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Common grounds: urban spaces, everyday religious encounters, and the dynamics and techniques of coexistence in Madina, Accra (1959-Present)
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Curriculum Vitae

J. Fiifi Fosu-Ankrah is currently employed as an Assistant Research Fellow in History at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree in History with Study of Religions and an MPhil in African Studies, both from the University of Ghana. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon. In addition to his formal academic qualifications, he has received supplementary training in African Diaspora Studies as well as in Conflict and Peace Studies.

From 2002 to 2005, he pursued his pre-university education at the Obiri Yeboah Senior Secondary School at Assin Fosu in the Central Region of Ghana, for his Senior Secondary School Certificate. He began his undergraduate studies at the University of Ghana in 2007, completing his degree in 2011. He returned to the same institution for his MPhil in African Studies (History option) in 2012, which he completed in 2015.

In March 2021, he was admitted as a PhD Researcher (Candidate) in Social and Cultural History at the African Studies Centre, Leiden University, under the Graduate Programme in African Studies (GPAS). His doctoral research forms part of the Madina Project, a multi-year study funded by the Spinoza Prize awarded to Professor Birgit Meyer by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). From 2018 to 2021, before officially beginning his PhD, he worked as a Junior Research Fellow on the same project. During this period, he also held the position of Visiting Junior Research Fellow at the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University, where he collaborated in the project Religious Matters in an Entangled World.

In 2022, he commenced studies at Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon, where he earned his MA in Ministry in 2023. In 2023, he was admitted to Connexion for ministerial training and formation as part of his preparation for ordination in the Methodist Church Ghana.

Fiifi Fosu-Ankrah has significant teaching and research experience. Between 2014 and 2017, he served as a Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana. From 2013 to 2017, he also taught in the University of Ghana's Distance and Continuing Education programme, as well as in its International Office Programmes. Since 2024, he has held the position of Assistant Research Fellow in History at the Institute of African Studies, where he contributes to both undergraduate and graduate teaching and research activities.

His research interests are interdisciplinary and eclectic, spanning history of everyday social encounters in urban spaces, interreligious coexistence, history of conflict and diplomacy, migration and border studies, the social history of public health, student activism, ethnic history and politics, migration and the politics of belonging, histories of political violence; African indigenous political, religious, and social institutions; and African environmental and cultural history more broadly.