

Robin Muhammad, Ph.D.

robinmuhammad69@gmail.com • 740-707-3795

Historian - U.S. and African American - Profile

Accomplished Academic Leader and Associate Professor in 19th and 20th U.S. History and African American Studies with several years experience in higher education, committed to elevating the understanding and appreciation of broad range history and culture through innovative curriculum design, scholarly research, and community engagement. Excel in fostering academic growth and student success, evidenced by the development of pioneering courses in multiple modalities and mentorship of both students and faculty. Demonstrated professional with a unique blend of academic and corporate expertise to enhance departmental operations and program development. Multilingual (Spanish and Japanese) speaker and mentor passionately contributing to strategic planning and institutional initiatives, seeking to further impact the academic community by embracing new challenges that meld research pursuits with progressive educational leadership.

Areas of Expertise

- Student Growth Development
- Digital Program Development
- Community Engagement and Outreach
- Budget Management
- Historical Research and Preservation
- Campus & Community Initiatives
- Academic Advising and Mentorship
- Policies & Procedures Development
- Fundraising and Resource Management
- Faculty Performance Management
- Strategic Operations Management
- Scholarly Research

Professional Experience

Ohio University, Athens, OH

2005— Present

Associate Professor, Department of African American Studies, 2012 – Present

Assistant Professor, Department of African American Studies, 2005 – 2012

Orchestrate the contribution of students and the community in historical preservation and cultural events. Collaborate with undergraduate and graduate students on course selection and future goals. Establish an academic environment merging historical content with real-world discussions. Encourage students to apply learning to broaden their knowledge and foster empathy. Created and executed a unique course on the Black Press in North America. Fostered collaboration with various disciplines to attract students, provide service opportunities, and further research and teaching objectives by initiating faculty professional development and facilitating travel and research prospects. Coordinate the Provost's and President's offices to establish policies and procedures, align university standing committees for the President's evaluation and endorsement, deliver yearly updates to the University's Board of Trustees, and oversee tenure and professional relations appeals for assessment. Participate in campus and community initiatives, bridging academic research with public service and outreach.

- Led the Department of African American Studies as Chair from 2012 to 2020, and currently serving again in that role, while enhancing interdisciplinary programs to broaden departmental impact, overseeing faculty performance, evaluations, and curriculum development.
- Revitalized struggling department, ensuring stability, growth of offered majors/minors, and community involvement through partnerships in historical preservation.
- Navigated departmental budget annually for eight years, spearheading comprehensive seven-year departmental review culminating in top accreditation status after an external expert evaluation.
- Represented university faculty on the State of Ohio Faculty Council.

- Administered 80 faculty senators across nine campuses as head of the university's sole faculty representative body.
- Functioned as Director at the African American Research and Service Institute (AARSI), overseeing archival documentation by transcribing oral interviews and photographing evidence of the region.
- Secured vital funding for historical preservation and student experiential learning, organizing cultural events for the African American and Native American communities.
- Headed the 40th Anniversary Committee for the Department, the U.S. 's second oldest Black Studies program.

Awards & Recognitions

- Invited research: Muhammad, R. (2026) "Hot to toxic: shipyard metal workers and the pursuit of health and safety standards in the United States, 1940 to 1990." Peer-reviewed journal.
- Invited research for Special Issue of the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*: Muhammad, R. (2026) "This is dangerous": Women in violent workplaces from World I to the Forever Wars of the 21st Century."
- Awarded Fellowship at the Institute of Critical Social Inquiry at The New School, New York City, 2024.
- Granted a Certificate of Appreciation for Service to the Human Relations Commission, City of Davis, 2024.
- Achieved Ohio University Newsmakers Award in 2014, 2017, & 2019.
- Nominated for the Presidential Teaching Award at Ohio University in 2015 & 2018.
- Recognized with the International Travel Fund at Ohio University in 2013 & 2015.
- Selected as a nominee for University Professor at Ohio University in 2015.
- Earned Honorable Mention for Best Article Award in the Journal of Women's History in 2014.
- Received the Arts & Humanities Junior Faculty Endowment Award at Ohio University in 2007.
- Granted the 1804 Grant: Special Library Endowment Award at Ohio University in 2007.
- Acknowledged with the Goldman Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching at Carnegie Mellon University.

