

**JOHN L. JACKSON, JR.**  
*RICHARD PERRY UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR*  
*DEAN, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL POLICY & PRACTICE*  
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*215-573-2099 (FAX)*

## **EDUCATION**

2000 Ph.D., Anthropology, **Columbia University** (*with distinction*)  
1998 M.Phil., Anthropology, **Columbia University**  
1994 M.A., Anthropology, **Columbia University**  
1993 B.A., Communication (Radio/TV/Film), **Howard University** (*summa cum laude*)

## **ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS**

2014-Present Dean, *School of Social Policy & Practice*  
**University of Pennsylvania**

2013-2014 *Associate Dean of Administration, Annenberg School for Communication*  
**University of Pennsylvania**

2012-2014 *Senior Advisor to the Provost on Diversity, University of Pennsylvania*

2007-2013 *Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Annenberg School for*  
*Communication, University of Pennsylvania*

2009-Present *Richard Perry University Professor, University of Pennsylvania*

Spring 2009 *Visiting Professor of Law, Harvard Law School*

2006-2009 *Richard Perry University Associate Professor, Annenberg School for*  
*Communication, School of Arts & Sciences*  
*Affiliate, Program in Africana Studies, Graduate School of Education*  
**University of Pennsylvania**

Spring 2006 *Associate Professor, Department of Cultural Anthropology*  
*Affiliate, Program in African and African American Studies*  
*Affiliate, Center for Documentary Studies*  
**Duke University**

2002-2006 *Assistant Professor, Department of Cultural Anthropology*  
**Duke University**

1999-2002 *Junior Fellow, Society of Fellows, Harvard University*

## PARTIAL LIST OF GRANTS AND AWARDS

2016-2017	Mellon Foundation, Grant for CAMRA/SSMF Media Fellows
2014-2015	Provost Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund (New Directions in Visual Research)
2012-2013	Provost Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund (Screening Scholarship Film Festival)
2011-2012	SAS Teaching Award for Innovative Teaching
2011-2012	CTSA Community Engagement and Research Core Pilot Grant
2011-2012	Provost Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund (Year-long grad course on visual media)
2011-2012	Global Engagement Fund (from Vice Provost for Global Initiatives)
2008-2010	University of Pennsylvania Faculty Fellow, Penn Fellow ( <i>Inaugural Cohort</i> )
Dec. 2009	Presidential Award, American Anthropological Association
2005-2006	Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Award
2005-2006	Lilly Endowment Fellowship, National Humanities Center
Dec. 2002	American Educational Studies Association, Critics' Choice Award
Oct. 2002	Honorable Mention, John Hope Franklin Prize, American Studies Association
2000-2002	William F. Milton Fund, Harvard University Medical School
Dec. 2001	<i>Publishers Weekly</i> , Notable Non-Fiction Book
1999-2002	Society of Fellows, Harvard University
1997-1998	Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
1995-1997	National Science Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship
1992-1993	Ronald E. McNair Scholarship, American University
1989-1993	University Merit Scholarship, Howard University

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

### *Books*

*Televised Redemption: The Media Production of Black Muslims, Jews, and Christians*, co-written with Carolyn Rouse and Marla Frederick, New York University Press, 2016.

*Impolite Conversations: On Race, Class, Sex, Religion, and Politics*, co-written with Cora Daniels, Atria Books [Simon and Schuster imprint], 2014.

*Thin Description: Ethnography and the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem*, Harvard University Press, 2013.

*Racial Paranoia: The Unintended Consequences of Political Correctness*, Basic Civitas, 2008.

*Real Black: Adventures in Racial Sincerity*, University of Chicago Press, 2005.

*Harlemworld: Doing Race and Class in Contemporary Black America*, Univ. of Chicago Press, 2001.

### *Articles and Chapters*

“Racialized Citizenship and the Modern American City, Ethnographically Considered,” in *Anthropology and the City*, ed., Setha Low, Routledge, forthcoming.

“Increasing Success for African American Children and Youth,” Teasley, M., McRoy, R., Joyner, M., Armour, M., Gourdine, R., Crewe, S., Kelly, M., Franklin, C., Payne, M., Jackson, J., Fong, R., *Grand Challenges for Social Work Initiative, Working Paper*, No. 21, September, 2016.

“Birthdays, Basketball, and Breaking Bread: Negotiating with Class in Contemporary Black America,” *Cultural Anthropology: Contemporary, Public and Critical Readings*, Keri Vacanti Brondo, Ed., Oxford University Press, July 2016.

“Ethnography Is, Ethnography Ain’t,” *Writing Culture and the Life of Anthropology*, Orin Starn, Ed., Duke University Press, April 2015.

“Conspiracy is the Sincerest Form of Flattery: Hip-Hop, Aesthetics, and Suspicious Spiritualities,” *Religion in Hip Hop: Mapping the New Terrain in the U.S.*, Monica R. Miller, Anthony B. Pinn, and Bernard “Bun B” Freeman, Eds., Bloomsbury Academic, April 2015.

“Half as Good,” *The Trouble with Post-Blackness*, Houston A. Baker and K. Merinda Simmons, Eds., Columbia University Press, February 2015.

“Peter Piper Picked Peppers, but Humpty Dumpty Got Pushed: The Productively Paranoid Stylings of Hip-Hop’s Spirituality,” *The Hip Hop and Religion Reader*, Monica R. Miller and Anthony B. Pinn, Eds., Routledge / Taylor & Francis, November 2014.

