

Johannah May Black, M.A.

PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, York University
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (A.B.D.)
Department of Political Science
York University, 2010-2017

Master of Arts
Immigration and Settlement
Studies
Ryerson University, 2009

Bachelor of Arts, Honours
Political Science, German
Acadia University, 2003-2007

CERTIFICATES

Advanced Certificate, Arts
Teaching Assistant
Learning and Teaching Office
Ryerson University, 2009

Basic Certificate, Arts Teaching
Assistant
Learning and Teaching Office
Ryerson University, 2008

Certificate of European Union
Studies
European Summer Institute
Prague, Czech Republic, 2004

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website
www.



Twitter
@johannamayblack

DISSERTATION AND THESES

- **PhD Dissertation:** “Shall the Dust Praise Thee? A Study of Collective Memory, Coal Mining, and Deindustrialization in Nova Scotia”
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Agathangelou
- **MA Major Research Paper:** “Citizenship Acts: Queer Migrants and Negotiations of Belonging at Toronto Pride Week, 2009”
Supervisor: Dr. Doreen Fumia
- **BA Honours Thesis:** “The Spirit of the Land Within Us: The Environmental Genocide of Canada’s Northern Aboriginal Peoples”
Supervisors: Dr. Andrew Biro and Dr. Cynthia Alexander

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- **Ryerson Graduate Award**, Ryerson University - \$3000.00 (2008/2009)
- **ECO Canada Student Ambassador Award for Environmental Research**, Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) of Canada in Partnership with Environment Canada - \$1000.00 (2007)
- **Student Leadership Award**, Acadia University – *Non-Monetary* (2006 and 2007)
- **The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Canada Book Prize in German**, Acadia University - \$600.00 (2005)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Qualifying Exams:** Political Theory, Women and Politics
- **Research Interests:** Cultural and Collective Memory, Deindustrialization, Neoliberalism and Governance, Immigration in Canada, Indigeneity in Turtle Island, Settler Colonialism in Canada, Borders and Frontiers as Structural Violence, Working-Class and Labour History, Working-Class Feminisms, Sexual Violence and Working Women, Structural Violence under Neoliberal Capitalism
- **Teaching Interests:** Western Political Thought, Women and Gender Studies, Gender and Canadian Law, Immigration in Canada, Feminist Theory, Canadian Multiculturalism, LGBT Politics in Canada, Queer Theory, Labour History in Canada, People’s History of Nova Scotia, The Border in Western Thought

