

ARMOND R. TOWNS, Ph.D.

Department of Rhetoric and Communication Studies
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Communication Studies	2015
M.A.	University of North Carolina at Greensboro Department of Communication Studies	2008
B.A.	University of North Carolina at Greensboro Department of Media Studies	2004

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Rhetoric & Communication Studies, University of Richmond	2018-
Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies (Joint appointment: Critical Theory Program, Department of Philosophy), University of Denver	2015-2018

COMPETITIVE GRANTS & ACADEMIC AWARDS

Champion of Change: Outstanding Faculty Advocate, University of Denver	2017
Interdisciplinary Research Incubator for the Study of (In)Equality Faculty Fellow (\$3000), University of Denver	2015
John Robert Bittner Fund in Literature, Popular Media, and Journalism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2015
Student Initiative Award, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2013

Top Competitive Papers in the Media Ecology Division,
National Communication Association 2012

Summer Research Fellowship Award (\$4000), University
of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Book Proposal

*Racial Narcosis: Black Matter and the Mediations of
“Man.”* Manuscript under external peer review
with Fordham University Press. 2018

Articles at Published at Peer-Reviewed Journals

“The ‘Lumpenproletariats’ Redemption’: Black
Radical Potentiality and LA Gang Tours,” *Souls:
A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and
Society*, 19(1), 39-58. 2017

“Ceasing Fire and Seizing Time: LA Gang Tours and the
White Control of Mobility,” with coauthor Sarah
Sharma, *Transfers: Interdisciplinary Journal of
Mobility Studies*, 6(1), 26-44. 2016

“Rebels of the Underground: Media, Orality, and the
Routes of Black Emancipation,” *Communication
and Critical/Cultural Studies*, 13(2), 184-197. 2016

“That Camera Won’t Save You! The Spectacular
Consumption of Police Violence,” *Present Tense:
A Journal of Rhetoric in Society*, 5(2),
[http://www.presenttensejournal.org/volume-5/that-
camera-wont-save-you-the-spectacular-consumption-
of-police-violence/](http://www.presenttensejournal.org/volume-5/that-camera-wont-save-you-the-spectacular-consumption-of-police-violence/). 2015

“The (Racial) Biases of Communication: Rethinking
Media and Blackness,” *Social Identities:
Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and
Culture*, 21(5), 474-488. 2015

Book Chapters

“The Racial Violence(s) of Inclusion: Time, Space,
and the Afterlife of the Plantation,” *Campus
Rebellion and Plantation Politics*, SUNY
University Press, forthcoming. 2018

- “‘The Street is the Message’: Racial Violence and the White Control of Mobility,” *The Routledge Urban Media Companion*, Routledge, forthcoming. 2018
- Book Review
- “Book Review of *Break Beats in the Bronx: Rediscovering Hip-Hop’s Early Years*,” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 41(13), <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2018.1459773> 2018
- “Banking Against (Black) Capitalism: On *The Color of Money*,” *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, with Carey Hardin, <https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/banking-against-black-capitalism-on-the-color-of-money/#!> 2018
- “Book Review of *When the Devil Knocks: The Congo Tradition in Twentieth Century Panama*,” *The Western Journal of Black Studies*, 39: 4, 334-335. 2015
- Encyclopedia Entries
- “Critical Philosophy of Race,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Communication and Critical Studies*, Oxford University Press, forthcoming. 2018
- “Gilroy, Paul,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Communication and Critical Studies*, Oxford University Press, forthcoming. 2018
- Invited Pieces
- “Black ‘Matter’ Lives,” *Women’s Studies in Communication*, forthcoming. 2018
- “Geographies of Pain: #SayHerName and the Fear of Black Women’s Mobility,” *Women’s Studies in Communication*, 39: 2 (Lead Article). 2016
- Under Review
- “On (Communicative) Violence: Toward a Black Philosophy of Communication,” *Communication Theory*. 2018
- “Exchanging Debt for Dissent: Race, Political Economy, and the Russell Simmons Rush Card,” with Carey Richter-Hardin, *American Quarterly*. 2018

SELECTED REFEREED CONFERENCES & INVITED TALKS

- Invited Seminar Instructor: “Becoming Human: Anti-Racist Resistance in Digital and Embodied Publics,” with Dana Cloud, to be presented at the Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. 2019
- Invited Panelist: “New Materialities, New Mobilities: Rethorizing Place through Embodied and Experiential Differences,” to be presented at National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT. 2018
- Invited Seminar Instructor: “What’s this ‘Ally’ in Allyship?” The Allyship Summit, The University of Denver, Denver, CO. 2018
- Invited Panelist: “Campus Rebellions and Plantation Politics,” University of Denver, Diversity Summit Conference, Denver, CO. 2018
- Invited Panelist: “The Smithsonian Channel’s *The Lost Tapes: Malcolm X*,” History Colorado Center, Denver, CO. 2018
- Invited Panelist: “Campus Rebellions and Plantation Politics,” University of Denver, Diversity Summit Conference, Denver, CO. 2018
- Presenter: “Exchanging Debt for Dissent: Race, Political Economy, and the Russell Simmons Rush Card,” with Carey Richter- Hardin at the American Studies Association, Chicago, IL. 2017
- Invited Panelist: “Black ‘Matter’ Lives,” Marshall McLuhan Centre, Monday Night Seminar, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. 2017
- Presenter: “Mediating the Death of God: Religion, Science, Race, and the Printing Press,” Speaking or Not Speaking of God: An Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Denver, Denver, CO. 2017
- Speaker: “All the Things You Could Do with Media Studies if Frantz Fanon Was Your Father!” Arts, Humanities 2017

