

VITAE

MICHAEL A. GOMEZ

CURRENT FACULTY POSITION:

Professor, New York University
Department of History *and* Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies
1999 - present.

CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS:

Director
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)
2000 - 2007.

Chair, Department of History
New York University
2004 - 2007.

PREVIOUS FACULTY POSITIONS:

Professor, University of Georgia, Athens
Department of History/African American Studies
1997 - 1999.

Associate Professor, Spelman College (Atlanta, Georgia)
Department of History
1992 - 1997.

Assistant Professor, Spelman College (Atlanta, Georgia)
Department of History
1988 - 1992.

Assistant Professor, Washington University (St. Louis, Missouri)
Department of History/African and Afro-American Studies
1985 - 1988.

PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS:

Chair, Department of History
Spelman College (Atlanta, Georgia)

1989 - 1992, 1993 - 1997.

Director
African Diaspora and the World Core Curriculum Course
Spelman College (Atlanta, Georgia)
1992 - 1997.

EDUCATION:

B.A., U.S. History, University of Chicago, June 1981.
(transfer from Amherst College)
M.A., African History, University of Chicago, June 1982.
Ph.D., African History, University of Chicago, June 1985.

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION:

West Africa; African Diaspora; Antebellum American South.

THEMATIC INTERESTS:

Islam; Social and Cultural Formations; Slavery.

PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS

Black Crescent: African Muslims in the Americas (Cambridge University Press, 2005).
Winner, 2006 Award, Nonfiction Category of the Black Caucus of the American Library
Association (BCALA).

Reversing Sail: A History of the African Diaspora (Cambridge University Press, 2005).

*Exchanging Our Country Marks: The Transformation of African Identities in the
Colonial and Antebellum South* (University of North Carolina Press, 1998).

Pragmatism in the Age of Jihad: The Precolonial State of Bundu (Cambridge
University Press, 1992).

EDITED VOLUMES

Diasporic Africa: A Reader (New York University Press, 2006). Journal Articles and
Contributions to Edited Volumes

"A Harvest for the People: P. Sterling Stuckey, Activist and Scholar." *Journal of African American History* (91), Special Issue, Fall 2006: 367-371.

"Diasporic Africa: A View from History." *Diasporic Africa: A Reader* (New York University Press, 2006).

"Of Du Bois and Diaspora: The Challenge of African American Studies." *Journal of Black Studies* (35) November 2004: 175-194.

"The Preacher-Kings: W.E.B. Du Bois Revisited." *African Americans and the Bible: Sacred Texts and Social Textures*, edited by Vincent L. Wimbush. New York: Continuum Publishing Group, 2000, pp. 501-13.

"African Identity and Slavery in the Americas." *Radical History Review* (75) 1999: 111-120.

"Muslims in Early America." *Journal of Southern History* (60) 1994: 671-710.

"Timbuktu under Imperial Songhay: A Reconsideration of Autonomy." *Journal of African History* (31) 1990: 5-24.

"Bundu in the Eighteenth Century." *International Journal of African Historical Studies* (20) 1987: 61-73.

"The Problem with Malik Sy and the Foundation of Bundu." *Cahiers d'études africaines* (100) 1985: 537-553.

"Islam and the Myth of African Inferiority." (under revision).

"War in Futa Jallon: Holy or Profane?" (under revision).

Encyclopedia Articles

"Slavery." *The Black Experience in the Western Hemisphere* (Ann Arbor, MI: ProQuest Information and Learning and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 2006). Colin Palmer, editor-in-chief.

"African American Religious Experience." *The Black Experience in the Western Hemisphere* (Ann Arbor, MI: ProQuest Information and Learning and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 2006). Colin Palmer, editor-in-chief.

"Slave Religions." *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black Experience in the Americas (EAACH)* (Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan, 2006). Colin Palmer, editor-in-chief.

"Migration." *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black Experience in the Americas (EAACH)* (Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan, 2006). Colin Palmer, editor-in-chief.

