

JULIA S. CHARLES-LINEN

[\[She | Her | Hers\]](#)

University of Colorado
Department of English

226 UCB, HELLEMS 101 ♦ BOULDER, CO 80309-0226 BOULDER ♦ 336-638-0602 [HOME]

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. African American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst [2015]
- M.A. African American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst [2012]
- M.A. English and African American Literature, NC A&T State University [2010]
- B.A. English Bennett College [2008]

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021 – Associate Professor of English, University of Colorado
- 2021 – 2021 Associate Professor of English, Auburn University
- 2015 – 2021 Assistant Professor of English, Auburn University
 - Africana Studies Program, Auburn University [Affiliate Faculty]
 - Women and Gender Studies, Auburn University [Affiliate Faculty]

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Charles, Julia S. *That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of Passing*. UNC Press, 2020.

Awards:

- Carolyn Woodward Pope Endowment Prize for Faculty Publication [May 2022]

Praise for *That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of Passing*

- Reviewed in *The Journal of Southern History*, February 2022.
- “Charles has presented a fascinating new take on the phenomenon of racial passing during a particular moment in U.S. history. This book is a must-read for anyone studying the politics of race in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.”— *The Journal of Southern History*
- Informal Review from Kit de Waal, award-winning author
- “Great chapter in this brilliant book on Rachel Dolezal and passing. Well deconstructed and thoughtful. Managed to read it without my usual railing against the notion of transracialism. —@KitdeWaal, Twitter
- Informal Review, Alexandria Griffin, VAP of Religion, New College of Florida
- “Just finished @juliascharles’s *That Middle World* and can’t remember the last time I was this excited about a book. Buy it and read it! —@alex_g_griffin, Twitter
- *Ms. Magazine*: Reads for the Rest of Us Booklist [October 2020]: *That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of Passing*

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLE-LENGTH PUBLICATIONS

Charles, Julia S. "Fraternal Fractures: Marriage, Masculinity, and Malicious Menfolk in Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat"" *Women's Studies*, Vol. 50. no 1. January 2021.
DOI:10.1080/00497878.2021.1874802.

Charles, Julia S. with Sarah Pitts. "Between the Students and Me: Experiencing Political Literature in the Classroom" *South Atlantic Review* Special Issue: Political Fiction, Vol. 83 no. 3., September 2018.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

Charles-Linen, Julia S. "Black Women Editors and Journalists Constructing the New Negro Renaissance" *African American Literature in Transition, 1910-1920*, Shawn Anthony Christian, ed., Cambridge University Press, [forthcoming 2023].

Charles-Linen, Julia S. "Imagining Girlhood and Womanhood to Post Reconstruction Black Readers" *African American Literature in Transition, 1880-1900*, Caroline Gebhard and Barbara McCaskill, eds., Cambridge University Press, [forthcoming 2023].

Charles-Linen, Julia S. "The Blind Maze of Thought: Jessie Redmon Fauset, *The Brownies' Book*, and the Measure of a Movement" *A Centennial Celebration of The Brownies' Book*, Dianne Johnson-Feelings and Jonda C. McNair, eds., University Press of Mississippi, November 2022. **Lead Chapter.**

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLIC WRITING

Charles-Linen, Julia S. "A Spiritual Earthworks: Black Sisterhood and Solidarity as Forms of Salvation in Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat"" Literature & Political Theology blogpost. The Center for Political Theology, Villanova University, September 2022. [Invited].

BOOK REVIEWS

Charles, Julia S. Review of *The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early United States*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020. *Modern Philology*. University of Chicago Press, Summer 2020, Vol. 118, No 1. [Invited].

MEDIA COVERAGE

[Disrupting the Syllabus](#). Teaching in Higher Ed podcast. Bonni Stachowiak [Host]. July 2022. [Invited].

[Discussion of the Netflix Adaption of Nella Larsen's *Passing*](#). The Langston Hughes Society. November 2021.

[Harlem on My Mind: Jessie Redmon Fauset](#). *Into America: Black History Month Miniseries*. Trymaine Lee [Host]. MSNBC. February 2021. [Invited].

[Talking About Women's History: A Whole Lot of Questions and Answer w/ Julia Charles](#). History in the Margins: Women's History Month. March 2021.

New Books Network [Literary Studies]: [That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of *Passing*](#). James E. West [Host]. November 2020.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Finding Fauset: A Cultural Biography of Jessie Redmon Fauset [ms. in progress]

“An Uninterrupted Life: Ruby Baptiste, Racial Crossing, and a Radical Black Identity in HBO’s *Lovecraft Country*”

“Tug-of-War: Alain Locke, Jessie Redmon Fauset, and the Contest for the Renaissance.”

