

ShaDawn D. Battle, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Race, Intersectionality,
Gender and Sociology (RIGS)

Xavier University

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Education:

- Degree: Ph.D., English Literature, The University of Cincinnati, 2017
 - Concentrations: African American Literature and Postcolonial Literature and Theory
 - Dissertation: “‘Moments of Clarity’ and Sounds of Resistance: Veiled Literary Subversions and De-Colonial Dialectics in the Art of Jay Z and Kanye West”
- Degree: M.A., English Language and Literatures, 2009
 - Concentrations: African American Literature, Women’s Studies, British Literature
 - Certificate: Certificate in Women’s Studies, Wright State University, 2009
- Degree: B.A., Central State University, 2007
 - Major: English Literature / Pre-Law
 - Suma Cum Laude, 4.0

Academic Experience:

Xavier University

- Assistant Professor of Critical Ethnic and Black Studies 2020-present

Wittenberg University

- Assistant Professor of English 2017-2020
- Visiting Assistant Professor of English 2017
- Visiting Instructor of English (Spring) 2015-2017

The University of Cincinnati

- Graduate Teaching Assistant 2011- 2014

Sinclair Community College

- Adjunct Instructor of English 2013-2014
- Adjunct Instructor of English 2009-2011

Central State University

- Adjunct Instructor of English 2013-2014
- Instructor of English 2010-2011
- Adjunct Instructor of English 2009-2010

Wright State University

- Graduate Teaching Assistant 2007-2009

Wright State University

- Upward Bound Writing Instructor, Wright State University, 2009-2013

Areas of Specialty:

African American Literature and Studies (19th-21st Centuries); Anglophone African Literature; Anglophone Caribbean Literature; Postcolonial Theory; Critical Race Theory; Black Feminist Theory; Hip Hop Studies; Epistemology Studies

Scholarship:

Manuscript:

- *Chicago Footwork: “[Re-]Imagining Community and Interrogating the Politics of “Home”* (In progress).

Film:

- *Footwork Saved My Life: The Evolution of Chicago Footwork*, a Docuseries (In progress, Fall 2023).
Current sizzle reel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ct7y15eOV4E>

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters:

- “Singling the ‘Blues’ for Black Bodies: Epistemic Violence, ‘Non-Alterity’, and Black Male Killings” in Nancy McHugh and Heidi Grasswick’s *Making the Case: Feminist and Critical Race Theorists Investigate Cases*, State University of New York Press, 2021.
- “By Any Means Necessary”: Kanye West and the Hypermasculine Construct” in Julius Bailey’s *The Cultural Impact of Kanye West*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- “The Self-Reliant Philosopher King: Shawn Carter Exonerated” in Julius Bailey’s *Jay Z: Essays on Hip Hop’s Philosopher King*, McFarland, 2010.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles:

- “A Genealogical Interpretation of Plato’s *Allegory*, Through the Lens of JAY-Z, the Re-Envisioned ‘Philosopher King’” in *Black Camera*, Indiana University Press (Fall 2019).
- “*Praisesong* and Chicago Footwork: Locating a Black Diasporic Spiritual Heritage” (In Progress)

Presentations:

National and International Conference Papers

- “Chicago Footwork: A Lesson on Language and Reclaiming Black Humanity,” *Imagining Community: Shaping a More Equitable Dayton* (Inaugural Symposium), University of Dayton, 2022 (Keynote)
- “*Praisesong* and Chicago Footwork: Locating a Black Diasporic Spiritual Heritage,” MLA International Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, Summer 2019.
- “‘Face Down in the Weeds’ and on a Ferguson Street: Epistemic Violence and Black Male Killings in Baldwin’s *Blues for Mister Charlie* and the Michael Brown Murder Case,” College Language Association, DePaul University, Spring 2018.
- “Yeezy Taught Us’: Spectacles of Black Disembodiment and the Precariousness of Empathy,” Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality Symposium: “Gendered Bodies/Gendered Lives,” Wright State University, Fall 2016.
- “Navigating the Superstructure: ‘Of Mimicry and Kanye West’,” University of Cincinnati Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference, 2014.
- “By Any Means Necessary”: Kanye West and the Hypermasculine Construct,” Hawaii International Conference of the Humanities, 2014.
- “Misogyny, Kanye West, and Constructed Identities,” National Council of Black Studies, 2013.
- “‘Resisting My Mother’: Misogyny, Kanye West, and *The Street*,” Hawaii International Conference of the Humanities, 2013.
- “The Self-Reliant Philosopher King: Shawn Carter Exonerated,” Black Atlantic Conference, Central State University 2010.

