

# APRYL A. WILLIAMS

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## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2017-present    **Susquehanna University**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- 2015-2017    **Texas A&M University**  
Research Associate, Center on Conflict and Development

## EDUCATION

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- 2017            **Texas A&M University**  
Ph.D., Sociology
- 2012            **Texas A&M University**  
B.A., American Studies

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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Digital Media, Race, Technology, Gender, Embodiment, Critical Theory, Immigration, Collective Behavior, Global Media, Digital Inequality, Televised Media, Popular Culture

## BOOKS

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- Forthcoming    Laura Robinson, Gabe Ignatow, Jeremy Schulz, Anne Holohan, **Apryl Williams**, and Michael Stern. *Studying Digital Publics*. Sage.

### *Edited Books*

- Forthcoming    Laura Robinson, John Baldwin, Heloisa Pait, Jeremy Schulz, **Apryl Williams**, Jenny Davis, and Gabe Ignatow (Eds.) *Theorizing the Digital: Social Theory & Digital Culture*. In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Communication and Information Technologies Annual*.
- November 2018    **Apryl Williams**, Ruth Tsuria and Laura Robinson. (Eds.) *Media and Power in International Contexts: Perspectives on Agency and Identity*. In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Communication and Information Technologies Annual*.
- July 2017            Laura Robinson, Jeremy Schulz, **Apryl Williams**, Pedro Aguiar, John Baldwin, Antonio C. La Pastina, Monica Martinez, Sonia Virginia Moreiro, Heloisa Pait, and Joseph Straubhaar (Eds.) *Brazil: Media from the Country of the*

*Future*. In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Communication and Information Technologies Annual*.

- March 2016 Laura Robinson, Jeremy Schulz, Shelia R. Cotton, Timothy M. Hale, **Apryl Williams**, and Joy Hightower. (Eds.) *New Media Cultures*. In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Communication and Information Technologies Annual*.
- November 2015 Laura Robinson, Shelia R Cotton, Jeremy Schulz, Timothy M. Hale and **Apryl Williams**. (Eds.) *Digital Distinctions & Inequalities*. In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Communication and Information Technologies Annual*.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

- July 2017 Ben Tkach & **Apryl Williams** (co-first authorship). “Mobile (In)security? Exploring the Realities of Mobile Phone Use in Conflict Areas” *Information, Communication & Society*
- April 2017 Williams, Apryl & Vanessa Gonlin. “I Got All My Sisters with Me (on Black Twitter) Second Screening of *How to Get Away with Murder* as a Discourse on Black Womanhood” *Information, Communication & Society*
- February 2017 Williams, Apryl. “*Fat People of Color*: Creating Counter-narratives Online” *Social Sciences*
- May 2015 Williams, Apryl & Beatriz Aldana Marquez. “The Lonely Selfie King: Selfies and the Conspicuous Prosumption of Gender and Race” *International Journal of Communication*

### *Book Chapters*

- June 2018 Mueller, Jennifer C., **Apryl Williams** and Danielle Dirks. “Racism and Popular Culture” In *The Handbook of the Sociology of Racial and Ethnic Relations*. Pinar Batur and Joe Feagin. (Eds.)  
\*Invited for publication in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition.
- November 2016 Williams, Apryl. “On Thursdays We Watch Scandal | Reflections of IRL Community Ties on Black Twitter” In *Digital Sociologies*. Jessie Daniels, Karen Gregory, Tressie McMillan Cottom. (Eds.)
- March 2016 Williams, Apryl. “You’ve been catfished | An Analysis of Postemotionalism in ‘Reality’ Television and Audience Response on Twitter” In *Emerald Studies in Media and Communication*. Laura Robinson et al. (Eds.)

### ***Book Reviews***

- November 2015 Williams, Apryl. "Race, gender, and deviance in Xbox live: Theoretical perspectives from the virtual margins" *New Media & Society*.
- October 2015 Williams, Apryl. "Media Sociology: A Reappraisal" *Information, Communication & Society*.

