

Adrienne Ronee Washington

Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor of Linguistics
World Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
West Virginia University
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Morgantown, WV 26506
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Education:

- University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- **PhD in Linguistics;** May 2016
Concentration: Sociolinguistics
Graduate Certificates: Doctoral Level Certificate in African Studies;
Advanced Study Certificate for Latin American & Caribbean Studies
 - **Master of Arts in Linguistics;** May 2010
Concentration: Sociolinguistics
- University of California, Los Angeles / Cultural Association Brazil-USA (ACBEU) Salvador, Brazil
- UCLA Travel Study Program – Portuguese Language in the Brazilian Context; Summer 2013
- University of the West Indies (Mona campus) Kingston, Jamaica
- Caribbean Language and Linguistics Institute; Summer 2008
- University of Massachusetts Amherst, Center for the Study of African American Language Amherst, MA, USA
- Summer Dialect Research Project; Summer 2007
- Hampton University Hampton, VA, USA
- **Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, *summa cum laude*;** May 2007
Concentration: Literature Minor: English Arts
Honors College Endorsement
- Universidad de Salamanca Salamanca, Spain
- Institute for the International Education of Students; Spring 2006

Publications:

Refereed Journal Articles

- Washington, A. R. (*in press*). Semantic and semiotic flows: Examining variations and changes of “the N-WORDS” within an indexical field of dynamic meanings. *Atlantic Studies: Global Currents*.
- Tracy-Ventura, N., Washington, A. R., & Mikheeva, I. (*in press*). Promoting equity in study abroad: A focus on first-generation and students of color in the USA. *Studies in Second Language Learning and Teaching*.
- Washington, A. R. (2023). “Their Yoruba was pure. It was archaic, it was native”: Racioreligious linguistic ideologies in (re)constructing ritual, language and identity. *Journal of Language, Identity & Education*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15348458.2023.2196426>.

- Washington, A. R. (2021). Desecrating the sacred: Linguistic appropriation of Nagô expressions and the articulation of religious repression in Salvador, Brazil. *Journal of Africana Religions*, 9(2), 165–202. <https://doi.org/10.5325/jafrirel.9.2.0165>.
- Washington, A. R. (2020). “Reclaiming my time”: Signifying, reclamation and the activist strategies of Black women’s language. *Gender and Language*, 14(4), 358–385, <https://doi.org/10.1558/genl.41607>.
- Washington, A. R. (2019). Orthography matters!: The ideologies, insecurities and global politics of the 1990 Portuguese Language Orthographic Agreement. *Journal of World Languages*, 5(3), 206–233, <https://doi.org/10.1080/21698252.2019.1679419>.

Book Chapters in Edited Volumes

- Washington, A. R., & Robinson, B. L. (2022). De-pathologizing diversity: A critical analysis of racialized discourses of difference and deviance in *The black border* and the imperative of reframing approaches to linguistic variation. In G. de Laforcade, D. Stein, & C. C. Waegner (Eds.), *The aliens within: Danger, disease, and displacement in representations of the racialized poor* (pp. 161–186). De Gruyter. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110789799-008>
- Washington, A. R., & Burnett, D. A. (2019). Examining linguistic continuity and the richness and multidimensionality of Black Atlantic discursive practices through the lyricism of Lauryn Hill. In B. L. Love, V. E. Evans-Winters, & B. S. Waters (Eds.), *Twenty years of “Miseducation” and Black girlhood: The Lauryn Hill reader* (pp. 5–21). Peter Lang.

Presentations (Invited and Refereed):

