

Caitlin Ayrault Barker

Yale University | 46 Hillhouse Ave | New Haven, CT | 06511
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EDUCATION

Michigan State University East Lansing, Michigan
PhD candidate, History Fall 2018 – present
GPA 4.0

Dissertation: “Navigating between China and Taiwan: Cold War Cameroonian Diplomats on the World Stage”

Doctoral examinations passed with distinction in all fields: African History, West African History, East Asian History, World History

Co-Advisors: Dr. Nwando Achebe and Dr. Jamie Monson

Committee Members: Dr. Aminda Smith, Dr. Charles Keith

Kenyon College Gambier, Ohio
Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa with distinction in Political Science May 2013

MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS

Yale University Jackson School of Global Affairs, Brady-Johnson Predoctoral Fellowship 2024-25
Dissertation completion fellowship in residence at International Security Studies

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship 2021
A year of research in Cameroon, France, and Taiwan

SSRC Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) 2021
A year of research in Cameroon, France, and Taiwan

AWARDS AND ASSORTED FELLOWSHIPS

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, MSU African Studies Center 2023-2024
Advanced French (dissertation writing, academic year)

Dr. Kwan-Wai So Memorial Scholarship, MSU History Department 2023
Excellence in Asian Studies

Dr. Charles and Marjorie Gliozzo Dissertation Research Scholarship Award 2021
MSU International Studies and Programs grant for research in Cameroon, France, and Taiwan

Roger Meece Graduate Award, MSU African Studies Center 2020
Graduate student paper prize

Don Lammers Graduate Award, MSU History Department 2020
Award for “research that improves our knowledge and historical understanding of the nature and dynamics of international and intercultural relationships.”

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, MSU African Studies 2020
Advanced Hausa (summer)

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, MSU African Studies 2019-2020
Intermediate Hausa (academic year)

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, University of Kansas 2019

Advanced Mandarin Chinese (summer)	
US Department of State Critical Language Scholarship (<i>declined</i>)	2019
Advanced Mandarin Chinese (summer)	
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, MSU African Studies	2018-2019
Beginning Hausa (academic year)	
University Distinguished Fellowship	2018-2024
A competitive multi-year recruitment fellowship from the MSU Graduate School	

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Barker, Caitlin, Ryan Carty, Ajamu Amiri Dillahunt-Holloway, Mircea Lazar, and Nomzamo Portia Ntombela. "Before the Anti-Homosexuality Bill: The Historical Contours of LGBT Organizing in Nigeria." *Journal of West African History* 9, no. 1 (2023): 111-145.
muse.jhu.edu/article/903748.

Book Reviews:

The Emergence of Global Maoism: China's Red Evangelism and the Cambodian Communist Movement, 1949-1979, by Matthew Galway, *Cold War History*, February 2024.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14682745.2024.2317328>

Arise Africa, Roar China. Black and Chinese Citizens of the World in the Twentieth Century, by Yunxiang Gao, *Connections: A Journal for Historians and Area Specialists*, October, 2022.
www.connections.clio-online.net/publicationreview/id/reb-117286

The Doctor Who Would Be King, by Guillaume Lachenal, H-Sci-Med-Tech, H-Net Reviews. July, 2022.
<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=57822>

In preparation:

"Diplomacy of Intimacy: Cameroonian Women's Anticolonial Diplomacy with China in the Era of Decolonization"

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

"Navigating between China and Taiwan: Cold War Cameroonian Diplomats on the World Stage," African Studies Association Annual Meeting, *upcoming* December 2024.

"Cameroonian Women's Diplomacy with China in the Era of Decolonization," invited participant for the Fudan University International Symposium on "The African Left: Theories and Practices," Shanghai, China, *upcoming* November 2024.

"Chinese Medical Delegations in Cameroon, 1975-1989: Knowledge Exchange and Alliance Building," invited participant for the Georgetown University Africa-China Initiative Symposium, April 30th, 2024.

"Practicing Medical Diplomacy and Exchanging Knowledge: Chinese Medical Delegations in Cameroon, 1975-1989," Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Seattle, March 14th-17th 2024.

“New Friends, New Enemies: Cameroon and the Rival Chinese Governments during the Cold War,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, January 7th 2024.

“Good Nationalists, Bad Communists: Practicing Cameroonian Anticolonial Politics from China on the Eve of Independence,” French Colonial Historical Society Annual Meeting, Fort-de-France, Martinique, May 4th 2023.

“Anticolonial Pedagogies: Knowledge Exchange between the Union des Populations du Cameroun and the PRC in the Global Cold War,” After Bandung: Africa and China in a New Era, Yale Africa Security Program, New Haven, April 22nd 2023.

