

Mako Fitts Ward

School of Social Transformation
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EDUCATION

2005	PhD, Justice Studies, Arizona State University
2002	MS, Justice Studies, Arizona State University
1999	BA, Political Science & Gender Studies, University of Southern California

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021-present	Assistant Professor, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University Affiliations in African and African American Studies and Women and Gender Studies
2023-present	Affiliate Faculty, The Design School, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, Arizona State University
2019-2020	Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
2014-2019	Instructor, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
2012-2014	Faculty Associate, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
2006-2011	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work, Seattle University (tenured and promoted to Associate Professor)
2005-2006	Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work, Seattle University
2003-2004	Instructor, Africana Studies Program, University of Arizona
2002-2003	Teaching Assistant, Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University
1999-2001	Research Assistant, School of Justice Studies, Arizona State University

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

2021-present	Director, Social Transformation Lab, Arizona State University
2024-2025	Interim Director, Center for Gender Equity in Science and Technology, Arizona State University
Fall 2024	Interim Director of Graduate Studies, Women and Gender Studies, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
2019-2021	Faculty Head, African and African American Studies, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
2010-2011	Interim Program Director for Faculty Engagement, Center for Service and Community Engagement, Seattle University

RESEARCH AREAS

Critical Cultural Studies, Intersectional Social Inequalities (Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality), Creative Placemaking, Economic Justice, Social Movements

FELLOWSHIPS

2022-2024	Faculty Fellow, Studio for Creativity, Place and Equitable Communities, Arizona State University
2021-2022	ADVANCE Leadership Fellow, Office of the Provost, Arizona State University
2021	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Research Fellow, The Adaway Group
2004-2005	Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence Predoctoral Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Coe College
1997-1998	Undergraduate Research Fellowship, McNair Scholars Program, University of Southern California

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Single-Authored)

1. Ward, M. F. (Forthcoming, Spring 2027). *Sounding Home: Hip Hop, Worldmaking, and Solidarity in Seattle*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press.

Edited Volumes and Special Issues

2. **Ward, M. F. (40%)**, Sandlin, J., Vlahoulis, M. M., and Holman, C. (editors) (2021). *The pandemic reader: Exposing social (in)justice in the time of COVID-19*. New York: DIO Press, Inc.
3. Beck, T., Perlow, O., White, H., and **Ward, M. F. (33%)** (Eds.) (2017). *Race and Pedagogy Journal*, 2(2).

Refereed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

4. Ward, M. F. (2024). Hotep anti-Blackness: Misogynoir and queer exclusion in online conspiracy theorizing. *Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies*, 47(5): 735-758.
5. Ward, M. F. (2024). Ruha Benjamin. In M. C. Jiguet-Akhtar and N. Khan (eds.) *Fifty Key Scholars in Black Social Thought*. New York: Routledge. 232-236.
6. Ward, M. F. (2021). Metamorphic liberation: Radical self-care & the biopolitical agency of Black women post-COVID-19. *Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies*, 8(1-2): 256-273.
7. Ward, M. F. (2017). Queen Bey and the new niggerati: Ethics of individualism in the appropriation of Black radicalism. *Black Camera*, 9(1): 146-163.
8. Fitts, M. (2011). Theorizing transformative revolutionary action: The contribution of bell hooks to emancipatory knowledge production. *The C.L.R. James Journal: A Review of Caribbean Ideas*, 17(1): 112-132.
9. Fitts, M. (2009). Institutionalizing intersectionality: Reflections on the structure of women's studies departments and programs. In Michele T. Berger and Kathleen Guidroz (Eds.) *The*

Intersectional Approach: Transforming the Academy Through Race, Class and Gender. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press. 249-257.

10. Fitts, M. (2008). 'Drop it like it's hot': Culture industry laborers and their perspectives on rap music video production. *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*, 8(1): 211-235.
11. Rubin, L. R., **Fitts, M. L. (40%)**, & Becker, A. E. (2003). 'Whatever feels good in my soul': Body ethics and aesthetics among African American and Latina women. *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, 27: 49-75. [Reprinted in S. M. Shaw & J. Lee. *Women's voices, feminist visions: Classic and contemporary readings*, 3rd (2005), 4th (2008), 5th (2011), & 6th (2014) editions, New York: McGraw-Hill.]

Refereed Journal Articles Under Review

12. Ward, M. F. (In Revision). Imagining freedom: Visionary fiction, Black feminist futurity, and the worldmaking of *Octavia's Brood*. *Palimpsest: A Journal on Women, Gender, and the Black International*.

Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries

13. Ward, M. F. (2021). The Resurgence of Marxist feminist analytics: Book review of *Marx, Women and Capitalist Social Reproduction: Marxist Feminist Essays* by Martha E. Giménez. *Social justice: A journal of crime, conflict and world order*, 47(1-2): 241-247.
14. Fitts, M. (2009). Media and gender stereotypes. In Jodi O'Brien (ed.) *Encyclopedia of gender and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 540-543.
15. Fitts, M. (2009) Body image. In Jodi O'Brien (ed.) *Encyclopedia of gender and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 81-86.
16. Fitts, M. (2008). Women and hip hop and rap. In Robert Schaefer (ed.) *Encyclopedia of race, ethnicity and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 621-624.
17. Fitts, M. (2008). Body image. In Robert Schaefer (ed.) *Encyclopedia of race, ethnicity, and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 187-190.
18. Fitts, M. (2005). Garvey movement women. In Darlene Clark Hine (ed.) *Black women in America: An historical encyclopedia*, 2nd edition. New York: Oxford University Press.
<https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780195156775.001.0001/acref-9780195156775-e-0157>.

