

# JODY A. BENJAMIN

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## Curriculum Vitae

### *Academic Appointments*

- 2016/06- Assistant Professor of History, University of California, Riverside, CA.  
2015/07 Acting Assistant Professor of History, University of California, Riverside, CA.

### *Education*

- 2016 Harvard University, Cambridge MA.  
Ph.D., African and African American Studies, concentration in African History.  
*Dissertation: "The Texture of Change: Cloth, Commerce and Social Change in West Africa, 1700-1850."* Committee: Emmanuel Akyeampong, Caroline Elkins, Suzanne Blier, Sven Beckert. *Outside Reader: Judith Byfield (Cornell University).*
- 2012 Harvard University, Cambridge MA.  
A.M., History.
- 2005 Columbia University, New York, NY.  
M.F.A., Non-Fiction Writing.
- 1990 Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH.  
B.A., Black Studies and French.

### *Peer Reviewed Publications*

- 2018 "Historicizing Fashion in Western Africa: Regional Markets, Global Linkages and Local Tastes in the Early Modern Period, 1700-1850" in *Creating African Fashion Histories*, eds. JoAnne McGregor and Nicola Stylianou (Indiana University Press, forthcoming 2019).
- 2018 "Clothing as a Map to Senegambia's Global Exchanges during the Late-Eighteenth Century" in *Dressing Global Bodies: The Politics of Fashion in World History, 1600-2000*, eds. Beverly Lemire and Giorgio Riello (Routledge, forthcoming 2019).
- 2015 "On Sartre's Hegelian View of African History," *The Savannah Review*, N. 5, May, 2015, 21-38.

### *Additional Publications*

- 2009 "WEB DuBois and Pan-Africanism," published in *The Encyclopedia of African Thought*, Oxford University Press, (2009).

### *Publication- in-Progress*

- 2018 Manuscript-in-Progress. "The Texture of Change: Clothing, Commerce and History in Western Africa in a Globalizing Era, 1700-1850."
- 2018 Review of Colleen Kriger, *Making Money: Life, Death, and Early Modern Trade on Africa's Guinea Coast*, Ohio University Press, *Journal of African History* (Forthcoming in 2018).
- 2018 Review of Michael A. Gomez, *African Dominion*, Princeton University Press, *Journal of West African History* (Forthcoming in 2019).

### *Fellowships & Awards*

- 2019 National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Research Award–HB-263188 \$30,000
- 2018-19 UC Humanities Research Initiative Junior Faculty Manuscript Award.
- 2017-18 [Hellman Fellowship](#), University of California.
- 2017 [Ruth and Lincoln Ekstrom Fellowship](#), John Carter Brown Library, Brown University.
- 2014-15 Oppenheimer Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University.
- 2013-14 Global History Research Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.
- 2011-13 Foreign Language Area Studies Grant. Language Study: Bamanankan/N'ko.
- 2012 Philippe Wamba Summer Research Grant, Harvard University
- 2009-11 Pre-dissertation research award, Harvard Committee on African Studies, (Mali).
- 2003 Susan B. Hertog Fellow, Columbia University.

### *Invited Presentations*

- 2018.12 "Interactions Complexes: Le Coton global, les indiennes et l'art d'autofaconner sur la Cote de Haute Guinee au debut du 19eme," guest lecture at the Musee d'art et d'histoire de Neuchatel exhibit, "Made in Neuchatel: Deux Siecles d'Indiennes," Neuchatel, Switzerland.
- 2018.04 "Global Cotton and Global Cotton and the Centripetal Pull of the Western African Sahel, 1740-1780," presented at the African Studies Center Speaker Series, UCLA.
- 2017.09 "The Texture of Change: Cloth, Commerce and Social Change in West Africa, 1700-1850," presented at the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, RI.
- 2016.11 "Approaching Africa's History through Cloth: Production, Commerce and Consumption" at the Creating African Fashion Histories Conference, Brighton Museum & Art Gallery, UK
- 2013.05 "The Concepts and Contours of Atlantic History" Guest lecture at the Julius Nyerere University of Kankan, Republic of Guinea.

### *Conference Presentations*

- 2018.12 "The Politics of Dress: Habitants, Laptots and Marabouts in the Age of Islamic Revolutions in Saint Louis 1785-1817," presented at Colonial Cities in Global Perspective conference in Saint Louis, Senegal.
- 2017.12 "Global Cotton and the Centripetal Pull of the Western African Savannah, 1740-1780," presented at "Empires: Towards a Global History," an international conference at the University of Delhi, India.
- 2017.08 Global Cotton, Cultural Encounter and Self-Fashioning on the Upper Guinea Coast, 1820-1850, (Panel chair) Mande Studies Association conference, Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire.
- 2016.07 "Reading Cloth Consumption and Clothing Practices among the Enslaved in 18th Century Senegambia," presented at the Dressing Global Bodies Conference, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.
- 2014.11 "The Staple Commodity to Pitch the Price Upon?': The Importance of Cloth Trading on the Upper Guinea Coast of West Africa, 1700-1730," presented at the Global Trade of Textiles and Clothing in the Early Modern Period: Exchange, Meaning and Materialities Workshop, University of Warwick, UK.

## *Courses Taught*

2015-18

University of California, Riverside (Assistant Professor)

Graduate:

“Africa in the Age of the Atlantic Slave Trade.”

Undergraduate:

W.E.B. Du Bois and Africa”

“Medieval Africa’ circa 1000CE -1800”

Research Seminar: “Dress, Cloth and History in Africa and the African Diaspora, 1800 to present.”