- “Towards a concept of racioreligious linguistic ideologies,” Visibilizing Raciolinguistic Ideologies Across Cultures, Languages, and Systems Conference, University of California, Berkeley, April 6-7, 2022.
- “‘Miss Rona, girl, I see you’: Creative language, representation, and voices of Black gender-expansive communities in digitally mediated spaces,” The Global Conference on Women and Gender - “Community, Care and Crisis,” March 17-19, 2022.
- “‘Miss Rona, girl, I see you’: Creative language, representation, and voices of Black gender-expansive communities in digitally mediated spaces,” 44th Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender Annual Conference - “Witnessing,” October 6-10, 2021 (*Paper withdrawn – Covid-19 closures*).
- “Ancestral tongues: Articulating Blackness, heritage, and kinship ties through language,” The ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) 106th Annual Meeting and Virtual Conference: “The Black family: Representation, identity, and diversity.” September 14-30, 2021.
- “Fashioning Blackness in Brazil: Yoruba-oriented identity and self-making.” Presented to The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College’s Honors Café, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA. April 20, 2021.
- “Entering the conversation: Crafting research and writing for higher education.” Panelist for Norfolk State University’s 7th William Carroll Writers Festival. April 6-8, 2021.
- “Racialized language and the (re)making of space and place,” Annual meeting of the Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers Conference. Meeting held remotely, November 6-7, 2020.
- “Examining models of cultural ownership and fluidity through racialized and ethnicized language practices.” Presented through Virginia Tech’s M.A. Program in Material Culture and Public Humanities. Diversity and Materiality in the Public Sphere Conference. Blacksburg, VA, October 25-26, 2019.
- “Reclaiming my time”: Clapbacks, signification, and the activist strategies of Black women’s language,” International Conference on the Global Status of Women and Girls: “Intersectionality: Understanding Women’s Lives and Resistance,” Christopher Newport University’s College of Arts and Humanities & Norfolk State University, Newport News, VA, March 21-23, 2019.
- “Zora Neale Hurston and Geneva Smitherman: Pioneers of language, religious and cultural studies.” Presented to The Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College’s *Honors Café*: “Visionary Women,” Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA. [Women’s History Month] March 12, 2019.

- “Black migrations, language and the Caribbean” featuring Drs. Adrienne R. Washington and Janira Teague. Presented as a *Black Migrations Brown Bag Chat and Chew* through Norfolk State University’s Department of History and Interdisciplinary Studies, and as part of Norfolk State University’s *Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)* – “Close Reading for Effective Writing” (CREW). [Black History Month] February 27, 2019.
- “More than ‘jockin our style’: Symbolic appropriation and the racist foundations of coopting of Black language,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 29 - December 3, 2017.
- “Heritage, authenticity, and Yoruba teaching qualification in northeastern Brazil: Ideology, expertise, and the ownership of Yoruba,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 29 - December 3, 2017.
- “Fashioning Afro-Brasilidade: Yoruba-oriented Blackness and the social significance of Yoruba linguistic practices in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.” 10th Annual African American Studies Spring Symposium: “Intersectional Black Identities,” University of Texas, San Antonio, TX. April 6, 2017.
- “Competing varieties: The coexistence of liturgical and Nigerian Yoruba in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.” Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics meeting in conjunction with 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Minneapolis, MN. January 2-5, 2014.
- “They don’t say ‘my nigga’ like the people in my community’: language and the politics of place, space and race.” 2013 Dietrich School Arts & Sciences Grad Expo. Panel on “Issues of Race and the Politics of Representation.” University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. March 21, 2013.
- “They don’t say ‘my nigga’ like the people in my community’: language and the politics of place, space and race.” Hiphop Literacies Conference: Globalization of Black Popular Culture, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. May 9-11, 2012.
- “My [ˈni.gə] is somebody you know, but [ˈni.gə] is a slave term’: the lexico-semantic variation & change of the ‘N-word’ in African American English.” Department of Linguistics Colloquium. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. December 9, 2011.
- “My [ˈni.gə] is somebody you know, but [ˈni.gə] is a slave term’: the lexico-semantic variation & change of nigger.” Summer Dialect Research Program – Graduate Panel: New Directions for research on African American English. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. June 6, 2011.
- “Bad words gone good: Semantic reanalysis in African American English.” Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics meeting in conjunction with 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Pittsburgh, PA. January 8, 2011.
- “Sticking out like sore thumbs’: Recreolization, semantic amelioration, and the distinctiveness of Black English.” 3rd Annual African American Studies Spring Symposium: “Black Popular Culture: Language, Spectacle, and Literature,” University of Texas, San Antonio, TX. April 16, 2010.
- “Praat for phonetic analysis.” Multimedia Showcase 2008, Robert Henderson Language Media Center, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. September 25, 2008.
- “Dialects and dissent: Language variation in the achievement of new identities and autonomy.” Virginia’s Collegiate Honors Council Spring Conference: “Hands Across the Waters: 400 Years of Democracy and Dissent,” Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA. March 24, 2007.

