

# ANDREÁ N. WILLIAMS

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2006  
M.A. English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002  
B. A. English, Spelman College, 2000 (Phi Beta Kappa, Valedictorian)

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of English, The Ohio State University, 2012 – present.  
Assistant Professor, Department of English, The Ohio State University, 2006 – 2012.

## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, NC. American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellow for Recently Tenured Scholars, 2017-2018  
Rutgers Postdoctoral Fellowship in African American Literature, Department of English, Rutgers University, 2008-2009.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Unmarried Miss-fits: Single Women and the Making of Twentieth-Century Black Culture* (book)

“African American Life Writing, 1865-1900.” *A History of African American Autobiography*.  
Ed. Joycelyn Moody. Cambridge: Cambridge UP. (under contract)

## PUBLICATIONS

*Dividing Lines: Class Anxiety and Postbellum Black Fiction*. University of Michigan Press, 2013. Class: Culture Series. Series editors Amy Schragger Lang and Bill V. Mullen.  
[http://www.press.umich.edu/4766752/dividing\\_lines](http://www.press.umich.edu/4766752/dividing_lines).

### Edited Collections

Co-editor, *The North Carolina Roots of African American Literature*. General ed. William L. Andrews. University of North Carolina Press, 2005.  
Co-editor, *North Carolina Slave Narratives*. General ed. William L. Andrews. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

### Articles and Book Chapters

“Recovering Black Women Writers in Periodical Archives.” *American Periodicals* 27.1 (2017): 25-28.

“Black Labor and the Sentimentalized Southern Economy in Katherine Tillman’s *Clancy Street*.” *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* 32.1 (2015): 53-74.

“Postbellum, Pre-Harlem: Black Writing before the Renaissance.” *A Companion to the Harlem Renaissance*. Ed. Cherene Sherrard-Johnson. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2015. 35-50.

- “Cultivating Black Visuality: The Controversy over Cartoons in the Indianapolis *Freeman*.” *American Periodicals* 25.2 (2015): 124-38.
- “Frances Watkins (Harper), Harriet Tubman and the Rhetoric of Single Blessedness.” *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism* 12.2 (2014): 99-122.
- “Sex, Marriage, and 12 Years a (Single) Slave.” *American Literary History* 26.2 (2014): 347-353.
- “Moving Up a Dead End Ladder: Black Class Mobility, Death, and Narrative Closure in Sutton Griggs’s *Overshadowed*.” *Jim Crow, Literature, and the Legacy of Sutton E. Griggs*. Ed. Kenneth Warren and Tess Chakkalakal. Athens: U of Georgia P, 2013. 88-110.
- “Black Women’s Labor and the Melodrama of Mobility in Sutton Griggs’s *Overshadowed*.” *African American Review* 45.1-2 (Spring/Summer 2012): 49-64.
- “African American Literary Realism, 1865-1914.” *A Companion to African American Literature*. Ed. Gene Andrew Jarrett. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2010. 185-199.

#### Book Reviews and Short Essays

- Rev. of *Whispers of Cruel Wrongs: The Correspondence of Louisa Jacobs and Her Circle, 1879-1911*. Ed. Mary Maillard. *Journal of Family History* 43.3 (2018): 327-329.
- “Visions of the Future in Nineteenth-Century Black Periodicals.” Rev. of *The Black Newspaper and the Chosen Nation*, by Benjamin Fagan and *Black Girlhood in the Nineteenth Century*, by Nazera Sadiq Wright. *American Periodicals* 27.2 (2017): 206-211.
- Rev. of *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity*, by Sarah Haley. *American Literary History Online Review*. Series X. 3 April 2017.  
[https://academic.oup.com/alh/pages/alh\\_review\\_series\\_10](https://academic.oup.com/alh/pages/alh_review_series_10)
- “Representing Women’s Work: Sarah Savage’s *The Factory Girl*.” *Just Teach One. Common-place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life*. American Antiquarian Society. 7 August 2014. <http://www.common-place.org/justteachone/?p=344>
- Rev. of *Cambridge Companion to Frederick Douglass*. Ed. Maurice S. Lee. *Prose Studies*. 34.2 (2012): 160-63.
- Rev. of *Abolitionists Remember: Antislavery Autobiographies and the Unfinished Work of Emancipation*, by Julie Roy Jeffrey. *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies*. 24. 2 (2009): 322-326.
- “Let the Good Work Go On.” Rev. of *Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins: Black Daughter of the Revolution*, by Lois Brown. *Women’s Review of Books* 26.3 (2009): 25-27.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Harriet Wilson (1825-1900).” *Student’s Encyclopedia of Great American Writers: 1830 to 1910*. Ed. Paul Crumbley. New York: Facts on File, 2010. 505-511.

