

Curriculum Vitae

Barbara Harris Combs, J.D., Ph.D.

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Education

- 2010 PhD, Sociology (with concentration in Race and Urban Studies)
 Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- Dissertation: “[The Ties that Bind: The Role of Place in Racial Identity Formation, Social Cohesion, Accord, and Discord in Two Historic, Black Gentrifying Atlanta Neighborhoods](#)”
- Committee: Charles Jaret (Chair), Adia Harvey Wingfield, Deirdre Oakley, and Katherine Hankins
- 1993 J.D., The Ohio State University College of Law, Columbus, Ohio
- 1990 M.A. in English, Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 1988 B.A. in Political Science with minor in Women and Minority Studies
 Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio

Academic Appointments

- 2022— Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Kennesaw State University
- 2022-2025 Professor of Sociology and chair, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Kennesaw State University
- 2015-2022 Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Clark Atlanta University
 (on leave 2020-2021)
- 2020-2021 Visiting Associate Professor, James Weldon Johnson Institute, Emory University
- 2017-2020 Interim Department Chair, Clark Atlanta University
- 2015 Summer Research Associate in the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs, Clark Atlanta University
- 2011-2015 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Anthropology and Southern Studies (joint appointment), University of Mississippi
- 2008-2011 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Psychology, Shorter University

2006-2009 Graduate Research Assistant, Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, Georgia State University, College of Law

Other Teaching/Facilitation

- 2023 Co-Facilitator of Anisfield-Wolf Faculty Summer Seminar
- 2022 Co-Facilitator of Anisfield-Wolf Faculty Summer Seminar
- 2022 The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Inside the Vault (“Meanwhile Back at the Branch”) <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/videos/inside-vault-meanwhile-back-branch>

Books

Shaw, Todd C., Kirk A. Foster, and **Barbara Harris Combs** (Under Contract) *Finding Home: The Diverse Communities of 21st Century Black Politics*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Combs, Barbara Harris. (Under Contract) *We Sing and We Swing: Social Haunting in the Alabama Riverboat Brawl*. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Polity Press.

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2022 *Bodies Out of Place: Theorizing Anti-Blackness in U. S. Society*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.

Reviewed in:

[*Choice*](#); [*Contemporary Sociology*](#); [*Journal of American Culture*](#); [*Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*](#); [*Tennessee Libraries*](#)

Awards:

- Winner, 2023, The Ida B. Wells-Barnett Book Award from the Association of Black Sociologists
- Finalist, 2023, Georgia Author of the Year Award

Select Interviews:

- New Books Network Podcast, New Books in African American Studies
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/barbara-harris-combs-bodies-out-of-place-theorizing/id425190500?i=1000589001281>
- A Moment with Erik Fleming
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/56g2cz8g6gP9v4HG71Ba0i>

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2013. *From Selma to Montgomery to Freedom: The Long March to Freedom*. NY: Routledge.

Reviewed in:

The Journal of Southern History (See Ponton, David, III. 2015. "From Selma to Montgomery: The Long March to Freedom." *The Journal of Southern History*

81(2):542 <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/selma-montgomery-long-march-freedom/docview/1679906664/se-2>.

Published Articles, Chapters and Reviews

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2026. "Bodies Out of Place: Anti-Blackness, Spatial Order, and the Du Boisian Tradition." *Phylon* 63(1): 25-49.

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2025. Push 'Em Back, Push 'Em Back . . . Way Back. *Contemporary Sociology*, 54(5): 365-370.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00943061251358670b>

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2023. "Finding Black Joy in a World Where We Are Not Safe." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 9(4): 444-450.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/23326492231202760>

Niven, David, **Combs, Barbara Harris**, Norwood, Carolette, Rossiter, Kalyn, and Solimine, Michael E.. 2022. "The Boundaries of Confusion: Gerrymandering and Racial Disparities in State House and Congressional District Line Congruity." *Social Science Quarterly* 103: 1507–1518. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ssqu.13213>

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2021. "A Jim Crow State of Mind: The Racialization of Space in the McKinney, Texas Pool Party Incident." *American Behavioral Scientist* 65 (8):1027-1048): <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002764219859617>

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2021. Review, Black in Place: The Spatial Aesthetics of Place in a Post-Chocolate City. *Winterthur Portfolio: A Journal of American Material Culture* 55(1): 73-75.

