



Shelby Barnett is a 2nd year Graduate student whose cutting wit keeps the 2020 cohort in stitches. Learn more about Shelby, her academic interests and more in our Graduate Student Spotlight!



DeAntré Perry is a senior at University of Louisville. She is a Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major. When she is not studying hard, she is living her best and most eccentric life. Learn about her in our undergraduate spotlight! section!



Doctress Story continues to be a role model for aspiring scholar-activists. Check out some of the work that Doctress Story continues to do for Louisville and beyond.

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department

Newsletter

no. 1

FALL 2019

WELCOME WGST STUDENTS!

THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES DEPARTMENT IS EXCITED TO START THIS SCHOOL YEAR WITH YOU!

We want to extend a very warm welcome to our majors, minors, and other students who are interested in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. We are super excited to provide more chances for faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students to mix and mingle. Be sure to stay updated on all the fun stuff that the WGST department is planning by checking your email for

flyers and other exciting promotional materials. If you do not already, follow us on Instagram @WGSTlouisville, Facebook and Twitter. Stop by our new student chill lounge located on the 3rd floor of Stevenson Hall to relax and hang out with fellow students.

We wish the very best semester for all of our students, faculty, and staff.



Pictured above is a page from one of Dr. Hilaria Cruz's children's book in Chatino, an endangered Meso American language that Cruz has constructed a writing system for. Check out some the work that Dr. Hilaria Cruz has done for the community inside this issue.



DR. CARRIE MOTT IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERISTY OF LOUISVILLE IN THE APPLIED GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Dr. Mott is also an affiliate faculty in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department. Dr. Mott's current research addresses the connections between settler colonialism and Columbia River Basin reclamation projects in the United States Pacific Northwest. Learn more about Dr. Mott inside this issue!



GRADUATE STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: SHELBY BARNETT

Shelby Barnett is a 2nd year Graduate student whose cutting wit keeps the 2018-2020 cohort in stitches.

Q: What was your undergraduate major?

A: I have two. For my undergraduate studies, I attended Campbellsville University. I graduated with a bachelors degree in Psychology as well as Sociology.

Q: What are your academic interests and why?

A: I began my academic experience with a desire to be a Psychologist primarily for women who had experienced violence. In my later years of undergrad, I realized my interests had shifted more towards women/gender as a discipline. Now, in my second year of my M.A., I enjoy research regarding the woman's experience in history, deviant behavior in young girls and how it is handled by the system, and representations of gender, sexuality, etc. in popular media.

Q: Where do you work? What do you do?

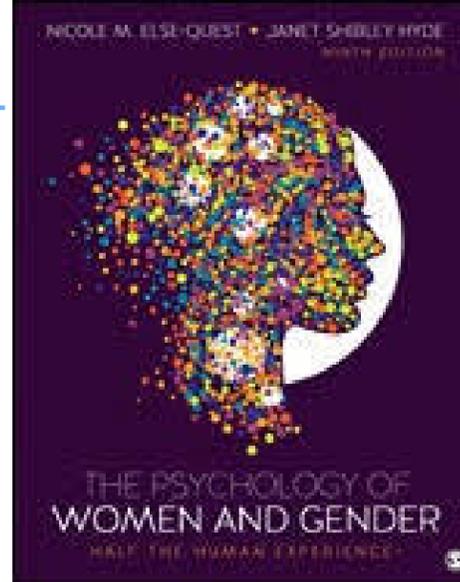
A: I am currently employed at a residential, therapeutic placement for delinquent foster girls called Maryhurst. As a shift supervisor, I meet the clients' needs where they are behaviorally and encourage the staff to be cohesive throughout the shift. Providing direct care to these girls who have often times suffered from significant trauma definitely aligns with my academic interests. Providing these girls with skills they need and knowledge they have not had access to contributes to the betterment of their overall future.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: For fun, a night out with friends is always ideal. However, anything involving competition will be enjoyable!

Q: What are your top 3 favorite songs?

A: My three favorite songs would have to be: Come on Eileen, Dexy's Midnight Runners Band on the Run, Paul McCartney



Recommended Read

Interested in gender and mental health? Check out this book for a solid intro into the Psychology of Women and Gender.

(Wings) Rhiannon, Fleetwood Mac.



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: DEANTRA PERRY

DeAntre Perry is a senior at University of Louisville. She is a Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major.

