

Rory Mosi Johnson

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Education: ABD (Anthropology Sociology of Religion) University of Chicago –
anticipated completion 2008
MA University of Chicago 1999
BA Morehouse College 1996

Research Interest: Ideology, Power, Myth and the social construction of knowledge.

Doctoral Exams:

History of Religions: Myth and Symbol – Native American and African
American Myth
History of Religions: Critical Theory – Ritual, Ideology and Power
Anthropology Sociology of Religion: Classical Theories of Religion
Anthropology Sociology of Religion: History of the African American Church.

Dissertation: The Persistent Conversation: Religion, Communication and
Identity in African American Musical Practice. An analysis of the religious
musical performance genres of African Americans as models of communication
and performance that help instantiate and maintain communities. It looks to the
formation of occasional communities and their practices of narrative as
constitutive moments of memory and meaning that create alternative subjective
identities in conversation with dominant and dominating forms of subjectivity.

Committee: Advisor: Martin Riesebrodt (University of Chicago) Readers:
Omar McRoberts (University of Chicago), Travis Jackson (University of
Chicago)

Work Experience: University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 2006
Instructor Acculturation and the African American Church

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 2006
Teaching assistant Introduction to Religion and the Human Sciences

Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois, 2001
Instructor Political Science – African Americans and the Constitution.

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois Summer 1999, 2000
Teaching assistant for the Summer Research Opportunities Program.
Organized workshops, conferences, and counseled students on research projects.

Pope Elementary Chicago, Illinois September 1996 – 1999
Teacher. Taught math and science to 6-8 graders (summer). Taught the summer
bridge program for the sixth grade (Summer 1998). Taught second grade early
intervention (Summer 1999).

Wendell Phillips Academy Chicago, Illinois 1997-1999
Teacher. Taught HS Biology.

Chicago Board of Education, Chicago, Illinois, 1995 - 1997

Aid to The Deputy Chief Education Officer – Educational policy analyst.

Research Experience: University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
2003 -- Research assistant for Martin Riesebrodt. Studied cases of religious conversion.

Teaching interest: History of African American Religion and Mythology in the United States;
Sociological Theories of Religion; Theories of Myth; Ritual Theory; Aesthetics
and Communication.

Honors: 2006 – 2007 Harper Dissertation Fellowship
2005 – 2006 Martin Marty Dissertation Fellowship
1999 – 2003 University of Chicago Trustee Fellowship
1998 ICEOP Fellowship

Languages: Reading knowledge – French, German, Italian, Spanish, Latin

References: Martin Riesebrodt, Wendy Doniger, Bruce Lincoln, Omar McRoberts, Richard A. Rosengarten