

CAITLIN JOY DOBSON

CURRICULUM VITAE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
3630 Watt Way
Los Angeles, CA
90089-0281

MOBILE | (upon request)
EMAIL | cdobson@usc.edu
WEBSITE | www.caitlinjoydobson.com

AREAS OF INTEREST:
sexual violence; gender & sexuality studies;
intersectionality studies; cultural studies; critical
media studies; critical theories of race & culture;
critical whiteness; masculinities; transnational
feminism; theories of power; trauma-informed
pedagogy; critical theory and social justice;
community-based research; anti-violence scholar
activism; abolition; transformative justice

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2017-2024 (expected)	Communication, University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism Dissertation: <i>Multiple Perpetrator Rape Culture: A Critical Intersectional Study of Media and Sexual Violence</i> Dissertation Co-Advisors: Dr. Ben Carrington & Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro Committee Members: Dr. Meenakshi Gigi Durham & Dr. Cristina Mejia Visperas Area of Specialization: Media, Culture & Community Area of Specialization: Political Economy of Global Communications
Graduate Certificate 2017-2020	Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Southern California Dornsife Gender and Sexuality Studies Department Advisor: Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro (POIR, GSS)
M.A. 2013-2015	Public Diplomacy, University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism Practicum: <i>Global Ties: Reimagining the Master of Public Diplomacy International Research Program</i> Research Focus: cultural diplomacy; exchange diplomacy; human rights nonprofit advocacy Advisor(s): Dr. Philip Seib and Dr. Nick Cull
B.A. 2002-2006	Journalism, Michigan State University MSU School of Journalism
B.A. 2002-2006	Cultural Anthropology, Michigan State University MSU Department of Anthropology

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2023	USC Center for Excellence in Teaching Future Faculty Teaching Institute Certificate
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2022	USC Center for Feminist Research, directed by Dr. Zakiyyah Iman Jackson: Research Group Funding. \$5,000
2022	Consortium for Gender, Sexuality, Race & Public Culture, directed by Dr. Karen Tongson: Research Group Funding. \$300
2021-2022	Annenberg Undergrad-Grad Mentoring in Research (AUGMent) Fellowship, directed by Dr. Mike Ananny. \$1,000
2021	Annenberg Summer Research Fellowship, directed by Dr. Hector Amaya. \$2,000
2021	USC Center for Feminist Research, directed by Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro: Research Group Funding. \$4,500
2021	USC-UPenn Annenberg Summer Doctoral Institute on Difference in Media and Culture, Doctoral Fellow, directed by Dr. Robeson Taj Frazier
2021	USC Annenberg Graduate Fellowship Research and Creative Project Symposium. \$1,000
2021	Diana Meehan Fellowship in Feminism and Communication. \$5,000
2020	USC Annenberg Graduate Fellowship Research and Creative Project Symposium. \$1,200
2020	Provost New Strategic Directions for Research Award: Understanding Complexity: the USC Institute for Intersectionality and Social Transformation, led by Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro and alongside faculty across academic departments. \$119,000
2017-present	USC Graduate School Annenberg Fellowship
2015	USC Lambda Pi Eta Annenberg Honor Society

PUBLICATIONS

Dobson, CJ. (2023). Unraveling Pink Pussyhats: When the (un)critical praxis of cis-white feminism goes viral. In B.J. Gipson, S.U. Noble, B.M. Tynes, and S. Zidani (Eds). *The Intersectional Internet II: Power, Politics, and Resistance*. New York, NY: Peter Lang Publishing. *(forthcoming)*

Dobson, CJ. (2023). "I can't help but tell the truth of what they'd done to me:" Examining media representations of the rape of Recy Taylor. *(in progress)*

Dobson, CJ. (2022). Focusing on the roots: A Violence Prevention Specialist approach to teaching intersectionality in the classroom in *Abolitionist Pedagogy: The Classroom as Liberatory Practice* [Zine]. Los Angeles, CA.

