

Anthony Sean Neal
Mississippi State University
Department of Philosophy and Religion
George Hall 111
an925@msstate.edu
(662) 325-2382

EDUCATION

Doctor of Arts in Humanities, Clark Atlanta University, 2012. Major, Humanistic Inquiry, Minor, Africana Studies (African American Philosophy and Religion).

2 semesters directed study w/*late* Dr. Edward L. Smith (Interdenominational Theological Center), Process Philosophy Spring 2007, Spring 2008 (noted on Clark Atlanta University transcript)

Master of Divinity, Mercer University, McAfee School of Theology, 2005, Philosophical Theology.

Bachelor of Arts, Morehouse College, 2001, Religion and Philosophy, *cum laude*.

Associate of Applied Science, State Technical Institute at Memphis, 1997, Biomedical Engineering Technology.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATIONS:

Aesthetics, African American Philosophy and Religion (African American Modern Era, NeoClassical African Philosophy), Critical Theory, Neo-Platonism

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION:

Humanistic (Renaissance) Philosophy, Medieval Philosophy, Africana Studies, Philosophy of Religion, Social and Political Philosophy

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Fall 2018- *present* Faculty Fellow Shackouls Honors College, Mississippi State University

Fall 2016- *present* Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Mississippi State University

Fall 2016- *present* Affiliated Faculty, African American Studies, Mississippi State University

Fall 2015- Spring 2016 Director of Honors Program for Paine College (*promoted to Associate Professor Spring 2016*)

Fall 2014- Spring 2016 Program Coordinator in Philosophy and Religion

Fall 2011- Spring 2016 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Paine College

Summer 2010 Visiting Senior Lecturer, Knutsford University College, Ghana

Summer 2009-Spring 2010 Adjunct Professor, Atlanta Christian College

Fall 2009-Spring 2012 Adjunct Professor, Georgia Piedmont Technical College

Spring 2009 Adjunct Professor, Morehouse College

Summer 2008-2009 Visiting Senior Lecturer, Ghana Christian University College

Fall 2007-Spring 2008 Graduate Assistant. Clark Atlanta University

AUTHORED BOOKS

- Neal, Anthony Sean, *Howard Thurman's Philosophical Mysticism: Love Against Fragmentation*, (Lanham, MD: Lexington Press, 2019)
- Neal, Anthony Sean, *Common Ground: A Comparison of the Ideas of Consciousness in the Writings of Howard W. Thurman and Huey P. Newton*, (Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2015)

SCHOLARLY RECEPTION

Howard Thurman's Philosophical Mysticism: Love Against Fragmentation:

- Reviewed By Robin Friedman, *Journal of Dewey Studies*, "BOOK REVIEW: HOWARD THURMAN'S PHILOSOPHICAL MYSTICISM," Vol.3:1, 116-122, 2019
- 2019 Inductee Morehouse College Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel Collegium of Scholars
- 2019 Mercer University, McAfee School of Theology Alumni Discovery Award
- Author meets critics session DLE II (Diverse Lineages of Existentialism) Conference, by Edward Obyrn, Michael Barber, and Darian Spearman, George Washington University, June 3-5, 2019

- Reviewed by Darian Spearman, September 17, 2018, “On the Mystical Logic of Howard Thurman,” Black Issues in Philosophy Blog, <http://blog.apaonline.org/2019/09/17/on-the-mystical-logic-of-howard-thurman/>

Common Ground: A Comparison of the Ideas of Consciousness in the Writings of Howard W. Thurman and Huey P. Newton:

- Reviewed by Tunstall, Dwayne A. (co-author), Hinojosa, Felipe (co-author), *The Acorn*, “(R)evolutions of Consciousness In Thurman and Newton,” (Vol.17:1, 2017) p. 61-77

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Neal, Anthony Sean, “Imposing Morality: Cultural Perspectives on Truth Apologies, and Forgiveness in the U.S.A.,” in *Crimes Against Humanity in the Land of the Free: Can a Truth and Reconciliation Process Heal Racial Conflict in America?*, p. 73-90, Imani Scott, ed. August 2014 (Praeger), peer reviewed.
- Anthony Neal, “Freedom Gaze,” *Displacement in Language, Literature, and Culture*, Sylvia Arroyo, ed. May 2018, p. 97-117.
- “Distal vs Proximal: Howard Thurman’s Jesus and the Disinherited as a Proximal Epistemology,” *Decolonizing American Philosophy*, Corey McCall, ed. forthcoming SUNY Press, invited. 7267 words

