

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2010 Sociology, North Carolina State University
Concentrations: Crime, deviance, and social control (criminology)
Inequality: Class, race, and gender

Doctoral Dissertation: [Black Political and Socioeconomic Status Attainment and the Direction of Lethal Violence: Comparing the Suicide of Young Black and White Males in U.S. Counties](#)

M.S. 2003 Criminal justice, Virginia Commonwealth University

B.A. 1999 Political science, criminal justice minor, pre-law, University of Richmond

SPECIALIZATIONS

Community advocacy
Medical and health equity
Suicide and suicidal self-harm
Mental health
Disabilities
Police-court-penal
K-12 curriculum and course materials
College curriculum and course materials
Academic program evaluations and assessments
Policy, procedure, budget, law evaluations and assessments

EXAMPLES OF PUBLICATIONS

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2026. The Making of Black Urban Entrepreneurs. NIVA Journal: Official Journal of the New International Virtual Association. April: 1(2). [NIVA Journal 2026 Volume 1 Number 2](#)

Dennis, Kimya Nuru and Rutledge M. Dennis. Summer 2025. "The Poetic in Du Bois's Sociological Imagination," Association of Black Sociologists. [ABS The Griot Summer 2025](#)

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2024. "Alma Barlow: Grassroots Leadership and the Rise of the Richmond Tenants Organization." Virginia Social Science Association. Spring: Vol. 72, pp. 1-18. https://www.virginiasocialscience.org/uploads/1/3/5/1/135131919/vssj_volume_57_2024_.pdf

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2024. "Harold Cruse, Black Intellectuals, and Reconstructing Black America." The Sociologist, February. <https://thesociologistdc.com/all-issues/harold-cruse-black-intellectuals-and-reconstructing-black-america/>

Kendra J. Jason, Sonyia Richardson, Kimya Nuru Dennis. Fall 2022. "Relieving the Burden of Self-Reliance: Centering the Experiences of Black Women Graduate Students in Predominantly White Institutions." *Journal of African American Women and Girls in Education*. 2(3): 8-33.

Patrick Webb, Jason Chin, Cynthia-Lee Williams, Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2021. "Technological Advocacy and Crime Reporting in an HBCU Setting: Addressing the Prospect of Legal Cynicism in the Ebony Tower." *Journal of Black Studies*. 53(2).

Darrell N. Burrell, Jorja B. Wright, Mindy Perot, Delores Springs, Shanel Lu, Amalisha Sabie Aridi, Kimya Nuru Dennis, Rajanique Modeste and Darrell Ezell. 2021. "Financial Management Education Courses as Social Societal Learning Tools at Minority-Serving Colleges and Universities." *International Journal of Public Sociology and Sociotherapy*. <https://www.igi-global.com/gateway/article/269516?ct=-8585920633548088039>

Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2020. "Confrontational Politics: The Black Lives Matter Movement." *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*, First Edition.
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rutledge-Dennis/publication/343672819_Confrontational_Politics_The_Black_Lives_Matter_Movement/links/5f596e3f92851c0789585980/Confrontational-Politics-The-Black-Lives-Matter-Movement.pdf

Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2018. "Black Male Suicide: Inward-Expressed Frustration and Aggression" of Part 5 "The Criminal and Social Justice" In Ransaw, Gause, and Majors (eds.) *Handbook of Research on Black Males*. Michigan: Michigan State University Press.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.14321/j.ctv4g1qgh?fbclid=IwARlQGtQgbOuKKk6GCiDY0LLODPjBiiir53b0LNc5IaLkCiWFECDF9P8xb8Q>

Kimya Nuru Dennis and Kendra J. Jason. 2018. "Black women academics: Artistic expression through teaching, research, and activism," *Association of Black Sociologists, Issues in Race & Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal*. [Dennis and Jason 2018](#)

EXAMPLES OF PUBLIC WRITINGS

July 2026. Cultures in women's holistic wellness and health. *Vitality Digest Magazine*. She Rises Studios. Pp. 31-32. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bTzKfIRtuFCBVPKSKdsFUIHIYAT7TclK/view?usp=sharing>