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant** - Department of Social Science, York University
Fall 2011 – Present
Course: SOSC 1350 – Gender and the Law
As a first year level “Foundations Course,” my duties as a TA included preparing two-hour tutorials to explain key course concepts, as well as, to teach incoming university students the fundamental skills necessary to succeed in a liberal arts post-secondary education, including note-taking, exam preparation, essay writing, how to avoid plagiarism, library research skills, and critical thinking. I also graded exams, written essays and assignments, and assigned participation marks.
- **Teaching Assistant** – Department of Political Science, York University
Fall/Winter – 2010-2011
Course: POLS 1000 – Introduction to Politics: Exploring the Democratic Experience
For this first year level course I was responsible for two separate, one-hour tutorials in which I facilitated discussions on various “Models of Democracy,” and explained key course themes and concepts clearly and concisely. I also graded exams, written essays and assignments, and assigned participation marks.
- **Teaching Assistant** – Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
Fall/Winter – 2009-2010
Course: SOC 633 – Sexuality, Identity, and Society
As a TA for this upper-level (third year or fourth year) Sociology course, it was my responsibility to prepare two separate, one-hour tutorials in which I facilitated discussions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender identities, theories of sexuality, as well as Feminist social movements in Canada. I also graded exams, written assignments and essays, and assigned participation marks.
- **Teaching Assistant** – Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
Winter 2009
Course: SOC 525 – Media and Images of Inequality
For this upper-year level (third year or fourth year) Sociology course, I was responsible for preparing two separate, one-hour tutorials in which I facilitated discussions on the intersections of race, gender, sexual orientation, and social class within various media representations. Drawing extensively on visual and multi-media teaching aids I encouraged students to deconstruct and engage critically with various media representations. I also graded exams, written assignments and essays, and assigned participation marks.
- **Teaching Assistant** – Department of Politics and Governance, Ryerson University
Fall 2008
Course: POL 501 – Women, Power, and Politics
As a TA for this upper-year level (third and fourth year) Politics and Governance course, I was responsible for two separate, one-hour tutorials in which I facilitated discussions on feminist theory and the Canadian women’s movement. I also graded exams, written assignments and essays, and assigned participation marks.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Doctoral Candidate** – Department of Political Science, York University
2010-Present
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Agathangelou
In completing my doctoral research, I engaged a variety of qualitative research methods. My dissertation examined collective memory of coal mining in the climate of deindustrialized Nova Scotia. My primary research material was derived from ethnographic field work in Nova Scotia over the summer months of 2015 and 2016, as well as archival research in the Nova Scotia Archives. I drew on participant-observation methodologies in touring each of the provinces mining museums and monuments, as well as semi-structured interviews with several cultural producers including activists, tour-guides, interpreters and retired coal miners.
- **Research Assistant** – Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
Sept. 2010 – April 2011
Primary Researcher: Dr. Doreen Fumia
Project: Anti-Poverty Organizing in a Toronto Priority Neighbourhood
My roll in this SSHRC funded study was to engage in the Toronto priority neighbourhood of Weston Mount Denis as a participant observer of anti-poverty organizing led by the ACORN Toronto organization. I was also responsible for conducting semi-structured interviews with these participants. Some of the interviews that I conducted also involved visual anthropology and participant-led walking tours of the neighbourhood. I co-presented some of the findings of this study at the 2012 Historical Materialism conference at York University.
- **Research Assistant** – Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
April –Sept. 2010
Primary Researcher: Dr. Doreen Fumia
Project: Queer Pedagogy, Alternative Public Schools and the Triangle Program
I collaborated with Dr. Fumia to design this project, including writing the ethics protocol, designing the interview schedule, and accessing participants. We arranged structured interviews with teachers, volunteers, school staff, and former students of the Triangle Program, an alternative high school program for LGBTQ youth who are considered at-risk in Toronto. A scholarly article outlining the results of this project was submitted to the Journal of LGBT Youth.
- **Research Assistant** – Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
April – Sept. 2009
Primary Researcher: Dr. Cheryl Teelucksingh
Project: Environmental Justice and Energy Issues in Toronto
I was responsible for compiling a spreadsheet listing the various Environmental NGOs in Toronto. In addition to these duties, I reviewed the promotional material and websites of these ENGOs for any mention of or engagement with issues of Environmental Justice.
- **Masters Student** – Immigration and Settlement Studies, Ryerson University
Sept. 2008- Oct. 2009
For my Major Research Paper, I utilized participant observation research methodologies at Toronto Pride Month 2009. I also drew on visual anthropological methods and semi-structured, life-story narrative interviews with a local artist.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE or COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Ways and Means Fund Committee** – CUPE 3903, York University
Jan 2017- Present
- **Founding Member, Ali Mustafa Memorial Collective** (Ali Mustafa Memorial Award for People’s Journalism)
March 2014 – Present
- **Co-Chair Trans-Feminist Action Caucus** – CUPE 3903, York University
Jan. 2013 – April 2014
- **Co-Chair, Trans-Border Feminist Collective** – Department of Political Science Graduate Student Association,
York University – 2010-2011
- **Co-Chair, Triangle Program Community Council** – Oasis Alternative Secondary School, Toronto
2009 – 2012
- **Chaperone, Pride Prom** – The Toronto District School Board and Supporting Our Youth Toronto
2010, 2011, 2012
- **Student Assistant** – Acadia University, Equity Office
Summer 2006
- **Welcome Week Programming Committee** - Acadia University
Summer 2006

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed

- Black, Johannah May. Forthcoming. “The Long History of Deindustrialization in the Coal Mining Regions of Nova Scotia.” *Labour/Le Travail* (Submitted November 2017).
- Fumia, Doreen and Johannah May Black. Forthcoming. “The Triangle Program: Three Points of Queer Pedagogy.” *Journal of LGBT Youth* (Revisions submitted).