ARTICLES

- Neal, Anthony Sean, *Journal of Pan-African Studies*. "From the Suppression the Repression: Connecting the Ideological Lineage of W. E. B. Du Bois to Huey P. Newton" (July 2016) p. 32-46 *peer reviewed*
- Neal, Anthony Sean, *Journal of Black Theology*, “Howard Thurman’s Mystical Logic: Creatively Encountering Oneness,” (Vol. 16:1, 2017) p. 224-244 *peer reviewed*
- Neal, Anthony, APA Newsletter on Philosophy and the Black Experience, “Howard Thurman: Philosopher,” (Vol. 17:2, 2018) 5287 words *peer reviewed*
- Edited Reprint: “Freedom Gaze: African Freedom Aesthetic,” APA Newsletter on Philosophy and the Black Experience (Editors read the chapter and requested permission to reprint an edited version of the original) *forthcoming*

BOOK REVIEWS

- *Philosophy of Religion and the African American Experience: Conversations with my Friends*, Neal, Anthony, *Journal of Black Theology*, (Vol. 17:1, 2018)
- Neal, Anthony (co-author), Tunstall, Dwayne (co-author), *The Acorn*, “Subjects of Vulnerability,” (Vol. 18:1-2, 2019) p. 51-75

{Author meets critics article including a section also written by the author,
Tommy J. Curry}

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- April 17, 2018, "Citadel of the Ideal," Black Issues in Philosophy Blog, <https://blog.apaonline.org/2018/04/17/black-issues-in-philosophy-a-citadel-of-the-ideal/>
- September 10, 2016, "Education via a Philosophy of Deepening the Hunger," *Clarion Ledger*
- November 2016, "Things We Don't See or Hear," *Clarion Ledger*
- Neal, Anthony Sean, *Phylaxis Magazine* Vol. XLIII No. 4, "What is Philosophy? (and) What is its purpose in Freemasonry?" (Fourth Quarter 2016) *invited*

GRANTS FUNDED

Georgia Humanities Council

Locating Yerby Literary Symposium 2012-2013 monies were used to pay for keynote speaker. (Maryemma Graham, Professor of English, University of Kansas), \$2000

New York University Faculty Resource Network Grant for Faculty Enrichment Winter Session 2012, Puerto Rico, \$1500

Faculty Student Research Project Grant 2013

To fund research assistant and edit dissertation into book, \$5000

Percy and Edna Mae Ellis Family Trust 2014

Monies were used too bring the Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference to Paine College, \$3000

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- March 6, 2020, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Alain Locke Panel, "DuBois, Locke, Thurman, and King: The Great Questions"
- January, 2020, American Philosophical Association Eastern, Society for the Study of Process Philosophy, "Poetry, Art, and Process: An Applicative Notion of Whiteheadian Process Philosophy,"
- November, 2019, Richard Rorty Society, "Philosophy as Poetry: Rorty and the Spirituals,"

- November, 2019, Philosophy Born of Struggle, Roundtable on Howard Thurman's Philosophical Mysticism: *Love Against Fragmentation*
- November, 2019, Mississippi State University Humanities Institute, "Nature and Blackness: A Mississippi Story,"
- January, 2019 American Philosophical Association, Society for the Study of Process Philosophy, "Consciousness, interpretation, and the Unity of Thought,"
- June 2018, Caribbean Philosophical Association, Dakar, Senegal, "Distal vs. Proximal: Howard Thurman's Jesus and the Disinherited as a Proximal Epistemology"
- June 2018, 3rd Annual European Pragmatism Conference, Helsinki Finland, "Philosophy as Poetry: Understood through the Writings of Rorty and Thurman"
- February 2018, American Philosophical Association Central, Society for the Study of Process Philosophy, "Process Thought as a Method of Interpretation in African American Studies."
- November 3, 2017, Keynote Address, 21st Annual Harlem Renaissance Conference, Paine College, Augusta, Ga.
- July 10-11, 2017, International Society for African Philosophy and Studies, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria, "An Intercultural Approach to Studying Mysticism as a Philosophy"
- November 3, 2016, Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, Texas A&M, Author Meets Critics.
- September 30, 2016, Mississippi State University, Classical & Modern Languages & Literatures Symposium, entitled "Freedom Gaze: African Freedom Aesthetic."
- November 21-24, 2014, American Association Religion/Society Biblical Literature Conference, San Diego, Ca. "Howard Thurman's Mystical Logic: Creatively Encountering Oneness"
- February 21, 2013 W.E.B. DuBois Conference, Clark Atlanta University, "From the Suppression the Repression: Connecting the Ideological Lineage of W.E.B. DuBois to Huey P. Newton"
- October 25-26, 2013 Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, Purdue University, presented paper entitled, "Howard Thurman as Philosopher"
- March 2012, National Council of Black Studies Conference, Atlanta, paper entitled, "Huey P. Newton as Humanistic Theologian"
- October 27, 2012, Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, Texas A. and M. University, presented paper entitled, "Violence and the American State"
- March 26, 2010, Teaching Matters Conference, Gordon College, Presented paper entitled, "Afrocentricity in the Classroom: What is the impact on History and Philosophy?"
- 2009-03-19, Neal, Anthony Sean, "From Self-destruction to Self-instruction in Spirituality" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the 33rd Annual National Council for Black Studies, Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown, Atlanta, GA. 2014-11-30 from http://citation.allacademic.com/meta/p302532_index.html

