

Music Department
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James Burns

Education 2001 - 2004 School of Oriental and African Studies London, England

Ph.D Music

- Research Areas include Africa and the Diaspora.

1999 - 2001 College of Santa Fe Albuquerque, NM

Secondary School Licensure

- Social Studies Endorsement

1991-1995 University of Texas Austin, TX

BA Liberal Arts

- Double major in Anthropology and Chinese Language

Present Academic Positions September 2005 SUNY at Binghamton.

Assistant Professor of Music

- I have a joint appointment in Music and Africana Studies as an ethnomusicologist with specialization in Africa and the Diaspora.

Previous Academic Positions 2004-2005 AHRB Centre for Cross-Cultural Music and Dance Performance
London

Ethnomusicologist

- I was the ethnomusicologist for a project entitled *Transformations in African Music and Dance*. This is one of 6 current projects of the, which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Base. This research will lead to publications of a book, articles, and a DVD ROM.

2001-2005 School of Oriental and African Studies
London

Part Time Instructor

- I contributed lectures for courses in African Studies and African Music at the undergraduate and graduate level. Subjects included Structure of Drum Ensembles in West African and the Diaspora, West African influences in Cuba and Haiti, Griot culture in West Africa, Highlife music, Ritual music in Africa and the New World, and Transcription.

2002- 2003 Goldsmiths College
London

Visiting Tutor

- I taught undergraduate courses in African Drumming and African Music.

Areas of teaching and Research

African Traditional and Popular Music
Traditional and Popular music of the African Diaspora
Jazz and Blues History, Styles and Culture
African Drumming and Music Performance
Oral Literature
Drum Language
African Religion
Music and Ritual
World Music
Musical Change and Transculturation

Field Research

Conducted field research in Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Burkina Faso from 1995-1997. Further Research in Ghana, Togo, and Benin from 2000-2001, Summer 2002, Spring 2003, Spring, Fall 2004.

Languages

Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, African languages: Twi, Ewe (Fon), Dagbani, Ga, as well as basic understanding of Yoruba.

Awards

- Overseas Research Scholarship from the University of London for graduate tuition at the School of Oriental and African Studies 2002-2004.
- Arts and Humanities Research Abroad Scholarship from the Center for Asian and African Literatures at SOAS for fieldwork in Ghana Summer 2002.
- Rotary Club Ambassadorial Scholarship 1995 for study abroad during September 1995- September 1997 in West Africa.

Publications

- *The Soup Which is Sweet Draws in the Chairs: Ewe Drumming From Ghana*. CD released by The British Library and Topic Records May 2005. Recorded, Produced, and Sleeve Notes by James Burns.
- *My Mother Has a Television Does Yours? Transformation in an Ewe Funeral Drum Tradition*. To be published in upcoming issue of *Oral Tradition*.
- *Transformations in African Music and Dance*. DVD Rom to be published based on study of Ewe Music and Dance by James Burns and Jean Johnson-Jones.

Courses

MUS 111	Music Cultures of the World: East, South, Southeast Asia
MUS 112	Music Cultures of the World: Africa, Caribbean, Latin America
MUS 304	Introduction to Ethnomusicology
MUS 143B/AFST 188B	African and Afro-Caribbean Music Ensemble
MUS 380A/AFST 380A	Music Traditions of Africa and the Diaspora