

VITAE

Regina N. Bradley

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Florida State University

Major Area: African American Literature and Culture

Minor Area: Hip Hop and Popular Culture

Minor Area: Gender and Women's Studies

Dissertation Title: "Race to Post: White Hegemonic Capitalism and Black Empowerment in 21st Century Black Popular Culture and Literature"

M.A. African American and African Diaspora Studies, Indiana University Bloomington

B.A. English, Albany State University (with honors)

AREAS OF SCHOLARSHIP

Hip Hop Studies, Black Southern Studies, Twentieth and Twenty-First Century African American Literature, Race and Gender in Popular Culture, Race and Sound Studies

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021 – present: Associate Professor of English and African Diaspora Studies, Department of English, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

- Affiliate Faculty, African American and Diaspora Studies
- Affiliate Faculty, American Studies
- Graduate Faculty

2017 – 2021: Assistant Professor of English and African Diaspora Studies, Department of English, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

- Affiliate Faculty, African American and Diaspora Studies
- Affiliate Faculty, American Studies
- Graduate Faculty

Courses Taught: Introduction to English Studies; Survey of African American Literature: "Why Do Black Lives Matter?;" Major African American Writers:

“post-Civil Rights Writers;” Special Topics: “OutKast and the Rise of the Hip Hop South;” Special Topics: “Southern Hip Hop and Culture;” Regional Literature: Queen Sugar and the Black South;” “Issues in African American and Diaspora Studies;” Regional Literature: “Horror in the Contemporary Black South;” Special Topics: “Sex, and Southern Black Women”

2015 – 2017: Assistant Professor of African American Literature, Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy, Armstrong State University, Savannah, GA

- Affiliate Faculty, African American Studies
- Affiliate Faculty, Gender Studies

2011 – 2015: Instructor, English and Interdisciplinary Studies Departments, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw GA

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Chronicle Stankonia: the Rise of the Hip Hop South. Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2021.

- This vibrant book pulses with the beats of a new American South, probing the ways music, literature, and film have remixed southern identities for a post-civil rights generation. For scholar and critic Regina N. Bradley, Outkast's work is the touchstone, a blend of funk, gospel, and hip-hop developed in conjunction with the work of other culture creators—including T.I., Kiese Laymon, and Jesmyn Ward. This work, Bradley argues, helps define new cultural possibilities for black southerners who came of age in the 1980s and 1990s and have used hip-hop culture to buffer themselves from the historical narratives and expectations of the civil rights era. Andre 3000, Big Boi, and a wider community of creators emerge as founding theoreticians of the hip-hop South, framing a larger question of how the region fits into not only hip-hop culture but also contemporary American society as a whole.

Edited Collections

An OutKast Reader: Essays on Race, Gender, and the Postmodern South. Athens (GA): UGA Press, 2021.

- *An OutKast Reader* takes Atlanta, GA pioneering hip hop duo OutKast's aesthetic as a lens through which readers can understand and explore contemporary issues of Blackness, gender, urbanism, southern aesthetics, and southern studies more generally. Divided into sections on regional influences, gender, and visibility, the essays collectively offer a vision of OutKast as a key shaper of conceptions of the twenty-first-century South, expanding that vision beyond long-held archetypes and cultural signifiers.

Guest-Edited Journals

Southern Cultures. “The Sonic South” 27.4 (Winter 2021).

Phylon: The Clark Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture. With Stephanie Y. Evans and Courtney Terry. “Hip Hop Culture and Rap Music Aesthetics in the Post-Civil Rights South” 54.1 (Winter 2017).

Black Camera: An International Film Journal, Close-Up. “Hip-Hop Cinema” 8.2 (Spring 2017).

Peer Reviewed Articles

“Sonic Sage in Little Africa: a Report from Tulsa, OK.” *Global Hip Hop Studies* 1.1 (Summer 2020) : 197-200.

“An Experiment in Teaching OutKast and the Hip Hop South” – *south: a scholarly journal* 50.2 (Spring 2018): 105-113.

“Pedagogies of Music, Politics, and Race: a Roundtable Discussion at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association” – *Journal of Popular Music Studies* 30.3 (2018): 17-44.