“Theorizing Production, Producing Theory: Why Filmmaking Could Count as Scholarship,” *Cultural Studies* 28:4 (July, 2014).

“No Friends,” (a chapter from *Harlemworld*) reprinted in *The Urban Ethnography Reader*, Mitchell Duneier, Philip Kasnitz, and Alexandra Murphy, Eds., Oxford University Press, February 2014.

“An Americanist Anthropologist in Dimona: Notes from an Africanized Israel,” *Ethnographic Encounters in Israel*, Fran Markowitz, Ed., Indiana University Press, 2013.

“Ethnography Is, Ethnography Ain’t,” *Cultural Anthropology* 27(3): 480-497 (2012).

“Return of the Reflexed: Filmmaking and the Aesthetics of Social Science,” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 35(4): 637-642 (2012).

“Black Jews in an African Context,” accepted for publication in *African Zion: Studies in Black Judaism*, Edith Bruder and Tudor Parfitt, Eds., Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012.

“Democracy’s Anxious Returns,” co-authored with David Kim, *The ANNALS of the Academy of Political and Social Science*, 637: 6-16 (September 2011).

“HBO’s Utopian Realism: Treating *Treme*,” *Transforming Anthropology*, (19)1: 17-20 (April 2011).

“On Ethnographic Sincerity,” *Current Anthropology*, 51(S): 279-289, October 2010.

“The Decolonization of Black Film: An Interview with Filmmaker Haile Gerima,” *CALLALOO: A*

*Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*, 33(1): 25-36 (Winter 2010).

“All Yah’s Children: Emigrationism, Afrocentrism, and the Place of Israel in Africa,” *Civilisations*, published by Université libre de Bruxelles in English and French, 63(1): 93-112 (September 2009).

“Toward an Ethnographic Lingua Franca: Communication and Anthropology,” *Journal of Communication*, 58(4): 664-678 (December 2008).

“They Hate Me: Spike Lee, Documentary Filmmaking, and Hollywood’s “Savage Slot,” co-written with Jasmine Cobb, *The Spike Lee Reader*, Janice Hamlet, Robin Means Coleman, and Peter Lang, Eds.: 251-269, 2008.

“Towards an Ethnography of a Quotation-Marked-Off Place,” *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society*,” Westview Press, Spring 1999. Reprinted in Manning Marable, ed., *Souls: The New Black Renaissance*, Paradigm Press, 2006.

“Gentrification, Globalization, and Georaciality,” *Globalization and Race: Transformations in the Cultural Production of Blackness*, Kamari Clarke and Deborah Thomas, Eds., Duke University Press, 2006.

“An Ethnographic Filmflam: Giving Gifts, Doing Research, and Videotaping the Native Subject/Object,” *American Anthropologist* 106(1):32-42, March 2004.

“Birthdays, Basketball, and Breaking Bread,” (a chapter from *Harlemworld*) reprinted in *Life in America: Identity and Everyday Experience*, Lee D. Baker, Ed., Blackwell, 2004.

“Abandoning Advertisements over Edifical Ekphrases,” *The Journal of Visual Culture*, 2(3):341-352, December 2003.

“Undoing Harlemworld: An Anthropological Argument about Diasporic Disasters,” *Revolutions of the Mind: Cultural Studies in the African Diaspora Project, 1996-2002*,” CAAS Publications, 2003.

“Ethnophysicality, or An Ethnography of Some Body,” *Soul: Black Power, Politics, and Pleasure*, Richard Green and Monique Guillory, Eds., New York University Press, 1998.

“The Soles of Black Folk: These Reeboks Were Made for Runnin’ from the White Man,” *Race Consciousness: African American Studies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Judith Jackson-Fossett and Jeffrey Tucker, Eds., New York University Press, 1997.

### ***Edited Volumes***

Editor, *Social Policy and Social Justice*, University of Pennsylvania Press, October 2016.

Editor of a special issue, “Theorizing Production/Producing Theory,” *Cultural Studies*, 28:4 (July, 2014).

Co-editor (with David Kim) of a special issue, "Race, Religion, and Democracy," for *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, September 2011.

Co-editor (with Martha S. Jones) of a special issue, "pass·ing," for the peer-reviewed journal *Women & Performance*, 29(1), January 2006.

Editor of a special issue, "Racial Americana," for *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, 104(3), July 2005.

### ***Book Reviews***

Review of Larry Davis's *Why are They Angry With Us?*, In *Research on Social Work Practice* (2016).

Review of Janice W. Fernheimer's *Stepping Into Zion: Hatzaad Harishon, Black Jews and the Remaking of Jewish Identity*, In *American Jewish History* (April 2016).

Review of Jennifer F. Hamer, *Abandoned in the Heartland: Work, Family, and Living in East St. Louis* (University of California Press, 2011). In *Crisis Magazine* (Spring 2012).

Review of Zain Abdullah's *Black Mecca: The African Muslims of Harlem*, In *The Sociology of Religion* (2011).

Review of Thomas Sugrue's *Not Yet Past: Barack Obama and the Burden of Race*, In *Social Service Review* 85:3 (2011).

Review of Mary Pattillo's *Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City*, Karyn Lacy's *Blue-Chip Black: Race, Class, and Status in the New Black Middle Class*, and Michelle Boyd's *Jim Crow Nostalgia: Reconstructing Race in Bronzeville*, In *The Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race* 7(1), July 2010.

Review of *The Tailenders* In *The Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 17(2): 287-288 (2008).

Review of Al Young's *The Minds of Marginalized Black Men*, In *The American Journal of Sociology* (2007).

