

MARVIN D. STERLING, PH.D.
Curriculum Vitae

OFFICE ADDRESS

Department of Anthropology
Student Building 130, Indiana University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2011-Present)

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2004-2011)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2003-2004)

Affiliated Faculty in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the American Studies Program (2004-Present); African American & African Diasporic Studies and the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (2012-Present)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University (Fall 2008)

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Associate Director, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES), Indiana University, Bloomington (2014-Present)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Regional: Japan, Jamaica, African Diaspora
Theoretical: Race, Afro-Asia, transnationalism, performance, human rights
Methodological: Multi-sited ethnography

EDUCATION

PhD (2002): Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles
Dissertation: "In the Shadow of 'the Universal Other': Performative Identifications with Jamaican Culture in Japan"
Advisors: Mariko Tamanoi and Marcyliena Morgan (Co-Chairs), Kyeyoung Park and Miriam Silverberg. Field Advisor: John Russell, Gifu University

MA (1996): Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles
Thesis: "Double Consciousness and the Black Male Self: An Ethnography of African American Sailors at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan"
Advisors: Peter Hammond (Chair), Marcyliena Morgan, Kyeyoung Park and Douglas Hollan

BS (1991): Communication Studies (Print Journalism focus), New York University

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2010. *Babylon East: Performing Dancehall, Roots Reggae and Rastafari in Japan*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Refereed Journal Articles:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2011. "Searching for Self in the Global South: Japanese Literary Representations of Afro-Jamaican Blackness." *Journal of Japanese Studies* 31(1):53-71.

Sterling, Marvin D. 2006. "The Symbolic Constitution of Japanese Dancehall." *Social and Economic Studies: Special Issue on Popular Culture* 55 (1&2): 1-24.

Refereed Book Chapters:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2012. "Raggamuffin Inna Tokyo City: Representing Gender, Class and Race in Japanese Dancehall Culture." In *Global Reggae*. Carolyn Cooper, Editor. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press.

Sterling, Marvin D. 2011. "Toward an Analysis of Global Blackness: Race, Representation, and Jamaican Popular Culture in Japan." In *Racial Representation in Asia*. Yasuko Takezawa, Editor. Kyoto, Melbourne: Kyoto University Press and Trans Pacific Press.

Encyclopedia Entries:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2005. "Mento." In *Encyclopedia of African American Folklore*. Anand Prahlad, Editor. New Hampshire: Greenwood Publishing Company.

Sterling, Marvin D. 2005. "Reggae." In *Encyclopedia of African American Folklore*. Anand Prahlad, Editor. New Hampshire: Greenwood Publishing Company.

Under Review:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2014. "Ethnic Hiding in the Light: National Belonging and Difference in Japanese Reggae Music." In *The Politics of Hiding: Productive Suspension of "Truth" and the Pleasure/Menace of Secrecy*. Neriko Doerr and Haeng-ja Chung, editors.

Sterling, Marvin D. 2014. "Between National Subjectivity and Global Artistry: Ethnography, Afro-Asia, and Jamaican Music in Japan." *Popular Music*.

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

IU College of Arts and Humanities Institute Travel Grant, Summer 2011
IU Office of the VP for International Affairs Overseas Research Grant, Summer 2011
IU College of Arts and Sciences Trustees' Teaching Award, 2010
IU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Faculty Travel Award, 2009
Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities Visiting Professorship, Fall 2008
IU East Asian Studies Center Publication Subvention Grant, 2005
IU Faculty Fellow, CAHI/AAADS "Variations on Blackness" Workshop, 2005
IU Summer Faculty Fellowship, 2004
UCLA Sasakawa Fellowship, 1998 (for dissertation fieldwork)
UCLA Hiroshi Wagatsuma Fellowship, 1998, 1996 (for dissertation fieldwork)
UCLA Institute of American Cultures Research Grant, 1997

INVITED TALKS

National and International

The End(s) of Diaspora: Race, Afro-Asia, and Jamaican Culture in Japan. "Between African Americans and Japanese: Traveling Texts" Symposium. New York University, Saturday October 5, 2013.

Babylon East: Japanese Reggae as Instance of the Contemporary Afro-Asian. Hamilton College, March 7, 2013.

On the Cultural Politics of Tradition: 'Domesticating' Dancehall Reggae in Contemporary Japan. Ethnoise! Ethnomusicology Workshop, University of Chicago, April 26, 2012.

Modernity, Globalization and the Cultural Politics of Tradition: 'Domesticating' Reggae Music in Recessary Japan. University of Iowa, April 18, 2012.

Reggae as Rebirth: Tracing Nationalist Discourse in Japanese Dancehall Music. Bates College, March 8, 2012.

Sounding the Nation in Japanese Dancehall Music. Kenyon College, April 2, 2012.

Dancehall as Afro-Asian Rebellion? On Blackness and the Possibilities of Resistance in Japanese Reggae Culture. Rebel Music Conference, Northern Illinois University, December 1, 2010.