Invited Talks and Lectures

- “‘Back Up Off Me!’: The Liberatory Potential of Chicago Footwork,” University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Fall 2021
- “Chicago Footwork: A Vernacular Language of Resistance,” University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Spring 2021

- “Black Excellence on White Campuses: The Fruits of Subterranean Spaces of Subversion (Keynote), Benedictine University, Fall 2020
- “‘Praisesong and Chicago Footwork: Locating a Black Diasporic Spiritual Heritage,” Scripps College, Upland, California, Fall 2019
- “Epistemic Violence and Black Male Killings,” Wright State University, Fall 2018.
- “Epistemic Violence and Black Male Killings,” Central State University, Spring 2017.
- “Celebrating ‘Blackness’ and the Merger of Hip Hop and Scholarship,” Decca Prep Elementary School, Spring 2017.
- “The Hegelian Impasse in the Work of Kanye West,” Texas A&M, Intro to Philosophy, Fall 2016 (virtual visit).

Campus Lectures

- “Yeezy Taught Us’: Spectacles of Black Disembodiment,” Wittenberg University Colloquium Series, Spring 2016.
- “The Self-Reliant Philosopher King: Shawn Carter Exonerated,” Central State University Honor’s Colloquium, 2012.
- “The Self-Reliant Philosopher King: Shawn Carter Exonerated,” Wright State University Colloquium Series, 2011.
- “The Self-Reliant Philosopher King: Shawn Carter Exonerated,” Talk: The University of Cincinnati Colloquium Series, 2011.

Panels

- “Werk Related: An International Chicago Footwork Discussion,” Invited Panelist, CFOLOGY/ University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Spring 2021
- “Interracial Feminist Allyship: A Roundtable,” Wittenberg University, Shades of Pearls Symposium, Spring 2019.
- “*Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin* Panel Discussion,” Invited Panelist, Wittenberg University, Fall 2018.
- “Women in Academia,” Invited Panelist, Wittenberg University, Spring 2018.
- “Truth Talk: Police Brutality,” Invited Panelist, Wittenberg University, Fall 2018.
- “Gangster Rap and its Impact on Urban Youth,” Invited Panelist, Black Media Conference, Central State University, Spring 2016.

Courses Taught:

- Gender and Diversity Studies (GDST) 206: Intro to Gender and Diversity Studies, Xavier University (Spring 2022)
- GDST 210: Intro to African American Studies, Xavier University (Fall 2021)
- ENG: 205: Literature and the Moral Imagination: Slavery and Contemporary Conversations, Xavier University (Spring 2021; Piloted Course)
- CORE 100/FYS: Anti-Black State-Sanctioned Violence, Xavier University (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
- GDST 320/Soc 271: GDST and Social Justice: Black Protest Literature and Music, Xavier University (Fall 2021)
- GDST 370: #SayHerName: Examining the Invisibility of Black Women and Girls in Literature (Spring 2021)
- ENG 370: #SayHerName: Examining the Invisibility of Black Women and Girls in Literature (co-taught with Dr. Nancy McHugh in Philosophy), Wittenberg University (Fall 2019)
- ENG 370: Black Women Writers, Wittenberg University (Spring 2019)
- ENG 180: Twentieth-Century African American Protest Literature and Music, Wittenberg University (Recurring)

