

DR. ASHLEY C. ADAMS

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PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

Higher Education Leader | Policy Analyst | Historic Preservation Scholar | Nonprofit Executive | College and Career Advisor

Committed to inclusive instruction and scholarship that centers equity, healing, and engaged transformation. College educator with 25+ years of experience spanning cultural history, social policy, community health and administration, nonprofit leadership, genealogy research, and descendant engagement. Skilled in curriculum innovation, mixed methods research, and policy analysis. Demonstrated expertise across nonprofit leadership and board governance, providing strategic organizational alignment, administrative oversight, and community-centered program design. Passionate practitioner of academic and career advising and life pathways planning, dedicated to student mentorship, holistic development, and guiding individuals through critical educational and professional transitions.

RESEARCH & EXPERTISE

Field Specializations: Public Policy, Affairs and Administration; Political Science; Black/African American Studies; U.S. History; Public Health; Sociology; Heritage Studies; Humanities, and Education.

Democracy, Governance, and Public Policy: Government and public policy across local, state, and institutional systems; advocacy and social movements; governance and co-governance strategies; public management, public institutions as civic actors; policy analysis and implementation; democratic accountability; the relationship between belonging, representation, and civic standing in marginalized communities; and social, economic, environmental, and historic preservation policies.

Social Policy, Equity, and Community Development: Cross-cultural awareness, structural and systemic barriers, ethics, intersectional analysis, reparative justice, descendant and community capacity-building, anti-racism, diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and stakeholder complexity. Includes strategies for culturally inclusive policymaking, sustainability, and social change that strengthen marginalized community participation and civic identity and wellness.

Public Health and Community Wellness: Health equity and social determinants of health; trauma-informed community engagement; participatory research methods; environmental health and place-based wellness; maternal and child health outcomes; and disparities among historically marginalized populations. Integration and evaluation of public health frameworks, administration, healthcare systems, and policy design.

Historic Preservation, Public Memory, and Genealogy: Museum management, strategy, and leadership, heritage education; genealogy and archival research methods; interpretive planning; public memory and narrative framing; cultural history approaches; descendant and community engagement; identity, cultural belonging, and civic storytelling within digital public humanities and policy contexts.

Organizational and Nonprofit Leadership: Nonprofit management and leadership; policy implementation; program development; museum planning and culturally grounded public programming; sustainable initiatives; community service and development; financial management; communications and strategic messaging; culturally responsible community partnership building; program evaluation; fundraising and grant writing; in-kind donor cultivation; and personnel systems that advance mission-driven equity goals.

Teaching, Curriculum Design, and Experiential Pedagogy: Graduate and undergraduate teaching across policy, anti-racism, social justice, and structural inequality in the U.S.; community-engaged courses partnering with organizations advancing wellness, equity, and historical justice; experiential and applied learning; capstone and research supervision; instructional design for diverse learners; culturally responsive and equity-centered pedagogy; competency-based education and assessment; and workforce preparation for community, advocacy, nonprofit, and government leadership roles.

Higher Education, Program Leadership, and Life Pathways Planning: Director and advising roles for public facing organizations, advising student organizations and affinity leadership collectives; academic and career advising, student mentoring, and holistic life pathways planning; cooperative and enrichment programming; departmental and program leadership; curriculum development and revision; cross-college collaborations; accreditation processes; budget and grant management; course scheduling and planning; admissions coordination; and institution-wide initiatives that strengthen civic learning, student belonging, leadership, and public-facing engagement.

Research Methods, AI, and Applied Scholarship: Qualitative and applied research methodologies rooted in marginalized history, historical preservation policy, and racial equity analysis; Generative AI strategy, ethics, and environmental impact; AI algorithmic equity, policy, and critical pedagogy; data analysis and interpretation; AI-augmented transcription and digital humanities tools; proposal development and literature review; narrative and policy evaluation frameworks; and dissemination of practitioner scholarship to policymakers, community stakeholders, and academic audiences.

