

Candice J. Merritt

520 Hamilton Street • Evanston, IL 60202

Phone: (314) 477-2475 • E-mail: candicemerritt2023@u.northwestern.edu

- EDUCATION**
- 09/2018 - Present
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY **Evanston, IL**
Doctor of Philosophy; African American Studies
Mellon Interdisciplinary Cluster Fellow in Critical Theory
- 08/2014-05/2018
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY **Atlanta, GA**
Master of Arts in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Thesis: *Our Sacrifice Shall Not Be Required: Examining Maternal Ambivalence and Refusal in Black Motherhood*
Thesis Committee: Tiffany King, Susana Morris, and Susan Talburt
- 08/2005 - 05/2009
EMORY UNIVERSITY **Atlanta, GA**
Bachelor of Arts in Women's Studies; Magna Cum Laude
- PUBLICATIONS**
- Merritt, Candice J. "‘Babies Havin’ Babies’: Examining Visual Representations of Teenage Pregnancy." Difficult Dialogues about Twenty-First Century Girls. Ed. Donna M. Johnson & Alice E. Ginsberg. New York, NY: SUNY Press, 2015. 223-248.
- PRESENTATIONS**
- Merritt, Candice (2017, November). "Our Sacrifice Should Not Be Required: Black Women's Ambivalence and Refusal to Mother the Race." Paper presentation at National Women's Studies Association Conference. Baltimore, MD.
- Merritt, Candice (2017, November). "I Can't Breathe: Theorizing Motherhood as a Space of Black Women's Death." Paper presentation at Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference at Georgia State University. Atlanta, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2017, March). "Speaking Back/Speaking Black. Calling Out Feminist Game Criticism." Paper presentation at Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2017, February). "Over Damsels in Distress: Moving Towards Intersectionality in Feminist Game Criticism." Paper presentation at SPEAK Graduate Student Symposium. Atlanta, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2016, November). "Who Wants to be a Mother Anyway: Black Feminism and Beyond the Human-Mother Archetype." Paper presentation at National Women's Studies Association. Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Merritt, Candice (2016, November). "Queer Pasts, Queer Futures: Imagining Black Motherhood Beyond Pathology and Respectability." Paper presentation at National Women's Studies Association. Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Merritt, Candice (2016, September). "Re-Inventing a Genre? *Splatoon* and Questions of Race and Gender in 'Shooter' Games." Presentation at Creative Media Industries Institute at Georgia State University. Atlanta, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2016, March). "How to Exercise Intersectionality's Punch? Make Segregation a Feminist Issue." Paper presentation at Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference. Rock Hill, SC.
- Merritt, Candice (2009, November). "Babies Havin' Babies': Examining Visual Presentations of Teenage Pregnancy, 1960-1996." Poster presentation at the National Women's Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2008, April). Born That Way: Examining Biological Discourse in Gay Rights Movement Strategies. Paper presentation at Oxford Emory College Undergraduate Research Symposium, Oxford, GA.
- Merritt, Candice (2008, April). Segregated Cinema: Reviewing Archival Research from the Atlanta Journal & Atlanta Constitution. Session Presentation at the Scholarly Inquiry & Research Symposium, Atlanta, GA.
- DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS**
- Merritt, Candice (2016, June). "That Man is Suspect: Perspectives on Black Masculinity from a Black Queer Mother." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2016/01/10/that-man-is-suspect-perspectives-on-black-masculinity-from-a-black-queer-mother/>
- Merritt, Candice (2016, January). "Coming Out Fat, Black, and Queer: Reporative (Re)membering, No. 2." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2016/06/26/coming-out-fat-black-and-queer-reporative-remembering-no-2/>

Merritt, Candice (2015, October). "Dear Bristol: #SayHerName Cuz' We are 'Guilty, Always' Before the Law." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/10/29/dear-bristol-sayhername-cuz-we-are-guilty-always-before-the-law/>

Merritt, Candice (2015, October). "Nigger-rigging and Niggers in a Polite culture." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/10/26/nigger-rigging-and-niggers-in-a-polite-culture/>

Merritt, Candice (2015, October). "Why Meryl Streep Ain't Getting' My Money for Suffragette." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/10/09/why-meryl-streep-aint-gettin-my-money-for-suffragette/>

Merritt, Candice (2015, September). "How to Exercise Intersectionality's Punch? Make Segregation a Feminist Issue." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/09/24/how-to-exercise-intersectionalitys-punch-make-segregation-a-feminist-issue/>.

Merritt, Candice (2015, September). "Black Matters, No. 1: Reparative (Re)membering." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/09/15/black-matters-no-1-reparative-remembering/>.

Merritt, Candice (2015, September). "Getting White Girded: A Sociopolitical Perspective." <https://lordeandcompany.wordpress.com/2015/09/05/getting-white-girded-a-sociopolitical-perspective/>.