“James Baldwin,” “*The Color Purple*,” “Rita Dove,” “Ralph Ellison,” “Nikki Giovanni,” “Harlem Renaissance,” “Langston Hughes,” “Julius Lester,” “Toni Morrison,” “Suzan-Lori Parks,” “*Roots*,” “Mildred Taylor,” and “Alice Walker.” *The World Book Encyclopedia*. Chicago: World Book, 2008.

**SELECTED INVITED LECTURES**

“African American Marriage in the Twentieth Century: A Conversation.” With historian Tera Hunter. National Humanities Center. Research Triangle Park, NC. April 12, 2018.

“The House that Jane Built: Domesticity and the Single Woman.” National Humanities Center. Research Triangle Park, NC. January 25, 2018.

“One is the Funniest Number: Laughing at Single Women on Page and Stage.” Department of English & Comparative Literature. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, NC. November 8, 2017.

“Single Women and the Marriage Market in Contemporary Black Culture.” Linda Arnold Carlisle Distinguished Excellence Professorship Lecture Series. Department of Women’s and Gender Studies. University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Greensboro, NC. November 7, 2017.

“Staging Singleness: Unmarried Women and Black Community Theatre.” Robert W. Woodruff Library. Atlanta University Center. Atlanta, GA. July 21, 2016.

“Discipline, Disclosure, and African American Diaries.” African American Studies Symposium: “The Power of Story: African American Autobiography & Life Writing.” University of Texas at San Antonio. San Antonio, TX. April 12, 2016.

“How to Watch TV Like a Professor: Feminist Approaches to Shonda Rhimes’s *Scandal*.” College of Wooster. Wooster, OH. November 13, 2014.

“Re-Reading African American Literary History.” College of Wooster. Wooster, OH. November 13, 2014.

“Jane Edna Hunter’s *A Nickel and a Prayer*.” Seminar Discussion Facilitator. Texas Regional Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). University of Texas at San Antonio. San Antonio, TX. March 1, 2014.

“Class and the Myth of Racial Solidarity in Black Fiction.” Diversity & Identity Studies Collective at OSU. Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. November 1, 2013.

“Going Overboard: Crafting Your College Education.” Keynote Address. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Arrival Program. Todd A. Bell National Resource Center on the African American Male. Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. August 14, 2013.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNSCNxInR9A>

“Alone against the Law: Unmarried Black Women and Antislavery Activism.” Harriet Tubman: A Legacy of Resistance—100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium. SUNY-Albany. Albany, NY. March 8, 2013.

“Charles W. Chesnutt and Black Ohio.” African American Research and Service Institute Symposium: “African American Activism and Creativity in Ohio.” Ohio University. Athens, OH. October 4, 2012.

“Imagining a Black President: Political Leadership, Racial Identity, and the Cultural Work of African American Literature.” African American Studies Symposium: “The Obama Presidency: The Last 100 Years, The First 100 Days.” University of Texas at San Antonio. San Antonio, TX. April 3, 2009.

#### **MEDIA APPEARANCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

“Marriage and the Single Black Woman.” Interview by Frank Stasio. *The State of Things*. WUNC North Carolina Public Radio, Chapel Hill, 11 April 2018.

<http://wunc.org/post/marriage-and-single-black-woman>

Lartey, Jamiles. “Harriet Tubman: the Woman, the Myth, the Legend Muddled by \$20 Bill Plaudits.” *Guardian* 24 April 2016.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/apr/24/harriet-tubman-20-bill-myths-freed-slaves-quotes>

Tanguay, Pablo. Interview with Andréa N. Williams. OSU English Tumblr Blog. Fall 2013.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9quQ\\_7cySo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9quQ_7cySo)

Young, Vershawn. “*Dividing Lines*: Interview with Andréa N. Williams.” *New Books in African American Studies*. Spring 2013.

