

R. DAVIS DIXON

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5400 Virginia Ct
Oxon Hill, MD 20745

EDUCATION

- PhD** Howard University, Developmental Psychology May 2015
Dissertation: "A New Foray: The Effects of Learning Context and Racial Composition of Study Groups on Academic Performance and Group Processes"
- MS** Howard University, Developmental Psychology May 2011
Thesis: "The Effects of Communalism and Popular Culture on the Math Performance of African-American Children"
- BS** North Carolina Central University, Psychology May 2008
Graduated Summa Cum Laude
Minored in Sociology

EXPERIENCE

- Howard University, Washington, DC** 2022 to Present
Assistant Professor, Psychology
- Research-Based Courses: Research Design and Analysis (in-person & online); Research Methods in Developmental Psychology (In-person Graduate Course); Statistics II (online)
 - Subject Matter-Based Courses: Personality and Social Development, Psychology of the Black Experience, Seminar in Developmental Psychology; Seminar in Black Education Psychology.
- Committees/Service**
- Departmental Committees/Service: Graduate Teaching Assistantship Committee; Clinical Subdiscipline Faculty Search Committee (Co-Chair)
 - University Committees/Service: ONYX Mental Health Organization (Faculty Advisor)

Hampton University, Hampton, VA

2019 to 2022

Assistant Professor, Psychology

- Research-Based Courses: Introductory Statistics; Advanced Statistics; Junior Seminar; Senior Seminar
- Subject Matter-Based Courses: Developmental Psychology, Black Psychology; Cultural Psychology; Introduction to Psychology.

Committees/Service

- School of Liberal Arts Grantsmanship Team; Department of Psychology Student Retention Committee; Department of Psychology Academic Advising Committee (Lead); School of Liberal Arts Committee for the Compelling Careers Event; Psi Chi International Psychology Honor Society (Faculty Advisor); Mellon Grant Read-In Event Coordinator.

Bowie State University, Bowie, MD

January 2023 to December 2023

Adjunct Professor, Departments of Psychology and Child and Adolescent Studies

- Subject Matter-Based Course Taught: Statistics II; Lifespan Development.

Bowie State University, Bowie, MD

January 2018 to December 2018

Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology

- Subject Matter-Based Course Taught: Statistics I; Statistics II

The Education Trust, Washington, DC

2016 to 2019

Senior Associate for P-12 Research

- Identified key research questions and analyzed data from nationally representative longitudinal studies and secondary data sources to bring new information to bear on student experiences in school, opportunity and achievement gaps, as well as what contributes to the achievement gap and ways to close it
- Completed multivariate data analysis examining the relationships among student, teacher, classroom, and school variables to better understand the influence of different factors on student achievement
- Developed interview and focus group protocols as well as surveys for the systematic collection of data from educators and students in schools
- Wrote and edited research briefs, reports, position papers, and blogs

Howard University, Washington, DC.

Course Instructor, Department of Psychology

Summers 2013-2015

- Subject Matter-Based Courses Taught: Developmental Psychology; Research Methods & Statistics I; Research Methods & Statistics II

Graduate Assistant for Capstone Institute at Howard University.

2009-2016

- Coordinated and implemented assessment and evaluation activities including survey and assessment creation, data collection, data analysis, and report writing

- Assisted center in grant writing activities including drafting literature reviews, research plans, and evaluation plans
- Trained center staff on the importance of—and procedures for—the proper implementation of project evaluation activities

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE/PROJECTS

Howard University Belonging, Learning, Identity, and Culture Lab 2022-Present

- Research that examines several topics at the intersection of educational, developmental, and social psychology. Topics include, sense of belonging, gender norms, perceptions on romantic relationships, cultural identity, and culturally responsive practices in STEM learning at HBCUs.

Hampton University Developmental Psychology Lab 2019-2022

- Research Team that examined topics related to developmental and educational psychology including, cultural identity, racial identity, and the intersection of gender and racial socialization.

Graduate Student Research Projects Advised

- Exploring the Interplay of Academic and Racial Identity on African-American Undergraduate Women's Academic Performance
 - Monteja James, 4th Year Graduate Student in Developmental Psychology, Howard University
 - Graduate Advisor
- Black Girls' Stories Matter | Reading Between the Lines: A Linguistic Inquiry Word Count Analysis of Black American College Women's K-12 Educational Experiences
 - Bianca Larkin, Candidate for the Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, Howard University
 - 2025
 - Dissertation Committee Member
- Cultural Socialization and Warm Demander Pedagogy and Their Relationships with Academic Competence and Academic Self-Efficacy
 - Camille Warner, Candidate for the Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, Howard University
 - 2025
 - Dissertation Committee Member
- Estrangement: Exploring Race and Gender Differences in academic identity Profiles to Predict Academic Outcomes
 - Deyonna M. Grant, Candidate for the Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, Howard University
 - May 2024
 - Dissertation Committee Member
- The Impact of Social Injustice on Prosocial Behavior among African Americans