January 2026. "Never abandon women's empowerment and women's economic development." Pp.63-64. *Sheconomy Magazine*. She Rises Studios. https://drive.google.com/file/d/12dlmgZNA_m4QWiNjIXwKo-vZ3L2m42Qd/view?usp=drive_link

Winter 2023, "Harold Cruse: Cooperative Economic Association," the economic section of "The Intellectual Legacy of Harold Cruse," Kimya Nuru Dennis and Rutledge M. Dennis, *The Griot, Association of Black Sociologists*

Winter 2022, "Sociology of Black health," pp. 18-19, *The Griot, Association of Black Sociologists*
<https://blacksociologists.wildapricot.org/resources/Pictures/The%20Griot%20-%20Winter%202022.pdf>

Summer 2022, "Black suicide and Black suicidal self-harm: Holding suicide prevention and mental health students and professionals accountable for centuries of medical racism and scientific racism," *The Griot: The Newsletter for the Association of Black Sociologists*.

March 2022, "Art and Black Health," *FotoShoot Magazine*.
<https://www.fotoshootmagazine.com/post/ifotc-art-and-black-health>

January 2019, Guest Column, "Connecting our communities with medical-health professionals"
<https://wschronicle.com/connection-our-communities-with-medical-health-professionals/>

2017-2019, Guest Writer, *MHA Virginia*.
<https://mhav.org/?s=kimya+dennis>

February 2018, "Suicide isn't just a 'white people thing,'" *The Conversation: Academic rigor, journalistic flair* <https://theconversation.com/suicide-isnt-just-a-white-people-thing-77367>

Featured <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/5-important-stories-that-have-nothing-to-do-with-the-trump-kim-summit>

Republished https://tonic.vice.com/en_us/article/evmzxn/suicide-research-underrepresents-people-of-color

Republished https://www.salon.com/2018/02/15/suicide-is-not-just-a-white-people-thing_partner/

October 2016, Guest Column, "Resources available to reduce stress, violence," *Richmond Free Press*

October 2016, Guest Column, "Some ways we can handle violence," *Richmond Free Press*

September 2016, Guest Column, “How communities decide ‘enough is enough,’” Winston-Salem Chronicle
<https://wschronicle.com/34953/>

June 2016, Guest Column, “Obstacles to mental health care,” Richmond Free Press

June 2016, Guest Column, “Commentary: Devon Davis and mental health in our community,” Winston-Salem Chronicle
<https://wschronicle.com/33671/>

April 2016, Guest Column, “Mental-health outreach, spiritual communities can work together,” Winston-Salem Journal
http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/columnists/kimya-n-dennis-mental-health-outreach-spiritual-communities-can-work/article_cf46ceb8-3b7b-501d-9d88-7fb947dd5cfa.html

March 2016, Guest Column, “The larger implications of the death of Darryl Hunt,”
http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/columnists/kimya-n-dennis-the-larger-implications-of-the-death-of/article_cc1188c3-1937-50cd-bc02-b52fe5adf156.html?mode=story

RECENT CERTIFICATES AND TRAININGS

2023 Baltimore County Department of Health, Baltimore County Peer Conference
2023 District of Columbia Department of Health Narcan (Naloxone) Community Education Course
2022 American Heart Association Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED
2019 Inaugural Cohort, Connection Academy Scholars Program, Cone Health
2019 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Connections Capstone
2019 SafeZone, North Star LGBT, Winston-Salem, NC
2018 WRAP: Wellness Recovery Action Plan, Mental Health Association in Forsyth County and Cardinal Innovations
2018 Policy Engagement Training for Researchers: How to Build Relationships for Long-term Impact, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and SSN: Scholars Strategy Network
2010, 2017 Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (A.S.I.S.T.), NC AFSP
2016 Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship
2016 Advanced Issues in Suicide Intervention, Northwest AHEC and Wake Forest School of Medicine
2016, Certificate, Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research, Wake Forest School of Medicine
2016, Training for Trainers, Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation
2016, Trainee, Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation, Northwest AHEC
2016, Mental Health First Aid Certification Training, CenterPoint
2016, Community Contributor, safeTALK, NC AFSP
2015, Community Contributor, safeTALK, NC AFSP
2015, Trainee, safeTALK, NC AFSP