INVITED COMMENTS

- March, 2019, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Session Chair and Discussant: The Role of Inclusive Communities In Dewey's Quest For Freedom, Yarran Hominh; Is Prescribing 'white Shame' Possible? A Pragmatist-Phenomenological Examination, Margaret Newton,
- March 2018, Session Chair and provided comments on the paper entitled, "Rebuilding after Disaster: Inequality and the Political Importance of Place," American Philosophical Association Pacific
- March 2018, Author Meets Critics: John McClendon's *Philosophy of Religion and the African American Experience*, American Philosophical Association Pacific
- March 2018, Author Meets Critics: Theorizing Black Males: Engaging Tommy Curry's "Man-Not" Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Indianapolis March 2018, Session Chair and provided comments on the paper entitled, "Beyond Theoretical Correctness In Ethics: Dewey's Pragmatic Pluralism" by Steven Fesmire, Middlebury College, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Indianapolis
- February 2018, Presidential Address, Mississippi Philosophical Association, "Deepening the Hunger: Philosophical and Theological Poetics of Intrinsic Love"
- March 17, 2017, Society of Advancement American Philosophy, Birmingham, Alabama, Guest Paper Commentator, ("Homo Sacer," Sabeen Ahmed) (invited)
- Session Chair and provided comments at the American Philosophical Association Central Region conference in St. Louis on February 21, 2015, entitled "Just Imagine: Over-Stressing the Importance of Imagery's Causal Effect."

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Morehouse College, November 2019, Speaker, Speaker for the Renaming of the Honors Program, Howard Thurman Honors Program
- Mississippi State University, African American Studies Program, African American Studies Religious Experience Symposium, September 19, 2019, "God of the Oppressed"
- Book Talk, September 10, 2019, Shackouls Honors College, Mississippi State University
- Philosophy Talk, September 25, 2018, University of Southern Mississippi, entitled "Intrinsic Love"
- Guest Speaker, November 9, 2017 African American Studies Department, King Chapel Assistants, Morehouse College
- Panel Moderator for the 50th Anniversary of the Mississippi Freedom Summer, Mississippi State University
- Guest Speaker at Mississippi State University for their monthly Philosophy talk on January 30, 2015, entitled "What is African American Philosophy?"

- Guest Speaker at the University of Mississippi for their monthly Philosophy talk on February 12, 2015, entitled, “Imposing Morality.”
- Guest Speaker to the John Henrik Clarke Society for their monthly meeting on February 18, 2015, entitled “The Modern of the African American Freedom Struggle.”
- Guest Speaker to the Young Scholars Racial Unity Retreat/Christian Scholars’ Conference, Abilene Christian University, May 30- June 3, 2015, entitled “Howard Thurman: Wholeness vs. Fragmentation.”
- Guest Lecturer to Morehouse College Ancient and Medieval Philosophy class, November 9, 2015, entitled “Plotinus’ Dialectic and Howard Thurman.”
- Guest Lecturer at Morehouse College for Philosophy of Language Classes, October 17, 2014, The Modern Era and the Freedom Gaze
- Yerby Roundtable, February 28, 2013, Augusta Literary Festival
- February 13-15, 2013, Locating Yerby Symposium, Paine College, A Philosophic Treatment of “The Foxes of Harrow”
- November 17, 2012, Scribes for Christ Conference, Atlanta, Ga., presented paper entitled, "Theology and Cinema”
- July, 2010, GIMPA University, Accra, Ghana, “American Philosophy and Government-Racial Injustice,”
- June 19, 2009, Ghana Christian University College, presentation, "Ethics and the Ghanaian Lived Experience”
- April 11, 2008, CAU Graduate Seminar, Presented paper entitled “The Idea of Consciousness in the Writings of Howard Thurman”
- February 2008, Guest Speaker for CAU graduate recruitment fair, Topic: “Graduate Study in the Humanities”
- January 2008, Panel Discussant. CAU Student Life. Panel Topic: “Sexuality at CAU/Was Woman Made for Man?”
- April 20, 2007, Presented paper for African American studies department spring symposium entitled “Freedom, Truth, Consciousness, and Movement”