“Between Two Worlds: Racial Performance and Black Girlhood in Mildred D. Taylor’s *Let the Circle Be Unbroken*.”

HONORS AND AWARDS

FELLOWSHIPS

- Department of English Book Completion Grant, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 2022.
- 2018-2019 W.E.B. Du Bois Visiting Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship, W.E.B. Du Bois Library SCUA, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 2018.
- Perry-Williams Postdoctoral Fellowship in English, College of Wooster, Wooster, OH, 2018-2019. [Declined]
- Faculty Recognition & Development Summer Research Fellowship, Auburn University, 2018.
- CLA Non-Competitive Research Summer, Spring 2018.
- Faculty Summer Fellowship [Competitive], Auburn University, 2017.
- Faculty Summer Fellowship [Non-competitive], Auburn University, 2016.
- Diversity Dissertation Fellowship, UMass, 2013-2014.

TEACHING AWARDS

- NSBE Black Girls Rock! Faculty Appreciation Award, Auburn University, 2019.
- NSBE Black Girls Rock! Rockstar Award for Passion in Teaching, Auburn University, 2017.

COMMUNITY HONORS AND AWARDS

- Love and Equity Gala Honoree for The Loving Luggage Project, 2022.
- Awesome without Borders Grant for The Loving Luggage Project, 2022.
- National Spokesperson for National Foster Care Month, Washington, D.C., 2008.
- National Young Leaders of America Award, Washington, D.C., 2008.
- Burroughs-White Kirk Young Woman of Achievement Award, Commission on the Status of Women Greensboro, NC 2006.

NOMINATIONS

- CLA Teaching Excellence Award [Nominated], Auburn University, 2020.
- University Award for Inclusive Excellence and Diversity [Nominated], Auburn University, 2018.
- CLA Non-Competitive Research Summer, Spring 2018.
- NSBE Black Girls Rock! Living Legend Award, [Nominated], Auburn University, 2018.
- Women of Distinction Faculty Award from Women of Leadership Conference [Nominated], Auburn University, 2017.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND ROUNDTABLES

“Sneakerheads: Kicks and Culture in the Academy and Beyond” for panel: Kicks, Zines, and Panderos: Teaching the Object of Rhetorical Histories, [Virtual COVID], CCCCs, March 2022.

“A Roundtable Discussion on the Netflix Adaption of Nella Larsen’s *Passing*,” Langston Hughes Society with the College Language Association,” November 2021.

“Jessie Redmon Fauset: More Than the Midwife,” Feminist Inter/Modernist Association, Chicago, IL, April 2020 [Postponed].

“Framing Black Feminist Futures in the Essays of Julia C. Collins” Midwest Modern Language Association, Kansas City, KS, 2018.

“A Perilous Pretense: Rachel Doležal’s Secret Self and Black Identity Formation” International Auto/Biography Association (IABA), São João del-Rei, Minas Gerais, Brazil, 2018.

“The Newspaper, the Novel, and the Nation: Julia C. Collins’s *The Curse of Caste* and the Climate of Black America” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 2018.

“That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of Passing” Society for the Study of Southern Literature (SSSL) Conference in Austin, TX, 2018.

“Queerly Irresistible: The Romance of Ragtime in *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*” Modern Language Association (MLA), New York. 2018.

“The Substance of Silence: Harboring Secrets and Performing Race in the Crafts’ *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom* and William Wells Brown’s *Escape*” Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS), Cambridge, MA, 2017.

“The Beauty of the Minstrel’s Lyre: Discarded Talent and the Blues Aesthetic in James Weldon Johnson’s *Autobiography of An Ex-Colored Man*” Southern Association of Modern Language Association (SAMLA). Durham, NC, 2015.

“Ebony in the Ivory: On Being a Black Woman Intellectual on the Academic Job Market.” Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), Atlanta, GA, 2015.

“Rediscovering Xarifa; or, Rejecting a Typecast: Modifying Conceptions of the ‘Mullato/a’ Figure in African American Passing Literature.” National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS). Baton Rouge, LA 2014.

“Free to Be: Racial Passing as a form of Social and Political Protest.” Panel: *Black Justice: Defining Freedom’ within the Emancipatory Tradition*. ASALH. Jacksonville, FL 2013.

“That Middle World: The Cultural Invention of a Bi-Racial Sphere.” Panel: *Black Discontent: Re-Imagining African American Citizenship in the 19th Century*. UMass English Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference. Amherst, MA 2013.

