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## **EDUCATION**

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**Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey**

Ph.D., Department of History, May 2011

Fields of Study: African American History and American History

Dissertation: “*A Curse Upon the Nation’: Ideas about Race, Freedom, and Extermination in Antebellum America*”

Dissertation Chair: Deborah Gray White

Committee: Mia Bay, Nancy Hewitt, Suzanne Lebsack,  
Walter Johnson

**Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York**

B.A.

Thesis: “*And They Will Rise:” Black Abolitionism by Every Means*”

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Douglass Paris Conference Paper, “The Trauma of Racial Violence in Douglass’ America,” African American Intellectual History Society’s, *Black Perspectives*.

Book Review, Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipation, *Journal of the Civil War Era*, (in progress).

*A Curse Upon the Nation: Race, Freedom, and Extermination in America and the Atlantic World* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2017).

Book Review, Slave Against Slave: Plantation Violence in the Old South, *Journal of Southern History*, Volume 83, Number 1, February 2017.

“Amalgamation,” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, eds. Walter C. Rucker and Leslie Alexander. Vol. I, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010) pp. 132-133.

“Antislavery Society,” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, eds. Walter C. Rucker and Leslie Alexander. Vol. II, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010) pp. 317-319.

“Charles Ball,” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, eds. Walter C. Rucker and Leslie Alexander. Vol. II, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010) pp, 321-322.

“Colored Convention Movement,” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, eds. Walter C. Rucker and Leslie Alexander. Vol. II, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010) pp. 344-349.

“Henry Highland Garnet,” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, eds. Walter C. Rucker and Leslie Alexander. Vol. II, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010) pp. 424-427.

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS**

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2018, Advanced Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, Howard University

2018-2019, Short Term Three Month Fellowship, Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery at the Schomburg Center for Research, New York City

2018-2019, Mellon Scholars Short-term Fellowship through the Program in African American History at the Library Company of Philadelphia

2015-2017, Senior Fellow, Norfolk State University Honors College

2016, Faculty Development Grant, Norfolk State University

2015, Alison J. and Ella W. Parsons Faculty Development Grant, Honors College, Norfolk State University

2015, 2016, Summer Research Grant, Norfolk State University

2012, Finalist, C. Vann Woodward Dissertation Prize, Southern Historical Association

2011, May The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition Postdoctoral Fellowship, Yale University

2009-2010, Andrew W. Mellon Competitive Dissertation Fellowship, Rutgers University School of Arts and Sciences

2009, Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellowship, Virginia Historical Society

2004-2009, Trustees' Fellowship, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

2008, Research Fellowship, University of South Carolina

2007, Travel Award, Rutgers University Graduate School

2006, 2007 Research Grant, Rutgers University ENK Endowment Fund

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Assistant Professor**, Howard University, August 2017-to present

*U.S. History to 1865*

*Intro to History*

*Afro America Since 1877*

*Graduate Seminar in US History*

*Colloquium Abolitionist Dissent in Europe and America*

Directed Readings for Sophomores

**Assistant Professor**, Norfolk State University, Sept 2014-May 2017

*Chasing the Dream: Race and Immigration in America*

*Black Lives Matter: The Long Civil Rights Movement in America and Beyond*

*Slavery in the Atlantic Basin*

*African American History to 1865*

*African American History from 1865*

*(Honors) African American History to 1865*

*(Honors) African American History from 1865*

*United States History to 1865*

*United States History from 1865*

**Visiting Lecturer**, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Sept 2012– May 2013

*History of the Atlantic World*

*Civil War and Reconstruction*

*Colonial and Revolutionary America*

*World History I: To 1500*

*World History II: From 1500*

**Instructor**, Rutgers University at Newark, January 2011-May 2011

*Development of the United States 1865 to the Present*

**Instructor**, Adelphi University, September 2010 - December 2010

*American Civilization to 1865 (2 sections)*

**Instructor**, Rutgers University at Newark, May 2008 - July 2008  
*African American History 1865 to the Present*

**Instructor**, Rutgers University at Newark, January 2007- May 2007  
*(Honors) History of Race and Ethnicity 1865 to the Present*

