

Sheneese Thompson, Ph.D. | Associate Professor

Department of Afro-American Studies, Howard University | sheneese.thompson@howard.edu

EDUCATION

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Ph.D. in African American and African Studies (2019)

Dissertation: *Oshun, Lemonade and Other Yellow Things: Philosophical and Empirical Inquiry into Incorporation of Afro-Atlan Religious Iconography*

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

M.A. in African American Studies (2015)

Howard University, Washington, District of Columbia

B.A. Honors in Afro-American Studies (2014)

Minor: Human Development

Honors Thesis: "Black Aesthetics, Mass Media Messaging, and its Effect on Academic Achievement in African American Youth"

CERTIFICATIONS

Howard University ODOL, Phase 2: Learning Design and Quality Assurance (2026)

Howard University CETLA, Best Practices in Distance Learning (2024)

ACUE and ACE, Effective Teaching Practices Framework (2023)

Adobe for Education Professional Learning Creative Campus Fellow (2022)

Bowie State University CETL, Learning Online, Teaching with Technology Online (2020)

GRANTS

CETL Adobe Faculty Development Grant, Bowie State University (2023)

This grant was written internally to the Bowie Foundation to award the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning with \$140,000 over 2 academic years to provide Adobe-centered professional development to faculty. We were granted 100,000 on Monday April 10, 2023. I completed the proposal and all associated quarterly reporting to the funder.

Semester-Based Undergraduate Institute, Bowie State University (2021)

This grant awarded stipends to undergraduate participants in the HBCU Exchange research program with California State University San Marcos.

PUBLICATIONS

Thompson, Sheneese. *Oshun, Lemonade, and Intertextuality: Afro-Atlantic Religion in Popular Culture*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2025.

Thompson, Sheneese (editor). *Freedom: A Journal of Research in Africana Studies* 2. Bowie: Bowie State University W.E.B. Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience, 2025.

Thompson, Sheneese (editor). *Freedom: A Journal of Research in Africana Studies* 1. Bowie: Bowie State University W.E.B. Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience, 2024.

Thompson, Sheneese. "Bombing Move," in *Picturing Black History: Photographs and Stories That Changes The World*. New York: Abrams, 2024.

Thompson, Sheneese. "The Proliferation of Yorùbá Religion in the Atlantic in the Nineteenth Century: The Portability of the Orisha." *Yoruba Studies Review* 7, no. 2, Winter 2023.

Thompson Sheneese, "The Subaltern is Signifyin(g): Black Twitter as a Site of Resistance." in *Are You Entertained?: New Essays in 21st Century Black Popular Culture*. Edited by Simone C. Drake. Durham: Duke University Press, 2020.

Thompson, Sheneese and Franco Barchiesi. "Harriet Tubman and Andrew Jackson on the Twenty-Dollar Bill: A Monstrous Intimacy." *Open Cultural Studies: Black Women in Popular Culture*, Fall 2018.

Thompson, Sheneese. "Ilê Aiyê in Brazil and the Reinvention of Africa" review of *Ilê Aiyê in Brazil and the Reinvention of Africa* by Niyi Afolabi, *Research in African Literatures*, Winter 2018.

Thompson, Sheneese. "Equal Time: Television and the Civil Rights Movement" review of *Equal Time: Television and the Civil Rights Movement* by Aniko Bodroghkozy, *Spectrum: A Journal on Black Men*, Spring 2016.

Thompson, Sheneese. "Exploitation, Cultural Appropriation, and Degradation" In *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism, First Edition 2016*. Edited by John Stone, et al. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2016.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Thompson, Sheneese. "Carl Sandburg, Race Riots, and the Black Press" in *Special History of Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site*. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2026.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Diasporadical Sinners: The Iconographic Adoption of Ibeji in Short and Feature Length Film"
-ASCAC Kemetic Studies Conference 2026

"Don't Hurt Yourself: Odù Oseturá as a Method for Analyzing Fault, Retribution, and Accountability"
- Bowie State University's African Psychology Student Association Conference 2026

"Honey in the Hive: Oshun and Yemaya in Celebration of the Divine Feminine"
-ASCAC Kemetic Studies Conference 2023