EDUCATION

Pedagogy for Sustainability and Justice Certificate

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA | 2025

Sustainability Across Curriculum Certificate

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA | 2025

Graduate Certificate of College Teaching and Learning

Walden University, Minneapolis, MN | 2018

Doctor of Philosophy - Public Policy

Walden University, Minneapolis, MN | 2016

Master of Public Affairs - Nonprofit and Community Services Management

Park University, Parkville, MO | 2006

Bachelor of Arts - Human Development and Family Life/Community Leadership

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS | 2003

ACADEMIC TEACHING POSITIONS

Lecturer

College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | Current

Lecturer

UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, Berkeley, CA | 2020-Current

Associate Teaching Professor, Elinor Kilgore Snyder Professorship

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2018-2026

Substitute Teacher

San Ramon Unified School District, San Ramon, CA | 2017-2018

Coordinator/Instructor

Foothill-De Anza College District, Los Altos Hills, CA | 2017-2018

Instructor Training Facilitator

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2015-2017

Adjunct Professor

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2014-2017

Adjunct Instructor

Heald College, Hayward, CA | 2010-2011

Adjunct Instructor

Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS | 2008

COURSE INSTRUCTION

City of Berkeley | Current

Rooted Futures Learning - YouthWorks Consultant - Provide instruction services in civics and life pathways planning and design thinking for YouthWorks Employment Program Interns age 14-25.

Northeastern University Bouvé College of Health Sciences | Current

Pre-College Summer Public Health Program - Coordinate summer pre-college program, *Building Healthier Communities Through the Arts*. Teach high school students about reparations policy, the legacy of student activism, and healing communities through arts-based approaches to public health and social justice.

Mills College at Northeastern University | 2018-2026

Problem Solving for a Sustainable Future - Skills-based introduction to problem-solving for sustainability, focusing on SDG related competencies applicable to a wide variety of disciplines and career paths and inclusive of real-world case studies and simulations, centering social, economic, and environmental systems and the interactions between them that shape sustainable outcomes.

History Research - Historical research equips students with skills in research methods, archival work, digital history, and social justice, enabling them to document Mills College history and advance MCNU ADEIB goals.

First Year Seminar - Assess strengths for successful college learning and build a toolbox of learning success strategies-critical reading, idea analysis, research skills and academic planning.

Integrative Core II: Application/Integration of Policy Analysis Frameworks - Final research seminar for graduate students writing their Master Policy Reports, addressing a policy problem being faced by community partner/policymaker.

Introduction to Public Policy-Solving Public Problems - Introduce public policy and analysis topics (undergraduate courses).

Race, Identity, Social Change, & Empowerment - Examines racism, racial identity, and theories of social change and racial empowerment primarily within the US context.

Race, Policy, & Storytelling - Investigate racial indicators in social problem conditions and public policy outcomes for communities of color, using stories and narrative analysis.

Race, Public Health, & Storytelling - Investigate racial indicators in public health conditions and health policy outcomes for communities of color, using stories and deep narrative analysis

Social Policy - Apply core frameworks and tools of policy analysis for key social policy contexts.

Social Policy Analysis - Apply core frameworks and tools of policy analysis for key social policy contexts.

Senior Seminar - Final advanced writing and research methods seminar for undergraduate students preparing senior thesis on a current issue in political science, legal studies, or public policy.

The Case for Reparations - Examine lasting legacies of public policies leading to systems of mass incarceration, racial wealth gaps, state-sanctioned violence, segregation, New Deal benefits, redlining, etc. to conclude strategies for making reparations political reality.

Public Policy and Economic Analysis - Introduce public policy and analysis topics (graduate course).

UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy | 2020-Current

Advanced Policy Analysis - Course meets graduate level requirement for graduation from the Goldman School of Public Policy MPP program, addressing a policy problem being faced by community partner/policymaker.