Review of Prudence Carter's *Keepin' it Real* and Mica Pollock's *Colormute*, In *The Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race* (2006), 3: 425-429

Review of Jeff Wiltse's *Contested Waters*, In *The Washington Post*, May 6, 2007, BW 06.

Review of William J. Wilson and Richard Taub's *There Goes the Neighborhood*, In *The Washington Post*, Dec 17, 2006, BW 04.

Review of Arlene Dávila's *Barrio Dreams: Puerto Ricans, Latinos, and the Neoliberal State*, In *Transforming Anthropology*, 14(1): 122-124, April 2006.

Review of Eric Klinenberg's *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago*, In *The American*

*Journal of Sociology*, 108(5):1114-1115, March 2003.

Review of Adrian Nicole Blanc's *Random Family: Love, Drugs, Trouble and Coming of Age in the Bronx*, In *The Washington Post*, C08, February 12, 2003.

Review of Ingrid Banks's *Hair Matters: Beauty, Power and Black Women's Consciousness*, In *Sex Roles: A Journal of Research*, July 2001.

Review of Robin Kelley's *Yo Mama's Disfunktional*, In *Transforming Anthropology*, 7(1), Fall 1998.

## **PARTIAL LIST OF POPULAR PRESS**

"Multimodality, Accidentality and the Possible Futures of Anthropological Research," guest editorial, AAA Blog, American Anthropological Association website, November 2016.

"It's Not Too Late to Talk about the Issues," Op-Ed, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 2016.

"Wait, There's Still Time to Change the Tenor of this Election," Op-Ed, *Abilene Reporter News*, September 2016.

"Social Work Has Become the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Law Degree," *Inside Higher Ed*, February 2016.  
REPRINTED in *Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work: The U.S. in Global Perspective*, van Wormer, Katherine, ed., Oxford University Press, December 2016.

"What It Feels Like to Be a Black Professor," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 2015.

"Lessons from Ferguson," Op-Ed with co-author Ezekiel Dixon-Roman, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, December 2014.

"In Troubled World, Social Workers There to Help," Op-Ed, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 2014.

"Some of Your Best Friends are Racists," Op-Ed, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 2013.

"Where Is Your @\$%!\*ing Final Paper?," Op-Ed, *Durham Herald-Sun*, September 2009.

Brainstorm Blog Column, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, 2007-2011.

"Race and the Social Science of Sincerity," *Contexts* 4(4), Fall 2005.

"A Little Black Magic," *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, 104(3):1-13, July 2005.

"Dreadlocks and Yarmulkes: Cultural Clashes in Crown Heights," *FOCUS*, published by The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. Washington, D.C., Fall 1992.

## **CURRENT RESEARCH**

### **The Power of Human Spiritual Strength to Improve Cardiovascular Health Outcomes**

In this 3-year project (a collaboration with Dr. Lisa Lewis, Associate Professor of Nursing, and doctoral student Diana Burnett), we explore the efficacy of a model of spirituality-based fitness promotion on the cardiovascular health of a segment of Israel's African population, a group disproportionately at risk for cardiovascular diseases. The African Hebrew Israelites, a spiritual community in Jerusalem, have developed such a spiritual model of health promotion that has been successful in reducing chronic illness in their own community. The primary question addressed by our project is: Will a human spirituality health promotion model be more effective in improving cardiovascular health outcomes when compared to a standard health promotion program in 200 members of Jerusalem's African communities. We expect a series of manuscripts, presentations, curricula for a culturally adapted human spirituality health promotion model and media that documents the process of adapting and implementing the human spirituality health promotion model. This project capitalizes on the spiritual strengths of spiritual communities and holds the potential to demonstrate the important contributions that human spirituality and spiritual beliefs make in promoting health.

### **The Presentation of Self in Ethnographic Life**

I am currently preparing a manuscript that re-examines the philosophy of methodology in contemporary ethnography. I redefine and redeploy the trope of "sincerity" (over and against notions of "authenticity") to consider how anthropology's traditional research method and disciplinary genre, ethnography, might be productively recalibrated for a current moment driven by the study of complex cultural phenomena, an era glossed with recourse to terms such as "globalization" and "mass mediation." Ethnography is not irrelevant or superfluous to serious questions about our interconnected world and its emergent social properties, but the discipline must revisit some basic assumptions about the very nature of observation and intersubjectivity if it hopes to strengthen its capacity to speak back to others' dismissive fixations on totalizing and absolutist forms of knowledge production. Indeed, what kind of authority might anthropology even claim to possess in an age of hyper-scientific commitments to human genomics and statistical analyses of massive datasets—for some, holy grails of social curiosity? Even and especially in its commonsensical quaintness, I proffer "sincerity" as a potentially useful proxy for the kinds of conceptual, ethical and methodological choices anthropologists will negotiate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **The Rosicrusian**

I am writing, directing, and preparing to perform in a one-person theatrical piece based on the life of 19<sup>th</sup> century proto-anthropologist, author, sex-magician and mesmerist Paschal Beverly Randolph. An African American born free in New York City circa 1825, Randolph is credited with moving America from the passivity of spiritualism to the agential manipulations of occultism. My performance will use his fascinating life story (complete with tales from his "ethnographic" excursions in the Middle East, Africa and Europe) to make an argument about the discipline of anthropology's current fascination with a kind of occulted methodology, a disembodied empiricism that allows the field to miss several important questions about subjectivity and community, about solidarity and essentialism. I retool and re-imagine Paschal's critique of spiritualism to ground a contemporary response to institutionalized forms of ethnographic practice.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology and Annenberg School for Communication