Public and Social Impact Scholarship

*Denotes graduate student co-author

Sponsored Research and Evaluation Reports

19. **Ward, M. F.**, *Acosta, A., Crudup, C., *Ikapnitis, I. *Jenkins, T., and Nethero, B. (2025). Retail leader social impact engagement plan. Evaluation report submitted to the Starbucks Global Social Impact Team. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University.
20. *Acosta, A., *Akapnitis, I., *Brooks-Hawkins, J., **Ward, M.F.**, Hita, L., Lopez, V., Ignacio, M., Mendoza, N., Wolfersteig, W., Osuna, C., *Jenkins, G.T., & Diaz, M. (2024). Empowering providers to address equity in Arizona healthcare: Addressing health disparities related to substance use disorder. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University, Social Transformation Lab & Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center.

21. Barra, E., **Ward, M. F.**, Anderson, L. M., and *Brown, A. M. (2022). *Women in the mix study*. Los Angeles: The Recording Academy®. https://naras.a.bigcontent.io/v1/static/witm_study_2
22. Hines, E. and **Ward, M. F.** (2022). *Black women thriving: BWT report 2022*. Raleigh, NC: Every Level Leadership. <https://everylevelleads.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Black-Women-Thriving-Report-2022.pdf>.
23. **Ward, M. F.**, Crudup, C. *Borman, B., Young, L., and Wilson, D. (2022). Outreach worker program: Assessment and evaluation. Evaluation report submitted to the Starbucks Global Social Impact Team. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University.
24. **Ward, M. F.**, Crudup, C. *Borman, B., Young, L., and Wilson, D. (2022). Outreach worker program: Assessment and evaluation. Evaluation report submitted to the Starbucks Global Social Impact Team. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University.
25. **Fitts, M.** and Perry, G. (Eds.) 2008. *The State of the Central District Report: Community-Based Service-Learning Project*. Seattle, WA: Seattle University.
26. Perry, G. K. and **Fitts, M.** (2006, September). "Gentrification and Black America: What Should We Know?" *The Griot: The Official Newsletter of The Association of Black Sociologists*.

Works for Popular Press

27. Ward, M. F. (2020, October 3). The limits of the protest paradigm. *JSTOR daily*, <https://daily.jstor.org/intersectional-protest-image/>.
28. **Ward, M. F.** and Bailey, M. (2020, June 24). Queer liberation is Black liberation, justice for Black lives is justice for all. *Praxis Center*, <https://www.kzoo.edu/praxis/justice-for-black-lives/> (archived at original link; now available at <https://portside.org/2020-06-27/queer-liberation-black-liberation-justice-black-lives-justice-all>).
29. Ward, M. F. (2019, July 12). Could Black philanthropy help solve the Black student debt crisis? *The conversation*, <https://theconversation.com/could-black-philanthropy-help-solve-the-black-student-debt-crisis-117734>.
30. **Ward, M. F.** and Bell, C. (2013, December 17). The problem with beyhive bottom bitch feminism. *HuffPost Canada*, http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/real-colored-girls/beyonce-feminism_b_4459678.html.
31. Fitts, M. (2010, November 6). The good news: Madea's not a colored girl. *Ms. Blog*, <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2010/11/06/the-good-news-madeas-not-a-colored-girl/>.
32. Fitts, M. (2010, October 14). Can Tyler Perry pull off a Black feminist masterpiece? *Ms. Blog*, <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2010/10/14/can-tyler-perry-pull-off-a-black-feminist-masterpiece/>.
33. Fitts, M. (2010, September 10). Where do we go from bell [hooks]. *Ms. Blog*, <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2010/09/10/where-do-we-go-from-bell/>.
34. Fitts, M. (2010, May 27). Police violence is a feminist issue. *Ms. Blog*, <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2010/05/27/police-violence-is-a-feminist-issue/>.
35. Fitts, M. (2010, May 10). Marquette retracts job offer from lesbian-feminist sociologist, *Ms. Blog*, <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2010/05/10/marquette-retracts-job-offer-to-lesbian-feminist-sociologist/>.
36. Fitts, M. (2009, February 5). Better education, open schools are the right way to fight crime. *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Editorials, p. A11, <https://www.seattlepi.com/local/opinion/article/Guest-Columnist-Better-education-open-schools-1299429.php>.

37. Fitts, M. (2007, April-May). *Beyond beats and rhymes* tackles male roles and sexism in hip hop. *Freedom Socialist*, 28 (2): 10, <https://socialism.com/fs-article/beyond-beats-and-rhymes-tackles-male-roles-and-sexism-in-hip-hop/>.

Pedagogical Research and Curriculum Literature

38. **Ward, M. F.**, Bailey, M. M., Solyom, J., and Bustamante, N. (2019). Welcoming dialogue on sexuality bias. *To be welcoming*. Tempe, AZ: Starbucks Global Academy. <https://www.starbucksglobalacademy.com/to-be-welcoming/>.
39. **Ward, M. F.**, Solyom, J., Chin, J. (2019). Welcoming dialogue on gender bias. *To be welcoming*. Tempe, AZ: Starbucks Global Academy. <https://www.starbucksglobalacademy.com/to-be-welcoming/>.
40. **Fitts, M.**, Sawa, D., and Schulman, J. C. (2007). Lesson 1: Modern momotaro: Folktales in hip hop. In M. Runnel and M. Diaz (eds.), *The hip-hop education guidebook, volume 1*. New York: Hip-Hop Association, Inc., 70-77.

