

HEIDI R. LEWIS, PH.D.

David & Lucile Packard Professor of Feminist & Gender Studies at Colorado College
Editor-in-Chief of Oxford Bibliographies in Gender & Women's Studies

Series Editor of Expanding Frontiers

(719) 726-8909 | HeidiReneeLewis@gmail.com | www.HeidiRLewis.com

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Feminism (emphasis Black Feminism) | Hip Hop (emphasis Rap) | Media Studies

EDUCATION

PH.D., American Studies. Purdue University, 2011.

CERTIFICATE, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. Purdue University, 2008.

CERTIFICATE, Online Teaching and Learning. Ivy Tech Community College, 2008.

M.A., English Literature. Ohio University, 2005.

B.A., English Studies. Robert Morris University, 2003.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SERIES EDITOR. Expanding Frontiers: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, 2025-Present.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF. Oxford Bibliographies in Gender & Women's Studies, 2025-Present.

INSTRUCTOR. Colorado Youth Offender System, 2024.

PRESIDENT. National Women's Studies Association, 2023-25.

PROFESSOR OF FEMINIST & GENDER STUDIES. Colorado College, 2024-Present.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, 2018-24.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, 2012-18.

PUBLICATIONS

Make Rappers Rap Again!: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis." Oxford UP, August 2025.

"If We Bury the Ratchet, We Risk Burying Black Women: A New Directions Analysis of *Married to Medicine*." *Womanism Rising: Womanist Studies Is Here* (Invited), ed. Layli Maparyan. U of Illinois P, January 2025.

"Expertise." *Rethinking Women's and Gender Studies* (Volume II), eds. Catherine M. Orr and Ann M. Braithwaite. Routledge, 2023.

In Audre's Footsteps: Transnational Kitchen Table Talk. Co-Edited with Dana Maria Asbury and Jazlyn Tate Andrews. Witnessed Series. edition assemblage, 2021.

"Hidden Spaces, Hidden Narratives: Intersectionality Studies in Berlin': A Case Study in Intersectional and Transnational Feminist Alliance Work." *Unteilbar Bündnisse gegen Rassismus* (Invited), ed. Jule Bönkost. Unrast Verlag, 2019.

"Damn, I Love the Strippers!: A Black Feminist Analysis of Rihanna's 'Pour It Up.'" *Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships* (Invited), vol. 4, no. 1, 2017, pp. 47-60.

"Who Will Sing a Black Girl's Song?: A Case for Black Feminist and Womanist Exhibit Engagement." *Beyond Mammy, Jezebel, & Sapphire: Reclaiming Images of Black Women*, eds. Jessica Hunter Larsen, Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation, 2017.

"Let Me Just Taste You: Lil Wayne and Rap's Politics of Cunnilingus." *The Journal of Popular Culture*, vol. 49, no. 2, 2016, pp. 289-305.

"An Examination of the Kanye West Higher Education Trilogy." *The Cultural Impact of Kanye West* (Invited), ed. Julius Dion Bailey, Palgrave MacMillan, 2014, pp. 65-77.

NWSA PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNIQUE

["Farewell, NWSA: My Last President's Blog."](#) President's Blog, November 2025.

[Make Rappers Rap Again: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis."](#) Feminist Frequencies E7, 2025.

["I'd rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck!': Some Musings for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty."](#) President's Blog, October 2025.

[A Webinar for First-Time Conference Attendees.](#) Feminist Frequencies E6, September 2025.

["Sensuous, Dignified, Delicious: A Love Letter to My Friend Nadia Guessous, Guided by the Spirit and Courageous Wisdom of Fatema Mernissi."](#) President's Blog, September 2025.

[The Academic Humanities Today.](#) Feminist Frequencies E5, August 2025.

["A Poem for Alex Martinez-Sarmiento."](#) President's Blog, August 2025.

["On Ableism and Berlin."](#) President's Blog, July 2025.

[A Conversation with Black Women Writers.](#) Feminist Frequencies E4, July 2025.

["Pondering Pride."](#) President's Blog, June 2025.

["Silencing the Shame: On Mumble Rap, the Mental, and the Emotional."](#) President's Blog, May 2025.

