



The African Multiple Cluster Gender and Diversity Office presents an ICDL Lecture by

Speaker: Dr. Christabel Aba Sam

Beyond the Tunes: Masculine Representations, Trends and Insights from Contemporary Ghanaian Afrobeats

Thursday, 5 December 2024, 2-4pm, CEST

Cluster Knowledge Lab
Room S58, RW II
University of Bayreuth, Germany

Hybrid (on-site live and virtual presence via ZOOM)

Zoom Link: <https://uni-bayreuth.zoom.us/>

Meeting ID: 668 1584 8399

Passcode: 897688

Abstract:

The burgeoning literature on African masculinities, particularly within the Ghanaian literary arts landscape, has rarely focused on Afrobeats. Due to the explosive popularity and androcentric nature of Ghanaian Afrobeats, it is crucial to examine how the sung tale functions as a site for theorising masculinities. Drawing on an eclectic approach and using selected compositions of Ghanaian Afrobeats, this paper explores the ways in which men are represented in the selected songs. The paper demonstrates that these manifestations are pertinent for theorising masculinities, especially as it reveals the social politics of being in specific contexts. The paper contributes to our understanding of aesthetic communication within sonic spaces and also sheds light on how the sung tale serves as an intertextual coda for thinking masculinity.

Dr. Christine Vogt-William

Director of the GDO will chair the event

Dr. Christabel Aba Sam



Christabel Aba Sam is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, where she teaches Gender and Writing, Principles of Prose Fiction, Studies in Literature and Society, and Research Methods to both undergraduate and graduate students. She holds a PhD in Literary Studies, an MPhil in English, and a B. (Ed) Arts (English Option) degree from the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. Dr. Sam is a fellow of the African Multiple Cluster of Excellence at both the African Cluster Centre, University of Lagos, Nigeria, and the University of Bayreuth in Germany. Her research interests include Masculinity Studies, Postcolonial Futures, Spatial Politics, and the Song Tale. Dr. Sam has published articles in prestigious journals including Research in African Literatures, Cogent Arts and Humanities, Critical African Studies, and African Literature Association.