DeAntré has a presence that is unmatched. Her wit and intellect makes her stand out among many students. She is an artist, a connoisseur of trash social media, and loves local punk rock. We got the chance to catch up with her so we can get to know her better. This is what she had to say.

Q: What is your major?:

A: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Q: What are your academic interests?

A: Fat Aesthetics that centers on Blackness and trans Identity

Q: What WGST class has impacted you the most?

A: Black Lesbian Lives with Dr. Kaila Adia Story- it gave me permission to love myself organically and without alteration.

Q: What class has impacted you the most?

A: The same answer as the question before this one.

Q: What are your 3 favorite songs

right now?

A: " The One" by Jorja Smith, "I Hate My Mom" by Grlwood, " Deliver me" by LeAndria.

Q: Do you think of yourself a creative person?

A: I think so. But I also think that we are all creative people. I mean, because we all have the ability to create and we do create in some shape or form.

Q: What kind of creative project do you have? Or what kinds of creative projects would you like to start?

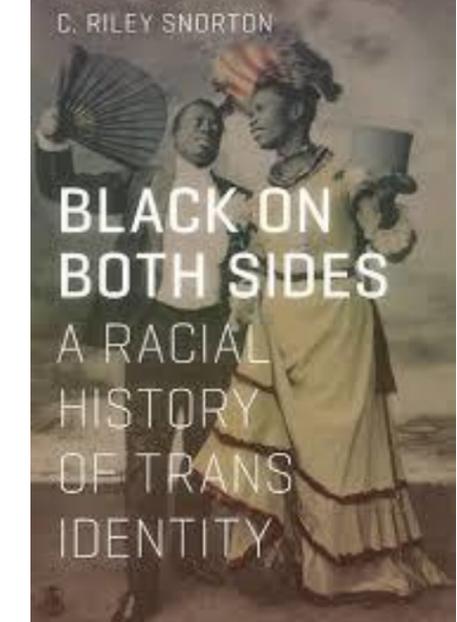
A: This is a tough one. Um... I think I would like to turn my love and romance manifesto into a zine. I would like to make a quilt for my family. It's about my family heritage.

Q: Who do you look up to?

A: Fatima Jamal, Dr. Kaila Aida Story, and Lizzo.

Q: Is there anything else you would like share about yourself?

A: No. Well... Women of the



DeAntra's Rec: " This is a crucial book for folx to read if they want to understand how Blackness and Trans identities intersect with one another. It is the duty of every person to continuously educate themselves about Black and trans identity."

Trans experience are worthy of love and respect, so pay us our dues.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPOTLIGHT: DR. KAILA STORY

Doctress Story continues to be a role model for aspiring scholars, community members and activists in Louisville Kentucky and beyond.

Dr. Kaila Story is Associate Professor for the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, with a joint appointment in the Department of Pan-African Studies. She holds the Audre Lorde Chair in Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Dr. Story was also a part of NBC's inaugural #Pride30 which featured LGBTQ community leaders and change makers. Dr. Story's research examines the intersections of race and sexuality, with special attention to Black feminism, Black lesbians, and Black queer identity. Her current research explores the intersections of race, class, and sexuality in identity performance, mass media, body politics, and the like. Dr. Story's other research interests include, but are not limited to, Gender Socialization, Trans- national Sexualities, Black feminisms, and Trans- national Feminisms.

She also co-hosts of an award winning podcast with Louisville activist Jaison Gardner called Strange Fruit: Musings on Politics, Pop Culture, and Black Gay Life on WFPL (Louisville affiliate of NPR).

Here is a list of some of Doctress Story's amazing events and accomplishments over the past year:

Strange Fruit Events

Dialogues on Gender at the Speed Art Museum

In conjunction with the exhibition *Breaking the Mold: Investigating Gender* at the Speed Art Museum, the Speed hosted a three-part "Dialogues on Gender" series of public conversations, presented in partnership with WFPL's Strange Fruit and Louisville Public Media. This series featured groundbreaking discussions that took place in June, July, and August.

