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Employment

- 09/16 – Associate Professor, English Department, Clark University
E. Franklin Frazier Chair of African American Literature, Theory, and Culture
Director, Africana Studies Concentration
Affiliate with Women’s and Gender Studies, Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies
- 9/09 – 9/16 Assistant Professor, English Department, Clark University
E. Franklin Frazier Chair of African American Literature, Theory, and Culture
Director, Africana Studies Concentration
Affiliate with Women’s and Gender Studies, Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies
- 9/08 - 6/09 Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Critical International Studies, Emory University
- 9/06 – 6/08 Visiting Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies and English Departments, Emory University

Professional Memberships

Modern Language Association, Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora, Caribbean Studies Association, International Health Humanities Network, Malawi Health Humanities Network, Phi Beta Kappa Society

SCHOLARSHIP

PUBLICATIONS

Books (1 published; 3 in progress)

Medicine and Ethics in Black Women’s Speculative Fiction (204 pages). Palgrave MacMillan, 2015.
This book explores how black women writers of speculative fiction engage issues related to medical ethics and the differential treatment of raced, sexed, and gendered bodies.

In Progress: “Health Humanities and Race in Global Context” (ca. 500,000 pages)
Editor-in-Chief for this edited reference text that describes and analyzes health disparity, stigma, and poverty as it centers on marginalized groups’ racial, ethnic, tribal, and caste identifications via a health humanities lens. Under contract with Palgrave MacMillan.

In Progress: “Becoming American: Eugenics, Race, Gender and Narratives of Belonging 1900-1935” (ca. 200 pages; approximately 20% completed).

An exploration of how the intersections of racial and gendered thinking informed eugenic theory and political action in early 20th century constructions of American identity and citizenship status.

In Progress: “Black Speculation and the African American Literary Tradition” (ca. 250 pages, approximately 25% completed).

This book challenges the strong realist tradition within the African American literary canon and revises the traditional theoretical frameworks by which African American literature has been commonly understood, engaging speculation as both genre and theoretical approach.

Articles and Book Chapters (10: 2 in progress)

PUBLISHED (8):

“Structural Competency and African Contexts: A Mixed Methodological Approach to Interrogating Strategies for Greater Health Equity” in *Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education and Societal Contexts: International and Interdisciplinary Approaches*, New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2018: 189-210.

“Octavia Butler” entry for Oxford Bibliographies in African American Studies. Oxford University Press. Published online at OUP Bibliographies. 20 October, 2017.

“Speculative Fiction” entry for Oxford Bibliographies in African American Studies. Oxford University Press. Published online at OUP Bibliographies. 6 June 2016.

“Africana Women’s Science Fiction and Narrative Medicine: Difference, Ethics, and Empathy.” In *Afrofuturism 2.0*. Reynaldo Anderson and Charles Jones, eds. Lexington Books. Print (20 pages).

“Untangling Pathology: Sex, Social Responsibility, and the Black Female Youth in Octavia Butler’s *Fledgling*.” In *Black Female Sexualities*. Trimiko Melancon and Joanne Braxton, eds. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2015: 57-69. Print (13 pages).

“‘What’s My Name?:’ Reading Rihanna’s Autobiographical Acts.” In *Rihanna: Barbados World-Girl in Global Popular Culture*. Hilary McD. Beckles and Heather D. Russell, eds. Jamaica: University of West Indies Press, 2015: 96-118. Print (22 pages).

“On the Real: Agency, Abuse, and Sexualized Violence in Rihanna’s ‘Russian Roulette.’” *African American Review* 46;1 (2013): 71-86. Print (15 pages).

“African Brazilian Science Fiction: Aline França’s *A Mulher de Aleduma*.” *Obsidian: Literature in the African Diaspora*. 13.1 (2012): 15-36. Print (21 pages).