Dobson, CJ. (2019, May 17) Surviving R. Kelly, fandom, & collective memory: 5 avenues for discussing sexual violence. Confessions of an Aca-Fan.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2020 -present	Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma A USC Dornsife Center for Feminist Research PhD Writing Group conceptualized and co-created alongside Nancy Hernandez (POIR) and a grassroots collective of doctoral scholars interested in building community across academic disciplines, institutions, and areas of inquiry, focused on four research pillars: (1) Violence and Trauma Studies, (2) Intersectionality Studies, (3) Feminist Theory / Gender & Sexuality Studies, and (4) Transnational Studies.
Spring - Summer 2019, Spring - Summer 2020, Summer 2022, Spring - Summer 2023	International Journal of Communication (IJoC) Assistant Editor to Arlene Luck, Kady Michaela Bell-Garcia and Dr. Larry Gross, in support of top-ranking, open-access, multimedia, and online academic journal publishing Communication and interdisciplinary research on a global scale.
Fall 2020	USC Intersectionality Institute for Social Transformation Founding Research Assistant to Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro (POIR, GSS), coordinating and helping to facilitate collaboration between collective of USC faculty members across departments and focused on placing an intersectional lens on interdisciplinary research projects.
Fall 2019 -Spring 2020	USC Dornsife Center for Feminist Research Research Assistant to Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro and Dr. Jane Junn, instrumental in programming and projects including the development of an intersectionality studies journal, a gender equity partnership with the Keck medical school, public-facing events focused on leadership by women of color, and overall management of the CFR office.
Spring 2019	Institute for Diversity and Empowerment at Annenberg (IDEA) Research Assistant to Dr. Robeson Taj Frazier, instrumental in the coordination of events, programming, and partnerships with USC Visions and Voices and the USC Roski School of Art and Design, all in support of IDEA's mission of examining the vast complexities of diversity, identity, and culture.
March 2015	Public Diplomacy in Indonesia: Reflections for Progress Led, facilitated, and promoted an international research project to Southeast Asia, primarily Indonesia, where a USC Master of Public Diplomacy delegation of graduate student researchers met with government and non-state actors, and produced a research report through which the timely public diplomacy landscape of Indonesia was studied.
March 2014	Innovations in Brazilian Public Diplomacy Traveled alongside a USC Master of Diplomacy delegation to São Paulo, Brazil to study US-Brazil international exchange programs, facilitated by government-funded initiatives, non-governmental organizations. and university partnerships.
March 2014	Master of Public Diplomacy Networking Field Trip to Washington D.C. Coordinated, led, and promoted a domestic networking trip to the East Coast, alongside a delegation of first year Master of Public Diplomacy graduate students.

Jan 2015 -Dec 2015	USC Shoah Foundation: The Institute for Visual History and Education Executive Office and Strategic Communications Associate, within self-functioning non-profit housed within a University setting and focused on genocide research, education, and violence prevention.
May 2014 -Aug 2014	PASSOP (People Against Suffering, Oppression & Poverty) in Cape Town, SA Refugee Rights Intern in a grassroots setting, working with African Nationals and the refugee community in Cape Town, South Africa to conduct client interviews, intake and process newcomer letters, assist the legal team in preparing asylum rejection appeal affidavits, and support programming within the organization's LGBTQIA+ department.
Jan 2014 -May 2014	Human Rights Watch Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA Development and Outreach Intern gaining exposure to an international non-profit in a corporate setting, planning advocacy film screenings and liaising with the organization's community of volunteers, advocates, and partners.
2007-2019	Prior career experience: travel industry; international human rights nonprofit(s); international experience spanning 70+ countries.

CONFERENCE AND RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

June 2023	Cultural Studies Association Conference Panelist “Moments of Whiteness: Critical Discourse Analysis of Racial Reckonings in MTV’s <i>The Real World Homecoming</i> ”
November 2022	National Women’s Studies Association Conference Panelist “I Can’t Help But Tell the Truth About What They’d Done to Me”: Studying Media Representations of the Rape of Recy Taylor”
November 2022	Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference Panelist “This Ain’t It: Assessing Slow Death Representations of the White Woman Protagonist in Popular Media”
June 2022	USC Intersectionality Institute for Social Transformation Panelist “Carceral Feminism as Colonial Spectacle: A Comparative Case Study of Multiple Perpetrator Rape in India”
June 2022	Cultural Studies Association Conference Panelist (Virtual) “‘They Say Boys Will Be Boys...’: Examining Media Representations from the Central Park Five to the Exonerated Five”
May 2022	International Communication Association Conference Panelist (Virtual) “The Complexities of Centering Survivors: Cultural Studies Approaches to Interrogating Sexual Violence as State Violence”
April 2022	The Classroom As Liberatory Practice: An Abolitionist Pedagogy Workshop Series Presenter “Focusing on the Roots: A Violence Prevention Specialist Approach to Teaching Intersectionality in the Classroom”