EXAMPLES OF AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Black Sociologists, Life Member
Taking Care of Us Toolkit, Community and Faith, Maryland Behavioral Health Administration, 2025—current
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS): 2008-2020; Public Policy Committee 2015-2018, 2019—2020; Elections & Nominations Committee 2017
The American Society of Criminology (ASC): 2008-2020
Scholars Strategy Network, 2014—current <https://scholars.org/scholar/kimya-dennis>
The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County, North Carolina (MHA Forsyth), Board of Directors, 2014-2019
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (NCAFS), North Carolina Chapter, Board of Directors, 2014-2017, started the Salem College OOTD
Women’s Fund of Winston Salem, Research and Education Committee, 2017-2019

Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, Winston Salem, Education Committee, Standing Strong Committee, 2018-2019

Statewide Suicide Prevention Coalition, 2025—current

Women's Media Center, 2026—current <https://womensmediacenter.com/shesource/expert/dr-kimya-nuru-dennis-ph-d>

Health Equity Works (HEW) Speakers Bureau, 2026—current

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY AND ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

2025, Presenter, “Black Thinkers and Black Capitalism,” Profs & Pints, Guilford Hall Brewery, September 7, Baltimore, MD.

2025, Panelist, “Equity at Work: Mental Health Advocacy for Black Professionals,” session for a webinar series presented by the Association of Black Charities, Baltimore, August 26.

2025, Presenter: Financial Advice for Youth Ages 14-18, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center + Sweet Hope Summer, Baltimore, July-December.

2025, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Donnell's Day, Herring Run Park, Baltimore, June.

2025, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Juneteenth Resource Event, The Weinberg Y in Waverly, Baltimore, June.

2024, Communiversity Presenter: Harold Cruse and the Intersection of Black Health, Education and Economic Development. TNAT Holistic Wellness Center, Baltimore, April.

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, 20th Annual Happy Nappy Day, Baltimore

2023, Livestream, Demystifying the Mind: Understanding Mental Health vs. Mental Illness, Black Mental Health Matters
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9JCGtHsxvs&t=1s>

2023, Livestream, Social Media and Cognitive Overload: Understanding the Impact on Mental Well-Being, Black Mental Health Matters
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ay2XQKeIvPA>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Justice4Donnell Community Event, Baltimore

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Spring Mini-Health & Beauty Expo, Baltimore

2023, Virtual Mental Health Panel, Divine 9 NC Legislative Day, NC Black Alliance
<https://ncblackalliance.org/nc-divine-9-legislative-day-sets-record-participation/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, IBW21 State of the Black World Conference, Baltimore <https://ibw21.org/sobwcv/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Community Block Party

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, B'More Healthy Expo
<https://bmorehealthyexpo.com/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Baltimore UNIA-ACL Division 106 Barca-Clarke

2023, Presenter, "Our lives are more than data representation: The urgency of substance use and suicide," [Students Recover](#) online recovering community

2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "[Part 2: Afrikans with Epilepsy](#)," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, BeMoreGreen, Baltimore
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reUl-E98s88&t=34s>

2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "[Part 1: Afrikans with Epilepsy](#)," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, TNAT Holistic Wellness Center, Baltimore
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-RpQq30TA0>

2021, Presenter, Epilepsy Health Disparities, Health Equity, and Cultural Competency, Epilepsy Foundation, AAP Community Health Workers ECHO.

2021, Presenter, "Racial equity and epilepsy," National Public Health Week (NPHW), Epilepsy Foundation, AAP Community Health Workers ECHO https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_A1ZcXbFPs

2021, Trainer, "Redefining suicide and suicidal self-harm," Race and Mental Health Training, Suicide Prevention Training, Maryland Department of Health.

2021, Presenter, "Interlocking Racial Inclusion, Racial equity, and Campus Safety," Campus Safety Educational Webcast Series. <https://www.campusafetymagazine.com/webcast/interlocking-racial-inclusion-racial-equity-and-campus-safety/>

2020, Trainer, systemic racism in all aspects of medical-health system, Acadia Healthcare Maryland, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, Maryland.

