

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### **Damariyé LaQuan Smith**

School of Communication and School of Journalism & Media Studies

San Diego State University

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## EDUCATION

- 2021 UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS [Memphis, TN]  
*Doctor of Philosophy* in Rhetoric and Media Studies  
Dissertation: The Anatomy of the Commencement Speech: An Examination of Barack Obama's Rhetoric Delivered at HBCUs.  
Dissertation Chair: Dr. Andre E. Johnson
- 2017 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO [Sacramento, CA]  
*Master of Arts* in Communication Studies  
Thesis: Interrogating identity in the film Dear White People: an examination of Afrocentrism and Eurocentrism  
Thesis Chair: Dr. Christine Miller
- 2014 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO [Sacramento, CA]  
*Bachelor of Arts* in Communication Studies  
Concentration: Mass Communication

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Fall 2021 – Present Assistant Professor (*Joint appointee*) OF Contemporary Black/African American Rhetoric and Media Studies  
San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)  
School of Communication  
School of Journalism & Media Studies
- 2020 – 2021 *Adjunct faculty*, Department of English/Communications, Arkansas State University - Mid-South (West Memphis, AR)
- 2017 – 2021 *Graduate Teaching Instructor*, Department of Communication & Film, University of Memphis (Memphis, TN)

## REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. **Smith, D. L. (forthcoming)**. “There’s no longer room for any excuses”: Obama, Morehouse College, and the rhetoric of Black male vulnerability – *Quarterly Journal of Speech*.
2. **Smith, D. L. (forthcoming)** “Racism Lives Here”: Race, Place, and the rhetorical movement at the University of Mizzou – *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*.
3. Leath-Lacy, N. B., Chen, Y. W., **Smith, D. L.** (2024). “Just holding that space”: Using culturally relevant pedagogy to create counterspaces for black college students in AANAPISI/HSI classrooms. *Journal of Communication Pedagogy*, 8, 3-23.
4. **Smith, D. L.** & Leath-Lacy, N. B. (2024). Til Death Do Us Part: Kendrick Lamar, “The Heart Part 5,” and Black male vulnerability. *Howard Journal of Communications*, 35(3), 359-373.
5. Aswad, N. G. & **Smith, D. L.** (2024). Teaching Racial and Visual Rhetorical Criticism: Racial Reckoning on Campus. *Communication Teacher*, 38(1), 34-40.
6. **Smith, D. L.** (2023). “Not You Too”: Drake, heartbreak, and the romantic communication of Black male vulnerability. *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, 40(1), 41-54.
7. **Smith, D. L.** (2023). Hustle and Motivate: An Afrocentric Understanding of Constitutive Rhetoric Toward Economic Empowerment in Nipsey Hustle’s Victory Lap Album. *Journal of Black Studies*, 54(4), 312–333.
8. **Smith, D. L.** (2021). Malcolm X and Africana communication theory: A case study of Ujamaa as rhetorical theory at the founding rally of the OAAU. *Howard Journal of Communications*, 32(2), 109-122.
9. **Smith, D. L.** (2020). Kemetic Principles in African American Public Address: An Interrogation of the Rhetoric of Joseph C. Price and the Kemetic Tradition. *Journal of Black Studies*, 51(5), 458-480.

## EDITORSHIP FOR REFEREED JOURNAL

1. Johnson, A. E., & **Smith, D. L.** (2022). Creating Purpose, Power, and Passion: Sister Souljah and the Rhetoric of Hip Hop. *Journal of Contemporary Rhetoric*, 12(2), 45-51. [Introduction for special issue].

## COMPETITIVELY SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Smith, D. L.** – (2025, June - *pending*). Intersections of identity: Exploring Black Male Identities through the nexus of Intercultural communication and rhetorical studies. Paper

presentation on “From Polarization to Praxis: Unsettling and Reconnecting Intercultural Communication, Health, and Political Change in the Post-2024 U.S. Presidential Election” panel at the International Communication Association (ICA) annual convention, Denver, CO.

