

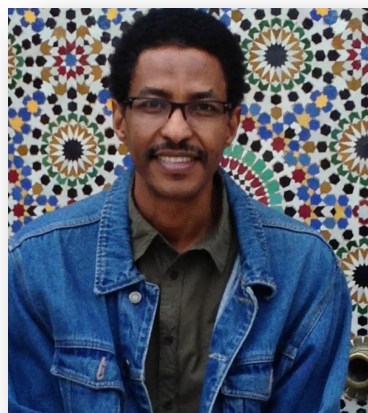
What Exactly is Race Got to do With Maryland?

Intersecting Race, Displacement, Identity and the Pleasure of
(Second) Language Learning

A virtual session
sponsored by the
TESOL program

Tuesday
November 15
4:30-5:30 PM
Eastern US Time

Free registration by
e-mail to
TESOL@umbc.edu



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Ottawa

The main question I am asking in this presentation is: How and why race plays a role in language learning (first or second language)? To answer this question, I am advancing three arguments. First, race works exactly like a language. That is, race has its own grammar, syntax, morphology and phonology. Second, indeed race is language which we speak on a daily basis. If this is the case, third, then race is directly related to (second) language learning. Empirically I will show how a group of Black (second) language learners speak Blackness; that is, how Blackness influences their language acquisition. Here we encounter the 'language of race,' the discovery of their own Blackness, and the process of becoming Black. Language learning, I conclude, is not a haphazard process, but a purposeful and a political process.

Dr. Awad Ibrahim is an award-winning author and a Professor at the Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa. He is a Curriculum Theorist with special interest in applied linguistics, cultural studies, Hip-Hop, youth and Black popular culture, philosophy and sociology of education, social justice, diasporic and continental African identities, and ethnography. He has researched and published widely in these areas. He is the Air Canada Endowed Professor in Anti-Racism.