

**JONATHAN-DAVID MACKINLEY HOWARD**

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**EDUCATION**

**Duke University**, Durham, NC

Ph.D. English, 2017

Dissertation: “‘Inhabitants of the Deep’: Water and the Material Imagination of Blackness”

Committee: Nathaniel Mackey (chair), Fred Moten, Maurice Wallace, Priscilla Wald, J. Kameron Carter

**Duke University**, Durham, NC

M.A. in English, 2014

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA

B.A. in English and Africana Studies, *magna cum laude* with Honors, 2010

**FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2020 Harrington Fellowship (UT Austin)
- 2020 Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship
- 2017 ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (declined)
- 2017 Ford Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship (honorable mention)
- 2016 Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (finalist)
- 2016 MMUF Travel and Research Grant
- 2015 DeWitt Wallace – Reader’s Digest Graduate Fellowship
- 2013 Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace
- 2010 Society of Duke Fellows
- 2010 Duke Dean’s Graduate Fellowship
- 2010 Fulbright Research Grant (Brazil)
- 2007 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship
- 2006 Mayor’s Scholarship, University of Pennsylvania

**PUBLICATIONS**

- 2021 “To See the Earth Before the End of the Antiblack World” forthcoming in *Souls*
- 2020 “Swim Your Ground: Toward a Black and Blue Humanities” forthcoming in special issues of *Atlantic Studies* on “Kinship as Critical Idiom in Oceanic Studies”
- 2018 “A Legacy of Connection,” *Callaloo*
- 2017 “Water, form, the Rock: The Kindred Poetics of H.D. and Moses” three-part essay at *Lute and Drum*
- 2017 “‘Gone with the Ibos’: Water and the Material Imagination of Blackness in Paule Marshall’s *Praisesong for the Widow*,” *Callaloo*
- 2016 “The Soles of Black Folk: Blackness and the Lived Experience of Relation,” *The Esu Review*
- 2010 “Their Eyes Were God’s: A Counter-Cartography of ‘The Known World’” in *2009-2010 Penn Humanities Forum on Connections*

**CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

“The Blueness of Blackness,” talk delivered at Donald D. Harrington Fellows Symposium Amarillo, Texas,

10 April 2021

“The *Color* Line: The ‘Problem’ of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” talk delivered at the Harrington Fellowship Board Meeting, 25 March 2021

“Water and the Material Imagination of Blackness,” presentation at the Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship Conference, 11 August 2020

“On Water and Black Ecological Life,” delivered at the Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational History of the Americas to be held on the theme “Bodies of Water: Flows, Wars, Floods, Wakes.” Tepoztlán, Mexico, July 24 - 31, 2019

“Inhabitants of the Deep,” paper delivered on the “Decolonizing the Oceans in Early American Writing” panel at the 2019 MLA Convention, Chicago, 5 January 2018

“Blue Inquiry,” keynote delivered at the 2018 English Graduate Student Colloquium, Boston College, 22 April 2018

“Blue Inquiry: Water and the Material Imagination of Blackness,” conference paper delivered at the 2018 Annual Comparative Literature Conference “The Oceans and the Seas,” University of Toronto, 23 February 2018

“Darkness over the Face of the Deep: Toward a Doctrine of Black Beginning,” conference paper delivered at the 2017 Spring Symposium “On Black Futures,” Duke University, 4 February 2017

Invited to moderate “Literary and Cultural Studies” panel at the 2016 *Callaloo* Conference at Oxford University, 24 November 2016

Invited Lecturer, “Cosmological Reverb: Toward a Black Doctrine of Beginning,” *In Formation: African American Literature*, Baruch College 1 Dec 2016

Invited Lecturer, “Alice Night’s Counter-Cartography of ‘The Known World,’” *English 266: Slavery in the Contemporary Literary Imagination*, Duke University 1 April 2014

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor**, Yale University, New Haven, CT  
English and African American Studies

Fall 2021-Present

**Assistant Professor**, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA  
English and African and African Diaspora Studies

Fall 2017-Spring 2021

**Graduate Instructor**, Duke University, Durham, NC

Fall 2013

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

*Callaloo* Journal  
Reader

2017-present

*The Esu Review*, University of Pennsylvania  
Guest Editor: Special Alumni Edition

2016

*The Esu Review*, University of Pennsylvania  
Founding Editor

2009

## **LANGUAGES**

English: Native Language

Portuguese: Advanced Low speaking/reading (ACTFL scale)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Studies Association

Modern Language Association