Works in Progress

*Denotes graduate student co-author

1. **Ward, M. F. (50%)**, Park, C., Acosta, A., and Taylor, J. BIPOC arts and culture organizations in the southwest. To be submitted to the *Journal for Cultural Research*. Research funded by The Wallace Foundation.
2. **Ward, M. F.**, *Akapnitis, I., and Acosta, A., Executive Orders, Project 2025, and the Reinscription of White Supremacy. To be submitted to *American Quarterly*.
3. Acosta, A., **Ward, M. F. (25%)**, and *Akapnitis, I. Gatekeeping Inclusion: The Collusion of DEI and White Womanhood in the Maintenance of Institutional White Supremacy. To be submitted to *Feminist Formations*.

SPONSORED RESEARCH & GRANTS

***Total Sponsored Research Awarded:** \$3,038,976 (Investigator Contribution: \$1,439,159)

Total Internal Sponsored Research Awarded: \$30,355

*Note: This total does not include contract funding.

1. **Department of Defense, United States Air Force, Air Education Training Command (AETC) (September 2023 – January 2025; terminated early due to federal executive order)**. Inclusive Leadership Toolkit. Role: Principal Investigator (10%). Awarded: \$953,697
Contribution: Prepared application and scope of work; led development and implementation of pedagogical discovery, curriculum, and assessments; provided oversight of the collaboration among internal ASU units and AETC external partners.
Outcome: The project developed a series of online courses available to U.S. Air Force members, as well as additional live learning and assessment sessions with lead partners. The award included an annual renewal option for up to 10 years.
2. **The Wallace Foundation (2023-2025)**. BIPOC Arts and Culture Organizations in the Southwest. Role: Principal Investigator (50%). Awarded: \$332,278
Contribution: Co-authored the grant application; led development and implementation of research design; interviewed participants; led the writing of a peer-reviewed publication.
Outcome: Preliminary research was presented at the Association for Cultural

Economics International (ACEI) Conference at Indiana University in June 2023. Preparing publication to be submitted to the *Journal for Cultural Research*. Publications from the study include:

The Wallace Foundation (Forthcoming, 2026). *Navigating Barriers and Challenging Narratives of Cultural Desert: A Study of BIPOC Arts and Culture Organizations in the U.S. Southwest*. A research brief describing a study led by Mako Fitts Ward, Christina You-sun Park, Amber Acosta, and Jay Taylor. The Wallace Foundation, New York.

3. **Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System; Prime Sponsor: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (2022-2023)**. Addressing Health Disparities Related to Substance Use Disorders. Role: Principal Investigator (10%). Awarded: \$789,999
Outcome: The project resulted in a Disparities Impact Statement, a summative research report, the development of six 30-minute online courses made available to behavioral healthcare providers across Arizona through the AHCCCS Relias learning management system, and the publication of additional research findings for the public.
4. **The Wallace Foundation (2022-2023)**. Arts Organizations Centering Communities of Color: Community Orientation Study. Role: Co-Principal Investigator (10%). Awarded: \$947,580
Outcome: The project resulted in the development of a theory-of-action protocol for each grantee (18 in total). A series of recommendation reports was submitted to the foundation, resulting in the development of multiple cross-site project studies.
5. **The Recording Academy® (in partnership with Berklee College of Music) (2021-2022)**. Women In the Mix 2021 Study. Role: Co-Principal Investigator (30%). Awarded: \$15,001
Outcome: Produced the [Women in the Mix Study](#), which resulted in The Academy investing \$50,000 in organizations to support the growth of women and girls in music.
6. **Research & Advocacy Grant, Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) (2009-2010)**. Social Networks and Gentrification. Role: Co-Principal Investigator (40%). Awarded: \$10,000
Outcome: Partnered with six local organizations and included a team of eight undergraduate research assistants. Completed resident survey (N=116) and GIS mapping of in and out migration settlement patterns by race. Presented research findings at a public forum held at Seattle University.
7. **The Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy Community Action Research Initiative, American Sociological Association (2008-2009)**. Central Area Displacement Project. Role: Co-Principal Investigator (50%). Awarded: \$3000
Outcome: Established the Central Area Displacement Project, a university-community partnership to assess the impact of displacement on community partners, assess the needs of each community partner because of the impact(s) of displacement, and build a coalition between these community partners as a means of strategically responding to the effects of displacement and to the emergent needs of our community partners. *The State of the Central District Report: Community-Based Service-Learning Project* was produced based on student-led research conducted in 2007.

