

Tamanika Ferguson

University of Maryland College Park
Department Of Communication
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2019 – Postdoctoral Scholar
Department of Communication
University of Maryland College Park
- 2018 – 2019 Lecturer
Department of Communication
University of Maryland College Park

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D., Communication, Culture, and Media Studies, Howard University
Graduate Certificate, Women's Studies, Howard University
Dissertation: "Women in Prison Speak: A Case Study of Writings by
Incarcerated Women and Their Advocates"
Committee: Carolyn Byerly (Chair), Barbara B. Hines, Erica Southerland,
and Velma LaPoint
- 2011 M.A., Africana Studies and Sociology, California State University, Dominguez Hills
Thesis: "The Politics of Representation of African American Women in
Beauty and Fashion Magazines"
- 2007 B.A., Africana Studies (with Honors), California State university, Dominguez Hills
Minor, Public Administration
Study Abroad Program, Ghana West Africa

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Research – Women and Incarceration, Social Movements, Political Communication, Media
Activism, Carceral Justice, Prison Reform, Public Policy, Race, Gender and Class, Critical &
Feminist Theory, and Qualitative Methods [Ethnographic and Case Study Research]

Teaching – Speech Communication, Group Communication, Civic Engagement, and Social Justice
Advocacy

Service – Mentoring and Supervision of Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Professional – Grant Research and Writing

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- In progress Ferguson, T. *Voices from The Inside: Incarcerated Women Speak* (Project funded by
AAUW).

Ferguson, T. | January 2022

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Under review Ferguson, T. “Grassroots Feminist Activism: Incarcerated Women and The California Coalition for Women Prisoners.” *Journal of Women’s History*.

Under review Ferguson, T. “Grassroots Feminist Advocacy on the Front Lines: Incarcerated Women Speak on Resistance, Prison Reform, and Justice.” *Feminist Media Studies*.

Book Chapters

2018 Ferguson, T. “Women Behind Bars Breaking the Silence.” *#Fierce Feminism: Women in the 21st Century: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, edited by Robyn McGee. Kendall Hunt.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Fellowships

2021 - [American Association of University Women](#), American Fellowship, (\$40,000)

2019 - 21 [President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship](#), University of Maryland, (\$55,000 annually)

Research, Teaching, and Travel Grants

2021 [Organization for Research on Women and Communication](#), Research Development Grant, (\$2,500)

2020 [University of Maryland Arts and Humanities Faculty Funds Innovation Grant](#), (\$5,000)

2018 Do Good Institute Award for Do Good Assignment Instructor, University of Maryland School of Public Policy (\$500)

2017 Conference Travel Grant, Graduate School Council, Howard University (\$1,500)

2016 Week-Long Seminar Travel Grant, Annenberg Summer Doctoral Institute on Diversity in Media and Culture, University of Southern California

2016 Conference Travel Grant, Barbara Hines Professional Development Fund, Howard University (\$500)

2015 - 16 DC Charter Chapter Scholarship, American Business Women’s Association (\$2,000)

2014 – 15 Cathy Hughes School of Communication Board of Visitors Scholarship, Howard University (\$2,500)

2014 Women’s Health Resources Dissemination Project, School of Health Sciences, Howard University (\$1,000)

2014 Conference Travel Grant, Graduate School Council, Howard University, (\$2,000)

2013 Stephen Bufton Memorial Scholarship, American Business Women Association, Maryland Chapter (\$1,500)

- 2011 Stephen Bufton Memorial Scholarship, American Business Women’s Association, South Bay Chapter of Torrance, California (\$2,000)
- 2007 CCIE Study Abroad Scholarship Program, California Colleges for International Study Abroad Organization (\$5,000)
- 2006 William Randolph Hearst/CSU Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement, California State University, Dominguez Hills (\$3,000)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

- 2019 Introduction to Demonstrating and Evaluating Research Impact, Office of Faculty Affairs, University of Maryland
- 2019 Excel: Pivot Tables in Depth, LinkedIn Learning, University of Maryland
- 2019 Introduction to Research Development, Office of Faculty Affairs, University of Maryland
- 2016 Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods Summer Seminar, NAEP Howard Statistics and Evaluation Institute, Howard University
- 2015-16 Research Assistant, Tom Fish, National Park Service Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units, Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

Leadership

- 2021- Present [Andrew W. Mellon Faculty of Color Working Group](#), The New England Humanities Consortium (NEHC)
- 2021 Supervisor. Trained Doctoral Students in Qualitative Data Collection and Coding
- 2021 Women of Color Leadership Project (WoCLP), Women of Color Caucus, National Women Studies Association, Virtual
- 2020 #FreeHer Campaign, National Conference, National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, Virtual
- 2019 Beyond the Bars: Freedom Plans, Center for Justice, Columbia University, New York
- 2019 Facilitator Training, Dialogues on Deliberation and Demagoguery, Department of Communication, University of Maryland
- 2019 Equity and Inclusion Leadership Training, Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice, Washington, DC
- 2019 Search Inside Yourself Leadership Training, Georgetown University’s Institute for Transformational Leadership
- 2019 Collective Impact Learning Lab Leadership Training, Collective Impact Learning Lab, The Forum for Youth Investment, Washington, DC

Writing

- 2021 Write to Change The World Core Seminar, The OpEd Project, Washington, DC, Virtual
- 2020 WriteNow Summer Writing Bootcamp, National Center Faculty Diversity and Development, Virtual
- 2020 Writing Retreat, The Graduate School, University of Maryland
- 2019 Grantsmanship Training, Hanover Research, University of Maryland
- 2019 Write to Change The World Core Seminar, The OpEd Project, Washington, DC

