

CURRICULUM VITAE
AÏSSATOU MBODJ-POUYE

Centre d'étude des Mondes Africains (CEMAf), 27 rue Paul Bert, 94204 Ivry-sur-Seine, Paris

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Ph.D. in Sociology and Anthropology (2007), University of Lyon 2, Lyon, under the supervision of Bernard Lahire (Ecole Normale Supérieure - Lettres Sciences Humaines), awarded with Honours.

Dissertation: « Des cahiers au village. Socialisations à l'écrit et pratiques d'écriture dans la région cotonnière du sud du Mali » [Notebooks in a village. Writing practices and literate socializations in the cotton-growing area of Southern Mali].

Diploma of oriental language and civilisation for Manding (2007), Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO), Paris.

Agrégation de Philosophie (2001) [National recruitment competitive examination for teaching at secondary level].

Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies [M.Sc., 2nd year] **in Social Anthropology** (1999), awarded with distinction Very Good, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS, Paris) [Research topic: Theoretical debates on writing and literacy in Africa].

Maîtrise [M.Sc., 1st year] **in Philosophy** (1998), awarded with distinction. Academic exchange in Ethiopia in 1997-1998 for research on Ethiopian philosophy (6 months).

Licence [B.Sc.] **in Philosophy** (1997), University of Nanterre. Scholarly visit of one-month to the University Cheick Anta Diop of Dakar, Department of Philosophy.

Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris (1996-2002) [National competitive exam for entrance. Admitted in the social sciences section].

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Since Oct. 2011: Research Fellow in Anthropology, CNRS, CEMAf & Associate member, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin

2010-2011: Research Fellow (half-time), Zentrum Moderner Orient, as part of the Program *In search of Europe: Considering the possible in Africa and the Middle East* (2010-2013)

2006-2010: Junior Research and Teaching Fellow in Social Anthropology, Centre for African Studies, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris: Sept. 2006-present

2005-2006: Teaching Fellow in Anthropology, Dept. of Social Sciences Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris.

2002-2006: Doctoral candidate and Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Lyon 2.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Three-year doctoral grant, Ministry of Research, France (2002-2005)

Zellidja scholarship (grant for fieldwork in Mali), Académie Française (2001-2002)

Ecole Normale Supérieure Fellowship (1996-2002)

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Anthropology of writing and literacy studies	Literacy practices in Sub-Saharan Africa
Subjectivity and memory in contemporary Africa	Linguistic anthropology
Language policies and educational issues in multilingual settings	Media anthropology
	African cultural studies

PUBLICATIONS

1- Book (forthcoming)

Papiers villageois. Une anthropologie des pratiques de l'écrit au Mali
Under contract with ENS-Editions, Lyon. To appear.

2- Special issue of academic journals

(With Béatrice Fraenkel) Guest-editor of the special issue of *Langage et Société* "Un courant majeur sur l'écrit : les New Literacy Studies" n° 133, Sept. 2010.

(With Eloi Ficquet) Collaboration to the preparation of the special issue of *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*, vol. 2009-4, on "Cultures écrites en Afrique".

3- Refereed journal articles

2010 (With Béatrice Fraenkel) « Introduction. Les New Literacy Studies, jalons historiques et perspectives actuelles », *Langage et Société*, n°133, sept. : 7-24.

2009 « Tenir un cahier dans la région cotonnière du Mali. Support d'écriture et rapport à soi », *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*, vol. 2009-4, special issue « Cultures écrites en Afrique »: 855-885.

2009 (With E. Ficquet) « Cultures de l'écrit en Afrique. Anciens débats, nouveaux objets », *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*, introduction to the thematic issue, *idem*: 751-764.

2008 « Pages choisies. Ethnographie du cahier d'un agriculteur malien » [Selected pages. Ethnography of a peasant notebook from Mali], *Sociologie et sociétés*, special issue on personal archives, vol. XL, n° 2, automne 2008 : 96-108.

2007 (With C. Van den Avenne) « "C'est bambara et français mélangés". Analyser des écrits plurilingues à partir du cas de cahiers villageois recueillis au Mali » ["It is Bamanan and French mixed." Analysing multilingual writings in villagers' notebooks in Mali], *Langage et société*, n°120, juin 2007 : 99-127.

