



Oral History Interview with: Dr. Isidore Lobnibe

Interviewee: Dr. Isidore Lobnibe

Date: 2016, October 31st

Place of Interview: Bellamy Hall

Name of Interviews: Erika Dyer, Katilyn Kirkman, Alex Eidler

Transcript-

Erika Dyer: Professor do you want to introduce yourself?

Dr. Isidore Lobnibe: Yeah, my name is Isidore Lobnibe. I'm an Anthropologist, Professor of Cultural Anthropology, here [Western Oregon University].

ED: Professor, when did you start working at Western?

IL: 2007. September 2007.

ED: And what, made you work here?

IL: First of all, I was looking for a job and when I was just finishing my degree, doctorate at the University of Illinois. So, I saw the ad looking for a professor. I didn't know much about Western, so I did apply and it turned out to be a very good fit.

ED: Nice, have you had different positions here and if so what were they?

IL: Different positions in terms of what?

ED: I guess different jobs. Like what you were teaching, have you only taught Anthropology?

IL: Yes.

Alex Eidler: What is the basis for your job here at Western?

IL: The basis, I don't understand what you mean by the basis. Are you asking what my job entails?

AE: Yes.

IL: I do [teach] Anthropology courses and do advising.

AE: Okay, would you give us examples of the kind of work you do?

IL: Well, I'm a classroom instructor. I teach students introductory level classes and upper division classes. I also supervise teaching projects and I also do advisement on their career projector for what they need to do to graduate. And I do service as part of my job. I contribute to other jobs that have to do with manage instructions in service to the institution and sometimes in service to the community, the larger community in Western.

AE: Okay, and then what is the typical workday like for you?

IL: Well just like today, you get up and prepare to contribute school for your classes. Perhaps from the morning and as a professor you don't actually have weekends off or spare time as you know. You have to keep receiving and reacting to students on stands and correspondences. So, the typical day, it's filled with works, but it varies depending on your class schedule whether you are teaching, whether you are loaded in the morning section, afternoon or in the evening session. But what I always look forward to is Thursday because by Friday at least I can go home and work and write to catch up.

AE: Okay.

Katilyn Kirkman: And what is the most interesting experience you have had while working here at Western?

IL: Well that is interacting with students in the classroom setting and teaching them about Africa; which constitutes the core aspect of my instructional content. So [pause] yeah.

AE: So what are your plans and goals now and for the future.

IL: Well to continue to teach and research well why would I look to retire it's too early now sometime away from now but my goals essentially are to continue to improve upon my teaching and research and to contribute to services to community.

AE: Is there anything you'd like to add to about your experiences here?

IL: Okay, yeah.

ED: Did you always think professor that you would be an Anthropology teacher...?

IL: Pardon me?

ED: Did you always like know you wanted to be an Anthropology teacher or...?

IL: Well sometimes you never know you can't always predict what your career trajectory will always be but I study stud[ied] as a historian you know and then [was] brought into Anthropology and then as you [know] Anthropology and history are closely related.