*MARVIN D. STERLING, PH.D.*

Curriculum Vitae

ADDRESS

Department of Anthropology

Student Building 130

Indiana University

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FACULTY POSITIONS

* Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2011-Present)
* Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2004-2011)
* Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington (2003-2004)
* Affiliated Faculty in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology; Department of African American & African Diasporia Studies; the American Studies Program; Cultural Studies Program; Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies; the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society
* Visiting Assistant Professor, Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University (Fall 2008)

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Associate Director, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES), Indiana University, Bloomington (2014-2016)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Regional: Japan, Jamaica, African Diaspora

Theoretical: Race, blackness, mixed-race identities, Afro-Asia, postcolonial theory, globalization, performance theory, human rights, African diasporic music

Methodological: Multi-sited ethnography, critical discourse analysis

**EDUCATION**

**PhD (2002):** Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles

*Dissertation*: “In the Shadow of ‘the Universal Other’: Performative Identifications with Jamaican Culture in Japan”

*Advisors*: Mariko Tamanoi and Marcyliena Morgan (Co-Chairs), Kyeyoung Park and Miriam Silverberg. Field Advisor: John Russell, Gifu University

**MA (1996):** Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles

*Thesis*: “Double Consciousness and the Black Male Self: An Ethnography of African-American Sailors at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan”

*Advisors*: Peter Hammond (Chair), Marcyliena Morgan, Kyeyoung Park and Douglas Hollan

***BS (1991):*** Communication Studies (Print Journalism focus), New York University

**REFEREED PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)**

##### Book Manuscript (Single-Authored, Published):

##### Sterling, Marvin D. 2010. *Babylon East: Performing Dancehall, Roots Reggae and Rastafari in Japan.* Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

##### Book Manuscript (Singled-Authored, In-Preparation):

##### Sterling, Marvin D. *The Postcolonial Regime of Human Rights: Social Justice Activism in Jamaica.*

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##### Co-Edited Volume (Forthcoming)

* Bridges, Will, Keisha Brown, Nitasha Sharma and Marvin Sterling. Expected March 2022. “Who is The Asianist? The Politics of Representation in Asian Studies”. Association for Asian Studies, Asia Shorts Series. New York: Columbia University Press.

##### Journal Articles (Published):

##### Sterling, Marvin D. 2016. *“*Between National Subjectivity and Global Artistry: Ethnography, Afro-Asia, and Jamaican Music in Japan.” *Popular Music and Society* 39(3).

##### Sterling, Marvin D. 2011. “Searching for Self in the Global South: Japanese Literary Representations of Afro-Jamaican Blackness.” *Journal of Japanese Studies* 31(1):53-71.

##### Sterling, Marvin D. 2006. “The Symbolic Constitution of Japanese Dancehall*.*” *Social and Economic Studies*: Special Issue on Popular Culture 55 (1&2): 1-24.

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**Edited Volume Chapters (Published)**

* Sterling, Marvin D.  2015. "Race, Ethnicity and Affective Community in Japanese Rastafari."  In "Traveling Texts and the Work of Afro-Japanese Cultural Production: Two Haiku and a Microphone."  Nina Cornyetz and William Bridges IV, editors.  Lanham, MD:  Lexington Books.

##### Sterling, Marvin D. 2012. “Raggamuffin Inna Tokyo City: Representing Gender, Class and Race in Japanese Dancehall Culture.” In *Global Reggae*. Carolyn Cooper, Editor. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press.

* Sterling, Marvin D.  2011. “Toward an Analysis of Global Blackness: Race, Representation, and Jamaican Popular Culture in Japan.”  In *Racial Representation in Asia*.  Yasuko Takezawa, Editor.  Kyoto, Melbourne: Kyoto University Press and Trans Pacific Press.

##### Edited Volume Chapters (Forthcoming):

* Sterling, Marvin D. Expected Publication Date: Fall 2022. “Gendering ‘Smadditization’: Labour and Violence in the (De)Colonisation of Afro-Jamaican Consciousness”. In *Gendered Dimensions of Violence Prevention.* Ramona Biholar and Dacia Leslie, editors. London: Routledge.