2020, Trainer, demographic and cultural diversity-inclusion. NAMI Metro Baltimore, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, MD.

2020, Co-Facilitator and Co-Consultant, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, MD.

2020, Panelist, "A conversation: health equity, healthcare systems and next steps to achieve progress," Novant Health.

2020, Presenter, "What behavioral health professionals must do to support Blacks disproportionately targeted and harmed by police," Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA).

2020, Training Creator and Trainer, "365 Diversity's We Need H.E.L.P.: Introduction" and July 2020, trainer, "365 Diversity's We Need H.E.L.P.: Train the Trainer," Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA).
2016-2018, Board of Directors, LEAD Girls of NC, Winston-Salem, NC

2014-2019, Board of Directors, The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County, North Carolina (MHA Forsyth)-Contribution: Chair, Community Health Advocacy, community presentations and resource sharing

2019, Keynote Lunch Presenter, Mental Health Seminar: User-Friendly Service, Winston-Salem Urban League, Continuing Education Credits provided by Northwest AHEC.

2019, Black Mental Health Resource Table, Annual Happily Natural Day, Richmond, VA
<https://thenaturalfestival.com/>

2013-2019, Black Health Resource Tables, community events, Winston-Salem, NC

2016-2019, Medical and Health Committee. Juneteenth Annual Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>

<https://wschronicle.com/33567/>

2016-2019, Black Health Resource Table. Juneteenth Annual Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>

<https://wschronicle.com/33567/>

2016-2019, Co-Presenter, Black Health Presentation. Juneteenth Annual Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>

<https://wschronicle.com/33567/>

2018, Planner and Presenter, "Stress in Our Lives and Communities: Open Discussion and Relaxing Introductory Yoga," Triad Cultural Arts, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Support Speaker, "Ways Patients and Consumers Can Communicate with Mental Health Practitioners and Medical Professionals," Greentree Peer Center, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Support Speaker, "Self-Expression and Self-Improvement," The Salvation Army Center of Hope Transitional Housing, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Planner and Presenter, two sessions of "Bring Your Lunch and Let's Discuss: How Housing Conditions Affect Us," Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Guest Lecturer, "Urban farming, food access, poverty, crime, and health outcomes," Green Infrastructure: The Functional Role of Plants in Urban Areas course, NCSU Department of Horticultural Sciences.

2018, Panelist, Law enforcement and community engagement, "Black Superhero Magic Mama," NC Black Repertory Company, UNC School of the Arts, Winston-Salem, NC

https://www.journalnow.com/relishnow/events/community-discussion-will-follow-reading/article_dc410868-dfcf-11e8-8c8d-ff2a216948c6.html

2018, Trainer, "Throughout College and Careers: Teaching and Training about Demographic and Cultural Variance for Health Students, Health Professionals and Health Practitioners," 15th Annual Statewide Training Conference, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence, Inc. (MACC), Columbus, OH
<http://www.maccinc.net/training-conference/>

2018, Evaluations for academic programs (history, psychology, sociology, political science, interdisciplinary studies, master's in criminal justice, master's in urban affairs, PhD in clinical psychology), 2017-2018 Annual Outcomes Assessment Report Evaluation, Department of History and Interdisciplinary Studies, Norfolk State University.

July 2018, Guest Lecturer, "Teaching medical students about community outreach: How to use art to explain neuroscience," Wake Forest School of Medicine class for neuroscientist Dr. Siobhan Hoscheidt.

2017, Honorarium Speaker, "Health and Freedoms: Sociocultural Identities and Experiences," Maya Angelou Center for Women's Health and Wellness: International Women's Health Summit 2017 - A Global Priority, Winston-Salem, NC.

2017, Co-Presenter, "Community event to address mental health and suicide", Sunrise Towers N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Winston-Salem, NC.

2017, Co-Presenter, "Suicide outreach and awareness," Stokes County Wellness Center, NC.

2017, Guest Speaker, "Just Keep Swimming: A Discussion on Mental Health in the Black Community and Coping with Stress and Anxiety", WSSU Sociology Club.

