
Zakiya R. Adair, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

African American Studies &
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Birthplace: California

Citizenship: American

Current Position

2015 - Present, **Associate Professor**, African American Studies & Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies, The College of New Jersey (TCNJ); 2015-2020, Assistant Professor African American Studies & Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies, The College of New Jersey (TCNJ)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2010, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Department of Women's Studies
Bachelor of Arts Degree 2001, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA, Department of African American Studies

Professional Experience

- 2022 So/Se Visiting Associate Professor, Institut für England und Amerikastudien, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2010-2015, **Assistant Professor** in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, The University of Missouri, full-time tenure track. Duties included scholarly research, 2/2 teaching and service to the institution.

Awards and Professional Honors

2019 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Institute, *Power, Privilege and Jewish History in the South*, College of Charleston, Charleston SC.
2016 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Institute, *Ernest J. Gaines History and Literature*, The university of Louisiana Lafayette, LA
2013 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Schomburg Scholar in Residence Postdoctoral Fellowship, NY, NY, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Scholarly Record

Books and monographs in progress

Cosmo Girls: Black Women, Trans-Atlantic Expressive Culture and Black Internationalism probes the constructions of race, gender and nation in trans-Atlantic expressive culture. Three of the most famous black American women in trans-Atlantic expressive culture in the first half of the twentieth century were, Florence Mills, Josephine Baker and Adalaide Hall. Their experiences are highlighted to demonstrate the interplay between expressive performance, black internationalism and global black liberation movements. My book departs from the binary of oppressive versus liberating ideations of black women in expressive performance to look deeper at how black women exerted agency and autonomy in what on the surface appeared exploitative conditions.

Precarious Bodies: Scholarship, Teaching and Tenure for Black Indigenous People of Color and LGBTQ+ In the Neoliberal College. This is an edited volume, co-edited with Rebecca Nisetich, Ph.D Assistant Professor, English, The University of Southern Maine. This volume will feature essays on how neoliberal policies, national social justice movements and the global pandemic caused by the Coronavirus has impacted teaching, scholarship and tenure for many scholars.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles, Book Chapters

Adair, Zakiya. 2021. "All Power To All the People: WGS Black Feminist Pedagogy and Emancipatory Compositions" *Radical Teacher*,

Adair, Zakiya. 2019. "Ain't I A Woman? Race, Gender, and the Me Too Movement." *Rejoinder Online Journal for the Institute for Research On Women*. Rutgers University.

Adair, Zakiya. 2018. "Pre-Tenure and Black: Teaching and Research in the Era of Trump." *Journal of Women, Gender, and Families of Color*

Adair, Zakiya. 2014. "Transgressive (Re)presentations: Black Women, Vaudeville and the Politics of Performance in Early Trans-Atlantic Theatre" *Understanding Blackness Through Performance: Contemporary Arts and the Representation of Identities*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan edited by Anne Crémieux, Xavier Lemoine and Jean-Paul Rocchi

Adair, Zakiya. 2012. "Respectable Vamp: A Black Feminist Analysis of Florence Mills' Career in Early Vaudeville Theatre" *Journal of African American Studies*

Journal Articles In Progress

Adair, Zakiya. "To Be A Black Feminist, In Memory of bell hook". Currently under consideration with *The Journal of Women, Gender and Families of Color*

Adair, Zakiya. "By the Rivers of Babylon: Reconstruction, Expressive Performance

and the Fisk Jubilee Singers.” Currently under consideration with *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*

Adair, Zakiya. *Boss: Beyonce’s Rhetorical Performance of Black Womanhood*. In progress

Conference Presentations/Invited Talks

2022 **Invited Speaker** *Oscar Micheaux Life and History* Workshop, New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission, February.

2021 “Pedagogy of the People: Best Practices for Anti-Oppressive Pedagogy in the 21st Century” **Invited Speaker** for The School of Education Summer Institute, *Imagination, Innovation, and Inquiry: Reinvent Your Classroom*. Virtual Summer Institute. The College of New Jersey.

2021 “Anti-Oppressive Pedagogies” **Chair and Discussant** for The Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Virtual Conference March.

2020 “Boss: Beyoncé’s Rhetorical Performance of Black Womanhood,” **Individual Paper** for The Association for American Popular Culture Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA April 2020. *Conference canceled as a result of the global Coronavirus Pandemic

2020 “Race, Gender and Tenure: Neoliberal Impact on Tenure for People of Color,” **Individual Paper** for the Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Boston March 2020. NEMLA is the Northeast annual meeting for the Modern Language Association.

2017 “#staywoke: Teaching and Research in the Era of Trump,” **Individual Paper** for the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland November 2017. NWSA is the premier annual meeting for the NWSA association.

2017 “To Thee we Sing: Global Visions in Black Opera, Classical and Gospel Music,” **Individual Paper** for the *African American Intellectual History* Conference, Nashville, TN March.

2016 “The Most Beautiful Women in the World,” **Individual Paper** for the *Association for the Study of African American Life and History* annual meeting Richmond, VA September 2016. ASALH is the African American History division of the American Historical Association.

2016 “C’est Si Bon: Black Women, Performance and Black Internationalism in the 20th Century,” **Individual Paper** for the *African American Intellectual History Association* annual meeting North Carolina, March.