##### Book Reviews (Published):

* Sterling, Marvin D. 2021. “24 Bars to Kill: Hip Hop, Aspiration, and Japan’s Social Margins” by Andrew Armstrong, *The Journal of Asian Studies* 80(2): 479-481.
* Sterling, Marvin D. 2015. “Pink Globalization: Hello Kitty’s Trek across the Pacific” by Christine Yano, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 21(1): 228-229.
* Sterling, Marvin D. 2011. “Man Vibes: Masculinities in the Jamaican Dancehall” by Donna Hope. *Dancecult: Journal of Electronic Dance Music Culture* 3(1): 129-134.
* Sterling, Marvin D. 2004. “Wake the Town and Tell the People: Dancehall Culture in Jamaica” by Norman Stolzoff. *The Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies* 30(59):200.

# GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS (Selected)

* The Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Research (Long-Term) Fellowship 2019-2020: “Narrating the Afro-Japanese “Haafu” Experience: Race, Nation and Multipolar Globalization in Contemporary Japan”
* Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies Short-term Research Travel Grant 2020
* National Science Foundation, Cultural Anthropology, 2015 (BCS-1528969): "A Postcolonial Regime Analysis of Human Rights Discourse in Jamaica"
* Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching & Collaboration Short Term Faculty Fellowship, 2015
* IU College of Arts and Humanities Institute Travel Grant, Summer 2011
* IU Office of the VP for International Affairs Overseas Research Grant, Summer 2011
* IU College of Arts and Sciences Trustees’ Teaching Award, 2010
* Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities Visiting Professorship, Fall 2008
* UCLA Sasakawa Fellowship, 1998 (for dissertation fieldwork)
* UCLA Hiroshi Wagatsuma Fellowship, 1998, 1996 (for dissertation fieldwork)

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS (Selected)**

**National and International**

* *Political and Legal Anthropological Perspectives on Afro-Asian Frictions and Solidarities. “*Setting Political and Legal Anthropology Ablaze with ‘Thick Solidarity’,”Political and Legal Anthropology Roundtable / Townhall, American Association of Anthropology Annual Meeting, November 18, 2021 (Virtual).
* *Afro-Asia as Neoliberal Intimacy: Black Japanese Mixed-Race Experiences in Contemporary Japan.* Black Transnationalism and Japan Conference: Afro-Japanese Cultural Encounters Panel, Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, University of Oxford, October 29, 2021 (Virtual)
* Engaging Blackness in Asian Studies Roundtable, ASIANetwork Annual Conference*, April 17, 2021 (Virtual)*
* *Neoliberal Intimacies, Global Blackness, and the “Kokujin-Haafu” Experience: Toward an Anthropology of Contemporary Afro-Asia.* Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University, December 12, 2020 (Virtual).
* *Asian Studies and Black Lives Matter.* Webinar, Association for Asian Studies. July 22, 2020 (Virtual)
* *Afro-Asia, Afro-Japanese, and “Multicultural Coexistence”:  The Challenge of Diversity in Japanese Studies and in Contemporary Japan.*  Race and Diversity in Japan and Japanese Studies Postgraduate Symposium.  The Japanese Studies Centre, Monash University, Australia, October 19-20, 2018.
* *Liminal Theologies: The Rastafari Movement in Japan.* Texas Christian University, April 5, 2018.
* *Japanese Reggae: Translation, Performance, and Ethnicity in a Global Subculture.* Penn Humanities Forum on "Translation", University of Pennsylvania, November 30, 2016.
* *Ethnic Identities and Difference Among Japanese Reggae Musicians. "*Faces of Japanese Diversity: Demystifying Japan's Homogeneity" Symposium. Centre for Asian Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, Wednesday, April 29, 2015.
* *'Yellow Choice': Race, Dancehall Reggae and the Staging of Authenticity among Japanese Cultural Migrants in Kingston, Jamaica.* "Musics Abroad", Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, October 8, 2014.
* *The End(s) of Diaspora: Race, Afro-Asia, and Jamaican Culture in Japan.*  “Between African Americans and Japanese: Traveling Texts” Symposium. New York University, October 5, 2013.
* *Babylon East: Japanese Reggae as Instance of Contemporary Afro-Asia.* Hamilton College, March 7, 2013.
* *On the Cultural Politics of Tradition: ‘Domesticating’ Dancehall Reggae in Contemporary Japan.* Ethnoise! Ethnomusicology Workshop,University of Chicago, April 26, 2012.
* *Modernity, Globalization and the Cultural Politics of Tradition: ‘Domesticating’ Reggae Music in Recessionary Japan.* University of Iowa, April 18, 2012.
* *Reggae as Rebirth: Tracing Nationalist Discourse in Japanese Dancehall Music.* Bates College, March 8, 2012.
* *Sounding the Nation in Japanese Dancehall Music.* Kenyon College, April 2, 2012*.*
* *Dancehall as Afro-Asian Rebellion? On Blackness and the Possibilities of Resistance in Japanese Reggae Culture*. Rebel Music Conference, Northern Illinois University, December 1, 2010.
* *Toward an Anthropology of the Afro-Asian:  Reggae and Rasta in Japan.* New Frontiers in Black Studies Speaker Series, Northwestern University, April 30, 2010.
* *"Jibun Sagashi" in the Global South:  Afro-Jamaica and the Japanese Literary "Search for Self".* (Keynote Speaker.) Florida International University, Southern Japan Seminar, March 14, 2009.
* *Creating Counter Representations (Section III).* (Chair.) Transforming Images of Race Symposium. Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, December 5-6, 2008.
* *Searching for Self in the Global South: Representations of Jamaicans in Japanese Travel Writing.* Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, November 15, 2008.
* *[ジャマイカから見た日本のレゲエ文化：アフロアジア民族学的な方法論に向けて。] Jamaican Perspectives on Japanese Reggae Culture:  Towards an Ethnography of the Afro-Asian.* Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, November 7, 2008.
* *[日本のレゲエサブカルチャーにおけるジェンダー、階級、人種の表象。]  Representing Gender, Race and Class in Japanese Reggae Subculture.* Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities, October 8, 2008.
* *Reggae Music in Japan*. (Keynote Speaker). Global Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, February 18-24, 2008.
* *Japan Anthropology Dissertation Workshop.* (Discussant.) University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, October 27, 2006.
* *Babylon East: An Ethnography of Dancehall, Roots Reggae and Rastafari in Japan.* Duke University Press’ “The Word on Music” Symposium. Duke University, September 8-10, 2005.
* *Hybridities Old and New: African Diasporic Music as Performative Cartography.* Cornell University Caribbean Student Association, April 23, 2004.
* *On the Possibilities of Multi-Sited Ethnography: ‘Rastafari’ in Japan.* IUPUI Anthropology Club Brown Lecture Series, April 8, 2004.
* *Jamaican Culture in Japan.* Paper presented at Jamaica in the Pacific Conference. Reggae Studies Unit, University of the West Indies. Kingston, Jamaica, December 13, 2002.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