Shaw, Todd C., Kirk A. Foster, and **Barbara Harris Combs**. 2022. "Disconnected in the Mecca? Black Social Media Usage and Levels of Engagement in Atlanta." *Journal of Urban Affairs* 44(6): 865–886. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07352166.2020.1826326>
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07352166.2020.1826326>

Combs, Barbara Harris. 2021. "How Ingrained Racism Became Invisible." *Contexts* 20 (4): 61 63. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15365042211058127>.

Shaw, Todd C., Kirk Foster, and **Barbara Harris Combs**. 2019. "Race and Poverty Matters: Black and Latino Linked Fate, Neighborhood Effects, and Political Participation" *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 7(3): 663-672.

- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2019. "Every Day Racism is Still Racism: The Role of Place in Theorizing Continuing Racism in U.S. Society." *Phylon: Review of Race and Culture* 55(1-2): 38-59.
- Combs, Barbara Harris** and Obie Clayton. 2019. "Remembering the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of W.E.B. Du Bois and the 50th Anniversary of the Death of Martin Luther King, Jr." *Phylon: Review of Race and Culture* 55(1-2): 3-9.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2019. "Kansas." Vol. 1, Pp. 315-334 in *A State by State History of Race and Racism in the United States*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2018. "How the Rise of Colorblind Racism Opened the Door for the Supreme Court Decision in Shelby County, Alabama vs. Holder." Pp. 240-263 in *The Shadow of Selma: Fifty Years After the Voting Rights Act*. Eds. Joe Street and Henry Knight Lozano. Gainesville, University of Florida Press.
- Combs, Barbara Harris**, Tracie L. Stewart, and John Sonnett. 2017. "People Like Us: Dominance-Oriented Racial Affiliation Preferences and the White Greek System on a Southern U. S. Campus" *Sociological Spectrum* 37(1):27-47.
DOI:10.1080/02732173.2016.1264281
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2017. "No Rest for the Weary: The Weight of Race, Gender, and Place Inside and Outside a Southern Classroom." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 3(4):491-505.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2332649216680101>
- *2018 Winner Kimberlé Crenshaw Outstanding Article Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Division on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (DREM)
- Combs, Barbara Harris**, Kirsten Dellinger, Jeffrey T. Jackson, Kirk A. Johnson, Willa M. Johnson, Jodi Skipper, John Sonnett, James M. Thomas, and CRSG (authors presented alphabetically). 2016. "The Symbolic Lynching of James Meredith: A Visual Analysis and Collective Counter-Narrative to Racial Domination." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 2(3):338-353.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2016. "Bodies Out of Place: Towards a Theoretical Understanding of Systematic Voter Suppression in U.S. Society." *Critical Sociology* 42(4-5):535-549.

- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2016. "Presumed Biased: The Challenges and Rewards of Teaching Post-Racial Students to See Racism." Pp. 149-164 in *White Washing American Education: The New Culture Wars in Ethnic Studies*. Eds. Denise M. Sandoval, Anthony J. Ratcliff, Tracy Lachica Buenavista and James R. Marín. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger Publishers.
- Clayton, Obie **and Barbara Harris Combs**. 2016. "When Home Disappears: How the Rise in Urban Foreclosures and Evictions Threatens Families." Pp. 71-79 in *Agenda for Social Justice: Solutions*. Eds. Muschert, Glenn W., Brian V. Klocke, Robert Perrucci, and Jon Shefner. Bristol, UK: Policy Press.
http://www.sssp1.org/file/2016/SSSP_Agenda_for_Social_Justice_2016.pdf
- Combs, Barbara Harris** and Jodi Skipper. 2014 "It's Open Season on Negroes: Teaching the Past, Present, and Future of the Black Freedom Struggle." *Southern Cultures* 52(1): 134-147. DOI: 10.1353/soq.2014.0005
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2014. Review, This Bright Light of Ours: Stories from the Voting Rights Fight. *The Southern Register* Summer 2014: 26-27.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2014. Review, This Ain't Chicago: Race, Class, and Regional Identity in the Post-Soul South. *The Southern Register* Spring 2014: 24- 25.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. 2013. Review. Freedom Rights: New Perspectives on the Civil Rights Movement. *The Southern Register* Summer 2013: 24-26.
- Combs, Barbara Harris. Combs. 2013. "Black First, but Not Only: Racial Identity Formation in a Changing Black Hood." Pp.143-162 in *Converging Identities: Blackness in the Modern African Diaspora*. Eds. Julius O. Adekunle and Hettie V. Williams. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Public Scholarship and Interviews