& Social Sciences Faculty Lecture Series,
University of Denver, Denver, CO.

- Invited Panelist: “The Chain of Perception in Black America,” 2017
Sturm Hall Art Exhibit, Denver, CO.
- Invited Panelist: “Voice, Activism, & Democracy,” Harriet 2017
Elliot Lecture Series, Greensboro, NC.
- Presenter: “Commemorating Doreen Massey: Mapping a 2016
Scholar’s Influence,” National Communication
Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Presenter: “What’s Different about Differentiability: The Future 2016
of Theories of Difference,” National Communication
Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Presenter: “Study Abroad: Privilege, Power and Paradigm 2016
Shifts,” University of Denver, Internationalization
Conference, Denver, CO.
- Invited Panelist: “Making #BlackLivesMatter,” University 2016
of Denver, Diversity Summit, Denver, CO.
- Presenter: “What’s ‘New’ about the New Black Panther Party? 2015
The Limits of Reactionality,” National Communication
Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- Presenter: “‘Gentrified Mobility’: Protecting and Protected by 2015
Whiteness,” National Communication Association,
Las Vegas, NV.
- Presenter: “A ‘New’ South Central: LA Gang Tours and Racial 2015
Violence,” American Studies Association, Toronto, ON.
- Presenter: “Rebel Moves: LA Gang Tours and the Challenge to 2015
White Los Angeles,” Association for the Study of the
Worldwide African Diaspora Conference, Charleston, SC.
- Presenter: “Mobility as a Critical/Cultural Concept,” National 2014
Communication Association, Chicago.
- Presenter: “‘Tour Bus as Media’: Mobile Technologies and 2014
Blackness on LA Gang Tours,” National Communication
Association, Chicago.
- Respondent: “Faculty Roundtable,” Equality Equals... 2013

Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

Presenter: "Touring Blackness (and Maybe Brownness If There's Enough Time)," National Communication Association, Washington, DC. 2013

Presenter: "A 'Touch' of Literacy: Uses of Media Theory for Black Cultural Studies," National Communication Association, Orlando, FL. 2012

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Completed (Advisor)

Jaime Guzman (Ph.D., ABD), Communication Studies
Sarah Porter (Undergraduate Thesis), Communication Studies
Claire Slattery-Quintanilla (M.A.), Communication Studies
Daelena Tinnin (M.A.), Communication Studies

Completed (Committee Membership)

Haneen Al-Ghabra (Ph.D., committee member), Communication Studies
Raisa Alvarado (Ph.D., ABD), Communication Studies
Ryne Beddard (M.A.), Religious Studies
Benjamin Boyce (Ph.D.), Communication Studies
Liyang Hou (M.A.), Communication Studies
Moana Luri (Ph.D.), Communication Studies
Misty Saribal (M.A.), Communication Studies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Denver 2018-
Rhetorical Theory
Philosophy of Communication

University of Denver 2015
American Communication Theory
Cultural Studies (Graduate)
Fanon & Communication (Graduate)
On the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense
Philosophy of Communication
Qualitative Methods
Race and Popular Culture
Rhetorical Theory
Time, Space, and Politics (Graduate)
Writing and Culture (Graduate)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2008
Communication and Social Processes (Online)	
Cultural Diversity	
Interpersonal Communication	
Media and Popular Culture	
Public Speaking	
Rhetoric and the Southern Experience	
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	2006
Interpersonal Communication/Public Speaking	

ACADEMIC & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Service to the Department	
Faculty Senator	2016-
Graduate Programming Committee	2016
Library Liaison	2015
New Faculty Search Committee	2015
Service to the Discipline	
Guest Reviewer: <i>Transfers</i>	2017
Guest Reviewer: <i>Mobilities</i>	2015
Guest Reviewer: <i>City & Society</i>	2015
Reviewer: National Communication Association	2013-
Service to the University	
Social Justice Solidarity Series (Co-Founder)	2016-
Student Advocates for Change (Faculty Advisor)	2016-
Black Graduate Student Association (Faculty Advisor)	2015-
Faculty of Color Association	2015-
Faculty Senator	2016-
Conference Coordinator: Equality Equals...Conference	2013