

AINSLEY LESURE

Africana Studies & Political Science | Brown University
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APPOINTMENT

Brown University
Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Political Science, July 2022 -

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

Brown University
Assistant Professor of Africana Studies, July 2020 - June 2022

Occidental College
Assistant Professor of Politics, August 2016 - June 2020

University of Chicago
Harper-Schmidt Society Fellow, Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Social Sciences Division
July 2015 - July 2016

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Chicago (Chicago, IL): Department of Political Science, December 2015
Primary Field: Political Theory; Secondary Field: American Politics
Dissertation: "Making Racism Visible in the World: Achieving Racial Justice through Political Resistance"
Committee: Robert Gooding-Williams (Chair), Patchen Markell, and Linda Zerilli

M.A. University of Chicago (Chicago, IL): Department of Political Science, June 2007
M.A. Thesis: "Supplementing the Veil with the Sea: Du Bois' Attention to the Lived Experience of Individual Blacks in *Souls*"

B.A. Carleton College (Northfield, MN): Political Science, June 2005

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Critical theory of race and racism; social justice; democratic theory; black political thought; feminist theory

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2019 Visiting Scholar in Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University
2019 Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty
2015 Harper-Schmidt Fellowship
2012 Inaugural Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture/Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Dissertation Fellow

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Article

“The White Mob, (In)Equality Before the Law, and Racial Common Sense: A Critical Race Reading of the Negro Question in “Reflections of Little Rock”
Political Theory 49, 1 (2021): 3-27. (6 citations as of September 24, 2022)

Book Reviews

“*Black Rights/White Wrongs: The Critique of Racial Liberalism*” by Charles W. Mills, *Political Theory* 46, 5 (October 2018): 801-805.

“*Dark Ghettos: Injustice, Dissent, and Reform*” by Tommie Shelby, *Perspectives on Politics* 17, 1 (March 2019): 225-227.

Op-ed & Blog Articles

“Why Biden shouldn’t extend an olive branch to Republicans” *The Guardian*, November 26, 2020 (co-authored with Joshua Craze)

“The Significance of Overt Racism.” The Hannah Arendt Center Blog: Bard College. Nov. 2016, <https://medium.com/amor-mundi/the-significance-of-overt-racism-2ad366c33d97>. Accessed July 2017.

ACCEPTED ARTICLE

“Chronicle of The Girls’ Bureau for Freedom and Uplift” in production at *Political Theory* (co-authored with Jill Locke)

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

“Institutional Racism Reconsidered”

“Supposing Arendt is Anti-black, Then What?”

Locating Racism in a Shared World: Toward an Anti-Racist Reality

INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS

"Equality as a Practice of Checking Power (of Opinion)," University of Florida (Political Theory Workshop), November 18, 2022

"Assuming a World: A Phenomenology of Racism," North Eastern Illinois University (Inspiring Trivia, The 9th Annual Sarah Lucia Hoagland Lecture), March 24, 2022

"Thoughts on the World, the Political, and the Black," University of Missouri - Columbia (Kinder Institute), March 18, 2022

"Thoughts on the World, the Black and the Political," University of Connecticut (Political Theory Workshop), October 18, 2021

"Thoughts on the World, the Black and the Political," University of Pennsylvania (Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Immigration), March 1, 2021

"Another World is Possible: Reading *Black Skin, White Masks* Phenomenologically," Northwestern University (Graduate Student Political Theory Workshop), February 12, 2021

"The White Mob, (In)Equality before the Law and Racial Common Sense: A Critical Race Reading of the Negro Question in 'Reflections on Little Rock'," Interview, University of São Paulo/Brazil (Hannah Arendt Center), January 19, 2021

"Reading *Black Skin, White Masks* Phenomenologically in Hot Pursuit of a White Supremacist World," Duke University (Political Theory Workshop), November 19, 2020

"White Minority Rule and The Black Vote," Brown University (CSREA: Where Do We Go from Here? Finding Anti-Racist Common Ground After 2020), November 16, 2020

"Reading *Black Skin, White Masks* Phenomenologically in Hot Pursuit of a White Supremacist World," Brown University (Political Theory Workshop), November 5, 2020

"Reading *Black Power* through the Prism of Practice" Invited Class Lecture, Bates College (March 2020)

"In Defense of Democratic Equality for an Antiracist Political Theory" Public Lecture for the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Connecticut College (February 2020)

"Theorizing Political Resistance to Racism: From Occasioning Sight to Constituting Power" Oxford Political Thought Seminar, Oxford University (January 2020)

