

Curriculum Vitae

ALEXUS PATRICE BROWN

apb63@pitt.edu | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexuspbrown/> | 412-660-8617

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

An experienced linguistic professional in research and project coordination. Skilled in collaborating with diverse stakeholders, managing complex projects, and promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural competency. Effective communicator with solid multitasking abilities and expert proficiency in linguistic subfields.

SKILLS

- **Writing and Editing:** Strong writing skills with expert grammar, syntax, and semantics; proficient in APA and LSA citation styles; able to write to diverse audiences
- **Project Management:** 3+ years managing multiple projects, establishing timelines, and meeting deadlines.
- **Communication & Cultural Competency:** Effective oral and written communicator with diverse audiences to effectively deliver course content
- **Attention to Detail:** Meticulous proofreading and editorial skills, ensuring accuracy in all tasks.
- **Technological Proficiency:** Proficient in Canvas/Instructure, MS Office, Google Workspace, and statistical programs; quickly adaptable to new systems.
- **Cultural Competency:** Experienced in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Research Interest Summary

Dissertation Focus: Developed a mixed method, interdisciplinary heuristic to study Black creativity and identity in Rap music lyrics in African American Language

Research Cluster

Sociolinguistics, Discourse Analysis, Poetics, Pragmatics, Ethnomusicology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2024 – Present *Adjunct Professor of Musicianship, Duquesne University*

2024 *Adjunct Professor in Linguistics and Black Languages, University of Pittsburgh*

2022 – 2023 *Graduate Teaching Associate, University of Pittsburgh*

2021 – 2022 *Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh*

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

January 2025 – Present

Senior Social Scientist | Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) | University of Pittsburgh

- Works directly under Director, Dr. Kyaïen Conner and Associate Director, Ron Idoko
- Researches, applies, and manages external grants for the Center
- Develops innovative curricula for the Racial Equity Consciousness Institute (RECI)
- Manages the editorial team for the *Journal of Race and Social Problems*

May 2024 – December 2024

Research Assistant | University of Pittsburgh

- Provided editorial and administrative support for the Center on Race and Social Problems's research journal.
- Reduced backlog by finding reviewers for articles and managing correspondence with authors and editors regarding submissions
- Contributed to the planning and execution of center events and workshops

July 2022 – Present

Freelance Localization Consultant | SIDE Global (Remote)

- Collaborated in building a voice assistant by undertaking tasks such as proofreading, annotating, transcribing words, ensuring quality checks, and leveraging linguistic-centered skills.

July 2023 – April 2024

Graduate Student Researcher, Linguistics | University of Pittsburgh

- Supervised undergraduate researchers, increasing AAVE transcription tasks in the Archive of Pittsburgh Language and Speech by 50% for the Computational Sociolinguistics Lab under Dr. Dan Villarreal

- Supervised undergraduate researchers who completed data coding for the Jamaican Creole Prosody Lab under Dr. Shelome Gooden
- Managed qualitative research tasks and collaborated on study results with supervisors
- Aided in managing weekly lab schedules and led lab meetings to plan and perform research tasks

August 2021 – June 2023

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Linguistics | University of Pittsburgh

- Educated students on sociolinguistics and cross-cultural communication
- Created curriculums, established timelines, and maintained positive student-teacher relationships through cultural competency
- Taught remotely and in-person, adapting teaching methods as needed

EDUCATION

2024 Ph.D. Linguistics (ARCO: Sociolinguistics), University of Pittsburgh

Dissertation: What's the Deal Forreal: Rap Music's Sociolinguistic Story

2022 Master of Arts Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

2019 Bachelor of Arts English (Minor: Philosophy), Tuskegee University

PUBLICATIONS

Book Reviews

Brown, A. (2022, April). Tracey L. Weldon, Middle-Class African American English. *Language in Society* 51(2).

Brown, A. (upcoming). Tracey L. Weldon. Middle-Class African American English. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2023. Pp. xvii + 271. ISBN 9780521719667 (pb). *English Language & Linguistics*

Dissertation

What's the Deal Forreal: The Sociolinguistic Story of Rap Music. (2024), [Doctoral Dissertation, University of Pittsburgh]. <http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/45771/>

Manuscript in Submission

Brown, A. (upcoming). Aren't We All Jane 57821?: Imagining a Future Through a Dirty Computer. In D. Dubuisson (Ed.), *Black Futures in the Anthropocene*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Brown, A. Generative Rap: The case of sampling. Manuscript. 40 Pages.

