

# **LaGuana Kachét Gray**

Associate Professor of History  
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## **Education**

### **Ph.D., U.S. History, University of Houston, May 2007**

Dissertation: “ ‘They Just Keep Running the Line’: Black Women in the El Dorado, Arkansas, Poultry Processing Industry, 1960-2007”

Advisor: Landon Storrs

Committee Members: Gerald Horne, Joseph Pratt, Linda Reed, Steve Striffler

## **Professional Employment History**

Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio, 2015-Present

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio, 2008-2015

## **Teaching Activities**

### **Courses Taught**

#### **UTSA**

##### **Lower Division Courses:**

HIS 1053 The United States from 1865 to the Present

##### **Upper Division Courses:**

AMS 3343/HIS 4953/AAS 4013 African American History and Culture in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

HIS 3053/AMS 3343/WS 4953 U.S. Women's History since 1890

HIS 3133 The Historical (Mis)Use and Abuse of Black Bodies

HIS 3253 The United States since 1945

HIS 3563/AMS 3343/AAS 4013 African American History to 1877

HIS 3573/AMS 3343/AAS 4013 African American History from 1865 to the Present

HIS 3623 History of the Civil Rights Movement

HIS 4953 The Civil Rights Era: History and Collective Memory

HIS 4973 Research Seminar in United States History

HON 3223/AAS 4013 The Construction of Race and Nationality in the United States I: Along the Black/White Binary

HON 3223/AAS 4013 The Construction of Race and Nationality in the United States II: Disrupting the Black/White Binary

HON 3223/WS 4853 The Construction of Femininity

##### **Graduate Courses:**

HIS 5113 Approaches and Interpretations: Slavery in the United States

HIS 5193 The United States since the Great Depression

HIS 5283 Race in the United States

HIS 6413 Topics: Black Women in the United States since 1865

HIS 6813 Pro-seminar in History: Class and Labor in Recent U.S. History

HIS 6903 Seminar in History: Class and Labor in Recent U.S. History

## **Awards, Grants, and Honors**

Teaching and Learning Reimagined Grant (with Jasmine Harris (COEHD)) – *Innovation in African-American Studies: Collaboration & Experiential Learning*, UTSA Department of Academic Innovation, Awarded for Fall Semester 2022

Timuel D. Black, Jr. Short Term Fellowship in African American Studies, Vivian G. Harsh Society, July 16-August 16, 2018

J.G. Ragsdale Book Award in Arkansas History, Arkansas Historical Association, April 2016

## **Publications**

“ ‘Arkansas’s First Boomtown’: El Dorado and the Emergence of the Poultry Processing Industry.” *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 72, no. 3 (Autumn 2013): 197-221.

*We Just Keep Running the Line: Black Southern Women and the Poultry Processing Industry*. Baton Rouge, LA: LSU Press, 2014.

## **Manuscripts in Preparation**

“The Life of Myra Lillian Davis Hemmings” (Book chapter)

“*We’ve Come This Far by Faith*”: *Black Women and Mississippi Catfish* (Monograph project)

*Black Women Historians in the Texas Academy* (Co-editor; Book Chapter Contributor)

## **Scholarly Presentations**

“ ‘Changing Myself to Change the Delta’: Black Women and Mississippi Catfish.” Presented as the Timuel D. Black Short-Term Fellowship Lecture, Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, Chicago Public Library, July 30, 2018.

“ ‘I Am All for the Struggle’: Black Women and Southern Meat Processing.” Presented at the Southern Labor Studies Association’s Annual Meeting, May 18, 2018.

“Black Women’s Activism in the Delta: A Tale of Mississippi Catfish.” As part of “Gender and Activism in the Historical Profession: A State of the Field.” Presented at the Organization of American Historians’ Annual Meeting, April 7, 2017.

“Super Woman No More: Black Women, Mental Health, and Self-Care in Academia.” Presented at the National Council of Black Studies Annual Convention, March 11, 2017.

“The Rise of Industry in Post-World War II South Arkansas: The Case of El Dorado, Arkansas.” Keynote address, presented at the Arkansas Historical Association Annual Meeting, April 22, 2016.

“Working Class Black Women Contend with the Corporate South.” Presented at the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, November 14, 2015.

“ ‘How Us Women Do’: North Louisiana Women and Their Lived Experiences.” Presented at North Louisiana History and Culture since the Civil War: A Symposium, October 15, 2015.

“Union Parish Activism in the Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century.” Presented at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History’s Annual Meeting, September 2014.

“Close to my Chest: On Being a Black Woman Historian in the Academy.” Presented at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History’s Annual Meeting, October 5, 2013.

## **Service Activities**

### **Department Level Service:**

John L. Nau III Seminars and Conferences Committee, Department of History, 2021  
Graduate Advisory Committee, Department of History, 2021-2023  
Tenure and Promotion Standards Committee, Department of History, 2021-2022  
American Studies Committee, Department of History, 2020-2022  
Faculty Advisory Committee, Department of History, 2020-2022  
Merit Advisory Committee, Department of History, 2018-2020  
Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Pre-Civil War U.S. History, 2017-2018  
American Studies Coordinator, Department of History, 2013-2015

### **College Level Service:**

Faculty Grievance Committee College of Liberal and Fine Arts, 2020-2023  
Impact and Innovation Award Committee College of Liberal and Fine Arts, 2021 and 2022  
Faculty Development Leave Committee College of Liberal and Fine Arts, 2020 and 2021  
Faculty Advisory Committee, College of Liberal and Fine Arts, 2018-2020

### **University Level Service:**

African American Studies Advisory Board Member, 2017-2020

### **Other Service**

Executive Committee, Southern Labor Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2018-2021  
Planning Committee, Southern Labor Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2017-2018  
Committee Member, H.L. Mitchell (Book Prize) Award Committee, 2017-2018  
Board Member, Louisiana Historical Association, 2015-2017