“More than Country Rap Tunes: Hop Hop’s Impact on the Post-Civil Rights American South” (co-authored with Courtney Terry and Stephanie Evans) – *Phylon: The Clark Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture* 54.1 (2017): 3-10.

“Of the Wings of Traplanta: (Re)Historicizing W.E.B. Du Bois’ Atlanta in the Hip Hop South” (co-authored with Seneca Vaught) – *Phylon: The Clark Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture* 54.1 (2017): 11-27.

“Re-Imagining Slavery in the Hip-Hop Imagination” – *south: a scholarly journal* 49.1 (Spring 2017): 3-24.

“How I Use #BlackLivesMatter as an Entry Point and a Disruption Tool” – *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism* 15.1 (2016): 290 – 299.

“Awkwardly Hysterical: Theorizing Black Girl Awkwardness and Humor in Social Media” – *Comedy Studies* 6.2 (2015): 148-153.

“A Look In Our Lives: *The 4991 Series* and Black Women’s Narratives as Working Cultural Memories” – *ADA: Journal of Gender, New Media, and Technology* Issue 6 (2015).

“Getting Off at the 13th Floor: Rap Genius and Archiving 21st Century Black Cultural Memory” – *Journal of Ethnic American Literature* Issue 4 (2014): 86-98.

“Contextualizing Hip Hop Sonic Cool Pose in 21st Century Rap Music” *Current Musicology* 93 (Spring 2012): 57-72.

Non-Peer Reviewed Articles

“Da Art of Speculatin’ – *Fireside Magazine* (Fall 2020): 63-66.

“A Dirty South Kind of Healing.” In *Wildsam Atlanta Field Guide*. Ed. Taylor Bruce. Wildsam Press, 2020: 94-97.

- Republished in *Bitter Southerner Magazine* (July 02, 2020)

“Outta the Souf.” In *A Measure of Belonging: New Writers of Color on the American South*. Ed. Cinelle Barnes. Spartanburg: Hub City Press, 2020: 111-119.

“Ghosts in My Blood” – *Southern Cultures* 25.1 (Spring 2019): 138-145.

“Blood and the Rut” – *Bitter Root* #3 (Backmatter, Winter 2019).

“Smelling Like Outside” – *Southern Glossary* #4 (Summer 2017): 4-7.

“Confessions of a Former Food Segregationist” – *Gravy Quarterly* (Summer 2017): 22-25.

“Sop It Dry: Or, How to Make Country Black Girl Magic” – *Gravy Quarterly* (Fall 2016): 38-41.

“Country Notes by Country Folks” – *Oxford American Magazine* (Winter 2015): 67-69.

Exhibition Catalog Articles

“Quilted Beats Bound at the Rut: a Theorization of the ‘Dirty South’” – *The Dirty South: Contemporary Art, Material Culture, and the Sonic Impulse* exhibition catalogue, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Fall 2021)

“Thowed Off” – *Slowed and Thowed: Records of the City Through Mutated Lenses* exhibition catalogue, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (Fall 2021).

“To See and Make Heard” – Jepson Center for the Arts Nick Cave Exhibit (Spring 2017)

“The Sound and Her (Black) Fury: Black Kirby’s Motherboxx Connection.” In *Black Kirby: In Search of the Motherboxx Connection*. Eds. John Jennings and Jonathan Gayles. New York: Createspace Independent Publishing, 2013: 25-26.

Book Chapters

“The South Got Something to Say.” In *Smithsonian Anthology of Hip Hop and Rap*. Ed. Dwan Reece. Smithsonian Folkways, 2021: 203-204.

“Becoming OutKasted: Archiving Contemporary Black Southernness in a Digital Age.” In *Digital Sound Studies: a Provocation*. Eds. Mary Caton Lingold, Darren Mueller, and Whitney Trettien. Durham: Duke Univ. Press, 2018: 120-129.

“Teaching Trayvon: Teaching about Racism through Public Pedagogy, Hip Hop, New Social Media and Trauma” (co-authored with Bettina L. Love). In *Racial Battle Fatigue: Insights from the Front Lines of Social Justice Advocacy*. Ed. J. Martin. New York: Praeger, 2015: 255-268.