2016, Presenter, "Self-Harm and Suicide among Blacks: Redefining and Re-Categorizing Behaviors", Lunch and Learn on Mental Health, Community Outreach, and Resource Availability, CenterPoint Human Services, Eden, NC.

2016, Panelist, Community Relations with Police, North State Law Enforcement Association Conference, Winston-Salem, NC.

2016, Speaker, WSSU Homecoming Colloquium, "Health Disparities in America: Working toward Social Justice," Winston Salem State University.

2016, Panelist, "Suicide: A Public Health Issue in Adolescents & Young Adults," Old Salem Visitors Center, James A. Gray Auditorium.

2016, Guest Expert, "Mental Health Promotion & Suicide Prevention: Black Youth Suicide," Blackdoctor.org Facebook Q&A: <https://blackdoctor.org/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>
Republished <http://blackdoctor.org/506662/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>
Partially Republished <http://www.afro.com/rates-for-black-kids-increase/>

2016, Honorarium Speaker, Plenary Session "Expanding Perspectives of Black Suicide and Black Suicidal Self-Harm." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, Ohio.

2016, Honorarium Workshop Presenter, "Ways to Reach 'Our People' for Mental Health Outreach." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, Ohio.

2016, Co-Planner and Co-Moderator, Winston Salem Urban League Black & Blue Town Halls.
<http://www.wsurban.org/community-partners-host-community-police-town-hall-series/>
http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/11/final-urban-league-town-hall-tackles-implicit-bias/>

2015, Presenter, Mental Health and the Black Community, 9th Annual Nutrition, Health and Wellness Fair, NC A&T, Greensboro, NC.

2015, Panelist, MLK Day Town Hall: Solutions for Improving Police - Community Relations, WSSU, sponsored by The Minister's Conference.

2014-2015, Consulting Group and Working Group, NC Suicide Prevention Plan, Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) Branch and UNC Department of Health Behavior.
<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/docs/2015-NC-SuicidePreventionPlan-2015-0505-FINAL.pdf>

2014, Co-Presenter, "Need for understanding between civilian CIT trainers and law enforcement CIT trainees," NC CIT State Advisory Committee, Raleigh, NC.

2014, Co-Organizer and Discussant, My Brother's Keeper: Black Violence Breakfast Symposium, sponsored by Diggs Memorial Unity Holy Church, Winston-Salem, NC.

2014, Panelist, Stop the Violence: Community Meeting and Forum, sponsored by the City of Winston-Salem, Winston Salem State University.

2014, Trainer, Stokes County Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Six-Hour Seminar: "Proposed Transfer of 16-18 Years Old Offenders to Adult Courts in NC" and "Juvenile Recidivism and Rehabilitation," Pilot Mountain, NC.

2013, Co-Planner and Panelist, Gun Violence: A Campus and Community Discussion, Winston-Salem, NC. https://journalnow.com/news/local/article_512e0e42-2198-11e3-9bae-0019bb30f31a.html

2012-2015, Volunteer, Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trainings for first responders, mental health professionals, and law enforcement, MHA Forsyth, NC.

EXAMPLES OF CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

February 2026, Kimya Nuru Dennis, "Comparing Suicide and Homicide: Black Political and Socioeconomic Status Attainment and the Direction of Lethal Violence," New International Virtual Association, Spring Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

February 2026, Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis, "The Socialization of Black Academic Intellectuals," New International Virtual Association, Spring Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

October 2025, Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis, "The Making of Black Urban Entrepreneurs," New International Virtual Association, Fall Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

December 2023, "Increasing Preventive Measures and Deterrents on College Campuses," Campus Safety Online Summit.
<https://campussafetysummit.com/>

May 2023, Virtual Presenter, "Ways to Prepare Black People for Mental Health Services and Physical Health Services," ClinicianFest.
<https://www.clinicianfest.com/>
<https://www.clinicianfest.com/2023-presenter/dr.-kimya-nuru-dennis>

October 2022, Presenter, "The Impossibility of Criminology Academic Programs and Criminology Organizations to Reflect the Racial Demographics of the World." <https://crimcon.org/>.