"The Middle Passage." *The American Heritage Encyclopedia of American History* (Guilford, CT: Sachem Publishing, 1998). John Mack Faragher, general editor.

"The Slave Trade." *The American Heritage Encyclopedia of American History* (Guilford, CT: Sachem Publishing, 1998). John Mack Faragher, general editor.

"Muslims in America." *Encyclopedia of Slavery* (New York, Macmillan Reference, 1998). Paul Finkelman and Joseph C. Miller, general editors.

"Sierra Leone." *Encyclopedia of Slavery* (New York, Macmillan Reference, 1998). Paul Finkelman and Joseph C. Miller, general editors.

"Solomon, Job Ben." *Encyclopedia of Slavery* (New York, Macmillan Reference, 1998). Paul Finkelman and Joseph C. Miller, general editors.

"West Africa: The Medieval Western Sudan." *Encyclopedia of Slavery* (New York, Macmillan Reference, 1998). Paul Finkelman and Joseph C. Miller, general editors.

Review Articles

Sylviane A. Diouf. "Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas (New York and London: New York University Press, 1998)." In *The Journal of Southern History* 66 (May 2000): 407.

Vera Lawrence Hyatt and Rex Nettleford, eds. "Race, Discourse, and the Origin of the Americas: A New World View (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995)." In *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* 80 (Winter, 1996): 887-89.

Jack D. Forbes, "Africans and Native Americans: the Language of Race and the Evolution of Red-Black Peoples 2nd ed. (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois, 1993)." In *Journal of Southern History* 61 (August 1995): 569-70.

Olga F. Linares, "Power, Prayer and Production: The Jola of Casamance, Senegal (Cambridge: Cambridge University, 1992)." In *International Journal of African Historical Studies* (27) 1994: 136-37.

Thomas A. Hale, "Scribe, Griot, and Novelist: Narrative Interpreters of the Songhay Empire (Gainesville: University of Florida, 1990)." In *International Journal of African Historical Studies* 25 (1992): 146-47.

William D. Pierson, "*Black Yankees: The Development of an Afro-American Subculture in Eighteenth Century New England* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts, 1988)." In *Canadian Journal of African Studies* (23) 1989: 328-329.

Dennis Cordell, "*Dar al-Kunti and the Last Years of the Trans-Saharan Trade* (Madison: University of Wisconsin, 1985)." In *Canadian Journal of African Studies* (21) 1987: 103-105.

PROJECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Imperial Songhay.
African Repatriation from Brazil and the Caribbean in the Nineteenth Century.
Antonio Maceo.
West Africans in "Moorish" Spain, Portugal.
A History of Ancient/Early West Africa.
The Illegal Atlantic Slave Trade.
A Comprehensive, Interpretive Study of the African Diaspora.

HONORS AND AWARDS:

2006 Award, Nonfiction Category, of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) for *Black Crescent: The Experience and Legacy of African Muslims in the Americas* (Cambridge U. Press, 2005).
Spelman College Scholar of the Year Award, 1992-93.
Bush Research Grants, Spelman College, 1989 and 1990.
Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar (Senegal), 1987-88.
Malone Fellow (Tunisia), National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, 1990.
Washington University Overseas Research Grant, 1986.
CIC Fellow, 1981-85.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Director, Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD), 2000 - 2007.

Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Journal of African History*, 2007-2010.

Member, Editorial Board, *African and Black Diaspora: An International Journal*.

Chair, TIAA-CREF Ruth Simms Hamilton Research Fellowship Selection Committee, 2005 - present.

Member, Editorial Board of Cambridge University Press, Africa Series.

Member, Council of the Omohundro Institute of Early America History and Culture and Board of Editors, *William and Mary Quarterly*, 2002-2005.

Consultant, The National Slavery Museum Project (The Honorable L. Douglas Wilder, Chairman), 2002 - 2004.

