Stanford



Ayana Omilade Flewellen

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Ayana Omilade Flewellen (they/she) is a Black Feminist, an archaeologist, an artist scholar, and a storyteller. As a scholar of anthropology and African and African Diaspora Studies, Flewellen's intellectual genealogy is shaped by critical theory rooted in Black feminist epistemology and pedagogy. This epistemological backdrop not only constructs the way they design, conduct, and produce their scholarship but acts as foundational to how she advocates for greater diversity within the field of archaeology and within the broader scope of academia. Flewellen is the co-founder and current Board Chair of the Society of Black Archaeologists and sits on the Board of Diving With A Purpose. In July 2022, they joined the Department of Anthropology at Stanford University as an Assistant Professor. Her research and teaching interests address Black Feminist Theory, historical archaeology, memory, maritime heritage conservation, public and community-engaged archaeology, processes of identity formations, and representations of slavery and its afterlives. Flewellen has been featured in National Geographic, Science Magazine, PBS, and CNN; and regularly presents her work at institutions including The National Museum for Women in the Arts.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- "The Will to Adorn": An Anthropology of Dress: AFRICAAM 121B, ANTHRO 121B, ANTHRO 221B, FEMGEN 121B (Aut)
- Contemporary Debates in Archaeological Thought: ANTHRO 303A (Win)
- Introduction to Archaeology: ANTHRO 3, ARCHLGY 1 (Aut)
- Women of Color Feminisms: ANTHRO 314, FEMGEN 314A (Win)

2024-25

- Introduction to Archaeology: ANTHRO 3, ARCHLGY 1 (Aut)
- Proposal Writing Seminar in Archaeology: ANTHRO 308A (Spr)
- Women of Color Feminisms: ANTHRO 314, FEMGEN 314A (Spr)

2023-24

- "The Will to Adorn": An Anthropology of Dress: AFRICAAM 121B, ANTHRO 121B, ANTHRO 221B, ARCHLGY 121B, ARCHLGY 221B (Spr)
- Proposal Writing Seminar in Archaeology: ANTHRO 308A (Spr)

- The Archaeology of Africa and African Diaspora History and Culture: ANTHRO 137A, ANTHRO 237A, ARCHLGY 137A, ARCHLGY 237A (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Co-Advisor (AC)

Jillian Lyles

Doctoral (Program)

Eva Middleton, Cecelia Morrow

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **The Biophysical Afterlife of Slavery Signaled through Coral Architectural Stones at Heritage Sites on St. Croix** *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*
  Flewellen, A.
  2024; 89 (4): 591-607
- **Diving With a Purpose Restoring Our Oceans and Preserving Our Heritage through Citizen Science and Advocacy** *CITIZEN SCIENCE IN MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY*
  Denson, E. C., Flewellen, A., Franklin, E., Sadiki, K., Haigler, J. V.
  edited by Jones, J. E., Scott-Ireton, D. A., Raupp, J. T.
  2023: 90-114
- **"The Future of Archaeology Is Antiracist": Archaeology in the Time of Black Lives Matter** *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*
  Flewellen, A., Dunnavant, J. P., Odewale, A., Jones, A., Wolde-Michael, T., Crossland, Z., Franklin, M.
  2021; 86 (2): 224-243