Externally Sponsored Research Funding Submitted Proposals (Not Funded)

1. **American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) (2023)**. Digital Justice Development Grant. Role: Principal Investigator. Amount Requested: \$99,999
2. **NewMexicoWomen.org (2022)**. Status of Women and Girls Research Report. Role: Principal Investigator. Amount Requested: \$79,929 (Finalist)

3. **U.S Department of Education, Assistance for Arts Education Grant (2021)**. Role: Co-Investigator. Amount Requested: \$2,295,246
4. **Mellon Just Futures Initiative (2020)**. Role: Coordinator (collaboration includes 8 faculty across three colleges). Amount Requested: \$3,539,167

Internally Sponsored Research Funding Awarded (Completed)

1. **Institute for Humanities Research Seed Grant, Arizona State University (2023)**. Ecologies of Justice. Role: Co-Principal Investigator (33%). Awarded: \$10,783
Outcome: Produced a two-day symposium (March 23-24, 2023) for cross-disciplinary thinking and collaboration on ecologies of justice to address disposability and waste. The event featured six scholars from the U.S., Canada, Japan, and Scotland.
2. **Global Sport Institute Seed Grant Program, Arizona State University (2020-2021)**. Black Womxn Thriving. Role: Principal Investigator (50%). Awarded: \$19,572
Outcome: This study is a university-corporate partnership that is part of a larger national study – Black Womxn Thriving – to examine how professional Black womxn across the gender spectrum find joy, success, and stability at work and the role of organizations in cultivating environments of care that promote the values of inclusion, equity, and diversity in the workplace. Produced the research report [Black women thriving: BWT report 2022](#)
Press Coverage:
 Agbanobi, Agatha and Asmelash, T. Viva (May 22, 2023). Creating psychological safety for Black women at your company. *Harvard Business Review*. Retrieved from <https://hbr.org/2023/05/creating-psychological-safety-for-black-women-at-your-company>.
 Kolade, Sherri (August 23, 2022). Survival mode is not working for Black women at work. *The Seattle Medium*. Retrieved from <https://seattlemedium.com/survival-mode-is-not-working-for-black-women-at-work/>.
 McGirt, Ellen (July 26, 2022). The next big threat to corporate diversity success is here. *Fortune*. Retrieved from <https://fortune.com/2022/07/26/esg-threat-to-corporate-diversity-inclusion-esg-goals/>.
 Bell, Carla (July 13, 2022). ‘It’s time we thrive’: Report urges a model of DEI that centers Black women. *HR Dive*. Retrieved from <https://www.hrdive.com/news/how-black-women-thrive-at-work/627188/>.
 McKinney, Jeffrey (July 7, 2022). Expert: Black women should be empowered at work, not forced to make changes. *Black Enterprise*. Retrieved from <https://www.blackenterprise.com/expert-contents-companies-should-provide-black-women-a-thriving-workplace/>.
 Jackson, Ashton (July 1, 2022). Black women are in ‘survival mode’ at work – and company diversity efforts ‘fall short’. *CNBC Make It*. Retrieved from <https://www.cNBC.com/2022/07/01/company-diversity-efforts-to-support-black-women-fall-short.html>.
3. **Research Cluster, Institute for Humanities Research, Arizona State University (2018-2019)**. Role: Co-Participant. Awarded: \$1000 (33%)
Outcome: This research cluster curated a consortium of ASU faculty, scholars, artists, students, and community members connect monthly around a series of themes that deeply investigate the ethical implications of urban arts knowledge and culture as a research and educational framework in relationship to the humanities, performing arts, liberal arts, and

sciences. The work culminated in a 2-day public symposium featuring panel discussions by artists and scholars, as well as student-led performances.

External Contract Funding Received (Completed)

1. **Starbucks Retail Leader Social Impact Engagement Plan (2022-2025)**. Role: Lead Evaluator (40%). This project, part of the ASU-Starbucks partnership, evaluated and assessed community engagement activities led by Starbucks' Global Social Impact team. Phase I (January-May 2022) included an evaluation and assessment of the Outreach Worker Program. In Phase II (2022-2023), we supported Starbucks partners in developing and piloting new staff positions focused on community and partner (staff) safety. In Phase III (2024-2025), we conducted a company-wide assessment of all community-engagement activities, assessed similar activities of their external retail partners, and developed a community-engagement framework to guide the organization strategically.
2. **BEACON at Carvana (2022)**. Inclusive Equity Trainings. Role: Co-Facilitator (75%). A monthly series (over 3 months) of 1-hr conversation sessions featuring 30-40 minutes of presentation and guided discussion on the session topic, followed by a facilitated discussion with participants. Included guided questions, breakout discussions, and participants' Q&A. Topics included mental health support, self-care strategies, research on coping strategies employed by Black professional workers, the role of affinity groups in organizations, building alliances across affinity groups, programming, and what Black affinity groups need to thrive in the workplace.
3. **Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust (2021)**. Piper Fellows Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workshop Series. Role: Co-Lead (40%). A learning workshop series on diversity, equity, and inclusion (four 3-hour sessions) and one-on-one consulting (50 hours) for the Piper Fellows, a diverse group of roughly 80 Fellows who serve as CEOs, senior staff, and other leaders in not-for-profits around the Phoenix metropolitan area. Workshops and consulting focus on elevating actionable learning for Fellows about race, diversity, equity, and inclusion at the individual and organizational levels.
4. **Starbucks Global Academy, "To Be Welcoming" (2019)**. Role: Curriculum Co-Lead & Reviewer (10%). This project is part of the ASU-Starbucks partnership to develop a series of 15 online courses, created by a team of ASU subject-matter experts in partnership with Starbucks. Led content writing and development on three (of fifteen) online courses - "Welcoming Dialogue on Black/African American Bias," "Welcoming Dialogue on Gender Bias," and "Welcoming Dialogue on Sexuality Bias." Provided content edits on "Welcoming Dialogue on Class Bias." Provided ongoing pedagogical assistance to the ASU-Starbucks Partnership team and enhancements for the development of scalable Learning Enterprise academic products. The curriculum was launched to over 191,000 Starbucks employees in the U.S. in September 2019, and the courses were made available to the public free of charge in 2020.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED ENGAGEMENTS

Refereed Academic Conference Presentations

1. "Unruly Worldmaking: Black Women as Transnational Pedagogues and Disruptors," (Accepted), Roundtable Session proposed for the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 5-8, 2026.

