

AINSWORTH A. CLARKE

Associate Professor
Black Studies Department (MC 69)
English Department

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University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois 60607-7112

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago
2018 – Present
Black Studies Department
Department of English

Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago
2007 – 2018
Black Studies Department
Department of English

Visiting Lecturer in English, Suffolk University-Dakar
Department of English, 2005-2006

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Ph.D., Department of Comparative Literature, 2012

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
M.A., Department of Comparative Literature, 1999

McGill University, Montréal, Quebec
B.A., with Distinction and Honors, Department of English, 1994

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

19th century and early 20th century African American literature and culture; Black Critical Theory; W.E.B. Du Bois

Clarke

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications

Clarke, Ainsworth A., "W.E.B. Du Bois, World Literature, and the Problem of Method," *Wiley-Blackwell Companion to World Literature volume 5*, Eds. Ken Seigneurie, B. Venkat Mani, Frieda Ekotto, et al. (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell) 2020.

Clarke, Ainsworth A., "W.E.B. Du Bois's Fugitive Writing, or Sociology at the Turn of the Twentieth Century," *CR: The New Centennial Review*, Vol. 15 No. 2 (fall 2015): 171-209.

Clarke, Ainsworth A., "Identity, Incompletion, and the Advent of the Political: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Dialectic of Race and Nation," *Representing Minorities: Studies in Literature and Criticism*, Eds. Larbi Touaf and Soumia Boutkhil, Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006: 15-27.

Manuscript

Clarke, Ainsworth A., *Thinking the Negro: W.E.B. Du Bois's Fugitive Writing and the Challenge of Disciplinarity*, under contract with University of Illinois Press

Presentations, invited lectures, and media

"W.E.B. Du Bois's Antihumanism?" American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, fully virtual, April 8-11, 2021

"Discourses of Dissent: Du Bois, Sorel, Lenin and the Birth of Radical Sociology," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois November 9 - 12, 2017

Interviewed by Dexter Thomas for "#FergusonSyllabus: How do we teach teens about injustice?" Los Angeles Times, August 25, 2015.

"The 'Infinite Possibilities' of the Crowd, or, W.E.B. Du Bois and the Question of Political Agency," American Circuits, American Secrets, Banff, Alberta, September 18-21, 2014.

"Cosmopolitan Blackness: Delany, Kant, and the Strange Unmaking of Identity," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, University of Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.

"'Black Studies' and the Crisis of the University: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Challenge of African American Experience," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Brown University, March 29-April 1, 2012.

"W.E.B. Du Bois's Fugitive Writing and the (Un)making of the Negro," Faculty Fellows lecture, Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 11, 2011.

Clarke

“Cosmopolitan Blackness: Delany, Kant, and the Strange Unmaking of Identity,” 41st Annual Northeast MLA Convention, Montréal, Québec, April 7-11, 2010.

Presentations, invited lectures, and media (*continued*)

“‘Black Studies’ and the Crisis of the University: Du Bois, Crummell, and the Challenge of African-American Experience,” 2009 Canadian Association of American Studies Conference, London, Ontario, November 13-15, 2009.

“Du Bois’s Autobiographical Impulse, or the Historiography of Mere Existence,” 2008 Department of African American Studies Faculty Workshop: Migration and the New African Diaspora, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 18-19, 2008.

“W.E.B. Du Bois and the Autobiographical Impulse,” 2007 Canadian Association for American Studies Conference, Montréal, Québec, November 8-11, 2007.

“Du Bois’s ‘Natural’ History, or the Historiography of Mere Existence,” 38th Annual Northeast MLA Convention, Baltimore, Maryland, March 1-4, 2007.

“W.E.B. Du Bois and the Problem(s) of Race”
Invited Lecture, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal, May 1 2006.

“Postcolonial Studies and African American Studies: Disciplinary Intersections”
Invited Lecture, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal, April 4 2006.

