### Udodiri R. Okwandu

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# **EDUCATION**

#### **Harvard University**

Doctor of Philosophy, History of Science

Cambridge, MA Expected May 2024

Harvard College Cambridge, MA

Bachelor of Arts in History and Science, cum laude; Secondary in Global Health & Health Policy.

May 2017

Thesis: Violence and the (Black) Brain: Law and Order Politics and the Biomedicalization of Urban Rioting and Violence, 1960 – 1975

#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intersection of Race, Science, and Medicine	History of Medicine	Health Policy
Medicalization and Pharmaceuticalization	Social Movements	Critical Race & Gender Theory
Twentieth and Twenty-first Century United States History	Women's Health	Psychiatry and Mental Health

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Junior Fellow, Center for Black Brown, and Queer Studies, Harvard University	2019- 2020
Presidential Scholar, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Science	2018 - 24
Thomas T. Hoopes Prize, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences	2017

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Unprivileged Diagnoses, Colored Wombs: Uterine Fibroids and the Contestation of Black Liberation in the Post-Bellum South." Article manuscript in progress, to be submitted for publication in fall 2019.

"Violence and the (Black) Brain: Law and Order Politics and the Biomedicalization of Urban Rioting and Violence, 1960 – 1975." Article manuscript in progress, to be submitted for publication in fall 2019.

# **PRESENTATIONS**

"Violence and the (Black) Brain: Law and Order Politics and the Biomedicalization of Urban Rioting and Violence, 1960 – 1975." DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College, December 2019.

"The History of Medical and Scientific Racism in America." Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, May 2019.

"The History of Racism in Medicine, Public Health, and Science." Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Boston, April 2019.

"The History of Medical and Scientific Racism in America." NOVA's CafeSci Boston at WGBH Forum Network, February 2019.

"The Twisted Womb: The Life and Death of the Uterine Fibroids Research and Education Act, 1988 – Present." Department of History of Science at Harvard University, History of Medicine Working Group, October 2018.

# TEACHING AND ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Non-Resident Tutor, Mather House, Harvard University (2019 – present)

Non-Resident Tutor, Leverett House, Harvard University (2019 – present)

House-Based Concentration Advisor, History of Science, Harvard University (2018 - present)

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Professor Evelynn Hammonds, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Research Assistant, June 2019 – Present

- Conducting research on African American women and AIDS from 1981 to the present in preparation for her Garrison Lecture at the History of Medicine Association
- Performing archival research on physical anthropologist William Montague Cobb for forthcoming article

# LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, History of Medicine Working Group, Harvard University (2019 – 2020)

# RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**CEB, now Gartner**Research Analyst, Information Technology Practice
Arlington, VA
July 2017 – July 2018

- Test hypotheses, review secondary literature, and conduct and analyze qualitative interviews with senior IT leaders and CIOs from the world's largest and leading companies to support their management and strategy decisions
- Analyzed an international airline's data and analytics strategy and provided the CIO with now implemented recommendations
- Researched and developed presentation on best practices in product line management that was presented to 150+ senior IT leaders and CIOs

# **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Los Angeles, CA

Undergraduate Public Health Scholar

June 2016 – August 2016

- Participated in intensive training on issues regarding health care disparities, examined CDC policy efforts and its impact on the Los Angeles area, and collaborated with cohort to solve complex public health problems through mock simulations
- Coordinated programming and led public health research efforts at St. Francis Medical Center; conducted meta-analysis to develop health education guidelines; planned conference on urban violence with over 300+ attendees

### **Community Conversations: A Women's Health Initiative**

Cambridge, MA

Research and Digital Content Intern

December 2015 – January 2017

- Developed written digital content through scientific and medical literature reviews on minority women's health
- Coordinated and facilitated monthly workshops addressing a variety of health issues with a focus on prevention, health care system navigation, and self-advocacy

### **Harvard Global Health Institute**

KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

June 2015 – August 2015

Research Assistant

- Conducted an original study with a 4 person research team that investigated patient adherence to HIV medication and developed a now implemented proposal streamlining hospital recordkeeping processes
- Facilitated data capture, clerical duties, and file audits, assessed patient adherence to medication, and identified patients lost to follow up at Don McKenzie Hospital; shadowed doctors and accompanied field workers in the Umdeni Care Program