

Anthony Adeola Olorunnisola

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Film/Video & Media Studies
College of Communications
Pennsylvania State University
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Education

Ph.D. in Mass Communication, Howard University, Washington, D.C. **1994**

M.A. in Communication & Language Arts, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, **1985**

B.A. (honors) in Communication & Language Arts, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, **1983**

Administrative/Academic Engagements

Head, Department of Film-Video and Media Studies, Penn State University

Fourth Term: July 1, 2017 to Date

Third Term: July 1, **2014** through June 30, **2017**

Second Term: July 1, **2009** to June 30, **2014**

Professor of Communications, **with Tenure**: College of Communications, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

May, **2012** – date

Visiting Professor, Department of Communication & Language Arts, University of Ibadan Nigeria

July 1 **2013**-June 30 **2014** [Visiting Professor, Sabbatical Engagement];

May 23-August 22, **2012** [Visiting Professor; Bridge Session]

Administrative Responsibilities as Department Head

- Responsible to the dean for the day-to-day administration of department's academic staff (17 full-time; 5 adjuncts) and students (250 majors; 2000+ Gen-Ed)
- Member Executive Committee, College of Communications: participates in the policy-making functions of the Dean-led group
- Budget Administrator of all Departmental Funds: Unbroken record of efficient fund-management
- Oversees development and implementation of strategic plans; reports, proposals and other department-related projects
- Initiates and chairs meetings of the department's faculty
- First contact-person in the resolution of problems and grievances of academic

- staff and students (as well as between students and academic staff)
- Supervises departmental academic staff hiring and mentors the scholarly and creative development of academic staff members
 - Conducts faculty annual reviews and Promotion and Tenure evaluations

Areas of Research Interest

- **International Communications**
- *Comparative Media Systems*
- **Media and Democracy [Media in Nations-in-Transit]**
- *Media and Social Change*
- *Media and Social Movements*
- **Applied Communication**

Research & Creative Accomplishments

Publications

Edited Book Volume

Anthony A. Olorunnisola (2013). (Lead co-Editor with Aziz Douai): *New Media influences on Social and Political Change in Africa*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing, (24 chapters; 496 pages).

Intervention Videos, Book Chapters & Journal Articles (Peer Reviewed)

Director / Co-Producer (with Nadhir Muntaka), African Brainworks – Footsteps Series (2017)

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Taofeek Ibn-Mohammed [Male, Nigeria; EPSRC Research Associate, the University of Sheffield].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Taofeek Ibn-Mohammed [Male, Nigeria; EPSRC Research Associate, the University of Sheffield].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Yewande Abraham [Female, Nigeria; PhD Candidate in Architectural Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Yewande Abraham [Female, SW Nigeria; PhD Candidate in Architectural Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Saratu Terreno [Female, NW Nigeria; PhD Candidate in Architectural Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Saratu Terreno [Female, NW Nigeria; PhD Candidate in Architectural Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Faisal Katib [Male, NC Nigeria; Undergraduate Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Faisal Katib [Male, NC Nigeria; Undergraduate Engineering, Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Mohammed Ennin [Male, Ghana; PhD Candidate, Work Force Education Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Mohammed Ennin [Male, Ghana; PhD Candidate, Work Force Education Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with Mathematics in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Kevin Thomas [Male, Sierra Leone; Associate Professor, Sociology, Demography & African Studies at Penn State University].

Retrospective Video Interview about experiences with English Language in West African Secondary Schools. Featuring Kevin Thomas [Male, Sierra Leone; Associate Professor, Sociology, Demography & African Studies at Penn State University].

Nwachukwu Egbunike & Anthony Olorunnisola (2015) “Social media and the #Occupy Nigeria Protests: Igniting or damping a Harmattan storm?” *Journal of African Media Studies* 7, 2: 141-164.

Anthony A. Olorunnisola (2014). “Publishing Internationally as Scholarly Conversation 2.0: The Value of Literature and Theory-driven Research Questions.” *Special Contribution to Journal of Communication and Language Arts*, 5, 1: 157-180.

Aziz Douai & Anthony A. Olorunnisola (2013). New Media and the Question of African Democracy. In Anthony Olorunnisola & Aziz Douai (Eds). New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa (p. 1-14). Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing.

Brandie Martin & Anthony A. Olorunnisola (2013). Use of new ICTs as “liberation” or “repression” technologies in Social Movements: The need to formulate appropriate media policies. In Anthony Olorunnisola & Aziz Douai (Eds). New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa (p. 257-272). Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing.

