

# REBECCA MILLER DAVIS, PHD

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TEACHING PROFESSOR OF HISTORY  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY

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## EDUCATION

- **PhD in History**                                  **2011**                                  **University of South Carolina**
  - Fields of study: 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S., African American history, American cultural, social, and political history, civil rights, identity, U.S. South, media studies
  - Dissertation: "Reporting Race and Resistance in Dixie: The White Mississippi Press and Civil Rights, 1945-1964"
- **MA in American History**                        **2003**                                  **James Madison University**
  - Thesis: "Defense of the Closed Society: The Mississippi Press Reaction to the Lynching of Emmett Till"
- **BA in History**                                      **2001**                                  **James Madison University**
  - Major: History; Minor: Secondary Education
  - Received Virginia State Teaching License for Social Studies (grades 9-12)
  - Graduate Magna Cum Laude

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

- *Reporting Race and Resistance in Dixie: The White Mississippi Press and Civil Rights, 1944-1965* (advance contract with University of Georgia Press)

### Articles and Book Chapters

- "Dixiecrats, Dissenting Delegates, and the Dying Democratic Party: Mississippi's Right Turn from Roosevelt to Johnson," *Nation Within a Nation: The American South and the Federal Government*, Glenn Feldman, ed. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2014.
- "The Three R's—Reading, Writing and Race: The Evolution of Race in Mississippi History Textbooks, 1900-1995." *Journal of Mississippi History* Vol. LXXII No. 1 (Spring 2010): 1-45.
- "Raised for Activism: Henrie Monteith and the Desegregation of the University of South Carolina." *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 109:2 (April 2008): 121-47.

### Reviews

- Review in *The Journal of Mississippi History* Vol. LXXIX: No. 3 and No. 4 (Fall/Winter 2017): 213-14.
- Review in the *Canadian Journal of History* 52:3 (Winter 2017): 623-25.
- Review in the *Journal of Southern History* Vol. LXXXII, No. 1 (Feb. 2016): 216-17.
- Review the *Journal of American History* Vol. 101, No. 3 (Dec. 2014).

### Encyclopedia Entries

- "Tom Ethridge," *The Mississippi Encyclopedia*, Ted Ownby and Charles Reagan Wilson, eds., Ann J. Abadie, Odie Lindsey, and James G. Thomas, associate eds. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

### Online Projects

- "Profiles in Kansas City Activism," co-edited with Sandra I. Enriquez, digital exhibition of local Kansas City activists, done in partnership between UMKC History Department, Center for Midwestern Studies, and Shook, Hardy, and Bacon, LLP. (in progress)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **University of Missouri-Kansas City** (Kansas City, MO), Teaching Professor; 2021-present; Associate Teaching Professor, 2017-2021; Assistant Teaching Professor, 2013-2017; Visiting Assistant Professor, 2012-2013; Lecturer, Spring 2012
  - History Courses Taught: United States History to 1877 • United States History since 1877 (face-to-face and online) • Historiography and Methods • African American History since 1877 • Decade of Dissent: The 1960s • World War II Film and Propaganda • Black Civil Rights in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries • Graduate Colloquium (Topics: Profiles in Kansas City Activism ; The Long Civil Rights Movement and Black Freedom Struggle) • How To—History IIA
  - Interdisciplinary General Education Courses Taught: “We Shall (All) Overcome”: Civil Rights Movements in Contemporary America (co-taught with Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Studies) • Race and American Film (co-taught with English and Communication Studies) • Public Urban Education (co-taught with Honors College)
- **University of Kansas** (Lawrence, KS), Lecturer, 2009-2011
  - Courses Taught: United States History to 1865 • United States History since 1865 • The Historian’s Craft (Research and Writing Seminar) • Media, World War II and Propaganda
- **Millsaps College** (Jackson, MS), Adjunct Instructor, 2008
  - Courses Taught: United States History to 1877 • Early Civil Rights and the Roots of Resistance in 19th Century America • Media, Propaganda, and War: 1933-1945
- **Newberry College** (Newberry, SC), Adjunct Instructor, 2004-2005
  - Courses Taught: United States History to 1865 • United States History since 1865 • History of African Americans

