STUDENTS LEARNING TO ADVANCE TRUTH AND EQUITY

2023 SLATE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

September 12th and 13th
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Hitchcock Multipurpose Room
Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Research in Black Cultures and Histories
150 South Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27599
Contents

ABOUT SLATE.....2

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULES.....3

UPCOMING EVENTS.....7

STUDENT FELLOWS.....8
Housed at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Research in Black Cultures and Histories, Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity (SLATE) is a University-wide initiative designed to engage undergraduates in a critical understanding of race, racism, and racial equity, especially concerning African Americans. In May 2023, SLATE awarded sixteen research fellowships to outstanding undergraduates across a range of disciplines and paired them with faculty research fellows to engage in novel learning opportunities in original, faculty-mentored research. The Fall 2023 SLATE Undergraduate Research Symposium serves as a showcase of their scholarship. The symposium's panels are presented by the teams of students and faculty that collaborated through the summer.

**SLATE Co-Directors**

**Dr. Anna Agbe-Davies**

SLATE Director of Teaching  
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

**Dr. Renée Alexander Craft**

SLATE Director of Research  
Professor, Department of Communication and Curriculum in Global Studies
Tuesday, September 12th

5:00PM
Welcome and Introductions

Renée Alexander Craft
Faculty Director of Research, SLATE
Professor, Department of Communication and Curriculum in Global Studies

LeRhonda Manigault-Bryant
Director, Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Research in Black Culture and History
Professor, Department of African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

Kevin Guskiewicz
Chancellor and Kenan Distinguished Professor of Exercise and Sport Science
Co-director, Matthew Gfeller Sport-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Research Center

5:05-5:45PM
Panel 1 | Racial Politics and Solidarity in the 21st Century
Rhetoric, Perceptions, and History of Black Women in Southern Politics

Grant Alexander, International Politics, Social Movements in Latin America and Africa + the African Diaspora

Strengthening Solidarities: Exploring Black and South Asian American Race Relations

Shreya Shenoy, Pre-Business
Faculty Research Fellow

Christopher Clark | Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

5:45-6:05PM
Panel 2 | Archive and Memory: History and Oral History of the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Research in Black Culture and History

Ayah Eltayeb, Psychology and African American And Diaspora Studies
Claude Hutto, Psychology

Faculty Fellow

Seth Kotch | Director, Southern Oral History Program | Associate Professor, American Studies

Faculty Mentor

LeRhonda Manigault-Bryant | Director, Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History | Professor, African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

6:05 - 6:15PM | Break
### 6:35PM
**Panel 3 | Building Black Diaspora Archives and Creating Pathways to Promote Better Engagement and Learning**

**Archiving the Institute of African American Research at UNC**  
**Sydney Tyson**, European Studies and Comparative Literature with a concentration in Film Studies, French minor

**Adalia Winters**, Statistics and Analytics/ Spanish Minor for the Professions

**Faculty Research Mentor**  
**Renée Alexander Craft** | Professor, Department of Communication and Global Studies | Adjunct Professor, African, African American and African Diaspora Studies

### 7:15PM
**Panel 4 | Representation, Reproduction, and Black Women's Bodies**

**The Issue with Vogue: Understanding Racial Inclusion in the Fashion Industry**  
**Edie Moyers**, Communication, Media and Journalism with a concentration in Advertising and Public Relations, English minor

**Desirability and Reproductive Autonomy; Sterilization of Black women in NC**  
**Andrea Brown**, Public Policy and Women's and Gender Studies

**Faculty Research Fellow**  
**Lisa Calvente** | Assistant Professor, Department of Communication | Adjunct Professor, African, African American and African Diaspora Studies

### 7:55PM - Closing Remarks

**Renée Alexander Craft**  
Faculty Director of Research, SLATE  
Professor, Department of Communication and Curriculum in Global Studies

---

**Wednesday, September 12th**

**5:00PM**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Anna S. Agbe-Davies**  
Faculty Director of Teaching, SLATE  
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