2004 « Pouvoirs de l'écriture » [Review article on the debate between Jack Goody and Brian Street], *Critique*, special issue Frontières de l'anthropologie, tome LX, n°680-681: 77-88.

Accepted, to appear « Le genre du privé. Pratiques d'écriture personnelles et domestiques dans la région cotonnière du Mali » [A gendered approach to the notion of "private". Personal and domestic literacy practices in the cotton-producing region of Mali], *L'Homme*.

3- Editor-reviewed book chapters

Accepted, to appear « Pratiques locales d'écriture magico-médicinales : catégories du savoir, genres graphiques et circulations culturelles » D. Nativel & D. Gary-Tounkara, eds., *La fabrique des savoirs en Afrique subsaharienne dans la longue durée*, Karthala, Paris.

Accepted, to appear « L'écrit par-delà l'école. Destin scolaire, statut de lettré et usages sociaux de l'écrit dans un village malien », R. Bélisle, ed., *L'écrit dans l'apprentissage non formel et informel à l'âge adulte*.

Accepted, to appear (With C. Van den Avenne) « L'opération d'adressage à Mopti. Administrer par l'écrit, administrer l'écrit » [Street Addressing in Mopti, Mali: Writing and managing the city] in B. Fraenkel, ed., *Les écrits de la ville*, Unesco/MSH, Paris.

2011: (With C. Van den Avenne) "Multilingualism in vernacular texts in present-day Mali: Written language repertoires, graphic resources and discursive strategies", in M. Sebba, S. Mahootian, C. Jonsson, eds., *Language mixing and code-switching in writing: approaches to mixed-language written discourse*, Routledge, London.

2010: "Keeping a notebook in rural Mali. Practice, genre, and the materiality of writing", contribution to an edited volume on "Anthropology of writing: understanding textually-mediated worlds", D. Barton and U. Papen, eds., Continuum, London.

2009: (With C. Van den Avenne) « Comment les langues se mélangent-elles à l'écrit ? Pratiques actuelles de deux agriculteurs passés par une école bilingue (franco-bambara) au Mali » [After bilingual school. A study of code-switching in notebooks written by two villagers in rural Mali] in *Languages and Education in Africa. A Comparative and Transdisciplinary Analysis*, B. Brock-Utne & I. Skattum eds., Symposium Books, Oxford: 301-312.

Under review: “Literacy, locality, and mobility. Writing practices and “cultural extraversion” in rural Mali”, in K Graw, S. Schielke, eds. book-project on *Migration at home. Migratory Imaginations and Imaginary Cosmopolitanisms in Africa and beyond*.

4- Encyclopedia entries

2011 “Literacy in Sub-Saharan Africa: 1900-1945”, *World History Encyclopedia ABC-CLIO*, Santa Barbara [to appear in April 2010].

2010 “Writing systems” in *Encyclopedia of African Thought*, F. Abiola Irele and Biodun Jeyifo, eds., Oxford University Press [to appear in January 2010].

2007 (With B. Fraenkel and L. Gani) « Alphabétisation » [Literacy], *Encyclopedia Universalis*.

5-Book Reviews

2008 Review of « Africa’s Hidden Histories: Everyday Literacy and Making the Self » by Karin Barber, ed., *L’Homme*, 187-188: 513-515.

2008 Review of « De l’écrit africain à l’oral. Le phénomène graphique africain », by Simon Battestini, Paris, L’Harmattan, *Journal des africanistes*, 77-2, mars 2008.

2008 (With D. Pontille) Review of « Écrire, compter, mesurer : vers une histoire des rationalités pratiques » by Coquery N., Menant F. & Weber F., eds., *Langage et société*, March 2008.

2006 Review of « La fin de l’exotisme. Essais d’anthropologie critique » by Alban Bensa, *Europe*, n°930: 368-369.

6-Unpublished research report

2008 (With C. Van den Avenne) *L’opération d’adressage à Mopti. Administrer par l’écrit, administrer l’écrit* [Street Addressing in Mopti, Mali: Writing and managing the city], report for the program “Ecologies and Politics of Writing”, funded by National Research Agency (2006-2008), EHESS - TELECOM Paris-Tech. April 2008, 63 p.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1- Invited talks

01/04/2011 « Inscriptions et documentation de soi. Une anthropologie de l’écriture au Mali », intervention au Séminaire d’anthropologie générale, LISST-Centre d’Anthropologie Sociale, Toulouse.