- Combs, Barbara Harris. "A Georgia Law Restricts What Educators Say in the Classroom—But I Refuse to Be Silent." July 6, 2024. *Ms. Magazine*
<https://msmagazine.com/2024/06/06/georgia-law-restricts-classroom-race-dei-black-history-divisive-concepts/>
- Combs, Barbara Harris. "How the shooting of Ralph Yarl Demonstrates the Fiction of a Colorblind Society in America." July 12, 2023. *The Conversation*
<https://theconversation.com/how-the-shooting-of-ralph-yarl-demonstrates-the-fiction-of-a-colorblind-society-in-america-206047>

Elliott, Joel. "Hulu Show Tells Survivor's Story." July 12, 2023. Marietta Daily Journal (quoted in article) <https://www.newsbreak.com/cobb-county-ga/3087916413744-hulu-show-tells-survivor-s-story>

Combs, Barbara Harris. "Student 'slave auctions' illustrate the existence of a hidden culture of domination and subjugation in US schools." December 2, 2022. *The Conversation* <https://theconversation.com/student-slave-auctions-illustrate-the-existence-of-a-hidden-culture-of-domination-and-subjugation-in-us-schools-194807>

Combs, Barbara Harris. Southern hospitality doesn't always apply to Black people, as revealed in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery. January 12, 2022. *The Conversation* <https://theconversation.com/southern-hospitality-doesnt-always-apply-to-black-people-as-revealed-in-the-killing-of-ahmaud-arbery-173623>

Habersham, Raisa. "Ahmaud Arbery as Killed at 25. A Year Later, Black Men Who See Themselves in Him Mourn His Loss," 23 February 2021. *Savannah Morning News* (quoted in article) https://www.savannahnow.com/in_depth/news/2021/02/23/ahmaud-arbery-anniversary-legacy-black-man-killings-brunswick-georgia/6768321002/

Combs, Barbara Harris. Are You Ready for some Football...With a Side of Social Justice? 14 September 2020. *Al.com* <https://www.al.com/opinion/2020/09/are-you-ready-for-some-football-with-a-side-of-social-justice.html>

FAD-funded Conference on Intertwined Legacies of W.E.B. Du Bois and Martin Luther King, Jr. 2018 April/May Vol 46 (2). *ASA Footnotes*, a publication of the American Sociological Society.

Combs, Barbara Harris and Katherine Hankins. Interview with Aldon Morris. *M Real Life Work as Done in Atlanta. ATLS Atlanta Studies*. 25 May 2017. <https://www.atlantastudies.org/my-real-life-work-was-done-at-atlanta-an-interview-with-aldon-morris-about-w-e-b-du-bois-career-in-atlanta/>

Combs, Barbara. "The Confederate Battle Flag is a Symbol of Intimidation." *The New York Times* 19 June 2015. <https://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2015/06/19/does-the-confederate-flag-breed-racism/the-confederate-battle-flag-is-a-symbol-of-intimidation>

Selma to Montgomery, Fifty Years Later. 2015. Biography.com.

50th Anniversary of Selma: Remembering Our History and Voting Rights Today . *The Marc Steiner Radio Show*. Baltimore, Maryland. 6 March 2015.

Works in Progress

*denotes work with a student

Combs, Barbara Harris. “State Suppression of the Black Vote and Black Political Mobilization” in *Routledge Resources Online – Race and Racism*. NY: Routledge.

Combs, Barbara Harris, Ben Pham*, and Reagan Harper, “Ghosts on the Riverfront: The Montgomery Riverboat Brawl Explained” (under review at *Contexts*)

Combs, Babara Harris, Ben Pham*, and Alicia Brown*, “The Tunnel as Border: Disciplining Bodies Out of Place in Collegiate Labor.” (in progress)

Combs, Barbara Harris, Todd C. Shaw, and Kirk Foster, “Whose Political Mecca? Black Women’s Everyday Survival and Resistance in Atlanta’s Shift to the Right” in *The Gendered Metropolis: Space, Power, and Everyday Life*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Awarded Grants/Honors

Winner, Charles S. Johnson Award, Southern Sociological Society (SSS), 2025.

Georgia Sociologist of the Year, Georgia Sociological Association (GSA), 2024.

Winner, Ida B. Wells Book Award from the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), 2023.

Finalist, Georgia Author of the Year Award, 2023.