Facilitator, "The Transatlantic Slave Trade: Critical Perspectives in History, English, and Anthropology," Mellon Faculty Seminar at the Gorée Institute, Senegal, July 9-20, 2004.

Co-Organizer (with David Roediger), "Africans, Culture, and Intellectuals in North America: P. Sterling Stuckey and the Folk," *A Celebration of the Work and Legacy of P. Sterling Stuckey on the Occasion of His Retirement*, University of California, Riverside, May 21-22, 2004.

Organizer, "Affirmations and Contestations: Interrogating the Connections between Africa and the African Diaspora," an ASWAD Conference held in Evanston, Illinois. Co-sponsored by the Program of African Studies at Northwestern University, and Smith College, October 2-4, 2003.

Organizer, "Crossing Boundaries: The African Diaspora in the New Millennium," an ASWAD Conference held in New York City. Co-sponsored by New York University, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and Oberlin College, September 20-23, 2000.

Member, Selection Committee for the Schomburg Center's Scholars-in-Residence Program, New York, NY, 1999-2000, 2000-2001.

Member, Advisory Board for the Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies, University of Virginia, 2000-2001.

Consultant, New York African Burial Ground Project - A collaboration with colleagues at Howard University, current repository of the remains, to research the historical context of the burial ground. My specific charge is to look at religious beliefs and practices of Africans and their descendants in New York. Under the direction of Professor of Anthropology Michael Blakey, 1996-99.

Consultant, "West Africans in Colonial Mississippi," Thirteenth Annual Social Studies Teachers Workshop. The Old Capitol Museum of Mississippi History. Jackson, Mississippi, November 1, 1996.

Spelman Representative to the "African Initiatives in Knowledge," a Consortial Program between Spelman College, Morehouse College, Clark-Atlanta

University, Morris Brown College, and Emory University with funding from the Ford Foundation, 1995-97.

Consultant, Delta Teachers Academy Team, The National Faculty - Southern Region, 1995-97.

Coordinator, "Internationalizing the University: Africa and the Americas" (under the auspices of the Consortium for Inter-Institutional Collaboration in African and Latin American Studies, or CICALS), Spelman College, March 10-12, 1995.

Member, Presidential Commission on the Future of Spelman College, 1994-95.

Facilitator, "Internationalizing the Curriculum at the Smaller Liberal Arts Colleges and Universities" (under the auspices of the Consortium for Inter-Institutional Collaboration in African and Latin American Studies, or CICALS), Michigan State University, November 18-20, 1994.

Member, Advisory Board, Consortium for Inter-Institutional Collaboration in African and Latin American Studies, or CICALS), 1989-97.

Member, Carter Center Delegation of Monitors, Ghanaian Presidential and Parliamentary Elections, November, December 1992.

Member, Advisory Board, West African Research Association (WARA), 1989-90.

Co-Chair, Southern (U.S.) Regional Promotion of Journal *African Commentary*, 1988-89.

Referee for manuscripts submitted for publication to the *International Journal of African Historical Studies*; *Cahiers d'études africaines*, *William and Mary Quarterly*, Duke University Press, Indiana University Press, Cambridge University Press, Louisiana State University Press, etc.

SELECTED PAPERS, SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS, and PUBLIC LECTURES:

Invited Lecturer: "Developments in the Study of the African Diaspora." April 18, 2007. Co-sponsored by the Department of History, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, and the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. East Carolina University. Greenville, North Carolina.

Invited Lecturer: "The Verges of Diasporic Practice and Experience." April 9, 2007. Delivered for the Department of History's *African American History Speaker Series*. University of Texas. Austin, Texas.

Invited Lecturer: "The African Diaspora and the Academy." April 3, 2007. Sponsored by the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Program. Washington University. St. Louis, Missouri.

Keynote Speaker: "Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade 1807/8: Consequences and Legacies." March 28, 2007. Delivered for the *John W. Davison Lecture Series*. Fort Valley State University. Fort Valley, Georgia.