Anthony A. Olorunnisola & Ayobami Ojebode (2013). Public Opinion on Nigeria’s Democracy: Why the Arab Spring stopped in the Dessert. New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa. In Anthony Olorunnisola & Aziz Douai (Eds). New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa (p. 336-356). Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing.

Anthony A. Olorunnisola (2013). Of New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa: Introspects, Retrospectives and Futuristic Challenges. In Anthony Olorunnisola & Aziz Douai (Eds). New Media influence on Social and Political Change in Africa (p. 423-440). Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing.

Anthony A. Olorunnisola & Brandie Martin (2013). “Influences of Media on Social Movements: Problematizing hyperbolic influences about impacts.” Special Issue of *Telematics and Informatics*, [Digital Turn in Radio: Understanding Convergence in Radio News Cultures], Vol. 30, 3: 275-288. [**Most downloaded Telematics & Informatics article in 2013**]

Anthony A. Olorunnisola & Lian Ma (2013) Contemporary Sino-African Relations: Interpenetration of history of relations with the West, ideology and comparative media frames. *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 3: 41-61.

Research Work and Intervention Projects in Progress

“When Change-Agents are mutually non-communicative: An Applied Communication & ICT4D (West Africa) project”

Under development with multiple collaborators:

- (a) A self-assessment APP for Math and English [with Nadhir Muntaka, PhD Candidate Education Technology]
- (b) 20 Video lessons across Math & English [with Videographer + Math + English Teachers in West Africa + Nadhir Muntaka]
- (c) Multiple research papers under development with Akshaya Sreenivasan (PhD, 2016); Fatima Mohammed (PhD Candidate)

“Deconstructing Tabloid Journalism in South Africa” [under preparation with Honors students Jenni Castoe & Giana Han; data collection completed]

“Community Radio in South Africa after apartheid” [under preparation with Fatima Mohammed; data collection completed]

“Broadcasting Policy and Practice in Post-Democratic Africa” (Co-editor with Tawana Kupe, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) [Sample Chapters under development]

Joining the Global Research Conversation (Book manuscript under preparation); academic writing from the non-Western position

Invited Expert Presentations, Workshops & Competitive Conference Presentations

Moderator, Being African in Today’s America. A CECR/PANAPA Symposium. Foster Auditorium, Nov 16, 2017.

Panelist, One-Day Fulbright Conference. The Penn Stater, April 6, 2017.

Keynote Speaker, Mediated paths out of the morass of mass failure in Math & English amongst West African Examination Council examinees.” New Nigeria Foundation, Victoria Island Lagos, July 18, 2016.

Respondent to Keynote Speaker, “The Diaspora and Africa’s Future: Making a Difference through Research”, Pan-African Professional Alliance Conference, April 1, 2017. [Keynote Speaker: Molefi K. Asante, Temple University]

Panelist, “Success in Graduate School”, HUB-Robeson Symposium, April 22, 2016.

Guest Speaker, African Studies Kente Cloth Graduation Reception, May 8, 2015.

Invited Speaker, “African Media Research: The Quantity, the Quality and the politics.” Presented at the African Studies’ Brown Bag Lecture Series, College of Liberal Arts, Penn State University, March 27, 2013.

Keynote Speaker, “International Publications: The Roles of the Individual and the University. Lagos State University School of Communication Seminar Series, August 17, 2012.

Keynote Speaker, “International Publications: The Quality, the Quantity and the Politics. University of Ibadan Faculty of Arts Seminar Series, August 16, 2012.

Workshop Facilitator, Senior Staff Research Development Workshop IV, Department of Communication and Language Arts, University of Ibadan Nigeria. Workshop participants represented 15 Nigerian Universities and Polytechnics. (August 10, 2012).

Plenary Discussant, “Education, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development.” Third Centre for Sustainable Development Summit. The University of Ibadan, Ibadan Nigeria, (August 8, 2012).

Keynote Speaker, “Joining the Global Scholarly Conversation: Roles of the Individuals and University.” Delivered (July 30, 2012) at the Osun State University College of Humanities and Culture’s International Seminar Series, Ikire Osun State.

Seminar Facilitator, “Research and Scholarly Writing for Doctoral Students.” Two Day Workshop hosted by the Research Management Office, the University of Ibadan, Nigeria; July 24-25, 2012.