### ***Edited Journal Issues***

- April 2017 Daniels, Jessie., **Apryl Williams** & Shantel Buggs. Special Issue Guest Editors: Communication Information Technologies and Media Sociology Section (ASA) in *Information, Communication & Society*
- March 2015 Robinson, Laura & **Apryl Williams**. Special Issue Guest Editors: Communication Information Technologies and Media Sociology Section (ASA) in *Information, Communication & Society*

### ***Public Scholarship***

- "Cyborgology" – Orange is the New White: White Writers and Black Trauma
- "Racism Review" – #ENDITMOVEMENT: Social Media Activism, without Action
- "The Ripple Effect" – #BlackTwitter: A Networked Cultural Identity (co-authored with Doris Domszlai)
- "The Ripple Effect" – Identity in Flux: Social Media and Social Movements

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

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- In preparation Williams, Apryl., Zaida Bryant, and Chris Carvel. "It's Hard Out Here: Theorizing Black Emotional Labor in Digital Spaces"  
\*Invited for publication in *Sociology Compass*  
\*Undergraduate coauthors
- In preparation Miller, Gabe., Guadalupe Marquez, **Apryl Williams** and Verna M. Keith. "Black Social Media Use and Discrimination: Sites of Oppression and Expression"
- In preparation Williams, Apryl and Ben Tkach. "Media Convergence in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Precarious Access to Information in Developing Contexts"

- In preparation Plankey-Videla, Nancy., Betty Aldana Marquez, **Apryl Williams**, and Selene Diaz. “Latinx Immigrant Strategies: The Use of Old and New Media in the Era of Trump”
- In preparation Buggs, Shantel and **Apryl Williams**. “Navigating the Academic Job Market: Experiences at the Intersection of Gender and Race”

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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- 2018 National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference. Buggs, Shantel and Apryl Williams. “Navigating the Outsider-Within: Women and Femmes of Color and Microaggressions on the Academic Job Market” Atlanta, GA.
- 2018 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Williams, Apryl. “Media, Power, and Conspicuous Charity in International Development” Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 Media Sociology Preconference. Plankey-Videla, Nancy, Betty Aldana Marquez, Apryl Williams, and Selene Diaz. “Latinx Immigrant Strategies: The Use of Old and New Media in the Era of Trump” Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting. Williams, Apryl and Shantel Buggs. “Navigating the Academic Job Market: Exploring Experiences at the Intersection of Gender and Race” Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology. Gabe Miller, Guadalupe Marquez-Velarde, Apryl Williams and Verna Keith. “Black Social Media Use and Discrimination: Sites of Oppression and Expression” Toronto, ON.
- 2016 National Communication Association Annual Convention. Williams, Apryl. “Calling for Intersectionality in Theory and Practice: An Interactive Discussion on Gender, Race, Religion and More” Philadelphia, PA.
- 2016 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Williams, Apryl. “On Thursdays We Watch Scandal | Reflections of IRL Community Ties on Black Twitter” Seattle, WA.
- 2016 Media Sociology Preconference. Williams, Apryl & Vanessa Gonlin. “I Got All My Sisters with Me (on Black Twitter) Second Screening of *How to Get Away With Murder* as a Technocultural Discourse on Black Womanhood” Seattle, WA.

- 2016 USAID Global Development Lab Annual Convention. Williams, Apryl. “Digital Media as Resistance in the Democratic Republic of Congo” Boston, MA.
- 2015 Partnership for Progress on the Digital Divide. Williams, Apryl. “Access and Use of Mobile Phones in DRC” Phoenix, AZ.
- 2015 Global Development Lab & the Howard G. Buffet Foundation. Williams, Apryl. “Exploring ICT use in Conflict Zones: the DRC” Washington D.C.
- 2015 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Williams, Apryl. “Fat People of Color: Creating counter-narratives online” Chicago, IL.
- 2015 Theorizing the Web 2015. Williams, Apryl. “Fat People of Color: Creating counter-narratives online” New York City.
- 2015 Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Conference. Williams, Apryl. “Fat People of Color: Creating counter-narratives online” Denver, CO.
- 2015 Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Conference. Williams, Apryl & Beatriz Aldana Marquez. “The Lonely Selfie King: Gender Performance Through Conspicuous Selfie Prosumption” Denver, CO.
- 2014 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Williams, Apryl. “You’ve Been Catfished | An Analysis of Postemotionalism in “Reality” Television and Audience Response on Twitter” San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 Theorizing the Web 2014. Williams, Apryl. “Selfies & Race: Digital Divergence.” Brooklyn, NY.
- 2014 Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Conference. Williams, Apryl. “#Selfies: Exploring Notions of Self and Ethnicity on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.” San Antonio, TX.
- 2013 Social Science History Association Annual Conference. Williams, Apryl. “The Truth About Argo: America’s Involvement in Iran’s Downfall.” Chicago, IL.

