

Dr Victoria Olaide Omotoso

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PROFILE

Born in London, I moved to South Africa at the age of nine with my missionary parents, a journey that shaped my identity as a "third-culture kid." This unique upbringing fostered a deep appreciation for diverse cultures and perspectives, fueling my passion for music, storytelling, and the interplay between art and society.

With a first degree in Music and Theology, I have developed a strong foundation in both creative and analytical disciplines. Over time, my academic interests have evolved to include film and media studies, culminating in research that bridges my experiences in South African and British cultures. Currently, my work focuses on cross-cultural audience responses to depictions of Jesus in *The Lumo Project: The Gospel of Mark* (2014) and *Son of Man* (2006), exploring how cultural contexts shape perceptions of these narratives.

OCCUPATION

Lecturer in MA Programme, Global Media Practice, University of Southampton.

Visiting Lecturer, Sarum College.

Tutor in MA Programme, Race and the Bible, London School of Theology.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cross-cultural audience reception of the figure of Jesus in film; Contextual Studies; Reception History; Bible and Film; Introduction to Biblical History/New Testament; Whiteness/Racial Discourse through film; World Christianity; Black Theology; Post-colonial thought; Practical Theology; Transformative ministry.

EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Music and Theology and Religious Studies, the University of Leeds (2014).

MA Biblical Studies, Kings' College London (2016).

LTHE (Learning and Teaching in Higher Education) Level 1 and 2, (2018).

PhD, Doctor of Philosophy, Theology, University of Exeter (2021).

EXPERIENCE

Media Researcher, Ancient of Days Broadcasting Network; Durban, South Africa — 2013-2017.

Media researcher for "Get to Know, Know to Get". A series of biblical shorts for Ancient of Days Broadcasting Network (2013).

Post-production member, *The Lumo Project*, London, England — 2014-2015.

Post-production member of *The Lumo Project* (2014) for TV appearances discussing theological implications of the film.

Teacher, Widening Participation; Exeter, England — 2017-2020.
Designed and taught sessions for A-levels students.

Module Auditor, University of Exeter; Exeter, England — 2017

Audited and shadowed Theology Undergraduate module.

Post-graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Exeter, England — 2020-2021.

Associate Tutor, Queens Foundation Centre of Black Theology — 2022.

Theological Consultant, Angel Studios — 2022.

Advisor to Archbishop of Canterbury's Ministry of Reconciliation — 2022.

SKILLS

Office management and administration skills.

Leadership, organising, public speaking.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Head Girl, Victory Christian Academy (2009).

Student Ambassador, People to People (2009).

Sound Engineer, Leeds Backstage Society (2012-2014).

Tour Guide, University of Leeds (2012-2014).

Student Ambassador, University of Leeds (2012-2014).

Student Representative, University of Leeds (2013-2014).

Student Leader, KCU, Kings' College London (2016).

Conference Committee, University of Exeter (2017-2020).

Guest Speaker RD&E Podcast, 'Being a BAME Researcher' Doctoral College, University of Exeter (2020).

PhD Thesis in Special Collections Library at Lambeth Palace (2021).

Contributor to Women Alive magazine (present).

Contributor to Premier Christianity magazine (present).

Contributor to Guidelines (present).

Leadership and Social Action Team at St. Nicks Church, Bristol (present).

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Presenter at the Bible and Critical Theory Seminar — 2017.

Presenter of Humanities Conference, University of Exeter — 2017-2019.

Committee Member and Presenter of South West Theology and Religion Post-Graduate Conference, University of Exeter — 2017-2019.

Humanities Conference Award for Best Speaker, University of Exeter — 2019.

Presenter at Society of the Study of Theology Conference, University of Coventry — 2019.

Presenter at the Society of Biblical Literature Conference, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy — 2019.

Presenter at Dismantling Whiteness Symposium, Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture, University of Oxford — 2021.

Presenter at Bible, Critical Theory, and Reception Symposiarch — 2021.

Panelist at the Scholars at the Peripheries International Conference — 2021.

Invited speaker at Queens' Foundation — 2021.

Panelist on Decolonizing Education, Student Christian Movement — 2021.

Freeda Magazine Guest, 'Lupus and Me' — 2021.

Invited Speaker, Trinity College Bristol —2023.

Invited Speaker, Decolonising Theological Education, University of Exeter — 2022.

Attendee at the Archbishop of Canterbury's Keynote Lecture —2022.

Workshop for Decolonizing Methods, University of Exeter — 2022.

Panelist at Queens' Foundation, Christian Adult Learning in Fresh Perspective — 2022.

Panelist at the Society for the Study of Theology, World Christianity and Epistemic Justice —2023.

Decolonising Consultant for QEH School, Bristol—2023.

Presenter at Forever Africa Conference and Events (FACE) research day,
University of Bristol — 2023.

Speaker at St. Nicks' Summer Theology School —2023

Speaker at the Centre for Reception History of the Bible —2023.

Presenter at the Society for the Study of Theology —2024.

Team of Racial Justice Unit for Church of England —Present.

MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Biblical Literature.

Study for the Study of Theology.

PUBLICATIONS

'Restorative Justice in the Wake of Black Lives Matter'. (2020)

Available from: <https://religioninpublic.com/2020/06/26/restorative-justice-in-the-bible-in-the-wake-of-black-lives-matter/>

'Being a BAME Researcher with Victoria Omotoso.'(2020)

Available from: <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/being-a-bame-researcher-with-victoria-omotoso/id1514772303?i=1000476751148>

'Doing Interdisciplinary Research'. (2021)

Available from: <https://blogs.exeter.ac.uk/doctorscollege/2021/06/07/doing-interdisciplinary-research/>

'Why do Christians think Jesus was white?' (2021)

Available from: <https://www.womanalive.co.uk/opinion/why-do-christians-think-jesus-was-, 4wzKfh8jay3SmJu2n0>

'Decolonising Research Series: Interview with Dr Victoria Omotoso'. (2022)

Available from: <https://rdandtheinbetweens.podbean.com/e/decolonising-research-series-interview-with-dr-victoria-omotoso/>

'Jesus wasn't white, but many Black Christians still see him that way. It has to change'. (2023)

Available form: <https://www.premierchristianity.com/opinion/jesus-wasnt-white-but-many-black-christians-still-see-him-that-way-it-has-to-change/15741.article>

Omotoso, V. (2024). What's In A Culture? A Critical Examination of Culture and Faith Through a Cinematic Lens of *Son of Man* (2006). *Black Theology*, 22(1), 51–68. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14769948.2024.2318101>

Omotoso, V.O. (2024) 'Reading 1 Timothy 2:15 through the Lens of Black Pregnancy and Womanist Care', in *Pregnancy and Birth: Critical Theological Perceptions*, edited by Karen O'Donnell and Claire Williams. London: SCM Press.

IN PROGRESS FOR PUBLICATION

Imag(in)ing Jesus in the Universal or Particular: Cross-Cultural Bible Film Reception of The Lumo Project: The Gospel of Mark (2014) and Son of Man (2006), Bloomsbury 2025.

Guidelines, Faith and Culture, BRF 2025.

Contributor to *Holistic Theology for Modern Black/African Church*, Wipf and Stock 2025.

Guidelines, Lamentations, BRF 2025.

The Bible in Popular Culture, BRF 2026.

REFERENCES

I will be happy to provide references upon request.