Brown, A. Black American Rap and Jamaican dancehall: An ecological exploration of diachronic cross-cultural contact through music. Manuscript. 17 pages.

Brown, A. The Meaning of Pittsburgh: Deixis in Mac Miller's "Frick Park Market". Manuscript. 19 pages.

Brown, A. Hip Hop Feminisms, #HotGirlSummer, and Black Feminine Public Imagery in Rap Music: An Overview of Black feminist theorizing, Theory and theory. Manuscript. 20 pages.

Brown, A. Who They Be: The chronotopic multiverse of Rap music. Manuscript. 63 pages.

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentation

Brown, A. (2018). Rape culture in the Black community: Why is it happening:

What is it causing?. 2nd Annual History Research Symposium at Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL. February 15-16.

Brown, A. (2019). Multicultural education: The opposition to standardization

and eurocentric teachings within the American education system. 3rd Annual History Research Symposium at Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL. February 14-15.

Brown, A. (2022). Black American Rap and Jamaican dancehall: An ecological exploration of diachronic cross-cultural contact through music. American Dialect Society Conference at Washington, D.C. January 6-9.

Invited Panel Participant

Kanwit, M., Nonnenmacher, S., & Brown, A. (2020). Finding success as a graduate

student: Balancing independence and available resources [Panel]. Linguistics Colloquium Series at University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. August 29.

Refereed Panel Presenter

- Brown, A. (2021). The meaning of Pittsburgh: Deixis in Mac Miller's "Frick Park Market". In S. Kiesling (Chair), The poetic function and social meaning in language [Panel]. 17th International Pragmatics Conference, Winterthur, Switzerland. June 27 – July 2.
- Brown, A. (2021). Generative Rap: The case of sampling. In A. Clemons (Chair), Language lives on the body [Panel]. New Ways of Analyzing Variation NWAV49, Austin, TX. October 19-24.

INVITED LECTURES

- 2024** *How can you study rhythm and rhyme structures in Rap Music?*
Phonology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2023** *Who They Be: The Chronotopic Multiverse of Rap Music*
Introduction to Linguistics, Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2022** *Black American Rap and Jamaican Dancehall: An Ecological Exploration of Diachronic Cross-Cultural Contact Through Music*
Aspects of Sociolinguistics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- Black American Rap and Jamaican Dancehall: An Ecological Exploration of Diachronic Cross-Cultural Contact Through Music*
Cross Cultural Communication, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2021** *Popularity of Jamaican Dancehall in American Rap Music: An Ecological Approach*
Language & The Black Experience, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2023 – 2024** **TA/TF Linguistics Department Mentor [\$100]**
University of Pittsburgh
- 2022 – 2023** **Andrew W. Mellon Predoctoral Fellow [\$25,000]**
University of Pittsburgh
- 2021** **Humanities Engage Curriculum Development Opportunity Awardee [\$1,000]**
University of Pittsburgh
- 2019 – 2020** **K. Leroy Irvis Fellow, [\$25,000]**
University of Pittsburgh

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

September 2023 – March 2024

TTS Search Graduate Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

- Advocated for graduate student needs and contributed to inclusive hiring practices
- Helped conduct interviews and find sources to disseminate the job ad in the early stages of the hiring process

August 2021 – May 2022

Colloquium Co-Chair, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

- Organized discussions and presentations on research and professional development
- Ensured smooth program operations through effective stakeholder communication

August 2020 – May 2022

Graduate Student Faculty Representative, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

- Liaised between graduate students and faculty, advocating for further adherence to diversity initiatives and support for graduate students

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Brown, Alexis. (2021, July 23). Interview by Nicklas Balboa. The CreatingWE® Institute. Online Article.
- Brown, Alexis. (2020, November 6). Interview by Jenny Zhu and Victoria Ren. Stuff We Don't Learn in School. Podcast.
- Brown, Alexis, & Branson, Dominique. (2023, August 10). Interview by Aischa Sane. RadioFM4. Radio Broadcast.