“Barbz and Kings: Explorations of Gender and Sexuality in Hip-Hop.” In *The Cambridge Companion to Hip Hop*. Ed. Justin A. Williams. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2015: 181-191.

“Kanye West’s Sonic [Hip Hop] Cosmopolitanism.” In *The Cultural Impact of Kanye West*. Ed. Julius Bailey. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014: 97-107.

“Selling Blackness: Commercials and Hip Hop Athletes Hocking Products” – In *African Americans on Television: Race-ing for Ratings*. Eds. David Leonard and Lisa Guerrerro. Westport: Praeger, 2013: 251-263.

ACADEMIC MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

“Sitting on Zora’s Porch: Notes from a Black Girl in the Hip Hop South” [**Under Contract, UNC Press**]

- A deep dive into the complexities of race, regionalism, gender, and identity in the contemporary Black South. Using the writings of Zora Neale Hurston and southern hip hop as a framework, this book project blends cultural analysis, history, and memoir to theorize the Black American South as a gray space where past and present cultural touchstones collide and inform how contemporary southern blackness is constructed and consumed.

CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Books

Boondock Kollage: Stories from the Hip Hop South. New York: Peter Lang Press, 2017.

Short Fiction

“Choose Wisely.” *Scalawag* magazine (Winter 2018).

“Letty.” In *Sycorax’s Daughters*. Eds. Kinitra Brooks, Susana Morris, and Linda Addison. San Francisco: Cedar Grove Publishing, 2017: 47-57.

- Honorable Mention – 2017 Best Horror Short Stories of the Year
- Reprint, *Apex Magazine* Issue 118 (Spring 2019)

“Trapped Whispers.” *Obsidian: Literature and Arts in the African Diaspora* 42.1-2 (Fall 2016): 101-113.

“Sip Slow.” *Oxford American* magazine (Winter 2016): 69-72.

“Beautiful Ones.” *Transition* magazine 120 (2016): 61-78.

- 2017 Pushcart Prize nomination in short fiction

“A Visitation from Grace.” *BOAAT Journal* (September/October 2015).

CREATIVE MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Same Bones – horror short story collection about a black woman who cannot die and becomes the apprentice of the Grim Reaper.

Reluctant Ancestors – novel

- Seventeen year old Stinney Keen goes missing the first night of summer vacation in Dougherty Springs, a town in Southwest Georgia. While his family desperately searches to find him, Stinney watches them from the “Stalks,” the space between life and death. Stinney meets another black teenager, Cheney Boy, who went missing himself nearly a century before. While the Keens fight the odds to keep the search for Stinney alive, Stinney is in a battle of his own to make his way back to the living. However, Cheney Boy has plans of his own with a painful secret that could keep Stinney in the Stalks forever.

SELECT PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Contributor, “The South Got Something to Say: a Celebration of Southern Rap,” *NPR Music*. 3 August 2020.

2019 – present: *Bottom of the Map* – a weekly podcast discussing the intersections of race, gender, and southern hip hop.

- Named 2019 “Best New Local Podcast,” *Atlanta Magazine*

2017 – 2019: *The Shed Presents: the Soundtrack of America* – an inaugural series of events and performances celebrating African American music at the recently opened fine arts facility The Shed in New York City, New York. I was a member of the academic advisory team.

“Buy U a Drank (Shawty Snappin’) by T-Pain Featuring Yung Joc,” *PBS American Experience*. 18 August 2017.

“Before Beyoncé made ‘Formation,’ Zora Neale Hurston laid out her roadmap,” *Washington Post*. 10 February 2016.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

2019: OutKasted Conversations digital southern hip hop archive:
(www.outkastedconversations.com)

- An online archive dedicated to highlighting and collecting scholarship and criticism on southern hip hop culture. Sponsored by Emory University Center for Digital Scholarship.