Teaching and Academic Appointments:

Assistant Professor of Linguistics (West Virginia University), July 2021 – present

ESL 630 - American Culture

LING 101 - Introduction to Linguistics

LING 493C - Language, Identity & Power

LANG/LING 610 - Methods of Research

Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies (Norfolk State University), August 2018 – July 2021

INT 210 - Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies

INT 311 - Principles of Interdisciplinary Studies
INT 322 - Approaches to Critical Analysis
INT 360 - Foundations of Research in Interdisciplinary Studies
INT 375 - Language & Society
INT 376/399F - African American Language & Culture
INT 470 - Advanced Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies

Spanish Teacher (Norview Middle School, Norfolk Public Schools, VA):

Exploratory Spanish - 6th grade
Exploratory Spanish - 7th grade
Spanish I - 8th grade
Spanish II - 8th grade

Teaching Fellow – Department of Linguistics (University of Pittsburgh):

LING 1930 - Applications of Linguistics
LING 1579 - Phonology
LING 2272/ADMPS 2089 - Sociology of Language
LING 1267 - Aspects of Sociolinguistics

Instructor – Department of Linguistics (University of Pittsburgh):

LING 1253 - Pidgin & Creole Languages

Co-Instructor – Department of Linguistics (University of Pittsburgh):

LING 2272 - Sociology of Language
LING 1578/2578 - Phonetics & Phonemics
LING 1267/2274 - Language Contact
LING 1579 - Phonology
LING 1253/2253 - Pidgin & Creole Languages
LING 0080 - Aspects of Language

Graduate Assistant – Department of Linguistics (University of Pittsburgh):

Robert Henderson Language Media Center

Academic Awards and Honors:

- Collaborator: IDEAS (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students) Program Grant, “Mountaineers Go First and Rise! Increasing Study Abroad Opportunities for First-Generation and Students of Color” (2022)
- AAUW American Fellow; Recipient: The AAUW (American Association of University Women) Short-Term Research Publication Grant (July 2021 – June 2022)
- Recipient: Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award in the College of Liberal Arts, Norfolk State University (2020)
- Recipient: Faculty Development Training and Funding – Office of Academic Engagement, NSU and the Association of American Colleges and Universities, “Making the Connection to the Workforce: Leverage Integrative Learning to Prepare Students for the Future” (2020)
- Recipient: Faculty Development Funding, NSU (Awarded November 2018; Used March 2019)
- Recipient: Faculty Certification Program for Teaching Distance Education Courses, NSU (2018)
- Alternate: Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (2017 – 2018)
- Recipient: Dean’s Tuition Scholarship, School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh (2016)
- Recipient: Provost’s Development Fund, Pitt (2015)
- Recipient: Arts & Sciences Summer Fellowship, Pitt (2013)

- Recipient: Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Global Studies Center, Pitt (2013)
- Recipient: Department of Linguistics Departmental Research Grant, Pitt (2013)
- Recipient: Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Pitt (2011 – 2012)
- Recipient: Department of Linguistics Graduate Student Conference Participation Grant, Pitt (2010, 2011)
- Recipient: Arts & Sciences Diversity Fellowship for Graduate Summer Research, Pitt (2009, 2010, 2012)
- Recipient: Ruth Crawford Mitchell Memorial Award, a Nationality Rooms Scholarship, Pitt (2008)
- Recipient: K. Leroy Irvis Fellowship, Pitt (2007 – 2008)

Graduate Advising:

Ph.D. Comps and Dissertation Committees

- Owens, Tamicah. (*in progress*). (Chair: Audra Slocum)

M.A. Students

- Rodriguez Zuniga, Wendy. (*in progress*). (Co-chair with Nicole Tracy-Ventura)
- Prunotto, Gaia. (2023). Gender inclusivity in Italian: Can gender neutrality be reached in a gendered language? difficulties, proposals and public perception of the phenomenon.

M.A. Committees

- Santos Rodrigues Pereira, Breno. (2023). Intercultural competence training in the ESL classrooms. (Chair: Cynthia Chalupa)

Selected Service and Outreach:

- Department Faculty Evaluation Committee – Member – West Virginia University (08/2022 – 05/2022)
- Co-Developer: Study Abroad Development Project for First-Gen & RISE students at WVU (10/2021 – present)
- Peer reviewer: *Atlantic Studies*, *Delos - A Journal of Translation and World Literature*, *Gender and Language*, *SSLLT*, *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* (10/2021 – present)
- Faculty judge: 7th Annual Spring Undergraduate Research Symposium, WVU. 04/23/2023
- Faculty judge: 5th Annual Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium, WVU. 12/03/2022
- Department Assessment Committee – Member – WVU (08/2021 – 05/2022)
- Department Curriculum Committee – Member and proposal reviewer – WVU (08/2021 – 05/2022)
- Interview with Instituto Superior de Estudios Pedagógicos/Facultad de Lenguas, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba. [Interview included in course for EFL instructors]. 10/2021.
- Subject matter expert for the College Board regarding the development of an Advanced Placement course in African American Studies. 05/2021.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday and Black History Month Committee – Member and contributor – Norfolk State University (11/2020 – 03/2021)
- Co-speaker: “Academic Writing Seminar,” NSU’s History Club. 11/09/2020.
- Consultant regarding newspaper’s capitalization conventions for ethnoracial identifiers and cultural terms – Saleem Martin (staff writer) and Jamesetta Walker (editor) – *The Virginian-Pilot*. 07/2020.
- Co-speaker: “How to *not* plagiarize” workshop, Department of History and Interdisciplinary Studies – NSU. 01/24/2020.
- Department Retention Committee – Member and contributor – NSU (08/2020 – 05/2021)
- Department Homecoming Committee – Member and contributor – NSU (08/2020 – 05/2021)
- College of Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee – Member and proposal reviewer – NSU (08/2019 – 05/2021)