Additional Experience

History Consultant. Legal Inheritance in the Post-Emancipation Period. NASA. 2024 - present.

Voice and Leadership Coach, The Rooted Voice, Athens, OH 2022 - present.

History Consultant. African American Athletes and Segregation. North Dakota State University. 2023.

Graduate Faculty and Research Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Executive Project Manager, Kenetech Energy Corporation - India Division, San Francisco, CA

Independent Records and Information Consultant, Dearmon Records Management.

Senior Trust Specialist, McLaughlin, Piven, Vogel Securities, San Francisco, CA

Records Supervisor & Conflict-of-Interest Coordinator, Long & Levit, San Francisco, CA

Records Manager & Conflict-of-Interest Coordinator, Limbach & Limbach, San Francisco, CA

Education

[Ph.D. in Social & Cultural History](#)

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

[Master of Science in History & Policy](#)

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

[Bachelor of Science in History & Spanish](#)

University of California, Davis, CA

Publications: Books, Chapters, Articles, Manuscript and Book Reviews

- Muhammad, R. (2026). Manuscript Review. Oxford Bibliographies. "Black Women and Labor Movement History".
- Muhammad, R. (2025). 'I will see that something is done': African American women and organizing against workplace bullying, harassment, and violence in the San Francisco Bay Area shipyards during World War II. *Labor History*, 1-21.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0023656X.2025.2600991>
- Muhammad, R. (2025). Book Manuscript Review. University of Mississippi Press. *Jazz Artists and Writers in the Civil Rights Vanguard*.
- Muhammad, R. (2021). Textbook Development. Race, Law, and Religion in the United States. Cognella Publishing Company.
- Muhammad, R. Book Review: Lawrie, Paul R. D. (2018). *Forging a Laboring Race: The African American in the Progressive Imagination*. *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 37(2), 85-87.
- Muhammad, R. (2017). Charting a New Course: U.S. Shipbuilding Labor, 1950-2014. *Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Workers around the World*. Eds.: Raquel Varela, Hugh Murphy, and Marcel van der Linden. Amsterdam University Press.
- Muhammad, R. (2014). Western Alliances and the Colored Farmers' Alliance. *The Encyclopedia of American Populism*. ABC-CLIO.
- Book Review: Pritchard, J. (2013). A Bridge of Ships: Canadian Shipbuilding during the Second World War. *Labour/Le Travail*, Issue 71 (Spring), 257-259.
- Muhammad, R. (2013). *Sociology of Work: An Encyclopedia*. SAGE Publications. Entries: Military; Unskilled Work.
- African American History, Volumes I and II* (2012, 2013). Ed.: Robin Dearmon Muhammad. Cognella Publishing.
- Muhammad, R. (2011). "Separate and Unsanitary: African American Women Railroad Car Cleaners and the Women's Service Section, 1918-192," *Journal of Women's History*, 23(2), 87-111.
- Muhammad, R. (2008). "Linking Up the Golden Gate: Garveyism in the San Francisco Bay Area, 1919-1925," *Journal of Black Studies*, 39(2), 266-280.
- Book Review: La Chapelle, P. (2008). Proud to Be an Okie: Cultural Politics, Country Music, and Migration to Southern California. *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas*, 5(2), 144-146.
- Muhammad, R. "Garveyism Looks Toward the Pacific," *Perspectives Journal* (www.BlackPast.org).

Scholarship-In-Progress:

- Muhammad, R. Many Bridges. One Nation: African American Workers, Gender, and Shipbuilding in the San Francisco Bay Area. (Article).
- Muhammad, R. Labor's Home in Harlem: The Negro Labor Committee and Interracial Trade Unionism, 1935-1965. (Book).
- Muhammad, R. Sentinel Markers: Labor, Health and the Solid Waste Industry, 1930-2000. (Article).
- Muhammad, R. Arsenal of Liberation: African American Workers and Shipbuilding in the San Francisco Bay Area. (Book).

