



CALIFORNIA
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College of Social and Behavioral Sciences African
Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program

[http://www.csun.edu/social-behavioral-sciences/
African-Studies-Interdisciplinary-Minor-Program](http://www.csun.edu/social-behavioral-sciences/African-Studies-Interdisciplinary-Minor-Program)

For information regarding the African Studies minor or references
for the images in this program contact the ASIMP Coordinator,
Dr. Suzanne Scheld (Anthropology): Suzanne.scheld@csun.edu.

Communication services (sign language interpreters, realtime
captionists) are available for this event. Contact
Suzanne.scheld@csun.edu for information. Requests for services
must be submitted at least five (5) working days in advance.

Program Committee

Jennifer De Maio (Political Science)

Peri Klemm (Art)

Florence Kyomugisha

(Gender and Women's Studies)

Sheba Lo (Africana Studies)

Mutombo Nkulu-N'Sengha (Religious Studies)

Suzanne Scheld, Program Coordinator (Anthropology)

Tom Spencer-Walters (Africana Studies)

Mintesnot Woldeamaneuel (Urban Studies)

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

Office of the Provost
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department of Africana Studies
African Students Organization (ASO)



The African Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program
California State University, Northridge
Presents

6th Annual African Studies Symposium

Innovations in Africa

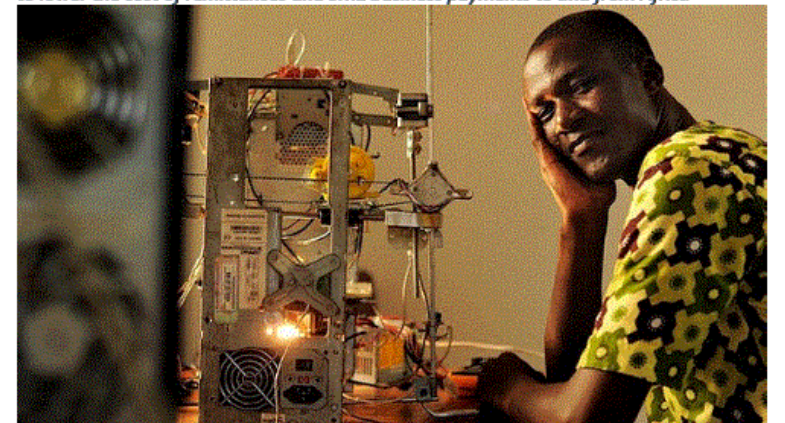
April 4, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

USU Northridge Room



BitPesa, headquartered in Kenya, created an award-winning app that uses digital currency to lower the cost of remittances and SME business payments to and from Africa



Afate Kokjo Gnikou, the Togolese author of 3D Wafate Printer made with recyclable materials

About the African Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program

The minor in African Studies is designed to provide an interdisciplinary approach to the study of African history, literature, politics, geography and cultures. It provides a background for advanced study of Africa and for careers in international development, humanitarianism, international law, journalism, social media management, museum curation, health, and education, among other pathways. Students may take courses in several departments which satisfy the minor requirements or may use these courses as electives in their majors. All students interested in the African Studies minor must see a member of the Program Committee or the Coordinator of African Studies to work out a program that will meet their own specific needs and interests.

Requirements for the ASIMP Minor

1. Lower Division (6 Units) Select one of the following:

HIST 145	African Civilization to Modern Times (3)
AFRS 171	Classical African Civilization (3)
AFRS 226	Traditional African Cultures (3)
POLS 225	Intro to World Politics (3)

Select one of the following:

ANTH 152	Culture and Human Behavior (3)
ART 112	World Arts: Africa, Oceania and the Americas (3)
GEOG 150	World Geography (3)
AFRS 282	African Religion in the New World (3)

2. Upper Division (18 Units) Select from the following.

ANTH 338	Peoples of Africa (3)
ART 404	History of African and Oceania Art (3)
GEOG 326	Africa (3)
GEOG 496D	Geography of Ethnic Groups in the U.S. (3)
GWS 340	Women, Gender, and Global Development (3)
HIST 435	Africa to 1800 (3)
HIST 436	Africa Since 1800 (3)
HIST 496Y	Experimental Courses in History: Africa (3)
HIST 497L	Proseminar: Africa (3)
AFRS 344	Literature of the Caribbean and African Experience (3)
AFRS 366	Colonialism in Africa (3)
AFRS 382	Traditional Religions of Africa (3)
AFRS 465	Pan Africanism: Development of an Ideology (3)
AFRS 466A,B	The Model Organization for African Unity (3,3)
AFRS 488	Sustainability and Environmental Justice in the African and African Diaspora Communities (3)
POLS 420E	International Relations of Selected Areas: Africa (3)
POLS 439A	Government and Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa (3)
POLS 439B	Government and Politics of Southern Africa (3)
RS 306	American Religious Diversity (3)

Total Units in the Minor: 24

Hamidou Soumah PhD, is a lecturer of Cinema and TV Arts at California State University, Northridge. Dr. Soumah (originally from the Republic of Guinea), is a former communications consultant for UNESCO and training director in radio and television at the French National Institute of Communication in Paris. He is the co-producer of the 2015 global documentary, *Let Them Eat Cake: the pleasures and perils of pastry*, a documentary which explores inequalities in food production, distribution and consumption around the world. Dr. Soumah's current research interests include modernity and postcolonial media and cultures.