- ENG 180: State-Sanctioned Violence in African American Literature, Wittenberg University (Recurring)
- ENG Composition I and II: The University of Cincinnati, Wright State University, Central State University, Sinclair Community College
- ENG 101: English Composition: “Writing Through and About Popular Culture,” Wittenberg University (2015-2017)
- ENG 101: English Composition: “Rap and Rhetoric,” Wittenberg University
- ENG 327: Advanced Rhetoric and Grammar, Wittenberg University (Fall 2019)
- First Year Seminar, Wittenberg University (Fall 2019)
- ENG 2002: Topics in Literature: The Harlem Renaissance, The University of Cincinnati (2012)
- ENG 0950: Developmental Writing, Central State University (2009)

University Grants

- Xavier University Community-Engaged Scholars Grant (for community-engaged research), \$1000, 2021
- Wittenberg University Faculty Endowment Fund Board Grant (for Shades of Pearls Symposium Speakers), \$1,124, 2019
- Wittenberg University Edith B. and Frank C. Matthies Award (for *Evolution of Footwork* Documentary), \$1,000, 2019
- Wittenberg University Professional Enrichment Grant (for MLA Conference Presentation in Lisbon), \$700, 2018
- Wittenberg University Faculty Research Fund Grant (for *Evolution of Chicago Footwork* Documentary), \$1500, 2018
- Wittenberg University Faculty Endowment Fund Board Grant (for invited scholar Dr. A.D. Carson), \$1,175, 2017
- Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Grant (for Shades of Pearls), \$2500, 2015

External Grant

- National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend. This grant was awarded in Spring 2021 and was toward summer research on my manuscript on Chicago Footwork Manuscript. The awarded total was \$6,000.
- Grant Application Submitted (with the assistance of Dr. Kim Anderson) to the Council of Independent Colleges’ Humanities Research for the Public Good Grant. The proposal was titled, “Wittenberg University and Springfield, Ohio: Documenting the Changing Nature of Racism and Resistance in Middle America.” Dr. Kim Anderson, one student, and the Chief Librarian and I endeavored to use the Concerned Black Students’ archival materials to investigate the evolution of institutional racism on Wittenberg’s Campus and in Springfield’s community. 2018-2019. The grant was not awarded.

Honors and Awards:

- Diversity and Inclusion Award, Wittenberg University, Spring 2019
- Woman of the Year Nominee, Wittenberg University, Spring 2019
- Advisor of the Year Nominee, Wittenberg University, Spring 2019
- Southern Ohio Council for Higher Education Award, The University of Dayton, Fall 2018
- Celebration of Diversity Leadership Program Award of the Year (with Dr. Julius Bailey), Wittenberg University, Spring 2018
- Provost Award for Outstanding Teaching, Wittenberg University, Spring 2018

- NCAAIII Diversity Spotlight Initiative Award, Shades of Pearls Student Organization, Fall 2015
- Full Graduate Scholarship and Assistantship, The University of Cincinnati, 2011-2016
- Completion of Qualifying Examinations with a “High Pass,” Fall 2014
- Recipient of Alfred Yates Fellowship, The University of Cincinnati, 2011-2013
- Full Graduate Scholarship and Assistantship, Wright State University, 2007-2009
- Summa Cum Laude, Central State University, Spring 2007
- Gold Cord Honors, Central State University, Spring 2007
- Class Scholar Award/Highest GPA, Central State University, 2003-2007

Professional Affiliations / Memberships

- The Justice Renewal Initiative (Chicago) – Board Member
- Universities Studying Slavery (USS) Consortium - Person of Contact for Xavier University, Fall 2021
- College Language Association – Member
- Modern Language Association – Member
- National Council of Black Studies – Member
- Journal of Hip-Hop Studies – Peer-Reviewer
- Midwest Modern Language Association – Member (departmental)
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated – Member

University Service:

Courses

- ENG 205: Slavery and Contemporary Conversations, Xavier University (First faculty-taught course for the Stained-Glass Initiative), Spring 2021
- ENG 327: Advanced Rhetoric and Grammar, Wittenberg University, Fall 2018
- First Year Seminar, Wittenberg University Fall 2019