**Instructor**, Rutgers University—New Brunswick, NJ, January 2006 - May 2007  
*Gateway to Development of US I and II. (3 quarters)*

**Teaching Assistant**, Rutgers University—New Brunswick, NJ, September 2005-  
May 2007  
*Development of US I (2 quarters)*  
*Development of US II (2 quarters)*

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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“Through the Glass More Deeply: African American Ideas about Race War in Antebellum California.” Western History Association Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, October, 2019. (forthcoming)

“They Want Freedom in Africa Just as They Do in America”: Black Ideas about African Slavery and Labor.” SHEAR Conference, Cambridge, Massachusetts, July, 2019. (forthcoming)

“They Would Spare Neither Age Nor Sex”: Frederick Douglass’s Visions of Race War and Extermination in America.” Frederick Douglass Across and Against Times, Places, Disciplines, Douglass Paris Conference, October, 2018.

“Killing Babies”: The Nexus of Exterminatory Violence, Trauma, and Enslavement in the Atlantic World.” Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas, Graz, Austria, May, 2018.

“Slaughtered Out of Convenience: The Disposability of Enslaved African and Native American Children in the Atlantic World.” (En)Gendering the Atlantic World Conference, New York University, NYC, NY, April, 2018.

“We Must and Shall Be Free”: The Power of Knowledge in the African American Experience.” ASALH, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2017.

“A Leader Among His People”: Nat Turner and the Power of Memory.” Canadian Association of African Studies, Ryerson, Canada, June 2017.

Roundtable, “The Changing Face of Virginia.” Virginia Forum Conference, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA, March, 2017.

Roundtable, “Theories of Violence: A Roundtable on Interdisciplinary Methods for Interpreting Terror, Trauma, and Destruction in Southern History.” Southern Historical Association, St. Pete’s Beach, Florida, November 2016.

“People of the South, People of the North! Choose ye Which method of Emancipation You Prefer”: Memory and Meaning in the Nat Turner and John Brown Insurrections. ASALH, Richmond, VA, October 2016.

“But A Days Bloody Toil”: Predictions of Violence and Extermination in the Reopening of the African Slave Trade.” Afro-Latin/American Research Association (ALARA), Willemstad, Curacao, August 2016.

“Canga li”: African American Ideas about the Reopening of the African Slave Trade.” ASWAD Conference, Charleston, SC, November 2015.

“Save My Mother Gentlemen, If You Kill Me”: Genocidal Violence Towards African American Women During the Civil War.” ASALH, Atlanta, Georgia, September 2015.

“The Place For Which Our Fathers Sighed.” 1619: Making of America Conference, Norfolk, Virginia, September 2015.

“They Ought All to Be Exterminated”: African American Remembrances and Trauma after Nat Turner’s Insurrection.” Society for Historians for the Early American Republic, Raleigh, NC, June 2015.

“Slaughtered as Sheep for the Shambles”: Reclaiming the Memories and Trauma in the Aftermath of Nat Turner’s Insurrection.” The Collegium for African American Research Conference, Liverpool, UK, June 2015.

“Did Not I Tell You There Would Be War?” Transhistorical Memories of Trauma and Martyrdom after Nat Turner’s Insurrection.” 2015 The Lemon Project Spring Symposium, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, April 2015.

“This Crime Against Humanity”: Racial Extermination and the Power of Black Manhood in the Nineteenth Century.” 1619: Making of America Conference, Norfolk, Virginia, September 2014. (On YouTube)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=mh3d6hKWdd0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mh3d6hKWdd0)

“Slinging Babies: The Perils of Motherhood for Enslaved Africans and Native Americans.” Workshop: Women in Bondage: Local and Transnational Histories. American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2014.