- Christina Coats, Candidate for the M.S. in General Psychology, Hampton University
- December 2021
- Thesis Advisor

Undergraduate Student Research Projects Advised

- Bottled In or Spoken Out: How Gender Shapes the Way We Cope
 - Maya Berthoud, College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program Capstone Thesis Project, Howard University May 2025
 - Thesis Advisor
- Evaluation and Analysis of Perceptions of Physical Touch on Quality of Life
 - Zoe Coffman, College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program Capstone Thesis Project, Howard University May 2024
 - Thesis Advisor
- Does the Trauma End if the Oppression Never Does? A Phenomenological Review and Proposed Study
 - Mariem Ahmed, College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program Capstone Thesis Project, Howard University May 2024
 - Thesis Advisor
- Identity and Improving Racial Consciousness in the Classroom
 - Jackson Clark, College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program Capstone Thesis Project, Howard University May 2024
 - Thesis Advisor

GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE

Funded

HBCU-UP Research Initiation Award: In Search of Continuity: Exploring the Role of Afroculturally Responsive Pedagogy in STEM Courses at HBCUs 2024

- Funder: National Science Foundation
- Role: Principal Investigator
- Amount: \$449,837

Under Review

Collaborative Research: Building Belonging: Intersections of MSI Climates and Ethnic-Racial Identity Among Black and Latinx Students

- Funder: National Science Foundation
- Role: Co-Principal Investigator
- Amount: \$168,953

Unfunded

CAREER: A Quantitative Analysis of Black Psychology Majors' Cultural Identity. Racial Identity, and Perceptions of Academic Environment. 2022

- Funder: National Science Foundation
- Role: Principal Investigator
- Amount: \$489,047

Behind the Magic: Exploring the Practices and Pedagogy of Black Teachers 2020

- Funder Spencer Foundation
- Role: Co-Principal Investigator
- Amount: \$50,000

National Infrastructure for Mitigating the Impact of COVID 19 with Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities. 2020

- Funder: Office of Minority Health
- Role: Grant Writer/Budget Lead

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles, Proceedings, and Book Chapters

Dixon, R.D., & Wallace, C. Multiple identities as predictors of academic motivation. *Journal of Negro Education* (Accepted)

Wallace C.M., **Dixon, R.D.**, McGee, Z.T., Malone-Colon, L., & Boykin A.W. (2023) Communalism and self-esteem reduce rates of violent attitudes among African American young males. *The Journal of Science and Exploratory Studies*

Wallace, C., **Dixon, R.D.**, McGee, Z.T., Malone-Colon, L., & Boykin, A.W. (2023) The Impact of Communalism and Mattering to others on violent attitudes among African American males. *1619: Journal of African American Studies*. Online

Wallace, C., **Dixon, R.D.**, McGee, Z., & Malone-Colon, L. (2023) Urban school violence: Responding with culture and protective factors among youth of color in T. Miller (ed.), *School Violence and Primary Prevention* (2nd. Ed). Springer; New York

Griffin, A.R., **Dixon, R.D.**, & Tackie H.N. (2022). Taxation without representation: perspectives of Black teachers and the connection to retention. In Gist C. and Bristol T. (Eds.), *The Handbook of Research on Teachers of Color*

Jones, D., Khalil, D., & **Dixon, R.D.** (2017). Teacher-advocates respond to ESSA: “Support the good parts—Resist the bad parts”, *Peabody Journal of Education*, 92 (4), 445-465.

Dixon, R.D. & Khalil, D. (2016). An examination of racial composition in culturally relevant math study groups on math learning outcomes. In Wood, M., Turner, E., and Civil, M. (Eds.). (2016). *Proceedings of the 38th annual meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education*. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona.

Boykin, A. W., **Dixon, R.D.**, Mitchell, D.S.B., Bruce, A.W., Akinola, Y.O., Holt, N.P. (2016). The intersection of racial and cultural identity for African Americans: Expanding the scope of black self- understanding. In Sullivan, J. and Cross, W. E. (Eds.), *African American Identity: Meaning-Making and Internalized Racism*. NY: State University of New York (SUNY) Press.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Dixon. R.D. & Wallace, C. (In Preparation). The Black Superwoman: Afro-cultural Orientations as Healing Agents.

Wallace, C. & Dixon R.D. (In Preparation). Gender Differences in Gender Socialization and Norm conformity Among Generation Z.

