

# Ashley N. McDonald

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## Education

**University of Texas at Austin / PHD in Communication Studies / (ABD) (2019-PRESENT)**

***Projected Graduation: May 2023 | 3.8 GPA | Advisor: Dr. E.J. Hartelius***

- **Dissertation (IN PROGRESS) | A Place in the House Fire: Exploring Themes of Time, Trauma, Belonging, and Identity through Autoethnography** | Under the advisement of Dr. E.J. Hartelius | *Committee: Dr. Ronald Jackson II, Dr. Shiv Ganesh, Dr. Joshua G. Gunn, Dr. Stacey Sowards*

**University of Cincinnati / M.A in Communication Studies / (2017-2019) | 3.9 GPA | Advisor: Dr. Ronald Jackson II**

- **M.A. Thesis | Discerning Apology from Apologia to Restructure Higher Education's Response to Racist Violations | A Critical-Discursive Exploration of Public Apologies** | Completed Under the advisement of Dr. Ronald Jackson II - *Committee: Dr. Shaunak Sastry & Dr. Debra Merchant, UC VP of Student Affairs*

**University of Southern Mississippi / B.A in Communication Studies / (2013-2017) | 3.6 GPA | Advisor: Dr. Lawrence Hosman**

## Fellowships and Scholarships

- Siltanen-Hosman Scholarship for Excellent Student Leaders 2015-2016 (500\$)
- Moody Communication Doctoral Fellowship 2019-2023 (5,000\$)
- Whole Communities Whole Health Fellowship 2021 (10,000\$)

## Publications

**[Book Chapter] Black Experiences in Higher Education: Faculty, Staff, and Students | Up The Ladder: Understanding Black Mentorship Through a Black Doctoral Duo-Ethnography | Edited by Antione Tomlin & Sherella Cupid | A. McDonald & R. Harris | 2022**

**[Contributor] By Degrees: Resilience, Relationships, and Success in Communication Graduate Studies by Betsy Wackernagel Bach, Dawn O. Braithwaite, and Shiv Ganesh | Why Did I Go To Graduate School? | A. McDonald**

**The Violence of White Entitlement and the Hypocrisy of Earned Merit**

RL Jackson, A McDonald | 2018 | Departures in Critical Qualitative Research 8 (4), 64-68

### **Conference Papers and Presentations**

**[Individual Paper] The Taste of Copper: Confronting Anger and Trauma Through Black Womanist Autoethnography | A. McDonald | Individual Paper | Ethnography Division | NCA 2022**

**[Individual Paper] The Body Traumatic: An Autoethnographic-Ish Approach To The Problematic Ethics of Personal Expertise-Ethos And Writings of Trauma | A. McDonald | Individual Paper | Ethnography Division | NCA 2022**

**[Panel Presenter] Transforming Communication Education Through Intersectional Approaches Towards Justice | NCA 2021**

**[Panel Presenter] The Double Rainbow: A Call for Communication Scholars to Understand the Linkage between Gender and Neurodivergence | NCA 2021**

### **Alternative Work**

**[Podcast Guest] Crackers and Grape Juice w/ Johanna Hartelius, Jason Micheli & Malcolm Foley | Episode 258 | Lynching Then and Lynching Now: Racial Justice as Christian Imperative**

**Everybody Else And Then Me - A Zine on Being Black and Disabled |**

A McDonald | Artist Showcase Panel - TAMU Communicating Diversity Conference 2021

**[Speaker] Crisis of Faith - A Zine on Enduring Faith and Trauma | A McDonald | Artist Showcase Panel | TAMU Communicating Diversity Conference | 2022**

**[Presenter/Speaker] DisPLACEing Power and Privilege in Public Speaking: Re-constructing the Introductory Course Through Critical Pedagogical Theory and Praxis | Engaging Listening & Dialogue through Art and Story to Reach across Difference | G. Hummel, L. Mark, A. McDonald, K. Rome | NCA 2022 Preconference**