## **WORKSHOPS AND INVITED TALKS**

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American Sociological Association, Invited Panelist. 2019.  
 “Social Justice and Social Media”

Princeton University, Invited Subject Expert. 2017.  
 Center for Information and Technology Policy: “Gender-Based Violence and Safety in IT Design Workshop”

Johnson C. Smith University, Workshop Leader & Facilitator. 2017.  
Research Colloquium: “Digital Research Methods & Race”

Santa Clara University, Invited Speaker. 2016.  
Sociology Department Sponsored Campus Talk: “Representations of Race in Reality Television”

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### ***Susquehanna University***

Black Feminism & Media (Fall 2018)

Qualitative Research Methods (Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019)

Intersctional Social Movements (Fall 2017)

### ***Texas A&M University (Graduate Instructor of Record)***

Introduction to Race & Ethnicity (Summer 2016, Summer 2017)

Classical Social Theory (Spring 2017)

Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2016)

Contemporary Social Theory (Spring 2016, Spring 2015)

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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2015-present	Qualitative Data Collection & Analysis in the Democratic Republic of Congo
2014	International Digital Research Methods Workshop, Black Forest, Germany
2013-2014	Qualitative Data Collection in New York, Texas, Maryland, California Thesis and dissertation preparation
2013	Research Assistant, U.S. vs. Michael Smith Court case involving the murder of an inmate by prison guards Prepared quantitative data for expert witness testimony
2013	Research Intern, Harmony Institute, NYC Created qualitative measurement strategy for the film <i>Inequality for All</i> Tracked audience engagement with documentaries using social media Produced a qualitative methodology guide for Harmony Institute
2010-2011	Undergraduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M Anthropology Collections Cataloged floral, faunal, and human remains into a national database Prepared for retrieval according to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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2016	Ruth Schaffer “Best Graduate Student Paper” Award, Texas A&M University, \$1,000
2015	USAID Global Development Lab & Buffet Foundation Research Grant, \$2,500
2012-2015	Diversity Fellowship, Texas A&M University
2015	Research Related Travel Grant, Texas A&M University, \$7,500
2014	International Research Travel Grant, Texas A&M University, \$3,500
2013	Research Related Travel Grant, Texas A&M University \$5,000

## SERVICE

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### *Service to the Discipline*

2018-2020	Council Member: Communication Information Technology and Media Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association
2015-2019	Organizing Committee: Theorizing the Web Conference
2018	Organizer: Media Sociology Pre-Conference Panel. “Media, Power, and Sexuality”
2016-2017	Graduate Student Representative: Communication Information Technologies and Media Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association (CITAMS)
2015-2017	Series Associate Editor: <i>Emerald Studies in Media and Communications</i>
2014-2016	Peer Reviewer: <i>Social Media &amp; Society</i> , <i>Information Communication &amp; Society</i> , <i>Journal of Broadcasting &amp; Electronic Media</i> , and <i>New Media &amp; Society</i>
2014-2016	Communications Committee Officer: Communication Information Technologies and Media Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association (CITAMS)
2014-2016	Web Editor: Communication Information Technologies and Media Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association (CITAMS)

### *University Service*

2019	Short-term Study Abroad Faculty: Cuba, Colonialism, & Politics
2018-2019	Faculty Committee Member: Admissions Committee
2018-2019	Faculty Advisor: National Congress of Black Women
2017-2019	Faculty Member: Faculty of Color Affinity Group

### *Community Service*

2018	Lunch & Learn Speaker: Allenwood Low Security Correctional Institution
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## REFERENCES

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Stjepan Mestrovic  
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Texas A&M University  
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