

HEIDI R. LEWIS, PH.D.

DAVID & LUCILE PACKARD PROFESSOR
FEMINIST & GENDER STUDIES AT COLORADO COLLEGE
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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, 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](#) (University of Nebraska Press), 2025-Present.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF. [Oxford Bibliographies in Gender & Women's Studies](#), 2025-Present.

INSTRUCTOR. Colorado Youth Offender System, 2024.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT. [National Women's Studies Association](#) (NWSA), 2025-26.

PROFESSOR. [Feminist & Gender Studies](#). Colorado College, 2024-Present.

PUBLICATIONS

IN PRINT

[Make Rappers Rap Again!: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis."](#) Theorizing African American Music Series. Oxford UP, August 2025.

"If We Bury the Ratchet, We Risk Burying Black Women: A New Directions Analysis of *Married to Medicine*." Transformations: Womanist, Feminist, and Indigenous Studies Series. *Womanism Rising* (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*, ed. 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.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNIQUE

- "An Honour Song: Feminist Struggles, Feminist Victories." Presidential Address, November 2024.
- "[Farewell, NWSA: My Last President's Blog](#)." President's Blog, November 2025.
- [Make Rappers Rap Again: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis."](#) Feminist Frequencies S1E7, 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 S1E6, 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 S1E5, 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 S1E4, 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 S1E3, 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” (with Kristian Contreras), [We Make Do and We Are Creative: A Report on the Status on Women and Gender Equity Centers.](#) 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” (with Kristian Contreras), [Protecting Our Futures: Challenges & Strategies for Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.](#) 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 S1E1, 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*

- [“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.
- [Forum on Toni Cade Bambara](#) (co-curated with Aishah Shahidah Simmons). TFW, 2014.
- [Global Forum on Black Lesbian Feminist Mother Warrior Poet Audre Lorde/Gamba Adisa](#) (co-curated with Aishah Shahidah Simmons). TFW, 2014.

CITED BY*

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

- Cunningham, Alexandria C. "Terms of Service: Imagination, Audacity and Archiving Black Sexual Pleasure." *Porn Studies*, 2025, pp. 1-19.
- 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.
- Jones, Angela. "Sex Positivity: A Black Feminist Gift." *Introducing the New Sexuality Studies: Original Essays*, eds. Nancy L. Fischer, Laurel Westbrook, and Steven Seidman, Routledge, 2022.
- Kahan, Benjamin. "Some Speculations on the History of Foreplay in England, 1648–1929." *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, vol. 23, no. 1-2, 2023, pp. 1-33.
- Lewis, Andrea A. "Rapping about Pleasure: The Role of Black Women's Rap Music in Shaping Black Women's Sexual Attitudes." *Culture, Health & Sexuality: An International Journal for Research, Intervention and Care*, vol. 27, no. 8, 2025, pp. 1070–84.
- Maragh-Lloyd, Raven. "From Permit Patty to Karen: Black Online Humor as Play and Resistance." *American Journal of Play*, vol. 13, no. 2-3, 2021, pp. 253-77.
- Mizelle, Destin L. et. al. "'My Playlist is Too (Damn) Long': The Impact of Black Men's Favorite Sex Songs on Sexual Socialization." *Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships*, vol. 10, no. 3-4, 2024, pp. 327-54.
- Oshin-Martin, Moronke. "Conflict, Crisis and the Media: Cultural Intermediaries Bridging the Identity Divide between Black Immigrants and African Americans." *Journal of Global Diaspora & Media*, vol. 4, 2023, pp. 25-43.
- Rajah, Azra. "I'm a 'Savage': Exploring Megan Thee Stallion's Use of the Politics of Articulation to Subvert the Androcentric Discourses of Women in Hip Hop Culture." *Educational Research for Social Change*, vol. 11. no. 1, 2022.

BOOK TALKS

Make Rappers Rap Again!: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis." Theorizing African American Music Series. Oxford UP, August 2025.

European Hip Hop Studies Network, 2026; American Studies Association, 2025; Hip Hop Across the Americas, 2025; Black Cultural Center Alumni Series. Purdue University, 2025; Feminist Frequencies S1E7 (online). NWSA, 2025; Tennessee Tech University, 2025; The Shop at MATTER (Official Launch). Denver, 2025; Theorizing African American Music. Emory University, 2025; and HipHop Literacies. The Ohio State University, 2025.

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

Fulton Street Books & Coffee. Tulsa, 2022; The Chinook Center. Colorado Springs, 2022; Burdock Book Collective. Birmingham, 2022; National Black Book Festival Black Authors Matter TV, 2022; Audream Mobile Antirassistische Bibliothek. Berlin, 2022; Black German Heritage & Research Association 2022; Davidson College, 2022; and Each One Teach One e.V. (Official Launch). Berlin, 2021.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND ROUNDTABLES*

- 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.

INVITED TALKS*

OFF-CAMPUS

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- What Do We Do Now?: On the State of Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. Women's History Month Celebration. Alma College, 2025.
- What Do We Do Now?: On the State of Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. Knapsack Institute. University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, 2025.
- Intersectionality and Women's History Month Celebration. Qlik, 2024.
- On Intersectionality. Nationwide Children's Hospital, 2021.
- On Intersectionality. U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, 2020.
- On Intersectional and Transnational Feminist Solidarity. Peace Studies Conference. Purdue University, 2018.

