), Houston TX

August 2022 – December 2023

The Re-Education Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to equipping and empowering African American youth with the tools, strategies, and educational resources to become global change agents. As a curriculum writer I:

- Work with a small team to create and update program curricula
- Prepare syllabi, lesson plans, and homework assignments for teachers to use in class
- Develop assessment tools to measure students' progress throughout the program
- Coordinate with teachers, principals, parents, and other staff members regarding the development of new programs
- Implement culturally grounded materials for the program
- Establish guidelines for staff to follow when implementing new curricula

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Africology & African American Studies, Temple University

August 2019 – July 2022

The Department of Africology and African American Studies is a leading department in the field of Black studies as well as discourse concerning African experiences and identities transcontinentally and trans-generationally. As a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the Department of Africology and African American Studies I:

- Assisted Department Faculty in the creation of lesson plans, lectures, grading, and fielding student concerns
- Instructed and taught courses of my own in the department.
- Created syllabi for the courses that I instructed.
- Held regular office hours to facilitate student learning outside of the classroom and promote a healthy academic environment.

Servant Leader Intern
Sankofa Freedom Academy & Philadelphia Freedom School

June 2022 – August 2022

Philadelphia Freedom Schools was born out of the Freedom Summer of 1964. It exists to build the intellectual, cultural, civic, and political capacity of children and youth in order to make meaningful strides for themselves, their families, their schools, communities and the larger society.

- Implement a culturally grounded curriculum in daily lesson plans
- Instruct students using the program curriculum and lesson plan
- Facilitate active learning activities
- Promote a healthy relationship between students and academic content

Molefi Kete Asante Archival Specialist
The Charles L. Blockson Collection, Temple University

August 2021 – May 2023

The Charles L. Blockson Collection is one of the largest repositories of archival material in the United States related to African and African American phenomena. I was asked by the lead archivist at the collection to serve as a specialist for the Molefi Kete Asante Collection. As the archival specialist for this collection my responsibilities were:

- Construct an inventory list for the collection
- Construct a finding aid for the collection to assist with further research
- Organize the collection
- Rehouse archival materials related to the collection
- Assist the lead archivist in general archival tasks

Regional Research Chair

August 2019 – August 2023

The Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations, Mid-Atlantic Region

The Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization is culturally grounded community organization dedicated to the dissemination information with the intent of correcting cultural dislocation and miseducation in the community. As the Regional Research Chair, I was responsible for:

- The generation of regional research projects
- The organizing of regional academic research conferences
- The facilitation and moderation of regional research conferences
- Participation in ASCAC and community programing
- Participation as an advisor in the charter school research symposium
- Research assistance to the regional study groups

Editor, Imhotep Research Journal

July 2018 – November 2021

Department of Africology & African American Studies, Temple University

The Imhotep Research Journal is a graduate student-run journal within the Department of Africology and African American Studies. The journal was created to promote academic discourse in the field of Africology concerning the experiences, philosophies, and traditions of African people across the world. As the editor of this journal, I was responsible for:

- The creation of an accredited editorial board, comprised of many of the top academics in the field of Black studies
- The dissemination of information concerning the journal. Including but not limited to an international call for manuscripts.
- Evaluating and accepting manuscripts to be included within the journal.
- Facilitating the peer review process for accepted manuscripts.
- Working on technical edits to both manuscripts as well as the journal itself.
- Writing the forward to the journal.

Graduate Spokesperson

August 2019 – May 2022

Organization of African American Studies Graduate Students, Temple University

The Organization of African American Studies Graduate Students represents the body of graduate students in Temple University's Department of Africology and African American Studies. As the spokesperson for this organization, I was responsible for:

- Representing student needs and concerns at departmental faculty meetings
- Facilitating graduate student meetings and the creation our yearly agenda and goals
- Organizing and facilitating the creation of sub-committees and related tasks.
- Organizing the graduate student research conference
- Hosting and organizing our yearly Kwanzaa Celebration

Editor, Djehuti & Seshat Periodical Journal

July 2018 – July 2020

Department of Africology & African American Studies, Temple University

Djehuti and Seshat Periodical Journal was created with the intent to disseminate important information in the community and the university to individuals in the Department of Africology and African American Studies. As the editor of this journal, I was responsible for:

- The collection of information regarding Black owned businesses in Philadelphia, PA
- The collection of information concerning community activity and engagement in Philadelphia, PA
- The collection of information regarding department and university affairs.
- The creation and editing of the periodical journal

Archival Graduate Assistant

September 2017 – July 2019

Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection, Temple University

The Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection is one of the most prestigious and largest repositories of African American research materials and artifacts in the world. Housed on Temple University's campus it is home to near a million individual items. As an Archival Assistant in the Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection, I was responsible for:

- Assisting the lead archivist in archival work
- The creation of inventory list and researcher's finding aids
- The collection of new donations to the archive
- The digitizing of select archival materials
- Assisting in Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection's periodical events.
- Organizing and facilitating select Collection events, including an event with Haki Madhubti the founder of Third World Press

Substitute Teacher
Charter School Services, Elkins Park, PA

September 2017 – July 2019

Charter School Services advances students by helping them gain knowledge and become active participants in society. This service's mission was to provide an education that utilizes culturally sensitive and informed methods. These methods allowed our students to succeed in the programs we worked in, and by addressing the role of culture in the facilitation of education our students were able to master concepts that were introduced in the learning environment we helped create. As a teacher working for the Charter School Services, I was responsible for:

- Managing the classroom and learning environment, actively encouraging student participation while minimizing student distraction
- Creating a safe and productive learning environment
- Following and instructing the provided lesson plan to students
- Supervising students in and out of the classroom
- Incorporating a culturally grounded perspective into the provided lesson plan

ACT-SO Chair
NAACP Lane County, Eugene, OR

September 2016 – July 2017

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest civil rights organization still operational today. The NAACP's ACT-SO program, the "Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics", is a yearlong achievement program designed to recruit, stimulate, and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African American high school students. ACT-SO includes 29 competitions in STEM, humanities, business, and performing, visual and culinary arts. Almost 300,000 young people have participated from the program since its inception. As the regional ACT-SO chair, I was responsible for:

- The recruitment of students of African descent to participate in the ACT-SO program
- The facilitation of mentor pairing and meetings
- Student preparation for regional and national competition and conventions