

Elisa S. Prosperetti
Curriculum Vitae

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Mount Holyoke College

7/2020–present Visiting Assistant Professor, African History

SciencesPo Reims (France)

8/2019–7/2020 Teaching Fellow, Europe-Africa Program

EDUCATION

Princeton University

2020 Ph.D. History
2015 M.A. with Distinction, History

London School of Economics

2008 B.Sc. First Class Honors, International Relations and History

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2021 “L’illusion de croire que le langage audiovisuel serait moins culturalisé’: Tenter « l’africanisation » par l’image en Côte d’Ivoire (années 70).” Solicited as part of a special issue of *Cahiers Afriques*, coordinated by Jean-Luc Martineau and Pierre Guidi [forthcoming].
- 2019 “Between Education and Catastrophe’: Côte d’Ivoire’s Programme d’Education Télévisuelle and the Urgency of Development (1968–1983).” *The Journal of African History* 60, no. 1: 3–23.
- 2018 “The Ivorian Origins of the Ghana Studies Association.” *Ghana Studies* 21: 121–9.
- 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

- 2020 *Beneath the Surface: A Transnational History of Skin Lighteners* by Lynn M. Thomas. *Revue d’histoire contemporaine de l’Afrique* [forthcoming].
- 2020 *No More to Spend: Neglect and the Construction of Scarcity in Malawi’s History of Health Care* by Luke Messac. H-Diplo Roundtable [forthcoming].

- 2019 “Osagyefo Redeemed.” Solicited review essay on Jeffrey Ahlman’s *Living with Nkrumahism* (2017), Matteo Grilli’s *Nkrumahism and African Nationalism* (2018), and Matteo Landricina’s *Nkrumah and the West* (2018). *Africa: Rivista di Studi e Ricerche* 1, no. 2: 123–6.
- 2018 *Nigeria’s University Age: Reframing Decolonisation and Development* by Tim Livsey. *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 52, no. 3: 391–2.
- 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, no. 2: 325–7.

Podcasts and Blog

Podcast Host, New Books Network

- 2020 Interview with François-Xavier Fauvelle, author of *The Golden Rhinoceros: History of the African Middle Ages* [1:02:24], 25 September.
- 2020 Interview with Nwando Achebe and Claire Roberston, co-editors of *Holding the World Together: African Women in Changing Perspective* [1:04:18], 5 August.
- 2020 Interview with Laura S. Grillo, author of *An Intimate Rebuke: Female Genital Power in Ritual and Politics in West Africa* [1:17:15], 23 July.
- 2020 Interview with Lynn M. Thomas, author of *Beneath the Surface: A Transnational History of Skin Lighteners* [57:50], 15 June.

Podcast Guest, Mes Clichés Africains / My African Clichés

- 2020 Aux origines de la rivalité Ghana/Côte d’Ivoire : Le pari ouest-africain (Partie 1 [9:30] et Partie 2 [9:08]), 3 November.

Blog Posts

- 2018 “Education au Ghana et en Côte d’Ivoire.” *Libération Africa4 : Regards croisés sur l’Afrique*, 28 December.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Grant from the Director’s Discretionary Fund to fund two-day conference at the Université Alassane Ouattara of Bouaké in Côte d’Ivoire (Council for International Teaching and Research, Princeton University)
- 2018–19 Graduate Fellowship (Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies)
- 2017–18 William G. Bowen Merit Fellowship (Graduate School)
- 2017, 19 Dean’s Fund for Scholarly Travel (Graduate School)
- 2017, 18 Conference Presentation Funding (Program in African Studies)
- 2017 Nominated by the History Department for Princeton University’s Honorary 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), 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), 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 24 & 25.

Panel Organizer & Chair

- 2018 “For Whom? For What?: Debating Development Narratives in Postcolonial Africa.” *African Studies Association Annual Meeting* (Atlanta), November 29.
- 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.

Selected Paper Presentations

- 2019 “A Background of General Scarcity’’: Historicizing the *Coopérant* Teacher in Côte d’Ivoire.” *African Studies Association Annual Meeting* (Boston), November 22.
- 2019 “We want the key that will fit into the lock’: Nkrumah, Ghana Schools and Building ‘Trust.’” *3rd Ghana Studies Triennial Conference* (Accra, Ghana), July 11.
- 2019 “Houphouët’s Mésaventure ? : Youth, Education and Françafrique in Côte d’Ivoire (1945 to 1979).” *Politiques scolaires, écoles et publics scolaires de la colonisation aux indépendances* (Paris), May 9.
- 2019 “Bilan d’un pari : regards croisés sur l’éducation et le développement en Côte d’Ivoire et au Ghana, de 1957 à nos jours.” *Sortir de L’école: Éducation et Jeunesse en Côte d’Ivoire Postcoloniale* (Bouaké, Côte d’Ivoire), January 25.

- 2018 “Massive, Unconventional and Expensive: Manpower Estimates and Structural Adjustment in West Africa, 1960–1985.” *African Studies Association Annual Meeting* (Atlanta), November 29.
- 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), September 6.
- 2018 “L’histoire du mouvement ‘Education Pour Tous’ vue par l’Afrique.” *Les Cinquièmes Rencontres Scientifiques des Études Africaines en France* (Marseille), 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), June 30.
- 2017 “From Caprice to Corruption: The Social Experience of School-going in Postcolonial Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.” *11th 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.” *African Studies Association Annual Meeting* (Washington, D.C.), December 1.

SELECTED WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “‘Every Available Penny’: The Rise of the Education for Development Consensus.” Johns Hopkins University African Seminar (Baltimore), March 8.
- 2018 “‘A Revolution of Expectations’: West African Schooling and the Fracture of Consensus.” Columbia University Africa Dissertation Workshop (New York), December 7.
- 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 “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), 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)

SERVICE

Professional

2019, '20	Manuscript Reviewer (<i>The Journal of African History</i> , <i>Canadian Journal for African Studies</i>)
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University

2018–19	Co-organizer, 13 th Greater New York Area African History Workshop hosted by Princeton University
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

LANGUAGES

English (mother tongue)

Italian Speaking (near-native fluency); Reading (excellent); Writing (advanced)

French Speaking (advanced); Reading (excellent); Writing (advanced)

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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Association (U.S.)

Ghana Studies Association

Associazione per gli Studi Africani in Italia