

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### **Osei-Mensah Aborampah**

#### *Office Address:*

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University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
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*Current Position:* Associate Professor

#### **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND:**

- Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1981
- M.A. University of Guelph, Canada, 1976
- B.A. (Honors), University of Ghana, Legon, 1974

#### **AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

- Traditional and modern cultures of Africa and Black America
- African and African American Demographic Processes
- Comparative Studies of Women and Development in Black Societies of the Americas and Africa
- Elementary Statistics and Methods

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Sociological Association, 1980  
Population Association of America, 1980  
African Studies Association, 1982  
National Council for Black Studies, 1983  
Society for Applied Anthropology, 1985  
Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, 1990  
Association for Caribbean Studies, 1991

#### **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

University of Ghana Research Assistantship, Summer 1974  
University of Guelph Teaching Assistantship, 1975-76  
University of Guelph Graduate Scholarship, Spring 1976  
University of Guelph Book Presentation for High Academic Performance  
University of Ghana Graduate Scholarship, 1976-80  
Population Council Fellowship, 1980-81

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Chair, Department of Africology, 1990/91 - 1993/94  
Directed the re-naming of the department from Afro-American Studies to Africology

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participant, 1997 Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)  
Summer Program at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor

## PUBLICATIONS

"Encyclopedia of the Dead: Transgenerational Memories and Cultural Transmission Among the Akan of Ghana," *Ghana Studies* 7: 115-135, 2006.

"Out of the Same Bowl: Religious Beliefs and Practices in the Akan Communities in Ghana and Jamaica," in *Fragments of Bone: Neo-African Religions in a New World*, edited by Patrick Bellegarde-Smith. Urbana-Champaign: University of Illinois Press, p. 124-142, 2005.

"Intergenerational Cultural Transmission among the Akan of Ghana," *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, Volume 2(3/4): 23-38, 2004. [Co-author: Joseph K. Adjaye]

"The State of African-American Families in Milwaukee," in *The State of Black Milwaukee*, edited by Stanley F. Battle. Milwaukee: Milwaukee Urban League. [Co-author: Antonia Vann], Pp. 39-56, February 2000.

"Economic Achievement and Marital Relations of Techiman Market Women," In *Till Death Do Us Part: A Multicultural Anthology on Marriage*, edited by Sandra I. Browning and R. Robin Miller. Greenwich, Ct.: JAI Press. Part III, Pp. 201-217, 1999.

"Systems of Kinship and Marriage in Africa: Continuity and Change," In *Till Death Do Us Part: A Multicultural Anthology on Marriage*, edited by Sandra I. Browning and R. Robin Miller. Greenwich, Ct.: JAI Press. Part II, Pp. 123-138, 1999.

"Women's Roles in the Mourning Rituals of the Akan of Ghana." *Ethnology*. Vol. 38, No. 3, Pp. 257-271, Summer 1999.

"Religious Sanction and Social Order in Traditional Akan Communities of Ghana and Jamaica." *Journal of Caribbean Studies* 9 (1&2): 41-58, Winter 1992/Spring 1993.

Osei-Mensah Aborampah, "Comments on Patrick Ohadike's Social and Organizational variables Affecting Central African Demography," *Demography From Scanty Evidence: Central Africa in the Colonial Era*. Bruce Fetter, Ed. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, p. 268-270, August 1990.

"Black Male-Female Relationships: Some Observations." *Journal of Black Studies* 19(3): 320-342, 1989

"Plural Marriage and Fertility Differentials: A Study of the Yoruba of Western Nigeria." *Human Organization* 46(1): 29-38, 1987.

"Determinants of Breast feeding and Post-Partum Sexual Abstinence: Analysis of a Sample of Yoruba Women, Western Nigeria." *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 17(4): 461-469, 1985.

"Family Structure in African Fertility Studies: Some Conceptual and Methodological Issues." *A Current Bibliography on African Affairs*, 18(4): 319-335, 1985-86.

"Domestic Food Pricing Policy, Food Aid and the Food Crisis in Africa." *A Current Bibliography on African Affairs* 18(2): 149-165, 1985-86.

"The Christianization of Africa: Imported, Imposed or Indigenized?" *Christian Missionarism and the Alienation of the African-Mind*. R.S. Belhag and U.A. El-Kabir, eds., Tripoli: African Society of Social Sciences. Chpt. 6, pp. 101-113, 1986.