2. "The Intersectionality of Pleasure," Roundtable Session at the American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, PR, November 22, 2025.
3. "Counter-Spatial Imaginaries: Black Feminist Urban Arts Placemaking as Queer Worldmaking Practice," Paper to be presented at the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) Conference, St. Louis, MO, October 30, 2025.
4. "The Black Feminist Poethics of Othermothering," Paper presented at the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, MD, October 28, 2023.
5. "BIPOC Arts and Culture Organizations in the Southwest," Paper co-presented with Christina Park at the Association for Cultural Economics International (ACEI) Pre-Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, June 27, 2023.
6. "Tearin' the Roof Off this Muthafucka: Insurgent Methods in Black Cultural Production," American Studies Association Conference, New Orleans, November 4, 2022.
7. "Ecologies of Pleasure: Visionary Fiction as a Method of Social Justice Community Building," National Women's Studies Association Conference, Virtual, September 1, 2021.
8. "Rage Against the Growth Machine: Hip Hop Battles the Global City," American Association of Geographers, Denver, CO, April 6-10, 2020. (Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic).
9. "From the Golden Age to the Post-Hip Hop Generation: (Trans)gressive Racial and Gender Expressions in Hip Hop," Caribbean Philosophical Association, Saint Croix, US Virgin Islands, April 1-4, 2020. (Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic).
10. "Problematizing 'Agency' in the Lyrical Discourse of Nicki Minaj," Paper presented at the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Oakland, CA, November 10, 2012.
11. "Third Worldwide: Transnational Narratives of Resistance Amidst Seattle's Growth Machine," Paper presented at the EMP Pop Conference, Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, New York University, March 24, 2012.
12. "Politics of Intersectionality: Applying Anzaldúan Theoretical Approaches to Women's Hip-Hop Activism," Paper presented at the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 12, 2010.
13. "Women-Centered Space: A New Topography of Race, Gender & Sexuality in Hip-Hop," Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Oakland, CA, April 8, 2010.
14. "Hip-Hop & the Growth Machine: Impacts of Gentrification on Urban Cultural Production," Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Oakland, CA, April 10, 2010.
15. "Doing Social Justice: Feminist Epistemologies & the Praxis of Emancipatory Thought," Paper presented at the 14th Annual Lewis University Philosophy Conference, "Talking Back: On bell hooks and Emancipatory Thought, Lewis University, Romeoville, IL, February 23, 2009.
16. "Sociological Contributions to the Study of Hip-Hop," Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Portland, OR, April 12, 2008.
17. "Seeking Noah's Arc: Jesuit Education and its Capacity to Accommodate Intellectual and
18. Liberating Spaces for Queers of Color," Co-presented at OUT THERE: Second National Conference of Scholars and Student Affairs Personnel Involved in LGBTQ Issues on Catholic Campuses, DePaul University, Chicago, IL, October 20, 2007.
19. "You Better Work!: When the Dramaturgy of Black Queer Subjectivity Just Won't Due," Presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, October 13, 2007.
20. "Taking Urban Sociology Back to the Streets: A Community Action Project on Gentrification," Co-presented at the 7th International Research Conference on Service-Learning and Community Engagement, Tampa, FL, October 7, 2007.

21. "Urban Arts Activism and Community Building: The Case of Seattle's Underground Hip Hop Community," Presented at the Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York, NY, August 9, 2007.
22. "Doin' It 'For the Love': Urban Arts Activism in Seattle's Hip Hop Communities," Co-presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Oakland, CA, March 31, 2007.
23. "Revitalizing a Critical Ethnography in the Study of Gentrification," Co-presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Oakland, CA, April 1, 2007.
24. "Promoting a Win-Win Model for Factoring Race into Faculty Performance and Student Learning Assessments," Paper presented at the Race and Pedagogy National Conference, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA, Sept. 15, 2006.
25. "Negotiating Expectations for Tenure and Promotion as Women of Color Junior Faculty," Roundtable discussion at the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Oakland, CA, June 16, 2006.
26. "Giving Voice to the Auteur: Industry Insiders and Their Perspectives on Cultural Production," Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Universal City, CA, April 22, 2006.
27. "Who Benefits? The Politics of Gentrification and Seattle's Black Business Community," Co-presented at the Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Montréal, Quebec, Canada, August 9, 2006.
28. "Subaltern to Canon? Critical Feminist Scholarship in Our Times," Panelist on roundtable discussion at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Claremont, CA, June 16, 2006.
29. "From the Street to the Boardroom: The Emergence of Hip Hop in the American Music Industry," Paper presented at the 3rd Annual Cultural Studies Association, Tucson, AZ.
30. "Homo Thugz in Hip Hop: Dismantling Homophobia or Commodifying the Queer 'Other'," Paper presented at the Popular Culture Association, San Diego, CA, March 25, 2005.