Professor/Associate Professor,

- *Urban Ethnography: Documenting City Life*, Spring 2014
- *Media Ethnography*, Fall 2013
- *Ethnography, Documentary, and Film (Part 2)*, Spring 2012
- *Urban Ethnography, An Anthropology of Philadelphia's Soundscape*, Spring 2012
- *Spiritual Communication*, Fall 2011 (freshman seminar and senior seminar)
- *Ethnography, Documentary, and Film (Part 1)*, Fall 2011
- *Ethnographic Film*, Spring 2011
- *The Filmic*, Spring 2010
- *Televised Redemption*, Fall 2009
- *Proseminar in Africana Studies*, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2013
- *The Ethnographic Imagination*, Spring 2009
- *Race Films: Spike Lee and His Interlocutors (co-taught with Salamishah Tillet)*, Fall 2008
- *Race: History, Theory, and Practice*, Spring 2008
- *Anthropology and the Mass Media*, Fall 2007
- *Proseminar in Africana Studies (co-taught with Deborah Thomas)*, Fall 2007
- *Film and Reality*, Spring 2007
- *Public-Interest Social Science (taught with Peggy Sanday and Dean Delli Carpini)*, Fall 2006
- *Media Ethnography*, Fall 2006

### Harvard University Law School

Visiting Professor,

- *Race, Religion, and the Law (co-taught with Noah Feldman)*, Spring 2009

### Duke University, Department of Cultural Anthropology

Assistant Professor,

- *Urban Anthropology*, Spring 2005
- *Media, Anthropology, Subjectivity*, Fall 2003
- *Film and Reality*, Spring 2003 (co-taught with Andrew Janiak)
- *Religious Imaginings*, Fall 2003 (co-taught with Charlie Piot)
- *The Documentary Experience*, Fall 2002, Spring 2004
- *Advanced Ethnography*, Fall 2004 (co-taught with Ralph Litzinger)
- *Theories in Cultural Anthropology*, Spring 2004
- *Identity and Everyday Life in America*, Spring 2003
- *Anthropology and Film*, Spring 2003
- *Performative Ethnography*, Fall 2002
- *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Fall 2003, Spring 2005

### The College of New Rochelle, School of New Resources

Adjunct Instructor/Instructional Staff Member,

- *The Anthropology of Race*, Spring 1999
- *Social Science Research Methods*, Fall 1998
- *Urban Community*, Spring 1997, Fall 1997, Spring 1998



- *Introduction to Anthropology*, Fall 1996
- *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Spring 1996

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### *Research and Scholarly Organizing*

- Faculty co-founder and coordinator (with Deborah Thomas and Stanton Wortham) of PIVPE, the Penn Initiative on Visual and Performative Ethnography, 2013-present.
- Faculty co-founder and coordinator of CAMRA, a multimodal site for scholarly research: <http://camrapenn.org/>, 2011-present.
- Editor-in-Chief of the Anthropology Module for Oxford Bibliographies Online: <http://oxfordbibliographiesonline.com/>, 2010-present.
- Co-editor (with David Kim and Rudy Busto) of the book series *RaceReligion* for Stanford University Press, 2011-present.
- Member of a Ford Foundation working group (chaired by Alford Young, Sociology, University of Michigan) on African American Masculinity, 2008-2011.
- Co-Coordinator (with Shaun Harper, GSE-Penn) of an multi-year speaker series, “African American Males Transcending Urban Disadvantage,” funded by the University of Pennsylvania’s Institute for Urban Research, January 2009-May 2011.
- Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Vinson, History, Johns Hopkins University), “Afro-Latino Racial Formation in the New South,” research funded by the African Diaspora Fund, 2003.
- Co-Coordinator (with Martha S. Jones, History, University of Michigan), *The Pass•ing Conference*, Columbia University, Fall 1996.
- Co-Coordinator, *The Uptown/Downtown Graduate Student Workshops*, New York University and Columbia University, 1994-1996.
- Intern, *The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies*, Washington D.C., 1992.

### *Media Productions*

Co-Executive Producer and Co-Director, *Sweet Tea: An Ethnographic Film* (Non-Fiction). **IN PRODUCTION**

Co-Executive Producer and Co-Director, *Not Just TV: HBO, the 1970s, and the Idea of Pay TV* (Non-Fiction). **IN PRODUCTION**

Producer, Director, *Bald as I Am: Life, Love and Alopecia* (Non-Fiction). **IN PRODUCTION**

Executive Producer, *Four Days in May: Extradition from a Jamaican Community* (Non-Fiction). **IN POST-PRODUCTION**

Co-Producer, Co-Director, Editor, *Bad Friday: Rastafari After Coral Gardens* (Non-Fiction) *Distributed by Third World Newsreel. COMPLETED*

Partial list of screenings:

- Paddington Arts Center, London, England, July 2013
- Robben Island Museum, Cape Town, South Africa, July 2013
- University of Puerto Rico, April 2012
- Rutgers University, March 2012
- York University, March 2012
- Caribbean Creativity Festival, Amsterdam, February 2012
- San Diego Black Film Festival, January 2012
- Scribe Video Center, Philadelphia, December 2011
- Reggae Culture Salute, Brooklyn, November 2011 (New York City Premiere)
- Hollywood Black Film Festival, October 2011
- CUNY Graduate Center, October 2011
- Trinidad and Tobago International Film Festival, September/October 2011
- Duke University, September 2011
- Bob Marley Museum, Kingston, Jamaica (Premiere), June 2011
- Caribbean Studies Association Meetings, Curacao, June 2011 (Preview)
- Human Rights Film Festival, University of Virginia, April 2011 (Preview)
- Yale University, Caribbean Studies: Prisms and Practices, April 2011 (Preview)
- University of the West Indies, Rastafari Studies Conference, August 2010 (Preview)

