

NATASHA P. ELLIS

CURRICULUM VITAE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Department of Sociology
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EDUCATION

- 2023 **PhD Sociology** *University of Tennessee Knoxville, Knoxville, TN.*
Dissertation Title: Who Gave You Permission to Rearrange Me? Certainly Not Me: Examining the Racialized Nature of Beauty Vis-a-Vis Colorism, Skin Bleaching, Identity, and Life Chance
- 2012 **MA Sociology** [*Cum Laude*] *Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA.*
- 2008 **BA Sociology & Anthropology** [*Departmental Honors*] *Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, GA.*

AREAS OF EXPERTISE AND RESEARCH

Race & Ethnicity
Educational Access & Attainment

Social Stratification
Identity
Equity and Access

Colorism
Environmental Sociology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023-2024 Lecturer: Social Inequalities, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2023-2023 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Gender in Society, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2022-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Gender in Society, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2022-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Race and Ethnicity, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2023-2023 Adjunct Faculty: Introduction to Sociology, Chattanooga State Community College
- 2022-2023 Adjunct Faculty: Introduction to Sociology, Chattanooga State Community College
- 2022-2022 Graduate Teaching Associate: Gender in Society, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2021-2022 Graduate Research Associate: Basic Needs Initiative for Student Success, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2021-2021 Graduate Teaching Associate: Introduction to Sociology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2020-2021 Graduate Teaching Associate: Introduction to Sociology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2020-2020 Graduate Teaching Associate: Introduction to Sociology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2019-2020 Graduate Research Associate: Diversity and Engagement, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

CONFERENCE TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- 2024-2024 Ellis, Natasha “*Poverty and the School to Prison Pipeline*” The Society for the Study of Social Problems Conference (*submission in progress*)
- 2024-2024 Ellis, Natasha “*Colorism and the Beauty Industry*” Ronald E. Hall Colorism Conference (*submission in progress*)
- 2024-2024 Ellis, Natasha “*The Marketing Strategies of Racialized Beauty*” Ronald E. Hall Colorism Conference (*submission in progress*)
- 2023-2023 Ellis, Natasha “*Complexion Capital: Examining the Racialized Nature of Beauty Vis-a-Vis Colorism and Skin Bleaching*,” Black Issues Conference, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 2023-2023 Presenter, *Diversity Dialogue Symposium*, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2022-2022 Ellis, Natasha, “*The Advent of Colorism, Life Chance, and the Racialized Nature of Beauty*” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (*presentation co-sponsored by Sociologists for Women in Society – South*)
- 2021-2021 Ellis, Natasha, “*Colorism and Identity Formation*” Presented at the Association of Black Sociologists Conference

2021-2021 Ellis, Natasha, “*Colorism and Identity Formation*” Presented at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity
2021-2021 Ellis, Natasha “*Colorism and Identity Formation*” Presented at the Mid-South Sociological Association Conference
2020-2020 Ellis, Natasha “*Black Women and Body Image*” Presented at the Southern Sociological Association Conference (*conference postponed*)
2007-2007 Ellis, Natasha, “*The Portrayal of Women in the Media and the Duality of India*” Presented at the Agnes Scott College Spring Annual Research Conference

INVITED TALKS & GUEST LECTURES

2024-2024 Guest Lecturer, Spelman College
2023-2023 Nominated Guest Speaker (*Nominated to deliver address at University of Tennessee, Knoxville Graduate Hooding Ceremony*)
2023-2023 Presenter, *How to Develop a Successful Major Area Paper*, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2023-2023 Guest Lecturer, Psychology of Women Course, Spelman College
2022-2022 Keynote Speaker, Howard High School Alumni Day, Chattanooga, TN
2022-2022 Panelist, *Black Career Women Panel*, Psychology of Women Course, Spelman College
2022-2022 Invited Panelist: *So You Think You Want to Go to Grad School: Fixing the Leaky Pipe*, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2022-2022 Guest Lecturer, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga (*in progress*)
2021-2021 Guest Lecturer, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga (*postponed*)
2021-2021 Guest Lecturer, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga – Sociology, Race and Ethnicity Section

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, UNIVERSITY SERVICE, & COMMUNITY SERVICE

2023-2023 Hamilton County Schools Equity Committee, Chair
2022-2022 Hamilton County Schools Equity Committee, Co-Chair
2023-2023 Hamilton County Schools Future Ready Institute Volunteer
2022-2022 United Way Volunteer
2021-2022 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Climate Committee
2021-2022 University of Tennessee, Knoxville College Scholars Program Mentor
2020-2021 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Sociology Department Mentor,
2019-2020 Chancellor’s Commission for Women, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2019-2020 Chancellor’s Commission for LGBTQ+ People, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2019-2020 Chancellor’s Commission for Blacks, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

ADDITIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS & COURSES

2022-2022 Senegal Research Fellow Immersion Initiative, Senegal, West Africa
2021-2021 UT Center for Integration, Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) Associate Level of Certification
2020-2021 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Asynchronous Teaching Workshop/Training
2020-2020 Language Development for Diversity Action Plan, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2006-2006 Global Awareness: India

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2022-2022 Colorism, Skin Bleaching, and Life Chance Research and Examination, Senegal, West Africa
2021-2022 Basic Needs Initiative Data Collection for ECMC Foundation (Los Angeles, CA) University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2021-2021 Black Feminist Thought Summer Research, Sociology Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2021-2021 Chattanooga Centennial Public Library Genealogy and Special Collections Archival Research, Chattanooga, Tennessee
2020-2021 Commission for Women Maternity Leave Policy Research & Data Collection, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

PUBLICATIONS, SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS, & WORKS IN PROGRESS

Lisa Zottarelli , Xiaohe Xu , Jayla Hatcher , Raji Thiruppathiraj, Natasha Ellis, Shamatanni Chowdhury, Thankam Sunil. 2024. Adaptative Complexity: Examining Texas Public Postsecondary Institutions Provision of Student Basic Needs Programs. Trends in Higher Education (*manuscript submitted*).

Ellis, Natasha. 2023. *Skin Bleaching, Colorism, and the Marketing Strategies of Racialized Beauty*. Journal of Colorism Studies. *Manuscript in progress for submission*.

Ellis, Natasha., & Destine, Shaneda. 2022. "Colorism and the Racialized Nature of Beauty." Sociology Compass. *In preparation for Spring publication 2023*.

Ellis, Natasha., Heaston, Allen., Anderson, R. 2020. *Diversity Action Plan Language Development* for University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Rainey-Brown, S., Johnson, G.S., Richardson, N. L., Stinson, T.G., & Ellis, N. P., 2012. "New American Racism: A Microcosm Study of a Small Town." *Journal of Race, Gender and Class* 19(3-4): 266-291

Ellis, Natasha. 2016. *Letters to My Youngins: Pivotal Moments in My Twenties of Life, Death, and Realization*. iUniverse.

HONORS & AWARDS

2023-2023 Volunteer of Distinction Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2022-2022 Senegal Research Fellow Award; External Funding Scholarship Award: \$2500

2020-2020 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Graduate Student Senate Travel Award: \$650

2020-2020 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Cole Franklin Scholarship Award: \$900

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

2022-2023 SEC (*Southeastern Conference*) Emerging Scholars (*University of Tennessee, Knoxville Sociology Department nominee and awardee*) \$25,000 Fellowship Award

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Southern Sociological Society (SSS)

Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)

Southern Association for College Admissions Counseling (SACAC)