April 2022	Annenberg Research Seminar Panelist (Virtual) The Power of Recy Taylor: A Survivor-Centered Approach to Interrogating White Impunity in Instances of Power-Based Harm
September 2021	National Women's Studies Association Conference Panelist (Virtual) "Violence Misunderstood: Distinguishing Multiple Perpetrator Rape in International Human Rights Law and Policy"
September 2021	Character Assassination and Reputation Management Conference Co-Panelist with Perry B. Johnson (Virtual) "Principled Struggle": The Complexities of Cancel Culture and the Possibilities of Transformative Justice."
June 2021	Cultural Studies Association Conference Co-Panelist with Paulina Lanz (Virtual) "#NiUnaMás: An Interdisciplinary Critical Media Studies Approach to Feminist Social Activism in Mexico"
May 2021	International Communication Association 71st Annual Conference Co-Panelist with Rachel Moran (Virtual) "Weaponized Distraction: QAnon's Co-Optation of Anti-Sex Trafficking Activism through the Performance of Care"
April 2021	USC Annenberg Graduate Fellowship Research and Creative Project Symposium Poster Presentation with Perry B. Johnson (Virtual) "#Canceled: Cancel Culture, Accountability, and the Complexities of Transformative Justice"
May 2020	International Communication Association 70th Annual Conference Ethnicity, Race and Media Entertainment Panelist Gold Coast, Australia (Virtual) "'The Spunky S***,' 'Hick-hop,' and 'Blackfishing': Self-Categorization via Cultural Appropriation Throughout Online Spaces"
April 2020	USC Annenberg Graduate Fellowship Research and Creative Project Symposium Poster Presentation with Paulina Lanz (Virtual) "#NiUnaMás: An Interdisciplinary Critical Media Studies Approach to Feminist Social Activism in Mexico"
November 2019	National Women's Studies Association Conference Panelist San Francisco, CA "Prison Subculture and Multiple Perpetrator Rape: Meaning-Making and Gender-Based Violence within United States Prisons"
November 2019	National Communication Association Conference Poster Presentation Baltimore, MD "Disrobing Pink Pussyhats: A Reflection of TERF Ideology and Peak White Feminism within the Women's March"
March 2019	Critical Mediations Conference: The Unruly Canon Presenter Los Angeles, CA "In the Face of Scandal: Decolonizing Institutional Responses to Campus Sexual Violence"
March 2019	International Intersectionality Conference Panelist Los Angeles, CA "Global Multiple Perpetrator Rape and Power: A Comparative Intersectional Approach to Sexual Violence"
May 2018	International Communication Association 69th Annual Conference Feminist Research Division Panelist Prague, Czech Republic "Backlash Against

Globalization: Implications of Globalization and Its Impact on Gender-based Violence and Multiple Perpetrator Rape in the Context of India”

PANELS ORGANIZED

June 2022 **Cultural Studies Association Conference | Panel Session (Virtual)** | “Reckoning with Violence and Trauma: A Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approach to Media and Power-Based Harm” alongside Dr. Perry B. Johnson, Nancy Hernandez, and Paulina Lanz

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Upcoming

Spring 2024 **CTSJ 160: Introduction to Feminist Studies**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Spring 2024 **CTSJ 220: Intersectionality Theory and Community-Based Praxis**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Spring 2024 **FYS 64: Media, Violence, and Transformative Justice | First Year Seminar**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Fall 2023 **CTSJ 160: Introduction to Feminist Studies**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Fall 2023 **CTSJ 140: Critical Theories of Gender and Sexuality**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Fall 2023 **CTSJ 120: Power, Politics, and Social Change**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Fall 2023 **COMM 540: Uses of Communication Research**
Teaching Assistant for Professors Courtney Pade and Matthew Curtis | Grader

Previously

Spring 2023 **CTSJ 160: Introduction to Feminist Studies**
Visiting Instructor | Occidental College, Critical Theory & Social Justice Department

Fall 2022 **SWMS 219: Introduction to Feminist Theory**
Teaching Assistant for Professor Diana York Blaine | Grader and Section(s) Instructor

Fall 2022 **SWMS 219: Introduction to Feminist Theory**
Guest Lecture: Anti-Violence Activism, Black Feminism, and Intersectionality Theory

Spring 2022-
Summer 2023 **USC Writing Center**
Consultant working with university student writers at every skill level and every stage of the process, from interpreting an assignment to producing a final draft. The USC Writing Center’s mission is to empower students, faculty, and staff by supporting their

development of writing and critical thinking skills through individual consultations, in-class workshops, and a large roster of handouts and instructional videos.