Invited Lecturer: "Global Africa." March 19, 2007. Delivered in conjunction with consulting for the Departments of African American Studies and History. Oberlin College. Oberlin, Ohio.

Invited Lecturer: "Complicated Identities: The African Diaspora." February 21, 2007. Delivered in honor of *Black History Month* at Arizona State University. Tempe, Arizona.

Keynote Speaker: "'Black' Identity in the American South: An Atlantic Perspective." February 8, 2007. Delivered as the *Porter L. Fortune, Jr. Lecture*. The University of Mississippi. Oxford, Mississippi.

Invited Lecturer: "Muslims in the Americas: Further Thoughts on *Black Crescent*." February 1, 2007. Delivered for the African American Studies Program. University of Houston. Houston, Texas.

Keynote Speaker: "Perception and Reality: Diasporic Identities through Time and Space." December 7, 2006. Delivered for the Conference *Blacker Than Thou: Authenticity and Identity in the Diaspora*. Purdue University. West Lafayette, Indiana.

Invited Lecturer: "African Muslims and Their Legacies in the Americas." April 5, 2006. Delivered for the *Boston University African Diaspora Lecture Series*. Boston University. Boston, Massachusetts.

Invited Lecturer: "African Muslims in the Americas." April 4, 2006. Delivered for the *Barnard Forum on Migration*. Barnard College. New York, New York.

Keynote Speaker: "The African Diaspora and Globalization: The Eddies of Our Times." March 23, 2006. Delivered for the Conference *African Diaspora Studies and the Disciplines*. University of Wisconsin. Madison, Wisconsin.

Invited Presenter: "Diasporic Africa." February 14, 2006. *Works-In-Progress Series*, Program in African American Studies. Princeton University. Princeton, New Jersey.

Invited Speaker: "African Muslims in the Americas." February 7, 2006. Delivered for *African American History Month*. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Invited Speaker: "Meditations on Malcolm X." November 8, 2005. Sponsored by African American and African Studies. The Ohio State University. Athens, Ohio.

Keynote Speaker: "The Caribbean Moment in History." March 14, 2005. Delivered as the *Twenty-Second Annual Elsa Goveia Memorial Lecture*. The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados.

Invited Panelist: "Diasporic Africa in Slavery: Ruminations." February 19, 2005. Delivered for the conference entitled, *Past and Present of African American History*, in celebration of the *Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Marion Thompson Wright Lecture Series*. Rutgers University, Newark Campus, New Jersey.

Invited Speaker: "Malcolm X and the Rise of Islam in North America." February 10, 2005. Sponsored by the Department of Black and Hispanic Studies. Baruch College. New York, New York.

Keynote Speaker: "A Harvest for the People." May 22, 2004. Delivered at the conference, "Africans, Culture, and Intellectuals in North America: P. Sterling Stuckey and the Folk," *A Celebration of the Work and Legacy of P. Sterling Stuckey on the Occasion of His Retirement*, 21-22 May, 2004. University of California, Riverside.

"Race and Islam in North America." for African Studies, The Ohio State University. Athens, Ohio.

"Imaginary and Noble Drew Ali." November 17, 2003. Program of African Studies at Emory University. Atlanta, Georgia.

"Slavery, Economy, and Gender in the African Diaspora." June 29, 2003. Delivered for the *African Diaspora: The Making of the Atlantic World. International Conference on the Legacy of Slavery in the Caribbean*. Sponsored by the UNESCO Netherlands Antilles National Commission, Willemstad, Curaçao.

Keynote Speaker: "Of Du Bois and Diaspora: The Challenge of African American Studies." April 11, 2003. Delivered on Occasion of the *Thirtieth Year Anniversary Celebration of African American Studies at Oberlin College*. Oberlin, Ohio.

