

Ikea M. Johnson, Ph.D.

ikea.johnson@salve.edu

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, Louisiana State University, August 2018-May 2022

Dissertation: Johnson, Ikea, “The Underground of History: Spirituality as Reflected Through Movement, Community, and the Chaos of Formlessness in Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man*” (2022). *LSU Doctoral Dissertations*. 5881.
https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/gradschool_dissertations/5881

Committee members: Dr. fahima ife (Chair), Dr. Pallavi Rastogi, and Dr. Femi Euba

M.L.A. with an English concentration, Auburn University-Montgomery, May 2018

B.A. in English (minor: psychology), Auburn University-Montgomery, December 2016

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Assistant Professor of English

Salve Regina University, September 2022-present, Newport, RI

Huel D. Perkins Doctoral Research Fellow

Louisiana State University, August 2018-2022, Baton Rouge, LA

Adult Education Instructor

West Georgia Technical College, 2016-2018, LaGrange, GA

English Teacher (10th grade)

Auburn City Schools, 2017-2018, Auburn, AL

Senior Educator

NYC Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence (Bloomberg), 2009-2011, New York, NY

TEACHING:

Salve Regina University, Newport, RI

- ENG 217-01: African-American Literature, spring 2023
- ENG 217-02: African-American Literature, spring 2023
- ENG 315-01: The Harlem Renaissance, spring 2023
- PEL-299E- P1: Sptpc: Harlem Renaissance, spring 2023

- ENG 217-01: African-American Literature; Afrofuturism: Odysseys, (Re)memory, and the Sublime, fall 2022
- ENG 217-02: African American Literature; Afrofuturism: Odysseys, (Re)memory, and the Sublime, fall 2022
- UNV 101-10: (Re)memory and Afrofuturism, fall 2022

Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA

- CPLT/ENGL 2202: Introduction to World Literature, fall 2020
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CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS:

Invited Guest Lecturer

Johnson, Ikea. “What Octavia Butler Can Teach Us About Spirituality, Compassion, and the Future,” November 2022, Salve Regina University, Department of Philosophy, Dr. Craig Condella’s undergraduate Sci-Fi and Philosophy course, Newport, RI

Johnson, Ikea. “Black Dharma,” September 2019, Louisiana State University, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Dr. Paula Arai’s 4000 level Buddhist Philosophy course, Baton Rouge, LA

Presenter

Johnson, Ikea. “(Im)material Conditions: Approaching Abjection, Existential Wanderings, and the Door of No Return,” Twentieth International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, at University of the Aegean - Rhodes Campus (Greece)

Fellow, Presenter

Johnson, Ikea M. “Alice Walker’s Buddhist Philosophy in *The Color Purple*,” 10th Harvard International World Literature Institute, Belgrade (Harvard), 2020, (Nominated by Sharon Weltman, Louisiana State University)

Presenter

Johnson, Ikea M. “Ralph Ellison and Buddhist Recognition in *Invisible Man*,” *Columbus State University*, Dr. Gregory P. Domin Graduate Conference, November 2017, Columbus, GA

PUBLICATIONS:

Johnson, Ikea M. “Widening the Way: Nonviolence and the Spirit of Empathy for Liberty and Justice,” *Dialogues of the Heart: Daisaku Ikeda, Transnationalism, and American Literature*, edited by Anita H. Patterson (Boston University), in collaboration with the Ikeda Center for Peace, Learning, and Dialogue, Cambridge, MA, 2023 (Invited contributor)

Johnson, Ikea M. *Black Dharma: Theory and Practice of Buddhism in African American Literature*, Vernon Press, 2023. (Invited publication)

Johnson, Ikea M. “Towards Poetic Justice:(Im)material Antiquity in the Works of Albery Allson Whitman.” *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics* 44.3 (2021): 33-45. (Indexed in *The Philosopher’s Index*)

Johnson, Ikea M. “On Compassion and the Sublime Black Body: Octavia E. Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*.” *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*, vol. 43, no. 2, 2020, p. 92+. Gale Literature Resource Center. (Invited contributor)

Johnson, Ikea M. “Revisiting Recognition: Buddhist Philosophy in Alice Walker’s *The Color Purple*.” *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*, vol. 43, no. 1, 2020, p. 101+. *Gale Academic OneFile*. (Indexed in *The Philosopher’s Index*)

—**Reprinted** in *Children’s Literature Review on The Color Purple by Alice Walker*, Vol. 1, (Editor) Dilgen, Regina, Layman Poupard Publishing for Gale/Cengage Learning, 2022. (Invited to reprint)

Johnson, Ikea M. “Women and Buddhist Philosophy: Engaging Zen Master Kim Iryop.” *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*, vol. 43, no. 1, 2020, p. 193+. *Gale Academic OneFile*.

Johnson, Ikea M. “Buddhist Recognition in Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man*.” *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*, vol. 42, no. 2, 2019, p. 85+. *Gale Academic OneFile*. (Indexed in *The Philosopher’s Index*)

Johnson, Ikea (2018) "Sacred Spaces," *Comparative Woman*: Vol. 1, Article 21. DOI:
10.31390/comparativewoman.1.1.19

AWARDS:

- Emerging Scholar Award - Twentieth International Conference on the New Directions in the Humanities, University of the Aegean - Rhodes Campus, Greece, 2022
 - AUM College of Arts and Sciences Grant, 2016
 - Randall Cobb Grant, Auburn University-Montgomery, 2015
 - Guin Nance Grant, Auburn University-Montgomery, 2015
 - Phi Theta Kappa Grant, Mobile, AL, 2012-2014
 - H.L. Wilson Foundation Grant, Mobile, AL, 2013-2014
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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/MEMBERSHIP:

- Northeast Modern Language Association
 - Omicron Delta Kappa
 - Phi Theta Kappa alumni
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VOLUNTEER/SERVICE:

Editor-in-Chief:

Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics, 2022-present

(Nomination/recommendation letter from Editorial board and founder available upon request)

International Conference Panel and Sessions Organizer

Louisiana State University, Comparative Literature and French Studies Annual Conference, April 2022

International Conference Symposium Organizer

"On Space and Place," Louisiana State University Comparative Literature and French Studies Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, LA. April 2022

President:

Comparative Literature Graduate Student Association, Louisiana State University,
2021-2022, (nominated by previous president and colleagues)

Executive Editor:

Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics, 2020-2022

Invited Guest Editor:

Material/Immaterial discourse— *Journal of Comparative Literature and
Aesthetics*, 2020-2021

Moderator:

The Humanities Amped Fall Conference, “Amplifying Civic Research & Action,”
Louisiana State University, 2019

Invited Peer-review:

- *Kritika Kultura*, 2022
 - *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*, 2020
 - *Comparative Woman*, Louisiana State University, 2019
-

LANGUAGES:

- Mandarin (reading/writing/translations)
- French (reading/translations)
- Old and Middle English (reading, translations)