ARTICLES IN PROGRESS (2):

“Hearts of Darkness: Africa in the Medical Imaginary” (ca. 25 typescript pages)

“Sapphire’s *PUSH* as an Urban Trauma Narrative” (ca. 25 typescript pages).

Review Essays and Reviews (3)

Speculative Blackness: The Future of Race in Science Fiction by Andre Carrington. *New Literary History* online reviews. 2017. Online.

Each Hour Redeem: Time and Justice in African American Literature by Daylanne English. *MELUS* Fall 2013: 241-243. Print (3 pages).

Eroticism, Spirituality, and Resistance in Black Women’s Writings by Donna Aza Weir-Soley. *MELUS* Fall 2010: 234-236. Print (3 pages).

Encyclopedia Entries (5)

“Historical Fiction,” (pp.778-781); “Linda Beatrice Brown,” (p. 202); “Grace F. Edwards,” (p. 481); “Sandra Jackson-Opoku,” (pp. 838-839); “Phyllis Alesia Perry,” (p. 1280).

In *The Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2005. Print.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS DELIVERED (19)

Invited Presenter: “Race, Ethnicity, Color, Caste and the Health Humanities in Global Context” at Duke University, Health Humanities Lab Workshop “Future Trends in Health Humanities Publishing and Pedagogy.” March 22-23, 2018.

Invited Presenter: “Teaching Health Humanities in the Literature Classroom” Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes Medical Humanities Network Conference, May 18-20, 2017, University of Miami
Panel Chair, “Speculative Fiction, Digital Griot, and AfroFuturism” at the College Language Association Conference, April 7-9, 2016. Houston, TX.

“Reading Rihanna’s Autobiographical Acts” Caribbean Studies Association Conference, May 25-29, 2015. New Orleans, LA.

Invited Lecture: “Africa in the Public Imagination: Stereotypes, Sickness, and Saviors” Sankofa Lecture Series, February 2015. Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester, MA.

Invited Lecture: “Militarized Rape, Female Circumcision, and the Limits of Communal Health in Nnedi Okorafor’s *Who Fears Death*” Arcadia University Africana Studies Collective Lecture Series. October 29, 2014. Arcadia University, Philadelphia, PA.

“The Trauma of Militarized Rape: Reconceptualizing Communal Health in Nnedi Okorafor’s *Who Fears Death*” International Health Humanities Network Conference. Sept. 5-7, 2014 University of Nottingham, Nottingham, U.K.

“Narrative Ethics and the Intersectional Body.” 2014 International Conference on Narrative. March 27-29, 2014. MIT, Cambridge, MA.

“Africana Women’s Speculative Fiction and the Health Humanities: Toward an ethic of relational empathy.” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora. Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 2013. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

“Sex and the State: Social Responsibility and the Black Female Youth in Octavia Butler’s *Fledgling*.” Northeast Modern Language Association. March 21-24, 2013. Boston, MA.

“Teen Girls’ Sexuality and Social Responsibility in Black Women’s Speculative Fiction.” Modern Language Association. January 3-6, 2013. Boston, MA.

“Theorizing Difference: Literary Lessons on Social Relations in Science Fiction” on the panel *An Interdisciplinary Panel and Workshop on Science Fiction Studies*. Hawaii University International Conference on Arts & Humanities. January 8-10, 2012. Honolulu, Hawaii.

“Rihanna’s ‘Russian Roulette:’ Agency, Abuse, and the Politics of Reading Caribbean Women’s Sexuality.” Caribbean Studies Association. May 25, 2010. Bridgetown, Barbados.

“Toward a Topology of Difference: Multiply Liminal Discourse as Interpretive Framework for Reading Alice Walker’s *The Temple of My Familiar*.” Emory University Department of Women’s Studies Research Symposium. Oct. 25, 2007.

“Subjectivity, Space and Spirituality: Towards a New Theory of Diaspora in Alice Walker’s *The Temple of My Familiar*.” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora. October 9-12, 2007. Bridgetown, Barbados.