Keynote Speaker/Seminar co-Facilitator, Research Skills Enhancement Workshop. Two Day Conference hosted by the Emmanuel Alayande College of Education, Oyo State Nigeria; July 23, 2012.

“Public Opinion on Nigeria’s Democracy: Why the Arab Spring stopped in the Desert. Paper presented (July 15, 2012) to the Political Communications Section of the International Association for Mass Communication Research (IAMCR) Durban South Africa, (Co-authored with Ayo Ojebode).

Workshop Facilitator, Senior Staff Research Development Workshop III (July 13, 2012), Department of Communication and Language Arts, University of Ibadan Nigeria. Workshop participants represented 15 Nigerian Universities and Polytechnics.

Workshop Facilitator, Senior Staff Research Development Workshop II (June 15, 2012), Department of Communication and Language Arts, University of Ibadan Nigeria. Workshop participants represented 15 Nigerian Universities and Polytechnics.

Workshop Facilitator, Senior Staff Research Development Workshop I (May 25, 2012), Department of Communication and Language Arts, University of Ibadan Nigeria. Workshop participants represented 15 Nigerian Universities and Polytechnics.

Keynote Speaker/Facilitator, “Unfamiliar Territory: HIV/AIDS and Biotech Research in South Africa. Presented to South Africa bound Spelman College G-STEM Scholars, March 22, 2012.

Keynote Speaker/Facilitator, “South Africa: Expanding the Geography of your mind. Presented to South Africa bound Spelman College G-STEM Scholars, March 22, 2012.

Areas of Teaching Expertise

- Media and Society [Residential + Online]
- International Communication

- World [Comparative] Media Systems
- Comparative Theories of Press Systems
- Communication Research Methodology & Strategies
- Communication Theories and Applications
- Media and Culture
- Pedagogy in Communication

University/College Teaching Scholarship

Penn State University Teaching Engagements – Spring 2012 - Date

COMM 100: The Mass Media and Society (3 credits): The Mass Media and Society is an overview of the interaction between mass media and society. By drawing from selected topics, the course pays particular attention to the social influences (e.g., economics, politics, technology, law and culture) that shape media messages. Among others, the course examines the nature of media controllers as well as the character of "users" and "consumers" of media products. By so doing, we inform students about the overall structure and scope of the mass media. We sensitize them to the power and influences associated with media messages and practices. By the end of the semester, each student should have a better understanding of the dynamic nature of the mass media in an information society.

Frequency of Offer: [**Online Instruction modules developed 2010 for BA students in multiple locations**]: Offered asynchronously: spring 2012; fall 2012; spring 2013; summer 2015; fall 2015 [**Modules currently under redevelopment in preparation for spring 2019**]

COMM 419: World Media Systems (3 credits): Open to BA, MA & Ph.D. students, this course is a comparative study of modern mass media systems with focus on the ways in which two or more countries' media have evolved and are structured by the political, economic, social, and cultural environments within which they exist. We expose students to the theories and practices of media systems – as explained in the normative theories of the press and other contemporary iterations. One objective of the course is for students to gain a better appreciation of the structure and location of the media system in the United States vis-à-vis greater awareness of media systems in other political and economic contexts where media cultures may vary from the U.S. matrix. Across the board of sampled countries' media systems, students will be exposed to the ways in which each country's media developed, are shaped, and are continually shaped by factors that include history, political cultures, evolving legal regimes, media regulations, finances, media economics, new technologies, institutional arrangements, citizens' access to information, or lack thereof. Another objective of this course is to equip students with a toolbox and framework with which to replicate comparative media systems' analyses in other countries and regions of interest as they contemplate study abroad and/or long-term career (employment, graduate studies) engagements. To achieve foregoing objectives we expose students to readings in theories of media systems and to academic articles using comparative methodologies to examine structural evolution of media in tandem with

countries' transformations over time. Students will analyse historical or contemporary media systems' developments through careful comparisons and application of critical thinking skills. In the process, students develop analytical skills useful in contending with academic and professional environments.

Frequency of Offer: Spring 2012; fall 2012; spring 2013. Also fall 2014; spring 2015 [**with funded embedded study abroad program to South Africa**]; fall 2015, spring 2016, fall 2016, spring 2017 [**with funded embedded study abroad program to South Africa**], fall 2017, spring 2018 [**with funded embedded study abroad program to South Africa**].