Social Service Work

- 2018 Communication Specialist, A New Way of Life Reentry Project, Los Angeles
- 2014 Case Management Training, The Fairview Reentry Center, Washington, DC
- 2011-2013 Case Manager, Education and Training Program, YWCA of The National Capital Area, Washington, DC
- 2008 Case Manager, LA Bridges Program, YWCA of Greater Los Angeles

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2021 “Women and The Prison System.” Chicano and Latino Studies, California State University, Long Beach (via Zoom)
- 2021 “Women’s Advocacy and Activism.” Multicultural and Gender Studies, Chico State University (via Zoom)
- 2021 “Anna Julia Cooper Manuscript Workshop in Black History, Department of History, University of Maryland (via Zoom)
- 2020 “Incarcerated Women and Media Activism.” Race, Equity, and Justice conversation series with Dean Bonnie Thornton Dill, Arts & Humanities, University of Maryland (via Zoom)
- 2020 “How Mentoring Can Make a Difference.” The Graduate School, University of Maryland (via Zoom)
- 2020 “Women in Prison Speak: Resistance and Activism for Social Justice.” Grad Terp Exchange, University of Maryland
- 2018 “Author Meets Critics: Girls & Juvenile Justice: Power, Status and the Social Construction of Delinquency by Carla Davis.” Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association, Long Beach, CA
- 2016 “A Case Study of Writings by Incarcerated Women and Their Feminist Advocates.” Annual Annenberg Summer Doctoral Institute on Diversity in Media and Culture, University of Southern California

2015 “Black Music and the Construction of American Identity: Blues, Jazz, and Hip-Hop.”
Virginia Wesleyan College Program Series, Entangled Identities: Legacies of 1619.
Declined/Prior Commitment.

Conference Presentations

2021 “In and Beyond Institutions: Black Women’s Resistance, Resilience, and Quest for
Justice.” (Panel) National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual

2020 “#What About Us Too? Don’t Our Voices Matter?” Won’t You Celebrate With Me?
A Black Feminist Gathering. (Panel) Department of Women’s Studies. Clarice
Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland

2019 “Unlikely Communities: Incarcerated Women Advocate for Women’s Rights and
Social Change.” (Panel) International Communication Association Conference.
Washington, DC

2017 “Unpacking Incarcerated Women’s Communication and Resistance through
Media Activism.” Hilton Post Oak. National Council for Black Studies
Conference, Houston, Texas

2016 “The Historical and Sociological Aspects of Incarcerated Women’s
Communication.” Sociologist for Women in Society Winter Meeting. Memphis,
TN

2014 “Breaking the Silence: Women Behind Bars.” Annual Meeting of the American
Society of Criminology (ASC). San Francisco, CA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

Lecturer

2018 - 2019 Oral Communication: Principles and Practices – social justice advocacy focus
University of Maryland College Park

2014 Communication for Academic Success, Trinity Washington University

Instructor of Record

2013 - 14 Principles of Speech, Howard University

Teaching Assistant

2016 - 17 Multicultural Media History, Howard University

SERVICE

Article Reviewer

2019 #Catchmeinashithole: Black Travel Influencers and the Contestation of Racialized
Place Myths
The Howard Journal of Communication

University Service

2021 Member, Mock Interview Committee, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Maryland

Supervision and Mentorship

Graduate

2021 Research Assistants, Carolyn Robbins (Communication Studies) and Renee Scott (Women's Studies), University of Maryland

2020 – 2021 Colloquium Committee Member, Department of Communication, University of Maryland

Mentorship

Undergraduate

2019 - Emma Kleiner, Astrology & Physics (Class of 2022)
- Terp Talk Showcase Coach
Certificate of Appreciation for Speech Coaching

2019 Michael Igwemezie, Finance & Economics

2019 Sierra McCrear, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

2018 Mikella Lifebvre-Oatis, Sociology (OCP Peer Mentor)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board Appointment and Committees

2021- Present The Fire Inside Newsletter Strategy Committee, California Coalition for Women Prisoners, Oakland, California

2006 Life Skills Workshop Facilitator. Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, Norwalk, CA

2005 - 2008 Parent Leadership Committee of LIFETIME, Lobbied California Representatives and Senators at the State Capitol in Sacramento,

Media Appearances

2016 Interviewed and Quoted. "Trend Toward Social Media Activism in Prisons Gains Steam." Truthout. (<https://truthout.org/articles/trend-toward-social-media-activism-in-prisons-gains-steam>)

2008 Interviewed and Quoted. "Avoid These College Money Pitfalls." Career Focus Magazine

2006 - 2007 Blogger. "Live Your Dreams." Soroptimist International, Los Angeles, CA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of University Women

National Women's Studies Association
Organization for Research on Women and Communication
American Sociological Association
Black Women's Studies Association
National Communication Association
National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity
Sociologists for Women in Society
The California Coalition for Women Prisoner

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Shawn Perry-Giles, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Communication
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Psyche Williams-Forson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of American Studies
University of Maryland
pwforson@umd.edu

Carolyn M. Byerly, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Department of Communication, Culture & Media Studies
Howard University
cbyerly@earthlink.net

M. Gabriela Torres, PhD
Associate Provost for Academic Administration and Faculty Affairs
FOCWG Mellon Mentors Program
Professor and William Isaac Cole Chair in Anthropology
Wheaton College
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