October 2021, Presenter, "How Predominantly White and White-Controlled Local and National Suicide Prevention Organizations Must Go Beyond Surface-Level Racial Equity," Maryland 33rd Annual Suicide Prevention Conference.

November 2019. Presenter and Chair, session title: "Perils and Promises of Mental Health and Health Services," presentation title "Lack of Cultural Awareness and Inclusiveness in Health Services Contributes to Disproportionate Representation of African Americans in Criminal Justice System," American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

November 2019. Critic and Moderator, Author Meets Critics: Dr. Andrea S. Boyles' You Can't Stop the Revolution: Community Disorder and Social Ties in Post-Ferguson America, American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

April 2019. Presenter, "Redefining suicide and suicidal self-harm: Cultural consciousness to better reach communities and better teach-train health students and health professionals-practitioners." American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

March 2019. Presenter, "Does CIT Training Help African Americans with Mental Illness?" Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

November 2018, Presenter, "Black men, mental health, and suicidal self-harm: Not 'criminals' and 'thugs'," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA.

September 2018, Panelist, "The Black Health Forum: Embracing Black Mental Wellness." North Carolina Chapter of National Association of Health Services Executives. UNC Chapel Hill.

September 2018, Presenter, Mental Health Breakout Session, "The state of mental health among African Americans," State of Black Health National Conference. Atlanta, GA.

June 2018, Presenter, "Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT): Connecting Communities and Law Enforcement," Conference Banquet for Furniture City Chapter of North State Law Enforcement Officers Association.

May 2018, Co-Presenter and Co-Facilitator, "Providing services for children/families in homes with substance use," Break Out Session for State and Research University Partnerships in the Opioid Crisis, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy. <https://www.appam.org/member-forum-state-and-research-university-partnerships-in-the-opioid-crisis/>

March 2018, Co-Presenter, "'You Feel Me?' Social-Emotional Intelligence and Mental Health among Men of Color," North Carolina Community College System, Minority Male Mentoring Conference, Bridging the Gap: Innovative Approaches to Minority Male Success. Durham, NC.

March 2018, Co-Presenter, "Suicide as the Ultimate Social Risk: Mental health and cultural correlates and how this impacts the juvenile justice population," North Carolina Juvenile Services Association Conference. Carolina Beach, NC.

February 2018, Roundtable, "Developing and Strengthening Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

February 2018, Open Seminar, "Black 'Boys II Men': Masculinity shapes, and is shaped by, mental health and suicidal self-harm," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

November 2017, Co-Presenter with Economist Dr. Megan Regan, "Racial and Economic Segregation: A Spatial Perspective of Persistent, Concentrated Poverty," Class, Power, Gender, and Poverty Session. Southern Economic Association Conference.

November 2017, Policy Presenter and Panelist, "Transitions in Public Policy for Mental Health," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

November 2017, Session Chair and Presenter, "'Violent Criminals' or Suicidal: Re-conceptualizing Suicide and Suicidal Self-harm," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

September 2017, Presenter, "African Diaspora Life Stressors Contribute to Mental Health and Suicide," Black Mental Health Symposium, UNC-Charlotte.

March 2017, Open Seminar, "Ways to Reduce the Mental-Illness-to-Incarceration Pipeline", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO.

February 2017, Presenter, "Black 'Boys II Men': Re-conceptualize and Re-categorize." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. High Point University.

March 29-April 2, 2016, Roundtable, "Black Suicide and Self-Harm", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

February 2016, Presenter, "Mental Health Outreach and Cultural Correlates." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Winston-Salem, NC.

