

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science and the Arts

Amal Hassan Fadlalla, assistant professor of Afroamerican and African studies, and assistant professor of women's studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, and associate professor of women's studies, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2000	Northwestern University
M.S.	1992	University of Khartoum
B.A.	1986	University of Khartoum

Professional Record:

2003 – present Assistant Professor, Center for Afroamerican and African Studies and Department of Women's Studies, and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Fadlalla is a creative teacher who has successfully taught across the curriculum of her two interdisciplinary units. She offers difficult courses inside and outside of her areas of expertise, some of which involve controversial topics which present particular pedagogical challenges. She has taught one graduate seminar and advised five graduate students across several different disciplines, including the professional health fields. Especially talented with freshmen and with relatively small classes, she has steadily improved her effectiveness in larger-sized classrooms. Students report learning a great deal from her courses and value her interdisciplinary expertise.

Research – Professor Fadlalla's book, *Embodying Honor*, is an original, rich, and insightful ethnography of an understudied minority – Hadendowa women. Her interdisciplinary methodology, which brings a historical and cultural analysis to issues of embodiment, gender, political economy, health, and reproduction, is sophisticated and successful. Her second book project, an ethnographic study of Sudanese immigrants to the U.S., is well underway and extends her analytical reach to address new questions of major importance. Having already made a major contribution to African studies, gender studies, global health, development, and population studies, she is poised to bridge African and African American studies, bringing a fresh perspective to complex questions of subject formation and citizenship.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“The neoliberalization of compassion: Darfur and the mediation of American faith, fear, and terror,” in *New Landscapes of Inequality: Neoliberalism and the Erosion of Democracy in America*, J. Collins, et al. (eds.), School of Advanced Research (SAR) Press, 2008.
Embodying Honor: Fertility, Foreignness, and Regeneration in Eastern Sudan, University of Wisconsin Press, 2007.

“Modest women, deceptive *jinn*: Identity, alterity, and disease in Eastern Sudan,” *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*, 12 (2), 2005.

Service – Professor Fadlalla has made significant service contributions in both of her units and received praise for her dedication to the task at hand. She has taken on large projects that are generally not within the domain of an assistant professor, particularly in the area of programming. She has already begun to assume a leadership role in fostering intellectual community in ways that link African studies and gender studies.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“...*Embodying Honor*... is one of the best books written on Sudan and on this general subject of how relationships of power, lack of it, and social conflict figure in women’s narratives about health, fertility, and reproductive issues. ... This graceful work manages to combine demographics, poetry, and ethnography rather seamlessly, all the while making a major contribution... Her new work on ‘Transcending the Nation...’ will place her in the top echelon of Africans writing about the diaspora.”

Reviewer (B)

“The University of Wisconsin Press has a distinguished history of publishing in African Studies, and Embodying Honor is a major achievement. I do not believe that I have read a book by an anthropologist whose first language was not English that is so beautifully written.”

Reviewer (C)

“Her research is a testament to long, thoughtful, deep field work and to her skill at blending symbolic, material, and historical processes in understanding people’s experiences and perspectives. I do not know of any anthropological research that captures this complexity so richly. ...Fadlalla should be valued at *any* university for the original, deeply rooted contribution she brings to women’s and Africana studies.”

Reviewer (D)

“...[*Embodying Honor*] is an important book that will be taken up by scholars in the fields of gender studies, religion, and medical history and anthropology. One of its signal strengths is its accessibility... I very much look forward to using this book with students because Fadlalla’s status as simultaneously an insider and an outsider, a westerner and a non-westerner, a woman and yet not somehow a Hadendowa woman, will bring to life just how complex fieldwork always is.”

Reviewer (E)

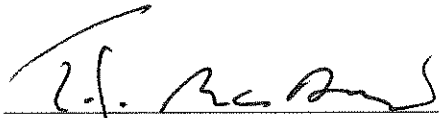
“...Fadlalla’s book certainly would be included in any list of key ethnographies of women in Sudan and in Africa. ...the book is a substantial contribution to new knowledge in its entirety. Additionally, the book is thorough, detailed, rich in empirical data, well written, builds on and engages existing scholarship, and is based on careful fieldwork.”

Reviewer (F)

“...*Embodying Honor* strikes me as an important piece of scholarship, and a distinguished contribution to our understanding of [the] field of gender, power, and cultural practice. ...it is a well crafted and deeply affecting account... Fadlalla has a quite distinguished record. ... I have no reservations in recommending her for promotion to tenure.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Fadlalla is an intellectual leader in her interdisciplinary areas of gender, health, and African studies. She is a deeply committed instructor and her service record is exemplary. The Executive Committee and I recommend that assistant professor Amal Hassan Fadlalla be promoted to the rank of associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, and associate professor of women’s studies, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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