“Subverting the Rule of Race by Building the World: A Critical Race Reading of ‘Reflections on Little Rock’” Philosophy Workshop, University College Dublin (January 2020)

“Equality” Political Concepts Conference, Brown University (December 2019)

“Theorizing Political Resistance to Racism: From Occasioning Sight to Constituting Power” Public Talk, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (November 2019)

“Recovering the Worldliness of Structural Racism,” Doing Democracy Differently, McMaster University (February 2019)

“Thinking Racial Justice with Hannah Arendt,” Seeing Beyond the Veil: Race-ing Key Concepts in Political Theory, Brown University (November 2018)

“The Rule of Race: Arendt’s Account of Racism,” Political Theory Workshop, University of Pennsylvania (April 2017)

“Recovering ‘Institutional Racism’ for Racial Justice” Political Science Workshop, William and Mary (November 2017)

“Recovering ‘Institutional Racism’ for Racial Justice” Political Theory Workshop, UCLA (May 2017)

“Making Sense of the Rise of Trump: The Consistent Yet Ever Evolving Peril of White Supremacy in America” Democratic Anxiety, Democratic Resilience Conference, Mainz, Germany (June 2017)

Discussant of Shatema Threadcraft’s book, *Intimate Justice: The Black Female Body and the Body Politic*, Feminist Political Theory Pre-conference, Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 2017)

Public Lecture, Race and Gender Studies Department at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa (November 2017)

Keynote speaker, Midwest Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Conference, Carleton College (October 2017)

Organizer and Moderator of “Objectivity in Journalism” Panel, Hammer Museum Forum, UCLA (June 2017)

CONFERENCES AND WORKING GROUPS

“Democratic Faith Working Group,” Brown University (Political Theory) (December 2022)

“Equality as a Practice of Checking Power (of Opinion),” American Political Science Association (September 2022)

“Chronicle of the Girls’ Bureau for Freedom and Uplift,” American Political Science Association (September 2022)

“Black Studies and Religion Working Group,” Columbia University (The Center for African-American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice) (April 2021-May 2022)

Organizer and Roundtable Participant for “Phenomenology as Critical Resources for the Study of Structural Domination,” Western Political Science Association (April 2021)

Presenter, *In a Classroom of Their Own: The Intersection of Race and Feminist Politics in All-Black Male Schools* by Keisha Lindsay, Author Meets Critics, Western Political Science Association (April 2021)

“Black Equality is Impossible? A Critical Engagement with Afro-pessimism,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 2019)

Roundtable Participant for “The Price of the Ticket: Race, Difference and Democracy in Contemporary Politics,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 2019)

Presenter, Film Series: “What is Democracy?,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 2019)

Presenter, Author Meets Critic Panel: Joseph Fischel’s *Screw Consent*, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 2019)

Organizer and Presenter, Authors Meets Critics Panel: Mark Golub’s *Is Racial Inequality Unconstitutional?*, Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 2019)

“The Rise of Identity Politics?” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 2019)

“Subverting ‘The First’: How Neoliberal Identity Politics Made Way for Trump,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August/September 2017)

“Reading Black Skin, White Masks Phenomenologically,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 2016)

“A Critical Examination of Accounts of Internal Domination,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 2016)

“Reading Black Skin, White Masks Phenomenologically: Racism as World Problem and Political Resistance as Worldly Intervention,” Social Theory Workshop, University of Chicago (February 2015)

"Making Racism Visible," American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 2015)

"The Worldly Problem of Racism: A Way of Life Bereft of Public Space,"
Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop, University of Chicago
(January 2014)

"Pitching Institutional Racism as a Worldly Problem and Reconsidering the Task of Resistance," American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 2014)

"From Inner/Outer toward a Worldly Account of Racism and Resistance," Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago (March 2011)

"Political Resistance to Racism" Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop, University of Chicago (May 2011)

"Supplementing the Veil with the Sea: Du Bois' Attention to the Lived Experience of Individual Blacks in *Souls*," Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 2009)

"Reading Souls," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting (November 2010)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Board Member, American Political Science Association, Foundations of Political Theory Section

Board Member, Western Political Science Association Executive Board

Chair, Okin-Young Award Committee, 2019 American Political Science Association

Section Co-Chair, Critical and Normative Political Theory Section, 2019 Western Political Science Association

Section Chair, Gender, Race and Intersectionality, 2018 Western Political Science Association

Coordinator, Feminist Theory Pre-Conference, 2018 Western Political Science Association

Coordinator, Racial Justice Pedagogy Working Group, University of Chicago, February 2015 - August 2015