## HONORS/AWARDS

- UMKC Promotion to Teaching Professor, 2021
- UMKC Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2020
- UMKC Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Community Engagement (awarded to entire UMKC History Department), 2019
- UMKC Promotion to Associate Teaching Professor, 2017
- Faculty Ally of the Year Award from UMKC Chapter of Men of Color, 2016
- UMKC College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award for NTT Faculty, 2016
- UMKC Online Course of the Year, 2015 (for HIST 102: U.S. History since 1877)
- Online Course Certification With Distinction (based on national Quality Matters standards), 2015
- Rhude M. Patterson Trustee Fellowship, University of South Carolina Graduate School, 2008
  - Awarded to outstanding female graduate students in the humanities and social sciences who exhibit excellence in graduate study, research, and scholarship.

## GRANTS

- “Immersive Digital History Trails: A New Platform for Place-Based Interpretation with Working Prototypes for the History of Jazz, Baseball, and BBQ in Kansas City,” National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Digital Humanities Level II Advancement Grant. \$149,855 award amount, with David Trowbridge, Diane Mutti Burke, and Jane Greer.

## CONFERENCES

- **Panelist/Presenter:**
  - ACLU of Kansas conference, 2018.
  - *Educate, Organize, and Advocate: Conference on Civic and Community Engagement*, 2018, 2017.
  - University of Tennessee at Martin’s Civil Rights Conference, 2015
  - UMKC *Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching (FaCET)* conference, 2015
  - session organizer, *Southern Historical Association Meeting* (Atlanta, GA), 2014
  - *Media & Civil Rights History Symposium* (Columbia, SC), 2013

- session organizer, *Southern Historical Association Meeting* (Charlotte, NC), 2010
- session co-organizer, *Organization of American Historians Meeting* (New York, NY), 2008
- session organizer, *American Historical Association Meeting* (Atlanta, GA), 2007
- **Panel Chair and/or Moderator**
  - Carolyn Benton Cockefair Chair Foundation for Continuing Education at UMKC keynote speaker introduction, 2021
  - Chair and moderator, *The Legacy of Clay v. United States* conference, 2021
  - Chair and commentator, *Missouri Conference on History*, 2019.
  - Interviewer for “Black Women In Sports” Negro Leagues Baseball Museum event, 2017.
  - Chair and commentator, *Missouri Conference on History*, 2016

## INVITED TALKS/PRESENTATIONS

- Panel discussion for UMKC’s Family Weekend, 2019 and 2020
- “Free Speech and Modeling Civil Discourse in the Classroom” Faculty Diversity Dialogues panel, 2019
- Invited speaker to UMKC NAACP chapter, 2019
- “Reaction or Riot? Kansas City, Fifty Years After the Slaying of Martin Luther King, Jr.,” panelist, UMKC and KCUR commemoration of 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 1968 uprising, 2018.
- “Standing Up and Sitting Down: Protests and Dissent in the 1960s and Beyond,” panelist, Kansas City Public Library, 2017.
- Guest lecture, Washburn University, 2017.
- Guest lecture UMKC Department of Social Work, 2017.
- “Confronting White Privilege,” part of “KC-Raw” discussion series, Holmeswood Baptist Church, 2017.
- “‘Nothing He Did...’: Emmett Till in Retrospect,” part of *For All the World See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights* exhibit, Washburn University, 2017.
- “Dixiecrats, Dissenting Delegates, and the Dying Democratic Party: The Southern Right Turn from Roosevelt to Johnson, and Beyond,” Regional Scholars Lecture Series, Wichita State University, 2016
- Film discussion of PBS film *Spies of Mississippi*, National Archives, 2016
- “Crossing the Bridge: Selma and Voting Rights 50 Years Later,” *First Fridays Lecture*, UMKC, 2015
- “The Freedom Riders in Retrospect,” *Created Equal Film Series*, Atchison Public Library, 2014
- “Race, Rebellion, Rock and Roll, and Grooviness: 1960s Music as a Social Barometer,” panelist, Kansas Humanities Council, 2013
- “Dixiecrats, Dissenting Delegates, and the Dying Democratic Party: Mississippi’s Political Right Turn from Roosevelt to Johnson,” UMKC *First Fridays Lecture*, 2012
- “Reporting Race and Resistance in Dixie: White Mississippi Media Response to Civil Rights,” Mississippi Department of Archives and History, 2008

