

David Olali, PhD

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2014 – Present	Founder & Director, Comparative Heritage Project (CHP) and Comparative Heritage Institute (CHI)
2023 – 2026	Academic Professional Associate & Assistant Director: African Studies Institute, University of Georgia (January 2023 – June 2026)
2012 – 2014	Research Fellow in Global Leadership (De facto Director): T’Ofori-Atta Institute for the Study of the Religious Heritage of the African World (TIAW), Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA (December 2012 – January 2014)
2010 – 2012	Research Assistant: Institute for Signifying Scriptures (ISS), Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA
2009 – 2010	Teaching Assistant, General Studies Program: University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria (August 2009 – August 2010)
2009 – 2010	Adjunct Faculty, Distance Learning Center: Saints Peter and Paul (Major) Seminary, Ibadan, Nigeria
2008 – 2010	English Language and Literature-in-English Instructor: Mind Builder Academy (MBA), Abadina, Ibadan, Nigeria (January 2008 – June 2010)
2007 – 2008	English Language and Literature-in-English Instructor: Tunmise Model College, Bodija, Ibadan, Nigeria
2001 – 2004	English Language and Literature-in-English Instructor: Ultimate Coaching Center, Abadina, Ibadan, Nigeria

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

A EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University

Ph.D. Religion, 2018

Doctoral coursework and dissertation research grounded substantially in philosophy: political theology, structural and critical theory, and postcolonial philosophy, exceeding eighteen graduate semester hours of philosophical training.

University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Graduate studies

University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Undergraduate studies

B HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

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| 2017 | Friedman Award, School of Arts & Humanities, Claremont Graduate University (\$2,000) |
| 2014 | Friedman Award, School of Arts & Humanities, Claremont Graduate University (\$500) |

C PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters and Journal Articles

- Olali, David. "White(ning) Scripture, the Invention of Satan, and a Heritage of Terror." *NOESIS African Journal of Contemporary Trends in Religion and Society (NACTORS)* 3, chapter 2 (e-ISSN 1595-5729): 36–63.
- Olali, David. "African Traditional Religion, Sexual Orientation, Trans-Gender, and Homosexuality." In *The Palgrave Handbook of African Traditional Religion*, edited by Ibigbolade Aderibigbe and Toyin Falola. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022. (Update in progress.)
- Olali, David. "African Traditional Religion and Religious Ethics." In *The Palgrave Handbook of African Traditional Religion*, edited by Ibigbolade Aderibigbe and Toyin Falola. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.
- Olali, David. "Carcasses of Memory: Intersectionality, Institutionalized Terrorism, and the Play on Black Bodies in America." In *For the Sake of Peace: Africana Perspectives on Racism, Justice, and Peace in America*, edited by Charles L. Chavis, Jr. and Sixte Vigny Nimuraba. Rowman & Littlefield, 2020.
- Olali, David, Imaledo Saliu, and Gbenga Dasylva. "Scriptures, Social Media, and Social Power." In *From Twitter to Tahrir Square: Ethics in Social Media and New Media Communication*, Vol. 2, edited by Jim Willis and Bala Musa. Praeger, 2014.
- Olali, David. "Defending the Existence of and Solidarizing with Alleged Child-Witches: Significations on the Nigerian Witchcraft Phenomenon." In *Suffereth Not a Witch to Live: Discourse on Child-Witch Hunting in Nigeria*, edited by Adeyemi Johnson Ademowo, Gary Foxcroft, and Temidayo David Oladipo. Ayomide Publications, 2010.

Articles Under Consideration and in Preparation

- Olali, David. "The Abiku Complex: Comparative Heritage, Paleoviolence, and the Recursive Structure of Diaspora." Unpublished manuscript, 2026. Under consideration at *Journal of Religion in Africa*.
- Olali, David. "Inheriting Sacred Violence: Toward a Theory of Paleoviolence for Comparative Heritage." Unpublished manuscript. Under consideration at *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*.
- Olali, David. "Prophet Against Empire: Garrick Braide and the Anti-Colonial Roots of Nigerian Pentecostalism." Paper One of a Three-Part Research Series on Coloniality and Nigerian Pentecostalism, Comparative Heritage Project/Institute, 2026. Under consideration at *Postcolonial Studies*.