“Black Women Writers in the Speculative Fiction Tradition: The Convergence of Science and Spirituality in the works of Selected Black Women Writers.” Science Fiction Researchers Association. June 22-June 25, 2006. White Plains, NY.

“The Spirit of Breaking the Rules: Spirituality, Technology, and Genre Subversion in Nalo Hopkinson’s *Brown Girl in the Ring*.” The Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars 10th Anniversary Annual Conference. May 30-June 3, 2006. Hollywood, FL.

“The Hip Hop Generation: Assuming the Mantle of Leadership” National Conference on Diversity, Race & Learning, May 3, 2005. Columbus, OH.

“Collaborative Partnerships Servicing Urban Youths” on behalf of the Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing. December 6, 2004. Columbus, OH.

“Francophone Women Writers and the Politics of the Body as an Expression of Identity” African Studies Association Conference, November 11-14, 2004. New Orleans, LA.

“Claim the Culture, Reject the Race: Race, Culture and Identity in Brazilian Literature” Dept. of English Summer Fellowship Presentation, October 14, 2004, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

“No Ordinary Love: Relationships among the Living and the Dead in Toni Morrison’s Love Trilogy” American Literature Association Conference, May 26-30, 2004. San Francisco, CA.

Languages:

Spanish: Reading

Brazilian Portuguese: Speaking, Reading, Writing

TEACHING

CLARK UNIVERSITY

“Black Feminist/Womanist Theory”

A Women’s & Gender Studies required theory course exploring the relation of the intellectual and theoretical exercise to the lived, material reality of intersecting identities and interlocking modes of oppression through the theorizing of black women thinkers.

“‘Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired:’ Medicine and Ethics in Black Women’s Fiction”

An advanced seminar exploring narratives of health, wellness, and ethics in works by black women writers through the theoretical approach of the medical humanities.

“Facing Race: From Dialogue to Social Action”

A Higgins School for the Humanities team-taught collaborative course with Education and English. In response to recent events on Clark’s campus and the realities facing historically white institutions, the course is designed to develop a critical consciousness and interrogation of race and racial injustice.

“Medical Ethics in Science Fiction”

A first-year seminar exploring the ethical, legal, and social implications of medical science as interrogated through science fiction texts.

“In Sickness and In Health: Narrative and the Art of Healing”

A Higgins School for the Humanities team-taught collaborative course with Psychology and English. Designed to explore the power of narrative within the discourses of illness and wellness and the role narrative plays in the healing process.

“Black Political Literary Movements”

Examines the politics and culture of the two major black literary and cultural movements of the 20th Century, The Harlem Renaissance (or the New Negro Movement) of the 20s and 30s and the Black Arts Movement of the 60s and 70s.

“Introduction to Literature: Censorship and Banned Books”

Undergraduate literature and composition course designed to fulfill the verbal expression requirement for the core curriculum.

“Theorizing Difference”

Graduate seminar exploring contemporary literary and cultural theories of postmodernism, post-colonialism, critical race theory, feminism and queer theory, and Marxism with an emphasis on analyzing praxis for social change.

“Major American Writers II”

Undergraduate survey of American literature from 1865 to Present with an emphasis on exploring the competing and evolving narratives of who and what constitutes American identity and culture.

“Contemporary Black Women Writers”

Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar that explores literatures by black women writers from 1970s to present that negotiate taboo topics in black women’s writing.

“African American Literature II”

Survey of African American literature from 1865 to the Present, providing a historical, cultural, and literary overview of black writing and its role in establishing African American identity and cultural politics.

“Radicalism and the Black Arts Movement”

Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar focusing on the literary, cultural, and historical activism of the 1950s-1970s that fueled the rise of the Black Arts Movement.

“African American Literature to 1865”

Undergraduate Survey of early African American literature with a focus on the diverse array of poetry, life narratives, sermons, speeches, songs, and legal documents that constitute the germinal texts of early literary expressivity.