- 2014:** Founder and Host, OutKasted Conversations – A 40 episode critical dialogue series discussing the cultural and popular influences of southern hip hop duo OutKast. Featured on *Ebony* (Digital), *Huffington Post*, *Musiqology*, *New York Times* Blog, *The Feminist Wire*, *For Harriet*, and *Creative Loafing Atlanta*
- In 2018, I entered a partnership with the Emory University Center for Digital Scholarship to produce an additional 10 episode run of OutKasted Conversations to commemorate the 25th anniversary of OutKast’s first album *Southernplayalisticadilacmuzik*.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- 2022:** Research Associate Fellow, Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University
- 2020:** Outstanding Early Faculty Career Award, Department of English, Kennesaw State University
- 2019:** College of Arts and Sciences Luminary (Outstanding Alumni), Indiana University Bloomington
- 2018:** Tin House Summer Workshop Participant (Novel)
- 2017:** Recess Critical Writing Fellowship (Summer 2017)
- Callaloo* Creative Writer’s Workshop Fellowship (Fiction)
- 2016:** Nasir Jones Hip Hop Research Fellow, Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University
- 2015:** College of Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award, Kennesaw State University

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

* = invited keynote

Papers Presented:

- 2021:** “The 3000 Lives of André Benjamin.” David Sanjek Keynote in Popular Music, Society for Ethnomusicology. 30 October. Virtual Presentation*
- 2021:** “The Audacity of Southern Black Folks’ Joy and Where to Find It.” Pop-Up Academic

- Conference on Popular Culture, Lonestar State College. 29 October. Virtual Presentation*
- 2021:** “Still Standing: Student Voices, Curation, and HBCU Legacies.” HBCU Rhetoric and Composition Symposium, Florida A&M University. 24 September. Virtual Presentation*
- 2020:** “OutKasted Aesthetics Claimin’ True.” Southern Aesthetics Workshop, American Society for Aesthetics. 17 September. Virtual Presentation*
- 2020:** “Tell the Truth and Take the Risk: Political Engagement and Action in Southern Hip Hop”. Fannie Lou Hamer Colloquium, Grand Rapids Community College. 6 October. Virtual Presentation*
- 2019:** “Tainted Biscuits and Long Division: Black Women’s Labor in Southern Food.” Southern Foodways Alliance Conference. 24-26 October. Oxford, MS*
- 2018:** “Rendering the Hip Hop South in Kiese Laymon’s *Long Division*.” Southern History Association Conference. 8-10 November. Birmingham, AL
- “Alla Us or Summa Ya’ll?: What does Social Justice Look Like in the Contemporary South?” All Ya’ll Social Justice Workshop. 24-25 July. Jacksonville, FL*
- “Winning the Geography Lottery: OutKast’s Brave New World.” Society for Ethnomusicology, Southeast and Caribbean Chapter. 16-18 March. New Orleans, LA*
- 2017:** “The Mountaintop Ain’t Flat.” TEDx Savannah Conference. 19 May. Savannah, GA.
- “Living Comfortable but not Good: Sounding Protest in the Hip Hop South.” Music in Action Conference, UCLA. 28-30 April. Los Angeles, CA*
- “Sitting on Zora’s Porch: Recognizing Southern Black Women’s Agency in the Post-Civil Rights Era.” Southeast Women’s Studies Association Conference. 23-25 March. Atlanta, GA*
- “Trap or Die: Trap Music as a Site of Critical Storytelling in the Hip Hop South.” The Futurities of Blackness Symposium, Duke University. 3-4 February, 2017. Durham, NC.*
- 2016:** “Sop It Dry: Cornfield Strength and Food Memories as Southern Sustenance.” Southern Foodways Association Conference. 6-7 October. Oxford, MS*
- “When the Quiet Arrives: Race, Agency, and Gender on Screen.” Liquid Blackness Conference, Georgia State University. 6-7 October. Atlanta, GA*
- “I’ll Call When I Come: Sounding Pleasure in the Hip Hop South.” EMP Pop Music Conference. 14-16 April. Seattle, WA

“SpottieOttie that was Shawty: Pleasure Politics in the Hip Hop South.”
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. 3 March. Chattanooga, TN. *

“Time Travelin’ and Mind Unravelin’: Southern HipHop Realities in *Long Division*.”
Harvard University. 24 February. Cambridge, MA.

2015: “Bending Ears with that Old/New Southern Slouch: OutKast’s Sonic Hip Hop South.”
American Studies Association. 8-11 October. Toronto, Canada.