Invited Keynotes and Presentations

1. Keynote Speaker, "Solving the Puzzle: Libraries as Cornerstones of Inclusive Knowledge Production," ASU Libraries Retreat, Omni Hotel (Tempe, AZ), May 20, 2024.
2. Keynote Speaker, "Not On Our Backs: Building Bridges with Care," 4th Annual Inclusive Excellence Conference, ASU Staff Council, Arizona State University, April 4, 2024.
3. Invited Keynote Speaker, "Building Relational Equity for Campus Inclusion," Office of Equity, Inclusion and Diversity, New Mexico State University, April 25, 2023.
4. Invited Workshop Facilitator, "Academic Leadership for Equity, Inclusion and Diversity," Department Heads Meeting, College of Arts and Sciences, New Mexico State University, April 25, 2023.
5. Curricular Lead & Facilitator, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Series (4 Workshops), J. Orin Edson Entrepreneurship + Innovation Institute, Arizona State University, February-May 2023.
6. Invited Keynote Presentation, 2022 CWA Human Rights Conference, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Phoenix, AZ, August 7, 2022.
7. Invited Keynote Speaker, "Ghostly Trajectories: Ecologies of Black Health in Arizona," Lived Black Experience Conference, Northern Arizona University, June 3, 2022.
8. Invited Presenter, "Moving DEI From Critical Conversations to Everyday Actions," Prospanica Conference & Career Expo (Virtual), Prospanica (The Association of Hispanic MBAs and Business Professionals), September 30, 2021.

9. Invited Presenter, "Strategies for Transformational Leadership," Prospanica Conference & Career Expo (Virtual), Prospanica (The Association of Hispanic MBAs and Business Professionals), October 1, 2021.
10. Invited Presenter, "Building Relational Equity to Inclusivize Organizations," Diversity Bootcamp (Virtual), National Diversity Council, August 19, 2021.
11. Invited Presenter, "Metamorphic Liberation: Notes from the Black Feminist (Under)commons," Extraction, Disposability and Resistance: Black Ecologies Discussion 1 (Virtual), Arizona State University, March 31, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHnSgp9rMUA&t=5015s>.
12. Invited Discussant, "On Pleasure Activism for Women of Color in the Academy: A Discussion Between adrienne maree brown and Dr. Mako Fitts Ward" (Virtual), Faculty Women of Color Caucus, Arizona State University, March 25, 2021.
13. Invited Discussant, IHR Distinguished Lecture featuring adrienne maree brown (Virtual), Arizona State University, March 25, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1WUScrJypM>.
14. Invited Speaker, "Metamorphic Liberation": Radical Self-Care and the Biopolitical Agency of Black Women," Black History Month Celebration (Virtual), USC Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California, February 26, 2021.
15. Keynote Speaker, "Ethics of Care and Partnership: Changing How We Work," ASU CSW/SC Professional Development (Virtual) Conference, Arizona State University, October 11, 2020.
16. Panel Facilitator, "Teaching in the Wake of Racial Violence: A Conversation with Carol Anderson, Ayanna Thompson and Mako Ward," ASU Humanities, Social Sciences and the Institute for Humanities Research Virtual Event, August 12, 2020.
17. Invited Panelist, "Identifying and Addressing Pervasive Barriers to Inclusion," Leadership Academy Symposium (Virtual), Arizona State University, August 3, 2020.
18. Invited Presenter, "Policing the Black Body," Freedom School 2020, The Adaway Group, Virtual (Zoom), July 28, 2020.
19. Invited Facilitator, "Gender 101," U.T.O.P.I.A. Seattle Tautua Leadership Cohort Retreat, Virtual (Zoom), July 11, 2020.
20. Invited Panelist, "Racism is Not New: Tackling Systemic Racism in 2020," Committee for Campus Inclusion (Virtual), Arizona State University, July 9, 2020.
21. Invited Panelist, "Media, Language and Representation," The Outspoken: Women in Triathlon Summit, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, November 17, 2019.
22. Invited Panelist, "Miss Representation Screening and Panel Discussion," Tempe Union High School, Tempe, AZ, October 1, 2019.
23. Co-Presenter (with Jessica Solyom), "How to Get Your Ideas Heard," Prepared for Women in Mining, Arizona Science Center, Phoenix, AZ, September 20, 2019.
24. Co-Presenter (with Michelle McGibbney Vlahoulis), "Investing in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in SET Industries," Midsize Enterprise Summit, Scottsdale, AZ, September 17, 2019.
25. Keynote Speaker, "Intersectionality on the Ground: Expanding Voices in Women's Leadership, Advocacy & Organizing," 2nd Women's Empowerment Summit, Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ, March 9, 2019.
26. Invited Presenter, "Reflecting on Patrick Phillips' *Blood At the Root* in the Trump Era," Literati Book Club, Vista Grande Library, Casa Grande, AZ, November 7, 2018.
27. Invited Roundtable Participant, "Women Who Rock the Archive: Punk & Hip Hop Feminist Dialogues & Archives in the Digital Age," Hip Hop and Punk Feminisms Symposium, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, December 6, 2013.
28. Keynote Speaker, "Social Justice Parenting: Teaching Kindness as Acts of Radical Change," Ben's Bells Kindness A to Z Arizona Speaker Series, The Loft Cinema, Tucson, AZ, January 25, 2018.

29. Keynote Speaker, Hip Hop and Feminism Symposium, California State University at Northridge, Northridge, CA, February 9, 2012
30. Invited Presenter, "Institutionalizing Intersectionality: Reflections on the Structure of Women's Studies Departments and Programs," Paper presented at the Dialoguing Difference Conference, University of Washington Women of Color Collective, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, May 14, 2010.
31. Invited Panelist, "Special Session: Global Hip Hop and Economic Recovery Roundtable," 2010 EMP Pop Conference, EMP Museum, Seattle, WA, Apr. 16, 2010.
32. Workshop Facilitator, "Organizing and Activism," 2009 Women of Color Symposium: Art, Advocacy, Activism, Washington State University, Pullman, WA, March 6-7, 2009.