FELLOWSHIPS

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|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 09/2018-
Present | MELLON INTERDISCIPLINARY CLUSTER FELLOWSHIP
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
<i>Fellow in Critical Theory Cluster</i> | Evanston, IL |
| 05/2009 -
08/2009 | ETHICS & SERVANT LEADERSHIP, EMORY UNIVERSITY
<i>International Rescue Committee Fellow</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instructed English as a second language to refugee families• Provided instructional support for GED, computer, and life-skills classrooms | Atlanta, GA |
| 05/2008-
10/2008 | STEFANIE CANRIGHT FELLOWSHIP, EMORY UNIVERSITY
Talent Academy School (Rajasthan, India)
<i>Arts Instructor & Curriculum Coordinator</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed and implemented a 9 week recyclable arts program in Udaipur, Rajasthan, India for 5th grade students• Instructed and supervised K-8th grade students for summer programs at school | Atlanta, GA |
| 08/2007 -
05/2008 | SCHOLARLY INQUIRY & RESEARCH PROGRAM, EMORY UNIVERSITY
<i>Research Fellow</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaged in archival research for Dr. Matthew Bernstein and Dr. Dana F. White's book projects, <i>Segregated Cinema in a Southern City: Atlanta, 1895-1973</i>• Compiled and organized newsprint articles and presented data into visual presentations | Atlanta, GA |
| 05/2007 -
08/2007 | COMMUNITY BUILDING & SOCIAL CHANGE FELLOWSHIP EMORY UNIVERSITY
<i>Research Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborated with the Whitefoord Community Program in Edgewood, Atlanta on the creation and implementation of a neighborhood needs and assets assessment.• Worked with group of on development of survey design and completion• Lead focus groups with local residents focusing on residents' needs and opinions | Atlanta, GA |
| 08/2005-
05/2009 | ARTHUR BLANK FELLOWSHIP, EMORY UNIVERSITY
<i>Atlanta Urban Debate League Coordinator</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coached and mentored middle and high school students• Aided design of curriculum geared toward critical thinking and communication skills• Facilitated research on the impact of debate as a pedagogical tool and indicator for student academic success in participating schools in the Atlanta Metro area | Atlanta, GA |

SERVICE WORK

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| 08/2016-
08/2017 | SPEAK
<i>Member</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organized graduate student research symposium• Assisted with local art showcases | Atlanta, GA |
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01/2016-05/2017 **SOUTHERN FRIED QUEER PRIDE** Atlanta, GA

Member

- Hosted monthly potlucks for LGBTQ community members
- Assisted with organizing and planning monthly events

09/2014-05/2015 **WGSS ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE** Atlanta, GA

Graduate Student Representative

- Assisted organizing anniversary symposium panel and topic content
- Facilitated anniversary symposium discussion

01/2013 - 06/2015 **GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY STAFF COUNCIL** Atlanta, GA

Staff Council Representative

- Served as vice chair for the Staff Development and Advancement Committee
- Met bi-monthly to discuss and plan strategies to enhance professional development opportunities for all employees across the university
- Consulted and communicated with constituents across the university to relay needs and concerns of all staff to Council and university administration

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

Merritt, Candice. "Something Old, Never Told, Over and Over." A public reading at Cliterati Open Mic at Charis Books and More/Charis Circle. August 2017.

Merritt, Candice. "A Dedication to Baby Suggs, A Prosestry." A public reading at Cliterati Open Mic at Charis Books and More/Charis Circle for 44th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. January 2017.

Merritt, Candice. "Journeying with Alice Coltrane." A public reading at Cliterati Open Mic at Charis Books and More/Charis Circle for 44th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. January 2017.

Merritt, Candice. "The Visit." A public reading at Cliterati Open Mic at Charis Books and More/Charis Circle. November 2016.

Merritt, Candice. "An Erotic Practice Called Quest." A public reading at Cliterati Open Mic at Charis Books and More/Charis Circle. November 2016.

EMPLOYMENT **GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY** Atlanta, GA

01/2011-06/2018 **Academic Advisor II** (06/2014-06/2018)

- Recruited prospective graduate students for the College of Arts and Sciences
- Guided current graduate students through policy and degree progression
- Managed application processes for the fine arts, humanities, and natural sciences departments
- Event planned for new student orientations
- Led training workshops on application and CRM systems (Hobsons and Slate) for academic departments

Academic Advisor I (01/2012-06/2014)

- Advised undergraduate students through development of academic plans and career planning.
 - Instructed freshman orientation courses and devised curriculum for academic success
 - Coached individual students on studying, time management, and stress reduction techniques
 - Reviewed and evaluated transfer course credit for incoming students
- Tracked academic progress of assigned undergraduate student population through advisement technologies (Educational Advisory Board, Gradesfirst)

Enrollment Services Assistant (01/2011-12/2012)

- Evaluated and determined admissibility of transfer applicants
- Assessed college transcripts for transfer credit in Banner and WebXtender systems
- Aided in auditing and initial setup of student records
- Disseminated admissions information and procedures to external and internal customers

09/2009-08/2010 **NOTRE DAME MISSION VOLUNTERS-AMERICORPS** Atlanta, GA

Covenant House Georgia Instructor/Emmaus House Project Coordinator

- Instructed GED courses, tutoring, and maintained client files in Pathways System
- Administered college counseling programming and mentoring
- Coordinated and implemented after-school arts and crafts program
- Designed and planted a community garden on vacant neighborhood lot