17/09/2009 “Grassroots literacy and emerging genres. ‘Notebook culture’ in a Malian village”, University of Tilburg, Department of Language and Culture Studies Seminar.

11/11/2008 “‘Grassroots literacy’ and postcolonial subjectivities. Writing practices in contemporary rural Mali”, University of Toronto, Department of History.

2- Refereed conference papers

15/09/2009 (With C. Van den Avenne) “Language use in grassroots literacy practices: Code-switching in dream narratives sent to a local radio in Mopti, Mali” MIDP Colloquium 2009 “Multilingualism from Below”, University of Antwerp, 14-16 September 2009.

14/05/2009 “Literacy and media practices: Writing down and broadcasting medicinal recipes at a local radio in Mali”, paper presented at the conference *Creating knowledge in Sub-Saharan Africa*, University of Paris 7/Inalco/University of Lyon, Paris, 13-15 May 2009.

15/11/2008 “Writing the self through the Other’s language? An ethnographic analysis of notebooks kept in rural Mali”, paper presented at the Annual meeting of the African Studies Association, Chicago, 13-16 November 2008.

25/06/2008 “Writing and the Self: An ethnographic approach of personal notebooks kept by villagers around Fana (Mali) / Qu’est-ce qu’écrire pour soi ? Approche ethnographique de cahiers personnels d’agriculteurs près de Fana (Mali)”, 7th Mande Studies Conference, Lisbon, 24-27 June 2008.

24/01/2008 « Qui domestique la pensée sauvage ? Les processus de scripturalisation des savoirs dans des cahiers paysans recueillis au Mali » [Who domesticates the savage mind? Writing down knowledge in villagers’ notebooks in Mali], Conference « Écritures : sur les traces de Jack Goody », ENSSIB, Lyon.

13/06/2007 : (With C. Van den Avenne) « Ecrire en contexte plurilingue. La circulation du courrier des auditeurs à la radio *Jamana* de Mopti (Mali) » [Writing in a multilingual context: Listeners letters at Radio *Jamana*, Mopti, Mali], 5th *Conference of the French Sociolinguistic Network*, University of Amiens.

30/05/2007 « Cahiers paysans en zone Mali-Sud. Une pratique d’écriture et son support » [Villagers’ notebooks in Southern Mali. A writing practice and its support], Conference *Supports et circulations des arts, des représentations et des savoirs en Afrique* by the Centre d’études africaines, EHESS, Paris.

19/06/2006 (With C. Van den Avenne) « Comment les langues se mélangent-elles à l’écrit ? Pratiques actuelles de deux agriculteurs passés par une école bilingue (franco-bambara) au Mali » [After bilingual school. A study of code-switching in notebooks written by two villagers in rural Mali], Conference *Languages and Education in Africa*, University of Oslo, Oslo.

3- Workshops and seminars (selected)

20/10/2009 “The value of literacy in a rural community in Mali: An ethnographic account of one man’s writing practices”, paper presented at the *Literacy Research Discussion Group*, Lancaster Literacy Research Centre, University of Lancaster.

25/03/2009 « Consigner naissances, décès et mariages dans un village malien. La reprise locale d’une injonction à écrire et ses enjeux » [Recording births, deaths and marriages in a Malian village. Coping with administrative demands and creating local genres], Workshop *Effets et enjeux de la mondialisation de l’Etat civil : dialogue entre anthropologie de la parenté et anthropologie de l’écriture*, EHESS, Paris.

13/03/2009 “Literacy, locality and mobility. Grassroots literacy practices and global connections in rural Mali”, paper presented at the international seminar “Migration at home. Migratory Imaginations and Imaginary Cosmopolitanisms in Africa and beyond”, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, 11-13 March 2009.

10/02/2009 « Les *New Literacy Studies* et après : dispositifs d’enquête et expérimentations méthodologiques » [“After the *New Literacy Studies*: modes of investigation and methodological experiments”] opening talk for the Workshop “Enquêter sur l’écrit / Investigating Literacy and Writing Practices”, EHESS, Paris.