- Olali, David. “Prophet of Empire: The Colonial Roots of Nigerian Pentecostalism.” Paper Two of a Three-Part Research Series on Coloniality and Nigerian Pentecostalism, Comparative Heritage Project/Institute, 2026. Under consideration at *Postcolonial Studies*.
- Olali, David. “From Pulpit to Power: Prosperity, Patronage, and the Political Economy of Neo-Pentecostalism in Nigeria.” Paper Three of a Three-Part Research Series on Coloniality and Nigerian Pentecostalism, Comparative Heritage Project/Institute, 2026. Under consideration at *African Affairs*.
- Olali, David. “Danwabi and the Sahel: Islamic Scripturalization and the Limits of the Spirit-Child Archive.” Unpublished manuscript.
- Olali, David. “Japa as Inheritance: Paleoviolence and the Systemic Logic of Migration Policy.” Unpublished manuscript.
- Olali, David. “Comparativity, Coloniality, and Morocco’s FIFA World Cup 2026 Victory.” Essay in preparation for *Soccer & Society*. Applies postcolonial theory and Comparativity Complex Theory to Morocco’s 2026 World Cup victory as a site of postcolonial and pan-African meaning-making.

Book Manuscripts — Submitted, Forthcoming, and in Progress

- *Nationhood, Scripturalization, Heritage: How Sacred Text Makes and Unmakes Peoples*. Submitted (Chicago).
 - *Paleoviolence: The Genealogy of Violence and Terror*. Full-length book proposal in fourteen chapters structured around the five pillars of Comparativity Complex Theory, engaging philosophical accounts of violence, sacrifice, and political order (Girard, Burkert) alongside postcolonial philosophy (Fanon, Mbembe, Quijano); defines paleoviolence as the deep-time substrate of conquest and captivity that coloniality industrialized and racialized rather than invented.
1. *What Whiteness Cannot Do Does Not Exist: Race, Epistemic Empire, and the Invention of Reality*.
 2. *Soldiering Scriptures*.
 3. *Witchcraft, Women, the Politics of Scripture*.
 4. *Discourse and Medical Humanities*.
 5. *Becoming: Enslaved, Black Heritage and Sankofa*.
 6. *Environment, Religion, and the Niger Delta*.
 7. *Scripturonomy: God, Ecology, and Economics*.
 8. *Stamped with Stamina: Narrating the Enduring Legacies of HBCUs*.
 9. *Saving God from Mammon*.
 10. *Interrogating Boundaries in Prosperity Theologies and Marlian Culture*.
 11. *The Rejected Rock*.
 12. *Healing in Ifá Religion of the Yoruba*.
 13. *Scriptural Terrorism*.

14. Food and Security Initiatives.

Book Reviews

- Review of *The Politics of Biography in Africa: Borders, Margins, and Alternative Histories of Power* (United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis, 2021). *African Studies Review*, forthcoming.
- Review of *Divining the Woman of Endor: African Culture, Postcolonial Hermeneutics, and the Politics of Biblical Translation*, by J. Kabamba Kiboko (New York: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2017). *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion.
- Review of *Religion, Media, and Marginality in Modern Africa*, edited by Felicitas Becker, Joel Cabrita, and Marie Rodet (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2018). *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion.
- Review of *Dynamics of Difference: Christianity and Alterity: A Festschrift for Werner G. Jeanrond*, edited by Ulrich Schmiedel and James M. Matarazzo Jr. (New York: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2016). *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion.

D RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Comparativity Complex Theory (CCT)

Original philosophical and methodological framework reconceptualizing comparison as a dynamic system tracking how meaning, power, and cultural forms evolve across time and context under coloniality.

Heritage Security Intelligence (HSI)

Originated, with Comparativity Complex Theory, as a core research and applied initiative of the Comparative Heritage Project and Institute.

E CERTIFICATIONS

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| 2026 | CompTIA Cybersecurity Analyst (CySA+) with CE, CompTIA, issued July 2026, expires July 2029 |
| 2025 | Certified in Cybersecurity (CC), ISC2, issued January 2025, expires January 2028 |
| 2022 | Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I, Salesforce, issued September 2022 |
| 2022 | Salesforce Certified Administrator (SCA), Salesforce, issued August 2022 |
- CITI Social & Behavioral Research Certifications (international research, children, vulnerable populations)
 - UGA Mentoring Certificate, University of Georgia

F GRANT AWARDS

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| 2025 | Spencer Foundation, Small Research Grants Program — Principal Investigator, “Assessing Educational Trajectories and Transitions of Internally Displaced Children in Selected Communities of North-Central Nigeria.” \$25,000 requested; finalist, not funded. |
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2024

UGA Parents Leadership Council Grant — Lead Applicant; \$50,000 initiative proposed, \$7,583 awarded.

G EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE AND PEER REVIEW

- Editor-in-Chief, *JDONS: Journal of Discourse, Ontology, Nature, and Science* (jdons.org)
- Review Editor, Institutions and Collective Action, *Frontiers in Human Dynamics*
- Editorial Member, *The Afrikanist: International Journal of African Studies*, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, University of Georgia
- Member of Review Board, *Mesopotamian Journal of Quran Studies*, Mesopotamian Academic Press
- Reviewer, “Occult Literature: The Excursion from Traversed to Untraversed,” Bentham Science Publishers
- Peer Reviewer, *Religions* (MDPI), 2024–2025, including “Multilingual Singing in Nigeria: Examining Roles, Meaning, and Function in Wazobia Gospel Music,” by A. Oyeniyi, *Religions* 16, no. 1 (2025): 4, <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel16010004>

H ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2019 “10 Incredible Ways You Can Be Hacked Through Email & How to Stop the Bad Guys,” Roger Grimes, Data-Driven Defense Evangelist. BrightTALK, February 5, 2019
- 2019 Security Symposium 2019 – Morning Session, Chris Van Tuin, Veer Murchandi, and Brian Harrington (Red Hat). BrightTALK, February 5, 2019
- Title IX Sexual Assault Prevention for Graduate Students, EverFi (Columbia Theological Seminary)
 - Title IX Sexual Assault Prevention (staff and graduate levels), Interdenominational Theological Center

I PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

- African Studies Association
- American Academy of Religion
- African Association for the Study of Religions
- Society of Biblical Literature
- International Association for the History of Religions
- Lagos Studies Association
- Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion

J TEACHING

Areas of Teaching Competence

- Textuality and Heritage

- African and Diaspora Studies
- Ethics and Critical Reasoning
- History of Ideas / History of Philosophy / Religion
- Political Theology and Postcolonial Thought
- Introduction to Comparativity and Heritage Studies (ICHS)

Teaching Experience (Interdisciplinary Humanities)

- Extensive teaching across eight or more departments: African Studies, Religion, Sociology, Anthropology, History, Comparative Literature, Geography, Women's & Gender Studies, and Latin American & Caribbean Studies.
- Taught interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate courses in African and Diaspora Studies on a 2/2 load at the African Studies Institute, University of Georgia (including AFST 2100, AFST 4200, and AFST 7100), engaging philosophical, historical, and religious-studies material, in face-to-face and hybrid modalities.
- Designed and delivered writing-intensive coursework requiring students to draft, revise, and defend argumentative and analytical essays; extensively graded student essays in AFST 2100 with detailed formative feedback on argumentation, evidence, and prose style.
- Advised and mentored undergraduate and graduate students on academic writing, research design, and critical reading.
- Delivered lectures and seminars on philosophy of religion, political theology, and postcolonial thought to undergraduate, graduate, and faculty audiences across Nigerian universities and seminaries.
- Coordinated certificate programs integrating area-studies instruction with applied training.
- Pedagogical scope: undergraduate to graduate instruction; interdisciplinary curriculum design; cross-listed course delivery; student mentorship and advising.

Representative Courses, University of Georgia

AFST 1201	Nature and Structure of African Religions
AFST 2100	Introduction to Africa (cross-listed across multiple disciplines)
AFST 3990	Directed Study in African Studies
AFST 4200/6200	Critical Issues in Contemporary Africa
AFST 4233/6233	Witchcraft, Women, and Waste in Africa (cross-listed widely)
AFST 4465/6465	Globalization and Indigenous Cultures in Africa
AFST 7010	Graduate Introduction to African Studies

Secondary and Pre-University Instruction, Ibadan, Nigeria (2001 – 2010)

- Taught English grammar, composition, and Literature-in-English to secondary students of varied preparedness levels at Tunmise Model College, Mind Builder Academy, and Ultimate Coaching Center.
- Developed lesson plans building foundational writing skills, from sentence-level mechanics through structured essay composition, emphasizing close reading and written expression.
- Prepared students for standardized examinations in English Language and Literature-in-English, and provided sustained, individualized instruction that built students' confidence and competence as writers and readers.

