

Jalin Niamke Jackson

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Black Studies, Northwestern University	<i>Expected Fall 2026</i>
M.A., Black Studies, Northwestern University	2024
M.S. Ed, University of Pennsylvania	2021
B.A., Africana Studies and Latin American Studies, Davidson College	2019

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

2025	Graduate Teaching Fellowship (Northwestern University)
2021	Mellon Cluster Fellowship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies
2019	Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship (declined by recipient)
2019	High Honors in Africana Studies (Davidson College, Department of Africana Studies)
2015	QuestBridge College Match Scholarship (Davidson College)

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

<i>Publication Date TBD</i>	"Conditioning Possibility: Unconquerable Plantations, Black Death, and Afro-Latinidad in Ubisoft's <i>Far Cry 6</i> (2021)" (accepted for publication; editing in progress)
<i>Forthcoming</i>	"Black Evermore: Racial Subjectivity, World-Building at Play, and Charting a Path from the Harlem Renaissance to Videogames through George Schuyler's <i>Black No More</i> (1931)" (essay in <i>Inhabiting Utopia: Science Fiction in Film, Performing Arts, and Digital Media</i>)

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND PANELS

2025	"Facilitating Feedback: Considerations for Intentional Feedback Exchange in the Humanities and Social Sciences" (Presentation) at Academic Kickoff, Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University
2024	"Black Play: Positionalities, Infrastructures, and Mediums Before and After the Digital" (Presentation) at Black Studies Graduate Symposium, Northwestern University
2023	"Perpetually in Grave Danger: The Atomics of Race in Ubisoft's <i>Far Cry 5</i> (2018)" (Presentation) at Black Studies Graduate Symposium, Northwestern University
2023	"What's Black Studies Got to Do With It?" (Panelist) at Black to Front: From African American Studies to Black Studies, Northwestern University
2022	"Compromised Inclusivity: How One Single-Sex School Has Maintained White Boyhood as Supreme" (Presentation) at An Ethical Internet? Symposium, Northwestern University
2022	"Playing Race, Nation, and Archival Silence: Convergences between Afro-Latin America and Videogames" (Presentation) at The Hispanic and Latin American Video Gaming Experience: Imagery, Industry & Audience

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

Cultural studies; Black and Latine popular culture; race and digital culture; Afro-Latin America, especially Panama and the Caribbean; history and politics of digital entertainment technologies; simulation of racial subjectivity; videogames; play and ludology; power, play, and pedagogy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant: Critical Thinking (Northwestern Summer Bridge Program, Northwestern University)

August 2024 – September 2024; August 2025

- ❖ Provided tailored feedback to incoming first-year undergraduate students with a focus on writing and critical thinking skills practiced in the humanities
- ❖ Offered guidance to the aforementioned demographic as they learned how to navigate relationships with each other, graduate student mentors, and faculty in a university setting

Upper School Spanish Teacher/Track and Field Assistant Coach (Gilman School, Baltimore, MD)

August 2019 – July 2021

- ❖ Designated a Callard Penn Fellow at Gilman School, teaching courses in Spanish and African American History (as of 2020-21) while acting as an assistant coach for the Upper School track and field team
- ❖ Simultaneously completed coursework towards an M.S.Ed. through the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education
- ❖ Member of the Upper School Community, Inclusion, and Equity (CIE) team that assisted the CIE Director with programming related to race including facilitating conversations among and planning critical reflection workshops for faculty and staff

Counselor/Teaching Assistant (Summer Institute for the Gifted, Bryn Mawr College Campus)

June 2019 – July 2019

- ❖ Assisted students in solving academic and socio-emotional problems related to the SIG program
- ❖ Supervised and actively participated in recreational activities, often aiding in the planning and/or creation of such activities
- ❖ Oversaw the general safety and well-being of 6-10 male, middle- school-age students, often aiding in the supervision of other student groups as well
- ❖ Provided individualized teaching assistance for domestic and international middle school students in three daily courses

ESL Volunteer Teacher (Loma Bonita, Panamá via School for International Training)

June 2018 – August 2018

- ❖ Planned lessons for and taught one to two-hour English sessions for 3 high-school-aged classes 5 days per week at Loma Bonita School in the Coclé Province of Panama with heavily limited access to technology and internet

Volunteer Spanish Teacher for Spanish in Davidson Elementary School (SiDES) (via Davidson College, Davidson, NC)