Selected as a Faculty Fellow, Faculty Leaders Program at Pardee Rand Graduate School (*Professional Development in Policy Research & Analysis* Graduate) Summer 2021

UNCF/Mellon Faculty Residency Award (2020-2021 academic year)

NYU Summer Scholar in Residence, Faculty Resource Network (June 2020)

Kimberlé Crenshaw Outstanding Article Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Division on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (DREM) (2018).

UNCF/Mellon Faculty Development Award. (2018). (\$2500).

Clayton, Obie and Barbara Harris Combs. The Carnegie Foundation. A grant for A Symposium Examining Inequality and Race Relations on the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of W.E.B. Du Bois and the 50th Anniversary of the Death of MLK (2017) (\$25,000)

American Sociological Association Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline Grant. (2017) (\$7999)

Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN) Summer Research Institute (SRI) Fellow. (Summer 2016) Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice.

Course Development Grant. (2016) Clark Atlanta University (\$3000).

Travel Grant Award to attend and present at Colorblind Racism Summit. (2016) Illinois Wesleyan University. (\$550).

Grant Proposal Development Award. (2015) Office of Sponsored Programs, Clark Atlanta University. (\$22,000).

Travel Grant Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) (2015) University of Mississippi (\$1000).

William Winter Faculty Scholar Award (2014) Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

SEC Traveling Faculty Grant (2014) (\$1700 to travel to the University of South Carolina to work on collaboration with co-PIs there on NSF grant)

National Science Foundation EAGER Award (2014) “Place Attachment and Collective Action: The Changing Sociopolitical Landscape of Black Urban Neighborhoods.” Shaw, T., Foster; Co-PIs Kirk Foster, Barbara Harris Combs, Michael M. Hodge and Desiree Pedescleaux. Awarded \$161,000.

Summer Research Grant. (2013.) College of Liberal Arts, University of Mississippi (\$7500)

Summer Research Grant. (2012) College of Liberal Arts, University of Mississippi (\$7500)

Manuscripts and Rare Books Library (MARBL) (2012.) Short Term Fellowship Emory University (\$500)

Awarded Department of Housing and Urban Development Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant (2008-2009.) (\$14,462)

Southern Regional Education Board Dissertation Year Fellowship (2008-2009.) (\$15,000)

Select Invited Presentations

Panelist, “Black Sociological Theory and Social Inequality Panel,” Celebrating 130 Years of Sociology at Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia, September 24-25, 2025.

“Why I Love Sociology,” Keynote for 43rd Annual South Eastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium (SEUSS), Atlanta, Georgia, February 28, 2025.

“When Activism Meets Academia - Reflections on Anti-Blackness in Canada and the U.S.” York University (Canada) Black History Month Lecture, February 6, 2025 (virtual).

“Finding Black Joy Amidst Continuing Violence Against Black People,” InterVarsity Black Scholars and Professionals Sharing Our Scholarship, Virtual, December 7, 2023.

“How BOP Helps Dismantle Racism,” Sociology Colloquium Committee, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, September 22, 2023.

Book Forum Panelist for Joseph Edwoozie’s *Getting Something to Eat in Jackson: Race, Class, and Food in the American South*, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 19, 2023.

“A Theoretical Examination of Systemic Voter Suppression” Whitney School of Social Work at Clark Atlanta University Symposium, Virtual. February 27, 2023.

Black History Month Keynote Lecture, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Georgia, February 23, 2023.

SouthTalk for Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi, Virtual. February 2, 2023.

“Blackout: The Continuing Assault Against Black Bodies,” GSU Sociology Department Colloquium Series, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2, 2022.

Author Meets Critics on *Bodies Out of Place: Theorizing Anti-blackness in U.S. Society*, Georgia Sociological Association Annual Meeting, November 5, 2022.

“Blackout: A Frame for Seeing Anti-blackness in a Purportedly Colorblind World,” Emory University James Weldon Johnson Institute Race and Difference Colloquium Series, Atlanta, Georgia, November 21, 2022.

Voter Suppression, Institutions, and Displacement Panel, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California, August 6, 2022.

Theorizing the Continuing Attack Against Black Bodies, JWJI Race and Difference Colloquium Series, Emory University (Zoom Presentation), April 19, 2021.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4aDY-0pPew>

Why Racism Should Matter for Jewish Studies Scholars, Plenary Session II, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference (Zoom Presentation), December 15, 2020.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHTMfP1an64&feature=youtu.be>

Scholars Interrogating and Transforming National Discourse: Reflections from Faculty Residency Recipients, UNCF/Mellon Programs Mentors and Coordinators Conference, October 18, 2020 (Virtual).

