

R. Dela Kuma

Department of Anthropology
University of Pittsburgh
3302 S Bouquet St
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
DEK151@pitt.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Pittsburgh Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology	2023-Present
Faculty Affiliate , Center for African Studies	2023-Present
Faculty Affiliate , University Center for International Studies	2023-Present

EDUCATION

Northwestern University – Evanston, Illinois Ph.D. Anthropology	2022
Northwestern University – Evanston, Illinois M.A. in Anthropology	2017
The Sapienza University of Rome – Rome, Italy University of Evora – Evora, Portugal MSc in Archaeological Materials Science	2016
Kazan Federal University Kazan-Volga Region, Russia Advanced Certificate in History of Ceramics	2015
University of Ghana – Legon, Ghana B.A. in Archaeology and Heritage Studies (Honors)	2013

Research & Teaching Interests: African Atlantics, West African foodways, Food Security and Environmental (In)Justice, 19th-century Africa, Domestic Economies and Global trade, Public and Community Archaeology, Archaeological Science, Black Studies, and the African Diaspora.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory	2022
--	------

Visiting Scholar

University of Missouri Research Reactor 2021-2022
Senior Research Specialist, Archaeometry Laboratory

University of Ghana 2020-2021
Visiting Scholar, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Kuma, D. (in prep). "Preliminary Report of Archaeological Fieldwork at Amedeka, southeastern Ghana."

Kuma, D. (in prep). "Spatio-temporal distribution and consumption of Local Earthenwares from Southeastern Ghana."

Kuma, D. (in prep). "Legitimate' Trade and Daily Life in 19th-century Ghana."

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

External

Gloria S. King Fellowship in Archaeology (\$1,600), 2022

University of Missouri Research Reactor NSF Pre-Doctoral Award (\$14,400), 2021-2022

Social Science Research Council Andrew Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$36,350), 2020-2021

The Black Trowel Collective Microgrants (\$200), 2020

Society of Africanist Archaeology Student Conference Travel Grant (\$600), 2018

Erasmus Mundus European Education and Culture Executive Agency Fellowship (\$30,000), 2014-2016

Internal (Selected)

Graduate Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University (\$34,176/year), 2016-2022

The Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University (\$2,975), 2021

Morris Goodman Language Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (\$3,000), 2019

The Program of African Studies Student Organized Conference Grant, Northwestern University (\$1,000), 2019

Morris Goodman Language Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (\$3,000), 2018

Dissertation Research Award, The Buffett Institute, Northwestern University (\$5000), 2018

Hans E. Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (\$2000), 2018

Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, Buffett Institute, Northwestern University (\$400), 2018

Program of African Studies Conference Travel Award, Northwestern University (\$350), 2018
Department of Anthropology, Graduate Conference Travel, Northwestern University (\$350), 2018

The Program of African Studies Student Organized Conference Grant, Northwestern University (\$2,500), 2018

Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities Student Organized Conference Grant, Northwestern University (\$2,000), 2018

The Graduate School Student Organized Conference Grant, Northwestern University (\$1,500), 2018

Hans E. Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (\$2000), 2017

Morris Goodman Language Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University (\$3,000), 2017

LeCron Foster and Friends of Anthropology Research Grant, Northwestern University (\$1,000), 2017

Dissertation Research Award, The Buffett Institute, Northwestern University (\$5000), 2017

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers Presented

Kuma, D. Negotiating shifts in local productions and social life during ‘legitimate’ trade in Amedeka, Ghana (AD 1807-1900). Paper to be presented at the 25th SAfA Meetings, Oxford, 2020 (Canceled due to COVID-19).

Kuma, D. The Relationship between Land use Dynamics and Foodways in Amedeka, Eastern-Ghana. Paper presented at the 15th PANAF Congress. Rabat, Morocco, 2018.

Logan, A and **Kuma, D.** Foodscapes as Gendered Taskscapes in West Africa. Paper presented at the 83rd SAA Meetings, Washington DC, 2018.

Kuma, D. Foodways in Atlantic Era West Africa – Ghana: Towards an Archaeology of Daily Life. Paper presented at the 83rd SAA Meetings, Washington DC, 2018.

Kuma, D. Engendering Food Acquisition Practices: Rethinking Everyday Life in Ghana- An Ethnographic Case of Amedeka. Paper presented at the 24th SAfA Meetings, Toronto, 2018.

Kuma, D. Foodways in Ghana-Amedeka. Paper presented at the African Seminar Annual Conference. Evanston-Illinois, USA, 2018.