Producer, *African-Americans and the Bible* (Non-Fiction) **COMPLETED**

Producer, *Divided We Stand*, a 90-minute, 16mm Film (Fiction) **COMPLETED**

- *Second Best Feature: Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame Festival, Oakland, 1998*
- *Official Selection: The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Pan-African Film Festival, Los Angeles, 1999*
- *Third Prize, Best Feature: The Hollywood Black Film Festival, Los Angeles, 1999*

Producer, *The Sight*, a 15-minute, 16mm Film (Fiction) **COMPLETED**

- *Official Selection: Martha's Flava Fest Film Festival, Martha's Vineyard, 1998*

Producer, *Stompin' Down at Suga Love's*, a 20-minute, 16mm Film (Fiction) **COMPLETED**

- *Official Selection: Rotterdam International Film Festival (Amsterdam), 2000*
- *Official Selection: Raindance Film Festival (London), 2000*

Co-Writer, -Producer, -Director, *Get it Together*, a 30-minute video (Non-Fiction) **COMPLETED**

- *Audience's Choice Award, Black Producers' Consortium, 1993*
- *Silver Apple Award, National Education Film and Video Festival, 1993*
- *Best Student Documentary, North American Assoc. of Environmental Educators, 1993*

Radio Talk Show Host, *The Jackson Attraction Radio Show*, WNYE, 91.5 FM, New York

## **PARTIAL LIST OF CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

“Race Symposium,” University of Southern California, School of Social Work, January 2017.

“Anthropology and Social Work,” Society for Social Work and Research Conference, January 2016.

“Is that Racist?” American Anthropological Association, Annual Conference, November 2016.

“Thick Depiction: How Taking Film Seriously Should Change Ethnography,” opening keynote at *Hurston@125: Engaging with the Work & Legacy of Zora Neale Hurston '28*, Columbia University, Barnard Center for Research on Women, New York, NY, October 2016.

“Re-imagining Community in Academia,” panel discussion at 2016 Ford Fellows Annual Conference, Washington, DC, September 2016.

“Success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Defining Multiple Literacies,” keynote address at Free Library of Philadelphia Conference, August 2016.

“A Conversation on Black Aesthetics,” public interview with Professor Haile Gerima, Blackstar Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA, August 2016.

“Love, Race, and Invisibility in a World of ‘Us’ and ‘Them,’” lecture, Smith College’s Annual Anti-Racism Lecture Series, June 2016.

“Dissertations, Digitality, and Diversity: What Multi-Modal Scholarship Means for Academic Inclusivity,” keynote address, Mellon Mays Fellowship Program 2016 Conference (*Advancing Intercultural Studies*), Riverside, CA, May 2016.

“Mass Violence and Social Work Education,” keynote address and panel discussion at the annual conference of The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD), April 2016.

“Social Justice: How Does Social Work Lead the Charge?,” keynote address at San Diego State University’s “All School Day” event, March 2016.

“Microaggressions and Community Building,” lecture, Rowan University, February 2016.

“Cultures of Care: Why Social Work Should Continue to Take Differences Seriously,” lecture, University of Denver, September 2015.

“Race, Symbolism, and Diversity,” panel discussion at Vanderbilt University, September 2015.

“Why We Need ‘Impolite Conversations’ on Race,” lecture, University of South Florida, September 2015.

“Black No More? – When Harlem Was in Vogue Magazine,” lecture at Harlem Symposium, Columbia University, July 2015.

“Why Multimodality is Relevant to Discussions of Inclusion and Diversity,” keynote address, SSRC-Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Postdoctoral Fellows Retreat, July 2015.

“Media Methods: Using Technology for Research and Engagement in Higher Education,” keynote lecture, Towson University, April 2015.

“The Inclusion Trap: Why Diversity Matters and How Academia Should Re-imagine its Value,” keynote speech, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program 2015 Coordinators’ Conference (*Trends in Graduate Education: Admission, Retention and Completion*), New York, March 2015.

“Who Cares About Social Justice? Ethnography and Diversity Work,” lecture and public dialogue, Connecticut College, March 2015.

“Talking and Living Race, Religion, and Social Justice,” lecture, discussion, and workshop, University of Arizona, February 2015.

“Thick Depiction: Anxiety, Anthropology, and Film/Video,” The Walter Goldschmidt Lecture, UCLA, February 2015.

“Keywords: Religion and ... the Limits of Normativity,” panel discussion at American Academy of Religion’s Annual Meeting, November 2014.

“What you CAN’T See is What You Get: Color, Community, and Citizenship in an Aspiringly ‘Post-Racial Democracy,’” Diversity Lecture Series, University of Pennsylvania’s School of Dental Medicine, November 2014.

“Racial Paranoia: The Unintended Consequences of Political Correctness,” guest speaker at the Dean’s Conference Room, Baruch College, November 2014.

“Black Judaism (Part II): Historical Processes and Contemporary Developments in Israel and the Diaspora,” panel discussion at African Studies Association’s 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, November 2014.