**Renée Alexander Craft**  
Faculty Director of Research, SLATE  
Professor, Department of Communication and Curriculum in Global Studies
5:05PM
Panel 1 | National and Neocolonial Determinants of Health: from Black Maternal Mortality to the Discovery-Care Continuum of Global Research
Medical and Socio-Cultural Effects on Black Maternal Mortality
Melvina Greene, Human Development and Family Studies, African, African American and Diaspora Studies
The Discovery-Care Continuum: An Avenue to Dismantle Neocolonialism in Global Health Research
Erin Mazur, Chemistry and Biology
Faculty Research Mentor
Renée Alexander Craft | Professor, Department of Communication and Global Studies | Adjunct Professor, African, African American and African Diaspora Studies

5:45PM
Panel 2 | The Unwritten History of Food Insecurity
Belamy Counou, Human Development and Family Studies with a minor in Family Life Education
Faculty Research Fellow
Ronald Williams II | Assistant Professor, African, African American and Diaspora Studies

6:05 - 6:15PM | Break

6:15PM
Panel 3 | Race and Racism at the University of the People: Developing Racial Literacy as a Way to Disrupt Racism
Shelby Freeman, Health Policy Management
Justin Clyburn, Political Science, Hispanic Linguistics/Translation and Interpreting minor
Faculty Research Fellow
Simona Goldin | Research Associate Professor, Education Policy Initiative at Carolina (EPIC) and The Department of Public Policy

6:55PM
Panel 4 | Authentic Representation & Institutional Accountability: Centering Students and Educators of Color
Addressing Opportunity Gaps: Developing a Culturally Responsive Summer Reading Program
Hannah Garner, Psychology and English/Comparative Literature
Holding Space for Our Whole Selves & Our Stories: Championing Educators of Colors
Skyler Clay, African, African American and Diaspora Studies, Communications, Chinese minor
Faculty Research Fellow
Sarajanee Davis | Teaching Assistant Professor, Public Policy | Educator Programs Coordinator
7:35PM
Panel 5 | Manifestations of Racism in Lacrosse: A Study of Stacking and Sports Commentary in NCAA Lacrosse
Cyria Olingou, Public Policy & Biology
Faculty Research Fellow
Kathleen Fitzgerald | Associate Professor, Department of Sociology | Director, Social and Economic Justice Minor

7:55PM - Closing Remarks
Renée Alexander Craft
Faculty Director of Research, SLATE
Professor, Department of Communication and Curriculum in Global Studies

More SLATE Events.

Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film
Screening Dates | 6pm | the Stone Center
October 3 (Kickoff), October 5, October 10, October 17, October 24, October 26, November 2 (Lunchtime Screening | 12 - 1:15pm | Stone Center)

This is a free annual event that spotlights over films from all corners of the African diaspora often alongside supplementary commentary. All screenings are scheduled for 6pm at the Stone Center unless otherwise specified.

Writers Discussion Series: Black Folk - The Roots of the Black Working Class by Dr. Blair LM Kelley
November 2 | 5:30pm | Stone Center Hitchcock Room
Join us in conversation with acclaimed historian Dr. Kelley herself to discuss her essential and groundbreaking work about the history of Black working class folks.

Stone Memorial Lecture by Dr. Erica Edwards
November 14 | 6:30pm | Stone Center Auditorium
Erica R. Edwards, Professor of African American Studies and English at Yale University, will deliver the 2023 edition of this lecture in memory of Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone.

Register for events at heellife.unc.edu.
Adalia Winters

"I am a student in UNC's Class of 2026 as a member of the 10th Cohort of UNC's Chancellor Science Scholars pursuing a B.S. in Statistics and a Minor in Spanish for the Professions."

Andrea Brown

"I am a senior public policy major and women's and gender studies minor. I have spent all my life in North Carolina as a Durham native and as such a product of Durham Public schools. I enjoy crocheting, reading and skating. My current aspirations include obtaining a JD as well as a MSW to practice family law specializing in foster care and adoption cases. My aspirations are motivated through lived experiences and recognition of institutionalized reproductive and economic harms toward Black women. Through my research, I hope to explore how eugenics and socialized notions of beauty inform and intersect with reproductive rights."

Belamy Counou

"I am a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I am studying Human Development & Family Science with a concentration in Family Life Education. My research focus will be on food insecurity and inequity. I hope to continue this research after I graduate and focus further on the health disparities facing low-income and rural communities."

