

A Yemisi Jimoh

ABBREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE

W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies
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Education:

1994: PhD University of Houston
1986: MAT University of Washington
1981: BA University of Washington

A Yemisi Jimoh teaches literature in the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is a cultural analyst and critical race theorist. Her research interests are in African American literary and cultural studies, Critical Race Studies, and Narratology. She offers courses in twentieth-century African American literature, with an emphasis on narrative; African American literary movements; and African American women writers. Professor Jimoh's published writings include the scholarly monograph *Spiritual, Blues, and Jazz People in African American Fiction: Living in Paradox*, articles in *MELUS*, *African American Review*, and *Texas Journal of Political Studies* as well as chapters in *Contemporary African American Novelists* and in the multi-award-winning (Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award and the American Educational Studies Association Critics' Choice Award) volume *Race in the College Classroom: Pedagogy and Politics*. She, as well, is on the editorial board for the journal *MELUS*. Additionally, Professor Jimoh is a former visiting fellow at Harvard University's W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for Research in Afro-American Studies and a participant in the National Endowment for the Humanities' Summer Institute on the Civil Rights Movement. She has secured grants which have allowed her to conduct research at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and at the Library of Congress. Her ongoing research includes work on the political and cultural meanings of literary representations of war and patriotism by African American writers; issues of Pan-Africanism and Diaspora in African American literature and culture; and the cultural politics of group-name identifiers in African American fictional texts.

Academic Appointments:

2005-Present: University of Massachusetts Amherst, Professor
2002-2005: University of Arkansas, Associate Professor
1995-2001: University of Arkansas, Assistant Professor
1994-1995: University of Houston, Downtown, Visiting Assistant Professor
1986-1988: Prairie View A and M University, Instructor

Selected Publications/ Creative Scholarly Activities:

Spiritual, Blues, and Jazz People in African American Fiction: Living in Paradox. Knoxville: U of Tennessee P, 2002 [selected reviews: *South Atlantic Review* (2005); *Modern Fiction Studies* (2004); *American Literature* (2003); *College Language Association Journal* (2003); *Religious Studies Review* (2004);

H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences (2003); *Morning News of Northwest Arkansas* (2002); [award nominations: Black Caucus of the American Library Association Award 2003; South Central Association of the Modern Language Association Award 2003; Chicago Folklore Prize 2003]

with Charlene Johnson. "Racing into the Academy: Pedagogy and Black Faculty." *Race in the College Classroom: Pedagogy and Politics*. Eds. Bonnie TuSmith and Maureen Reddy. Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers UP, 2002. 286-98. [awards: Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award (in the area of human rights and combating bigotry), 2003; American Educational Studies Association Critics' Choice Award, 2002]

"The Messenger." *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Vol. 3. Eds. Hans Ostrom and J. David Macey Jr. Westport: Greenwood, 2005, 1081-83

"Harlem Renaissance." *Encyclopedia of Literature and Politics*. Vol. 2. Ed. M. Keith Booker. Westport: Greenwood, 2005, 332-35.

Rev. of *Black Orpheus: Music in African American Fiction from the Harlem Renaissance to Toni Morrison*. Ed. Saadi A. Simawe. *AAR* 37 (2003): 168-70

"Double Consciousness, Modernism, and Womanist Themes in Gwendolyn Brooks's 'the Anniad.'" *MELUS* 23 (1998): 167-86.

"African American Literature: The African Continuum—Folklore, Myths, and Legends." *Western Journal of Black Studies* 13 (1989): 36-44

"Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination by Toni Morrison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. June 2004
<<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. August 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Sula by Toni Morrison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. August 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Jazz by Toni Morrison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. August 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Paradise by Toni Morrison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. August 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Ralph Ellison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. June 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison." *The Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. June 2003. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Ann Petry." *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"The Street by Ann Petry." *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"Country Place by Ann Petry." *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

"The Narrows by Ann Petry." *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory

Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com>>

“*Miss Muriel and Other Stories* by Ann Petry.” *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com>>

“Toni Morrison.” *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. October 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com>>

“Gwendolyn Brooks.” *The Literary Encyclopedia and Literary Dictionary*. Eds. Robert Clark, Emory Elliott, and Janet Todd. 27 Jan. 2002. <<http://www.literaryencyclopedia.com/>>

Reviews and reference articles published in scholarly journals and books including *African American Review*, *Texas Journal of Political Studies*, *Contemporary African American Novelists: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*, *Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*, *Encyclopedia of Literature and Politics*, among others

Selected Invited Talks, Lectures, Symposia/Seminars:

MELUS Eighteenth Annual Conference—Transfronterismo: Crossing Ethnic Borders in U.S. Literature—University of Texas, San Antonio, San Antonio, TX—3.10-14.04—**Plenary Panelist:** “Thinking and Rethinking Diaspora Consciousness.”

