

Jacqueline-Bethel Tchouta Mougoué

Department of African Cultural Studies • University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI 53706 • Tel: (608) 262-6939 • Email: jmougoue@wisc.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Associate Professor of African Cultural Studies	2022–present
Assistant Professor of African Cultural Studies	2019–2022
Departmental Affiliations: Department of Afro-American Studies (2023–present); Department of History (2021–present); Department of Gender & Women's Studies (2020–present).	

Baylor University

Waco, TX, USA

Assistant Professor of History	2013–2019
--------------------------------	-----------

Purdue University

West Lafayette, IN, USA

Lecturer, Department of History	2011
Lecturer, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program	2011

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History , Purdue University, USA	2013
--	------

- Primary Field: African History
- Secondary Fields: French History; Sociocultural Anthropology

Graduate Certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies , Purdue University	2009
---	------

Certificate in Oral History , Oral History Center, University of California, Berkeley, USA	2009
---	------

M.A. in History , Purdue University, USA	2008
---	------

B.A. in History , Wayne State University, USA	2006
--	------

PUBLICATIONS

[P] indicates peer-reviewed publications.

Monographs

Pan-African Pioneers and Religious Activism in Africa. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2027. (Under contract and forthcoming).

Genre, séparatisme et corporéité du nationalisme au Cameroun. Translated by Laurence Ibrahimaibo. Spears Books, 2027. (Under contract and forthcoming).

Gender, Separatist Politics and Embodied Nationalism in Cameroon. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2019. [P]

- Winner, 2021 ASA Aidoo-Snyder Book Prize
- Winner, 2020 Frances Richardson Keller-Sierra Prize
- Honorable Mention, 2023 Pius Adesanmi Memorial Award for Excellence in African Writing
- Selected for *The Washington Post* 2020 Summer Reading List

Edited Volumes & Journal Special Issues

"First Ladies of Africa—Beyond Femocracy and Wifeism?: An Introduction." *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 57, no. 3 (2024): 255–263. [P]

"Editorial: Gender and Sexuality in African Futurism." *Feminist Africa* 2, issue 2 (November 2021): 1–10. [P]

“Guest Editor’s Introduction to Bodily Practices and Aesthetic Rituals in Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century Africa Forum.” *African Studies Review* 62, issue 2 (June 2019): 72–79. [P]

Guest editor video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1X3YJ19HZc&feature=emb_title

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles & Book Chapters

“Wonders and Miseries of a Woman who Refuses to be a Woman’: The Transnational Lives of a Pan-African Feminist.” *Journal of Women’s History* 38, no. 3 (Fall 2026): 35–58. (Forthcoming) [P]

“A Man of Africa’: Emotions and Political Kinship in Transnational Connections.” *Journal of African History* 67, e5 (2026): 1–18. [P]

“We Need to Remember How Women Have Changed History in Powerful Ways.” In *Resistance: Three Generations of Anti-Colonial Protest in Cameroon*, edited by Initiative of Change of Perspectives, 117–119. Berlin, Germany, 2024. [English Translation]

“Trop Faire Le Nyanga: De La Maîtrise De La Beauté ‘Naturelle’ Au Contrôle des Pratiques Corporelles Excessives dans les Centres Urbains Du Cameroun.” *African Studies Review* 62, issue 2 (June 2019): 175–198. French translation by Séverine Bates, Spring 2021.