June Event (6/18) "Ya'll Better Quiet Down: Trans Advocacy, Justice & Safety." In 1973, transgender activist Sylvia Rivera delivered a powerful and provocative call to action at the Christopher Street Liberation Day Rally in New York City in which she admonished the largely cisgender, white, middle-class gay and lesbian crowd for their indifference toward and neglect of the issues facing poor and POC transgender people. As the crowd shouted objections to her being handed the microphone, Rivera chided, "ya'll better quiet down" and listen to the social and political plights of trans and Gender Non-Conforming (GNC) people. WFPL's Strange Fruit podcast co-hosts and co-producers Dr. Kaila



Fun Facts about #Teamstrangefruit:

"Strange Fruit: Musings on Politics, Pop Culture, and Black Gay Life" won #BestLGBTPodcast for the second year in a row .

It also won the #BestSocietyAndCulturePodcast on June 13th.

Story and Jaison Gardner were joined by professional DJ and entertainer Victoria Syimone Taylor and civil rights activist Dawn Wilson for a multimedia presentation and panel discussion on past and present POC trans leadership, activism and justice initiatives.

July Event (7/18) "Dialogues on Gender: Living A Feminist Life through Art, Education and the Media". WFPL's Strange Fruit co-host and professor Dr. Kaila Story and art critic Paddy Johnson, the founding editor of Art F City, discussed past and contemporary feminisms in life, art, education, culture, and working in the media. WFPL's Strange Fruit co-host and activist Jaison Gardner moderated the conversation.



Dr. Hilaria Cruz: Community Collaborator, Language Justice Advocate

Dr. Hilaria Cruz is an assistant professor at the University of Louisville. She recieved a PH.D in Linguistics at the University of Texas and takes special interest in preserving endangered languages.

In a vlog series that was intitated by the Digital Humanities Collective of the Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society, Dr. Cruz was interviewed by Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies masters student Jerika Jones. In this interview Cruz states, " I didn't grow up reading my own language. I decided that had to change. That's why I started constructing a written language for Chatino".

Chitano has traditionally been a language that was only spoken. However, according Cruz, because of the hispanization of Mexico, all peoples of Mexico were required to learn spanish and use Spanish as the offical language of business and commerce. Because of these efforts, Chatino fell out of use. As qouted by Dr. Cruz, "I was really scared to speak Chatino around my friends when I wasn't at home. I was afraid to not be like everyone else."

As with most colonial efforts, indigenous languages of the land started becoming endangered. In the same fashion, Chatino became an endangered language. But all is not lost. Dr. Cruz decided to bring justice to her first tongue. With the help of her sister, Cruz developed a systematic orthography for the Chatino language and began her Chatino revival projects.

As one of those efforts, Cruz and her sister began to create children's books in the Chatino language. She also has done field recordings in order capture native speakers of Chatino 's dialectical differences in order to catalogue and preserve them.

To learn more about what Dr. Hilaria Cruz is up to, check out the Digital Humanities Collective vlog series called Faculty Research spotlight, hosted on youtube and can be found on The Commonwealth Center of The Humanities and Society's facebook page, Twitter,and Instagram.



AFFILIATE FACULTY SPOLIGHT: CARRIE MOTT

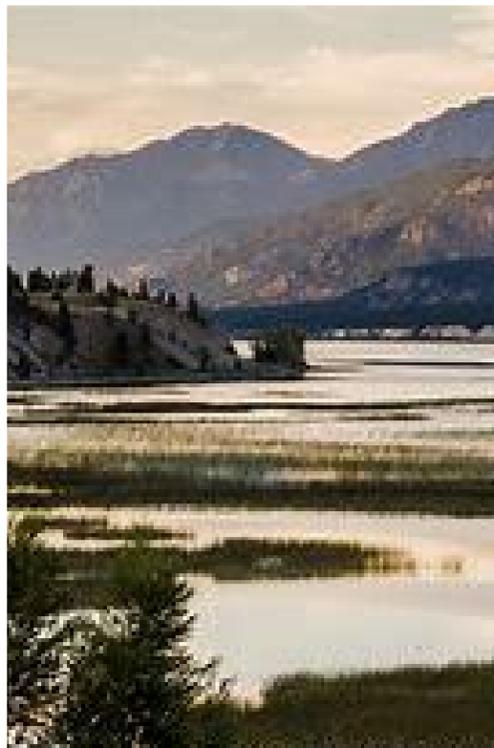
DR. CARRIE MOTT IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE APPLIED GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT AND AN AFFILIATE FACULTY FOR WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

Carrie Mott's current research addresses the connections between settler colonialism and Columbia River Basin reclamation projects in the United States Pacific Northwest. By looking at the legislation of historical conflicts over property rights and access to water between Native American groups and white settlers, she shows how racialized nation-state processes that began in the 18th and early 19th centuries continue to shape access to, and management of, Columbia Basin waterways. This body of work shows that the dispossession of Columbia Basin Native American tribes from their lands and access to rivers is directly tied to explicit federal strategies to facilitate white settlement of the inland Pacific Northwest, in spite of mid-19th century treaties signed to guarantee that Native American groups would have continued access to traditional fishing and hunting grounds and other sites of cultural importance.

