

HEIDI R. LEWIS, PH.D.

DAVID & LUCILE PACKARD PROFESSOR OF FEMINIST & GENDER STUDIES AT COLORADO COLLEGE

[Email](#) | [Website](#) | [LinkTree](#) | [Calendly](#) | (719) 726-8909

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 *

FOUNDER. [Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Proposal?: An Intensive Academic Writing Retreat with Dr. Heidi R. Lewis](#). 2026-Present.

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.

PRESIDENT. [National Women's Studies Association](#) (NWSA), 2023-25.

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

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, 2018-24.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, 2012-18.

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 Asbury and Jazlyn 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, 2025.
- ["Farewell, NWSA: My Last President's Blog."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["I'd rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck!': Some Musings for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty."](#) Blog, 2025.
- [A Webinar for First-Time Conference Attendees.](#) *Feminist Frequencies S1E6*, 2025.
- ["Sensuous, Dignified, Delicious: A Love Letter to My Friend Nadia Guessous, Guided by the Spirit and Courageous Wisdom of Fatema Mernissi."](#) Blog, 2025.
- Introduction, *The Value of Women's & Gender Studies Degrees*. Ms./NWSA, 2025.
- [The Academic Humanities Today.](#) *Feminist Frequencies S1E5*, 2025.
- ["A Poem for Alex Martinez-Sarmiento."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["On Ableism and Berlin."](#) Blog, 2025.
- [A Conversation with Black Women Writers.](#) *Feminist Frequencies S1E4*, 2025.
- ["Pondering Pride."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["Silencing the Shame: On Mumble Rap, the Mental, and the Emotional."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["On Wondrous Worlds, Real and Imagined, and My Grannymoll's 84th Birthday."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["An 86th Birthday and Women's History Month Tribute to Toni Cade Bambara...from the Crates."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["Black Feminist Musings, Political and Personal: A Black History Month Blog, Familiar and \(Perhaps\) Strange."](#) Blog, 2025.
- ["An Honour Song: Feminist Struggles, Feminist Victories."](#) Call for Proposals, 2025.
- ["On the State of the Field during a Second Trump Administration: A Statement from NWSA."](#) Statement, 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."](#) Blog, 2024.
- ["The Journey not only the Arrival, Critical Connections not only Critical Mass: \(Re\)thinking Feminist Movements."](#) Presidential Address, 2024.
- ["On the U.S. Presidential Election."](#) Blog, 2024.
- [Rethinking Women's & Gender Studies II.](#) *Feminist Frequencies S1E3*, 2024.
- ["Today is October 7, and the World Is on Fire."](#) Blog, 2024.
- ["¡VIVA LA HUELGA!: A Labor Day Salute to the Farah Strikers."](#) Blog, 2024.
- ["On the 45th Anniversary of Black August."](#) Blog, 2024.
- ["Feelin' Myself: A Cocky Black Feminist Virgo's Diary Entry."](#) Blog, 2024.

- Introduction (with Kristian Contreras), [We Make Do and We Are Creative: A Report on the Status on Women and Gender Equity Centers](#). Report, 2024.
- "[Audre Lorde's Berlin: Honoring Black Transnational Feminisms](#)." Blog, 2024.
- "[Truth and Vulnerability in Storytelling: What Indigenous Peoples Have and Continue to Teach Me](#)." Blog, 2024.
- Introduction (with Kristian Contreras), [Protecting Our Futures: Challenges & Strategies for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies](#). Report, 2024.
- "[On the State of the Field and Related Concerns](#)." Blog, 2024.
- "[Multivocal and Multidirectional: The Rich Legacy of Women's Studies](#)." 2024.
- "[A Brief and Incomplete History of the Governing Council](#)." 2024.
- "[NWSA Recommits to BDS and Feminist Accountability](#)." Statement, 2024.
- "[Palestine and the Black Radical Intellectual Tradition](#)." Blog, 2024.
- [A Fireside Chat with the President](#). Feminist Frequencies S1E1, 2024.
- "[The Journey not only the Arrival. Critical Connections not only Critical Mass: \(Re\)thinking Feminist Movements](#)." Call for Proposals, 2024.
- "[Reconnect, Repair, Restore: A More Thoughtful, Transparent, and Trustworthy NWSA](#)." Strategic Plan, 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.

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.

PRESENTATIONS

BOOK TALKS

Make Rappers Rap Again!: Interrogating the Mumble Rap "Crisis." Theorizing African American Music Series. Oxford UP, August 2025.
[Boom Bap Chronicles](#), 2026; North Carolina Central University/University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2026; European Hip Hop Studies Network, 2026; American Studies Association (ASA), 2025; Hip Hop Across the Americas, 2025; Purdue University Black Cultural Center, 2025; [NWSA](#), 2025; Tennessee Tech University, 2025; The Shop at MATTER (Official Launch), 2025; Theorizing African American Music, 2025; HipHop Literacies, 2025; FGS, 2025; and FGS, 2023.

In Audre's Footsteps: Transnational Kitchen Table Talk (co-edited with Dana Asbury and Jazlyn Andrews). Witnessed Series. edition assemblage, 2021.
 Fulton Street Books & Coffee, 2022; The Chinook Center, 2022; Burdock Book Collective, 2022; Black Authors Matter TV, 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.

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. 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 & Gender Studies Consortium Conference. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2026.

What Do We Do Now?: On the State of Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. International Association of Qualitative Inquiry, 2026.

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.

On Intersectionality: A 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.

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

On the State of Gender Studies. Gender Justice League. University of Colorado, Boulder. March 2026.

The Value of Women's & Gender Studies Degrees. Program Administration & Development Pre-Conference (PAD) Pre-Conference. NWSA, 2025.

Rethinking Women's & Gender Studies II. PAD Pre-Conference. 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: A 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.

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.

Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Vista Peak Preparatory APS, 2017 and 2018.

Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Augustana College, 2017.

Match the Ads: On Media Influence. Educating Children of Color Summit, 2016.

INVITED TALKS 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

Faculty Social Media Presence. Consortium for Faculty Diversity Conference, 2016.

Researchers as Change Makers. SCoRe! Summer Research Program, 2016.

PANELS, ROUNDTABLES, AND CONVERSATIONS

Palestine and the Black Radical Tradition. FGS, 2024.

An Oracle Ceremony with Alexis Pauline Gumbs. Spanish & Portuguese, 2022.

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

Fireside Chat with Darnell L. Moore, No Ashes in the Fire: Coming of Age Black and Free in America. Common Read, 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.

Women of Color Week. The Butler Center, 2016.

WORKSHOPS

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

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

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

SERVICE ***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, 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), 2020-Present.

Editorial Board. TFW Books (University of Arizona Press), 2017-Present.

Associate Editor. TFW, 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**

Founding Coordinator. Early Career Faculty Development Programs, 2021-23.

Founding Director. Mentoring Alliance Program (co-created with Peony Fhagen), 2021-23.

Director. Riley Scholars-in-Residence Program, 2020-23.

Academic Advisory Council. Office of the President, 2020-21.

Director. FGS, 2016-22.

COMMITTEES

Student Success Committee. Office of the Dean of the College, 2022-23.
 Advisory Board. Crown Faculty Center, 2022-23.
 Inaugural Chair. Community Safety & Accountability Committee, 2021-22.
 Faculty Executive Committee, 2021-22.

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

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS *

Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant. CC, 2014-2026.
 Faculty Grant for Curriculum Development. CC, 2016 and 2024.
 Dean's Summer Research Grant. CC, 2018 and 2019.
 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.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT *

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