“Over-Making Nyanga: Mastering ‘Natural’ Beauty and Disciplining Excessive Bodily Practices in Metropolitan Cameroon.” *African Studies Review* 62, issue 2 (June 2019): 175–198. [P]

“Where Are All the Women Who Used to Be Good Athletes in Their School Days?’: Sports and Gendered Leisure in Anglophone Cameroon in the 1960s and 1970s.” In *Africa Every Day: Fun, Leisure, and Expressive Culture on the Continent*, edited by Kemi Balogun, Lisa Gilman, Melissa Graboyes, and Habib Iddrisu, 145–154. Ohio University Press, 2019. [P]

- Winner, 2020 *African Studies Review* Prize for Best Africa-Focused Anthology

“Gender and (Militarized) Secessionist Movements in Africa: An African Feminist’s Reflections.” *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism* 17, no. 2 (Fall 2018): 338–358. [P]

“The Anlu Rebellion.” In *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History*, edited by Thomas Spear. New York: Oxford University Press, February 2018. [P]

“Intellectual Housewives, Journalism, and Anglophone Nationalism in Cameroon, 1961–72.” *Journal of West African History* 3, issue 2 (October 2017): 67–92. [P]

“Housewives at Husbands’ Throats: Recalcitrant Wives and Gender Norms in a West African Nation, 1961–1972.” *Gender & History* 29, issue 2 (August 2017): 405–422. [P]

“African Women Do Not Look Good in Wigs: Gender, Beauty Rituals and Cultural Identity in Anglophone Cameroon, 1961–1972.” *Feminist Africa*, issue 21 (October 2016): 7–22. [P]

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Monographs

“Thérèse Sita-Bella: Africa’s First Woman Pilot, Journalist and Filmmaker.” (In progress; collecting oral interviews and conducting archival research in Cameroon, France, and the United States).

Articles & Chapters

“Serve Ghana and Africa’: Pan-Africanism, Smart Power, and Political Kinship.” (Under review).

“My Fantastic Congo Adventure’: The Heart of Africa as a Site for Decolonizing Travel Writing.” (Under review).

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

2024–2026

Vilas Associates Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2024–2025

Bayreuth Academy International Fellowship, Cluster of Excellence Africa Multiple, Bayreuth University, Germany

2024–2025	Feminist Scholars Fellowship, Center for Research on Gender and Women, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2023–2024	Fall Research Competition Award, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, UW-Madison
2023–2024	Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship, Stellenbosch University, South Africa (declined)
2022–2023	West African Research Association Post-Doctoral Fellowship
2022–2023	Institute for Research in the Humanities Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2022–2023	Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa Fellowship, University of Ghana-Legon
2022	15 African Female Historians Shaping Our Understanding of Africa's Past, <i>AMAKA</i>
2020	Summer Humanities Research Fellowship Award, Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison
2019	Research Fellow, Moore Institute, National University of Ireland-Galway (Summer)
2017–2018	Benjamin F. Brown IV Fund for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Scholarship, Baylor University
2013	Bernadotte E. Schmitt Grant, American Historical Association
2012–2013	Predocctoral Fellow, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University
2012	Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries Grant-in-Aid Researcher, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2011–2012	Visiting Researcher, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Buea, Cameroon

INVITED PLENARY AND KEYNOTE LECTURES

International Lectures

"The Transnational Legacies of Thérèse Sita-Bella, Africa's First Woman Filmmaker, Journalist, and Pilot," African Studies Institute Weekly Seminar, University of Ghana-Legon, August 6, 2026.

"Esther Dreams: African Women's Lives Across Borders," Lecture Series, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Bayreuth University, Germany, May 13, 2025.

"Esther Dreams: African Women's Lives Across Borders," Academy Lunch Series, Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, Bayreuth University, Germany, January 28, 2025.

"Gender, Separatist Politics and Embodied Nationalism in Cameroon," Department of Global History, Institute for Historical Studies, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany, May 9, 2023.

"Esther Dreams: African Women's Lives Across Borders," Interdisciplinary Fellowship Group Seminar, Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa, University of Ghana-Legon, March 23, 2023.

"*Black Girl* and 'Esther Dreams,'" Women in Motion Film Festival, U.S. Embassy Ghana, Alliance Française, and Goethe-Institut, Accra, Ghana, March 16, 2023.

"Esther Dreams: Pan-African Lives, Racial Politics, and Belonging in Africa," African Studies Institute Weekly Seminar, University of Ghana-Legon, March 2, 2023.