“Literatures of the Harlem Renaissance”

Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar that engages the historical, sociopolitical, and cultural milieu that contextualizes the burgeoning of black literature during the early 20th Century.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

“Bad Black Mothers”

An advanced undergraduate course engaging the link between depictions of black mothers in visual media and the public policy formations that accrue as a result of such misrepresentations; further analyzes how black women writers counter these public narratives.

“Methodology of the Oppressed: Feminist Research Methods”

Graduate course in multidisciplinary qualitative research methods developed during the Transforming Community Project Summer Pedagogy Seminar.

“Unspeakable Things Spoken: Contemporary Black Women Writers”

Undergraduate course designed to highlight the historical, political and cultural implications of major African American women’s writing since 1970.

“Dangerous Women: Feminist Science Fiction”

Undergraduate course designed to introduce students to a range of women’s issues and concerns through the genre of feminist science fiction.

“Black Feminist Political Thought”

Graduate seminar in black feminist theory; discussed and analyzed the historical evolution of black women’s politics, activism, and theorizing of social, political, cultural, and historical issues.

“African American Women’s Literature 1900-Present”

Undergraduate course that analyzed African American women’s politics of representation through the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality in the literature of 20th Century women writers.

“Memory, History, Narrative: History & Autobiography”

Engaged the development of reading, writing and analytical skills through exploration of historical event-based autobiographical texts.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE
National Service to the Profession

2015-2021	Elected Senator to the National Phi Beta Kappa Society
2017-Present	The College Board, Advanced Placement Literature Exam, Question Leader
2015-2016	The College Board, Advanced Placement Literature Exam, Table Leader
2009-2014	The College Board, Advanced Placement Literature Exam, Reader

Clark University Service: *University Committees or Appointments*

2017-	Faculty Representative, Board of Trustees Development and Alumni Affairs Committee
2014-2017	Faculty Executive Steering Committee
SP 2017	CGRAS Postdoctoral Fellow Search Committee
2016-2017	CGRAS Working Group
2016-2017	CGRAS Steering Committee
2015-2017	CGRAS Advisory Committee
2013-	Phi Beta Kappa Society, President
2010-2013	Phi Beta Kappa Society, Vice President
2013-2016	Women's and Gender Studies Steering Committee
2012-2014	Higgins School African American Intellectual Culture Series Advisory Board
Fall 2011	Race and Ethnic Relations Restructuring Committee Member
2011-2012	Diversity Task Force Committee Member
2010-2011	Black History Month Planning Committee Member
2013-	All Kinds of Girls Faculty Advisory Board Member
2011-	Science Fiction Studies Collaborative, Founding Member

Clark University Service: *Extra-Departmental Service*

2016-2017	Inaugural Director, Africana Studies Concentration (3 semesters)
Convener	CETL/CGRAS Brownbag Teaching Workshops (2 events)

Spring 2017

Co-Coordinator
Creative Works ARTiFACT Salon, A Humanities Division Celebration of Completed Scholarly 2015

Facilitator
Spring 2012 Liberal Education and Effective Practice Faculty Convener

Instructor
August 2010 ACE Summer Institute, College Writing Pre-Term Course

Clark University Service: *Events and Programming*

Lead Organizer
Spring 2017 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, Jennifer Hochschild, 2 day launch event for the Center for Gender, Race and Area Studies engaging a wide range of university departments and divisions

Co-Organizer
Spring 2017 MLK, Jr. Racial Justice Teach-In, a day-long series of sessions on King's legacy on a range of social and racial justice issues.

Lead Organizer
2016-2017 Africana Studies inaugural year launch events & lectures: 2 faculty brown-bag lectures; 3 invited speakers; 1 community fireside chat with Clark alumnus; 1 film screening and discussion

Instructor
Fall 2016 "Black Faculty Teach-Out" responding to student experiences of racism on Clark's campus, designed to bridge classroom concepts with students' lived experience

Panelist
Spring 2015 "Reflections Unheard: Black Women in Civil Rights" film discussion for Black History Month, hosted by Black Student Union and Women's and Gender Studies.

