

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan–Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Keith A. Dye, assistant professor of African American studies and history, and assistant professor of college-wide programs, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of African American studies and history, with tenure, and associate professor of college-wide programs, with tenure, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2007	University of Toledo, Toledo, OH
M.A.	1998	University of Detroit Mercy, Detroit, MI
B.A.	1978	University of Detroit, Detroit, MI

Professional Record:

2015-present	Assistant Professor, African American Studies and Department of Social Sciences, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2015-present	Assistant Professor, College-Wide Programs, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2014-2007	Special Lecturer, Oakland University, Rochester, MI
2011-2014	Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Africana Studies, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
2008-2014	Adjunct Lecturer, Department of History, University of Detroit Mercy, Detroit, MI

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Dye is rated excellent in teaching. Since being hired, he has offered ten different courses, the most course preparations of any assistant professor during the past 25 years in either the African/African American Studies program or the history discipline. These classes cover a wide range of subjects, including United States history, African American history, African history, African American Studies, and Detroit history. Professor Dye began to incorporate online teaching into his repertoire before the pandemic and he now has several courses that can be deployed in either an on-campus or online format.

Professor Dye bases his courses on an effective mix of lectures, close primary source document analysis, and discussion. He creates a welcoming environment for students, urging them to deeply explore and process the material at hand. Professor Dye also sets high standards for his students, particularly when it comes to writing, analysis, and synthesis. His courses always require significant formal writing and he is a strong advocate of using the Writing Center to improve student skills in this area. Professor Dye's evaluations are strong with an average score across all his courses of 4.5 on a 5.0 scale. The qualitative section of the evaluations are particularly revealing of his successes in building trusting relationships and many students note how grateful they feel to have learned about history not included in their previous education.

Research: Professor Dye is rated excellent in research. His work is cutting edge. Drawing on broader currents in both post-colonial studies and critical race theory, his research represents a very rare combination of African American and African history presented within the context of International Relations. More specifically, his recent book examines the efforts by the American Negro Leadership Conference on Africa (ANLCA) to mediate the Nigerian/Biafran Civil War within the broader global context of the Cold War and, as such, represents a significant contribution to African Diaspora studies, as well as the history of independent non-state actors in foreign relations.

His future research agenda is no less promising and timely. Returning to the subject of his dissertation, but accessing newly released archival materials, he proposes to assess the current discourse on African American reparations in the United States through the prism of the Black Power movement of the 1960s, when this issue was previously raised. In particular, his proposed monograph will focus on the National Black Economic Conference held in Detroit in 1969 about which he has already published an initial article. In short, his earlier productivity, his more recent publications since his hire, and his prospective agenda suggest a very promising future as a scholar.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Keith Dye, *The Diplomacy of Theodore Brown and the Nigeria-Biafra Civil War: Negotiating a Destiny* (New York: Peter Lang Press, 2020).

Keith Dye, "U. S. Diplomacy and the American Negro Leadership Conference on Africa: Retreat and Engagement on Pre-Civil War Nigeria," *The International Journal of African Historical Studies*, vol. 53:1 (2020) pp. 195-211.

Keith Dye, "The Debate on Reparations Before the Debate on Reparations at the National Black Economic Development Conference in Detroit, 1969," *The Michigan Historical Review*, vol. 46:2 (Fall 2020) pp. 175-186.

Service: Professor Dye is rated excellent in service. He attends to twice the normal service obligations due to his dual appointment. Within the college, he has served on the Curriculum Committee, the Student Retention and Success Committee, the Academic Integrity Board, and most recently, as parliamentarian of the CASL Executive Committee. At the university level, he helped assist non-traditional students through his service on the advisory board of SOAR, as well as through his annual contributions to the Black Celebratory and the Soul of Success retreat. His service to the broader academic and metropolitan communities is also noteworthy. He has contributed book reviews to a series of distinguished academic journals, while also reviewing manuscripts for Wayne State University Press, where he currently serves on that press's Great Lakes Advisory Board. Within the Detroit metropolitan community, he has offered lectures, as well as being interviewed for various media programs on subjects ranging from African American reparations to the Black Lives Matter movement. He was also recently appointed to the City of Detroit Historic Designation Advisory Board.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dye's well researched book...is a welcome addition to the growing scholarship on African American and African cooperation, more broadly, but more specifically adds to the

historiography of African American influence and engagement with Africa in the foreign policy realm.”

Reviewer B: “*Negotiating a Destiny*...joins a central new salient in the field of U.S. international history...[and] places Professor Dye’s careful archival research in the middle of the leading edge of research in the field. He also contributes original knowledge to the continuing effort to understand the full shape of Black internationalism, a key element in the fields of African American history and African history.”

Reviewer C: “Professor Dye has carved an important niche in the field by targeting the role of African Americans in this conflict, a role which will continue to have implications for U.S. foreign policy. [He] is a rising star in the field and I recommend him without reservation.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Dye’s research into the American Negro Leadership Conference on Africa (ANLCA) is as unique as it is important because of how it takes up the call that many scholars of Black internationalism have identified as a weak spot in analyses of African American history...I am confident that [he will] continue making significant contributions to the profession and his specific fields of study as he progresses in his career.”

Reviewer E: “Dye’s work and growing stature as a scholar in the field of Black Power Studies stands among the most impressive that I have seen in my twenty years in the profession. [His scholarship] on the activities of black leaders on issues relating to Nigeria and their involvement in U.S. foreign affairs puts him in the vanguard of trends in African American scholarship...[and] has made a major contribution to...scholarship on the intersections of U.S., African American, and African encounters during the decolonization era.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Dye is a productive scholar with an ambitious research agenda who is making a significant contribution to African American and African Diasporic studies. He is a dedicated teacher and mentor who builds trust with his students while maintaining high expectations. He is a conscientious professional, who consistently contributes both internal and external service. It is with the support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee that I recommend Keith A. Dye for promotion to associate professor of African American studies and history, with tenure, and associate professor of college-wide programs, with tenure, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.



Martin J. Hershock, Dean
Dean, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



Domenico Grasso, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

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