"All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you": Octavia Butler's Earthseed and Lessons for Our Times"
-College English Association Conference 2023

"Don't Hurt Yourself: Odù Oṣẹ́túrá as a Method for Analyzing Fault, Retribution and Accountability in Beyoncé's, Lemonade (2016)"
-African Literature Association Conference 2019

"When Life Gives You Lemons, Add Honey: Oshun Applied as a Salve to Facilitate Women's Healing"
-ASCAC Kemetic Studies Conference 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Howard University, Associate Professor (2024-Present)

AFRO 005 Introduction to Afro-American Studies I
AFRO 006 Introduction to Afro-American Studies II
AFRO 129 Black Experience in Film
AFRO 185 Black Women in America
AFRO 775 Preparation for Practicum Writing

Bowie State University, Assistant Professor (2019-2024)

ENGL 101 Expository Writing (Online)
ENGL 102 Argument and Research (Online)
ENGL 211 Literatures of the World (Online Asynchronous)
ENGL 212 African American Literary Imagination
ENGL 213 Cinema of Africa and the Diaspora (Hybrid/Online)
ENGL 324 African American Literature to 1926 (Online)
ENGL 325 African American Literature 1926-Contemporary Period
ENGL 329 African American Short Story
ENGL 331 African American Vernacular Tradition (Online)
ENGL 424 Neo-Slave Narratives
ENGL 425 Seminar in African American Literature (Hybrid/Online)
ENGL 501 Research Methods & Humanities Computing
ENGL 758 Seminar in African Literature (ONLINE)

The Ohio State University (2017-2019)

AFAMAST 4551 Special Topics in Africana Literature
AFAMAST 2281 Introduction to African American Literature
AFAMAST 3230 Black Women, Culture and Politics

Denison University (2017-2018)

BLST/QS 232 Introduction to African American Studies

LECTURES & PANELS

“Teaching Creativity and Durable Skills in an AI World”

-Future of Educational Technology Conference, January 13, 2026

“Turn AI Uncertainty into Institutional Strength”

-Adobe Express + Firefly Webinar Series, December 3, 2025

“Code Meets Culture: Responsible AI in the Humanities”

-Winston Salem State University, November 13, 2025

“AI, Creativity, & Productivity: A new era of teaching & learning”

-Adobe Max, October 9, 2025

Kickoff Panel

-Adobe Education Institute, June 9, 2025

“Adobe Webpage 3 Ways”

-Vorhees University EPI Center Conference, April 10, 2025

“So I have Adobe, Now What?”

-Adobe Roundtable Chicago, March 18, 2025

“Integrating Visual Communication with Generative AI.”

-Adobe Digital Literacy Café, February 5, 2025

“Raising Your Professional Profile”

-South Carolina Women in Higher Education Women of Color Workshop, October 25, 2024

“Bowie State University’s Creative Campus Story”

-Adobe EduMax, October 25, 2023

“Pathways to Opportunity for Historically Excluded Communities”

-Adobe for All, September 26, 2023

“Learning to Engage our Students: Fun Ways to Form Relationships”

-Bowie State University New Faculty Institute, August 22, 2023

“Bowie State University Creative Campus Introduction”

-Bowie State University New Faculty Institute, August 22, 2023

“Using High-Impact Practices for Student Success”

-Winston Salem State University Faculty Festival May 15, 2023

Conversations about Digital Equity

-The Chronicle of Higher Education/Adobe Salon Dinner (New York) 2023

How Do I Grade This Thing?