["On Wondrous Worlds, Real and Imagined, and My Grannymoll's 84th Birthday."](#) President's Blog, April 2025.

["An 86th Birthday and Women's History Month Tribute to Toni Cade Bambara...from the Crates."](#) President's Blog, March 2025.

["Black Feminist Musings, Political and Personal; A Black History Month Blog, Familiar and \(Perhaps\) Strange."](#) President's Blog, February 2025.

["An Honour Song: Feminist Struggles, Feminist Victories."](#) CFP, January 2025.

["On the State of the Field during a Second Trump Administration: A Statement from NWSA."](#) Statement, January 2025.

["Accountability Flows All Ways, Always: Anti-Black Sexism, Rudeness, and Disrespect at the National Conference; or, I Almost Titled My Presidential Address 'What We Gon' Do 'bout the Shit between Us?' I Should Have."](#) President's Blog, December 2024.

["The Journey not only the Arrival, Critical Connections not only Critical Mass: \(Re\)thinking Feminist Movements."](#) Presidential Address, November 2024.

["On the U.S. Presidential Election."](#) President's Blog, November 2024.

[Rethinking Women's & Gender Studies II.](#) Feminist Frequencies E3, November 2024.

["Today is October 7, and the World Is on Fire."](#) President's Blog, October 2024.

["¡VIVA LA HUELGA!: A Labor Day Salute to the Farah Strikers."](#) President's Blog, September 2024.

["On the 45th Anniversary of Black August."](#) President's Blog, August 2024.

["Feelin' Myself: A Cocky Black Feminist Virgo's Diary Entry \[Parental Guidance: Explicit Lyrics\]."](#) President's Blog, July 2024.

"Introduction," [We Make Do and We Are Creative: A Report on the Status on Women and Gender Equity Centers](#). Co-Edited with Kristian Contreras. July 2024.

"[Audre Lorde's Berlin: Honoring Black Transnational Feminisms](#)." President's Blog, June 2024.

"[Truth and Vulnerability in Storytelling: What Indigenous Peoples Have and Continue to Teach Me](#)." President's Blog, May 2024.

"Introduction," [Protecting Our Futures: Challenges & Strategies for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies](#). Co-Edited with Kristian Contreras. April 2024.

"[On the State of the Field and Related Concerns](#)." President's Blog, April 2024.

"[Multivocal and Multidirectional: The Rich Legacy of Women's Studies](#)." April 2024.

"[A Brief and Incomplete History of the Governing Council](#)." April 2024.

"[NWSA Recommits to BDS and Feminist Accountability](#)." Statement, April 2024.

"[Palestine and the Black Radical Intellectual Tradition](#)." President's Blog, March 2024.
[A Fireside Chat with the President](#). Feminist Frequencies E1, February 2024.

"[The Journey not only the Arrival, Critical Connections not only Critical Mass: \(Re\)thinking Feminist Movements](#)." CFP, January 2024.

Strategic Plan, "[Reconnect, Repair, Restore: A More Thoughtful, Transparent, and Trustworthy NWSA](#)." January 2024.

ONLINE (SELECTED)

"[On Banning Critical Race Theory in Schools: 'The Pursuit of a More Just World' Requires Confronting Racism and Privilege](#)." Ms., 2021.

"[#BlackSkinWhiteSin: Black Feminist Thoughts on No More Sheets and Black Sexual Politics](#)." *The Feminist Wire* (TFW), 2017.

"[Who Will Sing a Black Girl's Song?](#)" TFW, 2016.

"[On Gloria Naylor's Transition: A Love Note](#)." TFW, 2016.

"[Honoring Black Resistance without Supporting Nate Parker](#)." TFW, 2016.

"[Why I'm Glad ICDC College May Be Closing](#)." TFW, 2016.

"[A Love Note to Women Who've Had Voluntary Abortions](#)." TFW, 2015.

"[Think about your daughter!': Motherhood and the Shaming of Sex Work](#)." TFW, 2015.

"Feminists We Love" with [Kristie Dotson](#), [Katarzyna Marciniak](#), [Zerlina Maxwell](#), [Jackson Katz](#), [Mimi Schippers](#), [Layli Maparyan](#), [Cheryl Cooky](#), [Tomi-Ann Roberts](#), [Yaba Blay](#), [Michael Kimmel](#), [Duchess Harris](#). TFW, 2013-2015.