"Pan-African Lives, Racial Politics, and Belonging in Africa," Tuesday Seminars, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana-Legon, January 31, 2023.

"Challenges of Engaging with Historical Methods as an African-Born Scholar Based in the West," HIST 703: Theory and Methods in History, Department of History, University of Ghana-Legon, February 10, 2023.

"Riotous Spinsters and the 'Free Women' Nuisance: Gender and Nationalism in Africa," Knowing Africa Series, Institute of African Studies, Carleton University, Canada, November 18, 2020.

"Manhood, Transcontinental Networks, and the Baha'i Faith Movement in Cameroon," Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, National University of Ireland-Galway, May 20, 2019.

“Writing from the Margins: Political Masculinities and Separatist (Auto) Biographies in Cameroon,” Writing from the Margins Seminar, Paris Diderot University, France, June 20, 2018.

“The ‘Free Women’ Nuisance and Riotous Spinsters in 1960s Urban Cameroon,” Institute for Anthropological Research in Africa, University of Leuven, Belgium, October 12, 2017.

“The Dynamics of African Feminisms,” Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Buea, Cameroon, December 2011.

National Lectures

“Stylin’ and Profilin: From Cairo to Cape Town,” Africa at Noon, African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 29, 2026.

“Gender in West African History: Past Developments and Future Directions,” *Journal of West African History* 10th Anniversary Conference, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, October 4, 2024.

“Esther Dreams: Pan-African Lives, Racial Politics, and Belonging in Africa,” Department of History Weekly Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, October 16, 2023.

“Gender, Nakedness and Decolonization in the Cameroon Grassfields,” Carleton College, Minneapolis, MN, January 30, 2023.

“Pan-African Lives, Racial Politics, and Belonging in Africa,” Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 10, 2022.

“Black Beauty: An African Woman’s Tale of Race and Body Politics,” Distinguished Women Visitors Program, Carleton College, MN, September 27, 2021.

Keynote Address: “‘When Women Wear Slacks’: Gender and Embodied Nationalism in Africa,” Association of African Studies Programs (Virtual), March 4, 2021.

“‘When Women Wear Slacks’: Gender and Embodied Nationalism in Africa,” African Studies Center, Michigan State University, MI, February 25, 2021.

“‘When Women Wear Slacks’: Gender and Embodied Nationalism in Africa,” Department of History Alumni Speaker Series, Purdue University, IN, February 24, 2021.

“Gender, Nakedness and Decolonization in the Cameroon Grassfields,” Carleton College, MN, February 18, 2021.

“Being a Feminist Scholar of African History,” Pitzer College, CA, October 22, 2020.

“Gender, Nakedness and Decolonization in the Cameroon Grassfields,” Pitzer College, CA, October 22, 2020.

“Gender, Nakedness and Decolonization in the Cameroon Grassfields,” Carleton College, MN, April 28, 2020.

“Gender, Nakedness and Decolonization in the Cameroon Grassfields,” Bridgewater State University, MA, April 2, 2020.

“Riotous Spinsters and the ‘Free Women’ Nuisance: Gender and Nationalism in Africa,” Department of Political Science, Baylor University, TX, February 20, 2020.

“‘Digital Refugees’ and Internet Blackouts: Social Media and Politics in Cameroon,” Howard University, Washington, D.C., November 12, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & EDITORIAL SERVICE

Editorial Positions

Co-Editor , University of Wisconsin Press Series “Women and Gender in Africa” (with Aili M. Tripp)	2023–present
Editorial Review Board Member , <i>African Studies Review</i>	2027–present
Editorial Collective Member , <i>Gender & History</i>	2021–present
Editorial Board Member , <i>Journal of Women’s History</i>	2020–present
Advisory Board Member , <i>Feminist Africa</i>	2019–present
Review Coordinator , <i>Gender & History</i>	2023–2024