PRESENTATIONS

- What Do We Do Now?: On the State of Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. Purdue University, 2025.
- The Value of Women's & Gender Studies Degrees. Ms. Magazine and NWSA, 2025.
- Feminism 101. Feminist Book Club, 2023.
- Contemporary Rap Music. The Chinook Center's People's College, 2021.
- 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

- The Value of Women's & Gender Studies Degrees. Program Administration & Development Pre-Conference (PAD). NWSA, 2025.
- Rethinking Women's & Gender Studies II. PAD. NWSA, 2024.
- Claiming Our Roots as Resurgences: A Dialogue on Spiritual Ruptures and Continuities. Women's & Gender Studies Conference. Southern Connecticut State University, 2024.
- Political Upheaval. Directors & Chairs Meeting. NWSA, 2023.

Author Meets Critics with Dr. Treva Lindsey. NWSA, 2022.
 Transgressive Leadership. Directors & Chairs Meeting. NWSA, 2022.
 Moving DEI Initiatives to Outcomes. Interfolio Summit, 2021.
 The FemGeniuses in Berlin: Intersectional and Transnational Feminist Solidarity. Black Feminist Methodologies Working Symposium. Vanderbilt University, 2017.

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, 2019.
 Professional Feminism. University of Maryland College Park, 2016.
 Black Communities and Mental Health. University of British Columbia, 2016.

WORKSHOPS

Understanding and Interrogating DEI. Citizens Project, 2023.
 On Gender & Pronouns. Parker Personal Care Homes, 2022.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. The Chinook Center's People's College, 2021.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. U.S. Air Force Academy, 2018.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. SUNY Fredonia Feminists, 2018.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Vista Peak Preparatory APS, 2018 and 2017.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Augustana College, 2017.
 Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Educating Children of Color Summit, 2016.
 On Intersectional and Transnational Feminist Solidarity. From the Archive of Our Black Lives: How to Write and Tell Black (Hi)stories Across Genre and Form. 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, 2017.
 You Are the Ones You've Been Waiting For. Winter Commencement, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Make Rappers Rap Again: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis." Feminist & Gender Studies (FGS), 2025.
Make Rappers Rap Again: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis." FGS, 2023.
 Palestine and the Black Radical Intellectual Tradition. FGS, 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, 2022.

Audre Lorde: Reaching Beyond the Master's Tools. Butler Center, 2021.

Racial Equity. Collaborative for Community Engagement, 2021.

Best Practices in Faculty Mentoring. Dean of Faculty, 2021.

Land of the FREE. Home of the BRAVE. Athletics and U.S. Patriotism. Butler Center, 2017.

WORKSHOPS

Intersectional Feminism, Sex(uality), and Romance. *Relations*, 2017.

Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Prospective Student Weekend, 2025.

Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Business Communications, 2022, 2019, and 2018.

SERVICE*

OFF-CAMPUS

NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Immediate Past President, 2025-26.

National President, 2023-25.

Women of Color Leadership Project Co-Chair, 2023.

National Secretary, 2021-2022.

Conference Proposal Reviewer, 2014-19, 2022, and 2024-25.

Graduate Student Mentor, 2015-18.

Feminist Media Studies Interest Group Founding Chair, 2015-18.

EDITORIAL WORK

Editorial Board. *Black Music, In Theory* (University of Michigan Press), 2024-Present.

Reviewer Board. *Journal of Hip Hop Studies* (Virginia Commonwealth University Scholar 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.
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.
 Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Albion College, 2020.

ON-CAMPUS

ADMINISTRATION

Inaugural Coordinator. Early Career Faculty Development Programs, 2021-23.
 Mentoring Alliance Program (co-created with Peony Fhagen), 2021-23.
 Director. Feminist & Gender Studies, 2016-22.

PROGRAMMING

FemSTEM Symposium (co-created with Andrea Bruder), 2018-22.
 Beyond Mammy, Jezebel, & Sapphire: Reclaiming Images of Black Women Exhibit (co-curated with Jessica Hunter), 2017.
Chi-Raq Screening and Discussion, 2016.

HONORS AND AWARDS*

David & Louise Packard Professorship. Colorado College (CC), 2023-26.
 Glenn Brooks Innovation and Courage Presidential Leadership Award. CC, 2022.
 Lloyd E. Worner Teacher of the Year. CC, 2012, 2016, and 2018.
 Blue Key Award. CC, 2018.
 Theodore Roosevelt Collins Outstanding Faculty Award. CC, 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.
 Smith Faculty Grant for Curriculum Development. CC, 2016 and 2024.
 Mellon Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant. CC, 2014-2025.
 Dean's Summer Research Grant. CC, 2018 and 2019.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT*

NWSA Program Directors & Department Chairs Meeting, 2018-2023.
 Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), 2012-2022.
 Culturally Responsive Faculty Mentorship Workshop. Associated Colleges of the Midwest, 2021.