Television, Radio, & Documentary Commentary

1. "Democrats are attempting to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in Arizona," KJZZ NPR Member Station 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), February 16, 2026, <https://www.kjzz.org/the-show/2026-02-16/democrats-are-attempting-to-ratify-the-equal-rights-amendment-in-arizona>.
2. "Feminism is redefining itself in a post-Roe and gender-fluid world," Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), July 18, 2023, <https://kjzz.org/content/1852369/feminism-redefining-itself-post-roe-and-gender-fluid-world>.
3. "ASU Professor Shares Her 2 Core Principles for Gender Equality," Featured commentator, iHeartRadio Mix 96.9 (Phoenix, AZ), March 8, 2021, <https://mix969.iheart.com/featured/mathew-priscilla-in-the-morning/content/2021-03-08-asu-professor-shares-her-2-core-principals-for-gender-equality/>.
4. "Points Of View: Why Minorities Are Hit Worst By Coronavirus," Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), April 20, 2020, <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/1536306/points-view-why-minorities-are-hit-worst-coronavirus>.
5. "Year 4 – Where Does the Women's March Stand?," Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), January 17, 2020, <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/1400101/year-4-where-does-womens-march-stand>.
6. "Women's March Faces Criticism For A Lack of Inclusivity," Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), January 18, 2019, <https://kjzz.org/content/750358/womens-march-faces-criticism-lack-inclusivity>.
7. "It's Time We Talked About The Term 'Pelo Malo'," by Kelsey Castañon, Featured Commentator, *Refinery29*, October 11, 2017, <https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/2017/10/166300/latin-american-hair-pelo-malo-meaning-history>.
8. "Beyonce and Feminism," Featured commentator, Fuse TV News, December 18, 2013.
9. "Northwest Women in Hip-Hop," Featured guest on *Voices of Diversity*, KBCS 91.3 FM (Seattle, WA), June 3, 2009.
10. "Women on Real National Security State," Featured guest on "Live From Main Street with Laura Flanders" (co-produced with The Media Consortium), November 27, 2008, <https://www.radioproject.org/2008/10/live-from-main-street-seattle-women-on-real-national-security/>.
11. "Cultural Impact of Racial and Economic Community Change," Featured guest on *Voices of Diversity*, KBCS 91.3 FM (Seattle, WA), February 6, 2008.
12. "Ebony Chunky Love: Bitch Can't Get a Date," [Documentary Film], Featured commentator, Film profiles comedian and radio host Keith Price and reflections on cultural attitudes toward gay

black men and their portrayals in the media, Directed by Lonnie Tristan Renteria, Torelore Productions/Logo TV, 2007.

TEACHING

Courses Taught

Bold denotes courses taught during the probationary period

*Denotes new online course development

**Denotes new in-person campus immersion development

Arizona State University

JUS 105*	Introduction to Justice Studies (iCourse and ASU Online)
WST 100	Women, Gender & Society (Hybrid)
AFR 200*	Introduction to Africana Studies (in-person, iCourse, and ASU Online)
AFR 210	Introduction to African American Studies (in-person)
AFR/APA/JUS 212	Introduction to Ethnic Studies in the U.S. (iCourse and ASU Online)
AFR 215*	Bob Marley and Reggae: Lyrics of Resistance (iCourse and ASU Online)
AFR/WST 302	History of Black Women in America
AFR/JUS/WST 351*	Gender and Hip Hop (iCourse and ASU Online)
JUS 329	Domestic Violence (iCourse and ASU Online)
AFR 368*	Black Religion: Sex, Power and Eroticism (iCourse and ASU Online)
AFR 375*	Race, Gender and Sport (iCourse and ASU Online)
WST 375	Women and Social Change (in-person)
AFR/JUS 428*	Critical Race Theory (iCourse and ASU Online)
WST 460	Women and the Body (iCourse and ASU Online)
WST 498*	Proseminar: #Feminism in Social Media (ASU Online)
WST 501	Foundational Feminist Thought (in-person graduate seminar)
AFR 598**	Critical Race Theory (online and in-person graduate seminar)
WST 602	Mapping the Intersections of Gender (in-person graduate seminar)
WST 603	Engendering Methodology (in-person graduate seminar)
WST 691	Queer of Color Critique: Race, Gender and Sexuality (in-person graduate seminar)
WST 701	Research Design and Proposal Development in Gender Studies (in-person graduate seminar)

Seattle University

SOCL 120	Sociological Perspectives (Freshman Seminar)
SOCL 120	Sociological Perspectives
SOCL 210	Social Problems
SOCL 316	Class & Inequality
SOCL 317/SOCW 317	Race & Ethnicity (cross-listed Sociology & Social Work)
SOCL 318	Gender Roles & Sexuality
SOCL 391	Postcolonial Perspectives
SOCL 392/WMST 392	Feminist Theories (cross-listed Sociology & Women Studies)
SOCL 393	Popular Culture

SOCL 392/WMST 381 Feminist Methodologies (Emphasis on Social Science Methods) (cross-listed Sociology & Women Studies)
SOCL 493/ANTH 490 Senior Synthesis (cross-listed Sociology & Anthropology)

Coe College

SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

University of Arizona

AFAS 304 Social Construction of Race: Whiteness
AFAS 306 African-American Autobiographies: Women and Their Histories
TRAD 104 Introduction to African American Literature