Capstone Analytic Project - Course meets graduate level requirement for graduation from the Goldman School of Public Policy MPA program, addressing a policy problem being faced by community partner/policymaker. **Foundations for Public Policy Analysis** - Introduce public policy analysis using the Eightfold path. **Navigating Your Life: Creating Academic and Career Pathways** - Public Policy and International Affairs Program (PIIA) students reflect academic and career goals, pathways, and planning.

Race, Policy, & Storytelling – Investigate racial indicators in social problem conditions and public policy outcomes for communities of color, using stories and deep narrative analysis.

Foothill-De Anza College District | 2017-2018

Internship: Humanities Mellon Scholars Program - Professional skills application and reflection of humanities focused internship experiences.

Los Medanos College | 2014-2017

A First-Year Seminar- Becoming a College Scholar - Promote college, career, self-awareness, academic research, and social justice concepts.

Heald College | 2010-2011

College Success Strategies - Promote college, career, self-awareness, and academic research skills.

Kansas City Kansas Community College | 2008

Freshmen Orientation and Study Skills - Promote college, career, self-awareness skills, and academic research skills.

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT EXPERIENCE

Rooted Futures Learning LLC

***Nicodemus National Historic Site Consultant, Nicodemus, KS* | Current**

Design and deliver a comprehensive, place-based digital curriculum for 4th and 7th-grade Kansas classrooms and nationwide, centering the history of Nicodemus, Kansas, framing it as a foundational narrative within the broader context of American history, post-Civil War Reconstruction, westward expansion, and Black self-determination.

Rooted Futures Learning LLC

***YouthWorks Consultant, Berkeley, CA* | Current**

Provide instruction services to YouthWorks Interns ages 14-24, and technical services to management and staff. Refine curriculum and facilitate needed staff capacity training sessions.

Archival Research Lead

***Berkeley Unified School District (in partnership Black Reparations Project), Berkeley, CA* | Current**

Lead archival research and inform policy analysis for a study examining historical practices and their impact on descendant students. Work with research team to develop an evidence-based harm report integrating primary source documentation, community testimony, and institutional analysis.

Outsider Preservation Initiative (OPI) Advisory Board

University of Virginia Center for Cultural Landscapes, Charlottesville, VA | 2024-Current

Guide strategic planning for descendant-led preservation, support research fellows and working groups, and offer expertise and referrals to the OPI team.

Research Consultant African American History and Engagement Project, California Department of State Parks and Recreation & California African American Museum, Sacramento, CA | 2024-2026

Supervise Black Reparations Project student research assistants, conducted research and authored a historical report examining the history of Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, the impact of Jim Crow, the Black town movement, and its importance in African American heritage and reparative justice.

Curriculum Designer & Policy Education Consultant Rising Communities (in partnership Black Reparations Project), Los Angeles, CA | 2024

Developed *Journey of Justice: Exploring the Black Reparations Movement*, a civic education curriculum introducing youth participants to reparations history, racial identity formation, and contemporary policy models, with interactive components such as mock reparation hearing and civic engagement training.

Foundation Planning Partner National Park Service, Nicodemus, KS | 2022

Provide expertise, ideas, feedback, and expert guidance to create new Foundation Document for Nicodemus NHS.

Exhibition Coordinator Nicodemus Historical Society, Nicodemus, KS | 2021-2022

Coordinate Voices & Votes: Democracy in America Exhibit at the Nicodemus NHS in collaboration with Smithsonian Institution and Kansas State Humanities Council.

Strategic Planning Committee Chair Nicodemus Historical Society, Nicodemus, KS | 2016-2026

Coordinate, develop, and monitor Strategic Plan for the Nicodemus Historical Society Program Evaluation

Consultant EW Innovation Center, Inc./Citibank, Oakland, CA | 2021

Develop proposals, collect, input, analyze data, and prepare project reports for Oakland Manufactures Study.

