

Elisa S. Prosperetti  
Curriculum Vitae

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History Department  
129 Dickinson Hall  
Princeton, NJ 08544

+1 (410) 409-7603  
elisap@princeton.edu  
www.elisaproperetti.net

## EDUCATION

### Princeton University

expected 2019

Ph.D. History

Dissertation: "Education for Development: Going to School in Postcolonial West Africa"

2015

M.A. with Distinction, History

Major Field: Modern African History (Emmanuel Kreike)

Minor Fields: Global History, 1850-Present (Stephen Kotkin)  
Africa and the Atlantic World, 1600-1900  
(Emmanuel Kreike & Jeremy Adelman)

### London School of Economics

2008

B.Sc. First Class Honors, International Relations and History

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 2018 "Between Education and Catastrophe?: Côte d'Ivoire's Programme d'Education Télévisuelle (1968-1983)." *The Journal of African History* (in press).
- 2018 "The Ivorian Origins of Ghana Studies." *Ghana Studies* (in press).
- 2018 "The Hidden History of the West African Wager: Or, How Comparison with Ghana Made Côte d'Ivoire." *History in Africa* 45: 29-57.

### Book Reviews

- 2018 *Nigeria's University Age: Reframing Decolonisation and Development* by Tim Livsey. *Canadian Journal of African Studies* (published online 15 May).
- 2017 *African Miracle, African Mirage: Transnational Politics and the Paradox of Modernization in Ivory Coast* by Abou B. Bamba. *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 51, 2.

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018-19 Graduate Fellowship (Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies)
- 2017-18 William G. Bowen Merit Fellowship (Graduate School)

- 2018 Dean's Fund for Scholarly Travel (Graduate School)  
 2017 Conference Presentation Funding (Program in African Studies)  
 2017 Nominated by the History Department for Princeton University's Honoric Fellowship for Outstanding Graduate Students in the Social Sciences  
 2015 Dissertation Research Grant (History Department)  
 2015 Summer Foreign Language Area Studies Grant for Akan/Twi (Center for African Studies, University of Florida)  
 2014 Pre-Dissertation Research Grant (History Department)

## INVITED TALKS

- 2018 "Beyond Assimilation and Adaptation: Schooling Histories and African Emancipation in the Gold and Ivory Coasts." University of Portsmouth (Portsmouth, England) March 20.  
 2018 "Education After Colonialism." Université de Lausanne (Lausanne, Switzerland) March 16.  
 2018 "La priorité des priorités: L'école, la jeunesse et le développement en Côte d'Ivoire (1946–1993)." Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (Paris, France) March 12.  
 2016 "Researching West Africa." City College of New York (New York) November 16.  
 2014 "What University History Teachers Can (and Should) Learn from their Middle and High School Counterparts." Public History Initiative (Princeton) February 25.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### Conference Co-organizer

- 2019 "Sortir de L'École: Éducation et Jeunesse en Côte d'Ivoire Postcoloniale." Université Alassane Ouattara (Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire) January 26–28 [<https://www.sortirdelecole.com>].

### Panel Organizer & Chair

- 2018 "For Whom? For What?: Debating Development Narratives in Postcolonial Africa." African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Atlanta), November 29 (upcoming).  
 2018 "Ripensando il continente africano tra circolazioni globali e specificità locali." Co-organizer with Sara Panata. Quinta Conferenza dell'Associazione per gli Studi Africani in Italia (Bologna, Italy) September 6.  
 2017 "Ghana and the Ivory Coast: Perspectives on Modernization, Fifty Years On." African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Chicago) November 18.

## Papers Presented

- 2018 “Massive, Unconventional and Expensive: Manpower Estimates and Structural Adjustment in West Africa, 1960–1985.” African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Atlanta), November 29 (upcoming).
- 2018 “Gli economisti e la scuola: storia delle politiche per lo sviluppo dell’Africa occidentale (1960–1980).” Quinta Conferenza dell’Associazione per gli Studi Africani in Italia (Bologna, Italy) September 6.
- 2018 “L’histoire du mouvement ‘Education Pour Tous’ vue par l’Afrique.” Les Cinquièmes Rencontres Scientifiques des Études Africaines en France (Marseille, France) July 10.
- 2018 “*L’Aventure 46*: The Afterlife of Houphouët-Boigny’s Educational Insurgency.” Décolonisation et enjeux post-coloniaux de l’enfance et de la jeunesse (1945-1980), Université d’Angers (Angers, France) June 28.
- 2017 “Le Pari de ‘57’: Ghana in the Service of Ivoirian Exceptionalism.” African Studies Association Annual Meeting (Chicago) November 18.
- 2017 “Wealth in Teachers: Staffing the Postcolonial School in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.” European Conference of African Studies (Basel, Switzerland) June 30.
- 2017 “From Caprice to Corruption: The Social Experience of School-going in Postcolonial Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.” 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater New York Area African History Workshop, CUNY (New York) April 7.
- 2016 “From Bottling the Sea to Broadcasting it: Television Education in the Ivory Coast, 1967–1980.” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (Washington, D.C.) December 1.