“Diasporic Dissidents: African American Hebrews and the Redefinition of All Things Black,” Distinguished Lecturer Series Presentation, Department of African American and African Studies, Ohio State University, October 2014.

“What you CAN’T See is What You Get: Color, Community, and Citizenship in an Aspiringly ‘Post-Racial Democracy,’” Structural Racism and the Root Causes of Prejudice Series, University of Maryland, October 2014.

“From ‘Writing Culture’ to Filming Culture: Toward an Anthropology of Multimodality,” Anthropology Lecture Sponsored by The New School for Social Research, The New School, October 2014.

“Negotiating for Success,” panel discussion at the 2014 Conference of Ford Fellows, September 2014.

“From Thin Descriptions to Thin Identities: Toward an Anthropology of the Unseen,” Opening Plenary Presentation, American Ethnological Society/Society for Visual Anthropology, Spring Conference, April 2014.

“Roundtable on Emerging Media Pedagogies with CAMRA @ Penn,” panel discussion at the Futures of Visual Anthropology Conference, Temple University, April 2014.

“Black Gods and Red Devils: Race, Religion, and the Re-Imagining of Africana Subjectivity,” Department of Africana Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, April 2014.

“Practicing Impolite Conversations: Talking About Race, Religion, Politics, and Everything Else,” Swarthmore College, March 2014.

“Eden Rock: Popular Culture, Veganism, and the Creation of a New Kingdom in Contemporary Philadelphia,” Race and Religion in American History Conference, Princeton University, March 2014.

“All Yah’s Children: A Story of the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem,” Judaic Studies Program, Drexel University, March 2014.

“Re-thinking Black Jewry,” Jewish Museum of Florida, Florida International University, February 2014.

“Black Gods and Red Devils: Re-imagining Race and Religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Department of Africana Studies, Barnard College, February 2014.

“45 Seconds From Forever: Stories of the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem,” Jewish Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania, February 2014.

“Black Immortalists and Vegan Techniques of the Body,” Department of Anthropology, University of California, Irvine, January 2014.

“Radio, Suckers Never Play Me: Race and New Media Aesthetics,” American Anthropological Association, November 2013.

“Thin Description: Ethnography & the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem,” University of Pennsylvania Bookstore, November 2013.

“Race and Communication,” Annenberg Honors Program, Howard University, November 2013.

“Practicing Impolite Conversations: Talking About Race, Religion, Politics, and Everything Else,” Penn Lightbulb Café, University of Pennsylvania, September 2013.

“Black Jerusalem: Ethnography, Immortality, and the African Hebrew Israelites,” Department of Anthropology, City University of New York, November 2012.

“Blacks and Jews: Toward a New Anthropology of Race and Religiosity,” American

Anthropological Association, Annual Conference, November 2012.

“Diversity and the American Academy,” Ford Fellows Conference, Ford Foundation, October 2013.

“Ethnographic Research in Film/Video,” Scribe Video Center, May 2012.

“Other People’s Zion: Black Hebrew Israelites, Identity, and the Study of Race,” Temple University, Institute for the Study of Race and Social Thought, April 2012.

“The End of Ethnography in the Age of Digitality,” Keynote Address, Temple University, Center for the Humanities, April 2012.

“Israelites in the Promised Land: Toward an Ethnography of Global Black Hebrewism,” University of Connecticut, April 2012.

“Revisioning History, Reimagining Nation,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 2012.

“Doing Digital Ethnography,” Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University, March 2012.

“The Ethnographic Impossible,” Keynote Address, The Ethnography Forum, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, February 2012.

“We, the Black Jews, of A New Media Moment,” Department of African and African American Studies, Duke University, February 2012.

“Theorizing Diaspora,” National Humanities Center, February 2012.

“The Future of African American Studies,” Yale University, December 2011.

“Racial Paranoia within the Anthropological Sciences,” American Anthropological Association, Presidential Session, November 2011.

“Black Hebrews and the Revision of Africana Spiritualities,” American Academy of Religion, October 2011.

“Filming Culture: Toward a Post-‘Writing Culture’ Anthropology,” Department of Anthropology, Duke University, September 2011.

“Anthroman to the Rescue: Ethnography 2.0 and Beyond,” Colby College, April 2011.

“Hip Hop’s History,” AcadeMIX Panel, Haverford College, April 2011.

“Ethnography in an Age of Massive Data Sets,” American Educational Research Association Conference, April 2011.

“Ethnographic Methods: A Critique,” Sociology Department, Harvard University, March 2011.

“Dave Chappelle and Race,” Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, Connecticut College, February 2011.

“Getting Race Wrong,” Martin Luther King Luncheon, Suffolk University, January 2011.

“Martin Luther King’s Dream and the Paranoia of Race,” Martin Luther King Speaker, University of South Dakota, January 2011.

“Race and Cynicism,” The State of Race Conference, The American Anthropological Association on Capitol Hill, January 2011.

“Black Hebrewism and the Digital Diaspora,” American Anthropological Association, Nov. 2010.

“Race and Paranoia in Contemporary America,” The National Conference on Race and Ethnicity, June 2010.

“Black Judah: Race, Religion, and Digital Diasporic Identity,” The New York Academy of Sciences, May 2010.

“All Yah’s Children: Race, Spirituality and Neo-Logics of Diasporic Possibility,” New York Academy of Sciences, April 2010.

“Racial Paranoia,” Penn Science Café, University of Pennsylvania, March 2010.