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION

A LEADERSHIP ROLES

2023 – 2026

Assistant Director, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia

Supported program administration, curriculum planning, and institutional partnerships; chaired the Curriculum Committee; supervised Graduate Teaching Assistants; served as Interim Director of the Institute in the Director's absence.

Academic Program Coordinator, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia

Oversaw undergraduate and graduate certificates and minors; aligned curriculum, advising, and program coherence.

2025

Director, Reading Africa Summer Initiative, University of Georgia

Coordinator, APERO Lecture Series, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia

2014 – Present

Founder & Director, Comparative Heritage Project (CHP) and Comparative Heritage Institute (CHI)

Direct six flagship programs — ICCAFS, CRCD, CHLS, HAI, HFF, and YHLA — engaging universities, foundations, and government partners on heritage, security, and development. Originated Comparativity Complex Theory (CCT) and Heritage Security Intelligence (HSI) as core CHP-CHI research and applied initiatives.

2012 – 2014

Research Fellow (De facto Director), T'Ofori-Atta Institute for the Study of the Religious Heritage of the African World (TIAW), Interdenominational Theological Center

Led the Center's work on African heritage, ethics, and worldviews; provided the leadership that produced the 2013 international conference on Africa; directed TIAW in coordinating on- and off-campus programs; provided administrative support and mentorship to students in Pan-African religious study and global interfaith and ethical leadership.

B COMMITTEE WORK

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| 2023 – 2026 | University Council, University of Georgia |
| 2023 – 2026 | Major Proposal Review, institutional grant and proposal evaluation, University of Georgia |
| 2023 – 2026 | Chair, Curriculum Committee, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia |
- Member, Precision One Health Initiative (Social Science & Medicine Core), University of Georgia

C CONFERENCES CONVENED

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| 2026 | ICCAHS26: Comparative Heritage and Human Futures: Knowledge, Innovation, Sustainability, and Global Transformations. In partnership with the Religious Studies Department, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, October 6–8, 2026 (upcoming) |
| 2026 | Youth, Innovation, and Futures for Africa, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, June 6, 2026 |
| 2024 | International Conference on Comparativity and Heritage Studies (ICCAHS): Complicated Histories/Complex Heritages, with Dr. Josiah Ucheawaji, Adeleke University, Nigeria, May 6–9, 2024 |
| 2023 | Religion and Sustainable Socio-Cultural and Economic Development within the 21st Century in Africa and Its Diaspora: The Eighth Biennial International Conference on Africa and Its Diaspora (BICAID 2023), with Dr. Akinloye Ojo, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, November 15–18, 2023 |
| 2013 | A Biography of Darkness: The Fate of an Inert Africa in the Global Pendulum, International Conference, November 4–6, 2013 |

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2026 — Nigeria Lecture Tour (Selected Invited Lectures)

- “Nation Building and Theological Thought: Burden, Responsibility, and Precarity,” Crowther Graduate Theological Seminary, May 7, 2026
- “Meaning-Making Machines: Coloniality, the Afterlives of Academic Disciplines, and the Reconstitution of Knowledge through Comparativity Complex Theory,” Faculty of Arts, University of Ilorin, May 13, 2026
- “The Crisis and Construction of Vision: Religion, Heritage and Tourism as Fundamental to Security and Development,” Distinguished Lecture Series, Adeleke University, May 19, 2026

- “Rethinking Knowledge, Innovation, and Research Funding in the Age of AI,” Distinguished Scholar Seminar Series, Afe Babalola University, May 25, 2026
- “Killing in the Name of God: Brigandage and Impunity, On Whose Authority?” International Guest Lecture, Redeemer’s University, May 26, 2026
- “Heritage as Scriptures: Memory, Authority, and the Political Life of Culture in Africa,” Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, June 4, 2026
- “Youth, Innovation, and Futures in Africa,” The VALOR Groups, Inc. (with the African Studies Student Association), June 6, 2026
- “From Scholarship to Impact: Seminar on Grants, Fellowships, Academic Visibility, and International Collaborations,” International Guest Seminar, Bowen University, June 9, 2026
- “Ransom Citizenship: Banditry, Privatized Sovereignty, and the Reconfiguration of Statehood in Contemporary Nigeria,” International Guest Lecture, Dominion University, June 11, 2026
- “Black Roots, White Foliage: The Challenge of Coloniality in Africa,” Department of Christian Studies and Religious Communications, University of Abuja, June 17, 2026

2024

- “Èṣù Láàlu Ògiri Oko: African Traditional Religions, Sankofa, and Rememory,” APERO Lecture, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, November 6, 2024
- “Economy of Witchcraft in a World of Scripturalization,” African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, January 17, 2024

2023

- “Religion, Globalization, and Africa in a World of Texts, Technology, and Terror(ism),” 2023 Fall Lecture, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, November 9, 2023

2021

- “Intersections of Religion, Politics, and Pandemic among African Diaspora Communities in the United States” (co-authored), The Challenges of COVID-19 on Language, Culture and Religion in Africa and Diaspora, University of Ilorin and University of Georgia 3rd Biennial Conference, Zoom, May 19–21, 2021
- “Africanizing Blackness: Nationhood, Utopia, and the Veil of Scripture in (a) Community,” APERO Lecture Series, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, April 28, 2021
- “Signifying Black Body: Meaning, Discourse, and Comparativity,” Heritage Conversations, Zoom, February 25, 2021
- “Ijaw National Reforms: Sensitization to the Key Issues of Ijaw Struggle,” Heritage Conversations, Zoom, February 3, 2021

2020

- “Anti-Pentecost, Anti-Gospel, and Prosperity Theologies in Postcolonial Africa,” The Philosophy of Nimi Wariboko Conference, The University of Texas at Austin and Boston University (Institute on Culture, Religion and World Affairs, School of Theology, and African Studies Center), Zoom, November 21, 2020

2019

- “Warring Scriptures: The Intersections of Gender and Witchcraft in Africa’s Scriptural Economy,” 62nd Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Being, Belonging and Becoming in Africa, Boston Marriott Copley Place, November 21–23, 2019
- “Signifying Afrocentrism and Africanity: Comparative Hegemonies and the Case for Comparative Heritage,” Sixth International Conference on Africa and Its Diaspora (BICAID 2019), African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, November 13–15, 2019

2018

- “A Scriptural Economy: Magics, Meanings, and Massages of Lagos,” The Crossroads of Spiritualities: New and Old Religions of Lagos in Transition, panel sponsored by the Lagos Studies Association, African Studies Association 61st Annual Meeting — Energies: Power, Creativity and Afro-Futures, Atlanta, Georgia, November 29 – December 1, 2018
- “Runagate, Signified Christianities: The Impossibility of Embracing a Wakanda Without Sankofa,” post-interview lecture delivered to a graduate class, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, March 28, 2018

2016

- “Building Castles in the Sky? In Search of the Missing Nexus in Ijaw Leadership Equation,” Keynote Lecture, Ijaw Leaders & Niger Delta Development, Ijaw Convention Day Celebrations 2016, Bayelsa State Association of Atlanta, GA, July 23, 2016

2013

- “Scriptural Signifiers: Re-contesting Scriptures,” Africa and Globalization: Contents and Discontents, The Second International Conference on Africa and Its Diaspora, University of Georgia, Athens, November 13–15, 2013
- “Performing Darkness,” A Biography of Darkness Conference, RHAW Conference, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, November 4–6, 2013
- “Unscripted Anxiety, Amnesia, and the Complex Duplications of Black Identity,” APERO Africana Brown Bag Speaker, Institute for African American Studies, University of Georgia, Athens, August 28, 2013
- “The African Ifa Heritage and the Discursive World of the King James Bible,” RHAW Brown Bag, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, April 10, 2013
- “Whence the African World?” Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, February 28, 2013

2011

- “Motifs—Maintaining Circles’ Chains?” Panel Discussion at the Inauguration of the 8th President of the Interdenominational Theological Center, Dr. Ronald E. Peters, Atlanta, GA, April 8, 2011

2008

- “Ethno-Religious Conflicts in Nigeria: Reconciliation in Perspective,” Department of Religious Studies Postgraduate Seminar, Nigeria, June 25, 2008
- “Ethno-Religious Conflicts in Nigeria: Reconciliation in Perspective,” Race, Religion and Reconciliation Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, April 4, 2008

Undated

- “White Scripture: The Invention of Satan in an African Religion”

B RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**2012 – 2014**

Research Fellow in Global Leadership, T’Ofori-Atta Institute for the Study of the Religious Heritage of the African World (TIAW), Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA

Researched social customs and religiously-based leadership values across African and Pan-African religious dialogue and practice, extending analysis to plural contexts of the African diaspora. Analyzed the role of religiously-based ethical leadership in plural society and the contribution of cross-cultural and interfaith collaboration to public life. Provided faculty resourcing on African religion and philosophy, interfaith dialogue, and public ministry in urbanized, plural, and global contexts. Delivered lectures and presentations aligned with TIAW’s research agenda. Produced comparative analysis of ethical and social justice issues across African and African diaspora public discourse, with attention to North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean. Authored a lecture that became the basis for a paper published in the ITC journal following public presentation at a TIAW-sponsored forum.