February 2018 – May 2018

- ❖ Taught a class of around 30 fourth-graders Spanish in a high-energy environment
- ❖ Planned interactive activities and practiced contemporary pedagogy for second language acquisition

Spanish Teaching Assistant (Hispanic Studies Department, Davidson College)

August 2017 – May 2019

- ❖ Planned two hours' worth of activities with fellow teachers each week that would best aid in the acquisition of Spanish for university students at Davidson College
- ❖ Conducted a weekly total of 100 minutes' worth of activities entirely in Spanish to help college Spanish learners develop critical skills in the language

ESL Volunteer Teacher (YMCA Lake Norman, Davidson, NC)

January 2017 – May 2017

- ❖ Collaborated with fellow ESL teachers in communicating English grammatical concepts and orthography clearly and effectively to native Spanish speakers

Counselor/Teaching Assistant (Summer Institute for the Gifted, Northeastern University Campus)

July 2017 – August 2017

- ❖ Assisted students in solving academic and socio-emotional problems related to the SIG program
- ❖ Supervised and actively participated in recreational activities, often aiding in the planning and/or creation of such activities
- ❖ Oversaw the general safety and well-being of 10-14 male, high- school-age students, often aiding in the supervision of other student groups as well

- ❖ Provided individualized teaching assistance for domestic and international middle school students in three daily courses

Tutor (PBA Ventures, LLC, Davidson, NC)

June 2016 – June 2017

- ❖ Taught English, SAT Test preparation, and Spanish to students aged 11 and up
- ❖ Created and enacted detailed lesson plans to aid students in their learning development related to specific goals articulated from parents and/or students

Tutor (Self-employed via WyzAnt, Online)

Summer 2016 – December 2024

- ❖ Taught English, Spanish, classical Latin, and essential study skills to students ranging from grades 6 through undergrad
- ❖ Created and enacted detailed lesson plans to aid students in their learning development related to specific coursework

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2024	Teaching Assistant for Latina & Latino Studies 201: “Introduction to Latina & Latino Studies” (Dr. John Márquez, Northwestern University)
Spring 2024	Teaching Assistant for Black Studies 380: “Black Feminist Theory” (Dr. Marquis Bey, Northwestern University)
Winter 2024	Grader for Latina & Latino Studies 203: “Introduction to Latina & Latino Cultural Studies: Key Concepts and Approaches in Latinx Studies” (Dr. Mérida Rúa, Northwestern University)
Spring 2023	Teaching Assistant for Black Studies 259: “Introduction to African American Drama” (Dr. Dotun Ayobade, Northwestern University)
Winter 2023	Teaching Assistant for Black Studies 345: “Politics of Afro-Latin America” (Dr. Sherwin Bryant, Northwestern University)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Graduate Teaching Fellow (Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University)

2025-2026 Academic Year

- Develop an initiative in the Black Studies department with mentorship by Dr. Barnor Hesse that amplifies teaching and learning in collaboration with the Searle Center;
- Collaborate as part of an interdisciplinary learning community of graduate teaching fellows that promotes a culture of learning and teaching at the departmental and campus levels;
- Develop interactive workshops for interdisciplinary audiences on various pedagogy-related topics, including a planned workshop on Power, Play, and Pedagogy and a workshop for Northwestern’s Academic Kickoff (2025) for graduate students new to teaching and being Teaching Assistants

President of the Black Studies Graduate Student Association at Northwestern University

2023-2024 Academic Year; co-president, Fall 2024

- ❖ Collaborated and corresponded with several different parties connected to Black Studies at Northwestern including but not limited to departmental faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in addition to e-board members to facilitate the efficient operation of the organization
- ❖ Identify the collective and personal needs and desires of Black Studies graduate students related to advocacy and community-building in and through the department

SKILLS

- ❖ **Computer:** Proficient in multiple Microsoft Office programs (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint) and the Google equivalents (Docs, Gmail, Slides); proficient in tools for digital learning and course organization including but not limited to Zoom, Canvas, and Veracross; adept at using Wix for website creation; experience with videogame modification on the computer and navigating its technical requirements
- ❖ **Language:** Fluent in Spanish
- ❖ **Teaching:** Have practiced and developed a number of pedagogical strategies and methods through teaching workshops, graduate-level academic coursework, and practicum; specialized instruction in language-teaching methods and reflective practice
- ❖ **Grant Writing:** Have successfully written and directed the production of various grant proposals with awards totaling over \$26,000