“Bad Friday: Rastafari after Coral Gardens,” and ethnographic film screening and discussion session, Beloit College, March 2010.

“Racial Paranoia in a Post-Racial Moment,” LaSalle University, February 2010.

“Race and Bootstrapology,” Yale University (“Black Solidarity” Conference), February 2010.

“Toward a Method for the Study of Black Jewry,” American Academy of Religion, November 2009.

“Obama’s First Year,” The Kimmel Center, Philadelphia, PA (Change Symposium), Nov. 2009.

“Scriptures and African American Religiosity,” Claremont Graduate University (“Reading Scriptures, Reading America” Conference), October 2009.

“Yah Power: Black Hebrewism, Afrocentrism, and the Silences of African-American Studies,” Stanford University, May 2009.

“Racism, Post-Raciality, & the Hidden Injury of Colorblindness,” Williams College, February 2009.

“Black Judah On-Line: Toward an Example of Media Ethnography,” Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, December 2008.

“Anthropology and Race: Toward a New Paradigm,” Presidential Session, American

Anthropological Association, Annual Conference, November 2008.

“The Bodied Politic: Ethnobiology, Anti-Religiosity, and the Reckoning of Black Hebrewism,” Center for Afro-Jewish Studies, Temple University, October 2008.

“Race, Gender and Paranoia in the Election,” Provost Office, Westminster College (Salt Lake City, Utah), September 2008.

“What Dave Chappelle Can Teach Michael Richards about American History,” Center for World Cultures, Miami-Ohio University, March 2008.

“Black Hebrews and the Revision of Diaspora,” Berkeley Center for Religion, Georgetown University, February 2008.

“Ethnographic Sincerity,” Dept. of African-American Studies, Princeton University, Feb. 2008.

“Anthropology as Social Critique,” Wenner Gren Foundation Conference, January 2008.

“Yah’s Children: On Racial Immortality,” Dept. of Anthropology, Harvard University, Dec. 2007.

“Politics and Anthropology,” Department of Anthropology, Haverford College, November 2007.

“Toward an Urban Ethnography of Black Masculinity,” Ford Foundation, November 2007.

“Black Hebrews: A Primer,” American Anthropological Association, November 2007.

“Black Hebrews and the Re-Geographicalization of Africa,” Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles, May 2007.

“Harlem: Then and Now,” Department of Africana Studies, New York University, April 2007.

“Black Jews and Eternal Life: Biopolitics and the Reproduction of Diasporic Difference,” Department of Anthropology, American University, March 2007.

“Spiritual Communication, Sex Magic, and the Life of a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Proto-anthropologist,” History Department, University of Delaware, March 2007.

“When Keeping It Real Goes Wrong” and “Racial Paranoia vs. Racism,” Africana Studies Department, John Hopkins University, February 2007.

“Race, Fear and the Paranoid American,” Africana Studies Department, John Hopkins University, February 2007.

“Racial Paranoia, or What Dave Chappelle Can Teach Michael Richards about American History,” African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Boston College, February 2007.

“Sincere Whiteness,” American Anthropological Association, Annual Conference, December 2006.



“The Anti-Fundamentalist Fundamentalists: African Americans in the Promised Land,” Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, Stanford University, March 2006.

“Ethnographic Sincerity,” American Anthropological Association, December 2005.

“The Critical Front: Origin Stories of Anthroman,” American Studies Association, November 2005.

“Racial Sincerity and the Anti-Fundamentalist Fundamentalists,” Center for African American Urban Studies and the Economy, Carnegie Mellon University, October 2005.

“Black Judah: Insides vs. Outsides and the Twelve Tribes of Televised Transnationalism,” Northwestern University, June 2005.

“Racial Americana qua Racial Sincerity,” Yale University, February 2005.

“Black Hebrews: Racial Authenticity, Religious Sincerity and the 12 Tribes of Transnationalism,” University of Pennsylvania, February 2005.

“Twelve Tribalism,” New York University, February 2005.

“The Social Science of Sincerity,” Stetson University, February 2005.

“Black Hebrew: Race, Gender and the Twelve Tribes of Transnationalism,” Yale University, January 2005.

“Racial Sincerity,” African-American Studies, Princeton University, November 2004.

“Real Harlemites,” Race and Globalization Conference, Yale University, September 2004.

“Televised Redemption,” International Conference on Media, Religion, & Culture, Louisville, Kentucky, September 2004.

“Georaciality and Ghetto Fabulosity,” Metropolitan Studies, New York University, Sept. 2004.

“Realness,” The Racial Performativity Conference, University of Minnesota, March 2004.

“Reading Scriptures, Reading Blackness,” Claremont School of Religion, February 2004.

“Gentrification, Georaciality and The Global,” Dept. of Sociology, Duke University, October 2003.

“An Ethnographic Filmflam: Giving Gifts, Doing Research, and Videotaping the Native Subject/Object,” Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University October 2003.

“Vending Violences,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, October 2003.

“Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Stetson University, February 2003.

“The Twelve Tribes of Transnationalism: Race, Gender and Religiosity,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, November 2002.

“The Ethnographic FilmFlam: Doing Visual Anthropology, Doing Native Anthropology, Program in African American Studies, Wesleyan University, November 2002.

“Rethinking Ethnographic Filmmaking, Rethorizing Ethnographic Film,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Houston, November 2002.

“Negotiating Race and Class in Contemporary Black Families,” Keynote Speaker, Paula B. Mack Child Development Lecture, North Carolina Central University, November, 2002.