Organizer
2014 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, Jeffrey Alexander, 2 days of lectures on a range of topics engaging a wide range of university departments and divisions.

Organizer
2012 Faculty Roundtable on Higgins School Symposium "The End of Things"

Member
2012- African American Intellectual Culture Series Planning Committee

Sole Convener
2010-2011 African American Intellectual Culture Series

Co-Host
Fall 2013 *with Cynthia Enloe: On Failure and Feminism: A Cross-Generational Conversation Symposium Series on "Failure"*

Clark University Service: *Speaker*

April 2017 "The Half-Life of Alternative Facts: or, the Case for Multidisciplinary Research"

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- Keynote Address for Clark University's Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference
- March 2015 "Stereotypes, Sickness, and Saviors: A View of Ebola from Below"
LEEP Lecture for Karl Hartshorn's IDND 022-01 Writing and Reading Illness
- April 2014 "Writing for Peace, Writing for Social Justice"
Peace Studies Program Workshop
- October 2013 "Girls to Women? Coming of Age in the Culture of Twerk" Keynote address to the
All Kinds of Girls Conference

Clark University Service: *Student Mentoring and Co-Curricular Group Advising*

- Adviser Slam Poetry Club
2012-
- Co-Facilitator Sisters in Stride, Women of Color Campus Support Group
2010-2012
- Adviser Black Student Union
2010

Clark University Service: *External Efforts*

- 2010-2017 Executive Board Member, Girls Inc. of Worcester, MA
- Presenter "‘Love the Way You Lie:’ A Frank Discussion about Women and Hip
FA 2014 Hop" Consortium for High Achievement and Success (CHAS) Women of Color
Conference, College of the Holy Cross

Clark University Honors

- 2018 Faculty Development Fund Awardee: \$3000
- 2017 PoP Course Development Fellowship from Dean of the College
- 2015 Higgins School of Humanities Early Career Research Grant
- 2013-2014 Alice and Milton Higgins Faculty Fellow, Higgins School of Humanities
- 2013 Higgins School of Humanities Early Career Research Grant

Selected Academic Honors

- Fall 2017 American Antiquarian Society-National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship
Recipient
- 2008 – 2009 Race and Difference Initiative Postdoctoral Fellowship
Emory University, Institute for Critical International Studies
- 2007 Transforming Community Project Summer Pedagogy Seminar Grant
Emory University

2005	The Ohio State University Presidential Fellowship
2005	Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Scholar Award for Women
2005	Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity Small Grant The Ohio State University
2005	Office of Minority Affairs World Service Project Grant The Ohio State University
2005	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship The Ohio State University/ Salvador, Brazil

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

December 2017	Phi Beta Kappa National Senate Meeting Washington, DC
December 2016	Phi Beta Kappa National Senate Meeting Washington, DC
December 2015	Phi Beta Kappa National Senate Meeting Washington, DC
October 2015	Chapter Representative, Phi Beta Kappa Triennial Council Denver, Colorado
July 2015	Participant, Medical Humanities Summer Institute Convened by the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes and funded by the Mellon Foundation Dartmouth College
August 2012	Chapter Representative, Phi Beta Kappa Triennial Council Palm Beach, Florida

EDUCATION

2001 – 2006	The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH Ph.D. in English Literature Fields: African American and African Diaspora Literature Dissertation: “Traveling Discourses: Subjectivity, Space and Spirituality in Black Women’s Speculative Fiction”
1999 – 2001	The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH M.A. in African & African American Studies Specialization: Literature
1994 – 1998	Fisk University, Nashville, TN B.A. in English and Music Honors: <i>Summa cum Laude</i> , Phi Beta Kappa