Lift Every Voice 2020: Defining the Black Reconstruction Archive Panel, Emory University, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Books Library (Zoom Presentation), October 20, 2020.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgoNLP4zfI4>

Black in White Space, Georgia State University Urban Studies Institute Speaker Series (Zoom Presentation), October 8, 2020.

Voter Suppression and Race: A Political History Panel, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina (Zoom Presentation), September 17, 2020.

Teaching Culture in Today’s Political Climate. American Sociological Association, Theory Section (Virtual Engagement) August 8-11, 2020 .

UNCF Faculty Transforming the Academy through Teaching and Scholarship. UNCF /Mellon Programs Conference. Washington, D.C., October 17-19, 2019.

Sociology for Whom? Challenging Elitism in the Discipline. American Sociological Association Conference. New York, New York, August 10-13, 2019.

Using Du Boisian Sociology to Enact Social Change. Du Boisian Scholar Network Inaugural Gathering, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, May 18-19, 2018.

The 2009 Roots of #WestEndBestEndAtl. Streets Alive and Music in the Park, West End, Atlanta, April 22, 2018.

Being a Feminist Department Head in the Deep South. (Panelist) Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, January 25-28, 2018.

Moderator/Presenter, Graduate Student Professionalization Workshop: Navigating Graduate School as a Student of Color Workshop. Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Greenville, South Carolina, March 29-April 1, 2017.

Panelist, The People's Du Bois: Politics, Prison and Immigration Reform at Bringing W.E.B. Du Bois Back to 21st Century Atlanta event sponsored by Georgia State University, April 13, 2016.

Speaker, Fourth Annual College and Career Day. Upward Bound Program Georgia State University. June 17, 2016.

Speaker, Choices and Consequences. Summer Transportation Institute, Clark Atlanta University. June 7, 2016.

Speaker, The Promise of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 Post- Shelby County, AL v. Holder. Selma Voting Rights March Pre-conference sponsored by British Association of American Studies (BAAS). Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, England. April 7-9, 2015.

Keynote Speaker. March Forward: Realizing the Dream Through the Social Sciences. Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association. Montgomery, Alabama. February 26, 2015.

Closing Speaker. Theorizing Race Relations: A Discussion of Bodies Out of Place. William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation Summer Youth Institute. University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi, June 24, 2014.

Panelist, Gender and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO) Seminar. 50 Years After Freedom Summer: A Legislative and Judicial Overview of Civil Rights in 2014 Mississippi. University of Mississippi College of Law, University, Mississippi, July 18, 2014

Panelist, Soledad O'Brien's Black in America Tour, Invited Panelist. University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi, February 24, 2014.

Panelist, Bodies Out of Place: A Theory of Social Dis-Integration in the Post-Civil Rights American South. Civil War to Civil Rights: Race, Region and the Making of Public Memory Conference. Memphis Center, Rhodes College. Memphis, Tennessee, February 28, 2014.

Speaker, Bodies Out of Place: Towards a Theoretical Understanding of Systematic Voter Suppression. Departments of the Departments of Sociology and Political Science, African American Studies Program, Institute for African American

Research and Institute for Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina.
Columbia, South Carolina, February 6, 2014.

Keynote Black History Month Speaker, So Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting
Together in the Cafeteria? Black History Month Keynote Speech, University of
Mississippi. University, Mississippi, February 4, 2014.

Speaker, Women and the Selma Moment, Gender Studies Lecture Series, Isom Center,
University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi, November 11, 2013.

Speaker, The Voting Rights Struggle, Black Belt Alliance Summer Program, The
Slavery and Civil War Museum, Selma, Alabama, July 11, 2012.

Speaker, We're All Outsiders, Some of Us are Just More Outside than Others:
Intersectionality Theory and the Vectors of Oppression and Privilege, Day of
Dialogue, University of Mississippi, October 18, 2012.

Speaker, Blood Sunday, Brownbag Lecture, Center for the Study of Southern Culture,
University of Mississippi, April 18, 2012.

Select Presentations (*denotes work with student)

The Tunnel as a Border: Disciplining "Bodies Out of Place" in Collegiate Spirit Labor.
Barbara Harris Combs, Kennesaw State University; *Ben Vu Pham, University of
Maryland College Park; *Alicia Brown, Kennesaw State University. American
Sociological Association Meeting, NY, NY, August 9, 2026.

Counterstories on the Riverfront: The Role of the Media in the Alabama Riverboat Brawl.
*Benjamin Vu Pham, University of Georgia; Barbara Combs, Kennesaw State
University. Southern Sociological Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA. April 3-6,
2024.