“From Disneyland to Harlemworld: Gentrification and the Construction of Social Identities,” Race/Ethnicity, Self/Culture, and Inequality Conference, Princeton University, April 2002.

“Shared Anthropology: Film Producing, Native Anthropology, and Issues of Methodology,” Relocating Ethnography Conference, University of Michigan, April 2002.

“How College Psychologists Think Race,” Clinical Psychology Center, Boston College, April, 2002.

“Harlem as Make Believe,” Washington and Lee University, March 2002.

“Harlemworld: Race and Class in Black America,” Harvard University Bookstore, February 2002.

“Black on Both Sides: Lessons in Gentrification and Cultural *Misanthropology*,” American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 2001.

“Undoing Harlemworld,” University of California, Los Angeles, November 2001.

“The Politics of Class in Contemporary Black America,” The National Urban League Conference, The Training Ground Workshop, Washington, DC, July 2001.

“Mos Def’s Mental Territories,” Seventh Annual International Performance Studies Conference, Mainz, Germany, April 2001.

“Being Black, Doing Black: Towards the Performative Limits of Raciality,”  
Institute for Research on Race and Social Division, Boston University, April 2001.  
Dept. of Sociology, Boston College, February 2001.  
Dept. of Community Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, January 2001.  
Dept. of Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego, January 2001.  
Dept. of Anthropology, University of Florida, Gainesville, January 2001.  
Dept. of Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison, December 2000.

“Understanding Urban Anthropology in the 1990s,” The Dudley House Lectures, Harvard University, December 2000.

“Doing Race and Class in Contemporary Black America,” Department of Cultural Anthropology, Duke University, November 2000.

“Harlemworld: Race and Space in Contemporary Hip-Hop Music and Culture,” Ford Foundation Conference, University of California, Irvine, October 2000.

“Black Folks and Performativity,” The Black Performativity Symposium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 2000.

“Challenging Binary Models of Black America,” Stanford University Conference on Race, Stanford University, November 1999.

“‘Harlemworld’: Performing Race and Class at the End of the Century,” Department of Anthropology, Haverford College, April 1999.

“When Two Worlds Collide: Splintering the Two World/Nation Model of Contemporary Black America’s Class Structure,” The Cultural Pluralism University Seminar Series, Columbia University, March 1999.

“The Ethnographic Land of Make Believe,” Reading, Writing, and Representin’ Conference, Duke University, Durham, April 1998.

“The Integrated Significances of Race and Class,” Crisis of the Negro Intellectual Conference, University of Michigan, March 1998.

“White Harlem: How to do Ethnography with your Eyes Closed,” The Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Conversation Series, Columbia University, March 1998.

“Pass•ed Lives: Ethnoventures of AnthroMan,” Pass•ing Conference, Columbia University, Oct. 1996.

“Growing Up the Other: Conspiracy Theories and Crooked Officers,” The National Association of Black Graduate Students Conference, Claremont, California, May 1996.

“The Soles of Black Folk: These Reeboks Were Made for Runnin’ from the White Man,” The Negro Problem Conference, Princeton University, April 1995.

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN FILM AND VIDEO**

*Film Cameras:* Bolex (Super 8 and 16mm), Arriflex SR, Arriflex SR2

*Digital/Video Cameras (formats):* Digital-8, Hi-8, mini-DV, Betacam, and Digital Betacam

*Editing Systems:* Steenbeck, Final Cut Pro, Media 100, Pinnacle, and AVID

## **PARTIAL LIST OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

2014-Present      Member, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)

2014-Present	Member, Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)
2014-Present	Member, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
2014-Present	Member, National Association of Deans and Directors (NADD)
2014-Present	Member, National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
2006-Present	Member, American Anthropological Association (AAA)
2013-2014	Associate Dean of Administration, Annenberg School for Communication
Spring 2014	Committee Chair, SAS Teaching Awards Selection Committee
Spring 2014	Selection Committee, Predoctoral Fellowships for Excellence through Diversity
2012-2014	Senior Advisor to the Provost for Diversity
2011-2014	Nominations Committee, American Anthropological Association (AAA)
2007-2013	Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, Annenberg School
2007-2010	Chair, University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity
2009-2010	Consultative Committee for the Reappointment of Annenberg's Dean
2008-2009	Consultative Committee for the Selection of a Provost
2008-2009	Program Chair, 2009 American Anthropological Association Conference
2006-2007	Consultative Committee for the Selection of an Associate [Vice] Provost
2006-2007	Member, University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity

## **EDITORIAL BOARDS**

2016-2018	Editorial Board, <i>Anthropological Quarterly</i>
2014-2016	Co-editor, Visual Anthropology section of <i>American Anthropologist</i>
2011-2016	Editorial Collective, <i>Public Culture</i>
2010-2016	Editorial Board, <i>Cultural Anthropology</i>
2007-2016	Editorial Board, <i>Cultural Studies</i>
2014	Awards Committee, <i>Margaret Mead Film Festival</i>
2007-2012	Editorial Board, <i>Journal of Media Sociology</i>
2007-2010	Editor, <i>Transforming Anthropology</i> (with Deborah A. Thomas)
2007-2010	Editorial Board, <i>Contexts: Understanding People in their Social Worlds</i>
2006-2012	Editorial Board, <i>Women &amp; Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory</i>
2005-2009	Editorial Board, <i>Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, &amp; Society</i>
2004-2007	Associate Editor, Contributing Editor, <i>Transforming Anthropology</i>
2003-2006	Selection Committee, <i>Full Frame Film Festival</i>