## SELECTED WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 “Precarious Modernity: West African Schooling and the Fracture of ‘Education for Development’”. Columbia University Africa Dissertation Workshop (New York) November 9 (upcoming).
- 2018 “‘Every Available Penny’: The Rise and Fall of the Education for Development Consensus.” African History Workshop (Princeton) October 19 (upcoming).
- 2018 “Beyond Adaptation and Assimilation: Schooling Histories in the Gold and Ivory Coasts.” African History Workshop (Princeton) April 27.
- 2017 “The Bet: How Comparison Made Côte d’Ivoire.” African History Workshop (Princeton) December 8.
- 2017 “Wealth in Teachers: Staffing the Postcolonial Secondary School in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire, 1960–1985.” Columbia University Africa Dissertation Workshop (New York) October 27.
- 2017 “Making Modern Citizens: Refurbishing Colonial Schooling for the Nation.” African History Workshop (Princeton) April 21.
- 2017 “From Bottling the Sea to Broadcasting It: Conservative Côte d’Ivoire’s Radical Educational Television Reform (1968–1983).” Global History Workshop hosted by the University of Tokyo (Tokyo, Japan) January 26.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018	Teaching Assistant for the Global History Lab (c. 1300 to present) with Jeremy Adelman and Kepler (Kigali, Rwanda)
2017–18	Teaching Assistant for the Global History Lab (c. 1300 to present) with Jeremy Adelman and InZone (Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya)
2017	Higher Education in Emergencies, University of Geneva Summer School (Geneva, Switzerland)
2013	Tutor, Petey Greene Prison Teaching Program (Princeton)
2013	English Teacher, Edulogos (Saint Louis, Senegal)
2010–12	History Teacher, Clementi Town Secondary School (Singapore)
2010	History & Italian Teacher, Emerson Preparatory School (Washington, D.C.)
2009	Social Studies Teacher, Baltimore City Teaching Residency (Baltimore)
2009	Tutor, Refugee Youth Project (Baltimore)
2008	English Teacher, Learning Enterprises (Haramaya, Ethiopia)

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2018–19	Coordinator, African History Workshop (Princeton University)
2016–17	Co-organizer, Colonialism and Imperialism Workshop (Princeton University)
2015	Research Assistant, Professor Jeremy Adelman
2014–15	Co-founder, Teaching History Workshop (Princeton University)
2014	Graduate Student Liaison, Search Committee for Assistant Professor in African History
2013	Event support staff for the 8 <sup>th</sup> Greater New York Area African History Workshop hosted by Princeton University

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ghana	Public Records and Archive Administration Department (Accra); Central Region Archives (Cape Coast); Ashanti Region Archives (Kumasi); Western Region Archives (Sekondi-Takoradi) Interviews: 25
Côte d'Ivoire	Archives Nationales (Abidjan); Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale (Abidjan); Fraternité Matin Archives (Abidjan); Fondation Félix Houphouët-Boigny (Yamassoukro) Interviews: 43
France	Unesco Archives (Paris); Centre des Archives Diplomatiques (Nantes); Centre des Archives Diplomatiques (Paris); Archives Nationales (Paris); Archives Nationales d'Outre-Mer (Aix-en-Provence); Fonds Yves Person (Paris) Interviews: 16

- U.K. National Archives (Kew); University of London Archives (London); Institute of Education (London); Bodelian Library Collections (Oxford)
- U.S.A. World Bank (Washington, D.C.); Library of Congress (Washington, D.C.); Rockefeller Archive Center (Tarrytown, N.Y.); Carnegie Corporation New York (Columbia University, N.Y.)  
Interviews: 4

## LANGUAGES

**English** (mother tongue)

**Italian** Speaking (excellent); Reading (excellent); Writing (good)

**French** Speaking (excellent); Reading (excellent); Writing (good)

**Twi** Speaking (beginner); Reading (beginner); Writing (N/A)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Postcolonial Humanities Working Group (Princeton University)

Migration Research Lab (Princeton Institute for International and Regional Study)

African Studies Association (U.S.)

Ghana Studies Association

Associazione per gli Studi Africani in Italia

## REFERENCES

### **Emmanuel Kreike**

Princeton University  
138 Dickinson Hall  
Princeton, NJ 08544  
+1 (609) 258-4155  
kreike@princeton.edu

### **Jacob Dlamini**

Princeton University  
102 Dickinson Hall  
Princeton, NJ 08544  
+ 1 (609) 258-3394  
jdlamini@princeton.edu

### **Jeremy Adelman**

Princeton University  
137 Louis A. Simpson  
Princeton, NJ 08544  
+1 (609) 258-4873  
adelman@princeton.edu

### **Michael Gomez**

New York University  
Room 502 King Juan Carlos Center  
53 Washington Square South  
New York, NY 10012  
+1 (212) 998-8264  
Michael.gomez@nyu.edu