Exhibition Consultant University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center for Great Plains Studies, Lincoln, NE | 2019-2021

Provide expertise, ideas, feedback, and expert guidance to create a competitive proposal for the National Endowment for the Humanities for a traveling museum exhibition on the experiences of African American homesteaders in the Great Plains

Employee Handbook Committee Co-Chair Nicodemus Historical Society, Nicodemus, KS | 2017

Coordinate, prepare, and implement new Employee Handbook for the Nicodemus Historical Society Program

Evaluation Consultant CAMI, Inc., California Office of Health, Richmond, CA | 2017

Develop proposals, collect, input, analyze data, and prepare project reports for California Reducing Disparities Project.

Volunteer Program Consultant Hayward Area Historical Society, Hayward, CA | 2016-2017

Research and help create new strategic plan inclusive of goals, objectives, expectations, etc.

Transfer Academy Program Consultant Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2013-2016

Develop First Year Seminar Course Instructor's Manual and organize Informational Career Fair.

Curriculum Development Consultant Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2014-2015

Develop experimental curriculum request for new high school college/career exploration course.

Summer Bridge Consultant Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2013-2015

Develop college/career readiness curriculum platform for Summer Bridge programming.

Research Consultant Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2013

Conduct inquiry study on first semester math experiences of African American students at LMC.

PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, & RESEARCH

Adams, A. (2025). *Descendant-led work as preservation from the margins. Planning Theory & Practice Interface*, 27(2).

Adams, A. (2025). [*Advancing Descendant Engagement in Nicodemus, Kansas: A Reparative Approach to Preservation and Stewardship*](#). [Research Report]. Community to Community Impact Engine, Northeastern University.

- Adams, A. (2024). [Interpreting African American history and engaging visitors at Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park](#). *African American History and Engagement Project*. California Department of State Parks and Recreation & California African American Museum.
- Adams, A. Weissinger, E., et. al. (2024). [The Black Reparations Project Impact Report 2022-2024](#). *The Black Reparations Project at Mills College at Northeastern University*, UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy.
- Adams, A. C., & Edges, A. C. (2023). [Historic Designation Planning for the Nicodemus National Historic Site and Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park: A Cross-Case Analysis of Representation in Public Memory, Equity-Based Preservation Planning, and Maintenance Backlogs](#). *Great Plains Quarterly*, 43(2), 199-234.
- Adams, A., Weissinger, E., Bohl, S., Lahr, D., & Walker, I. T. (2023). [Learning, challenges, and strategies in the Northern California movement for Black reparations and beyond](#). *The Black Reparations Project at Mills College at Northeastern University*, UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy.
- Adams, A., Weissinger, E., Bohl, S., Lahr, D., & Walker, I. T. (2023). [Black reparations listening sessions: A summary of pre- conference insights](#). *The Black Reparations Project at Mills College at Northeastern University*, UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy.
- Great Plains Research. (2022). Peer-reviewed publication.
- Lahr, D., & Adams, A., et al. (2022). Covid-19 and disadvantaged business in Oakland, California. *Mills College Lorry I. Lokey School of Business and Public Policy*.
- Lahr, D., Adams, A., Edges, A., & Bletz, J. (2022). Where do we go from here? The survival and recovery of Black-owned businesses post-COVID-19. *Humanity & Society*, 46(3), 460-477.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01605976211049243>
- Adams, A. C., & Edges, A. C. (2021). [Advancing underrepresented preservation webs: A cross-case analysis for African American historic site planning](#). *Great Plains Research*, 31(1), 35-56.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/gpr.2021.0002>
- Lahr, D., & Ashley, A., et al. (2021). Community-based PAR study: UCSF California pre-term birth initiative report. *Mills College Lorry I. Lokey School of Business and Public Policy*.
- Lloyd, R., Mertens, D., Adams, A., Pruden, C., & Bates, A. (2020). Cooperative advantage during the pioneer movement west: The lessons of Nicodemus, Kansas for modern Black communities. *Journal of Management History*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JMH-09-2019-0059>
- Lahr, D., & Adams, A., et al. (2020). Oakland manufacturers: Covid-19 Impacts assessment. *Mills College Lorry I. Lokey School of Business and Public Policy*.
- Adams, A. (2016). [Examining the cultural and historical impact of the national historic site designation in Nicodemus, Kansas](#). *Doctoral dissertation*, Walden University, Minneapolis, MN.

LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

8-Fold Path: Tell Your Story

UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA | 2026

Sustainable Futures in Practice: Allensworth, California — The Town That Refused to Die

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2026

Allensworth, California: Honoring Black Histories and Futures

Allensworth Progressive Association, Allensworth, CA | 2026

Preserving Black Towns

Allensworth State Historic Park, Allensworth, CA | 2026

First Gen Panel: Faculty, Staff, and Students

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Mills Institute Relaunch of the Womanist Panel

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Shaping the Future: The Mills History Project

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Towards Justice: Addressing Racial Violence, Advancing Legal Clarity, and Restoring Community

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

The Case for Black Reparations & Cultivating Networks of Trust

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Measuring Memory: Accountability in Historical Preservation

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Paths to Repair

California Food and Farming Network, Oakland, CA | 2024

Black Reparations Landscape

Alameda County Reparations Commission, Oakland, CA | 2024

Juneteenth: Understanding Today's Reparations Movement

Northeastern University, Boston, MA | 2024

Inclusive Dialogues: Race, Gender, and the Journey to Equality

De Anza College, Cupertino, CA | 2024

Clarifying Reparations: Elevating Repair in Higher Education

NCORE, Honolulu, HI | 2024

Journey of Justice: Exploring the Black Reparations Movement

Rising Communities, Los Angeles, CA | 2024

Education as the Practice of Freedom: The Black Feminist Classroom

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2024

Advancing Narrative Change

Bay Area Regional Health Equities Initiative, Sacramento, CA | 2024

Reparations and Land-Based Justice Fireside Chat

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA | 2023

New Frontiers in Black Placemaking

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA | 2023

An Overview of Local Reparations

Berkeley USD Reparations Task Force, Berkeley, CA | 2023

Legacy of Courage: A Pictorial Journey of Black History at Mills and NU

Mills @NU, Oakland, CA | 2024

Clarifying Reparations: Elevating Repair in Higher Education

CASE, San Francisco, CA | 2023

Policy and Positionality

UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, Berkeley, CA | 2023

Allensworth, Black History, & Reparations

Bakersfield College, Bakersfield, CA | 2023

1619 Project: An Overview of Key Themes, Praises, & Criticisms

Mills @ NU, Oakland, CA | 2022

UCSF California Pre-Term Birth Initiative Study Presentation

Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2021

Nicodemus AME Church, History, and Research Presentation

First AME Church, Kansas City, KS | 2021

Preservation Impacts and Planning for Nicodemus and Allensworth

UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA | 2021

Parents as Teachers of Hidden History

Kensington Elementary PTA, Kensington, CA | 2021

Pushout: A Discussion About Black Girls

Pierian Club, Kansas City, KS | 2021

Nicodemus, Kansas: Roots Reflections

NAACP Kwanzaa Program, Johnson County, KS | 2020

Nicodemus, Kansas: The Roots of My Tree

Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2020

Preservation Impact and Planning for Nicodemus and Allensworth

Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2019

Nicodemus NHS and Allensworth SHP: A Cross-Case Analysis

WHA Conference, Las Vegas, NV | 2019

Solutions for Nicodemus, Allensworth, & Other Similar Locations

UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA | 2019

Nicodemus, Kansas: An Underrepresented Promised Land

Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2018

Nicodemus, Kansas: Where do we go from here?

Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA | 2017

Happy Birthday Mrs. Craig! Film & Discussion

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2016

Strategic Planning for Volunteer Programs

Hayward Area Historical Society, Hayward, CA | 2016

New Roots in Rural Kansas

Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Omaha, NE | 2016

Nicodemus, Kansas: The Promised Land Part 2

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2015

Nicodemus, Kansas: The Promised Land Part 1

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Office of the Dean – Special Appointment *Strategic Initiatives, Academic Concerns, and Conflict Resolution*

Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2022–2026

Support faculty and students in navigating classroom-based conflict, student complaints, and academic policy concerns. Lead special projects, including Academic Day student orientation, faculty onboarding planning, the development of cooperative education pathways, and the Center for Transformative Action initiative. Contribute to strategic institutional projects including the Mills College History Project and Mills experiential learning integration.

