

UMAR MOULTA-ALI, PH.D.

Dr. Umar Moulta-Ali is a proud alumnus of the State University of New York at Buffalo (UB) where he graduated from the Department of Sociology through the Advanced Honors Program with Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa distinctions. As a Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Scholar at UB in 2002, Umar embarked on a study abroad program to the University of Cape Town, South Africa and conducted a study on college student attitudes and behaviors towards the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The results culminated into a series of recommendations that assisted campus-based NGOs with improving strategies to increase HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention among a population with escalating rates of infection.

Inspired by his travels throughout Southern Africa, Umar went on to complete his Masters and Doctoral degrees at The Ohio State University where his research focused on the effects of civil protest on democratization in sub-Saharan Africa and the influence of natural resource revenues on global civil conflict. Umar additionally taught courses examining global social change with a specific focus on the effects of urbanization, public health, and ethnic competition on economic development.

As a graduate student, Umar further expanded his research experience as a consultant on a federally-funded initiative exploring the effects of faith-based programs on preventing risky behavior among adolescents and provided design guidance for a variety of departmental quantitative research projects. Umar is also the recipient of several awards including the Department of Education Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship and the National Science Foundation AGEP/SBES Summer Research Assistantship.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Umar currently resides in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and was recently appointed as a US Presidential Management Fellow at the Internal Revenue Service. As a staff Social Scientist, Umar conducts operational assessments of federal electronic services affecting over 70 million taxpayers and develops research studies exploring taxpayer behavior. Umar credits the Ronald E. McNair program with inspiring him to pursue his Ph.D. and plans to focus his career on applying sociological research to the management of public policy programs.