Salon Noir on *Bodies Out of Place: Theorizing Anti-blackness in U.S. Society*.
Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
August 17, 2023.

But Who Will Keep Black Children Safe?: Race, Place, Space, and the Continuing
Dehumanization of Black Bodies in the Central Park Jogger Case. Association of
Black Sociologists Conference, New York, New York, August 8-11, 2019.

No Rest for the Weary: The Weight of Race, Gender and Place inside and outside a
Southern Classroom. Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, New
Orleans, Louisiana, April 4-7, 2018.

Being a Feminist Head of Department in the Deep South: Challenges and Opportunities
(Panelist) (Co-Sponsored by SWS-South and Committee on Gender and
Sexuality) Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, New Orleans,
Louisiana, April 4-7, 2018.

Bodies Out of Place: A Critique for the Utility of Place Constructs in Moving Racism
Theorization Forward. Du Bois/King Symposium Examining Race Relations
and Economic Inequality. Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia, February
22-23, 2018.

The Demonization of Black Children in the McKinney TX Pool Party Incident. American Sociological Association Annual Conference. Montréal, Québec, Canada, August 12-15, 2017.

Not in M Pool: A Critical, Intersectional Analysis of the McKinney, Texas, Pool Party Incident. New Directions in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Conference, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, April 27-29, 2017.

Do Black Children Get to be Children: The Demonization of Black Youth in the McKinney, Texas Pool Party Incident. Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Greenville, South Carolina, March 29-April 1, 2017.

Race, Place, and Space: A Dubosian Approach to Social Problems. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Memphis, Tennessee, October 6-8, 2016.

Black Faces at the Front of the Classroom. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, August 19-23, 2016.

How the Rise of Colorblind Ideological Frames Opened the Door for Shelby County vs. Holder. Clark Atlanta University Celebration of the 120th Anniversary of the Atlanta Sociological Laboratory and the work of W.E.B. Du Bois, Atlanta, Georgia, February 25, 2016.

The Promise and Fulfillment of the Franchise Post Shelby County, AL vs. Holder. The Fifteenth Amendment: From U. S. Grant to Lyndon B. Johnson's Voting Rights Act Conference, Starkville, MS September 23-25, 2015.

Blackout: Theorizing the Continuing Assault Against Black Bodies in US Society. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, August 20-22, 2015.

Teaching Race to Post-Racial American Students. British Association of American Studies. Northumbria University, New Castle upon Tyne, England. April 9-12, 2015.

Black and Brown Bodies Out of Place: Theorizing the Rise in Voter Suppression Efforts. Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 25-28, 2015.

But Hasn't the South Changed?: Dissecting the Arguments in Shelby County, Alabama vs. Attorney General Eric Holder. Southern Association of American Studies Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, February 19-21, 2015.

Good Hair, Bad Hair. The Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion Committee from the University of Mississippi Department of Student Housing. Oxford, Mississippi, February 10, 2015.

Women, Tuskegee, and the Movement. South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Atlanta, Georgia, November 7-9, 2014.

Teaching a Difficult Topic, AKD Teaching Symposium at the Mid-South Sociological Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, October 24-26, 2013.

The New Voting Rights Challenge: Meaningful Protection for the Franchise Post-

Shelby, Association of Black Sociologists Conference, NY, NY, August 8-10, 2013.

Selma to Montgomery to Today: The Past, Present, and Future of the Black Vote in the South, Mid- South Sociological Association Conference, Mobile, Alabama, November 8-10, 2012.

What does it mean to be a Southern Neighborhood? Popular Culture Association of the American South/American Culture Association of the South Annual Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana, October 6-8, 2011.

Black Gentrification with a Southern Face. Southern American Studies Association Bi-Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, February 17-19, 2011.

Not Separate, but Not Equal: Can Neighborhood Attachment Heighten Urban Liability: Infrastructures of Home and City: The Problem of Housing in Modern Urban Society Conference, MSU Global Urban Studies Program, Lansing, Michigan, October 15-16, 2010.

When Things Fell Apart: The Impact of the Mortgage Crisis on To Atlanta Neighborhoods. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, August 13-17, 2010.

Can't We All Get Along?: Race, Class, and Gender Narratives in Atlanta's Changing Old Fourth Ward. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, August 11-14, 2010.

Push and Pull: Should I Stay or Should I Go? The Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 21-24, 2010.