Kanchana Ugbabe PhD, moved from Chennai, India, where she was born and raised to Jos, Nigeria, as wife, mother, and academic. Crossing from Asia to Africa (with a stint in Scotland and an extended period in Australia) has made her sensitive to the dynamics of crossing boundaries and discovering the space called 'home'. She is particularly interested in women's cultural identities as evidenced in their writing. Her collection of short stories, *Soulmates*, was published by Penguin in 2011. Currently, she is a Visiting Scholar with Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Harvard University for the academic year 2016/ 2017.

Lytton Williams M.D., is a surgeon and a retired clinical associate professor of Orthopedics at the University of Southern California's Medical School. Originally from Sierra Leone, he has published extensively and in top tier journals on topics related to the spine and other issues in the field of orthopedics. He performed numerous spinal surgeries and has patented many medical devices for use in the U.S., Africa, and elsewhere.



Valetin Agon of Benin invented *Apr-Ralu*, an anti-malaria treatment made of natural plants



PRESENTERS

Rachel Howes PhD, is a professor of early Islamic and Near Eastern history and politics at California State University, Northridge. Her courses address Islamic law and early and modern history of the Middle East. She has published many papers on political and religious movements spanning the Middle East and Northern Africa, and Egypt, in particular.

Peri Klemm PhD, is professor of African, Oceanic, and Native American art history. Her courses address the cultural context of non-Western arts and the receptions and display of non-Western art in the West. Her research and publications focus on identity, dress, and the body in Ethiopia. At CSUN she has co-curated with her students exhibitions on African arts in the life cycle, contemporary arts or Oceania, women of Oromia, and Guatemalan saints.

S.K. Ramesh PhD, is the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science and a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. In addition to this, he is the 2016-17 Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. (IEEE) Vice-President for Educational Activities, as well as the IEEE-HKN President for 2016. In 2014 Ramesh was invited by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to host one of the four national White House STEM workshops at CSU Northridge to broaden participation of minorities in the STEM disciplines, remove barriers, and improve student graduation rates- especially in engineering and computer science. Dr. Ramesh's professional interests are in Fiber Optic Communications.

Suzanne Scheld PhD, is a professor of Anthropology at California State University, Northridge. Her teaching and research focusses on globalization, public space, and urban public culture in Senegal and urban U.S.. She was the former editor of the international journal *City & Society*, and is currently the coordinator of CSUN's African Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program and the coordinator of the Global Studies GE Path of CSUN's GE Paths program.

WELCOME to the 6th Annual African Studies Symposium, "Innovations in Africa," held at California State University, Northridge, April 4, 2017. This conference is hosted by the African Studies Interdisciplinary Minor Program, and represents a gathering of students, scholars, and community members in a dialogue about Africa and its future. This year, we explore innovations of Africa. Through lecture and discussion we will examine the inventions and innovative transformations Africans are producing for their communities on the continent and beyond.

In 2012, we hosted our first conference with the idea of fostering a discussion of African studies across and between a wide range of existing disciplines, in order to encourage continued scholarship and to develop networks of support. We envisioned a community of practice involving scholars, students, and local community members meeting to discuss ideas, share our various kinds of knowledge, and build connections with one another. We are thrilled at how the conference has grown from our original vision.

As we look in to the future, we hope that this conference will help launch more African Studies courses and curricula, and even help produce more graduates with degrees in African Studies. We also envision additional results such as a strengthened network among students, scholars, and community members and perhaps proposals for new partnerships and projects, be they scholarly, artistic, activist, or all three.



Innovations of Africa

Tuesday, April 4, 2017
9:00 am – 3:30 pm

9:00 **Continental Breakfast**

9:30 *Welcome:* Dr. Theresa White, Chair, Africana Studies
Tom Spencer-Walters (Africana Studies)
Suzanne Scheld (Anthropology), ASIMP Coordinator

9:45 *Creative Responses to Crises: Dealing with Famines
in Medieval Egypt and the Maghrib*
Rachel Howes, History, CSU Northridge

*Innovative African Contributions to the Global Garment
Industry*
Suzanne Scheld, Anthropology, CSU Northridge

11:00 **Engineering and Innovating with New Technology**

*Building Engineering Capacity in Africa: IEEE's Roles
and the EPICS in IEEE Programs*
Dean S.K. Ramesh, College of Engineering and
Computer Science, CSUN/Vice President of the Institute
of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, IEEE

*From Celloid to Digital: Trial and Error in
Postcolonial African Cinema*
Hamidou Soumah, Cinema and TV Arts, CSU
Northridge

12:45

Keynote Address

“Intellectual Property as Related to Patents”
Lytton Ade-Kunle Williams, M.D.,

1:45

Break

2:00

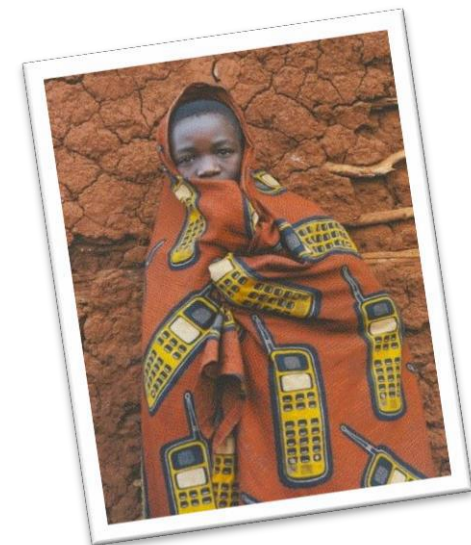
African Innovation in Expressive Culture

Women and Art-Making in Africa
Kanchana Ugbabe, University of Jos,
Nigeria & Gender & Women's Studies,
Harvard

Imagination and Innovation in African Art
Peri Klemm, Art, CSU Northridge

3:15

Closure



Textiles featuring modern inventions are popular status symbols in Africa.