Griffin A.R. & Dixon R.D. (In Preparation). What's verve got to do with it: An empirical investigation of culturally congruent personally relevant classrooms on Black student academic motivation and engagement. *Urban Education*

Dixon, R.D., Wallace, C., & James, M. (In Preparation). Racial identity as a moderator between gender and perceptions of romantic relationships.

Dixon, R.D., Wallace, C., James, M., & Hyde, K. (In Preparation) Sex Roles in Relationships as a moderator between gender and perceptions of romantic relationships.

Dixon, R.D., Wallace, C., Barnes, G., & Hall, N. (In Preparation). Afrocentricity and Eurocentricity as moderators between gender and perceptions of romantic relationships.

Other Publications

Dixon, R.D. (2021) *A critical quantitative exploration of the state of Black education*, The Black Teacher Collaborative, Atlanta, GA.
<https://blackteachercollaborative.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/The-State-of-Black-Education-2021.pdf>

Griffin, A.R., **Dixon, R.D.**, & Teoh, M. (2019). *If you listen, we will stay: Why teachers of color leave and what schools, districts, and states can do to disrupt the culture of teacher turnover*, The Education Trust and Teach Plus, Washington, DC.
<https://edtrustmain.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/wp->

content/uploads/2014/09/15140833/If-You-Listen-We-Will-Stay-Why-Teachers-ofColor-Leave-and-How-to-Disrupt-Teacher-Turnover-2019-September.pdf

Griffin, A. R., & **Dixon R.D.** (2017). *Systems for success: Thinking beyond access to AP*, The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://1k9gl1yevnfp2lpq1dhrqe17wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Thinking-Beyond-Access-ToAP.pdf>

Blog Posts and Other Media Offerings

Dixon, R.D. (2019). *Safety, belonging, and humanity: Black teachers need strong school climates too*. The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2019/02/28/safetybelonging- and-humanity-black-teachers-need-strong-school-climates-too/>

Dixon, R.D. (2019). *How can we make dual enrollment programs equitable?* Animated Video, The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6VOLtPwTZU>

Dixon, R.D. (2019). *What is dual enrollment?* Animated Video, The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBw0cQaXAZA>

Dixon, R.D. (2018). *Five ways state leaders can support teacher diversity*. The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://edtrust.org/the-equity-line/5-ways-state-leaders-cansupport-teacher-diversity/>

Dixon, R.D. (2017). *Latino teachers and DACA: Who will teach our children?* The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://edtrust.org/the-equity-line/latino-teachersdaca-will-teach-children/>

Dixon, R.D. (2017). *“Brown v. Board” The fight for integrated classrooms continues*. The Education Trust, Washington, DC. <https://edtrust.org/the-equity-line/brown-v-board-fight-integrated-classrooms-continues/>

PRESENTATIONS

Dixon, R.D. & Wallace C. (2025). Cultural identity as a moderator to the relationship between gender and emotional suppression for Black college students. Poster Presentation at the Association of Psychological Sciences Annual Convention, Washington, DC.

Wallace, C., Dixon, R.D., & Burford, T. (2025). Race and gender differences in romantic relationship desire. Poster Presentation at the Association of Psychological Sciences Annual Convention, Washington, DC.

- Wallace, C. & Dixon, R.D. (2024). Race and gender differences in gender role conflict. Paper presented to the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Philadelphia, PA.
- Dixon, R.D., & Wallace, C. (2024). Multiple identities as predictors of academic motivation for Black college students. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association*.
- Dixon, R.D., Griffin, A.R., & Jagers, R. (2023). Innovative methods and measures: Assessing transformative social emotional learning implementation and impact. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association*.
- Griffin, A.R., & **Dixon, R.D.** (2022). Behind the magic: Exploring the process behind hiring the right teacher. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association*.
- Dixon, R.D.**, Griffin, A.R., & Tackie, H. (2022). Perspectives on Black teachers' experiences and the connection to retention. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association*.
- Griffin, A.R., **Dixon R.D.**, Monroe-White, T., & Veal, D. (2021). A critical quantitative exploration of the state of Black education. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association*.
- Dixon, R.D.** & Griffin, A.R. (2021). Unpacking the “invisible tax” on teachers of color. Presentation at *Beyond Envisioning Equity: Situating Teacher of Color Voices, Virtual Conference at Kansas State University*.
- Teoh, M., Griffin, A.R., **Dixon R.D.** (2019). If you listen, we will stay: Perspectives of teachers of color on retention. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in Toronto, ON, Canada.
- Griffin, A.R. & **Dixon, R.D.** (2017) Lifting Up the Voices of Black Teachers: “Through Our Eyes”. Stay Woke: The Inaugural National Black Male Educators Convening, Philadelphia, PA.
- Jones, D., Khalil, D. & **Dixon, R.D.** (2017, October). Teaching Teacher Advocates: Support the Good Parts – Resist the Bad Parts. Paper presented at the 51st Biennial *Kappa Delta Pi* Convocation in Pittsburgh, PA.
- Khalil, D., **Dixon, R.D.**, Palmer, R. (2017). Using a Sense of Belonging to Understand the Experiences of Canadian Students at an HBCU. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in San Antonio, TX.