Professional Leadership & Executive Boards

President-Elect , Western Association for Women in History (Presidency 2027–2029)	2026–2027
Board of Directors , African Studies Association	2023–2026
Board of Directors , West African Research Association	2023–2026
Executive Board Member , Western Association for Women in History	2020–2022, 2023–2024
Co-Convenor , African Studies Association Women’s Caucus	2017–2019
Advisory Committee , African Studies Association Women’s Caucus (Lifetime Advisory Member)	2019–present
Advisory Board Member , North American Association of Scholars on Cameroon	2016–2020
Conference Liaison , Coordinating Council for Women in History	2016–present
Newsletter Editor , Coordinating Council for Women in History	2021
Mentorship Committee , Coordinating Council for Women in History	2017–2021
Steering Committee , African Studies Association Women’s Caucus	2015–2017, 2019–2020

Award, Grant & Review Committees

Chair , Graduate Student Paper Prize Committee, African Studies Association	2025–2026
Member , Awards Committee, Black Women’s Studies Association	2025
Chair , Carol Gold Article Award Committee, Coordinating Council for Women in History	2026–2027
Member , Carol Gold Article Award Committee, Coordinating Council for Women in History	2023–2025
Chair , <i>Journal of Women’s History</i> Scholars Research Grant Committee	2022–2024
Member , <i>Journal of Women’s History</i> Scholars Research Grant Committee	2024–2025
Chair , Frances Richardson Keller-Sierra Prize Committee, Western Association for Women in History	2023–2024
Member , Frances Richardson Keller-Sierra Prize Committee, Western Association for Women in History	2020–2022
External Tenure Reviewer , York University	2024
Program Committee , Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa IFG 8 Conference	2023
Subtheme Member , 2023 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians	2023
Subtheme Co-Chair , 2021 African Studies Association Annual Meeting	2021
Reader , Advanced Placement World History, The College Board	2012–2018, 2026
Development Committee , Advanced Placement (AP) World History, The College Board	2021–2022
Manuscript Reviewer: <i>African Studies Review</i> , <i>Gender & History</i> , <i>Africa Today</i> , <i>International Journal of African Historical Studies</i> , <i>Journal of African Cultural Studies</i> , <i>Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History</i> , <i>The Black Scholar</i> , Oxford Bibliographies, Bloomsbury Publishing.	

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- African Studies Association
- African Studies Association of Africa
- African Studies Association Women’s Caucus (Lifetime Member)
- Association of Black Women Historians (Lifetime Member)
- Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora
- Berkshire Conference of Women Historians
- Black Women’s Studies Association
- Coordinating Council for Women in History
- Ghana Studies Association
- Lagos Studies Association (Lifetime Member)
- North American Association of Scholars on Cameroon (Lifetime Member)

- West African Research Association
- Western Association for Women in History (Lifetime Member)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & GRADUATE ADVISING

Courses Taught — University of Wisconsin-Madison

African 202 [Honors]: Stylin' and Profilin': From Lagos to Los Angeles (Spring 2026)
 African 277: Africa: An Introductory Survey (Spring 2026, Spring 2024, Spring 2022)
 African 202 [FIG]: The Politics of Tourism in Africa (Fall 2025)
 African 297: African and African-American Linkages (Fall 2025)
 African 303: The Politics of Tourism in Africa (Spring 2024)
 African 202 [FIG]: Stylin' and Profilin': From Lagos to Los Angeles (Fall 2023)
 African 700: Reading and Writing African Cultural Studies (Fall 2023)
 African 905: African Oral History and Traditions (Spring 2022)
 African 100: Introduction to African Cultural Expression (Fall 2020)
 African 405: Politics of Fashion in Africa (Fall 2020)
 African 212: Introduction to African Popular Culture (Spring 2020, Fall 2019)
 African 405: Africa Through Comics and Graphic Fiction (Spring 2020)
 African 405: Gender & Sexuality in Afro-Futurism (Fall 2019)

