**Rachel Elizabeth Williams**

Education Building, Room 227

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Madison, Wisconsin 53706

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**EDUCATION**

2022 **Ph.D. in Education,** University of California, Berkeley

Program: Policy, Politics, and Leadership

2015 **M.P.P. in Education Policy,** Vanderbilt University

2013  **B.A. in Psychology,** Dillard University

Honors: Summa Cum Laude, Class Salutatorian

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Policy Studies 2023-Present

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Anna Julia Cooper Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Educational Policy Studies 2022-2023

University of Wisconsin-Madison

**PUBLICATIONS**

Lu, A**.**& Williams, R.E.(2023). White charter boards and the erasure of Blackness in southern urban spaces: A comparative analysis of New Orleans and Memphis public school takeovers*.* *Urban Education,* https://doi.org/10.1177/00420859231175667

Williams, R.E. (2023). The political economy of subprime educational policy: A critical analysis of charter schools in Black communities. *Review of Black Political Economy,* https://doi.org/10.1177/00346446221145933

Trujillo, T., Williams, R.E.,& Kissell, R.E. (2019). Review: Takeover: Race, Education, and American Democracy by Domingo Morel. *American Journal of Education,* 126(1), 183-185. https://doi.org/10.1086/705502

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

2024 Outstanding Dissertation Award, Division L (Education Politics and Policy), American Educational Research Association

2021 American Education Research Association Minority Dissertation Fellowship\*

2021 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

2021 National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

2021 University of Pennsylvania Predoctoral Fellowship\*

2021 Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Summer Fellowship

2021 AERA & UCEA David L. Clark Scholar

2020 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, *Honorable Mention*

2016 Chancellor’s Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (5-year award)

2013 Class Salutatorian, Dillard University

2013 William Sutton Prize, Dillard University

\* Indicates a declined award.

**GRANTS**

$35,000 Russell Sage Foundation, Pipeline Grant Program (2024)

$6,000 Summer Writing Grant for Humanistic Social Sciences, University of California, Berkeley

**INVITED TALKS**

2023Policy in Palimpsestic Time: Black Education, Memory, and Spatial Possibilities. Vanderbilt University, Peabody Education Policy (PEP) Talk Series.March 29, 2023.

2021 Chartering Exploitation: 21st Century Black Schooling and the Re-Making of the Southern City. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Education Policy Studies Brown Bag Series. October 26, 2021.

**CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

**Papers Presented**

2024 Re-Imagining a Southern City: Peeling Back and Pushing Beyond Layers of History in the Memphis Education Market. American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. April 11-14, 2023.

2023 Education, Radical Redistribution, and the Future of the City: Buried Alternatives to Privatization. American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, Quebec. November 2-5, 2023.

2023 Complicating the Southern “County Advantage”: Market-Based Educational Policy, Politics, and Modern Metropolitan Stratification. AERA Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 13-16, 2023.

2023 Back to the South: Black Education as Placemaking in the 21st Century U.S. South. AERA Annual Meeting Chicago, IL. April 13-16, 2023.

2022 Black Politics and Policy Alternatives: Buried Alternatives to Privatization. UCEA Annual Meeting. UCEA Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. November 14-20, 2022.

2022 Black Politics and Policy Alternatives: Racial Representation and Resistance in a Privatizing District. AERA Annual Meeting San Diego, CA. April 22-25, 2022.

2022 Policy in Palimpsestic Time: The Role of Education in the Re-making of the Southern City. AERA Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. April 22-25, 2022.

2021 Uncovering the Black Geographic: The Politics of Charter Expansion in the Southern City. AERA Annual Meeting (Virtual). April 9-12, 2021.

2021 Lu, A. & Williams, R. E. Charter Board Membership in Post-Takeover Southern Cities: Transferring Reform Scripts through Networks of Racialized Power. AERA Annual Meeting (Virtual). April 9-12, 2021.

2020 Lu, A. & Williams, R.E. State Takeover and Charter Expansion: Educational Visions Deferred? AERA Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA (Conference Canceled). Apr 17-21, 2021.

2020 Education Policy Refusals: Exploring the Freedom Dreams of Educational Movements. American Studies Association. Baltimore, MD. (Postponed). November 9-12, 2020.

2020 The Political Economy of Charter Expansion: Deregulation, Discipline, and Black Communities AERA Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA (Conference Canceled). April 17 – 21, 2020.

2019 The Political Economy of Subprime Education: Charter Schools and Black Communities. UCEA Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. November 2019.

2019 The Political Economy of Subprime Education: Charter Schools and Black Communities. UCEA Convention Graduate Student Submit. New Orleans, LA. November 2019.

2019 Black Communities and Charter Schools: A Political Economic Analysis. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Black Communities Conference. Durham, NC. September 2019.

2014 Wilson, M. & Williams, R.E. Teach-Ins as a Pedagogical Tool for Liberation: Uniting Campus Communities, Critically Deconstructing Media Representations, and Developing Dynamic Strategies for Community Activism. Columbia University Teacher’s College, Trayvon Martin Effect Conference. New York, NY. February 2014.

