

# Giovanni N. Dortch

University of Memphis  
Department of Sociology  
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## EDUCATION

University of North Texas  
**PhD, Sociology**  
Denton, TX  
Coursework & Dissertation  
Completed 2018

Emphasis: Race, Class and Gender, Women's Studies  
Dissertation Topic: The Intersectional Process of Identity Formation among African Immigrants  
Recipient: UNT Academic Achievement Scholarship,  
UNT Doctoral Grant  
Department of Sociology Mary Holley Scholarship  
AAUW Denton County Chapter Graduate Scholarship

Texas Woman's University  
**Graduate Certificate, Women's Studies**  
Denton, TX  
2009

University of Memphis  
**M.A., Liberal Studies**  
Memphis, TN  
2004

Emphasis: Women's Studies: Global Perspectives of Women's Culture  
Special Project: Designed a course on the theoretical connections between African American and Third World feminism/Feminism in the Developing World.

University of Ghana  
**Ghanaian History and Culture Study Abroad**  
Accra, Ghana  
2002  
Recipient: University of Memphis Study Abroad Scholarship

University of Memphis  
**B.A., Political Science**  
Memphis, TN  
1999

Emphasis: International Relations; Africa and the Middle East  
Recipient: National Merit Semifinalist Scholarship  
State of Tennessee Board of Regents Scholarship  
Delta Sigma Theta Academic Achievement Scholarship

## AREAS OF INTEREST

Race, Class, Gender & Inequality, Intersectional Identity, Global & WOC Feminisms, Critical Race/Legal Studies; African American History, Womanist/Feminist Studies, Social Health Policy, Reproductive Justice, Emerging Digital Humanities/Research

## ADDITIONAL STUDY EXPERIENCES

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
**Health Policy Institute: Introduction to Social Epidemiology**  
**Health Policy Institute: Health Equity**  
Meharry Medical College

The Humanities and Technology Camp (THAT Camp)  
**Digital Humanities Training**  
Training: Using Technology to create Knowledge and Community

American Association of University Women  
**Voices Project**  
Training: Media First Responder and Op-Ed Writing

Southern Institute for Yoga Instructors  
**Certified Yoga Instructor:** Emphasis: Women's Health and Wellness

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 "LUNA Unleashed" Volume 1 Issues 2-5 Reproductive Justice and HIV Prevention  
*Black Women's Health Imperative*
2019. "Comic-Con in Intersectional Eyes"  
*FemSpec: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Speculative Fiction*
2014. "Finally! Sonia Sanchez: A Cultural Icon Gets Her Due"  
[\*Wagadu: A Transnational Journal of Global Women's Studies\*](#)
2013. "Community Property: Black Mother's Communal Ownership of Their Daughter's Advanced Degrees" In [\*Laboring Positions: Testimony, Theory and Transgression of Black Mothering in Academia\*](#), edited by Sekile Nzinga-Johnson. Toronto: Demeter Press.
2011. "Transformative Education Workshop and Toolkit" Denton, TX: Feminist Pedagogy Group. ([www.Education4SocialJustice.tumblr.com](http://www.Education4SocialJustice.tumblr.com)).
2011. "Feminist Pedagogy from Theory to Practice" *National FORUM of Multicultural Issues Journal (Online)* 8(2): 99-105.
2010. "Freedom through Fighting Words" [\*Griot: The Newsletter of the Association of Black Sociologists\*](#)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *Collegiate*

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Rhodes College   | Memphis, TN  |
| <b>Visiting Instructor</b>   | 2014-present |
| Sociology - Social Inequality  |              |
| -Black Feminist Thought  |              |
| -Gender and Society  |              |
| University of Memphis  | Memphis, TN  |
| <b>Instructor</b>  | 2012-present |
| Women's Studies - Introduction to Women's Studies  |              |
| Sociology - Marriage and Family, Social Inequality, Racial and Ethnic Inequality, Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Individual and Society |              |
| Introduction to Sociology, Contemporary Social Problems  |              |
| North Central Texas College  | Corinth, TX  |
| <b>Adjunct Instructor</b>  | 2010-2011    |
| Sociology- Sociology of Culture, Introduction to Sociology   |              |
| University of North Texas  | Denton, TX   |
| <b>Teaching Fellow</b>   | 2006-2010    |
| Women's Studies- Introduction to Women's Studies   |              |
| Sociology - Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity, Marriage and Family   |              |
| Gender and Society   |              |

**Secondary**

Kaplan Test Prep  
**Instructor** Memphis, TN  
2013  
ACT Test Preparation: Math, Reading and Science

ACE Academy Memphis, TN  
**Instructor** 2005/2006  
Ghanaian History and Culture, West African Civilization and Philosophy.

**RESEARCH**

Mama Said: Examining Mother -Daughter Sex Education Communication Among African American Women

H.E.R. Initiative – Women’s Health Nonprofit Organization Atlanta, GA  
**Survey Designer** 2018

Working Group: Civil Rights Movement in a Global Perspective  
University of Memphis Memphis, TN  
**Chair** 2005

Designed and chaired a working group on the Civil Rights Movement, focusing on the global elements, influences and results of the movement.

Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change Memphis, TN  
**Research Assistant** 2004

Assisted Dr. Beverly Bond with research on Julia A.B. Hooks. Completed content analysis of late 1800’s newspapers regarding the role of Mrs. Hooks in the Memphis community

Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change Memphis, TN  
**Graduate Affiliate** 2004

Assisted with programs, speakers and workshops. Served as hostess to visitors and guests.

Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change Memphis, TN  
**Archival Intern** 2004

Read, organized and archived papers, news articles and historical items of the NAACP, FCC and Civil Rights Movement donated by Rev. Benjamin L. Hooks to The University of Memphis.

**INVITED LECTURES**

Young Leaders, Strong City Annual Summit Dallas, TX  
**Workshop:** Creating WAKANDA! Building Your Own Worlds 2020  
Inspired by Intersectional Representation in Comics

Rhodes College Memphis, TN  
**Panelist:** Reproductive Justice Panel 2017  
Rhodes Institute for Regional Studies

Rhodes College Memphis, TN  
**Panelist:** Jackson Film Screening 2017  
Gender and Sexuality Studies Honor Society

University of Texas at Arlington Arlington, TX  
**Speaker:** Global Education and Emerging Digital Scholarship 2013  
Cutting Edge Youth Summit

University of Memphis <b>Panelist:</b> <i>Race Religion and Sexuality Summit</i> Stonewall Tigers	Memphis, TN 2012
El Centro College, DCCCD <b>Speaker:</b> <i>Minorities in Academia: The Importance of Being a Scholar</i> Cutting Edge Youth Summit	Dallas, TX 2012
Harkins House Productions <b>Discussant:</b> <i>She's Gotta Have It (film)</i> , 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Screening Kulture Groove Film Series University of North Texas	Memphis, TN 2011 Denton, TX
<b>Panelist:</b> <i>Black in America: Clash of the Minds</i> Multicultural Affairs and Union Planning Committee	2011
Centro College, DCCCD <b>Speaker:</b> <i>The Importance of Being a Scholar: Academic Integrity</i> Cutting Edge Youth Summit	Dallas, TX 2011
University of North Texas <b>Speaker:</b> <i>Graduate School: What you should know before you go</i> UNT Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta	Denton, TX 2011
University of North Texas <b>Speaker:</b> <i>A Brief History of Black Womanism</i> Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance	Denton, TX 2011
Texas Woman's University <b>Panelist:</b> <i>Policing Black Women's Hair</i> <b>Speaker:</b> <i>History, Politics and Culture of Natural Hair</i> Women's Studies Graduate Student Association	Denton, TX 2011
University of North Texas <b>Panelist:</b> <i>Minority Women in Careers</i> Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.	Denton, TX 2009
University of North Texas <b>Discussant:</b> <i>Never Perfect (film)</i> Department of Women's Studies	Denton, TX 2009
University of Memphis <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> <i>The Feminization of Poverty</i> Department of Political Science	Memphis, TN 2009
University of North Texas <b>Panelist</b> <i>"Beyond the Color Line: A discussion on race in a "post racial" world"</i> University Programming Council	Denton, TX 2009
University of North Texas <b>Keynote Speaker</b> Eta Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Annual State of the Black Union Address	Denton, TX 2008

University of Memphis  
**Guest Lecturer:** *Black Feminism: Theory and Practice* Memphis, TN  
Dept. of Political Science 2004/2006/2007

**CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS**

US Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) (Virtual due to COVID)  
**Presenter** 2020  
[Comics as a Medium to Educate Black Women on HIV](#)

North Carolina Sexual Health Conference Cary, NC  
**Presenter** 2019  
Between US Girls: Addressing Cultural Norms that Affect Decision -Making in  
Sexual Relationships as a Tool to Reduce HIV/STI Transmission

Government Social Media Conference  
**Presenter** Nashville, TN  
Connecting with Underserved Audiences via Social Media 2019

National Women's Studies Association Montreal, QC, Canada  
**Panel Participant** 2016  
Decolonizing Contingency: Bodies, Borders and Academic Belonging

In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive  
Justice Agenda Washington, DC  
**Panel Participant** 2016  
Civic Engagement and Policy in Practice

National Women's Studies Association Cincinnati, OH  
**Panel Participant** 2013  
[Single Mothers, Broke Queers, &  
Communal Ownership: The Profane  
Existence of Academic Non-Normatives](#)

Texas National Association of Multicultural Education Mesquite, TX  
**Poster Session Presentation** 2011  
[Multicultural and Interdisciplinary Education through  
African American Women's Children's Literature](#)

Southwestern Social Science Association Las Vegas, NV  
**Session Chair** 2011  
Feminism and Race  
Race, Class, Gender and Social Inequality  
**Paper**  
For Colored Girls: A Womanist Analysis  
**Paper**  
[African Identity Formation: A Review of the Literature](#)

UNT 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Equity and Diversity Conference Denton, TX  
**Workshop Facilitator** 2011  
[Feminist/Womanist Pedagogy Teaching for Social Justice](#)