Summer 2022	COMM 395: Gender, Media, and Communication Instructor of Record Co-Facilitated alongside Paulina Lanz and in collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence and Trauma Research Group
Spring 2022	SWMS 212: Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies: American Perspectives Teaching Assistant for Professor Diana York Blaine Grader and Section(s) Instructor
Spring 2022	SWMS 212: Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies: American Perspectives Guest Lecture: Masculinities, Sports, and Leisure
Fall 2021	SWMS 219: Introduction to Feminist Theory Teaching Assistant for Professor Diana York Blaine Grader and Section(s) Instructor
Fall 2021	SWMS 219: Introduction to Feminist Theory Guest Lecture: Anti-Racist Feminism
Summer 2021	COMM 204: Public Speaking Instructor of Record Designed course syllabus as deviation from traditional approaches to teaching public speaking, largely informed by Dr. Sonja K. Foss's <i>Revisioning The Public Speaking Course</i> (1992).
Spring 2021 -present	COMM 360: Los Angeles – Communication and Culture Teaching Assistant for Professor Robeson Taj Frazier Grader
Fall 2020	COMM 206: Communication and Culture Teaching Assistant for Professor Cristina Mejia Visperas Instructed One Section
Fall 2020	COMM 206: Communication and Culture Guest Lecture: Intersectionality and Coalition
Fall 2019	Critical Media Project at Foshay Learning Academy Curriculum Pilot Study, directed by Professor Alison Trope High School Guest Educator leading students through 8-week course focused on engaging the historical, social, political contexts of media representations and strengthening critical media literacy skills.
Fall 2019	COMM 395: Gender, Media and Communication Teaching Assistant for Professor Sarah Kessler Grader
Fall 2018	SWMS 499: Why #MeToo? Sexual Violence in American Culture Appointed before low enrollment determined TA not needed Course Observer Taught by Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro
Fall 2018	ASCJ 210: Contours of Change in Media and Communication Teaching Assistant for Professor Robeson Taj Frazier Instructed Two Sections
Dec 2015 -Aug 2016	USC Shoah Foundation: The Institute for Visual History and Education Coordinator of Educational Programs within dynamic department of educators, through which I provided leadership as the liaison between the Education and Communications

Department, facilitator of educational programs, Institute-hosted events, and departmental meetings, course manager of monthly Echoes and Reflections Online Professional Development Course, and point person between Education Department and other departments throughout Institute, including Collections, the Center for Advanced Genocide Research, and the Executive Office.

INVITED TALKS

- Spring 2023 **SWMS 219: Introduction to Feminist Theory | University of Southern California | Gender & Sexuality Studies Department**
Guest Lecture for Professor Diana Blaine: Intersectionality and the Complexities of Power
- Fall 2022 **CTSJ 120: Power and Politics | Occidental College | Critical Theory & Social Justice Department**
Guest Speaker for Professor Claire Crawford, collaboratively teaching undergraduate students theories of power, the power of the erotic, and political anti-violence activism
- Fall 2021 **SWMS 410: Senior Seminar | University of Southern California | Gender & Sexuality Studies Department**
Guest Speaker for Dr. Jane Junn on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group and to discuss anti-violence research with upper-level gender & sexuality studies graduate students.