CITED BY (SELECTED)

Alexander, Apryl. "Like a Lollipop: Toxic Masculinity and Female Sexual Pleasure in Hip-Hop." *Misogyny, Toxic Masculinity, and Heteronormativity in Post-2000 Popular Music*, edited by Glenn Fosbraey and Nicola Puckey, Palgrave, 2021, 253-70.

Johnson, Patrick. "If It's Cool: Notes on Slow Jams, Black Masculinity, and the Possibilities of Black Pleasure in Maxwell's *Urban Hang Suite*." *Women's Studies in Communication*, vol. 44, no. 4, 2021, pp. 477-83.

Lane, Nikki. "An Open Letter to the Editors of the *Journal of Language and Sexuality*." *Journal of Language and Sexuality*, vol. 10, no. 1, 2021, pp. 59-62.

Payne, Ashley N. "The Cardi B-Beyoncé Complex: Ratchet Respectability and Black Adolescent Girlhood." *Journal of Hip Hop Studies*, vol. 7, no. 1, 2020, pp. 26-43.

- Glover, S. Tay, and Julian Kevon Glover. "‘She Ate My Ass and My Pussy All Night’: Deploying Illicit Eroticism, Funk, and Sex Work among Black Queer Women Femmes." *American Quarterly*, vol. 71, no. 1, 2019, pp. 171-77.
- Weiner, Jesse. "‘Every Time I Write a Rhyme/These People Think It’s a Crime’: Persona Problems in Catullus and Eminem." *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy*, vol. 6, no. 1, 2019, pp. 14-30.
- Brown, Nadia E., and Lisa Young. "Ratchet Politics: Moving Beyond Black Women’s Bodies to Indict Institutions and Structures." *Broadening the Contours in the Study of Black Politics: Citizenship and Popular Culture*, edited by Michael Mitchell and David Covin, Routledge, 2017, pp. 45-56.
- Madichie, Nnamdi O. "The Entrepreneurial University: An Exploration of ‘Value-Creation’ in a Non-Management Department." *Journal of Management Development*, vol. 36, no. 2, 2017, pp. 196-216.
- McEachern, Montinique Denice. "Respect My Ratchet: The Liberatory Consciousness of Ratchetness." *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research*, vol. 6, no. 3, 2017, pp. 78-89.
- Love, Bettina L. "A Ratchet Lens: Black Queer Youth, Agency, Hip Hop, and the Black Ratchet Imagination." *Educational Researcher*, vol. 46, no. 9, 2017, pp. 539-47.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND ROUNDTABLES (SELECTED)

- The Value of Women’s & Gender Studies Degrees. Program Administration & Development Committee (PAD) Pre-Conference. NWSA, 2025.
- Rethinking Women’s & Gender Studies II. PAD Pre-Conference. NWSA, 2024.
- Dispatches from the Diversariat: Faculty of Color and the Academy’s New “Diversity Class” (Sponsored by the Committee on Departments, Programs, and Centers). American Studies Association (ASA), 2019.
- Teaching Popular Media Culture in the Age of the Think Piece (Sponsored by the Feminist Media Studies Interest Group). NWSA, 2018.
- Reclaiming Our Time: Re-Centering Intersectional Feminism in Research, Teaching, and Everyday Realities. ASA, 2018.
- Digital Research and Critical Curation in Black German Studies (Sponsored by the Black Diaspora Studies Network). German Studies Association, 2018.
- The Challenges of Directing WGSS Programs at Small Liberal Arts Colleges. NWSA, 2015.
- Pedagogical Resistance to “Paradigms of the Obvious.” ASA, 2015.

INVITED TALKS (SELECTED)

OFF-CAMPUS

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- The FemGeniuses in Berlin. Peace Studies Conference. Purdue University, 2018.
- When the Man You Are Isn’t the Man You Want to Be: Black Gay Men on FX’s *The Shield*. Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), 2015.

BOOK TALKS

Make Rappers Rap Again: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis": ASA, 2025; Hip Hop Across the Americas, 2025; Purdue University, 2025; NWSA, 2025; Feminist & Gender Studies, 2025; Tennessee Tech University, 2025; The Shop at MATTER (Official Launch), 2025; Theorizing African American Music, 2025; and HipHop Literacies, 2025; and Feminist & Gender Studies, 2023.