“Cameroonian Citizen Diplomats in Cold War China: Producing Knowledge and Navigating Friendship,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting (virtual), November 20, 2021.

“Roundtable: Publishing in the *Journal of West African History*,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, November 22, 2019.

INVITED TALKS (SELECTED)

“The Cold War and a Divided Asia,” virtual guest lecture in HST 391.50 Modern East Asia, University of Montana, March 19th 2023.

“Knowledge Production and Citizen Diplomacy in Cameroon-China Relations During the Cold War: Preliminary Findings,” National Taiwan University, International Relations Reading Group of Professor Chih-yu Shih, Taipei, Taiwan, December 24th 2022.

“Putting Chinese and Cameroonian Sources into Conversation: Some Preliminary Findings and Directions for Future Research on Knowledge Production and Knowledge Transfer in Cameroon-China Historical Relations,” Sino-African Confluences Center, Yaoundé, Cameroon, September 24th 2022.

“Cameroonian Citizen Diplomats in Cold War China: the Promise of Trans-Regional Historical Research,” Heritage Higher Institute for Peace and Development Studies Inaugural Lectures for the MA Program in Peace Studies and Humanitarian Action, Yaoundé, Cameroon, January 14, 2022.

EDITORIAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

H-Africa September 2023 – Present
Book Review Editor

Chinese in Africa/Africans in China (CA/AC) Research Network January 2021 – Present
Board Secretary; Website and Communications Coordinator

Research Assistant for Dr. Nwando Achebe January 2023 – May 2023
Processed and organized sources from Nigerian, UK, and US archives for a forthcoming book project

Research Assistant for Dr. Jamie Monson June 2020 – December 2021
Chinese to English translation, literature review, and source organization from Tanzanian, Chinese, and US archives for an article on Tanzanian women’s delegations in China

Journal of West African History (JWAH), MSU Press
Editorial Assistant and Office Manager

August 2019 – May 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Michigan State University
Summer 2024

East Lansing, Michigan

Africa-China Relations through Literature, Film, Art, and Music

Anhui Agricultural University
August 2016 – June 2018

Hefei, China

Beginning Academic Writing
Intermediate Academic Writing
Beginning Oral English
Intermediate Oral English
Advanced Topics in English: Film Studies

Teaching Assistant

Michigan State University

East Lansing, Michigan

Africa and the World (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)
Revolutionary America (Summer 2023)
Revolutions and the Modern World (Fall 2021)
World History since 1500 (Summer 2020)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Peace Corps Recruitment Office, Michigan State University
Strategic Campus Recruiter and Student Advisor

East Lansing, Michigan
January 2023 – May 2024

Seattle World Affairs Council
International Visitors Program Intern

Seattle, Washington
March - August 2016

United States Peace Corps
Community Health Education Volunteer

Meidougou, Cameroon
September 2014 - December 2015

LANGUAGE TRAINING AND TRANSLATION EXPERIENCE

PRC Documents Course, PRC History Group
Virtual graduate course with PhD students across the US

Fall 2020

African Flagship Languages Initiative (AFLI), University of Florida
Intensive 3rd Year Hausa (remote instruction)

Summer 2020

Princeton-in-Beijing, Beijing Normal University
Intensive Advanced Chinese (4th Year)

Summer 2019

Hausa Courses, Four semesters, Michigan State University
1st and 2nd Year Hausa

2018-2020

Fulfulde Tutoring, Peace Corps Cameroon

2014-2015, 2022

Beginning and intermediate Fulfulde instruction, as a Peace Corps Volunteer and as a Fulbright-Hays fellow

Translations:

Serge Paoletti. *The Fasciae: Anatomy, Dysfunction, and Treatment*, revised second edition. Translated by Caitlin Barker. Seattle: Eastland Press (forthcoming) (French to English translation)

Calais-Germain, Blandine. *Anatomy of Yoga: The Muscles in Yoga*. Translated by Caitlin Barker. Seattle: Eastland Press, 2020. (French to English translation)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

French: Fluent Reading, Advanced Speaking, Listening, and Writing Proficiency

Mandarin Chinese: Advanced Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing Proficiency

Hausa: Beginning Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing Proficiency.

Fulfulde: Beginning Speaking and Listening Proficiency.

Swedish: Advanced Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing Proficiency (AFS exchange student)

AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Association

American Historical Association

Association for Asian Studies

North American Association of Scholars on Cameroon

REFERENCES

Dr. Nwando Achebe
Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and
Inclusion
Michigan State University
achebe@msu.edu
(517) 353-6783

Dr. Jamie Monson
Professor of History
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Associate Professor of History
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