Invited Panelist: "African American Studies in the Nineteenth Century: Precursors and Paradigms." March 20, 2003. Delivered for the *Back to the Future of*

Civilization: Celebrating Thirty Years of African American Studies at Penn, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Invited Panelist: "Slavery's Buried Past: The Archaeology of Slavery." February 1, 2003. Program at the Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois.

Invited Speaker: "Asymmetric Response: Religion, Resistance and Slavery in the Islamic World and the Americas." November 7, 2002. Workshop Presentation at the University of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Invited Speaker: "Noble Drew Ali, Islam, and the African American Experience." *African Diaspora Series*, University of California-Riverside. Riverside, California.

Invited Speaker: "Africa and the African Diaspora." Delivered for *African Awareness Month*. Morehouse College. Atlanta, Georgia.

Invited Speaker: "African Muslims in the Americas." February 13, 2002. Delivered for *Black History Month*. Wesleyan University. Middletown, Connecticut.

Invited Speaker: "Noble Drew Ali and the Growth of Islam in North America." April 9, 2001. Delivered for the *Lorraine Williams Lecture Series*, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Invited Speaker: "Bilateral Time: Reparations and the African-Descended." February 20, 2001. Delivered for African Heritage Month. New York University. New York, New York.

Invited Speaker: "Exchanging Our Country Marks: The Transformation of African Identities in the Colonial and Antebellum South." February 16, 2001. Delivered for the *Hezekiah Alexander Lecture Series* at the Charlotte Museum of History. Charlotte, North Carolina.

Invited Paper: "Gender and Identity Formation among the African-Descended in North America." February 14, 2001. Delivered for the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs and the African and African Diaspora Studies Program. Bard College. Annandale-on-the-Hudson, New York.

Invited Paper: "Reflections on the African Diaspora." December 1, 2000. Delivered for the *Friends Series Colloquium* of the African and African American Studies Program at Duke University. Durham, North Carolina.

Invited Panelist: "A Politic of Healing: Africa, the Diaspora, and the Slave Trade." November 18, 2000. Part of a roundtable discussion entitled, *The*

Representation of Africa: Scholarly Issues for the 21st Century. African Studies Association Annual Meeting. Nashville, Tennessee.

Invited Paper: "A Quality of Anguish: The Igbo Response to Enslavement in the Americas." July 11, 2000. Delivered at the conference *The Atlantic Slave Trade and Its Aftermath: The Interior of the Bight of Biafra and the African Diaspora*. Sponsored by the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and the Nigerian Hinterland Project. Enugu, Enugu State, Nigeria. July 10-14, 2000.

Invited Paper: "American Moors: Islamic Sensibility and Identity Re-Formation in Post-Slavery North America." June 29, 2000. Delivered at the conference *Liberté, identité, intégration et servitude*. Sponsored by the Fondation Alizés, the Nigerian Hinterland Project, and Al-Akhawayn University. Ifrane, Morocco. June 29-30, 2000.

Invited Paper: "The Question of Identity in the New World." February 24, 2000. Delivered at the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis. Part of the 1997-1999 series: *The Black Atlantic: Race, Nation, and Gender*. Rutgers University. New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Africans in Eighteenth Century America." November 3, 1999. Delivered at the Virginia Military Institute. Sponsored by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Virginia and the VMI Department of History and Politics. Lexington, Virginia.

Invited Panelist "A Desire to Be Made Whole: Patterns of Distribution and Reconstitution among Africans in the Americas." October 5, 1999. *Slave Routes: the Long Memory*. Conference convened by the Africana Studies Program and the Institute of African-American Affairs at New York University, New York. October 5-9, 1999.

Invited Speaker: "The Formation of African American Identity in Colonial America." Talk at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation. Monticello, Virginia.

Invited Speaker "American Identity and Slavery in the Americas." February 26, 1999. Department of History, University of California-Riverside. Riverside, California.