Director, Black Reparations Project (BRP) *Mills College at NU, Oakland, CA | 2022–2026*

Lead interdisciplinary initiative advancing reparative policy research and civic education. Mentor student fellows and research teams through applied policy projects. Partner with public institutions and community initiatives to co-create approaches that expand democratic participation and strengthen inclusive, community-engaged governance.

Chair, Department of Public Policy and Political Science *Mills College, Oakland, CA | Spring 2023*

Responsible for departmental oversight during organizational transition; supported curriculum planning, faculty coordination, and student advising alignment with university restructuring.

Acting Director of Public Policy *Mills College, Oakland, CA | Spring 2022 & Spring 2023*

Provided interim administrative leadership for the Public Policy major, coordinated program-level operations, student advising, and accreditation-linked curriculum processes.

Canvas Champion *Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2021–2022*

Served as faculty resource for instructional technology integration and Canvas platform adoption during institutional transition to Northeastern systems.

Public Policy (Major) Advisor *Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2018–2022*

Advised undergraduate public policy majors and supported student academic pathways and professional preparation.

Program Coordinator II *Foothill–De Anza Community College District, Los Altos Hills, CA | 2017–2018*

Coordinated the Humanities Mellon Scholars Program, overseeing course scheduling, program events, and internship partnerships.

Student Life Coordinator *Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2011–2013*

Facilitated student programming and engagement initiatives to support campus involvement and leadership development.

Ability to Benefit (ATB) Program Manager Heald College, Hayward, CA | 2010–2011
Managed ATB eligibility and advising support services for underserved and non-traditional students. **Student Services Advisor** Heald College, Hayward, CA | 2008–2010
Provided academic advising, enrollment support, and student success coordination.

NONPROFIT SECTOR EXPERIENCE

Program Coordinator

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP, Kansas City, KS | 2007-2008

Maintain 187k budget, supervise 10 staff, and promote college/career themes to foster care youth.

Program Counselor

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP, Kansas City, KS | 2006-2007

Provide college awareness activities and educational counseling to foster care youth.

Client Advocate

Synergy Services, Inc., Parkville, MO | 2004-2008

Provide advocate services to shelter residents and domestic violence hotline callers.

Psychosocial Group Leader

Wyandot Mental Health Center, Kansas City, KS | 2002-2006

Supervise psychosocial group workers and lead psychosocial youth group activities.

Executive Director

New Beginnings Image Consulting Group, Inc., Kansas City, KS | 2004-2005

Manage professional image consulting nonprofit for marginalized girls/women.

COMMITTEES & AFFILIATIONS

Berkeley Reparations Coalition Steering Committee | 2025-Current

Nicodemus Genealogy Engagement Project Chair | 2024-Current

Nicodemus Historical Society Board President | 2024-Current

Outsider Preservation Initiative (OPI) Advisory Board | 2024-Current

Northeastern University Oakland Black Student Collective Advisor | 2026

CA African American History and Engagement Project Planning Team | 2024-2026

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) | 2022-2023

Mills College at NU Academic Sub-Stream: Inclusion, Racial and Gender Equity | 2021-2022

Mills College Faculty Executive Committee Non-Tenure-Track Representative | 2021-2022

Mills College Anti-Racism Consultant Hiring Committee | 2021

Mills College Black Action Forum Member | 2020-2023

L.C. and Lillie Cox Haven of Hope Board Member | 2020-2026

Mills College (NU Oakland) Black Faculty and Staff Association-Co-Founder & Co-Chair | 2019-Current

Western History Association Member | 2019-2020

Mills College Ethnicity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Committee | 2019-2020

Mills College Black History Month Planning Committee | 2018-Current

Nicodemus Historical Society Board Secretary | 2016-2023

Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration | 2014-Current

Los Medanos College African American Faculty & Staff Association-Member | 2011-2017

TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCIES

Learning Management & Academic Systems: Canvas (including bCourses), D2L/Brightspace, Blackboard, PeopleSoft, Ellucian Colleague, Banner, DegreeWorks, StarfishTeaching & Collaboration Tools: Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneNote), Google Workspace, Poll Everywhere, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Slack, Canva AI & Innovation Tools: Gemini, ChatGPT, Claude AI, generative content creation, analysis, and curriculum design

TRAINING AND CONFERENCES

New Inc. Cultural Incubator Member Cohort

New Museum, New York, NY | Current

Northeastern Oakland AI Summit

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Agentforce (AI) Success for All Oakland

Salesforce, Oakland, CA | 2025

You Belong Here Course Tester

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

AI in Action: Create Custom Apps and Data Visualizations

Northeastern University, Oakland, CA | 2025

Mills College at Northeastern University C2C Policy Fellows Training

Oakland, CA | 2023

Voices & Votes: Democracy in America Smithsonian Exhibit Training

Topeka, KS | 2022

National Conference for Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education

Virtual | 2021

How to Use Slack and bCourse in Your Classroom

UC Berkeley, Berkeley CA | 2020

Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most

Mills College, Oakland, CA | 2019

National Conference for Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education

New Orleans, LA | 2018

Introduction to Teaching with Canvas Course

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2017

National Conference for Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education

San Francisco, CA | 2016

Online Self-Instructed D2L Training Course

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA | 2014

Online Instruction ANGEL Training Course

Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS | 2008

AWARDS, HONORS, & GRANTS

Northeastern University Oakland BSC Black Excellence Award | 2026

Mills College Alumnae of Color Committee Phenomenal Woman Award | 2026

Mills College at NU Curriculum Grant (\$6k) | 2025

Black Reparations Project Mills College at NU (\$15k) | 2024

Northeastern University Community to Community Seed Grant (\$5k) | 2024

Mills College at NU Faculty Research Grant (\$4k) | 2024

Mills College at NU Commencement and Convocation Faculty Marshal | 2023-2025 Mills

College at NU Elinor Kilgore Snyder Professorship (3-year appointment-\$7k) | 2023

Northeastern University Community to Community Policy Fellowship Grant (\$5k) |

2023 Mills College at NU Kwanzaa Celebration Recognition of Achievement | 2023

Black Reparations Project March Fong Eu Public Policy Fund (\$20k) | 2022

Black Reparations Project Stupski Foundation Grant (\$50k) | 2022

Mills College Course Redesign Grant (\$350) | 2020

Mills College Faculty of the Year | 2020

Mills College Advisor of the Year | 2019

MEDIA

- [Nicodemus Historical Society welcomes new leadership, staff](#) | *Hays Post* | 2025
- [Joint trip to historic Black California town](#) | *Mills Quarterly* | 2025
- [BRP Presents: Genealogy Workshop Series with Nicka Smith](#) | *Mills College-BRP YouTube* |

- [Alameda County Reparations Commission Extended 2 Years](#) | KQED | 2024
- [Inclusive Dialogues: A Panel Discussion on Race, Gender, and the Journey to Equality](#) | 2024
- [The Hope of History](#) | *Foothill De Anza District Humanities Lecture Series* | 2024
- [The reparations movement gains momentum, but major challenges remain](#) | *NU Global News* | 2023
- ['US history of enslavement' part of litmus test for Black reparations, experts at Northeastern conference in Oakland say](#) | *NU Global News* | 2023
- [Conference kicks off new Black Reparations Project](#) | *Mills Quarterly* | 2023
- [Black Reparations Conference Summary](#) | *UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy* | 2023
- ['Historic moment' on reparations occurs at Mills College at Northeastern University](#) | *NU Global News* | 2023
- [Black History Month Webinar](#) | Bakersfield College | 2023
- ['Mrs. Craig' celebrated at LMC](#) | Los Medanos College | 2016