Kwadwo Anokwa and Osei-Mensah Aborampah, "The Mass Media, Political Attitudes and Behavior in Ghana." *Gazette, International Journal for Mass Communication Studies*, 37: 139-154, 1986.

Osei-Mensah Aborampah and Kwadwo Anokwa, "Communication and Agricultural Development: Some Theoretical and Conceptual Considerations." *Gazette, International Journal for Mass Communication Studies*, 34(2): 103-115, 1984.

Marta Tienda and Osei-Mensah Aborampah, "Energy-Related Adaptations in Low-Income Nonmetropolitan Wisconsin Counties." *Journal of Consumer Research*, 8(3): 265-276, 1981.

Marta Tienda and Osei-Mensah Aborampah, "Poverty Status, Tenure Status and Energy-Related Adaptations Among Nonmetropolitan Wisconsin Households: A Discriminant Analysis." *Proceedings: The Small City and Regional Community*, R.P. Wolensky and E.J. Miller, Eds. Vol. 3, Stevens Point, UW Press, pp 209-218, 1980.

#### **BOOK-LENGTH MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION:**

- The Ties that Bind: Extended Families in Black Societies. An Edited Volume to be submitted for publication
- Social Institutions of Ghana. An Edited Volume to be submitted for publication.

#### **MANUSCRIPT REVIEW ROLES:**

African Urban Quarterly, Manuscript Evaluator, 1984-1987.

#### **CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PAPERS:**

"Ghanaian Traditional Healers and Problems of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention." Presented at the Third Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Worldwide African Diaspora, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 5-7, 2005.

'Community Empowerment for African Youth,' presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> African American Male Teach-in and Community Symposium on 'The Plight of African American Male,' held at DR. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, Milwaukee, February 20, 2004.

'Encyclopedia of the Dead: Transgenerational Memories and Cultural Transmission among the Akan of Ghana,' presented at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, November 11-14, 2004.

'The Changing Social Institutions and Traditions of Techiman-Bono Society,' presented at the Public Lecture & Discussions Forum of the African Studies Program, University of Iowa, Iowa City, November 19, 2004.

'Fragments of Bone: The Extended Family from Africa to the Americas,' presented at the African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, November 20, 2004

"Intergenerational Cultural Transmission among the Akan of Ghana," presented at the Colloquium on Global Intergenerational Research: Programs and Policy, held at the University of Pittsburgh, October 19-20, 2003.[Co-presenter: Joseph K. Adjaye].

"Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Pertaining to HIV/AIDS: The Case of a Traditional Healer," presented at the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Milwaukee, WI, September 25-28, 2003.

Symposium on HIV/AIDS Intervention for Women with Multiple Sexual Partners Living in Impoverished Housing. Organized by the Department of Africology, Hefter Center, Milwaukee, June 13-14, 2003.

"Extended Families and Higher Education in Ghana." Presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Columbus, OH, November 13-16, 1997.

"Spirituality as the Catalyst for Effective Leadership in the Extended Family." Presented at the Second Annual Conference of the African American Male National Council. Milwaukee Hilton, September 25-28, 1997.

"Transgenerational Memories, Traditions and Institutions: Behavioral Patterns in the Afroworld." Presented at the Third Symposium on Africology. Hefter Conference Center, UWM, April 17-19, 1997.

"Growing up in an African Family." Presented during the Black History/Liberation Month Celebration. UWM Fireside Lounge, February 12, 1997.

"African American Extended Families and the Creation of Wealth." Presented at the Milwaukee Community Brainstorming Conference. St. Matthews C.M.E. Church, Milwaukee, January 25, 1997.

"The Informal Sector and Credit in Ghana: The Case of Techiman Market Women." Paper presented at 38th annual meeting of the African Studies Association, Orlando, FL, November 3-6, 1995.

"Tax and Hardship: Ghana's Experience with Value-Added Tax (VAT)." Presented at the Department of Africology Faculty Seminar series. Milwaukee, WI, September 28, 1995.

"The Extended Family in Black Societies." Presented at the 16th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Studies. Georgetown, Guyana, July 19-24, 1994.

"Past Women Leaders of the African World." Presented at the First International and Seventeenth Annual Conference of the National Council for Black Studies. Accra, Ghana, August 1-8, 1993.

"Economic Achievement and Marriage Patterns of Techiman Market Women." Presented at the 36th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association. Boston, MA, December 4-7, 1993.

"Family Values in Black Societies." Presented at a conference on 'Encountering the African American Experience.' Presented at Milwaukee, WI, April 20-22, 1993.