25/06/2007 « “Les limites du local”. La notion d’appropriation de l’écriture en question » [“Limits of the local’: what does taking hold of literacy mean ?], Conference *Ecriture & Literacy. The constitution of a field of research in Great Britain and France*, EHESS, Paris.

08/05/2008 “Keeping a notebook in rural Mali: Practice, genre, and the materiality of writing”. Paper presented at the British Association of Applied Linguistics (BAAL) Linguistic Ethnography Forum: ‘Ethnographies of Literacy: an Anglo-French Dialogue’ in Lancaster in May 2008.

CONVENORSHIP

February 2009: Co-convenor of the international Workshop “Enquêter sur l’écrit / Investigating Literacy and Writing Practices”, EHESS, Paris. Chair of the morning session on Current trends in Literacy studies (invited speakers: Laura M. Ahearn, Jan Blommaert).

June 2008: Co-chair (with Anne Doquet) on the panel « Literacy practices in the Mandé area » for the 7th Mandé Studies Conference, Lisbon, June 2008. Call for papers issued, selection of orators, and introduction to Part 2 : “Practicing literacy in a multilingual and multisciplinary environment.”

June 2007: Conference organizer for « *Ecriture & Literacy : la constitution d’un champ scientifique en Grande-Bretagne et en France* », 25 June 2007, EHESS (Paris). Design of the scientific presentation and program, invitation of the speakers, application for funding demands.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROGRAMS

2011-2013 **Project member** *Memorials and remains of medical research in Africa. An anthropology of scientific landscapes, ruins and artefacts* Open Research Area in Europe for the Social Sciences financé par l'ANR pour la partie française (Université Paris VII-IRD)

2010-2013 **Project member** *Europa Finden : Vermessungen des Möglichen in Afrika und im Nahen Osten (In search of Europe: Considering the possible in Africa and the Middle East)*, financé par le Ministère fédéral de l'éducation et de la recherche (Allemagne) et basé au Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO), Berlin (financement pour un an à mi-temps).

2007-2010 **Project co-organiser** *Investigating writing: French anthropology of writing and New Literacy Studies* Scientific exchange between researchers in France and Great-Britain on the epistemology and methodology of research on literacy and writing, funded by the Franco-British Research program Alliance (British Council and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France; budget for the French part: 3500 euros/year).

2007-2008 **Project member** *Ecologies and Politics of Writing* on Writing in urban spaces, based on international comparisons. This program, developed at the EHESS and TELECOM Paris-Tech, is funded by the French National Research Agency (2006-2008; 200 000 euros). My participation involved several presentations and regular attendance to a research group at the EHESS, and two missions to Mopti (*cf.* report under "Publications").

TEACHING

Departmental Duties

	Length of Course	Number of Students
Tutorials	2002-2005: University of Lyon 2 Undergraduate courses in Sociology and Anthropology (64h per annum): Methodology of fieldwork; Writing courses 2009-2010: Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lyon Language course, Bamanan	30 students / 3 years 12 students / 1 year
Lecture Courses	2011-2012: Paris I-Sorbonne & ENS-EHESS "Interdisciplinary and multi-sited fieldwork : migration and engagement [on Senegalese migrants' associations in France]" 2006-2010 : EHESS, Paris "Methodology of field-work research", curriculum in Anthropology (24h per annum+ sessions of collective fieldwork) 2005-2006 : Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris "Anthropology: an introduction" (24h per annum)	11 students/1 year 30 students (Masters students) / 4 years 15 students (Undergraduate and Masters students) / 1 year

Research seminar	2006-2009: EHESS, Paris “Anthropology of writing & Literacy Studies” (24h per annum)	15 postgraduate students (MA and PhD) / 3 years
Department seminars	2006-2010: EHESS & ENS, Paris Seminar of the Centre d'études africaines Seminar on contemporary African arts at the Musée du Quai Branly Readings in Anthropology, ENS: collective readings of recently published books and academic paper	3 years / variable audience 1 year / variable audience 3 year / variable audience

LANGUAGES

French (mother-tongue)

Bamanan (good oral expression, excellent written expression)

English (very good)

Wolof (conversational knowledge)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.

Curriculum Vitae up-dated: 18.01.2012.