2. Upshaw, S. J. & **Smith, D. L.** – (2025, June - *pending*). Examining the Health Belief Model in the “Get Real About Diabetes” Campaign: A Qualitative and Rhetorical Analysis of Spokesperson Messaging. Paper presentation at the International Communication Association (ICA) annual convention, Denver, CO.
3. Asante, G. A., de Souza, R., Hanchey, J., Tristano, M. Gutierrez-Perez, R., Oluruntobi, T., Ankrah, E., Soham Sen, S., **Smith, D. L.** – (2025, February). Whiteness and the Limits of Diversity Discourses: Re-Imagining and Developing Support for Emancipatory Alternatives.” Panel presented at the Western States Communication Association (WSCA) annual convention, Albuquerque, NM.
4. **Smith, D. L. (Chair)**, Frances Bloomfield, E., Willes, S., Cruz, G. Maldonado, C., Carroll, D., Scarlett Harrington, K., Chamblee, C. – (2024, November). Difference and Identity in Navigating Cancel Culture: The Whos and Whys of Cancellations in Elevating Communication for Greater Regard. Panel presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention, New Orleans, LA.
5. **Smith, D. L.**, Hall, A. R., Neal, L., Self, R. – (2024, November). The Rhetoric of Greater Regard: Promoting empathy through intellectual confrontation, recourse, and collective action.. Panel presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention, New Orleans, LA.
6. **Smith, D. L.** & Leath-Lacy, N. B – (2024, February). Til Death Do Us Part: Kendrick Lamar, “The Heart Part 5,” and Black male vulnerability. Paper presented at the Western States Communication Association (WSCA) annual convention, Reno, NV.
7. **Smith, D. L.**, Jackson, R. L., Williams, G., Smith, L. – (2024, February). Where I belong?: Representing Race, Gender, and Class in the drama series Bel-Air. Panel presentation presented at the Western States Communication Association (WSCA) annual convention, Reno, NV.
8. Hanchey, J. N., Asante, G. A., & **Smith, D. L.** – (2023, November). Tumeishafika: Queering Quantum Mechanics through African Temporalities. Paper presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention, National Harbor, MD.
9. **Smith, D. L.**, Hall, A. R., Williams, G., Self, R. – (2023, November). Our Freedom Has Never Been Free: Critical Interrogations of Rhetoric, Freedom, and the Black Radical Imagination. Panel presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention, National Harbor, MD.

10. **Smith, D. L.** – (2022, November). Not you too”: Drake, heartbreak, and the romantic communication of Black male vulnerability. Paper presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention, New Orleans, LA.
11. **Smith, D. L.**, Langmia, K., Hopson, M. C., Smith, A, Velez-Ortiz, M., Charron, L. – (2020, November). Ancient Rhetoric at the Crossroads: Afrocentric Approaches and the Canon. Panel presentation presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group. Indianapolis, IN (Virtual Conference format)
12. **Smith, D. L.**, Self, R., Reed, K., Williams, G., Theledi, K. – (2020, November). For the Culture: Black Rhetoric and the Race for Critical and Theoretical Intervention. Panel presentation presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division. Indianapolis, IN (Virtual Conference format)
13. **Smith, D. L.** – (2020, April). The disruption of black entrepreneurial rhetoric: Framing Nipsey Hussle’s Victory Lap as a form of disruptive communication. Paper presentation on the “Knuck if you Buck: A panel presentation on Contemporary Hip-Hop rhetoric as a form of Disruptive Communication” panel at the Southern States Communication Association annual convention for the Rhetoric and Public Address division. Frisco, TX (Conference was canceled due to COVID-19)
14. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, November). Kemetetic rhetoric in the Gilded Age: An Interrogation of the rhetoric of Joseph C. Price and the American education system. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Baltimore, MD.
15. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, November). Beauty in the struggle: An exploration of resilience in African American rhetoric. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Baltimore, MD.
16. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, November). The pessimistic nature in the academy: The disjunctive logic of rhetorical agency and Afro-pessimism. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Baltimore, MD.
17. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, November). Marching For Their Lives: Student Activist Rhetorics for Survival. Panel presentation presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, Public Address division. Baltimore, MD.
18. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, November). Surviving Communication Education: The Black Male Perspective. Panel presentation presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Baltimore, MD.

19. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, October). Victory Lap: An Exploration of Nipsey Hussle’s Entrepreneurial Rhetoric. Paper presented at the 20th Annual Graduate Association for African-American History conference. Memphis, TN.
20. **Smith, D.L.** – (2019, April). The Complex Narrative of Black Education: A Rhetorical Analysis of John King’s Speech regarding the progress of HBCUs. Paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual convention, American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group. Montgomery, AL
21. **Smith, D.L.** – (2018, November). The hopeful future of HBCUs in the Trumpian era: A re-visitation of the contemporary utility of Afrocentric theory. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Salt Lake City, UT.
22. **Smith, D.L.** – (2018, November). The symbolic and material agency of students: An Afrocentric analysis of the rhetorical moment at the University of Missouri. Paper presented at the National Communication Association annual convention, African American Communication and Culture Division. Salt Lake City, UT.
23. **Smith, D.L.** – (2018, April). A re-examination of the rhetoric of Benjamin Hooks: an impetus for civil disobedience in a Trump presidency. Paper presented at the Southern States Communication Association annual convention, American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group. Nashville, TN.
24. **Smith, D.L.,** Corrigan, L. Neville-Shepard, M. R., Edgar, N. A., Childers, J., Hall, A., Johnson, E. A. – (2018, April). The History of the Race and the Rhetorical Tradition. Panel presentation at Southern States Communication Association annual convention, American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group. Nashville, TN.
25. **Smith, D.L.** – (2017, February). “His Airness” in response to social turmoil: an Afrocentric analysis of Michael Jordan’s open letter on contemporary social justice crisis. Paper presented at the Western States Communication Association annual convention, Rhetoric and Public Address Division. Salt Lake City, UT.
26. **Smith, D.L.,** Baker, J., Boyd, A. Carli, A., Cederquist, C., Clark, E., Martin, A., Pritchard, R., Rose, J. – (2017, February). The Traditional, Rethought and Revolutionized: A Modernization of Cultivation Theory in Light of Social Media. Paper presented at the Western States Communication Association annual convention, Communication Theory & Research Interest Group. Salt Lake City, UT.
27. **Smith, D.L.** – (2016, February). Mandela’s use of Apologia: A rhetorical analysis of Nelson Mandela’s speech. Paper presented at the Western States Communication Association annual convention, Rhetoric and Public Address Division. San Diego, CA.

28. **Smith, D.L.** – (2015, October). Declining Interest in BGLOs. Paper presented at the CSU, Sacramento’s “Annual Provost Student Research showcase.” Sacramento, CA.
29. **Smith, D.L.** – (2015, April). Communication in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Paper presented at the Office of Graduate Studies’ “Graduate Research Interaction Day,” Sacramento, CA.

### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROCESS**

1. Asante, G. A., Anderson, S., **Smith, D. L.** (*Revise & Resubmit*). “So, I Decided to Find My Own Power”: A Critique of Postfeminist Agency and Empowerment in ‘Good for Her’ Films – *Feminist Media Studies*.
2. Upshaw, S. J. & **Smith, D. L.** (*Submitted, under first review*). The Role of Narrative and Humor in Health Promotion: A Qualitative Content and Rhetorical Analysis of the ‘Get Real About Diabetes’ Media Campaign — *Journal of Health Communication*.
3. **Smith, D. L.** (*Revise and Resubmit*). Unveiling anti-Black misandry: Ja and Tee Morant and the Representation of Black Fatherhood in Sports Media — *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*.

