



The Compton Africa Peace Fellowships at Michigan State University for Dissertation Research by African Students at MSU

A Program of the MSU African Studies Center and the Women and International Development Program

Michigan State University's African Studies Center (ASC) and Women and International Development (WID) Program are offering Compton Africa Peace Fellowships to graduate students from Sub-Saharan Africa to support their dissertation field research in Africa. This program is an element of the MSU *African Higher Education Partnerships Initiative* (AHEPI). These dissertation fellowship awards are made possible by a grant from the Compton Foundation through its *Peace Fellowship Program* for addressing peace, conflict resolution, and security in Africa.

Goals and Priorities of the Fellowship Program:

The goal of the Compton Fellowship Program in Peace and Security is to strengthen intellectual capacity in Sub-Saharan African nations and institutions that can address the challenges of conflict resolution, peace, and security issues intra- and internationally. The fellowships will support exceptional Ph.D. degree candidates at MSU from Sub-Saharan Africa who intend to return to their country or region of origin after completing their studies. A secondary goal is to promote the integration of environment, peace, and/or population issues in graduate-level study and research.

The Compton Foundation's peace and security program focuses on a variety of activities and issue areas which include: resolving and avoiding international and regional conflict; reducing the threat from weapons of mass destruction; and broadening the definition of national security to include environmental and population aspects.

Eligibility:

Students eligible for the Compton Africa Peace Fellowship Program at MSU must:

- 1) Be citizens of a nation in Sub-Saharan Africa and not be seeking citizenship or residency abroad.
- 2) Be enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Michigan State University.
- 3) Be candidates for the Ph.D. degree in any of a variety of disciplines, such as political science, sociology, anthropology, history, public policy, criminal justice, social work, communications, economics or agricultural economics, and law and pursuing an eligible research topic (see next section).
- 4) Provide evidence that all requirements for the Ph.D. degree (including comprehensive examinations and departmental approval of the dissertation proposal) will be completed except for the dissertation fieldwork and write-up by the time they plan to begin fieldwork with the Compton funding.
- 5) Be pursuing a dissertation that requires fieldwork in Africa for a *minimum of six months and a maximum of 12 months* for collection of qualitative or quantitative data.

Eligible Research Topics:

The Compton Foundation utilizes a broad definition of peace and security encompassing a number of cross-cutting issues, including peace building and conflict resolution. Students are eligible for pursuing research in fields such as political science, sociology, anthropology, history, public policy, criminal justice, social work, communications, economics or agricultural economics, and law. **However, the applicant must make a clear and compelling case for his/her research having a *direct* bearing on peace, conflict, conflict resolution, or security issues in Sub-Saharan Africa.** Research projects with cross-cutting themes related to environment and/or population issues are of particular interest; however, **they must demonstrate a direct bearing on African peace, conflict, and security themes.** The sponsors are especially eager to consider proposals on peace and security that also address issues of gender. The MSU Compton Africa Peace Fellowship Program will consider applications in the following sub-fields if their direct bearing on the theme is clear:

- Peace, Democracy, and Civil Society
- Environment, Natural Resource Security, and Community Participation
- Population and Refugees
- Communication, Peace, and Security
- Labor and Industrial Conflict and Cooperation
- Peace, Security, and Conflict Resolution in African History
- Food and Economic Security

Awards:

The awards are for up to \$15,000 and are to be used solely to support field research in Sub-Saharan Africa. At least two awards will be given in 2007 to MSU students. As part of the Compton activities, Fellows will participate in a directed readings program at MSU related to peace and security.

Awards will be granted after a competitive review by an MSU committee of faculty in the African Studies Center and Women and International Development Program.

Deadline: February 15, 2008, to be used in 2008.

Application forms:

Application forms are available at:

<http://africa.msu.edu/compton.php> and <http://www.wid.msu.edu/forstudents/opportunities.htm>

Completed application forms must be submitted **by mail and e-mail** to:

MSU-Compton Fellowship Committee
c/o David Wiley
African Studies Center
100 International Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1035
Tel: 517-353-1700; Fax: 517-432-1209
wiley@msu.edu

**Application Form for The Compton Africa Peace Fellowships
at Michigan State University
for Dissertation Research by African Students at MSU**

**A Program of the MSU African Studies Center and
the Women and International Development Program**

Deadline for awards: February 15, 2008.

Please complete this form and return it to the address at the end of the form. Use additional pages if necessary.