“When the Mountaintop Ain’t Flat: Protest and Black Folks in the Hip Hop South.”
University of South Carolina. Columbia, SC. 2 October. *

“The Revolution will be Meme-ified: Hip Hop and Social Protest in a Digital Era.”
Metropolitan State University of Denver. Denver, CO. 23 September. *

Discussant (Invited):

2021: “Historically Speaking: the Launch of the Smithsonian Anthology of Hip Hop and Rap.”
National Museum of African American History and Culture. 17 August.
Virtual Presentation.*

2021: Keynote Conversation with Aisha Durham: “Hip Hop and Feminism in the
Contemporary South.” Southeast Women’s Studies Association Conference. 12 March.
Virtual Presentation.*

2021: “Sounding Afrofuturism Keynote Panel.” Zora! Festival of the Arts. 30 January. Virtual
Presentation.

2019: “Funkentelechy: Black Music and Technologies.” Stanford University. 14 May. Palo
Alto, CA.

2016: “Terror and Public Memory after the Massacre at Emanuel A.M.E.” Society for the Study
of Southern Literature. 10-13 March. Boston, MA.

Sessions Organized

2018: “When the Heroes Eventually Die: a Critical Listening of OutKast’s *Aquemini* on Its 20th
Anniversary.” American Studies Association. 8-11 November. Atlanta, GA.

“F.I.L.A.: Atlanta’s Evolution as a Hip Hop City.” American Studies Association. 8-11
November. Atlanta, GA.

2017: “Trying Times, Trying Conversations: Engaging the Taboo in Our Classrooms.”
American Studies Association. 9-12 November. Chicago, IL.

2016: “We Ain’t Robbing Stagecoaches, We Settin’ It Off!: Black Women’s Protest and
Agency in *Set It Off*.” National Women’s Studies Association. 10-13 November.

Montreal, Canada.

“What Makes it Cool to be Southern?: Re-Imagining Home and Self in the New Black American South.” American Studies Association. 17-20 November. Denver, CO.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

2019: *Hip Hop Evolution*, “The Dirty South.” *Netflix*. September 6.

2018: “Atlanta Music Experts on Donald Glover’s ‘This is America’” segment, *City Lights*. *NPR*. 11 May.

2016: “From ‘Crank That’ to Dabbing: Atlanta is a Dance Craze Mecca,” segment, *City Lights*. *NPR*. 10 March.

“Beyoncé and Southern Blackness” segment, *On Second Thought*. *GPB*. 17 February.

2015: “Modern Southern Women” segment, *On Second Thought*. *GPB*. 1 December.

“Gucci Mane” segment, “*On Second Thought*.” *GPB*. 17 November.

“OutKast’s Role in Southern African-American Life Examined” segment, *City Lights*. *GPB*. 14 April 2015.

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

National Service:

2021 – 2026: Faculty Editor, *Southern Cultures* journal

2021 – 2022: Co-Organizer, Southeastern Womens Studies Association Conference

2020 – 2023: Humanities Advisor, Paley Center for Media Hip Hop and Media exhibition

2020 – 2021: Executive Committee, Pop Music Conference

2019 – 2023: Editorial Board, *Global Hip Hop Studies* Journal

2019 – 2021: Editorial Board, *Southern Cultures* Journal

2018 – : Editorial Board, *Journal of Popular Music Studies*

2016 – 2019: Committee Member: Graduate Education, American Studies Association

2016: Application Reviewer, Next Level Hip Hop Ambassadorship Program

University Service:

2020 – 2022: Member, Outstanding Research and Creativity Award Committee,
Kennesaw State University

2020: Diversity and Inclusion Liaison, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Kennesaw State University

2018 – 2020: Member, Outstanding Teaching Award selection committee,
Kennesaw State University

2018 – present: Member, Bentley Rare Book Museum Advisory Board, Kennesaw State
University

2015-2017: Member, Armstrong State University Undergraduate Research Committee

Department Service:

2021 – 2023: Promotion and Tenure Committee

2020 – 2022: Awards Committee

2019 – 2021: Speakers and Events Committee

2018 – 2020: Revising the English Major Committee