

**Elleza Kelley**  
Curriculum Vitae

**EDUCATION**

2021 Ph.D., English, Columbia University

DISSERTATION: "Sites of Inscription: Writing In and Against Post-Plantation Geographies."

2019 M.Phil., Columbia University

2016 M.A., Columbia University  
THESIS: "'Follow the Tree Flowers': Fugitive Mapping in *Beloved*," Nominated for the English Department's Bunner Prize for the best M.A. essay in American literature.

2012 B.A., English, Wesleyan University

**TEACHING & RESEARCH FIELDS**

African-American Literature, Literature of the African diaspora, American Literature, African-American Studies, Black Studies, American Studies, Cultural Studies, Literary Geographies, Black Geographies, Urban Studies.

**PUBLICATIONS**

"'Follow the Tree Flowers': Fugitive Mapping in *Beloved*," *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography* (forthcoming 2020)

"Take Me Away," *The New Inquiry* (July 29, 2019), <https://thenewinquiry.com/take-me-away/>

"In Conversation with Elleza Kelley: close reading: rooftops, love letters & the classroom," interview for *Pathways to Free Education*, vol. 4 (Fall 2019), 18-29.

**PRESENTATIONS & PANELS**

"Footnotes (Books and Papers Scattered About the Floor)" in conversation with Katherine McKittrick, South Seminar at Columbia University, New York City, March 8, 2018.

“Vexy Thing: Gender and Liberation,” panelist roundtable discussion with Imani Perry, Columbia University, New York City, October 25, 2018.

“Belly Blue(s): The Black Space of the Music Video,” paper presented at American Studies Association annual meeting, Atlanta, November 8, 2018.

“Roofscapes: Geographies of Fugitive Praxis,” paper presented at American Studies Association annual meeting, Chicago, November 9, 2017.

“Roofscapes: Geographies of Fugitive Praxis,” paper presented at the “Paraspaces” graduate conference hosted by the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at Stony Brook University, New York City, October 29, 2016.

## **EMPLOYMENT & TEACHING**

- 2019 (Spring) Instructor of Record (University Writing: Readings in Law & Justice), Columbia University. In this freshman composition course, I developed an original syllabus and taught students to express their thoughts clearly and cogently in a variety of academic essay forms. Students learned close reading, critical thinking and analytical skills; how to conduct research, use and cite sources; and how to place scholars and texts in conversation. With a specific focus on “Law & Justice,” we studied the history of mass incarceration and racialized surveillance in the United States. Readings this semester included writing by Martin Luther King, Jr., Franz Kafka, and Jill Lepore.
- 2018 (Fall) Instructor of Record (University Writing: Readings in Law & Justice), Columbia University. See above. Readings this semester included writing by Michel Foucault, Angela Davis, Ruth Wilson-Gilmore, and Simone Browne.
- 2018 (Spring) Instructor of Record (University Writing: The Contemporary Essay), Columbia University. In this freshman composition course, I developed an original syllabus and taught students to express their thoughts clearly and cogently in a variety of academic essay forms. Students learned close reading, critical thinking and analytical skills; how to conduct research, use and cite sources; and how to place scholars and texts in conversation. Readings this semester included writing by James Baldwin, Susan Sontag, Sara Ahmed, Theodor Adorno, and Nathaniel Mackey.
- 2017 (Fall) Instructor of Record (University Writing: The Contemporary Essay), Columbia University. See above. Readings this semester included writing by Teju Cole, Gloria Anzaldúa, Zadie Smith, Rebecca Solnit, and Edward Said.
- 2017 (Spring) Teaching Assistant to Robert O’Meally (African American Literature II), Columbia University.
- 2016 (Fall) Teaching Assistant to Shayoni Mitra (Theater in a Global Context), Barnard College.
- 2011 (Fall) Teaching Assistant to Daniella Gandolfo (Anthropology of Cities), Wesleyan University.

## **OTHER EMPLOYMENT**

- 2018 (Summer) Research Assistant to Farah Griffin, Columbia University. Assisted in the early stages of production for a forthcoming volume of Dr. Griffin's collected essays.
- 2016 (Summer) Research Assistant to Imani Perry, Princeton University. Conducted research for Dr. Perry's award-winning book, *Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry* (Beacon Press, 2018).
- 2013-2015 Instructor, Teaching Supervisor, Curriculum Development (Doing Art Together, Inc.), New York City, 2013-2015. Supervised teaching staff, developed curriculum, created and conducted professional development, and taught classes at an arts education non-profit serving New York City public school students grades K-12.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS**

- Provost Diversity Fellow
- Marjorie Hope Nicolson Fellow
- Frederic Zeller Memorial Endowment Fellow

## **LEADERSHIP & EVENT ORGANIZING**

- Black Student Alliance at the Graduate School for Architecture, Planning and Preservation (BSA @ GSAPP), Columbia University, NYC. Co-founder & Senior Advisor, 2018-present.
- "Black Production and the Space of the University," inaugural symposium of the BSA @ GSAPP, Columbia University, NYC. March 30, 2019. Proposed, planned and organized.
- Convener of the English Department's African-American Literature Graduate Colloquium, Columbia University, NYC. Fall 2016 – Fall 2018.
- "Field Notes from the Muslim International" a talk by Sohail Daulatzai at Columbia University, September 16, 2016. Proposed, secured funding, and organized.