“Identity, Incompletion, and the Advent of the Political: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Dialectic of Race and Nation,” 2nd International Symposium on Minorities and Minor Literatures: Ethics and Politics of De/constructing Identity in Literature, Art, and the Humanities, Mohammed I University, Oujda, Morocco, March 11-12 2006

ACADEMIC AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS

University of Illinois African American Studies Book Completion Grant, 2017
University of Illinois Institute for the Humanities Fellowship, 2010-2011
University of Illinois African American Studies Faculty Workshop Grant, 2007-2008
Cornell University Mellon Completion Fellowship, 1999-2000
Cornell University Sage Graduate Fellowship, 1995-1996

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Co-founder of Publics, Cultures, Practices of Difference working group, 2011-2014
Canadian Association of American Studies, Executive Board Member, 2009-2012

Clarke

University of Illinois at Chicago

Provost Graduate Research Award, Reviewer 2021-2022
 English Department Steering Committee, Member 2021-2022
 English Department Colloquium Coordinator, 2021-2022
 Black Studies Department Quorum Committee, 2021-2022
 Black Studies Department Program Committee, Member 2021-2022
 UIC General Education Council, Member 2020-2022
 UIC Institute for the Humanities Executive Committee, Member 2019-2022
 Black Studies Department Headship Search Committee, Member 2021
 Black Studies Ad Hoc Department Review Committee, Member 2020-2021
 Black Studies Department Program Committee, Member 2020-2021
 Faculty Reviewer, UIC Provost's Graduate Research Award, 2019-2020
 African American Studies Ad Hoc Department Review Committee, Member 2019-2020
 English Department Graduate Studies Committee, Member 2019-2021
 English Department Early Modern Search Committee, Member 2018-2019
 African American Studies Department Programming Committee, Member 2018-2019
 African American Studies Department Advisory Committee, Member 2017-2018
 English Department Undergraduate Studies Committee, Member 2017-2019
 English Department Quorum Committee, 2015-2016
 African American Studies Department Advisory Committee, Member 2015-2016
 English Department Graduate Studies Committee, Member 2014-2016
 African American Studies Department Quorum Committee, 2013-2014
 English Department Steering Committee, Member 2013-2014
 UIC College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Faculty Senate, Member 2013-2016
 English Department Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Member 2012-2013
 UIC Honors College Fellow, 2011–
 African American Studies Department Advisory Committee, Member 2009-2011
 English Department Steering Committee, Member 2009-2010
 UIC College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Elections Committee, Chair 2009-2010
 UIC College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Elections Committee, Member 2008-2009
 English Department Member – Transamerican Search Committee, Member 2007-08
 African American Studies Department IRB Committee, Member 2008-2009

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Telluride Association

External reviewer of finalists for the *Reese Miller International Exchange Scholarship: The University of Michigan and the University of Cape Town*, 2008-2009 Program & 2009-2010 Program

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association (MLA)
 American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

Clarke

Canadian Association of American Studies (CAAS)
American Studies Association (ASA)

LANGUAGES

French (fluent)
English (native speaker)

COURSES TAUGHT

“American Histories: Narrative, Nation, and the Global in Contemporary Multiethnic (American) Fiction,” ENGL 470, UIC Spring 2022

“Literatures of Decolonization,” BLST/ENGL 351, UIC Spring 2022

“Senior Seminar in Black Studies,” AAST 401, Spring 2020, UIC

“Afrofuturism and the Aesthetic,” ENGL 537, Spring 2020, UIC

“Reconstructing Anti-Blackness,” ENGL 473/AAST 490, Fall 2019, UIC

“Contemporary African American Cultural Studies: An Overview,” ENGL 473, Spring 2017, UIC

“Black Studies, the Humanities, and the End(s) of the University,” ENGL 537, Fall 2015, UIC

“From Black Studies to African American Studies and Back Again,” ENGL 473, Fall 2013, UIC