In Audre's Footsteps: Transnational Kitchen Table Talk: Fulton Street Books & Coffee, 2022; Chinook Center, 2022; Burdock Book Collective, 2022; National Black Book Festival Black Authors Matter TV Series, 2022; Audream Mobile Antirassistische Bibliothek, 2022; Black German Heritage & Research Association, 2022; Davidson College, 2022; and Each One Teach One e.V. (Official Launch), 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. and NWSA Present: The Value of Women's & Gender Studies Degrees, 2025.

What do we do now? Knapsack Institute. University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, 2025.

Intersectionality and Women's History Month. Qlik, 2024.

Claiming Our Roots as Resurgences: A Dialogue on Spiritual Ruptures and Continuities.

Women's & Gender Studies Conference. Southern Connecticut State University, 2024.

Feminism 101. Feminist Book Club, 2023.

Contemporary Rap Music. Chinook Center's People's College, 2021.

Intersectionality. Nationwide Children's Hospital, 2021; and U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, 2020.

Black Mirror's "Black Museum." Georgia State University, 2020.

Girls of Color and Media. University of Georgia, 2018.

Oppressive Policing in the U.S. Kampagne für Opfer Rassistischer Polizeigewalt, 2016.

PANELS AND ROUNDTABLES

Political Upheaval. Chairs and Directors Meeting. NWSA, 2023.

Author Meets Critics with Dr. Treva Lindsey. NWSA, 2022.

Transgressive Leadership. Chairs and Directors Meeting. NWSA, 2022.

Moving DEI Initiatives to Outcomes. Interfolio Summit, 2021.

The FemGeniuses in Berlin: Transnational Feminist Solidarity. Black Feminist Methodologies Working Symposium. Vanderbilt University, 2017.

NO!: The Rape Documentary to 10 Years Later. NWSA, 2015.

Championing Equality: Athletes and Allies. LGBTQ Center. Purdue University, 2015.

Black Sexualities. Black Life Matters Conference. University of Arizona, 2015.

INTERVIEWS AND CONVERSATIONS

On the State of the Field. Women's & Ethnic Studies Department. University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, 2025.

On the State of the Field. Department of Women and Gender Studies. University of Colorado, Boulder, 2025.

A Raisin in the Sun Talk Back. Theatreworks. University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, 2019.

Professional Feminism. University of Maryland College Park, 2016.

Black Communities and Mental Health. University of British Columbia, 2016.
[“Racial Tension Shake Up Colorado College.”](#) Westword, 2015.
[“Stephany Rose and Heidi R. Lewis Discuss Racism in America.”](#) KRCC, 2015.
[“#INeedFeminismBecause.”](#) Act Out, 2015.

WORKSHOPS

Understanding and Interrogating DEI. Citizens Project, 2023.
 Gender Pronouns. Parker Personal Care Homes, 2022.
 Match the (Print) Ads!: A Workshop on Media Influence: Chinook Center’s People’s College, 2021; U.S. Air Force Academy, 2018; SUNY Fredonia Feminists, 2018; Vista Peak Preparatory APS, 2018; Vista Peak Preparatory APS, 2017; Augustana College, 2017; and the Educating Children of Color Summit, 2016.
 Transnational Feminist Solidarity. From the Archive of Our Black Lives: How to Write and Tell Black (Hi)stories Across Genre and Form. Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges (Williams College), 2018.

ON-CAMPUS

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Doing the Work without a Glimmer on the Horizon...Yet. Winter Commencement, 2018.
 Am I Good Enough?: Resisting Imposter Syndrome. Bridge Scholars Program End-of-Year Celebration, 2017.
 You Are the Ones You’ve Been Waiting For. Winter Commencement, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Palestine and the Black Radical Intellectual Tradition. Feminist & Gender Studies, 2022.
 Fireside Chat with Darnell L. Moore, *No Ashes in the Fire: Coming of Age Black and Free in America* (Common Read). First Monday, 2021.
 Faculty Social Media Presence. Consortium for Faculty Diversity Conference, 2016.
 Researchers as Change Makers. SCoRe! Summer Research Program, 2016.
 Women of Color Week. The Butler Center, 2016.