-Adobe Digital Literacy Café Webinar 2023

“Digital Storytelling: Capturing and Communicating Your Narrative”

-Adobe Week Bowie State University 2023

“Creating Boldly with Adobe”

-Adobe Creative Campus Collaboration Event (Salt Lake City, Utah) 2023

“Advising for Student Success”

-Bowie State University CETL New Faculty Sessions 2023

“Learning to Engage our Students: Fun Ways to Form Relationships”

-Bowie State University New Faculty Institute Fall 2022

“Promoting BSU Students’ Ongoing Growth of Writing Skills: High Impact Practices to Support Students Writing for Their Disciplines and Fields”

-Bowie State University Faculty Institute Fall 2021

“The Need for Innovation: Standards vs. Standardization”

-Bowie State University Faculty Institute Spring 2021

“Historical & Cultural Implications of Juneteenth”

-RP3 Agency June 18, 2021

**“Identifying & Preventing Microaggressions in the Workplace”
-RP3 Agency November 5, 2021**

UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, AI Strategy and Governance Committee (2025-Present)

I serve as a member of the committee working to provide the Howard University AI Council with recommendations for deploying campus-wide AI policies

Editor, Freedom: A Journal of Research in Africana Studies (2023-Present)

As an affiliate faculty member for Bowie State University’s W.E.B. Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience, I have been appointed as the Editor in Chief of the affiliated journal.

AARC Program, Princeton University (2023)

Served as a faculty mentor to Bowie State University students during their exchange program focusing on archival research, Library Science, and curatorial practice in museums.

Alternative Spring Break, Charleston/Liberty Hill (2023)

Faculty Facilitator/Chaperone

CETL Faculty Fellow for Adobe, Bowie State University (2022-2024)

Works through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning to liaison with our Adobe partners to plan and execute professional development for faculty, and further the Creative Campus mission to integrate the Adobe Creative Cloud into the teaching and learning experience campus-wide including our Inaugural Adobe Week.

Search Committee, Tenure Track Composition Coordinator (2022-2023)
Member

Search Committee, Tenure Track French Professor, (2022-2023)
Member

Curriculum Committee (2022-2024)
Member

Interim Course Coordinator: First Year Writing (2021-22)

Assessment Committee (2019-2022)
Member

Graduate Studies Committee (2019-2022)
Member

Innovation Committee (2020-2023)
Founding Member

HBCU Exchange Program Faculty Mentor (2021)

Team-taught and guided undergraduate students from Bowie State University and California State University San Marcos through independent research alongside Dr. Gloria Pindi

Middle States Commission on Higher Education Self Study (2020)
Standard 3 Workgroup

Office of Engaged Learning (2020)
Instructor Toolkit Designer

Language, Literature & Cultural Studies Fall Return Committee (2020)
Member

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Stanford University Design School, Teaching & Learning Studio (2023)

RELATED EXPERIENCE

National Park Service, Carl Sandburg House National Historic Site (2025-2026)

Subject Matter Expert/Course Designer

In partnership with Bowie State University, I serve as a subject matter expert and researcher for the Special History Study of the Sandburg's Views and Roles Related to African Americans and Civil Rights. In this role I conducted archival, primary and secondary source research, provided quarterly progress reports on deliverables, and contributed a Chapter for the final report entitled, "Carl Sandburg, Race Riots, and the Black Press."

Howard University Office of Digital & Online Learning (2026)

Subject Matter Expert/Course Designer

Developed and syllabus and Canvas course shell in accordance with LQDA for Introduction to Afro-American Studies to be delivered synchronously online for the distance learning program.

Chicago SEED Grant (2024-2025)

Subject Matter Expert Consultant

In conjunction with Vorhees University's Center of Excellence for Educator Preparation and Innovation and Bowie State University's Center for Research and Mentoring Black Male Students and Teachers, I provided services including, evaluation of social-emotional learning (SEL) practices, evaluation of culturally relevant pedagogical (CRP) practices, codification and standardization of existing SEL and CRP practices, professional development for teachers and staff on integration and optimization of SEL and CRP practices across the sites of Youth Connections Charter Schools of Chicago.

Steppingstone Scholars, Inc. (2018-2020)

Lead Teacher- Social Studies

Developed syllabus and overall course structure, and administered all assessments, and completed all grading for scholars.

Mathematics, Civics, and Sciences Charter School (2019)

Curriculum Consultant/Instructional Coach

Reviewed standardized testing data and made recommendations for curricular interventions including course materials and pedagogical shifts as well as partnered with new teachers to discuss and develop effective lesson plans, classroom management strategies and professional goals

AWARDS

Bowie State University College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Service Award (2023)

MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of the World African Diaspora