Toward an Anthropology of the Afro-Asian: Reggae and Rasta in Japan. New Frontiers in Black Studies Speaker Series, Northwestern University, April 30, 2010.

"Jibun Sagashi" in the Global South: Afro-Jamaica and the Japanese Literary "Search for Self". (Keynote Speaker.) Florida International University, Southern Japan Seminar, March 14, 2009.

Creating Counter Representations (Section III). (Chair.) Transforming Images of Race Symposium. Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, December 5-6, 2008.

Searching for Self in the Global South: Representations of Jamaicans in Japanese Travel Writing. Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, November 15, 2008.

[Jamaika kara mita nihon no regee bunka: Afroajia minzokushi ni mukete.] Jamaican Perspectives on Japanese Reggae Culture: Towards an Ethnography of the Afro-Asian. Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, November 7, 2008.

[Nihon no regee sabukaruchaa ni okeru gendaa, kaikyū, jinshu no hyōshō]. Representing Gender, Race and Class in Japanese Reggae Subculture. Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, October 8, 2008.

Reggae Music in Japan. (Keynote Speaker). Global Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, February 18-24, 2008.

Japan Anthropology Dissertation Workshop. (Discussant.) University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, October 27, 2006.

Babylon East: An Ethnography of Dancehall, Roots Reggae and Rastafari in Japan. Duke University Press' "The Word on Music" Symposium. Duke University, September 8-10, 2005.

Hybridities Old and New: African Diasporic Music as Performative Cartography. Cornell University Caribbean Student Association, April 23, 2004.

On the Possibilities of Multi-Sited Ethnography: 'Rastafari' in Japan. IUPUI Anthropology Club Brown Lecture Series, April 8, 2004.

Jamaican Culture in Japan. Paper presented at Jamaica in the Pacific Conference. Reggae Studies Unit, University of the West Indies. Kingston, Jamaica, December 13, 2002.

Indiana University (Selected)

Discourses of Crisis and Recovery: Authenticating Dancehall Reggae in Contemporary Japan. "Where in the World is Popular Music?" Conference. Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, September 28, 2012.

Continuity and Rupture in the Afro-Asian Experience: Jamaican Popular Culture in Japan. (Keynote Speaker.) Paul Lucas Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, March 24, 2012.

Teachable Moments: The Language of Race. (Discussion Leader.) Indiana University Commission on Multicultural Understanding, 2005.

"A We Run Tings!": Performing Gender and Nationhood in the Japanese Dancehall. Indiana University Bloomington Department of Anthropology Brownbag Talk, March 8, 2004.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Making Reggae Japanese: Authenticating Dancehall Music in Contemporary Japan. Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA March 19-24, 2013.

On the Politics of Authenticity: Japanese Reggae and the Challenges of Jamaican National Branding. International Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, February 14-16 2013.

Interrogating the 'Afro-Asian': Hybrid Ethnonationalities in Japanese Reggae Music. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.

Japanizing Reggae: Music, Nation, and the Cultural Politics of Tradition in the Development of Japan's Reggae Scene. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 16-20, 2011.

Race, Reggae and 'The Search for Self': Japan's Literary Excursions into the Jamaican. International Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, February 17-21, 2010.

Interrogating the Afro-Asian: Japanese Reggae Artists in Jamaica. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, December 2-6, 2009.

The Politics of Global Subculture: Dancehall Reggae in Japan. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 28-December 2, 2007.

Reggae Music in Japan: Jamaican Perspectives. IU Bloomington Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Colloquium Series, November 16, 2006.

Race as Spiritual Metaphor: Rastafarian Discourse in Japan. Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, April 6-9, 2006.

Blood Measures: Past Verities and Present Uncertainties of Racial Definition in North America. (Panel Discussant). American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, December 3, 2005.

Semiotics and New Musical Diaspora: Dancehall Culture in Jamaica and Japan. IU Bloomington East Asian Studies Center Colloquium Series, March 26, 2004.

Dancehall as Transnational Semiotics in Jamaica and Japan. Caribbean Soundscapes Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, March 12-13, 2004.

Performing Gender, Race and Ethnicity in the Afro-Asian Transnational: Dancehall Reggae Culture in Japan. Paper presented at the Blacks and Asians in the Making of the Modern World Conference, Boston University, April 11-13, 2003.

Negotiating Black Identity in Contemporary Japan. Paper presented at Srinakharinwirot University & Salisbury State University Joint International Conference on American Studies, and the Literature of America, Great Britain and the Pacific Rim. Bangkok, Thailand, January 8-10, 1998.

Popular Cultural Africanities in Contemporary Japan. Society for Cross-Cultural Research Conference, San Antonio, February 21, 1997.