"Ethnicity and Nationalism in Ghana." Paper presented at the 32nd annual meeting of the African Studies Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2-5, 1989.

"The Religious Dimensions of Crime and Punishment in Traditional Akan Societies of Ghana." Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association, Denver, CO, November 20-23, 1986..

Osei-Mensah Aborampah, Discussant, "Social and Organizational Variables Affecting Central African Demography." Paper presented by Patrick Ohadike, U.N. Economic Commission for Africa. Conference on the Analysis of Census Data from Colonial Central Africa, UW-Milwaukee, August 17-23, 1986.

Seminar on "Black Studies and the Future of the Black Community." Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, June 6-8, 1986.

Osei-Mensah Aborampah and Abebayehu Tegene, "A Socio-Demographic Profile of Black Females." Paper presented at the Annual Inter-Departmental Seminar, Black Studies Department, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, April 17-19, 1986

Osei-Mensah Aborampah and Vernell Ross, "Quest of the 80's: Value Recreation Within the Black Community." Paper presented at the Annual Inter-Departmental Seminar, Black Studies Department, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, April 17-19, 1986.

"Domestic Pricing Policy, Food Aid and the Food Crisis in Africa." Paper presented at the 28th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, November 23-26, 1985.

"Food Aid and the Food Crisis in Africa." Paper presented at an International Conference on International Aid and Development in Africa, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, May 28-31, 1985.

"Food Aid and the Food Crisis in Africa." Paper presented at a Brown Bag Seminar, African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 20, 1985.

Osei-Mensah Aborampah, Facilitator, "Statistical Methods and Computer Instruction in the Teaching of Ethnic/Minority Studies." Symposium on Curricular and Pedagogical Issues in Ethnic/Minority Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, November 16-17, 1984.

"Plural Marriage, Post-Partum Abstinence and Fertility Among the Yoruba of Western Nigeria." Presented at the 27th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association, Los Angeles, CA, October 25-28, 1984.

"The Christianization of Africa: Imported, Imposed or Indigenized?" Presented at the African Society of the Social Sciences Workshop held in Geneva, Switzerland, August 20-22, 1984.

"Family Structure in African Demography: Some Theoretical and Conceptual Considerations." Paper written for presentation at the 26th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Boston, MA, December 7-10, 1983.

"African and Afro-American Systems of Kinship and Family: Change and Continuity." Paper written and presented at the Annual Joint Faculty Seminar, Department of Black Studies, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, October 27-29, 1983.

Osei-Mensah Aborampah and Kwadwo Anokwa, "Communication and Agricultural Development: Some Theoretical and Conceptual Considerations." Paper written for presentation at the Annual Conference on Communication, Mass Media and Development held at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, October 13-15, 1983.

"African Traditional Religions and the Divine Principle." Paper written and presented at the Annual Conference of the New Ecumenical Research Association held at Funchal, Madeira, Portugal, July 30-August 7, 1983.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

### *Research*

- Analysis of African patterns in Afro-Caribbean Socio-Cultural Traditions
- Demographic and Economic profiles of Techiman (Ghana) market women.
- Extended families in Black societies.

### *Graduate Research Directed*

Member, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee for a Student in Urban Social Institutions.

Dissertation Topic: The State of Women and Development in Cameroon: A Historical Analysis.

### *Teaching*

Current: I have taught the following courses one or more times at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

#### Department of Africology

- Black Reality: Survey of African-American Society
- Marriage, Sex and Population Control in West Africa
- Survey of African Societies and Cultures
- Introduction to Black Social and Cultural Traditions
- The Black Family
- Introduction to Statistics in Africology
- Sex, Marriage and Health Care in the Afroworld
- Introduction to Social Research, Data Analysis and Computer Applications in the Afroworld
- Extended Families in Black Societies
- Change in African-American Communities

#### Department of Anthropology

- Peoples and Cultures of Africa

#### Past:

1975-1976 - Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Guelph. Assisted in teaching Statistics/Research Methods and Social Anthropology.

1974-1975 - Ghana Ministry of Education. Instruction in English Language, Social Studies and Elementary Mathematics at Agogo Women's Training College, Ghana.

1969-1971 - Ghana Ministry of Education. Elementary School Teacher.

