

Marcia Alesan Dawkins, Ph.D.

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SUMMARY

Dr. Dawkins is an award-winning writer, speaker, and educator. She promotes “full color” thought and conversation about race, religion, media, and politics through her books, blogs, research, lectures, and online and on-the-ground teaching.

EDUCATION

- 2003 – 2009 **Ph.D. Communication, University of Southern California**
- 2003 – 2006 **M. A. Communication, University of Southern California**
- 1998 – 2000 **M.A. Humanities and Social Thought, New York University**
- 1994 – 1998 **B.A. Communication Arts / Honors, Villanova University**

RESEARCH & PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE

- 2010 – present **Visiting Scholar**
Brown University, Providence, RI
Research and publish on issues of diversity, religion, popular culture, politics, and communication.
- 2010 – present **Columnist and Blogger**
Truthdig; Huffington Post; Cultural Weekly; The Root
Report on race, culture, religion, and politics. Review current films and books. Provide social and cultural commentary in areas of expertise. Syndicated worldwide.
- 2006 – 2010 **Principal Investigator**
Social Science Research Council, New Orleans, LA; Los Angeles, CA
Studied media coverage and advocacy. Conducted interviews with displaced Katrina victims and their families. Contributed to Katrina Social Science Database and Hub.

AWARDS (selected)

- 2010 Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Dissertation Award, NCA
- 2009 Outstanding Dissertation Award, AACC Division of NCA
- 2009 New Faculty Research Award, \$6,500
- 2007 Top Paper Award, Eastern Communication Association
- 2007 – 2008 Stark Popular Culture and Media Fellowship, \$10,000
- 2005 – 2008 All-University Predoctoral Diversity Fellowship, USC
- 2003 – 2005 Irvine Foundation Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 1999 Alumnae Fellowship for Academic Excellence, New York University
- 1998 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan (declined)
- 1998 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation
- 1994 – 1998 Presidential Scholarship, Villanova University

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

1. *Eminem: The Real Slim Shady*. (Santa Barbara: Praeger Press, 2013).
2. *Clearly Invisible: Racial Passing and the Color of Cultural Identity*. (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2012).
3. "Racial Passing and The Real Mitt Romney" (11 April 2012). *Huffington Post. The Root*.
4. "TIME to Think in Full Color About Race & Ethnicity" (27 February 2012). *Huffington Post*.
5. "Race & Racism in the News Coverage of Religion," in *Oxford's Religion and News Media Handbook*, ed. Diane Winston (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012).
6. "NYC's Million Hoodie March: It's About a Right-and-Wrong Thing," (22 March 2012). *Truthdig*.
7. "Devils Doppelgangers and Darkness from Eminem," (1 July 2011). *Huffington Post*.
8. "What Scattered Ashes Leave Behind: Understanding Miguel Piñero's *A Lower East Side Poem*," *Cross-Cultural Communication* 7 no. 2 (2011): 1-15.
9. "A Different Kind of Professor," in *Still Searching For Our Mothers' Gardens: Experiences of New, Tenure-Track Women of Color at 'Majority' Institutions* eds. Marnel N. Niles and Nikesia S. Gordon (Lanham: University Press of America, 2011): 63-78.
10. "How it's Done: Using *Hitch* as a Guide to Uncertainty Reduction Theory," *Communication Teacher* 24 no. 3 (2010): 136-141.
11. "Michael Awkward's Burying Don Imus: Anatomy of a Scapegoat," *International Journal of Communication* 4 (2010): 1006-1008.
12. "A Judge with A View," (5 August 2009). *Truthdig*.

MEDIA APPEARANCES (selected)

1. Blog Talk Radio's Bruce Hurwitz Presents Show. "Color and Cultural Identity." 12 January 2012.
2. WCVB Boston's *CityLine*. "Loving Day and Interracial Relationships." 19 June 2011.
3. National Public Radio. "Beauty Shop." 23 March 2011.
4. *TIME* Magazine "Mixed-Race Celebrities on Race, In Their Own Words." 15 February 2011.

PUBLIC LECTURES (selected)

1. Racial Passing and the Color of Success. Brown University. 2012.
2. Racial Passing and the Color of Public Policy. University of Kansas. 2012.
3. A Brief History of Hacktivism. Belmont University. 2012.
4. Culture Speak: 21st Century Identity Politics. University of Southern California. 2010.

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008 – 2010	Assistant Professor, Human Communication, CSU Fullerton
2007 – 2008	Lecturer, Annenberg School, University of Southern California
2003 – 2010	Instructional Specialist, Long Beach City College
2000 – 2003	Manager of Internal Communication, The FutureBrand Company, Inc.
1998 – 1999	Assistant Director of Educational Programming, Interfaith Neighbors

SERVICE (selected)

2012 – present	Advisory Board, Tennessee State University, Communication Department
2011 – 2012	Guest Reviewer, <i>Critical Studies in Media and Communication</i>
2009 – 2010	Reviewer, National Communication Association Conference
2009 – 2011	Reviewer, Corporation for National and Community Service Grants
2009 – 2010	Reviewer, AmeriCorps State and National Peer Review
2006 – 2008	Adult Literacy Instructor, REACH Literacy Program. San Pedro, CA