PANELS AND ROUNDTABLES

Made the World by Breathing: An Oracle Ceremony with Alexis Pauline Gumbs. Spanish & Portuguese Department, 2022.
 Audre Lorde: Reaching Beyond the Master’s Tools. The Butler Center, 2021.
 Racial Equity. The Collaborative for Community Engagement, 2021.
 Best Practices in Faculty Mentoring. Office of the Dean of Faculty, 2021.
 Land of the FREE. Home of the BRAVE. Athletics and American Patriotism. The Butler Center, 2017.
 Tolerating Injustice: After Ferguson. The Butler Center Martin Luther King Day Celebration, 2015.

WORKSHOPS

Intersectional Feminism, Sex(uality), and Romance. *Relations*, 2017.
 Match the (Print) Ads!: A Workshop on Media Influence: Prospective Student Weekend, 2025; and Business Communications, 2022, 2019, and 2018.

SERVICE (SELECTED)**OFF-CAMPUS****NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION**

President, 2023-25.
 Women of Color Leadership Project Co-Chair, 2023.
 Secretary, 2021-2022.
 Conference Proposal Reviewer, 2014-19.
 Graduate Student Mentor, 2015-18.
 Feminist Media Studies Interest Group Founding Chair, 2015-18.

EDITORIAL WORK

Series Editor. *Expanding Frontiers: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality* (University of Nebraska Press), 2025-Present.
 Editorial Board. *Black Music, In Theory* (University of Michigan Press), 2024-Present.
 Reviewer Board. *Journal of Hip Hop Studies* (Virginia Commonwealth University Scholars Compass), 2020-Present.
 Editorial Board. The Feminist Wire Books (University of Arizona Press), 2017-Present.
 ASSOCIATE EDITOR. *The Feminist Wire*, 2013-17.

MANUSCRIPT AND GRANT REVIEWS

Oxford University Press, 2024; *Community Literacy Journal*, 2021; Routledge Books, 2020; *Women & Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture*, 2019; *Feminist Media Studies*, 2018; Einstein Foundation, 2018; *Black Theology: An International Journal*, 2017; *QED: A Journal in GLBTQ Worldmaking*, 2017; and *Feminist Formations*, 2017.

EXTERNAL REVIEWS

Women's and Gender Studies. Drake University, 2023; Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. Augsburg University, 2022; Women's and Gender Studies. Bucknell University, 2021; and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Albion College, 2020.

ON-CAMPUS**ADMINISTRATION**

Inaugural Coordinator of Early Career Faculty Development, 2021-23.
 Chair of Feminist & Gender Studies, 2016-22.

PROGRAMMING

FemSTEM Symposium, 2018-22.
 Beyond Mammy, Jezebel, & Sapphire: Reclaiming Images of Black Women Exhibit, 2017.
Chi-Raq Screening and Discussion, 2016.
 Black Women Matter Teach-In, 2015.
NO!: The Rape Documentary featuring Aishah Shahidah Simmons. Sexual Assault Awareness Month, 2015.
 Same Sex Marriage and the Constitution with the U.S. Airforce Academy, 2015.

HONORS AND AWARDS

David and Louise Packard Professorship, 2023-26.
 Glenn Brooks Innovation and Courage Presidential Leadership Award, 2022.
 Lloyd E. Worner Teacher of the Year, 2012, 2016, and 2018.
 Blue Key Award, 2018.
 Theodore Roosevelt Collins Outstanding Faculty Award, 2016.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

From the Archive of Our Black Lives. How to Write and Tell Black (Hi)stories Across Genre and Form. Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges, 2018.
 Colorado College: Smith Faculty Grant for Curriculum Development, 2024 and 2016; Mellon Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant, 2014-2025; and Dean's Summer Research Grant, 2015, 2018, and 2019.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NWSA Chairs & Directors Meeting, 2018-2023.
 SIROW, 2012-2022.
 Culturally Responsive Faculty Mentorship Workshop. Associated Colleges of the Midwest, 2021.
 Scholarly Writing Retreat. Lewis & Clark College, 2015.