Personal Information

1. Name: _____ E-mail: _____

2. Current address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

3. Permanent (Home) Address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

4. Country of Citizenship: _____ Country of Current Residence: _____

Undergraduate Education

5. a. Institution(s):

_____ Dates Attended: _____

_____ Dates Attended: _____

b. Major: _____ Minor(s): _____

c. Degree: _____ Date: _____

d. Undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (A = _____ points)

(Explain if a non-U.S. system): _____

e. What was your field (focus) of study? _____

6. Graduate Record Examinations (if applicable):

a. Graduate Record Examination Scores: Dates taken (month/year): _____

Verbal Score: _____ Quantitative: _____ Analytical: _____

Name of Advanced Field: _____ Advanced Field Score: _____

b. If you have not received scores, have you taken the GRE exams? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes, date taken: _____

Graduate Education

7. In what institutions have you been a graduate student or candidate? (See also Question #8 below.)

	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>When Completed?</u>
a.	_____	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____	_____	_____

8. Current or most recent academic affiliation:

a. Name of academic institution in which you are or recently have been enrolled: _____

b. Name of academic department in which you are enrolled: _____

c. Date accepted into the Ph.D. program – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

d. Name of academic advisor or major professor: _____

9. Progress of Academic Program:

a. Indicate when the following in your academic programs were or will be completed:

i) When graduate course work completed – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

ii) When comprehensive examinations completed – Semester: _____ Year: _____

If not applicable explain: _____

iii) When dissertation proposal approved – Semester: _____ Year: _____

10. a. For each year of graduate study, indicate below the year and the number of semester or quarter/term credit hours of each grade received:

		Number of credit hours of each grade						
Academic Year	Institution (See #7 above)	Degree/ Program	A 4.0	A- /B+ 3.5	B 3.0	B- /C+ 2.5	C 2.0	D or lower 1.0
1st Year: _____ - _____								
2nd Year: _____ - _____								
3rd Year: _____ - _____								
4th Year: _____ - _____								
5th Year: _____ - _____								
6th Year: _____ - _____								

b. What is your current cumulative grade point average: _____ (A = _____ points)

c. If there is a gap in your graduate study, please explain the reason: _____

11. MSU Students:

a. For purposes of tuition, are you considered a Michigan Resident? Yes _____ No _____

b. MSU Student Number: _____

12. Please indicate what other fellowship, scholarship, or other award you will have during your dissertation field research and write-up periods.

a. _____

b. _____

13. List any fellowships or other awards you have applied for to fund your dissertation fieldwork.

<u>Support Requested</u>	<u>Support Level/Amount</u>	<u>Date of Notification</u>	<u>Received Yes/No?</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Dissertation Research

Please attach a copy of your dissertation proposal and a letter from your advisor, verified by your department chair, indicating that you will have completed requirements for the Ph.D., such as the comprehensive examination and department approval of your research proposal, by the time that you begin fieldwork. (This may be included in advisor’s letter.)

14. Briefly describe your particular area(s) of concentration in your graduate study or topical areas on which you have focused. (If needed, please attach additional pages.)

15. What is the title of your dissertation proposal?

16. Where will your fieldwork be conducted and how will it address the Compton Fellowship issues of conflict resolution, peace, and security? (If needed, please attach additional pages.)

a. Research Site: _____

b. Addressing what issues: _____

17. What specific course work have you taken relevant to the Compton areas of concentration?

18. What language(s) will you be using in your research and what is your fluency in each?

19. Briefly describe your career goals after completing graduate training. (If needed, attach additional pages.)

20. Please indicate the dates when you plan to be in the field for your dissertation research:

21. Please include on a separate page a budget in US dollars for your field research, including items such as air transport, transport in the field, research assistants, stipend, photocopying, and purchase of equipment or data.

22. Names and addresses of persons you have requested or are requesting to write letters of reference for you. At least two letters are required from professors in your major field. **Reference letters are confidential and may be shared only among the Center Fellowship Selection Committee, Center administrators, and the referee. Inform your referees to address: (a) specific points related to your scholarly and overall potential; and (b) the Compton foci indicated in question #16 above and fully described in the announcement.**

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

23. If the space available in this application form is not adequate, please provide any other information you believe is relevant to your candidacy for the Fellowship on separate pages.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail and e-mail completed application to:

MSU-Compton Fellowship Committee
c/o David Wiley
African Studies Center
100 International Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1035
wiley@msu.edu

If you have questions, please contact:

Prof. Anne Ferguson, WID Director
Ph: 517/353-5040 – E-mail: *fergus12@msu.edu*
Prof. David Wiley, ASC Director
Ph: 517/353-1700 – E-mail: *wiley@msu.edu*
Carmen Bain, WID Assistant Director
Ph: 517/353-5040 – E-mail: *baincarm@msu.edu*

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Completed application form (*mail and e-mail*)
- At least two letters of reference from professors in your major field addressing specific points related to your scholarly and overall potential, and to the Compton foci. In addition, one of the two letters must be from your advisor and verified by your department chair, indicating that you will have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. such as the comprehensive examination, and department approval of your research proposal by the time you begin fieldwork. (*mail*)
- A copy of your dissertation proposal. Maximum length 20 pages (double spaced). The proposal should include an abstract. (*mail and e-mail*)
- A copy of your most recent transcript (*mail*)
- A budget for your field research (*mail and e-mail*)