Dissertation and Thesis Committee Participation

*Denotes chair

*Sarah Keeton PhD, Gender Studies
*Tafari Osayande PhD, Justice Studies (graduated 2026)
Jamal Brooks-Hawkins PhD, Gender Studies (graduated 2026)
*Amber Acosta PhD, Gender Studies (graduated 2024)
Kimberly Davis EdD, Leadership and Innovation, Mary Lou Fulton Teacher's College (graduated 2024)
*Semaj Taylor MA, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies (graduated 2025)
*Belikos Gray MA, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies (graduated 2025)
Amberdawn Landin MA, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies (graduated 2025)
Bea Wright MA, Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies (graduated 2025)
*Johnny Jenkins MA, Justice Studies (graduated 2023)
*Kyle McKinney MA, Interdisciplinary Studies (graduated 2023)
Kyle Winner BA, Barrett Honors Thesis (graduated 2022)
*Maiquel McLeish BA, Interdisciplinary Studies (graduated 2021)
Cailan Cordwell BA, Barrett Honors Thesis (graduated 2021)
Mallie Pierson BA, Barrett Honors Thesis (graduated 2020)
*Kimberley Koerth MA, Gender Studies (graduated 2019; served as co-chair)
Audrey Hawkes MA, Gender Studies (graduated 2019)

Provisional Advising for MA and PhD Students in Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies

Brittney Walker PhD, Gender Studies (2026-present)
Aja St. Germaine PhD, Gender Studies (2023-2026)

Graduate Research Assistants (GRA) Advising

Note: GRA funding is provided through sponsored research and contract activities in which I serve as PI, Co-PI, Co-Lead, or Co-Evaluator.

Isaac Akapnitis (2023-2026; doctoral candidate, Social Work)
Jamal Brooks-Hawkins (2022-2024; doctoral candidate, Gender Studies)

Hannah Grabowski (2022-2023; doctoral candidate, Gender Studies)
Amber Acosta (2021-2023; doctoral candidate, Gender Studies)
Alaysia Brown (2022; doctoral candidate, Psychology, University of Missouri)

Graduate Independent Studies (Readings and Conference)

Sarah Keeton	Spring 2025
Johari Osei	Fall 2023
Kyle McKinney	Spring 2023
Johnny Jenkins	Fall 2022
Jamal Brooks-Hawkins	Fall 2022
Lydia McInnes	Fall 2020
Tafari Osayande	Fall 2020

HONORS & AWARDS

*Denotes nomination not awarded

Badass Women of ASU, ASU Women's Coalition, Arizona State University, 2021
Catalyst Award, Committee for Campus Inclusion, Arizona State University, 2020
*The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Teaching Award, Arizona State University, 2020
Most Inspirational Faculty Award, Seattle University Class of 2007
Spirit of Community Award, Center for Service and Community Engagement, Seattle University, 2007

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (Arizona State University)

*Denotes administrative appointment

University

*Director, Social Transformation Lab, 2021-present
Executive Board Member, Faculty Women's Association, 2022-2025
Review Committee, Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows Program, 2023, 2024
Interim President-Elect, Faculty Women of Color Caucus, 2020-2021
Vice President of Programming, Faculty Women of Color Caucus, 2019-2021
Co-Curricular Lead and Reviewer, "To Be Welcoming," Starbucks Global Academy, President's Initiative, 2019
Faculty Advisor, Woman As Hero, 2015-2018

College (The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences)

Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI) Committee, 2020-2021

Academic Unit (School of Social Transformation)

Committee Member, Graduate Committee, Women and Gender Studies, Spring 2024-present; 2018-2020

Interim Graduate Director, Gender Studies, Fall 2024

Search Committee Member, Women and Gender Studies Instructor Search, 2023

Search Committee Member, African and African American Studies Instructor Search, 2023

Committee Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, AAAS Representative, 2021-2024
Search Committee Chair, Presidential Postdoctoral Scholar Search, 2021-2022
Search Committee Member, Comparative Ethnic Studies Assistant Professor Search, 2021-2022
*Faculty Head, African and African American Studies, School of Social Transformation, Spring 2020-Spring 2021
Chair, Social Transformation Initiatives Ad Hoc Committee, School of Social Transformation, 2020-2021
Committee Member, Graduate Committee, Women and Gender Studies, 2018-2020
Committee Member, Events Committee, Women and Gender Studies, 2016-2017
Co-Chair, Online Task Group Ad-Hoc, School of Social Transformation, 2014-2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External Evaluator, Feminist Border Arts Film & Zine Festival, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, 2025 (**funding terminated early due to federal executive order**).

Manuscript Reviewer

University of Arizona Press

Southern Illinois University Press

Reviewer for Refereed Journals

Australian Feminist Studies

Black Camera

Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education

Classical Receptions Journal

Gender & Society

Journal of Popular Music Studies

Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism

Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies

Sexuality and Culture

Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order

Sociological Perspectives

Urban Studies

Women & Music: A Journal of Gender & Culture

Editorial Board Member, *Contexts*, 2013-2017

National Women's Studies Association Conference Proposals Reviewer, 2019

Co-Chair, Program Committee, Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, April 11-13, 2008

Secretary & Executive Committee Member, Washington Educators for Social Justice, 2007-2009

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)

National Women's Studies Association

ASU PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

African and African American Faculty and Staff Association

Faculty Women of Color Caucus

Faculty Women's Association

LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Association