COMM 502: Pedagogy in Communications (3 credits) – The purpose of this PhD. Teaching Academy seminar is to train postgraduate students to teach in the communications discipline at the college/university level. We run this seminar in such a way that participants will examine several conceptual and pedagogical principles as well as teaching methodologies and best practices pertinent to the functions and responsibilities connected with teaching communications in a college/university setting or elsewhere. Altogether, we focus this seminar on four areas that include conceptual principles; best practices in teaching; supervised teaching and examination of teaching in specific contexts.

Next Offer: fall 2018.

COMM 505: International Communication Problems (3 credits) – The central goal of this post-graduate seminar is to examine various theoretical approaches to studying the development of the current world media system; governments' use of international media to achieve foreign policy goals; the economics of media “globalization;” and the impact of media flows on people, nations, cultures and institutions. We place special emphasis on the application of theoretical understanding of international communications to national and multi-national government policies. The objectives of the seminar are as follows: (1) inventory and analyse historical and contemporary international communication theories. (2) Gain exposure to and learn the baseline literature of the field of international communications. (3) Explore new and different theoretical perspectives in international communications. (4) Use knowledge garnered from foregoing to investigate issues (political, social, and cultural) and communication problems of interest to seminar participants and; (5) find outlets (academic conferences, journal + edited volumes) for international communications research informed by individual seminar-driven inquiries.

Frequency of Offer: International Communication Problems (MA/Ph.D. Seminar) spring 2015, fall 2017.

COMM 510: Comparative Theories of Press Systems (3 credits) - The overarching objective of this postgraduate seminar is to provide overview of institutional structures and normative functions of press systems in modern societies as they are shaped by

prevailing worldview and social organization. Seminar Structure: Informed by foregoing objective, participants in this seminar will sample and compare normative theories that drive published assumptions and discoveries of foundation and contemporary authors who work in this segment of media studies. The goal is to provide framework and tools with which to engage in research and discovery in diverse and comparative media systems. In addition, participants will review the works of reachable comparative media scholars at Penn State – including instructor’s. There is also space in the structure of the seminar for students to chart and/or solidify their own research course and examine the pedagogy of comparative media systems. The latter segment assumes that some or all participants are members of the future professoriate with forthcoming engagement in research, teaching and service.

Last Offer: Enrolees (MA/Ph.D.) fall 2012

Scholarship via Service – Global Service to the Profession

i. Miscellaneous Peer Reviews

Member, Curriculum Committee [1 of 7] International Institute for Education of Students (IIES), 2017-2020.

Member, Board of directors of the Penn State, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and University for Development Studies Collaborative Research Consortium (PKUCRC), 2017-Date.

Independent Peer Reviewer, Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAF), Scholarly Publishing Unit, 2016 – Date

Faculty Advisor, Pan-African Professional Alliance at Penn State, 2016 – Date

Peer Reviewer, South Africa National Research Foundation (SANRF), 2015 –

ii. Journal Editorial Work

Member, Editorial Board, Journal of MEDIA and Communication Review, 2015 - date

Member Reviewer Board, SAGE Open – ScholarOne, 2012 to date

Member, Editorial Board, Journalism and Society, 2011 to date

Member, Editorial Board, Critical Journal of Media Communication, 2010-date

Member, Editorial Board, Center Point: International Journal of Humanities, 2010 to date

Member, Editorial Board, International Journal of Social and Management Sciences, 2006 to 2012

Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Communication and Language Arts, 2006 to date

iii. Manuscript Review

Manuscript Reviewer, Equid Novi [African Journalism Studies] 2010 to date

Manuscript Reviewer, Journal of Social Problems, 2012 to date

Manuscript Reviewer, Acta Academia, 2012 to date

Manuscript Reviewer, SAGE Open – ScholarOne, 2012 to date

Manuscript Review, Journal of Information Policy, 2011 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, Critical Arts, 2008 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, Journal of Global Mass Communication, 2008 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, Journal of Radio Studies, 2005 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, Journal of Communication, 2004 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, Journalism and Mass Communication Educator, 2004 to date
Manuscript Reviewer, African Studies Review, 2003 to date

Service to the University

University-Wide Committees & Advising

Faculty Advisor, Pan-African Professional Alliance [PAN-APA], 2017 – date
Member, University Global Programs’ Planning Committee “Global Penn State Conference, 2012/13
Member, University Fulbright Consortium, 2010 – date
Member University Global Programs’ Travel Grants Committee, 2010 – 2016
Co-author, Office of Global Programs Strategic Plan for 2008-2013
Faculty Mentor, Summer Research Opportunity for Minority Students, 2000-date
Faculty Mentor, FAST-START – Faculty-Staff-Alumni Mentoring Triad, The Pennsylvania State University, 2000 – to date
Faculty Adviser, African Students at Pennsylvania State University (Unofficial) 1994-Date

Outreach Service – Institutional Partnership & Academic Linkages

Study Tour Program Director and Course Instructor, Media and Democracy in South Africa, 2001, 2002, 2003; 2015; 2017; 2018
Group Leader, Pennsylvania State University Delegation to Rhodes University, Grahamstown South Africa, September 2000
Group Leader, Pennsylvania State University Delegation to the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg South Africa, March 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2015, 2017, 2018.