“To Escape from the Hands of Their Destroyers:” Northern Genocidal Violence towards African Americans During the Civil War.” Ireland, Slavery, Antislavery, Empire Symposium, Dublin, Ireland, October 2013.

“In the Hands of the Master:” Ideas about the Possibility of a Race War and Black Extermination During the Virginia Debates.” 1619: Making of America Conference, Norfolk, Virginia, September 2013.

“Making Hell for a Country”: Ideas about Race War and Extermination During the Civil War and Post Civil War Era.” National Council for Black Studies Conference, Indianapolis, In, March 2013.

“In Some Wild Paroxysm of Rage”: Racial Extermination and Mass Violence in the Struggle for Black Power.” College of Charleston’s Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture Public History Conference and Symposium, Charleston, SC, September 2012.

“John Brown’s Mistake: The Power of Memory and the Dangers of Violence.” The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migration of African Peoples Summer Institute 2011, Toronto, Canada, August 2011.

“Would Have to See Their Blood Flow:” Ideas about Extermination and the Reopening of the African Slave Trade.” Canadian Association of African Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, May 2011.

“To Rob the Colored Races of Their Lands and Liberty:” African-American Ideas about African Labor.” The Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, Raleigh, NC, October 2010.

“By Every Means: African American Ideas about African Labor and Commercial Agriculture in the 1850s.” German Historical Institute London, London, UK, September 2010.

“The Abridgment of Hope’: Ideas about Race, Freedom, and Extermination in Antebellum Virginia.” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, New York, NY, March 2008.

“Visions of Violence: The Revival of the African Slave Trade.” Association for the Study of the World-Wide Diaspora (ASWAD) Biennial Conference, Barbados, October 2007.

“de dam nigger dimocrat”: Reinterpreting Martin R. Delaney.” Warren I. Susman Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, April 2005.

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## **INVITED PROFESSIONAL and PUBLIC HISTORY PRESENTATIONS**

Panelist, “Colloquium on Compromise, Moderatism, Extremism, and Fanaticism between the American Revolution and Civil War.” Rothermere American Institute, University of Oxford, England, May 31, 2019. (forthcoming)

Panelist, “Slavery and Power.” Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting, Washington D. C., June, 2019. (forthcoming)

Panelist, “#Un-silencing the Archive: The Difficulties of Doing Black History Then and Now.” History Matters: Black History Month Symposium, Howard University, Washington, D.C., February, 2019.

Panel Discussant, “Determined to Rise: Women’s Historical Activism for Equal Rights.” National Women’s History Museum, Arlington Public Library, Arlington, VA, February, 2019.

Speaker, Phi Alpha Theta Induction Ceremony. Howard University, Washington, D.C. May, 2018.

Speaker, “Navigating Academia.” HGSA Professional Development Lecture Series, Howard University Graduate School, April, 2018.

Guest, “*Historian Kay Wright Lewis adds insight on the protests in DC*” “The World Today” China Global Television Network America, <https://america.cgtn.com/2018/08/12/crowds-of-counterprotesters-march-in-dc-to-protest-unite-the-right>

Guest, on “The Scholars: Kay Wright Lewis” UDC–TV, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svuHHu3zdek>

Panelist, “Nobody’s Free Until Everybody’s Free from Black Wall Street to Baltimore.” Prince George’s Ballroom, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince Georges County, MD, February 16, 2018.

Guest, “Black History Month in the US.” *The Heat*, China Global Television Network America, <https://america.cgtn.com/2018/02/02/the-heat-black-history-month-in-the-us>

Panelist, “Columbus 525: An Exploration of Christopher Columbus’s Impact on the Atlantic World.” Embassy of the Republic of Haiti, Washington, DC, December 6, 2017.