## **Graduate Coursework**

COMM 8092 – Teaching Practicum  
COMM 7001 – Advanced Critical and Rhetorical Theory  
COMM 8088 – Visual Rhetoric  
COMM 7007- Advanced Communication Theory  
COMM 7041 - Empirical Communication Methods  
COMM 9042 - Thesis Project Hours  
COMM 8008 – Advanced Survey of Organizational Communication  
COMM 7006 – Entertainment Media and Audience  
COMM 8094 – Introduction to Graduate Studies I  
COMM 8093 – Introduction to Graduate Studies II  
COMM 7042 – Qualitative Research Methods  
CMS 7482 – Burke and the Symbolic Form  
CMS 8003 - Voices of Citizenship  
CMS 390S - Survey of Organizational Communication  
CMS 8008 - Gender and Communication  
CMS 7558 - Dialogue  
AADS 3042 - Black Studies Theory I  
AADS 3022 - Alienation and Freedom  
AADS 3122 - Black Political Thought  
CMS 8035 - Rhetoric of Expertise  
CMS 390P - Rhetoric of Psychoanalysis  
CMS S380E - Conf. in Comm Studies  
CMS 3904 - Decolonizing Communication

## **Courses Taught**

Course Instructor - (28-32 Students, 6 Sections) - Public Speaking  
Teaching Assistant - (74 Students) – Rhetorical Theory  
Teaching Assistant - (85 Students) - Rhetoric of Popular Music  
Teaching Assistant - (35 Students, 2 Sections) - Gender and Communication  
Teaching Assistant - (95 Students) - Communication and Leadership (2021)  
Teaching Assistant - (117 Students) - Communication and Leadership (2022)  
Teaching Assistant - (806 Students) - Introduction to Communication  
Teaching Assistant - (35 Students, 2 Sections) - Gender and Communication  
Teaching Assistant - (47 Students, 1 Section) - Conflict Resolution  
Course Instructor - (25 Students, 2 Sections) Introduction to Professional Communication (2021)  
Course Instructor - (25 Students, 2 Sections) - Introduction to Professional Communication (2022)

## **Professional Experience**

### **University of Texas at Austin | Rater, Core Curriculum Assessment Project | (June 2022)**

- Worked in small groups/pairs to assess data
- Reviewed and scored artifacts produced by the university's students
- Drafted written summaries and reports
- Open-coded survey responses
- Reviewed artifacts for exemplars
- Reviewed and analyzed secure data
- Kept confidential documents secure

### **University of Texas at Austin | Research Assistant, Whole Communities, Whole Health - Bridging Barriers Project | (June 2021-August 2021)**

- Did coding and analysis for over a dozen sets of qualitative data
- Created a report that included critical research and theory
- Presented findings to lead researcher
- Coded using Nvivo
- Kept confidential information and documents secure

### **University of Texas at Austin | Research Assistant, Moody Communication | September 2020-November 2020**

- Coded 2 data sets with 806 points of data
- Generated a report from Mid Semester surveys
- Generated suggestions for improvement in courses that were implemented
- Presented findings to lead researcher
- Kept confidential information and documents secure

## **Certifications**

- *Inclusive Classrooms and Leadership* - August 2022
  - University of Texas at Austin - Division of Diversity and Community Engagement - Dr. Betty Jeanne Taylor

## **Leadership & Service**

- President of Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance at the University of Southern Mississippi (2 Years)
- Contributed to the promotion and staffing of the Mississippi Natural Hair Expo (2 Years)
- Helped promote and staff the USM Second Chance Prom 2014/5
- Helped promote and staff the Transgender Day of Remembrance Activities and Vigil at USM (3 Years)

- Completed Semester Long Community-Based Capstone Project at Southern Pines Animal Shelter (1 Year)
- Moody Communication GSA Diversity Chair (2 Years)
- Peer Mentor for the University of Cincinnati's HBCU Communication Pipeline Program (1 Year)