Creating Community: For the Sake of the West End. Georgia Sociological Association Annual Conference. Atlanta, Georgia October 29-31, 2009.

Can Sweet Auburn Be Sweet Again? An Examination of Weber's Class, Status, and Power in One Atlanta Neighborhood, Association of Black Sociologists Conference, NY, NY August 2007.

How to Maintain our Sanity When All others around you are Losing Theirs, Graduate Student Panel, Southern Sociological Society Conference, Atlanta, Georgia April 2007.

Building a Spirit of Community Among at Risk Learners through Inquiry, Service, and Reflection. National Association for African American Studies Conference, Houston, TX February 2005.

TEACHING

Courses Taught

Undergraduate:

Race, Place, and Space

Contemporary Social Problems

Seminar in Organized Crime

Criminal Law

Race & Ethnicity
Introduction to Sociology
Sociological Theory
Intersections of Race, Class, and Gender
Social Movements
Social Psychology
Medical Sociology

American Judicial Process
Urban Sociology

Senior Project
Independent Study
Race, Place, and Belonging

Graduate:
Law Enforcement Administration
Courts and Judicial Process
Collective Memory of Civil Rights Movement
Deviant Behavior
Qualitative Methods
Criminological Theories
Cultural and Ethnic Relations
Seminar in Southern Culture

SERVICE

Editorial work

Editorial Board; *Study the South*, 2014-2015 and 2024-present; *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 2026-present; *Atlanta Studies ATLS*, 2016-2018; *Phylon* 2016-present; *Challenge Online Journal*, 2017-2020; *Sociological Spectrum*, 2017-2024; *City & Community*, 2018-2020; *Social Problems*, 2018-2021; *Contexts* 2022-2025.

Referee Journals: *Sociology of Race & Ethnicity*, Editorial Board (2016-present); *Sociological Perspectives*, Reviewer; *Atlanta Studies ATLS*, Editorial Board (2014- 2019); *Phylon: The Clark Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture*, Editorial Board (2015-present), *Issues in Race and Society*, Reviewer; (2014) *Critical Sociology*; (2013) *City & Community*, Editorial Board (2018-2021); *Contexts*, Editorial Board (2022-present)

Select Service to Discipline

2027 Program Committee, SSS
2026-2028 ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), committee member
2025 Program Committee, ASC
Elected, Chair ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (SREM) 2022-2025 (Chair Elect, Chair, Past Chair)
Reviewer, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG), 2023-present
Appointed, ASA Taskforce for on the State of the Art in Sociological Scholarship (2021)
Appointed, SSS Harassment Taskforce (2020-present)

Member, SSS Nominations Committee (2021-2024)
Elected, Executive Committee, Southern Sociological Society. 2017-2020.
Member, Program Committee, Southern Sociological Society 2015-2017 and 2021
Member, Sociological Practice Committee, Southern Sociological Society. 2014-2017.
Appointed, Ethics Committee, American Society of Criminology (ASC) 2017-2018
Duboisian Scholar Network Advisory Board Member 2018-2021

Miscellaneous Service

Reviewer, Center for Engaged Scholarship (CES) (2019-2022)
Member, Scholarly Advisory Board for The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (2021-2025)
Co-Chair (with Kevin Drakulich) Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN) Summer Conference (2020-2021)

Select University Service

College Bylaws Committee Member (2025-2026)
Facilitator, CETL Chairs and Directors Mutual Mentoring Group, 2024-2025
KSU Chairs and Directors Assembly (2022-2025)
Elected Member, University Sponsored Research Committee (2021-2022) CAU
Elected Member, University Senate (2018-2019)
Member, Graduate Education Task Force (2017-2018)
Member, Goal 1 Task Force (2018)
Member, Political Science Chair Search Committee (2017-2018)
Mentor, Jessie Scott (selected as a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow) and Megan Smith (Mellon Graduate Fellow)
Chair, Assistant Dean/Director of Humanities Search Committee, Clark Atlanta University. 2016-2017.
Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice. 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018.
Adviser, Pre-Law Association, Clark Atlanta University. 2016-present.
Judge, Undergraduate Research Conference, Clark Atlanta University.
Presenter, College and Career Day, Georgia State University Upward Bound, Summer 2016.
Presentation on Choices and Consequences to Clark Atlanta University Summer Transportation Program students, Summer 2015 and Summer 2016.
Adviser, Sociology Association, Clark Atlanta University. 2015-2018
Adviser, Black Graduate Student Association, University of Mississippi. 2014-2015.
Adviser, Afrikan Activist Student Alliance, University of Mississippi. 2014-2015.
Member, Stratification Search Committee, University of Mississippi. 2013-2014
Member, Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Southern Studies, Assistant Professor Search, University of Mississippi. 2012-2013. Member,

Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Southern Studies,
Visiting Assistant Professor Search. 2011-2012.
Faculty Affiliate, Lucky Day Residential College, University of Mississippi. 2011-2015.