University Committee Work

- Stained-Glass Initiative Faculty-In-Residence, Xavier University (service is related to Xavier’s membership in the Universities Studying Slavery Consortium), Fall 2020-Present
- Africana Studies Curriculum Review Committee, Xavier University, Fall 2021
- Diversity Advisory Board, (co-Chair), Wittenberg University, 2018-2020
- African Diaspora Studies Committee (Affiliate), Wittenberg University, 2018-2020
- Black Congratulatory Dinner Committee, Wittenberg University, 2018-2020

Department Service

- Graduate School Liaison, Wittenberg University, 2018-2020
- English Department Programming Committee, Wittenberg University, 2019
- English 101 Committee, Wittenberg University, 2015-2018

Thesis Committees

- Master’s Thesis (Public Affairs): Ayarri Moore, “Black Women Leaders,” Xavier University, 2021
- Honor’s Thesis (Sociology): Donna Hill, “‘It’s Like Walking on Eggshells’: Black Students’ Experiences at Predominantly White Institutions,” Wittenberg University, 2018
- Honor’s Thesis (English): Joseph Sechrist, “Resistance to Patriarchal Capitalism through Subversive Identity Formation in Dorothy Allison’s *Bastard Out of Carolina* and Junot Diaz’s *Drown* and *This is How You Lose Her*, Reader, Wittenberg University, 2018

Advising

- Black Student Association Co-Advisor, Xavier University, Fall 2021

- First Year Seminar Advisor, Wittenberg University, Fall 2019
- English Department Academic Advisor, Wittenberg University, 2018-2020
- Academic Advisor for Shades of Pearls (an organization for minority women on campus), Wittenberg University, 2017-2019
- Unofficial Academic Advisor for Concerned Black Students, Wittenberg University 2018-2020
- Academic Advisor for Shades of Pearls, Wittenberg University 2015-2016
- Academic Advisor for Club Basketball, 2015-2016

Programs and Events

- Black Readers Mentorship Program (co-Founded w/ Dr. Julius Bailey and Dr. Dalitso Ruwe), Wittenberg University, Fall 2019-Spring 2020
- “‘Speak Your Truth, Sis!’: Women of Color Symposium, Shades of Pearls, (secured funding and speakers, prepared students, organized, and planned entire symposium), Wittenberg University, Spring 2019
- The Alpha Kappa Delta Lecture Featuring Spoken Word Poet and Teaching Artist, Heather Byrd Roberts (co-organized with Sociology), Wittenberg University, Spring 2019
- *Concerned Black Students’ MLK Convocation Walk-Out, Wittenberg University, Spring 2019*¹
- “Negrophilia Unplugged”: A Celebration of Black Art (co-organizer w/ Dr. Julius Bailey), Wittenberg University, Spring 2018
- First Congratulatory Dinner Honoring Black Students (co-organizer w/ Dr. Julius Bailey), Wittenberg University, 2018-Present
- Dr. A.D. Carson Campus Visit / Colloquium Presentation (secured funding, organized three events, provided transportation), Wittenberg University, Spring 2018

References:

- **Dr. Nancy McHugh**, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, University of Dayton, 937-327-9845, nmchugh1@udayton.edu
- **Dr. Myriam Chancy**, Hartley Burr Alexander Endowed Chair in the Humanities, Scripps College, 909-607-3536, myriam.chancy@scrippscollege.edu
- **Dr. Suparna Chatterjee**, Associate Professor of Sustainability and Global Cultures, History, and the Williams College of Business, Xavier University, 513-658-4487, chatterjees@xavier.edu
- **Dr. Sharon L. Jones**, Professor of English Language and Literatures, Wright State University, 937-775-3397, Sharon.jones@wright.edu

¹ The re-enactment of the Concerned Black Students’ 1968 Walk-Out should not be recognized as a “program” or “event” even. While I did guide students with organizing and planning, the Spring 2019 Walk-Out was birthed from a forgetting, a misappropriating, and a dismissal of Black students, rather than from full-throated inclusion initiatives, and so should be regarded as a political act of resistance.