Invited Speaker: "Sufism, Secret Societies, and Freemasonry in Early Twentieth-Century African American Social Movements, with Particular Emphasis on the Mission of Noble Drew Ali." February 25, 1999. Delivered for the *Atlantic Societies Colloquium*. UCLA. Los Angeles, California.

Commentator, "The Impact of the Slave Trade on the Americas." *Transatlantic Slaving and the African Diaspora: Using the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Dataset of*

Slaving Voyages. September 11-13, 1998. Sponsored by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, and the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute of Afro-American and Africana Studies at Harvard University. Williamsburg, Virginia.

Guest Speaker for Workshop "Roots: The African Background of American Culture, through the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade." June 8-July 3, 1998. NEH Summer Institute of College Teachers, The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy. Charlottesville, Virginia.

Invited Panelist, "Umar b. Said: An 1831 Arabic Narrative by an American Slave." May 2, 1998. Harvard University. Sponsored by the Afro-American Studies Du Bois Institute. Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Panel Chair, "African Religions in Nineteenth Century Bahia." April 17, 1998. *The African Diaspora: The Making of a Black Atlantic World in the Bight of Benin and Brazil*. Emory University. Atlanta, Georgia.

"The Transatlantic Slave Trade: Testimony from the WPA Interviews." May 24, 1997. Conference on *The Atlantic Slave Trade in African and African American Memory*. Chicago, Illinois.

"Race, Cultural Adaption, Cultural Identity, and Pan-Africanism." January 24, 1997. *Africa, Pan-Africanism, and the New World Order. Cultures in Conflict Series Symposium* hosted by the University of Georgia. Athens, Georgia.

"Egypt, Africa, and the Academy: One View." January 3, 1997. Historical Association 111th Annual Meeting. New York, New York.

"African-American Studies in the South and at Historically Black Institutions." October 18, 1996. *The Future of African-American Studies: A Conference on Theory, Pedagogy and Research*. Columbia University. New York, New York.

Guest Speaker and Participant in Workshop "Rethinking African-American History and Literature through Autobiography." June 10-21, 1996. NEH Summer Institute for College Teachers, The Faculty Resource Network. New York University. New York, New York.

"Muslims in Early America." October 11, 1995. Washington University. St. Louis, Missouri.

"'If a Zanj were to Fall from Heaven to Earth He Would Beat Time as He Goes Down': Islam and the Myth of African Inferiority." November 2, 1990. African Studies Association. Baltimore, Maryland.

“Gao, Timbuktu, and Lines of Authority in Imperial Songhay.” November 3, 1989. African Studies Association. Atlanta, Georgia.

“Muslim Slaves in the Colonial and Antebellum South.” October 26, 1989. Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History 75th Annual Meeting. Chicago, Illinois.

“Edward W. Blyden and Religion in Africa.” February 6, 1989. Delivered for Black History Month, Spelman College. Atlanta, Georgia.

“Examining the Roots of Holy War: Guinea in the Eighteenth Century.” February 12, 1987. *African Forum Series*, Washington University. St. Louis, Missouri.

“Effects of Reform Movements upon the Development of Bundu.” October 30, 1986. African Studies Association. Madison, Wisconsin.

Conceptualizing the African Diaspora (grad)
African Culture and Experience in North America (grad)
Intellectual History of Africa and the African Diaspora (grad)
The African Diaspora: Literature of the Field (grad)
History of Africa: Literature of the Field (grad)
History of West Africa (grad and undergrad, separate courses)
Islam in Africa (grad and undergrad, separate courses)
Islam in West Africa (grad)
Africa in Antiquity (undergrad)
African Civilization, Antiquity to ca. 1600 (undergrad)
African Civilization, ca. 1600 to the Present (undergrad)
African Culture in the Antebellum South (undergrad)
African History through African Literature (undergrad)
The African Diaspora (undergrad)
The African Diaspora and the World (undergrad)
Africans in the Americas (undergrad)
Historical Methods (undergrad)
Historiography (undergrad)
World Civilization, Antiquity to the Present (undergrad)