* ”Racing” Multicultural Coexistence: Japanese Media Coverage of Biracial Participants in International Beauty Contests and Athletic Competitions. Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington D.C., March 22-25, 2018.
* “Hard Paradise: Reimagining ‘Jamaica’ among Japanese Cultural Migrants.” Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, March 18-25, 2014.
* Making Reggae Japanese: Authenticating Dancehall Music in Contemporary Japan. Assocation of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Phildelphia, PA, March 19-24, 2013.
* On the Politics of Authenticity: Japanese Reggae and the Challenges of Jamaican National Branding. International Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, February 14-16, 2013.
* *Interrogating the 'Afro-Asian':  Hybrid Ethnonationalities in Japanese Reggae Music.* American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.
* *Japanizing Reggae: Music, Nation, and the Cultural Politics of Tradition in the Development of Japan’s Reggae Scene.* American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 16-20, 2011.
* *Race, Reggae and ‘The Search for Self’: Japan’s Literary Excursions into the Jamaican.* International Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, February 17-21, 2010.
* *Interrogating the Afro-Asian: Japanese Reggae Artists in Jamaica.* American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, December 2-6, 2009.
* *The Politics of Global Subculture: Dancehall Reggae in Japan.* American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 28-December 2, 2007.
* *Reggae Music in Japan: Jamaican Perspectives*. IU Bloomington Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Colloquium Series, November 16, 2006.
* *Race as Spiritual Metaphor: Rastafarian Discourse in Japan.* Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, April 6-9, 2006.
* *Blood Measures: Past Verities and Present Uncertainties of Racial Definition in North America.* (Panel Discussant). American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, December 3, 2005.
* *Semiotics and New Musical Diaspora: Dancehall Culture in Jamaica and Japan.* IU Bloomington East Asian Studies Center Colloquium Series, March 26, 2004.
* *Dancehall as Transnational Semiotics in Jamaica and Japan.* Caribbean Soundscapes Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, March 12-13, 2004.
* *Performing Gender, Race and Ethnicity in the Afro-Asian Transnational: Dancehall Reggae Culture in Japan.* Paper presented at the Blacks and Asians in the Making of the Modern World Conference, Boston University, April 11-13, 2003.
* *Negotiating Black Identity in Contemporary Japan.* Paper presented at Srinakharinwirot University & Salisbury State University Joint International Conference on American Studies, and the Literature of America, Great Britain and the Pacific Rim. Bangkok, Thailand, January 8-10, 1998.

**WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED**

* Co-Organizer (with Adam Liff) and Presenter, 21st Century Japan Politics and Society Initiative (21JPSI) Virtual Workshop on “Race and Multiculturalism in Contemporary Japan”, Thursday January 21, 2021, 5-11pm.

**COURSES DEVELOPED (IU Bloomington)**

**Lectures**:

* “The Anthropology of Contemporary Japan”
* “‘Chanting Down Babylon’: Protest and Popular Culture in the Afro-Caribbean”
* “Global Black Music and Identity”
* “Social and Cultural Anthropology”
* “Black Internationalism” (Spring 2021, Three Weeks Course for International Studies)

**Seminars**:

* “The Anthropology of Human Rights”
* “The Anthropology of Race”
* “Body, Power and Performance”
* “Fiction Writing and Cultural Anthropology”

**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (Selected)**

**Board Member (Councilor), Society for East Asian Anthropology (AAA; 2020-2022)**

* Chair, Francis L.K. Hsu Book Prize (2021)

##### Journal Manuscript Reviews:

* Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
* Anthropological Quarterly
* Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power
* Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies
* Japanese Studies

**Book Manuscript Proposal Reviews:**

* Journal of Asian Studies
* Oxford University Press
* Cambridge University Press

**Fellowship Application Reviews:**

* School of Advanced Research

**MEDIA APPEARANCES (Selected)**

* “Reggae, Racial Difference, and Representations of Blackness in Japan: On the Record with Dr. Marvin Sterling (Indiana)” By Tristan Grunow, *Japan on the Record, June 26, 2020.* [*https://jotr.transistor.fm/21*](https://jotr.transistor.fm/21)
* “Q&A: Marvin D. Sterling, The World's Foremost Scholar Of Japanese Reggae.” By Joey Sweeny, *Philebrity.com*, December 2016. <https://www.philebrity.com/blog/2016/12/14/qa-marvin-d-sterling-the-worlds-foremost-scholar-of-japanese-reggae>
* “Marvin Sterling Delves into the Japanese Dancehall Reggae Scene.” By Marlon Bishop, *Afropop*, September 22, 2011. <https://afropop.org/articles/marvin-sterling-delves-into-the-japanese-dancehall-reggae-scene>
* “Japanese Reggae?” By Jonathan L. Fischer, *New York Times Magazine*, July 21, 2010. <https://tmagazine.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/07/21/japan-loves-reggae/>

**IU SERVICE (Selected)**

# Chair, Department of Anthropology Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (2020-2022)

# Member, 21st Century Japan Politics and Society Initiative (21JPSI) Steering Board (2020-2022)

# Member, Department of Anthropology Executive Committee (2017-2019)

# Member, East Asian Studies Center Executive Committee (2015 – 2017)

# Member, Cultural Studies Program Executive Committee (2014-2016)

# Chair, Department of Anthroplogy Graduate Admissions Committee (2014-2015; 2015-2016)

# Mentor, Graduate Mentoring Center (2016 – 2019)

# Member, Patten Foundation Committee (2013-2016)

# Member, Search Committee for Africanist Anthropologist (2013-2014)

# Member, Center for Research on Race & Ethnicity Faculty Seed Grant Search Committee (2012)

# Member, General Education Committee (2010-2012 )

# Organizer, Ethnographers Forum Series (2006, 2007)

# Member, Black Faculty and Staff Caucus (2006-Present)

# AFFILIATIONS

* American Anthropological Association
* Association of Black Anthropologists
* Society for East Asian Anthropology
* Society for Cultural Anthropology
* Association of Asian Studies

LANGUAGES

* Jamaican Creole (Native)
* Japanese (Advanced)
* Spanish (Intermediate)