Project | Desirability and Reproductive Autonomy; Sterilization of Black women in NC

Project | The Unwritten History of Food Insecurity
Claude Hutto II

"Hello everyone, my name is Claude Hutto and I'm a junior here at UNC. I'm studying psychology with a minor in neuroscience with the intended goal of pursuing a PhD in clinical psychology or medical school. My motivation is to provide better mental health resources in underrepresented groups to improve the health care system in the US. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to be a SLATE research fellow to further my academic pursuits but, more importantly, to develop foundational knowledge of race, ethnicity, and equity."

Cyria Olingou

Cyria Olingou is a senior at UNC at Chapel Hill, with majors in Biology and Public Policy. Cyria is originally from Sicklerville, NJ, which is close to Philadelphia. Cyria started college at Rutgers University-Camden in August 2020. During her time at Rutgers, Cyria was involved in Civic Scholars, and the NAACP. Through her time in the NAACP, Cyria continued to develop her passion for activism. During her sophomore year, Cyria then transferred to UNC-Chapel Hill. At UNC Chapel Hill, Cyria is involved in the Black Entrepreneur Initiative, Every Nation Campus, and she is the current vice president of the NAACP.

Edie Moyers

"I am from Weaverville, North Carolina. I am a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill studying Media and Journalism (AD/PR) and Communications. Last summer, I worked with journalism professor Deb Aikat where I conducted journalistic interviews about salary inequities. I currently work for a sewing store as their marketing coordinator, editing videos, uploading new product, and designing graphics. I would love to work with an advertising agency on a marketing and strategy team. This would combine my love for advertising and research and creativity and structure."

Project | Archive and Memory: History and Oral History of the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Research in Black Culture and History

Project | Racism in Lacrosse: A Study of Stacking and Sports Commentary in NCAA Lacrosse

Project | The Issue with Vogue: Understanding Racial Inclusion in the Fashion Industry
Undergraduate Student Research Fellows

Erin Mazur
Erin is a senior majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry. She plans to attend pharmacy school after graduation. Her research interests include the racist history of the medical field and its continuing legacy today. Her summer research project explores this topic through the colonial nature of public health with a specific focus on university research.

Project | The Discovery-Care Continuum: An Avenue to Dismantle Neocolonialism in Global Health Research

Grant Alexander
Grant Alexander is an International Politics and Social Movements in the Black Diaspora and Latin America and International Development Policy Double Major. They are a driven student who is passionate about policy advocacy, research, community organizing, media production, consulting, grant writing, civic engagement and social work. They are interested in urban studies and planning, sustainable land use and management, and economic and social development internationally and within the US. Grant also enjoys documentary and independent film and is inspired by the opportunity to simultaneously engage with and create junctions between media and movements!

Project | Rhetoric, Perceptions, and History of Black Women in Southern Politics

Hannah Garner
"I am a senior with a double major in Psychology and English from Southport, NC. I plan to pursue a doctoral degree in Psychology and to continue to work in research. I am interested in educational, developmental, and social psychology with a focus on how racial inequity impacts these domains and how to address racial inequity. I love to read, journal, and cook/bake."

Project | Addressing Opportunity Gaps: Developing a Culturally Responsive Summer Reading Program
Justin Clyburn

"I am a sophomore at UNC Chapel Hill, class of 2026. I am double majoring in Political Science and Hispanic Linguistics with a minor in Translation and Interpreting. I am very blessed and thankful for the opportunity to continue working with Professor Simona Goldin in finding ways to make sure education is fitting the needs of all students. I am excited to continue working with Professor Goldin in learning how to view our new Chapel Hill community through both a critical and love-filled lens to ensure a better future for upcoming generations of all ages while eliminating discrimination."

Project | Race and Racism at the University of the People: Developing Racial Literacy as a Way to Disrupt Racism

Melvina Greene

"I'm a junior and majoring in Human Development and Family Studies!"