### **WORKS-IN-PROGRESS**

1. Asante, G. A., **Smith, D. L.**, Powell, A. “Heaven is a Place on Earth”: Black Masculinity, Virtual Reality and the Queer (Im)possibilities of Virtual Reality/ Immersive Spaces [Target journal] – *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*.
2. Asante, G.A. & **Smith, D. L.** Towards a Decolonial Understandings of the “Human” in Intercultural Communication Theorizing. [Target journal] – *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*

### **GRADUATE COMMITTEES**

- Dissertation Committee member:
  - Derek Bradley (Ed.D.), *A Gift and A Curse: "Redefining Black Male Academic Excellence through Hip-Hop Pedagogy"* – Doctorate Educational Leadership program at California State University, Sacramento)
- Thesis Chair:
  - Athena Cole, Thesis title: TBD
  - Mariah Naea, Thesis title: TBD
  - Daisy Mendez, Thesis title: TBD
- Thesis Committee member:
  - Jules Bruetsch, Thesis title: TBD
  - Shaylee Anderson, Thesis title: “So, I Decided to Find My Own Power”: *A Critique of Postfeminist Agency and Empowerment in ‘Good for Her’ Films*

- Adeja Powell, Thesis title: *In Defense of the Monstrosity: Queer Abjection in the Modern Slasher*
- Sam Bao Nguyen, Thesis title: *The BIPOC Corpse: Visual Conceptions of Racial Violence through Images of Violence Against BIPOC*
- Comprehensive Exam Chair
  - Haley Noble
  - Nathaniel Borie
- Comprehensive Exam Committee member:
  - Shayan Ebadat
  - Noah Pallmeyer
  - Aislinn Roberts
  - Devanie Ottalagano
  - Marcus Bravo

## TEACHING TRAINING

- Course Design Institute (SDSU)
- Global Campus – Course Designer (SDSU)
- Flex Course Design Institute (SDSU)

## COURSES TAUGHT

- Communicating Leadership (Global Campus/Online)
- Communicating Leadership
- Conceptualizing Communication
- Media & Sports
- Rhetorical Theory
- Media & Masculinities
- Seminar: Critical and Rhetorical Methods in Communication
- Media & Culture
- Communication and Rhetorical Movements
- Seminar: Rhetorical Theory
- Public Speaking
- African American Rhetoric
- Development Writing

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- COMM Diversity Planning Committee
- Student Success Fee Evaluation Committee
- JMS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Intercollegiate Athletics Council (*Presidential appointee*)
- Faculty Advisor, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (*Delta Epsilon chapter*)

- University Diversity, Equity & Outreach Committee
- Leadership Development Committee - National Association of Communication (NCA)
- Nominations Committee - National Association of Communication (NCA)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Panel Speaker “Leading with Equity & Inclusion: Shaping the Future of Higher Education” – Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.’s annual C. Rodger Wilson Leadership Conference – Los Angeles, CA.
- Keynote speaker: “EOP Crossing Ceremony” for the Educational Opportunity Program – Summer Bridge – at CSU, Sacramento.
- Keynote speaker, Annual Founders’ Day banquet, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (*San Diego Alumni chapter*)
- Board Member, Project Optimism, Inc. (2016-2022)
- Kappa League/Guide Right Program (Youth community service)

## INVITED LECTURES, SPEECHES, INTERVIEWS, AND NEWS STORIES

- Panel speaker: “Navigating Graduate School and Beyond” for Lionell “Badu” Smith, Ph.D. *Seminar in Rhetorical and Communication Theory* – Communication Studies (COMM 721) at San Francisco State University.
- Guest Lecture: “Black Male Vulnerability in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” for Adisa Alkebulan, Ph.D. *The Black Male Experience* – Africana Studies (AFRAS 518) at San Diego State University.
- Keynote speaker: “EOP Crossing Ceremony” for the Educational Opportunity Program – Summer Bridge – at CSU, Sacramento.
- Panel speaker: “Intellectual and Research Innovations” for the Department of Africana Studies at SDSU 50th anniversary
- Presenter, “Not you too”: Drake, heartbreak, and the romantic communication of Black male vulnerability. Colloquium presentation in the School of Communication.
- Interview with *Daily Aztec* with Staff Writer, Trevor Speetzen, “NIL: what is it, and how did we get here?”: [Daily Aztec](#)
- Interview with KBPS’ Race & Equity Reporter Cristina Kim: [Let’s talk about it: What does 'woke' actually mean?](#)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Communication of Association
- Western States Communication Association
- Rhetoric Society of America
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.