- Department Curriculum Committee – Member and proposal reviewer – NSU (08/2019 – 05/2021)
- Academic advisor, Department of History and Interdisciplinary Studies – NSU (08/2019 – 07/2021)
- Interdisciplinary Studies Student Association – Faculty mentor and co-advisor – NSU (08/2019 – 05/2021)
- Moderator and discussant for panel: “Nature, Justice, and the Environment.” *Diversity and Materiality in the Public Sphere Conference*. Virginia Tech. 10/25/2019.
- “The 1619: Making of America Summit” – Moderator and discussant for “Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked The World” Feature Film Screening – Virginia’s 2019 Commemoration Commission, American Evolution, and Norfolk State University. 09/26/2019.
- Consultant regarding the history, evolution and current usage of the “N-word” for news article – Saleem Martin (staff writer) and Jamesetta Walker (editor) – *The Virginian-Pilot*. 09/2019.
- Southside Stem Academy at Campostella Career Fair – Presenter of “What is a linguist, and how to become one: A career fair lesson for middle schoolers” – Southside Stem Academy at Campostella, Norfolk, VA 04/05/2019
- Faculty judge: 2019 Undergraduate Research & Innovation Symposium, NSU. 04/04/2019
- Interdisciplinary Studies Assessment Committee – Member and program outcomes evaluator – Norfolk State University (11/2018 – 05/2021)

Media Presence (Selected):

- Brown, E. N. “How nicknames for the pandemic became a popular online trend.” [*The New York Times*](#). 13 March 2021.
- Martin, S., & Watson, D. M. “One word, many meanings: Use of the N-word by white and black football players renews a debate.” [*The Virginian-Pilot*](#). 13 November 2019.
- Washington, A. R. Radio/internet interview with Patricia A. Murray. “TV Skywriter (24 July 2016) — with sociolinguist Adrienne Washington, PhD.” [*Durham Skywriter*](#). 24 July 2016.
- Chandler, D. L. “Little known Black History fact: Dr. Adrienne Washington.” [*Black America Web - Little known Black History facts*](#). 24 June 2016.
- “Little known Black History fact: Dr. Adrienne Washington.” [*News Talk 1450 - The Tom Joyner Morning Show - Little known Black History facts*](#). 24 June 2016.
- “Little known Black History fact: Dr. Adrienne Washington.” [*Little known Black History facts*](#). 24 June 2016.
- Terrell, K. “Evening Minute: First African-American Earns Ph.D. In Linguistics At The University of Pittsburgh.” [*HelloBeautiful.com*](#). 25 May 2016.
- Willis, K. “University of Pittsburgh’s First Black Linguistics Ph.D. Urges Others to Study African Languages to ‘Avoid Perpetual Fallacies’ of Black Culture.” [*Atlanta Black Star*](#). 24 May 2016.
- “Dr. Adrienne Washington Becomes 1st African American to Earn a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh.” [*Houston Style Magazine*](#). 18 May 2016.
- “Yes She Can: Dr. Adrienne Washington becomes African American to earn a Ph.D. in Linguistics at University of Pittsburgh.” [*Clutch Magazine*](#). 18 May 2016.
- Bossip Staff. “Congrats!!! Dr. Adrienne Washington Becomes First African-American To Earn A Ph.D. In Linguistics At University Of Pittsburgh.” [*Bossip*](#). 18 May 2016.
- “Dr. Adrienne Washington becomes 1st African American to earn a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh.” [*Good Black News*](#). 13 May 2016.
- “The First African American to Earn a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh.” [*The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education*](#). 4 May 2016.
- Lindstrom, N. “Newsmaker: Adrienne Washington.” [*TribLive*](#). 23 April 2016.