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 21st Annual Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, Paine College, Augusta, Ga. 2014, \$3000 budget
- Annual Mississippi Philosophical Association, Mississippi State University, Conference Chairperson (In this role, I oversaw the budget, provided the daily plan and implementation) 2017
- 25th Annual International Society of African Philosophy and Studies, Mississippi State University, Conference Chairperson (In this role, I oversaw the budget and provided the daily plan and implementation) Mississippi State University 2019

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Mississippi State University

- Mississippi State University Athletic Council 2019-2020
- Holmes Cultural Diversity Center Stroll-off Judge, 2019
- Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority Inc., Mississippi State University, Keynote Address, February 2019
- Alpha Kappa Alpha, Mississippi State University Black History Panel 2019
- Panelist, Colin Kaepernick Forum, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., September 27, 2017, MSU
- Judge for Miss Black and Gold, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., November 9, 2017, MSU
- Mentor Day1 Mentoring Program, Mississippi State University 2016-2017
- African American Studies Program Steering Committee, MSU 2017-2018
- Black Alumni Advisory Committee (Faculty Member) 2016-2017

College of Arts and Sciences

- Sociology/ African American Studies Faculty Search Committee 2019
- Search Committee for Department of Philosophy and Religion Head 2018-2019
- Search Committee for Director of African American Studies 2018-2019
- African American Studies Representative to the Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate 2018-2020
- Public Humanities Ph.D. Study Group, 2017, MSU
- African American Studies Program Steering Committee, MSU 2017-2018
- Affiliate Faculty, Program in African American Studies, Mississippi State University 2016-present
- Tailgate setup crew, Mississippi State University 2016-2017

Department

- Philosophy and Religion Recruitment Committee ongoing
- Created Two Courses cross-listed w/African American Studies (African American Philosophy, African American Religious Experience) 2017-2018
- Mississippi State University Philosophy and Religion Club Co-Advisor 2016-2017

Professional

- American Philosophical Association Committee for the Status and Future of the Profession 2019-2021
- American Philosophical Association Committee on the Status of Blacks in Philosophy 2019-2021
- Chair Committee for Philosophical-Theology panel/roundtable for Philosophy Born of Struggle 2019
- Reader for Society for the Advancement of America Philosophy, 2019
- Reader for Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, October, 2018

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

- Greek- Reading Knowledge [as demonstrated in Neal, Anthony Sean, Journal of Black Theology, “Howard Thurman’s Mystical Logic: Creatively Encountering Oneness,” (Vol. 16:1, 2017) p. 224-244] *3 semesters course work*
- Hebrew- Reading Knowledge *2 semesters course work*
- Latin-Reading Knowledge *pre-college coursework*

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

Vienna, Cambodia, Ghana (six summers of research in Ghanaian politics), Amsterdam, Cote d’Ivoire, England, South Africa, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zimbabwe {The aim of the travel to the various locations, particularly on the African continent, was to develop an understanding of how cultural aesthetics shapes perceptual frameworks as demonstrated through efforts that lead to community development and social transformation}

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Mississippi Philosophy Association, (President 2017-2018, vice president 2016-2017)
- International Society for African Philosophy and Studies
- American Philosophical Association
- Philosophy Born of Struggle
- Society for Advancement American Philosophy
- Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel Collegium of Scholars
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

AWARDS

- Morehouse College Presidential Scholarship recipient 2000-2001
- Golden Key inductee 2001
- Benjamin Mays Scholar’s Ethics Institute (Morehouse/Bates College) Summer 2001
- Highest GPA in Religion May 2002
- Awarded full Scholarship by McAfee School of Theology (Mercer University) for graduate study 2002
- Awarded Scholarship by the Africana Studies department of Clark Atlanta University 2005

TEACHING

- **Mississippi State University**
 - African American Philosophy
 - African American Religious Experience
 - Introduction to African American Studies
 - Quest 1 (Shackouls' version of Great Books)
 - Quest 2 (Shackouls' version of Great Books)
 - Introduction to Ethics
 - Introduction to Religion
- **Paine College**
 - Critical Thinking
 - Logic
 - Aesthetics
 - Values and Society
 - African American Philosophy
 - Problems of Philosophy
 - Philosophy of Government (Introduction to Political Theory)
 - Philosophy of Religion