Service to the College

Member, Executive Committee, College of Communications; 2006-date
Head of Department, Film/Video & Media Studies; 2006-date
Lead author, Department of Film/Video & Media Studies Strategic Plan for 2008-2013
Co-facilitator, Post-Graduate Teaching Academy, 1999-Date

Participation in Student Research Committees (Selected)

Independent Studies and Honors Theses Supervision

Giuliana Sorce (2017 PhD)
Azeta Hatef (2017 PhD)
Fatimata Mohammed (2018 PhD)
Shayna Fermelant (2019 honors)

Master's Theses/Committee Membership

Modupe Adekola, M.A. (2013 Grad) University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Nwachukwu Egbunike, M.A. (2013 Grad) University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Dupe Kuku, M.A. (2013 Grad) University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Aya Katib, MA (2019 Grad) Penn State University

Doctoral Dissertation/Committee Membership/Visiting Scholars

Yong Tang (2012 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Brandie Martin (Research Advisor) (2013 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Caryn Winters (2013 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Lian Ma (2014 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Akshaya Sreenivasan (2016 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Juyoung Lee (2016 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Giuliana Sorce (2017 Grad) Pennsylvania State University
Fatimata Mohammed (2019 Grad) Penn State University
Bungi Min (2019 Grad) Penn State University
Nadhir Muntaka (2019 Grad) College of Education, Penn State University
Pechulano Ngwe-Ali (2022 Grad) Penn State University

Funded Projects

Total Grant in Support of Research, Teaching and International Academic Linkages
= \$300, 161.00

Grant in Support (2017/18) COMM 419(h) Study Abroad Program: Office of Dean
College of Communication + Office of International Engagement, Shreyer Honors
College at Penn State. \$39, 000

Seed Grant in support of “Applied Communication” Field Work in West Africa: Office
of the Dean, College of Communications + Office of Director Page Center + University
Office of Global Programs. \$19,000

Grant in Support (2016/17) COMM 419(h) Study Abroad Program: Office of Dean
College of Communication + Office of International Engagement, Shreyer Honors
College at Penn State. \$30, 000

Research Grant in support of summer [May 18 – July 3] 2015 “Applied Communication”
Field Work in South-West Nigeria. Office of the Dean, College of Communications.
\$10,000

Grant in Support (2014/15) COMM 419(h) Study Abroad Program: Office of Dean
College of Communication + Office of International Engagement, Shreyer Honors
College at Penn State. \$30, 000

Grant in Support of (2012-2013) Collaborative Engagements with African Institutions.
Grantor: Office of Dean College of Communications, July 2011. \$16, 000

ETC.

Awards and Honors

Invited to the Curriculum Review Panel, International Institute for the Education of Students Abroad [IIES], 2017

Selected as South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF) Peer-Reviewer, 2015

Commencement Speaker, African Studies Program at Penn State University, May 2015

Lead co-author, Most Frequently Downloaded journal article; Science Direct [Telematics & Informatics], 2013

Author, Taylor & Francis [Journal of Radio & Audio Media] Most Read Articles, 2012

Keynote Speaker, Lagos State University School of Communication Faculty Seminar Series, 2012

Keynote Speaker, "International Publications: The Quality, the Quantity and the Politics. University of Ibadan Faculty of Arts Seminar Series, August 16, 2012

Keynote Speaker, Osun State University College of Humanities and Culture's International Seminar Series, Ikire Osun State, 2012

Keynote Speaker, Emmanuel Alayande College of Education, Oyo Nigeria, 2012

Professional Affiliations

Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication (AEJMC)

National Communication Association (NCA)

Eastern Communication Association (ECA)

International Communication Association (ICA)

International Association for Media & Communication Research (IAMCR)

African Studies Association (ASA)

Popular Cultures Association (PCA)