2010 – 2012

Research Assistant, Institute for Signifying Scriptures (ISS), Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

Reviewed assigned literature on scripture and signifying practices in support of the Institute’s research agenda. Edited texts and designed and edited accompanying media (video and photography) for Institute publications and projects. Contributed to the edited volume *MisReading America: Scriptures and Difference* (Oxford University Press), edited by Vincent L. Wimbush et al., under the direction of Professor Vincent L. Wimbush, Institute Director. Supported additional research and production tasks assigned by ISS leadership.

CHI COURSES

Comparative Heritage Institute Online Academy — graduate curriculum, 2026

Signifying Scriptures: The Bible and the Making of Black America

How Black readers, preachers, singers and activists have claimed, resisted and remade the Bible from slavery to the present; scripturalization as a social and political process. Lead pillars: Representation and Transmission.

Crossing the Kalunga: African Religious Continuities in the Americas

The African foundations of African American religion and how they were carried, broken, hidden and reinvented across the Atlantic, with the Gullah Geechee coast as a regional case study. Lead pillars: Origins and Transmission.

The Black Church as Public Institution: Leadership, Economy, and Power

Black congregations and denominations as public institutions that built schools, banks and political movements, and the tensions that come with institutional power. Lead pillar: Transformation.

Memory, Monument, and the Sacred: African American Heritage Sites

How sacred memory is preserved, contested and marketed at churches, cemeteries, museums and slave ports, from Atlanta's sacred geography to Cape Coast and Badagry. Lead pillars: Representation and Transcendence.

Atlanta and Ibadan: A Comparative Heritage Practicum

The capstone. Students design and carry out a comparative project setting a religious or heritage phenomenon in Atlanta beside its counterpart in Ibadan and the wider Yoruba world. Draws on all five pillars of Comparativity Complex Theory.

VENTURE PROJECTS

Current ventures founded and led by David Olali, each in active development and open to investment, partnership and co-development.

Founder	YAMART — <i>Commerce and identity infrastructure</i> . Secure portal for verified accounts and binding digital agreements, with multi-factor sign-in and hash-sealed evidence for every document signed.
Founder	NEXUS — <i>Human development platform</i> . Learning, portfolio and verified achievement in a single record, built around six capabilities: Connect, Create, Think, Learn, Prove and Rise.
Founder	Tonalingo — <i>Language and heritage</i> . Speech-first Yorùbá learning for families, pairing each syllable's tone with the learner's own pitch and phrases recorded by grandparents.
Founder	NIA Ride — <i>Mobility</i> . Nigeria's indigenous mobility platform: rider, driver, administration and safety services, with FairFare pricing and the NIA Fuel Index.
Founder	National Resource Commons — <i>Civic technology</i> . Nonpartisan civic platform carrying a public problem from report and evidence through institutional response to measured outcome.

Founder	ND Games — <i>Sports technology</i> . Pan-African sports infrastructure for athlete identity, verified performance, scouting and safeguarding; Ibadan pilot market.
Founder	PASTED — <i>Multi-sector group</i> . Ibadan-based group working across security, real estate, facility management, logistics and education.
Founder	CHI Academy — <i>Education platform</i> . Online academy of the Comparative Heritage Institute, delivering certificate programmes in heritage, memory and comparative study.
Founder	Ijaw Project — <i>Language and heritage</i> . Digital infrastructure for the global Ijaw community: knowledge graph, native-audio language corpus and governed expert review.
Founder	JDONS Scholar — <i>Scholarly publishing</i> . Multi-journal publishing platform from submission and peer review through production to open-access publication.
Co-owner	TeachLanguage.org — <i>World languages</i> . Global language-learning platform where native speakers write the courses and verified teachers teach them, from French to Yorùbá.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.