## MEDIA/CONSULTING

- Interview with *The Pitch*, January 2021
- Interviews with KCUR’s “Up to Date,” January 5, 2022, June 19, 2020, October 23, 2017
- Interviews with *U-News* (UMKC student newspaper): March 2022 (two interviews), March 2020, November 2019, January 2013
- Fox4KC news appearances/interviews, January 18, February 14, March 31, and April 9, 2018
- Interview with KCTV5, October 26, 2017
- Interview with *Kansas City Star*, November 29, 2016
- Interview with Kansas City Public Radio, July/August 2016
- Focus group and consultant for Nelson Atkins Museum of Art Exhibition, *Through the Lens: Visions of African American Experience 1950-70*, Fall 2015/Spring 2016
- Interview by *The Scoop Kansas City*, November 22, 2013
- Interview by Mississippi Public Broadcasting Division of NPR, “Mississippi Edition,” April 17, 2008
- Interview by Radio JFP on WLEZ, April 25, 2008

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/ACTIVITIES

- University/Campus wide:
  - Digital Programming (DP) Coordinator, High School/College Partnerships (HSCP), 2016-present
  - Disability Alliance, 2022-present
  - Roo Champions Council, member, 2020-present
  - Diversity Liaison from the School of Arts and Sciences for the Faculty Diversity Dialogues program, member, 2018-2021
  - Anti-Racism White Allies and Advocates (ARWAA) Affinity Group, member, 2018-2021
  - Social Justice Book Lecture Planning Committee, member, 2017-present
  - Educate, Organize, and Advocate: UMKC Conference on Civic and Community Engagement, Planning Committee member, 2017-present
  - UMKC Faculty Learning Community—Vertical Teaming High School to College Transition, 2020-2021
  - Consultant on 1968 Uprising project, reparative critique and exhibit, 2018-20
  - UMKC Family Week(end): on panel discussion, “Helping Your Student When Things Get Tough,” 2019, 2020
  - University of Missouri Research Board (UMRB) reviewer, 2013
- Unit level:
  - SHSS Student Affairs Council, History Department representative, 2022-present
  - SHSS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Subcommittee, 2022-present
- Department level:
  - Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee, chair, 2021-present; co-chair, 2014-2021
  - Department MAP/Faculty Mentor, 2021-present
  - Ad-Hoc Recruitment and Retention Committee, member, 2021-present
  - Accelerated BA/MA (previously 4/1) Committee, member, 2019-20; point person for the department, 2022-present
  - Online Education Committee, member, 2015-21
  - Marketing Committee, member, 2020-21
  - Publicity Committee, member, 2013-21
  - School of Education liaison, 2016-present
  - Richard D. McKinzie annual symposium: 2019 (co-organizer), 2018 (coordinating committee and coordinator of HSCP teachers), 2017 (coordinator of HSCP teachers), 2013 (co-organizer)
  - American Historical Association Tuning Project, 2013
- National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Landmarks of American History Workshop
  - "From Freedom Summer to the Memphis Sanitation Workers' Strike," Jackson, MS and Memphis, TN, July 17-23, 2011
- AP US History Exam Grading
  - Table Leader: 2011, 2015
  - Reader: 2005-2006, 2008-2010