SUNY—Stony Brook Department of European Languages, Literature, and Culture Guest Lecturer on Italian American and African American Women Writers—11.17.03—**talk:** “Mama Mia! This Ain’t No Yo Mama Joke: Thoughts on Reading Sandra Gilbert’s *Mafioso* and Contemplating the Question of Black Women’s Image of Self and of the Mother Figure in the Writing of Lucille Clifton, Zora Neale Hurston among others”

National Public Radio (NPR): The Tavis Smiley Show—Poets and Patriotism segment—air date 7.2.03: <<http://discover.npr.org/rundowns/segment.jhtml?wflid=1318011>>

Shippensburg University College of Arts and Sciences Guest Lecturer on Cultural Themes—African American Culture in a Global Context—Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA—4.21.03—**talk:** “‘Let a new earth rise. Let another world be born’: Pan-Africanism, the New Negro, and African Americans in the Global Fight for Freedom.”

MELUS Sixteenth Annual Conference—Pedagogy, Praxis, and Politics: Multiethnic Literature in U.S. Education—University of Washington, Seattle, WA—4.11-14.02—**workshop leader:** “Practical Considerations When Race Enters Our Classrooms”

Recent Grants, Awards and Honors:

Vice-Chancellor for Student Services, Making a Difference: Student Influence Citation, University of Arkansas, 2004.

Department of English Ray White Research Award, 2003, University of Arkansas: \$2,300

University of Arkansas’ Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, Research Grant: Spring 2002: \$2,000

Current Projects:

“War, Freedom, and Patriotism: An Anthology.” New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, [forthcoming]

“Calling Me Out of My Name: Culture, Resistance and the Politics of Group Name Identifiers in African American Narrative Texts” [book-length manuscript in process]

“Fighting on Two Fronts: ‘Their Heart’s Best Blood in Freedom’s Cause’” [in circulation]

“‘One long memory’: The Ethiopian Prophecy, Pan-Africanism, and Diaspora-Consciousness in African American Literary, Political, and Intellectual Thought” [under review]

“African American Short Stories Classic and Contemporary: An Anthology” [book-length manuscript in process]

Selected Service and Outreach:

Assessing Paul Laurence Dunbar: A Centennial Symposium—**Committee Coordinator** (with Joseph Skerrett, Department of English), 26-27 October 2006, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Black Graduate Students Association—Still Lifting as We Climb: A Roundtable Discussion, 26 February 2007

Deerfield Academy Black Student Coalition—Black History Month Talk: “Politically and Struggle: What Do They Mean in a Twenty-First Century Post Civil Rights United States,” 27 February 2006

An Evening with the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, Talk: “What Difference Does African American Studies Make to a University Education” 15 February 2006

ASALH Roundtable: George Samuel Schuyler—Respondent, 8 April 2006, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Crossroads in the Study of the Americas/CISA Diaspora Seminar Participant—2005-Present

Five Colleges Transatlantic Seminar Participant—2005-Present

MELUS: The Journal of the Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States—**Editorial Board**, 2003-Present

MELUS: The Journal of the Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States—**Consultant Reader**, 1999-2003

Manuscript Reviews for university presses: University of Tennessee Press, SUNY Press

Committee member on several PhD dissertations and MFA theses

Member, chair, and/or coordinator on numerous national, regional, university-wide, and departmental committees

Program and Department Affiliations:

Five Colleges, Inc.—Faculty, 2005-Present

University of Massachusetts Amherst, American Studies Program—2005-Present

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Women’s Studies Program—Adjunct Faculty, 2005-Present

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of English—2005-Present

Professional Memberships:

MELUS-ACEE (Action Committee for Equity in Education)—2002-Present, Steering Committee
John Edgar Wideman Society, 2003-present

Modern Language Association—member, 1986-present

MELUS-member, 1998-present

MELUS-Women of Color Caucus (WOCC)—member, 1999-present