Project | Medical and Socio-Cultural Effects on Black Maternal Mortality

Shelby Freeman

Shelby is an undergraduate student majoring in Health Policy Management at UNC Chapel Hill going into her sophomore year. She spent a year prior to college working in an underfunded school in Boston, Massachusetts with City Year teaching 5th grade. She led initiatives for student health including free vaccinations and dental clinics at the school. Because of this exposure she is dedicated to researching and making change in the local and nationwide education communities. Shelby is originally from right here in Chapel Hill and hopes to use her knowledge of the surrounding area to create targeted outreach with the policy work being done with her advisor Simona Goldin and partner Justin Clyburn.

Project | Race and Racism at the University of the People: Developing Racial Literacy as a Way to Disrupt Racism
Shreya Shenoy

I'm a sophomore from Apex, NC currently pursuing Pre-Business Administration major and an Asian Studies minor at UNC. I'm interested in studying the viability of establishing social justice frameworks in the current business world, which is guided by my passion for social justice and economic equity. I am also interested in South Asian American Studies and archival research. Outside of academics, I am a member of the Campus Y, a contributing writer to Monsoon (UNC's South Asian diaspora student magazine), and part of the fund team on UNC's Impact Investing Club. In my free time, you can find me taking long walks around campus, café hopping around the Triangle, or rewatching 2000s Bollywood movies.

Project | Strengthening Solidarities: Exploring Black and South Asian American Race Relations

Skyler Clay

Skyler Clay is a current junior at UNC. After many changes, she is currently majoring in African American Studies and Communications, with a minor in Chinese. Her academic interests and goals focus on Black feminist approaches to education and activism, especially as it concerns access for Black women and Queer people. During the academic year, she spends a lot of her time working as an office assistant at the Sonya Haynes Stone Center. Most recently, she helped put together their exhibit on shipboard slave insurrections. Aside from school and work, Skyler likes to spend her time designing lighting for student theatre productions and playing handball.

Project | Holding Space for Our Whole Selves & Our Stories: Championing Educators of Colors

Sydney Tyson

"I am a senior at UNC, double majoring in European Studies and Film Studies. All my life, I have been aware of the impact of racial categorizations on marginalized communities, often pondering why/how race can be such a determining factor in ones trajectory of life. I seek to uncover the true cost of racial equity: what sentiments about race must remain, and which ones must be broken down in order to achieve a true understanding of race uninhibited by ignorance and hatred. I’m excited to be surrounded by students who also believe that there is much to learn about race and racial equity!"

Project | Archiving the Institute of African American Research at UNC
Christopher Clark was born in Lake Charles, LA, but was reared in Kansas City, MO. After attending language magnet schools for nine years where he learned French, Chris went on to attend Raytown High School and graduated from there in 2001. He went on to attend Saint Louis University and graduated summa cum laude in 2005, majoring in Political Science, minoring in French, and earning a certificate in Women’s Studies. Chris then attended the University of Iowa where he earned an MA in Political Science (2006) and a Ph.D. in Political Science (2010). From January 2011 to June 2012, he was a post-doc at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC). He was an assistant professor at UNC from July 2012 until June 2019. As of July 2019, he is an associate professor at UNC.

Cynthia Current
"I come to the fellowship as a cross-disciplinary instructor from multiple career paths—critical care nursing where I participated in research at both UNC Hospitals and Duke University Medical Center; as a science/medical editor at American Journal Experts; and as a PhD in English whose research focused on narrative theory, slave narratives, and the cultural effects of science/medicine on US literature. I currently teach research methods courses in health and medicine. My other courses focus on Race, Health, and Narrative (ENGL 370) and science fiction. A central emphasis across my career has been to enhance the research capacities of undergraduates and to especially support work that involves healthcare disparities and the socio-cultural ramifications of racism."

Kathleen Fitzgerald
"I am a sociologist in my fifth year at UNC and the director of the Social and Economic Justice program here. My research and teaching interests are in social inequalities, specifically, race/ethnicity, gender/sex/sexuality, social justice, and food justice. I have written eight books, including the most recent: Recognizing Race and Ethnicity: Power, Privilege, and Inequality 4th edition (Routledge 2023), Sociology of Sexualities 2nd Edition (Sage 2020, coauthored with Kandice L. Grossman), and Beyond White Ethnicity: Developing a Sociological Understanding of Native American Reclamation (Rowman and Littlefield 2007). I am a huge fan of the IAAR-SLATE program! I have included my “Race and Ethnicity” course in the SLATE Teaching portion of the program for the past three years and was a Research Fellow faculty mentor last year!"