“The Vanishing: Passing and Performing ‘Race.’” Collegium for African American Research (CAAR). Atlanta, GA 2013

Black Women Writers of the 20th Century. Black History Month Presentation Series. Sabis Charter School: Springfield, MA, 2013.

INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS [NATIONAL]

“Between the Students and Me: Teaching Political Literature in the Classroom” Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO, October 2021, [Invited Speaker].

That Middle World: Race, Performance, and the Politics of Passing for. Black Studies and the Nineteenth Century: A Roundtable Discussion and Celebration of New Books by Alumni, University of Massachusetts, April 2021, [Invited Alumna Speaker].

“That Rachel Dolezal: Contemporary Racial Performance, White Women, and the Theft of Black Identity” for The Patience Essah Africana Studies Lecture Series: Auburn University, AL March 2021, [Invited Speaker].

“Fostering Equity and Inclusion in the Classroom,” Diversity Promising Practices, Auburn University, AL, February 2020, [Invited Speaker].

“The Blind Maze of Thought: W.E.B. Du Bois, Jessie Redmon Fauset, and the Making of Movement,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, April 2019, [Invited Fellowship Speaker].

“Situational Allies: The Problems and the Cures” NKU Chase College of Law, Highland Heights, KY, October 2017, [Invited Speaker].

“13th: A Panel of Race and Crime in America.” NKU Chase College of Law, Highland Heights, KY, 2017, [Invited Speaker].

“Silence Won’t Save Us: Black Women Writers and the Politics of Voice” [Invited Speaker]. Lafayette Library: Lafayette, AL, 2016.

INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS AUBURN UNIVERSITY

“That Rachel Dolezal: Contemporary Racial Performance, White Women, and the Theft of Black Identity.” Africana Studies, Auburn University, AL, March 2021.

“Fostering Equity and Inclusion in the Classroom,” Diversity Promising Practices, Auburn University, AL, February 2020.

“Black Women: A Blue Table Talk,” Auburn University, AL, February 2019.

“Oppression, Power, Privilege, & Invisible Barriers” Student Excellence Team (SET), Auburn University, AL, March 2018.

“Acceleration through Collaboration” Diversity Best Practices Conference, Auburn University, AL, February 2018.

“I Am Not Your Negro: James Baldwin and America’s Race Problem” Auburn, AL, October 2017.

INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS
AUBURN UNIVERSITY

“Meeting the Market: A Roundtable Discussion for Graduate Students Entering the Job Market.” Auburn University, AL, October 2017.

“Stay Woke: A Discussion of Racial Violence and Mental Health in Jordan Peele’s Get Out” Auburn, AL, April 2017.

“Women in Leadership within the Academy.” Women’s Leadership Conference: Auburn, AL, 2017.

“The Many Faces of Resilience.” (Invited Panelist). Women’s Leadership Conference: Auburn, AL, 2016.

INVITED COMMUNITY TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS [NATIONAL]

“Twenty Lessons I’ve Learned Since Leaving Foster Care” Together Facing the Challenge. Graham, NC, 2018.

“The Journey to Permanence-Stronger Me, Stronger YOUth” Charlotte Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services: Charlotte, NC, 2018.

Welcome to the Life After: A College Education and Life Beyond Foster Care,” Black Youth Leadership Project Annual Legislative Luncheon: Sacramento, CA, 2016

“When a Woman Does It: Seeing Her Gender as an Asset.” Women’s Foundation of Arkansas: Little Rock, AK, 2016

“Growing Up and Getting Out: College and the American Foster Kid Dream.” SAYSO Saturday Leadership Conference: Greensboro, NC 2016

“Get Down with RPP: Resiliency, Planning, and Permanency as Avenues to Success Beyond Foster Care.” North American Council on Adoptable Children: Long Beach, CA, 2015.

“Anatomy of a Champion: How to Do More Than Win in Life After Foster Care.” Celebration of Excellence with Gift for a Child: Atlanta, GA, 2015.

“#AgeAintNothinButANumber: Finding A Happy Home at Any Age.” Charlotte Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services: Charlotte, NC, 2015.

“The Semicolon Project: Changing the *Sentence* for Youth in Foster Care.” The Family Project with Voice for Adoption. Washington DC, 2015.

“Be The Semicolon: The Marker of Punctuation That Inspires Hope and Changes Lives for Youth in Foster Care.” Washington DC Alumnae and Federal City Alumnae Chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc: Washington DC 2014.

“The Thing with Feathers: Foster Parents Fostering Hope.” New Mexico State University: Albuquerque, NM, 2012.