COURSES DEVELOPED (IU BLOOMINGTON)

Lectures:

- “The Anthropology of Contemporary Japan”
- “‘Chanting Down Babylon’: Afro-Caribbean Popular Culture as Protest”
- “Global Black Music and Identity”
- “Social and Cultural Anthropology”

Seminars:

- “The Anthropology of Human Rights”
- “The Anthropology of Race”
- “Body, Power and Performance”
- “Fiction Writing and Cultural Anthropology”

DISSERTATIONS AND THESES COMMITTEE MEMBER

PhD Students, Graduated

1. Audrey Ricke (Co-Chair)
2. Kellie Jean Hogue (Co-Chair)
3. Fileve Palmer
4. Shingo Hamada
5. Rebecca Riall
6. Elise de Camp
7. Gillian Richards Greaves
8. Rodrigo Penna-Firme Pedrosa
9. Lucinda Carspecken
10. William Eastwood
11. Hisato Kawata
12. Carol Sullivan
13. Lauren Miller
14. Alfredo Minetti
15. Sue-Je Gage
16. Candice Lowe

PhD Students, ABD

1. Ben Michaels (Chair)
2. Sarah Conrad
3. Evanna Singh
4. Elizabeth Burbach
5. Lewis Jones
6. Matthew Kerchner
7. Lewis Bradford
8. Chi-Hoon Kim

PhD Students, non-ABD:

1. Jordan Lynton (Chair)
2. Satoko Hirano (Co-Chair)
3. Matthew Lebrato
4. Shijing Zhang

5. Robert Carl DeMuth

Extra-Departmental PhD Students

1. Dustin Cantrell (Education; graduated)
2. A. Guest Scott (Folklore & Ethno; graduated)
3. Bryan Young (PhD, Com. & Cult.; graduated)
4. Rhonda Dass (Folklore & Ethno; graduated)
5. Adam Zolkover (Folklore & Ethno.; ABD)
6. Jonathan Warner (History; ABD)
7. Margaret Remstad (Education; ABD)
8. Theresa Dazey (History; ABD)
9. Asafa Dibaba (Folklore & Ethno.; ABD)
10. Jordache Ellapen (American Studies)

MA Students (All Departments; graduated)

1. Tiphani Dixon (Chair)
2. Rachel Eyermann (Chair)
3. Roberta Radovich
4. Abigail Alyn
5. Bradley Good
6. Jessica Zerrer

Undergraduates (All Departments; graduated)

1. Jonah Williams (Project Advisor; Poynter Center Prize in Practical Ethics for Undergraduates)
2. Brett Norris, (Senior Thesis Advisor, Anthropology; graduated)
3. Abigail Mack (Advisor, IMP; graduated)
4. Antonia Dominguez (Member, Honors Thesis Committee; graduated)

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Summer 2012: Kingston. Fieldwork for ethnographic project on celebrations surrounding Jamaica's 50th year of independence.

June – August 2011: Kingston and Montego Bay (Jamaica). Fieldwork for ethnographic project on the Japanese community in Jamaica.

May – August 2004; June – August 2006: Tokyo, Nagano, Yokohama, Osaka (Japan); Kingston, Montego Bay (Jamaica). Supplementary fieldwork for completion of book manuscript on Jamaican popular culture in Japan

May - June 2001: *Yoshino, Oshika (Japan)*. Supplementary dissertation fieldwork on commune life among Japanese counterculturalists and Rastafarians

Summer 1999: *Kingston, Portmore (Jamaica)*. Ethnographic research on dancehall and Rastafarian subcultures in Jamaica (for comparison with similar subcultures in Japan)

August 1998 – July 2000: *Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Okinawa, Yoshino (Japan)*. Dissertation research on Jamaican subcultures in Japan

Summer and Fall 1995: *Yokosuka, Yokohama, Tokyo (Japan)*: Ethnographic research on African American military personnel in Japan

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Book Reviews:

Sterling, Marvin D. 2011. Book Review, "Man Vibes: Masculinities in the Jamaican Dancehall" by Donna Hope. *Dancecult: Journal of Electronic Dance Music Culture* 3(1): 129-134.

Sterling, Marvin D. 2004. Book Review, "Wake the Town and Tell the People: Dancehall Culture in Jamaica" by Norman Stolzoff. *The Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies* 30(59):200.

Journal Manuscript Reviews:

Anthropological Quarterly

Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power

Book Manuscript Proposal Reviews:

Oxford University Press

Cambridge University Press

Fellowship Application Reviews:

School of Advanced Research

IU SERVICE (Selected)

Member, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity Postdoctoral Search Committee (2014)

Chair, Department of Anthropology Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity (2013 -)

Member, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity Faculty Seed Grant Search Committee (2012)

Member, Search Committee for Africanist Anthropologist (2013-2014)

Member, Patten Foundation Committee (2013-2016)

Member, General Education Committee (2010 -)

Organizer, Ethnographers Forum Series (2006, 2007)

Member, Black Faculty and Staff Caucus (2006 -)

Member, Working Group on the IU Bloomington Qualitative Research Center (2005)

Faculty Sponsor, Caribbean Student Association (2005-Present)

Member, Working Group, "Multidisciplinary Workshop on Performance" (2005)

Member, EASC FLAS Selection Committee (2005)

AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association
Association of Black Anthropologists
American Ethnological Society
Society for Cultural Anthropology
Association of Asian Studies

LANGUAGES

Jamaican Creole (Fluent)
Japanese (Advanced)
Spanish (Intermediate)