### *Curriculum Development*

I have designed the following courses for inclusion in the Department's curriculum:

- Introduction to Statistics in Africology
- Introduction to Social Research, Data Analysis and Computer Applications in the Afroworld
- Sex, Marriage and Health Care in the Afroworld
- Cultural Transmissions: Black Africa and Black America
- Extended Families in Black Societies

### *Grant Writing and Administration Experience:*

Principal Investigator: Ghanaian Traditional Healers and HIV/AIDS Intervention/Prevention, Institute on Race and Ethnicity Grant, 2005, \$4370

Collaborating Investigator: Effects of HIV/AIDS on the Behaviors of the Populations of African Descent, Institute on Race and Ethnicity Grant, 2001, \$12,500

Principal Investigator: Curriculum Development, Institute on Race and Ethnicity Grant, 1987, \$1000

Collaborating Investigator, Conference on Analysis of Census Data from Colonial Central Africa, National Science Foundation Grant, 1985, \$35,000.

Principal Investigator, Curriculum Development (Sex, Marriage, and Healthcare in the Afroworld), American Ethnic Studies Coordinating Committee Grant, 1983, \$1,700

Principal Investigator, Development of Instructional Materials, UW-Milwaukee College of Letters and Science Grant, 1982, \$2,225

## **MAJOR DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### *Department Committees*

Executive Committee	Library Representative
Community Outreach Committee	Course and Curriculum Committee
Supervisor, Reading Room	General Advisor, Undergraduate Majors
Research and Development Committee	Faculty Award Committee
Black History Liberation Month Committee	Ad Hoc Programs
General Academic Programming	Grievance Committee

### *College/University Committees*

- Academic Policy Committee, 1982
- Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Computing Needs in Social Science, 1983
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Minority Student Life, 1984
- Awards and Recognition Committee, 1985
- Social Science Research Facility Advisory Committee, 1989
- Admissions and Records Policy Committee, 1990, 1996/97 - 1998/99
- Faculty Senate, 1993 and 1995/96 - 1997/98
- Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee, 1993
- Vice Chancellor's Ad Hoc Committee on UWM Salary Equity Study, 1993/94 - 1995/96

## **MAJOR COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Asha Family Services, Inc.	Vice-chair/Board member, 1990-Present
Community Brainstorming Conference	Participant, 1992-Present
Wisconsin Public Museum	Member, Committee on African-American Folk Arts Program, August 1982-May, 1983.
Wisconsin Humanities Committee	Program Development Meeting, Oshkosh, WI, September 18, 1982.
Nigerian National Day	Participant, Symposium on Political and Independence Celebration: Economic Development of Nigeria, UWM Union, E-240, October 1, 1982.
Milwaukee Public Library and the National Endowment for the Humanities	Advisory Board Member, Project on Emerging African American Traditions, 1984.
Television Program	Panel Member, Milwaukee Public Library's "Public Conference" television program entitled "Appreciating the Black Family," Channel 6 (WITI-TV) July, 1984.
Television Program	Panel Member, Program on "Family, Politics and the Milwaukee Black Community." Channels 14 & 46, June 19, 1986.
A Wisconsin African Relief Effort (AWARE)	Member
Friends of AWARE	Member, Book Drive to Africa
Consultant	Women of Color Project
Participant	Milwaukee African American Oral History Project

## **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL/EXPERIENCE:**

### *Travel to International Conferences*

1994: Georgetown, Guyana - Conference for the Association of Caribbean Studies.

1993: Accra, Ghana-Conference for the National Council for Black Studies.

1985: Ife, Nigeria - Conference on International Aid and Development in Africa.

1984: Geneva, Switzerland - Workshop on Christianity in Africa.

1983: Funchal, Madeira-Portugal - Conference on the Application of the Divine Principle.

*International Travel for Research*

2001, 2003, 2005: Ghana - Traditional Healers and Problems of HIV/AIDS  
Intervention and Prevention

1995: Ghana - Trade-Related Accounting and Borrowing Patterns of Techiman Market  
Women

1993: Ghana - Demographic and Economic Profiles of Techiman Market Women

1991: Ghana: - Patterns of Marriage and Family Life

1991: Senegal - Patterns of Marriage and Family Life: Library Research

1985: Nigeria - Library Research on Marriage and Family Life.

1984: Ghana - Survey: Marriage Patterns of Techiman Market Women

1983: Ghana - Survey: Marriage Patterns of Techiman Market Women

1983: Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago - Instructional materials. Survey: Identifications  
among people of the Afroworld.

1982: Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria -Instructional Materials.  
Survey: Identifications among peoples of the Afroworld.