Courses Taught — Baylor University & Purdue University

HIS 1307: World History Since 1500 (Baylor University, multiple terms 2013–2019)
 HIS 3318: History of Modern Africa (Baylor University, multiple terms 2014–2019)
 HIS 3319: Women and Gender in Modern Africa (Baylor University, Fall 2014, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
 HIS 5393: Seminar in Global History: Women, Gender, and Religious Power in Africa (Baylor University, Spring 2018)
 HIS 3316: History of Africa to 1900 (Baylor University, Fall 2013)
 HIST 105: Survey of Global History (Purdue University, Summer 2011)
 WOST 280: Introduction to Women's Studies (Purdue University, Spring 2011)

Graduate Supervision & Dissertation Committees

Diamond Urey (Ph.D. Candidate, African Cultural Studies, UW-Madison) — Dissertation Committee Chair (In progress)
 Nneoma Onwuegbuchi (Ph.D., African Cultural Studies, UW-Madison, 2026) — Dissertation Committee Chair (Appointed Assistant Professor, Department of Africana Studies, Brown University)
 Omotola Okunlola (Ph.D., African Cultural Studies, UW-Madison, 2025) — Dissertation Committee Member (Appointed Assistant Professor, Gender, Women and Sexuality, University of Minnesota)
 Jacob Mwita Muniko (Ph.D., African Cultural Studies, UW-Madison, 2024) — Dissertation Committee Member (Appointed Teaching Assistant Professor, Oklahoma State University)
 Fauziyatu Moro (Ph.D. Candidate, History, UW-Madison) — Dissertation Committee Member & Doctoral Minor Advisor
 Kim Schumann (Ph.D., Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Cologne, Germany, 2026) — Dissertation Committee Member
 Emely Shungu Mashonganyika (Ph.D., Sociology, University of Cape Town, South Africa, 2025) — External PhD Examiner
 Ernesta Cole, Fatou Janneh, Rachel Maina, Rosemary Oyinlola Popoola, Vincent Ogoti — Preliminary Examination Committees (UW-Madison)

PUBLIC SERVICE & MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Interview / Feature: Martenzie Johnson, "Cleveland Browns Linebacker Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah is the NFL's Best-Dressed Man." *Andscape* (December 15, 2023).

Blog Essay: "Fieldwork as a Diasporan, Part Two: How I Learned to Wrap My Baby and Other Insights from the Field." West African Research Association Blog (April 25, 2023).

Podcast Interview: Third Culture Africans with Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué. Interviewed by Zeze Oriakhi-Sao (May 14, 2021).

Podcast Interview: Ufahamu Africa with Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué. Interviewed by Kim Yi Dionne (February 13, 2021).

Media Profile: Jonathan Gramling, "Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué: Expanding the Parameters of Black History Month." *Capital City Hues* 16, no. 3 (February 8, 2021): 3, 6.

Podcast Interview: New Books Network with Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué. Interviewed by Madina Thiam (June 7, 2020).

Public Essay: "Brown Skin Women." *Africa is a Country* (July 31, 2019).

Public Essay: "Gender in Cameroon's Anglophone Crises." *Africa is a Country* (June 23, 2019).

Radio Interview: Black Agenda Radio with Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué. Interviewed by Glen Ford (April 18, 2019).

Public Essay: "The Coffin Revolution: Historicizing Secessionist Intentions in English-Speaking Cameroon." *Africa is a Country* (April 28, 2017).

Public Essay: "Fieldwork as a Diasporan: How I Increased My Bride Price, and Other Insights from My Dissertation Field Research." *African Studies Association News* (September 2012).

Volunteer & Speaker: Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (2019–2020); Speaker at 9th Annual Wrap Around the Capitol (April 2020).

Consultant: Wider Changes / Initiative Perspektivwechsel (Germany/Cameroon) for a graphic history project depicting Cameroonian women's political history (2019).

Community Outreach: Speaker on Sexual Violence at Marlin Unit Women's Prison, Marlin, TX (April 2019).