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURE

African Civilization, Kaplan Humanities Program, Northwestern University. Evanston-Illinois. February 25, 2019

Thinking Like an Archaeologist. The Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston-Illinois. February 28, 2019.

Interdisciplinary Gallery Talk. Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture, and Exchange across Medieval Saharan Africa. Exhibit at the Block Museum, Northwestern University, Evanston-Illinois. March 6, 2019.

The Archaeology of Trade in Africa, Anthropology Department Freshman Seminar Series, Northwestern University, Evanston-Illinois. May 9, 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Archaeology – Unearthing Histories FALL 2019
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Melissa Rosenzweig and Dr. Matthew Johnson,
Northwestern University
Duties: Designed, proctored, and graded exams, consulted with other TAs about teaching goals and outcomes, organized office hours.

Biological Anthropology – Human Origins WINTER 2019
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Erin Waxenbum, Northwestern University
Duties: Organized laboratory training sections, led tutorial sections, designed, proctored, graded exams, held office hours and consulted with students.

Archaeology – Unearthing Histories FALL 2018
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Melissa Rosenzweig and Dr. Matthew Johnson,
Northwestern University
Duties: Organized and led tutorial sections, designed, proctored, graded exams, organized office hours, and consulted with students.

Linguistic Anthropology – Culture through Language WINTER 2018
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Nell Haynes, Northwestern University

Duties: Designed, proctored, and graded exams, led tutorial sections, organized office hours, and consulted with students.

African Studies – Contemporary African Worlds

FALL 2017

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Adia Benton, Northwestern University

Duties: Organized and led weekly class discussions, organized, and led tutorial sections, designed, proctored, and graded exams, organized office hours, consulted, and mentored students.

SELECTED FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Co-Principal Investigator, Amedeka Archaeology Project, Ghana. Principal Investigator: Prof. Kodzo Gavua, University of Ghana, 2015-present.

Project Archaeobotanist, Ife-Sungbo Archaeology Project, Nigeria. Principal Investigator: Dr. Gerard Chouin, 2019.

Unit Supervisor, Manot Cave Archaeology Project, Western Galilee, Israel. Principal Investigators: Dr. Elisabetta Boaretto and Prof. Steve Weiner, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel, 2015.

Field Supervisor, Krobo Mountains Archaeology Project, Ghana. Principal Investigator: Dr. William Gblekpor, University of Ghana, 2014.

Field Crew, Nkwantanso Ethnographic project, Techiman, Ghana. Principal Investigator: Prof. Raymond Silverman, University of Michigan, 2014.

Field Supervisor, Ethnoarchaeology of Ironworking and Economic Practices in Adome, Ghana. Principal Investigator: Prof. Kodzo Gavua, University of Ghana, 2013-2016.

SELECTED LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Specialist of Archaeometry, University of Missouri Research Reactor Laboratory, 2021-2022.

Macrobotanical Analyst, archaeobotanical materials from Banda, Ghana. Principal Investigator: Dr. Amanda Logan, 2019.

Ceramic Analyst, Museo delle Origini Laboratory, Sapienza University of Rome. Principal Investigator: Prof. Marcella Frangipane, The Sapienza University of Rome, 2016.

Ceramic Analyst, ceramics from Cacela Velha Poço Antigo, Hercules Archaeometry Laboratory, Evora-Portugal, 2015.

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Mentor, Graduate School Goals, 2016-present.

Co-facilitator, The Program of African Studies Graduate Student Seminar, 2018-2019.
Co-organizer, African Seminar Graduate Students Conference, 2019.
Co-organizer, African Seminar Graduate Students Conference, 2018.
Co-organizer, The Department of Anthropology Diversity Committee, 2017.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Association (ASA)
Ghana Studies Association (GSA)
West African Research Association (WARA)
Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA).
Society of American Archaeologists (SAA).
Society of Black Archaeologists (SBA)
World Archaeological Congress (WAC)
European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
Society of Archaeological Sciences (SAS)

LANGUAGES

West African Pidgin (fluent)
Ewe (fluent)
Twi (fluent)
English (fluent)
French (beginner)
Italian (beginner)

REFERENCES

Amanda Logan
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
1812 Hinman Avenue, Evanston-IL 60208
amanda.logan@northwestern.edu
847-491-4564

Cynthia Robin
Professor, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
1812 Hinman Avenue, Evanston-IL 60208
c-robin@northwestern.edu
847-491-4835

Mark Hauser
Professor, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
1812 Hinman Avenue, Evanston-IL 60208
Mark-hauser@northwestern.edu
847-467-1648