Select College and Department Service

Member, Associate Dean of Engagement Search Committee (2026-2027)
RCHSS Chairs and Directors Assembly (2022-2025)
Chair, CETL Chairs and Directors Mutual Mentoring Group (2024-2025)
Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Department Chair Search, Kennesaw State University
2023.
Member, Associate Dean of Faculty Excellence and Inclusiveness Search, 2023.
Co-Organizer of 2018 Du Bois/King Symposium on Race Relations on the 150th
Anniversary of the Birth of Du Bois Birth and Assassination of MLK Jr.
(Livestream Links: <https://livestream.com/accounts/21834403/events/8047636>
(Day 1); <https://livestream.com/accounts/21834403/events/8047639> (Day 2)
Member, Council of Chairs (2017-2020)
Led Various Independent Studies for Students
Advisor, Criminal Justice majors A-H. 2015-present.
Member, Planning Committee. Still the Black Mecca ? Race, Social Inequality, and
Urban Displacement in 21st Century Atlanta. Facing Race- Preconference
sponsored jointly with the James Weldon Johnson Institute at Emory, Georgia
State University Department of Sociology, and Department of Sociology &
Criminal Justice at Clark Atlanta University. Various speakers. November 9,
2016.
Member, Planning Committee. Bringing Du Bois Back to the 21st Century. Speakers:
Aldon Morris (Northwestern University) and Zandria Robinson (Rhodes College).
Clark Atlanta University Spring 2016.

Committees, Theses, Other Directed Research

2026. Cindreka Marshall. PhD in Social Work. A Comparative Study of the Probation
Officers' and Former Inmates' Attitudes Toward Community Resources for the
Prevention of Recidivism. (Dissertation Committee Member).
Member)
2016. PhD in Psychology. Bianca M. Crudup. The Associations between Values
Committed Action, and Cardiovascular Reaction. (Dissertation Committee
Member)
2015. Grant LeFever. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. When Pork Gets Political:
Maurice s Barbecue and the Confederate Flag Debate in South Carolina. (Chair)
2015. Katherine King. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. The Sweet Auburn Curb
Market: Creating Contested Space in the Cit Too Bus to Hate. (Committee
Member)

2014. Mary Elizabeth Smithson. Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology. Honors College Thesis: Disaster, Displacement, and Voluntourism in Ne Orleans Lower Ninth Ward: Helping Narratives of College Student Volunteers in Post-Katrina Ne Orleans. (Chair)
2014. Renee Ombaba. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. In a Foreign Land: The Story of African Immigrants and their Children in Jackson, Mississippi (Chair)
2014. Abigail Abide. Honors Thesis. "Southern Womanhood on the Ole Miss Campus" (Committee Member)
2014. Racheal Walker. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. "Exploring Acculturation and Intercultural Identity Building in International Students at the University of Mississippi (Committee Member)
2014. Leslie Hassel. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. Narrating Jackson State: Media Coverage of the 1970 Shootings at Jackson State College. (Committee Member)
2013. Teah Hairston. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. The Effects of Mass Incarceration and Reentry on Lower-Class Black Males in Mississippi" (Chair)
2013. Audrey Mason. Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. Croft and Honors College Thesis The Role of the Mafia in Sicilian Distrust of the Government. (Chair)
2013. Danielle Kerr. Master of Arts in Sociology, "Butch, Femme, Dike, or Lipstick Aren't All Lesbians the Same?: An Exploration of the Use of Labels among Lesbians in the U.S. South (Committee Member)
2013. Jamie Nelms. Master of Arts in Sociology. Teaching Internship (Committee Member)
2013. Chelsea Wright. Master of Arts in Southern Studies. Do n Friendship: A Journey Home (Committee Member)
2012. Thomas Moncrief, Master of Arts in Sociology. Internship Visions of Hope. (Committee Member)

Professional Affiliations

American Sociological Association (ASA)
 American Society of Criminology (ASC)
 Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)
 Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN)
 Southern Sociological Society (SSS)
 Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)

References Available Upon Request