Cyria Olingou
"I am a sociologist in my fifth year at UNC and the director of the Social and Economic Justice program here. My research and teaching interests are in social inequalities, specifically, race/ethnicity, gender/sex/sexuality, social justice, and food justice. I have written eight books, including the most recent: Recognizing Race and Ethnicity: Power, Privilege, and Inequality 4th edition (Routledge 2023), Sociology of Sexualities 2nd Edition (Sage 2020, coauthored with Kandice L. Grossman), and Beyond White Ethnicity: Developing a Sociological Understanding of Native American Reclamation (Rowman and Littlefield 2007). I am a huge fan of the IAAR-SLATE program! I have included my “Race and Ethnicity” course in the SLATE Teaching portion of the program for the past three years and was a Research Fellow faculty mentor last year!"
Lisa Calvente

Dr. Calvente’s primary areas of research are Black Studies, Performance Studies, and Cultural Studies. Her interests lie in the critical interrogation of anti-black and brown racism and the experiences, representations and theories of the Black Diaspora and coloniality. Her current project, *Moving Blackness: Black Circulation, Racism and Relations of Homespace*, highlights how the bodies of the storytellers are surveilled and contained as well as the complex ways in which the circulation of stories as a communicative strategy of blackness resists and engages with included exclusion, white sovereignty, and anti-black racism. She is co-editor of *Imprints of Revolution: Visual Representations of Resistance* (2016) and contributor to journals and edited volumes in her field.

Student Team Members | Edie Moyers and Andrea Brown

Ronald Williams II

“I am assistant professor of African American studies and I teach courses in history, politics, and public policy in the Department of African, African American and Diaspora Studies. My major research project is an institutional history of the African American foreign policy advocacy organization, TransAfrica.”

Student Team Member | Belamy Counou

Sarajaneané Davis

Sarajaneané Davis, PhD, is a Teaching Assistant Professor of Public Policy and an educator coach. Sarajaneané supports educators and schools aiming to foster anti-racism in their pedagogy and practices. Her research explores the activism and impact of the first critical masses of Black students to enroll at historically white institutions in the Upper South. In both positions she uses historical narratives to explore the choices that created and challenged the status quo. The unifying goal in her work is to amplify Black historical perspectives in order to create an equitable future.

Student Team Members | Hannah Garner and Skyler Clay
Seth Kotch

Seth Kotch is an associate professor in the Department of American Studies and director of the Southern Oral History Program.

Simona Goldin

Simona Goldin is a Research Associate Professor at EPIC and the Department of Public Policy. Dr. Goldin has studied ways to transform the preparation of beginning teachers to teach in more racially just and equitable ways, and has elaborated the teaching practices that bridge children’s work in schools on academic content with their home and community-based experiences.

LeRhonda Manigault-Bryant

Dr. Manigault-Bryant, the Director of the Sonja Haynes Stone Center, comes to UNC from Williams College. A proud native of Moncks Corner, South Carolina, she navigates the academy as a scholar-artist, where she merges her life as a musician and filmmaker with her interdisciplinary specializations in Religious Studies, Africana Studies, and Gender Studies, all with a focus on ethnographic methods.
Renée Alexander Craft


TEAM SPOTLIGHT

Student Team Members | Adalia Winters and Sydney Tyson

Student Fellow
Justin Clyburn

Faculty Fellow
Simona Goldin

Student Fellow
Shelby Freeman

Race and Racism at the University of the People: Developing Racial Literacy as a Way to Disrupt Racism has been accepted for presentation at the 32nd Annual National Association of Multicultural Educators Conference!

Undergraduate Research Fellows Justin Clyburn and Shelby Freeman and their Faculty Research Fellow, Dr. Simona Goldin, will share their research at the 2023 NAME conference in Montgomery, Alabama from November 15-19.
SLATE THANKS YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 2023 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM.

Stay in touch!

www.stonecenter.unc.edu
@uncstonecenter