Through her research, she merges the historical with the contemporary to show how it was possible, in the space of about a century, that the human demographics of the Columbia Basin region shifted dramatically from a place that was majority indigenous to majority white- a process directly tied to state sponsored efforts to irrigate the inland Pacific Northwest, to transport agricultural products through the rivers, and to develop hydro-electric technologies.

Her dissertation work was based in Tucson, Arizona and spanned a period of over two years, from 2013-2015. The political intensity of the Arizona borderlands draws activists from all over the US as well as internationally to connect with social justice work in support of migrants, in opposition to the ever intensifying militarization of the border, or in solidarity with indigenous people whose lands have been overrun by Border Patrol surveillance and

harassment. Her work with Arizona activists examines moments of conflict and collaboration within social justice work, and the ways these moments are shaped by the different positionalities of people involved. She posits that activists often come together because they are motivated by similar aims and intentions. However,



despite these common goals, much conflict exists in activist spaces. Quite often this conflict is rooted in the very different positions occupied by activists due to the socialized privileges (or lack thereof) embodied by participants.

She is also very interested in questions of privilege and marginalization at play within the academic discipline of geography. Particularly for geographies that are ostensibly rooted in a 'critical' or 'radical' approach— she and her collaborators question the ways that this work often reifies the hegemony of idealized white, cis-male, able-bodied authorities in the discipline. Through this body of work, she explores the ways that the mundane processes of academic work, such as citation or research method, constitute a politics in themselves which often serve to elevate the voices of some while marginalizing others.

She has a new paper out, *Conscientious disengagement and whiteness as a condition of dialogue*, and recently was invited by the Geography Graduate Student Union at the University of Kentucky to give a workshop on Critical Pedagogy. It was a three hour workshop held on UK's campus where Mott and other researchers worked through the connection between critical pedagogy and social justice, and how we can meaningfully bring critical pedagogical approaches into our university classrooms as educators.

Want to read Dr. Mott's work? Check out these publications:

Mott C (2016) Feminist Geography, *Oxford Bibliographies*.
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/>.

Mott C (2016) The Activist Polis: Topologies of conflict in indigenous solidarity activism, *Antipode* 48(1). <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/anti.12167/abstract>.

The University of Kentucky Critical Pedagogy Working Group, Mott C, Zupan S, R.L., and Debbane´A (2015) Making Space for Critical Pedagogy in the Neoliberal University: struggles and possibilities", *ACME* 14(4): 1260-1282.

Mott C and Roberts S (2014) Not Everyone Has (the)

Balls: Urban exploration and the persistence of masculinist geography, *Antipode* 46(1): 229-245.

Mott C (forthcoming) Geographies of Whiteness, *Oxford Bibliographies*.
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/>.

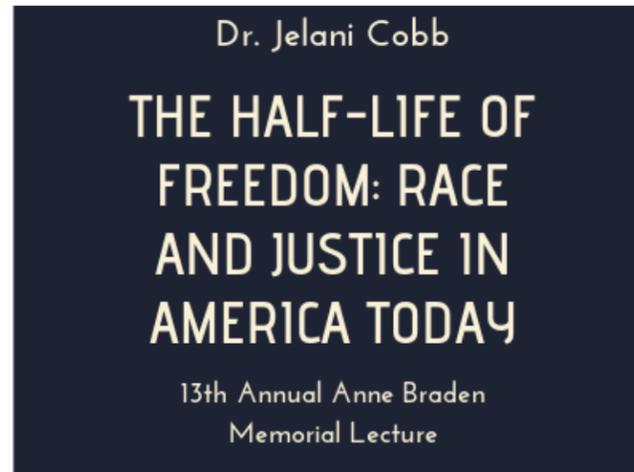
Other Academic Publications

Mott C (2015) Re-living Tucson: geographic fieldwork as an activist-academic. *Arizona Anthropologist* 24(1): 33-41.