EXAMPLES OF MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND FEATURES

July 2024 Release, WTTS 4 Epilepsy Presents a Docuseries about Epilepsy and the Families Impacted by Epilepsy. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auPxXqkyeNo>

October 2021, "Computer tablets and podcasts becoming the new normal in prisons nationwide," Yahoo News. <https://news.yahoo.com/computer-tablets-and-podcasts-becoming-the-new-normal-in-prisons-nationwide-090001826.html>

July 2021, "Police willing to talk, agree more work needs to be done," Concord Monitor. <https://www.concordmonitor.com/Organizers-say-Nashua-conversation-events-help-community-police-find-common-ground-41521498>

January 2021, "Some Winston-Salem residents see a double standard regarding law enforcement's treatment of Capitol rioters and Black Lives Matter protesters," Winston-Salem Journal. https://journalnow.com/news/crime/some-winston-salem-residents-see-a-double-standard-regarding-law-enforcements-treatment-of-capitol-rioters/article_f95f52d2-55cb-11eb-a662-db4a4943c178.html

2020, Anna Delvey: The Fake Heiress of New York, Part 2. Last Looks. Season 1, Episode 2. https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11248122/fullcredits/?ref=tt_cst_sm

2019, "The Cycle: Generational Curses." Black Experiences & Black Mental Health. Terrence Graham, 5FT Productions, LLC, North Carolina.

2019, "Bullied," documentary, writer and director Thomas Keith <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10597490/>

August 2019, "Seventeen homicides and a rash of shootings have occurred in the city this year," Winston Salem Journal. https://www.journalnow.com/news/crime/homicides-and-a-rash-of-shootings-have-occurred-in-the/article_aedf44af-85d4-59f0-a0b6-7891363547e0.html

September 2019, "One size doesn't fit all: The alarming rates of suicide in the Black community," RTV6 Indianapolis. <https://www.theindychannel.com/lifestyle/health/one-size-doesnt-fit-all-the-alarming-rates-of-suicide-in-the-black-community>
<https://www.wrtv.com/lifestyle/health/one-size-doesnt-fit-all-the-alarming-rates-of-suicide-in-the-black-community>

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EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Adjunct Faculty	Baltimore City Community College Sociology Spring 2023 Fall 2023
Adjunct Faculty	University of West Georgia Sociology Spring 2021—Fall 2024
Adjunct Associate Professor	Wake Forest University School of Medicine The Roots of Health Inequity Summer 2019
Department Chair	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Spring 2019
Tenured Associate Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2017—Spring 2019
Academic Tutor	Student Athletes Services Wake Forest University Fall 2012—Fall 2018
Creator and Coordinator	Criminal Studies Program Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2011—Spring 2019
Assistant Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2010—Spring 2017
Adjunct Faculty	Department of Sociology and Social Work Meredith College Fall 2009
Visiting Instructor	Department of Sociology and Anthropology North Carolina State University Spring 2006—Spring 2009, Spring 2010

Teaching Assistant

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
North Carolina State University
Fall 2003—Fall 2005, teaching courses started in 2004

ACADEMIC AWARDS

2018, Salem College Distinguished Professor Award: teaching, community work, conference presentations, and qualitative research.

2017, Tenured Associate Professor, Salem College

December 2017-January 2018, Economics Faculty Megan Regan and Sociology and Criminal Studies faculty Kimya N. Dennis, Visiting Fellows, Winston-Salem State University Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM): surveys and interviews of residents of East Winston to address component of housing costs, housing conditions and poverty in East Winston.

2017, Economics faculty Megan Regan, Sociology and Criminal Studies faculty Kimya N. Dennis, and Salem College student Keiry Bonilla Valladeres, Patricia Flynt C'57 Faculty/Student Summer Research Project Grant.

2015, Faculty Summer Research Sabbatical

2014, Faculty Summer Research Sabbatical

COURSES TAUGHT

American Class System
Corrections in America
Criminological and Criminal Justice Theory
Criminal Studies Senior Seminar
Cultural Anthropology
Gender and Crime
Independent Study: Applied Qualitative Research
Introduction to African American Studies
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Introduction to Criminology
Introduction to Sociology
Juvenile Delinquency
Media and Crime
Medical Sociology/Sociology of Medicine
Mental Health: Cultural Competence and Community Outreach
Race and Crime
Race and Ethnic Relations
Race, Class, and Gender
Roots of Health Inequity
Serial Killers
Social Problems
Social Stratification
Sociological Theory
Sociology of Family
Sociology of Gender
Sociology of Mental Health
Sociology of Race
The Childfree

The Sociology of Race, Ethnicity, and Culture
Urban Community