Jalin Niamke Jackson
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Black Studies, Northwestern University *Expected Fall 2027*

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 (Searle Center for the Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University)
2021 Mellon Cluster Fellowship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (Northwestern University)
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

Publication Date TBD "Conditioning Possibility: Unconquerable Plantations, Black Death, and Afro-Latinidad in Ubisoft's *Far Cry 6* (2021)" (under contract; editing in progress; anticipated collection publication Fall 2027)

2025 "Black Evermore: Racial Subjectivity, World-Building at Play, and Charting a Path from the Harlem Renaissance to Videogames through George Schuyler's Black No More (1931)" (essay in *Inhabiting Ustopia: Science Fiction in Film, Performing Arts, and Digital Media*, Springer)

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, EVENTS CONVENED, AND PANELS

2026 "Making Blacker Studies: Black Studies in Historical Practice at Northwestern" (Host of Event/Presenter), Sponsored by Black Studies and the Graduate Teaching Fellowship at the Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching

2026 "Exploring Boundaries: Balancing Authority and Learning Outcomes" (Co-host of Event/Presenter), Sponsored by the Graduate Teaching Fellowship at the Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching

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 *Far Cry 5* (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, including videogames; simulation; racial subjectivity; play and ludology; power and pedagogy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant: Critical Thinking (Northwestern Summer Bridge Program, Northwestern University)
August 2024 – September 2024; *August 2025; August 2026 – September 2026*

- 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

English as a Second Language 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

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

English as a Second Language 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 from ages 18 to senior

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

- ❖ Developed an initiative in the Black Studies department with mentorship by Dr. Barnor Hesse that amplifies teaching and learning in collaboration with the Searle Center;
- ❖ Collaborated 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;
- ❖ Developed interactive, evidence-based workshops for interdisciplinary audiences on various pedagogy-related topics 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

Treasurer for the Black Professional Development Group (Davidson College)
February 2018 – May 2019

- Successfully wrote grant proposals to secure over $9,000 in funds for the inaugural Black ProDev graduate school tour for 9 black students and 1 faculty member
- Budgeted and co-planned for a 3-day excursion to graduate schools in the Northeast, including NYU, Penn, and Princeton in April 2018 on short notice

Secretary of the Sankofa Journal (Davidson College)
Summer 2018 – May 2019

- Wrote a grant proposal to secure $2,500 in seed funds for the inaugural issue of the *Sankofa Journal* of Davidson College, a journal dedicated to publishing student research regarding matters related to Africana Studies
- Oversaw the organization of and submissions to the Sankofa Journal Group

Latino Fraternity Interest Group Co-Leader (Davidson College)
October 2017 – May 2018

- Successfully argued for the introduction of the first Latino fraternity (Lambda Phi Theta Latin Fraternity, Inc.) to Davidson College's campus via numerous private presentations and publications in the student-run newspaper, *The Davidsonian*
- Worked with around twelve young Davidson College men of varying backgrounds interested in joining a Latino fraternity

SKILLS

- **Computer:** Proficient in multiple Microsoft Office programs (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint) and the Google equivalents (Docs, Gmail, Slides, Forms); proficient in tools for digital learning and course organization including but not limited to Zoom, Canvas, and Veracross; adept at using Wix and Google Sites for website creation; experience with coding for 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, including the completion of an inquiry project rooted in critical language teaching