

**CLAUDINE OLIVIA TAAFFE**  
Vanderbilt University  
African American and Diaspora Studies  
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## **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. *Educational Policy Studies*** May 2016  
Concentration: Social & Cultural Studies in Education  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
College of Education  
Champaign, IL

**Ed.M. *Educational Policy Studies*** December 2006  
Concentration: Social & Cultural Studies in Education  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
College of Education  
Champaign, IL

**B.A. *History & Political Science* (Dual Major)** December 1991  
University of Rochester  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Rochester, NY

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Social & cultural foundations in education; youth development & youth organizing; Black girlhood studies; critical race theory; performance & visual ethnography; African American & Latina/o studies; race, ethnicity & gender; Diasporic feminisms; and qualitative & interpretive methodologies.

## **TEACHING APPOINTMENTS**

2016 - Senior Lecturer  
African American and Diaspora Studies  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE**

2017 - Director of Undergraduate Studies  
African American and Diaspora Studies  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN

## **COURSES TAUGHT (2016-2017)**

Introduction to African American and Diaspora Studies  
Black Power and Global Anti-Blackness  
Popular Culture and Black Sexual Politics  
History and Myth of Black Women in the United States  
Black Girlhood: History, Performances, and Counter-Narratives

## OTHER RELEVANT TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Introduction to Critical Youth Studies* (undergraduate course, Miami University, Guest Lecturer, 2015)

*Race and Cultural Diversity in American Life* (undergraduate advanced writing course, University of Illinois, Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2002-2007)

## PUBLICATIONS

Taaffe, C. (2014). Picture this: Using photography to tell a Black girl's truth. In R. N. Brown, R. Carducci & C. Kuby (Eds.), *Disrupting qualitative inquiry: Tensions and possibilities in educational research* (189-196). NY: Peter Lang.

Taaffe, C. (2012). Portrait of a Black girl: Seeing is NOT believing. In R. N. Brown & C. Kwakye (Eds.), *Wish to live: The hip-hop feminism pedagogy reader* (pp. 251-266). New York: Peter Lang.

Burbules, N. C., Callister, T. A. & **Taaffe, C.** (2006). Beyond the digital divide. In Tettegah, S. Y. & Hunter, R. C. (Eds.), *Technology in administration, policy, and applications in K-12 schools* (85-99). UK: Elsevier Ltd.

## MONOGRAPH-IN-PROGRESS

*Black Girl Gaze: A Visual (Re)membering of Black Girlhood as an Act of Resistance*

## CREATIVE WORKS

2017      *Contributor*

**Beyond mammy, jezebel, & sapphire: Reclaiming images of Black women a Black-girl-woman reflection.** *Beyond mammy, jezebel, & sapphire: Reclaiming images of Black women exhibition catalog.* Louisiana State University at Alexandria Art Exhibition. Louisiana State University, Alexandria LA

2017      *Photography Exhibit/Co-Curator and Photographer*

**Black Girl Gaze: A Black Feminist (Re)membering of Girlhood**

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

A collectively-curated photography exhibit highlighting the photography of Black girls and women from Champaign, IL and Nashville, TN. Within the spirit of Black Feminist Theory, and its support of ethnographic inquiry and the centering of the lived realities of Black girls and women, the exhibit curators bring together their respective bodies of Black feminist research, photographic archives and commitments to creating artistic spaces for the centering of Black-girl narratives. In doing so, a new site of celebration, representation and counter-narratives is created for Black girls and women.

2009      *Photography Exhibit/ Lead Curator and Photographer*

**Reflections of Black Girlhood: Necessary Truths**

Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois

Champaign, IL

A community-based photography exhibit at the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois. The exhibit opening was in February 2009 and had a run of two weeks. The exhibit featured photography created by Black girls and women in an after-school program called, Saving Our Lives, Hear Our Truths (SOLHOT).

- 2008      *Play Script/Performance Ethnography*  
**The Rhythm, the Rhyme and the Reason**  
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, University of Illinois  
Champaign, IL  
A performance piece co-written and performed with Drs. Ruth Nicole Brown and Chamara Kwakye; work shopped at the NWSA 2008 Conference and later premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois in September 2008. An unabridged version of this performance was performed at the 2008 Women's Studies Conference at the Southern Connecticut State University.