<http://newbooksinafroamstudies.com/2013/05/08/andrea-williams-dividing-lines-social-class-anxiety-and-postbellum-black-fiction-university-of-michigan-2013/>

Butler, Enelda. “Royster Alumna Brings Her Research to Life.” Interview with Andréa N. Williams. *The Fountain*. The Graduate School. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Spring 2012. [http://fountain.unc.edu/spr\\_12/roysteralumna.html](http://fountain.unc.edu/spr_12/roysteralumna.html)

Harris, Julia. “Book Talk.” Interview with Andréa N. Williams. *OnCampus: The Ohio State Faculty Staff Newspaper*. November 3, 2010. <http://oncampus.osu.edu/andrea-williams-english/>

**SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

International

“Singleness, Success and Marriage Markets in Black Feminist Theatre.” *Single Lives: 200 Years of Independent Women in Literature and Popular Culture*. University College Dublin. Dublin, Ireland. October 14, 2017.

“Excavating Lives from Black Archives: A Response.” International Auto/Biography Association (IABA). Nicosia, Cyprus. May 26, 2016.

National

“The House that Jane Built: Domesticity and the Single Woman.” National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA). Baltimore, MD. November 18, 2017.

“Love on the Quad: Dating, Surveillance and the Black College Press.” *Black Love: A Symposium*. University of Kansas. Lawrence, KS. September 16, 2017.

“Professionalizing Visual Artists in the Indianapolis *Freeman*.” *The Arts in the Black Press during the Age of Jim Crow*. Yale University. New Haven, CT. March 11, 2017.

“Periods and Periodicals: Teaching the 1890s in African American Literary History.” The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19). State College, PA. March 17, 2016.

“On Reading and Writing the Lives of Single Black Women.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). Philadelphia, PA. November 6, 2015.

“The Black Visual Artist as Celebrity in the Indianapolis *Freeman*.” *African American Expression in Print and Digital Culture*. University of Wisconsin. Madison, WI. September 20, 2014.

“Seduced by Success: Sutton Griggs’s Single Female Consumers and the Black Economy.” American Studies Association (ASA). Washington, D.C. November 2013.

“Rethinking Class and Community in Black Periodicals.” American Literature Association (ALA). Boston, MA. May 2013.

“Uncoupling Race and Desire: Bachelor-girls in Alice Dunbar-Nelson’s Short Fiction.” College Language Association (CLA). Lexington, KY. April 2013.

“Why Study Single Black Women: A Response.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). Denver, CO. October 2012.

“Critical Neglect of Black Women’s ‘Recovered’ Writing.” The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19). Berkeley, CA. April 2012.

**ACADEMIC SUMMER SEMINARS**

Invited Faculty Instructor, NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Teachers, “Paul Laurence Dunbar and American Literary History,” facilitated by Thomas Morgan and Becki Trivison. Ohio History Society. Columbus, OH. July 23, 24, 28, 2015.

Participant, Summer Seminar in the History of the Book, “African American Cultures of Print,” facilitated by Jordan Stein and Lara Langer Cohen. American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, July 9-13, 2012.

Participant, Summer Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies, “‘The Lord’s Battle I Mean to Fight’: The Politics of African American Piety,” facilitated by Joycelyn K. Moody. West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, June 7-10, 2007.

**RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Arts and Humanities International Small Travel Grant, OSU, 2017, 2016

Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library Research Travel Award, 2016

Isaiah Thomas Stipend, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, 2012

Research Enhancement Grant, OSU College of Arts and Sciences, 2012

Thomas S. and Caroline H. Royster Fellowship, UNC-CH, 2000-2005

W. Bruce Lea Jr. Award for Travel and Research, UNC-CH Department of English, 2004

Dean’s Award for Exceptional Research Benefiting the State of North Carolina by a Graduate or Professional Student, UNC-CH, 2003

Presidential Scholarship, Spelman College, 1996-2000

**TEACHING AND SERVICE AWARDS**

Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award, Office of Human Resources, OSU, 2016

Arts and Humanities Diversity Enhancement Award, OSU, 2015-2016

Marlene B. Longenecker English Faculty Teaching and Leadership Award, OSU, 2015

President’s Salute to Undergraduate Academic Achievement: Faculty Honoree, University Honors & Scholars Center, Ohio State University, 2010

Laurence Avery Award for Outstanding Teaching in Literature by a Graduate Student, UNC-CH Department of English, 2006

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP**

**Positions**

Vice Chair, Department of English, OSU 2013-2015

Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Department of English, OSU 2013-2015

Executive Committee, Department of English, OSU, 2012-2015

Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English, OSU, 2010-2012

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English, OSU, 2007-2008, 2011-12, 2016-17

Course Director for English 290: Colonial and U.S. Literature to 1865, advising graduate student teachers, Department of English, 2011-2012

Interim Assistant Director, Summer Bridge Program, UNC-CH, Spring 2005 (for incoming students from underrepresented backgrounds)

Advanced Leadership Training

Academic Leadership Academy for higher education administrators. Pennsylvania State University. State College, PA. 2015.  
American Council on Education (ACE) Women's Network Ohio conference, 2015.

**UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

Faculty Committee on Admissions, Office of Enrollment Services, OSU, 2016-2017  
University Search Committee Action Team, OSU, 2014  
Graduate Faculty Representative: dissertation defense in Educational Policy and Leadership, The Graduate School, OSU, 2013  
Faculty Affiliate, Economic Access Initiative (for first-generation college students), OSU, 2007-2008, 2009-2010  
Undergraduate Research Advisor, Summer Research Opportunities Program (for underrepresented pre-doctoral students), OSU, 2007  
Faculty representative for the College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences New First Quarter Freshmen Orientation, OSU, Summer 2007

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Undergraduate Courses

Growing Up Black: African American Coming-Of-Age Narratives  
The Single Woman in African American Literature and Culture  
Black Identity and Agency in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Narrative  
Introduction to African American Literature  
Colonial and U.S. Literature to 1865  
Labor and Class Inequality in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century U.S. Fiction  
American Literature, 1865-1914 (special topic: Crossing Boundaries)  
Critical Writing for the English Major  
Critical Writing for the English Major - Honors  
Major American Authors (special topic: The American Dream)

Graduate Courses

Labor, Class, and U.S. Literature  
The Single Woman and African American Literature  
The 1890s in African American Literature and Culture  
African American Literature, Beginnings to 1900  
African American Literature, 1900 to Present  
Teaching College English

**PUBLIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Reading from *The Portable Nineteenth-Century African American Women Writers*, ed. Hollis Robbins and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. With Hollis Robbins and Tera Hunter. Regulator Bookstore. Durham, NC. September 27, 2017.

“Freedom’s Children: Stories of the Black Middle Class after Slavery.” Marlin Public Library. Marlin, TX. June 20, 2013.

“Freedom’s Children: Stories of the Black Middle Class after Slavery.” National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center. Wilberforce, OH. June 15, 2013.

“What to A Slave is Black History Month: History and Memory in Slave Narratives.” Charlotte Museum of History. Charlotte, NC. February 5, 2005.

“North Carolina Slave Narratives.” Ragan Writers Lecture Series. Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities. Southern Pines, NC. March 14, 2004.

“Moses Grandy’s *Narrative* in North Carolina Literary History.” Hillsborough Literary Association. The Burwell School. Hillsborough, NC. February 19, 2004.

“Moses Grandy’s *Narrative* in North Carolina Literary History.” North Carolina Museum of History. Raleigh, NC. February 7, 2004.

“Looking Forward: Some Things Are Worth Forgetting.” Commencement Address. Marlin High School. Marlin, TX. May 31, 2002.

### **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

Faculty Mentor to Early Career Faculty, Summer Institute on Tenure and Professional Advancement ([SITPA](#)), Duke University, Durham, NC, 2018-2020

Editorial Advisory Board, *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* ([J19](#)), 2016-2020

Advisory Board, Research Society for American Periodicals ([RSAP](#)), 2013-2019

Executive Coordinator, American Literature Society ([ALS](#)), 2012-2016

Grant proposal referee, National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, NC, 2017, 2018

Manuscript reviewer, Louisiana State University Press, 2017; *Auto/Biography Studies*, 2016;

Cambridge University Press, 2015; Oxford University Press, 2015; *American*

*Periodicals*, 2015; University of Georgia Press, 2014; *College Literature*, 2013; *African American Review*, 2007-2008

External dissertation consultant, Educational Leadership & Counseling Program, Sam Houston State University, Summer 2013

Awards Committee, Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW) Graduate Student Paper Awards, 2012-2013

Planning Committee, George Moses Horton Society Conference, UNC-CH, Spring 2002

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Studies Association (ASA)

National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)

Research Society for American Periodicals (RSAP)

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP)

Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)

Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19)