2015 “Race, gender and Trans-Atlantic Theatre” **Individual Paper** American Historical Association (AHA) New York, NY 2015. AHA is the premier annual meeting for the AHA.

2014 “Cosmopolitan Minstrelsy” **Panelist**, for *Gender, Visual Culture and the Rights of Racial Representation in the early Twentieth Century*. Association for the Study of African Life and History. National Conference, Memphis, TN.

2014 “Josephine Baker an African American Trailblazer” **Invited Speaker**, 12th Annual African Diaspora International Film Festival, Chicago, IL.

2014 “Trans-Atlantic Performance in the Early Twentieth Century: Race, Gender and Black Women’s Bodies” **Invited Speaker**, for *Gendered Performance, Sexuality and The (Dis)Able Body in the Black Diaspora*, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

2014 “The Cultural Production of Black Internationalism: Race, Nation and Identity in the Interwar Years” National Conference. **Session Chair**. Organization for American Historians (OAH), Atlanta, GA.

2013 “Naming and Reclaiming: Interdisciplinary Analyses of Black Girls and Women’s Strength, Resiliency, and Resistance” **Panelist** at National Council for Black Studies, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2013 “Another Country: Afro-diasporic Feminisms, Historical Itineraries, and Cultural Performance of Memory” **Panelist**, Collegium for African American Research (CAAR) Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, GA.

2013 “Abject Desire: Racial Meanings in Trans-Atlantic Expressive Culture” **Individual Paper**, African Americans, Race and Diaspora, University of Paul-Valéry, Montpellier, France.

2012 “Black Feminist Approaches to Black Musical and Vaudeville Traditions” **Panelist** *Black Performance as Power in History and Culture*, Association for the Study of African Life and History (ASALH), Pittsburg, PA.

2012 “Shake a Little Somethin: Transnational (Re)presentations and Spectacles of Performance” **Individual Paper** *Black Art and Internationalism*, American Studies Association (ASA), San Juan, Puerto Rico. National conference.

2012 “Transgressive Performance and the Theatrics of Black Women’s Sexuality in Early Trans-Atlantic Theatre” **Individual Paper** The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA), Oakland, California.

2011 “Transnational Black Women Vaudeville Performers and Racial Uplift in the Early 20th Century” **Panelist** 3rd Annual Recovering Black Women’s Voices and Lives, University of Alabama.

2011 “Transformation and Institutionalization: Women’s and Gender Studies and the Ivory Tower” **Panel Organizer and Presenter** The National Women’s Studies Association, Atlanta, GA.

2011 “Trans-Atlantic Black Vaudeville and the Spectacle of the Other in Jazz Age Paris” **Individual Paper** The Western Society for French Historical Studies, Portland, OR. National Conference.

2011 “Assembling the Ensemble: Theorizing African American Women’s Transnational Expressive Culture in the Early 20th Century” *Individual Paper* National Council for Black Studies.

2011 “Promiscuous Expressivity and Modern Possibilities: A Black Feminist Approach to Transnational Black Vaudeville 1920-1930” *Individual Paper* at Afro-modernisms 2: What’s Really New? Blackness and Atlantic Modernism, 1907-61. University of Liverpool, United Kingdom.

2011 “Transgressive (Re)presentations: Race, Gender, Nation and the Politics of Performance in Interwar Europe” *Individual Paper* Collegium for African American Research (CAAR) University of Paris 7-Diderot, Paris, France.

Teaching Record

Teaching Areas: Black Expressive Culture, black American cultural history, black feminist theory, Black Internationalism, Feminist Media.

Course Development and Instruction

African Americans in Film

Black Feminist Thought

Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies

Gender and Popular Culture

Race, Gender and Cultural Production

African American Women’s History

Gender, Film and U.S. History

Black Art, Music and Culture

Book Reviews and Various Press/Media

2019 Adair, Zakiya. “The Best Weapons in the World: Book Review: Diana Adesola Mafe. 2018. *Where No Black Woman Has Gone Before: Subversive Portrayals in Speculative Film and TV*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2018. In *The Journal of Popular Culture* Fall 2019.

2014 Adair, Zakiya. “Review Essay: *Dorothy West’s Paradise: A Biography of Class and Color* (2012). By Cherene Sherrard-Johnson. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2012.” *American Studies Journal* 53:3 June 2014

2022 Interview for NJ.com “Here’s our 2 cents on the new Maya Angelou quarter” by Calavia-Robertson. Jan. 17, 2022.

<https://www.nj.com/opinion/2022/01/heres-our-2-cents-on-the-new-maya-angelou-quarter-calavia-robertson.html>

2015 Co-Authored Press Editorial on the Student 1950 movement at The University of Missouri, *The Huffington Post* November 2015

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bryana-h-french-phd/people-of-color-employed-mizzou-demand-change_b_8584756.html

2015 Press Interview on Student 1950 movement, *The Missourian*, November 2015

http://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/higher_education/former-mu-faculty-highlight-need-to-keep-not-just-recruit/article_0cff89c8-8ca1-11e5-9063-cb6c79703cc2.html

2014 Press Interview on the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO for *Le Devoir*, 19 August 2014.

<http://www.ledevoir.com/societe/actualites-en-societe/416253/tensions-raciales-au-missouri-baril-de-poudre-a-ferguson>