INVITED COMMUNITY TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS [NATIONAL]

“I Know What I Know, If You Know What I Mean: Effective Communication and Presentation in the Classroom Setting.” NC A&T State University 2009, 2010, 2011.
Independent Living Resources: Keynote speaker Regional Foster Parent’s Training Burlington, NC 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010.
Convening on Finding Permanence for Youth Transitioning to Adulthood with Judge Glenda Hatchett: Invited Panelist. New York, New York 2009.

Twenty-Four-City Media Roundtable with Judge Glenda Hatchett Atlanta, GA 2008.

Featured on CBS News Good Morning Show 2008.

WFMY News 2: Life after Foster Care 2008.

National CASA: Keynote speaker, Washington DC 2008. CASABlanca: Keynote speaker, Chicago, IL 2008.

Systems of Care Conference: Keynote speaker (invited). Wilmington, NC 2008.

Congressional Briefing: Selected Speaker Life in Foster Care (Committee on Ways and Means) Washington, DC 2007, 2008.

University of Iowa: Keynote Speaker Disproportionate Minority Confinement Des Moines, IA 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008.

Greensboro News and Record: “Foster Care Survivor Now Shares Story.” 2000, 2005, 2008. Bennett College:

DISSERTATION AND THESES COMMITTEES

Sharanna Brown, English Literature
Auburn University
Dissertation Committee Member
Dissertation Title: *Children of the Wake*

Erika Hanley, Counseling Psychology
Auburn University
Dissertation Committee Member
Dissertation Title: *‘Tell Your Friends to Pull Up’: Development and Validation of the Measure of Allyship Identity (MAI)*
Defense Date: Summer 2022

Dionne Lazenby, PhD in English Education, Auburn University
Dissertation Committee Member
Dissertation Title: *Dissertation: Exploring Student Resistance to Topics of Diversity, Social Justice, and Privilege: A Critical Content Analysis of Student Evaluations of Diversity Instructors*
Defense Date: May 2020
Graduated Summer 2020

STUDENT MENTORING

GRADUATE STUDENTS [ALUMNI]

Marcie Casey

- Graduated May 2017 MA in English Literature
- Currently pursuing PhD in English Literature at Vanderbilt
- Unofficial Advisor

Ashley Durrance

- Graduated May 2018 MA in English, Creative Writing [Committee Member]
- Currently pursuing MFA at Southern Illinois University

Ticanna Graphenreed

- Graduated 2019 MA English (Composition and Rhetoric)
- Currently pursuing PhD (in Composition and Rhetoric, focus on African American Studies) at Northeastern University
- Accepted to five PhD programs
- Lead Professor (Black Sitcom TA)

Darbyshire Witek

- Graduated 2019 MA English (Literature)
- Currently pursuing PhD at University of Delaware (African American Literature)
- Awarded research fellowship in African American Studies at University of Delaware
- Accepted to two PhD programs
- Committee member
-

Dionne Lazenby

- PhD in English Education,
- Graduated Summer 2020
- Completed comprehensive exams
- Outside reader/Committee member

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS [ALUMNI]

Madison Ogletree

- Currently pursuing a PhD in History at Columbia University
- Accepted to six PhD Programs (incl. Columbia, Vanderbilt, Georgetown, UNC-Chapel Hill, and College of William and Mary)
- Senior double majoring in English Literature and History
- Winner of 2019 Presidential Award from the CLA
- Winner of the ACETA 2017 Mary Evelyn McMillan Undergraduate Writing Award for her paper "Disrespected, Unprotected, but Not Dejected: An Examination of Black Women's Resistance in Antebellum Literature," which she wrote for my class
- Awarded internship at Freedom Rides Museum in Montgomery, AL
- Currently applying for national internship at the NAAMHC
- Currently maintaining a 4.0 GPA
- Unofficial Advisor (Letters of Rec, Reviews of application materials, Nominated her for the McMillan Award)

STUDENT MENTORING

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS [ALUMNI]

Grace McLaughlin

- Graduated in May 2018 BA English Literature
- Currently been accepted to four of her top law school choices
- Pursuing Civil Rights Law as a result of my Black Revolutionary Literature course
- Unofficial Advisor (Letters of Rec)

Sarah Pitts

- 2019 - 2020 Fulbright Scholar (Columbia)
- Graduated in May 2017 BA in English Literature and Political Science with a minor in Spanish
- Finalist for the Rhodes Fellowship
- Finalist for the Harry S. Truman Fellowship
- Winner of four major university and departmental awards for academic achievement
- Completed undergraduate degree with a 4.0 GPA
- Advisor (Letters of Rec; Reviews of Statements for Applications, Nominated her for two of the four awards she received)