Other Publications

- Black, Johannah May. Forthcoming. “Key Words: Deindustrialization.” *Residue*. (In Progress)
- Fumia, Doreen and Johannah May Black. 2010. “Canada’s First and Only Classroom for Queer Students Marks 15 Years.” *XTRA! Canada’s Gay and Lesbian News*, August 26, 2010.
- Black, Johannah May. 2005/2006. “Inclusive Feminism in Mexico and Brazil.” *ATLIS Undergraduate Journal*.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Conference Presentations:

- Black, Johannah. Forthcoming (May 2017). “‘The Coal in Our Blood’: Cultural Expressions of Coal Mining History in Deindustrialized Nova Scotia.” Paper accepted to Imagining and Transforming the Underground: Towards a Cultural History of the Mine Conference, York University, Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2014. “Reading Coal Miners’ Memoirs as a Challenge to Global Capitalism’s Grand Historical Narratives.” Paper presented at Historical Materialism Conference, York University, Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2013. “‘Down the Coal Town Road’: Industrial Violence and Collective Memory in Nova Scotia.” Paper presented at American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, University of Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2012. “Blood as Affect, Blood as Border.” Paper presented at International Borderlands Conference, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Black, Johannah and Nashwa Salem. 2012. “Space-Naming and Name-Tracing: The Materiality of ‘Imagined Space’ in a Toronto Priority Neighbourhood.” Paper presented at Historical Materialism Conference, York University, Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2010. “(Trans)gressive Bodies, Queer Movements: Resisting Imperialist Mappings of the Body Through Performance.” Paper presented at The Reorganization of Schooling Under Neoliberalism, Graduate Student Conference, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2010. “Citizenship Acts: Queer Migrants and Performances of (Be)Longing at Toronto Pride Week, 2009.” Paper presented at Performing Space and Space in Performance, Graduate Student Conference for the Study of Drama, University of Toronto.
- Black, Johannah. 2009. “Citizenship Acts: Queer Immigrants Reconstructing the Boundaries to the Imagined Queer Community.” Paper presented at Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement, Graduate Student Conference, York University, Toronto.

Public Lectures:

- Black, Johannah. 2013. “Queerly Political: Activism, Feminism, Marxism, and Queer Politics.” A lecture presented for the Greater Toronto Workers’ Assembly at Beit Zaytoun, Toronto. Available online at: <https://youtu.be/2EWBXpAA-MI> filmed by Socialist Project.

Guest Lectures:

- Black, Johannah. 2016 and 2015. “The University, Sexual Assault, and the Law.” Guest Lecture for Gender and the Law, SOSC 1350, York University, Toronto.

Workshops:

- Black, Johannah with Manuel Laburre and Xavier LaFrance. 2012. “The Student Movement in Ontario: A Workshop.” Delivered as part of Disorientation Week organized by the Ontario Public Interest Research Group at York University, Toronto.
- Black, Johannah with Thomas Cameron, Chris Erickson, Matt Faegan, Mabel Ho, Catherine Jenkins, Charles Sule, and Zoriannah Zurba. 2010. “TA Learning and Community Development: An Interactive Workshop.” Delivered at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Annual Conference, Ryerson University, Toronto.

LANGUAGES

French – Reading knowledge, working to improve spoken and written

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Bibliographic Databases (Endnotes, Zotero)

Microsoft Excel (Proficient)

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Peer Counsellor**, Sexual Assault Survivors Support Line and Leadership Development, York University. 2015-Present.
- **Founding Member**, Women Against Occupation and War, York University, 2014-Present.
- **Media Relations**, Cops Off Campus, York University, 2014.
- **Press Relations**, Coalition Against Bill-94, 2010.
- **Volunteer**, The Miss G Project for Equity and Education, 2010.
- **Volunteer**, The Triangle Program, Oasis Alternative Secondary School, 2009.
- **Student Refugee Program Coordinator**, World University Service of Canada at Acadia University, 2005-2007.
- **Organizing Member**, Amnesty International at Acadia University, 2004-2007.

REFERENCES

- **Dr. Anna Agathangelou** (Dissertation Supervisor)
Department of Political Science, York University
(416) 736-2100 ext. 88840 agathang@yorku.ca
- **Dr. Julie E. Dowsett** (Teaching Supervisor)
Department of Social Science, York University
jdowsett@yorku.ca
- **Dr. Doreen Fumia** (Masters Supervisor, Research and Teaching Supervisor)
Department of Sociology, Ryerson University
(416) 979-5000 ext. 2605 dfumia@ryerson.ca