COMMUNITY AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Spring 2023
-present **Occidental Womxn's Baseball Club**
Faculty advisor in support of undergraduate student-led grassroots baseball team in development with the intent to solidify and sustain its program long term at Occidental College. Group's goal is to create community, bond over love of baseball, break institutional barriers, and subvert societal gender norms in the context of sport.
- Fall 2022 **Storytelling as a Praxis for Healing from and Accountability for Sexual Violence with Aishah Shahidah Simmons | Partnership with USC Dornsife Gender & Sexuality Studies Department and The Streisand Foundation**
Co-Developer and Facilitator on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group, for the 2022 Streisand Lecture held in community with award winning Black feminist lesbian culture worker, documentary filmmaker, author, educator, and activist Aishah Shahidah Simmons.
- Fall 2017-
-2022 **Violence Outreach Intervention and Community Engagement (VOICE)**
Graduate Student Volunteer and peer-to-peer educator through USC RSVP Relationship Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP).
- Spring 2022 **Trauma-Informed Pedagogy for Higher Education | Partnership with Annenberg Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Access Task Force**

Developer and Facilitator on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group, bringing together USC Annenberg faculty members for a session led by Director of USC RSVP Dr. Brenda Ingram.

- Fall 2021 **Trauma-Informed Pedagogy Virtual Teach-In | Partnership with Gender & Sexuality Studies Department**
Developer and Moderator on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group, bringing together university faculty members, teaching assistants, and staff for a presentation and discussion led by Director of USC RSVP Dr. Brenda Ingram.
- Fall 2021 **Workshopping with Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro | Intersectionality as Method**
Developer and Moderator on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group, guided by an intersectionality expert on how doctoral scholars might operationalize intersectionality as a research method.
- Fall 2021 **Workshopping with Dr. Jane Junn | Professionalization for Doctoral Scholars**
Developer and Moderator on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group for a candid discussion about professional development, navigating academia, and entering the academic job market.
- Fall 2021 **SWMS 410: Senior Seminar in Gender & Sexuality Studies**
Guest Speaker for Professor Jane Junn on behalf of Multidisciplinary Intersectional Approaches to the Study of Violence & Trauma Research Group and to discuss anti-violence research with upper-level gender & sexuality studies graduate students.
- Fall 2020 **A Hundred Years After the 19th Amendment: The Power of Black Women In Politics Today | Center for Feminist Research Virtual Event in Partnership with The Streisand Foundation**
Coordinator and Facilitator of a virtual discussion marking the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States, introduced and moderated by Dr. Karen Tongson and Dr. Francile Wilson, with speakers California State Assembly Member Sydney Kamlager and Purdue University Professor of Political Science and African American Studies Dr. Nadia Brown, honoring the past, present, and future of the 19th amendment, the role of Black women, and women in politics through an intersectional lens.
- Fall 2019 **USC Center for Gender Equity in Medicine and Science | Partnership between USC Keck Medical School and the USC Gender & Sexuality Studies Department**
Research Assistant to Dr. Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro and Dr. Jane Junn (POIR, GSS), consulting the medical school in addressing longstanding issues pertaining to gender parity, lack of women in leadership, and sexual harassment in higher education.
- Fall 2019 **National Sexual Assault Hotline Training at the University of Southern California**
Coordinator, Facilitator, and Host of partnership between RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) and the USC Center for Feminist Research. 2-Day training of volunteers interested in supporting the Online Hotline as staff members who assist and provide resources to victims and survivors of sexual violence.
- Fall 2019 **R.A.P. Lessons: Bridging Race, Arts, and Placemaking Exhibition and Reception**
Coordinator and facilitator in support of the Institute for Diversity and Empowerment at Annenberg (IDEA)'s partnership with the USC Roski School of Art and Design. Inspired by artists Chris Johnson and Hank Willis Thomas' Question Bridge: Black Males, an

innovative transmedia project that uses video to facilitate a conversation among Black men from diverse backgrounds, R.A.P. Lessons was a six-week video exhibition throughout the Wallis Annenberg Building at USC, with performative and curricular interventions between schools and with community partners. At the opening-night event, Johnson and Thomas were joined by Annenberg associate professor Taj Frazier for a conversation about art, activism, and education.

Fall 2019

Peace Over Violence

Trained and certified in facilitating workshops as a Violence Prevention Specialist and Educator, rooted in Violence Prevention Curriculum created by Peace Over Violence's Prevention Department and under the guidance of experts Melodie Kruspodin, Hannah Denyer, Edwin Bodney, Terra Hope Meyer, and Rashad Beal.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

- National Women's Studies Association
- Cultural Studies Association
- International Communication Association
- National Communication Association
- USC Society of Public Diplomats Alumna
- American Studies Association
- International Studies Association