Kelsie Shipley

- Graduated in May 2017 BA in English Literature and History
- Currently pursuing Ph.D. in English Literature at the University of Delaware
- Unofficial Advisor (Letters of Rec)

Hannah Skjellum

- Graduated in May 2017 BA in English Literature
- Currently pursuing Ph.D. in English at UNC Chapel Hill
- Unofficial Advisor (Letters of Rec)

Emily Strobaugh

- 2018 - 2019 Fulbright Scholar (Brazil)
- Graduated in May 2018 with double major in English Literature and Global Studies and minoring in Spanish and Human Development & Family Studies
- Finalist for the Harry S. Truman Fellowship
- Accepted to Georgetown University's graduate program in Global Studies and Economic Development
- Advisor (Letters of Rec, Honors Contract, Reviews of application materials)

COURSES TAUGHT

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

English 1800: Ethnic American Literature Black Girlhood in YA Literature	Spr 2022
English 2102: Literary Analysis of the Cypher	Spr 2022
English 5169: Black Revolutionary Literature	Fall 2021
English 2737 Ethnic Studies 2732: Intro to African American Literature	Fall 2021

COURSES TAUGHT

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Africana Studies 2000: Intro to Africana Studies	Fall 2020
English 3710: Identities: Passing	Fall 2020
English 7870: Super Black: Gender, Power, and Representation in Black Comics	Sum2020
English 2280: AfricanAmericanLiteratureAfter1900	Spr 2020
English 2260: American Literature II After 1865	Spr 2020
English 7770: African American Literature: Radical Black Girlhood	Fall 2019
English 4700: Topics African American Literature: Radical Black Girlhood	Fall 2019
English 7930: Individual Directed Study	Fall 2018
English 4550: Film and Literature: The Black American Sitcom.	Fall 2018
English 4640: Major Author(s): James Baldwin	Fall 2018
English 7200: Black Literary Modernism [Graduate Level]	Fall 2017
English 3710: Survey of African American Literature Before 1900	Fall 2017
English 3720: Survey of African American Literature After 1900	Spr 2017
English 4700: Black Revolutionary Literature	Spr 2017
English 7700: Racial Performance and the Passing Novel [Graduate Level]	Spr 2016
English 4450: Racial Performance and the Passing Novel [Undergrad Level]	Spr 2016
English 2250: American Literature before 1865	Fall 2015

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

Afro-Am 151: The New Negro/Harlem Renaissance	Sum 2013
Afro-Am 151: The Black Arts Movement	Fall 2011

NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

English 100: Freshman Composition	Fall 2014
English 100: Freshman Composition	Fall 2013
English 100: Freshman Composition	Sum 2012
English 100: Freshman Composition	Sum 2011
English 100: Freshman Composition	Sum 2010

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Advisory Committee: *Belle da Costa Greene Exhibition*, The Morgan Library and Museum
Reviewer: *American Literature Society 1921 Prize Committee*
Reviewer: *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*
Reviewer: *James Baldwin Review*
Reviewer: *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*
Reviewer: *Modern Philology: Critical and Historical Studies in Literature, Medieval through Contemporary*

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY:

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

- Member of Emerge Advisory Committee [Auburn Leadership Programs] (2019 - 2020)

SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE:

AUBURN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

- Member of Search Committee for new Department Chair (2019)
- Member of Africana Studies Nominations Committee, Auburn University (2017- 2019)
- Member of Africana Studies Committee to Introduce the Graduate Minor (2017)
- Member of Africana Studies Speaker Committee, Auburn University (2016- 2018)

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT:

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

- Executive Committee 2022 –

AUBURN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

- Member of Search Committee for new Department Chair (2019)
- Member of Women’s Center Advisory Board, Auburn University (2016- 2019)
- Member of Search Committee for Post-Doctoral Fellow (2018)
- Member of Search Committee for Assoc. or Full Tenured Prof. of African American Literature (2018)
- Member of Search Committee for Open-Rank Tenure-Track Prof. of African American Literature (2018)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Racial Passing Literature
- Black Girlhood Studies
- African American Literature for Children and YA
- Black Feminist Theory
- Black Women Writers
- Women and Gender Studies
- Film and Popular Culture

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director, The Loving Luggage Project (LLP)
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- FosterClub Board of Directors (2020 – 2021)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- Southern Atlantic of Modern Language Association (SAMLA)
- The Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS)
- Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)
- Society for the Study of Southern Literature (SSSL)