### SELECTED NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Taaffe, C. (2016, April). *Picture This: Using Photography to Tell a Black Girl's Truth*. Paper presented at Know Her Truths: Advancing Justice for Women and Girls of Color Conference, Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC.
- Taaffe, C. (2014, November). *Photographing Resistance: Black Girls' Counter-Narratives in SOLHOT*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Taaffe, C. (2014, May). *Picture This!: The Framing of a Black Girl's Truth*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign, IL.
- Taaffe, C. (2012, April). *Our Photos Are for Us First: The Framing of a Black Girl's Truth*. Paper presented at the inaugural meeting of Gender Matters: Gendered Borders Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Brown, R. N. & **Taaffe, C.** (2009, April). *I Am Not the Problem! An Embodied Black Girl Photo-Essay-Performance-Poem in Cacophony*. Ethnographic Performance paper presented at the inaugural meeting of Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory III: Traversing Digital Boundaries Conference, Champaign, IL.
- Brown, R. N. & **Taaffe, C.** (2009, May). *Not What They Said But How They Said It: The Political Courage of Black Girls and Women in Their Everyday Experiences*. Paper presented at the International Conference of Educational Research for Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Brown, R. N. & **Taaffe, C.** (2009, October). *Beneath the Rising Sun*. Performance text presented at Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Taaffe, C. (2009, January). *Organizador Comunidad Entre Mujeres y Niñas. (Community Organizing Among Women and Girls.)* Community organizing presentation at the Escuela Horizonte Community Collaborations, Estelí, Nicaragua.
- Brown, R. N., Kwakye, C. & **Taaffe, C.** (2008, November). *Educating Black Girls in Community Spaces: Lessons From SOLHOT*. Paper presented at the National Women's Studies Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH.
- Taaffe, C. (2008, April). *Girls of Color: Performance Ethnography, Education and Empowerment*. Performance text presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, New York City, NY.

### INVITED LECTURES

- 2017      *Beyond Mammy, Jezebel, and Sapphire: Reclaiming Images of Black Women*. Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO.

- 2016 *Black Girl Gaze: A (Re)imagining of Black Girls' Lives by Black Girl Storytellers*. Callie House Research Center for the Study of Global Black Cultures and Politics, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2015 *Reflecting Black Girlhood: An Afro-Latina's Ph.D. Journey*. The College Board, Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 *Reflections of Black Girlhood*. Center for African Studies, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
- 2002 *Elder and Youth Organizers: Yesterday and Today*. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Celebration, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
- 2002 *The Role of Technology in the Classroom*. Lunchtime Talk, Office of Women's Programs and Services, Parkland College, Champaign, IL.
- 2001 *African-American & Latina/o Student Coalition Building*. African American Cultural Center, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
- 2000 *Race, Income, Culture and The Digital Divide: Bridging Tools, Techniques and Strategies*. Technology Exploratory Committee, LISTEN, Incorporated, Washington, DC.
- 2000 *Integration of Technology in Youth Development Programs*. Board of Directors Retreat. LISTEN, Inc., Washington, DC.

#### **HONORS, TRAVEL AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS (Illinois)**

- 2017-2018 Center for Teaching, Junior Faculty Teaching Fellowship, Vanderbilt University (\$2000)
- 2014 President's Research in Diversity Travel Award, University of Illinois (\$600)
- 2014 Hardie Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois (\$600)
- 2014 Women of Color Leadership Project Recipient, National Women's Studies Association
- 2013-2014 Dewson Fellowship for Underrepresented Students, University of Illinois (\$12,000)
- 2011-2012 University of Illinois Graduate College Fellowship, University of Illinois (\$10,000)
- 2009-2010 Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE) Fellow, Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life
- 2009 Hardie International Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois (\$1,000)
- 2003 List of Teachers Rated as Excellent by Their Students, University of Illinois

#### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE (Illinois)**

- 2007-2008 Appointed Member, Diversity Initiatives Committee, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
- 2002-2003 Appointed Member, Advisory Board, Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL

- 2001-2002 Elected, Graduate Student Representative, Latina/o Studies Program Advisory Board, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
- 2001-2002 Appointed Member, Director Search Committee, Latina/o Studies Program, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
- 2001 Conference Organizer, McNair Scholars Program Annual Conference, Office of Minority Student Affairs, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
- 2000-2001 Co-Organizer, Queers of Color Network, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL

**COMMUNITY SERVICE (Illinois)**

- 2006-2010 Facilitator, Saving Our Lives, Hear Our Truths (SOLHOT), Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club, Champaign, IL
- 2004-2005 Invited Member, Chicago Youth Work Advisory Board, City of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1998 Invited Member, Mayor-elect Anthony Williams Special Constituencies Transition Team, Office of the Mayor, District of Columbia, Washington, DC.
- 1997-1998 Invited Member, New Haven Youth Initiative Work Group, Office of the Mayor, City of New Haven, New Haven, CT.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- American Educational Research Association
- National Women's Studies Association