

LaToya L. Sawyer

Curriculum Vitae

Composition and Cultural Rhetoric
Syracuse University
Writing Program
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Student in Composition and Cultural Rhetoric Certificate of Advanced Study in Women and Gender Studies

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
(2010-Present)

M.A., S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communication Newspaper, Magazine, and Online Media

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
(December 2009)

B.A., Department of English

Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY
(May 1998)

Thesis: The Secret of Possessing Joy: An Exploration of Resistance
in Alice Walker's Novels

PUBLICATIONS

Review of *Freire, Teaching, and Learning: Culture Circles Across Contexts* with
Nyaboke Nduati and Marcelle Haddix. *Education Review*. February 2012.

"When Barbie Speaks: A Feminist Rhetorical Analysis of Nicki Minaj." Black and
Brown Feminisms in Hip-Hop Media Reader. University of Texas at San
Antonio. San Antonio, TX. Forthcoming.

"It Takes a Network: Computer-Mediated-Communication among African American
Women." In Review.

CONFERENCE PAPERS & INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"I'm a #Muthaf@cknmonsta: Hip-hop Female Discourse and Agency in Online
Spaces." *Rhetorical Society of America Conference*. Philadelphia, PA. May
2012

“#WhereThemGirlsAt? Exploring Online Female Literacies and Discourse Practices.”
Conference on College Composition and Communication. St. Louis, MO.
March 2012

“Who You Talking To?: Negotiating Black Discourse Practices, Rhetorical Situations and Web Presence.” *WRT 426: Studies in Writing, Rhetoric, and Information Technology*. Syracuse University. November 2011.

“Who You Callin’ A Bitch/ Ho/ Vixen?: Rethinking the Role of Female Emcees in Critical English Education.” *National Conference of Teachers of English*. Chicago, IL. November 2011.

“When Barbie Speaks: A Feminist Rhetorical Analysis of Nicki Minaj.” *Black and Brown Feminisms in Hip-Hop Media Conference*. University of Texas at San Antonio. San Antonio, TX. March 2010

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Conference on College Composition and Communication’s Scholars for the Dream 2012 Award for CCCC paper “#WhereThemGirlsAt? Exploring Online Female Literacies and Discourse Practices” (\$750)

Graduate Assistantship, Writing Program (\$15,100)
Syracuse University, 2011-2012

Fellowship, African American Studies, (\$21,000)
Syracuse University, 2010-2011

TEACHING

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

WRT 105 – Practices of Academic Writing, Fall 2011

An introduction to academic writing that focuses on the practices of analysis and argument, practices that carry across disciplinary lines and into professional and civic writing

WRT205 – Critical Research and Writing, Spring 2012

This course focuses on the study and practice of critical, research-based writing, including research methods, presentation genres, source evaluation, audience analysis, and library/ online research. Students complete at least one sustained research project.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

Syracuse Community Courses, Syracuse, NY

The Queen of Real and the Real MLK: Nina Simone, Dr. Martin Luther

King, and the Movement in Their Own Words, co-taught with Dr. Adam

Banks, University of Kentucky, Fall 2010

I studied with and co-facilitated a free community reading group centered on the autobiographies of Nina Simone and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We

focused on aspects of agency in the Civil Rights Movement and the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality.

"If Black English Isn't a Language, Then Tell Me What Is": Ebonics and the (Continued) Miseducation of the Black Student, co-taught with Dr.

Adam Banks, Syracuse University, Fall 2009

I studied with and co-facilitated a free community reading group on the ways in which African Americans navigate between African American Language

(AAL) and the language of wider communication, the varied theories

concerning AAL, Hip-hop literacies, the transnational implications and how these theories can inform education.

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Composition & Writing Pedagogy	Pan African Rhetoric	Literacy Studies
American and Pan African Literature	African American Discourse	Rhetorical Theory
Computer Mediated Communication	Black & Brown Feminisms	Discourse Analysis

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Conference on College Composition and Communication

National Council of Teachers of English