Guest, “A Curse Upon the Nation.” With Good Reason Radio, <http://withgoodreasonradio.org/episode/a-curse-upon-the-nation/>

Panelist, “Civic Dialog: The Civil Rights Movement in Hampton Roads Today.” Hampton History Museum, March 20, 2017.

Panelist, “More than A Month.” African American Film Series, Virginia Beach History Museums, Central Library, Norfolk, VA, February, 2017.

Guest, “To Stop A Race War.” *IA*, WAMU-FM, January 19, 2017. Radio Show podcast, <http://the1a.org/shows/2017-01-19/the-race-war>

“The Children of Africa Have Been Called”: The Origin and Early History of the African American Episcopal Church.” Historic St. Luke’s Church, Smithfield, VA, April, 2016.

Guest, “Emanuel A.M.E Church Massacre.” *Another View*, WHRV-FM, June 19, 2015. Radio Show podcast, <http://www.anotherviewradio.org/index.php/131:emmanuel-a-m-e-church-massacre>

“Racial Reconciliation: Historical Traditions of Humanism in South African and African American Culture.” First Mandela Summer Democracy Institute, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA, May, 2015.

“Gender Benders: American Women During the Civil War Era.” Richmond’s Journey From the End of Slavery and Civil War to Today 2015 Sesquicentennial Commemoration, Richmond, VA, April, 2015.

“Considerations on the Rhetoric of Race War in the Antebellum South and John Brown.” Gilder Lehrman Center’s 11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT, October 2009.

## **RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE**

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2019: Lead Scholar, “The Civil War: The Second American Revolution On-line Course.” Gilder Lehrman Institute’s A More Perfect Union Program

2018-present: Howard University COAS Committee member, APSAGE

2018-present: Howard University Freshman Seminar Group Project Faculty Advisor

2018-present: Howard Graduate Student Association Faculty Advisor

2018-present: Howard University Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Faculty Coordinator

2017-present: Howard University History Department Committee Member, Curriculum Committee

2017-present: Howard University History Department Committee Member, By-Laws Committee

2017: Howard University History Department, Recording Secretary

Conceived and Organized: “The Miseducation of America: Racial Violence and the Politics of Protest Conference.” Led by students from my *Black Lives Matter: The Long Civil Rights Movement in America and Beyond* course at Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA, November 16, 2016.

Speaker: “Reclaiming the Memory: Women During the Civil War and the Post Civil War Years.” National Endowment for the Humanities Legacy of the Civil War: Changing Memories Over Time Workshop, Richmond VA, June 28 and July 12, 2016.

2016-present: NSU Committee Member, SCHEV Passport Initiative

Presentation: “African American History is America’s History” Black History Month, Norfolk Collegiate Academy, Norfolk, VA, February, 2016.

2015-2017: Senior Fellow, Norfolk State University Honors College

2015-2016: Mentor, for Norfolk State University’s HBCU All-Star White House Initiative Ambassador

2014-2016: Advisory Board, Joseph Jenkins Roberts Center for African Diaspora Studies, Norfolk State University

2014-2016: 1619: Making of America Conference Planning Committee, Norfolk State University

2015-present: Member, College of Liberal Arts Retention Committee, Recruitment Committee, and Assessment Committee, Norfolk State University.

2014-present: Member, Convocation and Commencement Speaker Selection Committee, Norfolk State University.

2011-2015: Chair, Board of Directors, Today’s Students, Tomorrow’s Teachers. (TSTT is a non-profit, full-circle career development organization that recruits and mentors culturally diverse high school students to the career of teaching.)

2008: Expert Reviewer, U. S. Department of Education, Office Innovation and Improvement, *Teaching of American History Grant Review*.

2006-2007: Member, Graduate Education Committee, Rutgers University.

1999-2005: Vice President, Board of Directors, Today’s Students, Tomorrow’s Teachers.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Organization of American Historians  
American Historical Association  
Association for the Study of the World-Wide Diaspora  
Association for the Study of African American Life and History  
Society for Historians for the Early American Republic  
Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas