

KIDADA E. WILLIAMS, PHD

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Education

Ph.D. History, The University of Michigan, 2005 (Michele Mitchell (adviser), including dissertation committee: Matthew Countryman, Hannah Rosen, Sandra Gunning; additional field examiners: Julius Scott III, Penny Von Eschen)
M.A. History, Central Michigan University, 1998
B.S. History and Political Science, Central Michigan University, 1996

Academic Positions

Associate Professor of History, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, 2006-Present; tenured 2012
Visiting Assistant Professor of History, The University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 2005-2006

Publications

Books

They Left Great Marks on Me: African American Testimonies of Racial Violence from Emancipation to World War I. New York University Press, 2012.

Edited Books

With Chad Williams and Keisha N. Blain, *Charleston Syllabus: Readings on Race, Racism, and Racial Violence.* Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2016. This book is based on the [#CharlestonSyllabus](https://www.instagram.com/CharlestonSyllabus).

Articles/Chapters/Essays

- “‘Never Get Over It’: What Night Riding Meant to African American Victims” in Julian Hayter and George Goethals eds., *Reconstruction and the Arc of Racial (In)Justice* (Edward Elgar: Cheltenham, UK, 2018), 59-83.
- “[Maintaining a Radical Vision of African Americans in the Age of Freedom](#),” in Future of Reconstruction Studies Forum *Journal of the Civil War Era* 7, no 1 (2017): 15.
- “The Wounds that Cried Out: Recovering African Americans’ Testimonies of Suffering from Nightriding,” in Gregory P. Downs and Kate Masur, eds., *The World the Civil War Made* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015), 159-182.
- “Regarding the Aftermaths of Lynching,” *Journal of American History* 101, no. 3 (2014): 856-858.
- “Resolving the Paradox of our Lynching Fixation: Considering Racialized Violence in the Nineteenth Century South” in *American Nineteenth Century History* 6, no. 3 (September 2005): 323-350.

Select Public Scholarship

With Danielle McGuire, [Raped and left on the road, she said Me Too. Jurors said, ‘No, not You.’](#) Bridge Magazine 2017

[Centuries of Violence](#). Slate.com. June 19, 2015.

[Account for the Pillaging of African-American Freedom](#). *New York Times*. May 28, 2015.

“The Hard Stuff of History: More Thoughts on Teaching Traumatic Historical Events,” *The American Historian*, [tah.oah.org](#) May 2015, 38-39.

“[What the Black Lynching Numbers Don’t Reveal](#)” DAME magazine. February 16, 2015.

In Progress

Article/Chapter/Essay Manuscripts

“‘When I Saw Death Coming’: Armed Self-Defense against White Violence in the Nineteenth Century”

Book Manuscript

When the White Men Came: Night Riding and African American Families after the Civil War.

Recent Research Presentations

State of the Field Roundtable on Abolition and Emancipation, Organization of American Historians, April 2018

“Never Get Over It: African American Families and Racial Violence during Reconstruction,” Jepson Institute for Leadership Studies, Richmond, VA, September 2016.

“Recovering African Americans’ Testimonies of Suffering from Night Riding,” The World the Civil War Made Roundtable, Organization of American Historians, Providence, April 2016.

“Freakish Perversions: African Americans on the Uncanny Aspects of Night Riding,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Little Rock, November 2015.

“When the Men Came: New Histories of Racial Atrocities after the Civil War,” American Studies Association, Toronto, ON, October 2015.

“‘They Broke Something in Me’: African Americans’ Traumatic Injuries from Night Riding,” Soul Wounds Conference, Stanford University, June 2015.

“Vernacular History of Racial Violence Then and Now,” University of Michigan, January 2015.

“African Americans and the Vernacular History of Racial Violence,” University at Buffalo, March 2014.

“The Wounds that Cried Out: African Americans’ Suffering from Racial Violence”—The World the Civil War Made Conference, The George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center, Pennsylvania State University June 2013.

“Through the Veil of Racial Violence,” American Historical Association, New Orleans, January 2013.

Invited Talks

“Never Get Over It,” America’s Civil War Museum, Richmond, VA, May 2017.

“What Night Riding Meant to African American Families,” Lynchburg College, April 2017.

“Charleston Syllabus,” Charleston, SC, November 2016.

Charleston Syllabus Symposium, University of Georgia, September 2016.

“Telling it Like it Was and Making it as it Ought to Be: The Charleston Massacre and Arc of Justice,”
Citizenship/Constitution Day, Eastern Michigan University, September 2016.

Keynote Address: “The Ethics of Researching and Writing about State and Racial Violence,” 2016
Emerging Scholars Workshop, Pennsylvania State University, April 2016.

Professional Affiliations

American Historical Association Historians	Organization of American Historians
Association for the Study of African American Life and History	Southern Historical Association
Association of Black Women Historians (lifetime)	American Studies Association
Southern Association of Women Historians (lifetime)	

Select Service

University Service ~ Wayne State University

[Wayne State University Press](#) Editorial Board, 2012-2017

Sociology Academic Program Review, 2017

Advisory Board, Humanities Center, 2013-2015

College Service

Merit/Salary Committee, 2016-2017

Competitive GRA Committee, 2018

Professional Service

NEH Summer Institute, Slavery and Emancipation, America’s Civil War Museum, 2019

Manuscript Reviewer, University of Illinois Press, 2018

Manuscript Reviewer, University of North Carolina Press, 2017

NEH Summer Institute, Lynching in Gilded Age America, University of Illinois-Chicago, 2017

Advisory Board, UnCivil War Series, University of Georgia Press, 2016-2022

Editorial Board, [The American Historian](#) of the Organization of American Historians, 2014-2016

Manuscript Reviewer, Oxford University Press, 2014

Tenure Reviewer, Texas Tech University, 2014

Publicity Director, Association of Black Women Historians, 2014

Article Manuscript Reviewer, 2013

Program Committee, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2012-2013

Manuscript Reviewer, Cambridge University Press, 2012

Council, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2011-2013

Award Committee, SHGAPE Fishel-Calhoun Prize for Best Article by A New Scholar, 2013

Community Service

Co-developer, [#CharlestonSyllabus](#), 2015

Stakeholder, Early Black Detroit Public, 2015

Faculty Consultant, Detroit Public Schools Symposium: Inspiring Teachers’ Minds STEM to STEAM +
HISTORY, re: [African Americans in Science and Technology](#) ~ Wright Museum July 2014

Lecture, Racial Violence in the Post-Emancipation South, Detroit Historical Museum, Scholar Series, March 2014
Reconstruction and Violence, “Slavery by Another Name,” Wright Museum, Liberation Film Series, December 2013
Faculty Consultant, Wright Museum, [Voices of the Civil War Project](#), December 2012
Faculty Consultant, Wright Museum Exhibition & Documentary on the Detroit NAACP, July 2012
Address, “The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow,” Rejuvenate! American History Educator’s Workshop, Henry Ford Museum, 2012
Lecture, “African Americans and the Civil War,” Shiffman Medical Library, Wayne State University, February 2012
Address, “African Americans and the Civil War,” U. S. Attorney Office for Southeastern District of Michigan, 2011

Select Awards

Career Development Chair, WSU, 2014
Board of Governors Faculty Recognition Award, WSU 2013
President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, WSU 2011
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Teaching Award, WSU 2011
Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies, Research Residency Grant, University of Michigan, 2009
Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2008
Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2002

Teaching

African Americans, History & Memory	American Slavery
African American History I & II	Black Detroit
Methods and Research in History	Civil War and Reconstruction
The Historians’ Craft	Civil Rights Movement
Lynching in American Life and Culture	Detroit 1967