2012 Lynch, R., Goodwin, J. Mosley, A., & Williams, R.E. Gender Neutral Housing at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The National Conference on Race and Ethnicity. New York, NY. Non-presenting author. May 2012.

**Panels Organized**

2023 Co-Organized with Khrysta Evans. Critical Approaches to Place-Based Inquiries in Black Education. [Symposium]. AERA Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 13-16, 2023.

2020 The Racialized Political Economy of Education: Explorations of Anti-Blackness Across K-16. [Symposium]. AERA Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA (Conference Canceled). April 17 – 21, 2020.

2020 The Politics of Neoliberal Educational Policies: Conceptual and Empirical Examinations of Alternative Educational Visions. [Symposium]. Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA (Conference Canceled). April 17 – 21, 2020.

**TEACHING**

**Instructor of Record**

2024 *Education and the Politics of Place* (graduate), University of Wisconsin-Madison

2024 *Education and Social Justice* (undergraduate), University of Wisconsin-Madison

2024 *Politics of Education* (undergraduate), University of Wisconsin-Madison

2024 *Political Economy and Education* (graduate) University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Graduate Student Instructor**

2019 *The Politics of Education Inequality*, University of California, Berkeley

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2020-2022 Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Berkeley. Project Title: “Necessary Evil or Public Good? The Origins of the Contemporary Early Care and Education Debate in the U.S.” Principal Investigator: Dr. Marcy Whitebook.

2017-2019 Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Berkeley. Project Title: “Intermediary Organizations and Educational Policy: A Mixed Methods Study of the Political Contexts of Research Utilization” Principal Investigators: Dr. Elizabeth DeBray, Dr. Christopher Lubienski, Dr. Janelle Scott.

**RESEARCH REPORTS AND BRIEFS**

Williams, R.E. (2022). Josephine Silone Yates: Pedagogical Giant and Organizational Leader in Early Education and Beyond. Profiles in Early Education Leadership, No. 3. Berkeley, CA. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/josephine-s-yates

Whitebook, M., & Williams, R.E. (2021). Anna Evans Murray: Visionary Leadership in Public Kindergartens and Teacher Training. Profiles in Early Education Leadership, No. 2. Berkeley, CA: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/annae-murray/.

Williams, R.E., & Whitebook, M. (2021). Haydee B. Campbell: Expanding Education for Black Children and Opportunities for Black Women. Profiles in Early Education Leadership, No. 1. Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/haydee-b-campbell.

**SERVICE**

**Service to the Profession**

2024-2027 Member, AERA Minority Fellowship Selection Committee Member, American Education Research Association

2024-2026 Member-at-Large, Politics of Education Special Interest Group, American Education Research Association

*Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis,* Reviewer

2021-2022 *American Journal of Education* Student Board, Associate Editor,

2020-2021 *American Journal of Education* Student Board, Member,

2018-2020 Division L Graduate Student Representative, American Educational Research Association

**Service to the Institution, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

2024-present Undergraduate Committee, Department of Educational Policy Studies

**Service to the Institution, University of California, Berkeley**

2021-2022 *Berkeley Review of Education*, Co-Chief Editor

2017-2021 *Berkeley Review of Education*, Lead Editor and Member

2018-2019 Getting into Graduate School Program, Office of Graduate Diversity, Mentor

2016-2018 Empowering Women of Color Conference Committee, Workshop Coordinator

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

American Studies Association (ASA)

University Council for Education Administration (UCEA)

Scholars Strategy Network, Inaugural Education Cohort (2024)

**MEDIA, PUBLIC WRITING, & COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

**Radio**

The Resilience of Segregation Itself. WORT-FM (Madison). https://www.wortfm.org/the-resilience-of-segregation-itself/. October 2021. https://www.milwaukeemag.com/black-women-led-healing-spaces-milwaukee/

**Public Writing**

Williams, R.E. (2024, May). Black Women-Led Healing Spaces in Milwaukee. *Milwaukee Magazine. https://www.milwaukeemag.com/black-women-led-healing-spaces-milwaukee/*

Williams, R.E. (2021, November 7). Uncovering the Role of Early Childhood in Black Women’s Clubs Work Towards Racial and Gender Justice. Echoes Public History Website. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/brief/the-role-of-early-childhood-in-black-womens-clubs-work/

Williams, R.E. (2021, October 15). Pandemic Openings: The Bones We Carry in Education Research and Policy. American Journal of Education Forum. https://www.ajeforum.com/pandemic-openings-the-bones-we-carry-in-education-research-and-policy/

Whitebook, M. & Williams, R.E. (2022, September 15). Working Towards Early Childhood Education Equity. Echoes Public History Website. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/publications/brief/working-toward-early-childhood-education-equity/

**Community Presentations**

Williams, R.E. (2023, October 17). Ways of Seeing: Education Policy and Inequality. Tennessee Alliance of Educators of Color (TECA).