Dixon, R.D. (2016) The effects of learning context and racial composition of study groups on academic outcomes. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in Washington, DC.

Mitchell, D.S.B., **Dixon, R. D.**, & Holt, N. P. (2015). The Capstone Institute Teacher Training Program: An intervention for math and science instructors. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in Chicago, IL.

Dixon, R.D., & Boykin, A.W. (2014) New directions: Increasing the math performance of students placed at risk through multiple pathways. Poster presented at the *20th Annual Black Graduate Students in Psychology Conference* in Washington, DC.

Dixon, R.D., (2014) A new foray: The effects of learning context and the racial makeup of study groups on academic performance and group processes. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in Philadelphia, PA.

Dixon, R.D., Griffin, A.R., Hill, C.D., & Boykin, A.W. (2013) The (CP)² Program (Calculus, Physics, Chemistry): A talent development model for improving performance in keep gatekeeper courses for STEM majors. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in San Francisco, CA.

Dixon, R.D., Boykin, A.W. (2012) Communalism and popular culture: Means towards increasing math achievement for African-American children. Poster presented at the *2nd Biennial American Psychological Association Division 45 Conference* in Ann Arbor, MI.

Burrell, J.O., Fredericks, A.C., Hill, C.D., & **Dixon, R.D.** (2012) Building on students' assets: Talent development approaches to motivation and achievement. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association* in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Hill C. D., **Dixon R. D.**, Suber A., Kimbrough K., White L., Fredericks A. (2010). From Engagement to Academic Achievement: Transactional Considerations. Paper presented at the annual *Leslie H. Hicks Symposium on Psychology* in Washington, DC.

Fenton T., Ivy M.J., **Dixon R.D.**, Hill C. D. (2009). Cultivating Students' Assets in the Classroom: Inter-subjective and Interpersonal Means of Enhancing Student Academic Performance. Paper presented at the annual *Leslie H. Hicks Symposium on Psychology* in Washington, DC.

INVITED LECTURES AND PANELS

Dixon, R.D. (2024). The path to retention: Supporting mental health, mindfulness, and fostering wellbeing. Panel Moderator at the May Race and Education Webinar organized by the Hunt Institute.

Dixon, R.D. (2023). Culture, Identity, and Belonging: Black Child Development Across the Lifespan. Presentation at the George Mason University Applied Developmental Psychology Colloquia Series

Dixon, R.D. (2021). *The Impact of Trauma on Learning*. Panel Presentation at the Hunt Institute Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows Meeting, Virtual Conference.

Griffin, A.R. & **Dixon R.D.** (2019). Moving from problems to solutions: Why Black teachers leave and what we can do to make them stay. Presentation for *ResearchED Conference* in Philadelphia, PA.

Griffin, A.R. & **Dixon, R.D.** (2018) Unpacking the invisible tax on teachers of color. The Reimagining Integration: Diverse and Equitable Schools, Beyond Desegregation Spring Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Dixon, R.D. & Griffin, A.R. (2017) Systems for Success: Thinking Beyond Access to AP. North Carolina Caucus of Black School Board Members: 2017 Fall Retreat & Issues Forum, Raleigh, NC.

ACADEMIC HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Howard University, Washington, DC. 2024
Irvin D. Reid and Pamela Trotman Reid Junior Faculty Award

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

HBCU I-Corps: Introduction to Customer Discovery
National Science Foundation, Virtual Workshop, 2021

Entrepreneur Development Network-DC
George Washington and Howard Universities, Virtual Workshop, 2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association, 2011-Present

- Program Chair: Talent Development Special Interest Group
 - 2016-2018
- Session Chair: Talent Development Special Interest Group
 - 2015-2017
- Session Discussant: Talent Development Special Interest Group

- 2015 and 2018

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National Assessment of Educational Progress: Questionnaire Standing Committee

- Committee Member

Grant Proposal Reviewer

- National Science Foundation: Racial Equity in STEM CAREER Program
 - 2022
- National Science Foundation: DRL Core R& D Programs
 - 2019

REFERENCES

Dr. Candice Wallace, Associate Professor
Psychological Science
Central Connecticut State University
Candice.wallace@ccsu.edu

Dr. Ashley Griffin, Assistant Professor
Child and Adolescent Studies
Bowie State University
agilchrist@bowiestate.edu