Presentations, Invited Talks & Panel Discussions

- Presenter, Launching technologies and navigating toxicity: a global comparison of shipbuilding and ship breaking industrial change.
- The 53rd Conference of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC), Athens, Greece. 8-11 October 2026.
- Presenter, Game Changers: African American Football History. New Concord Branch Library. February 5, 2026. Postponed.
- Presenter, Local History and Community Voices. Contra Costa Historic Society. Executive Board Meeting. August 14, 2025.
- Presenter, Speaking up: voice empowerment and leadership in the classroom and the community. Spotlight on Learning Conference, Ohio University. March 20, 2025.
- Presenter, African American Labor: The Long Road of Legacy: Dr. Francine Childs. Keynote Address. Ohio University (February 6, 2025)
- Presenter, The Black Labor Movement: Past and Present. Board of Directors. Agricultural Labor Relations Board. Sacramento, CA (February 19, 2025)
- Speaker, The Plainest Demand of Justice Seminar Series. The Bill of Rights Institute: Nashville, TN (February 28, 2023); Detroit, MI (March 8, 2023); Madison, WI (March 10, 2023); Atchison, KS (June 2023)

Presenter, Give Me a Break: Workers, Bathrooms, and Breaks in the U.S. Workplace. Organization of American Historians, Chicago, IL, 2021.

Organizer & Presenter, Global Shipyard Labor Conference, 2020.

Presenter, Because We Are Free: Collecting Voting Politics and Praxis. Association of African American Life and History, Virtual Conference, 2020.

Presenter, Oxford Women's Leadership Symposium, 2018.

Presenter, In the Same Boat: North American Shipbuilding in the 20th and 21st Centuries. Lisbon, Portugal International Institute for Social History, 2014.

Presenter, Charting a New Course: U.S. Shipbuilding Labor, 1950-2000. University of Leipzig, 2012

Presenter, The Historiography of Joe W. Trotter and the State of African American Urban History: A Roundtable. Organization of American Historians / National Council of Public History – Joint Conference, Milwaukee, WI, 2012.

Presenter, Presidential Panel on African American Urban History. Western Historical Association, Oakland, CA, 2011.

Panel Chair, Comparative Archives: Interrogating the Official Story. Southern Labor History Association / Labor and Working-Class History Association, Atlanta, GA, 2011.

Presenter, The End of Waste: Working and Living with the Solid Waste Industry, 1930-1990. Labor and Working-Class History Association, Chicago, IL, 2009.

Commentator, Demanding Change: Pittsburgh's Public Teachers and African American Community, 1965-1975. Oral History Association Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, 2008.

Presenter, As Women of Other Nations: African American Women in the Bay Area Shipyards. American Historical Association. Philadelphia, PA, 2006.

Commentator, Rethinking African American Migration. Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Philadelphia, PA, 2004.

Presenter, The Steel Ceiling: African American Shipyard Workers and Technological Change. Society for Industrial Archaeology, Providence, RI, 2004.

Professional Training

Experiential Learning Faculty Certifications: Center for Teaching, Learning and Assessment (2025) and Generative AI (2025), Ohio University.

Licensed Lay Preacher, Episcopal Church, Diocese of California (2024- present)

Association of American Colleges & Universities: Racial Healing & Transformation Training & Sponsorship, 2018-present

Tepper School of Business Executive Education Series, Carnegie Mellon University, 2020

Executive Senior Institute for Diversity Education, 2015

Ohio University Design Studio for Blended & Online Courses, 2015

Academic Courses and Curricular Development

African American History I (AAS 1010)

African American History II (AAS 2020)

Introduction to African American Studies (AAS 1060)

Difficult Dialogues: Race, Law, and Religion in the U.S. (AAS 1900)

Introduction to Black Political Economy (AAS 2200)

History of the African American Workers (AAS 2250)

African American Political Thought (AAS 3680)

Pre-Civil Rights Movement U.S. Constitutional Law (AAS 3691)

Black Press in North America (AAS 369E)

Health Care Disparities in the U.S. (AAS 4693)

Special Topics in Racial Passing and Racial Trauma (AAS 4900)

Correspondence Courses in African American History (Paper-based, off-line)

Languages:

High fluency, written and oral, in Spanish.

Conversational aptitude in Standard Chinese (Mandarin) and Japanese

Emerging fluency, written and oral, in Tagalog