Mott C (2014) Review: *Quiet Rumors: An Anarcha-Feminist Reader*, by the Dark Star Collective. *Human Geography* 7(3): 119-121.

Mott C and Roberts S (2013) Difference Really Does Matter: A Response to Garrett and Hawkins, www.antipodefoundation.org. doi: <http://radicalantipode.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/mott-and-roberts-reply.pdf>.

This bio is a modified version of Carrie Mott's professional bio that can be found on her faculty profile on University of Louisville's Applied Geography Website.



NOVEMBER 20, 2019
5:30 PM
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Free and open to the public

William Jelani Cobb (born August 21, 1969) is an American writer, author and educator. The Ira A. Lipman Professor of Journalism at Columbia University, Cobb was previously an associate professor of history and director of the Institute for African American Studies at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut from 2012 to 2016. Since 2015, he has been a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. While studying at Howard, Cobb began his professional writing career, first publishing at a short-lived periodical called *One*.

In time, he began contributing to the *Washington City Paper*. His first national outlet was *YSB Magazine*, part of the Black Entertainment Television, Inc. media empire, beginning in 1993. He also became more politically active during this time, and was involved with an organization that took over Howard's administration building in 1989. It was around this time that Cobb, seeking to connect more with African tradition, decided to add "Jelani"—a Swahili word meaning "powerful"—to his name.

Cobb specializes in post-Civil War African-American history, 20th-century American politics, and the history of the Cold War. He served as a delegate and historian for the 5th Congressional District of Georgia at the 2008 Democratic National Convention. He previously taught at Rutgers and Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Jelani Cobb will be giving our 13th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture November 20. We hope to see you all there!

**WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY
STUDIES DEPARTMENTAL
REMINDERS**

WGST BROWN BAG LUNCHES

Drop in for as long as you want for a bite and casual conversation with other WGST students and faculty! It's a great chance to talk with other feminists about all the stuff is going on in the world and on campus.

We will have cookies and some veggie snacks to dip. If you want to bring some lunch to heat up, there's a microwave and kettle for your use in the kitchen. Please be sure to check your email to stay up to date on our Brown Bag Lunch.

Our next brown bag date is:

Monday, Nov 18 11:30-1:00

See you all there!

Scholarships and Awards For Undergraduate

MAJORS:

Internship award (open to any major that needs financial assistance for their internship duties) Textbook Award (open to any major that needs financial assistance for textbooks)

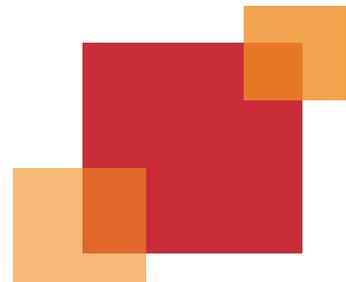
For Undergraduates in **ANY** discipline: Carolyn Krause Maddox Prize Ken Terrill Award (open to undergraduate students who demonstrate leadership in the LGBTQ community). Information and application materials available in February from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. Arthur D. Yocom Scholarship (open to undergraduate students who plan a career in public or community service). Information and application materials available in February from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. Mary Craik Scholarship for women students: For information and application materials, go to the

Scholarships and Awards

For Undergraduate WGST **MAJORS:**

Internship award (open to any major that needs financial assistance for their intership duties)

Textbook Award (open to any WGST major that needs financial assistance for textbooks)



For Undergraduates in **ANY** discipline:

Carolyn Krause Maddox Prize Ken Terrill Award (open to undergraduate students who demonstrate leadership in the LGBTQ community). Information and application materials available in February from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. Arthur D. Yocom Scholarship (open to undergraduate students who plan a career in public or community service). Information and application materials available in February from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. Mary Craik Scholarship for women students: For information and application materials, go to the College of Arts and Sciences, Scholarships: Craik scholarship

For Graduate Students:

Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Scholarship (deadline: June 1, 2020)

Lilylace Akers Graduate Assistantship in Community Engagement (2020 deadline: March 15, 2020)

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (2020 deadline: March 15, 2020) All students admitted to the WGST MA program are eligible for a tuition scholarship at the in-state level. Questions? Contact the Director of Graduate Studies: Nancy M. Theriot. All students admitted to the WGS MA program may apply for up to \$500 per year to support travel to academic conferences.

