

The Provost Scholars Program

University Intensive Seminar – Session 5

Dear #BlackCommaFeminist: A Conversation on Identity Construction

Date: February 20, 2020 | 4:00 - 5:00PM | Guilford House

Purpose

Black feminist thought. Feminist. Hip-hop feminist. Womanist. Women of color have had a long and tumultuous relationship with feminism. This workshop takes participants on a journey from theory to practice on identity development for Black women. Through the visitation of stereotypes, tropes, critical media literacy and our own lived experiences, how we identify is imperative to how we engage with others and—in turn—how others engage with us. This workshop explores the “comma” in identities, and discusses its implications: positive; negative; long; and short-term.

Presenter: Shemariah J. Arki, EdD



Shemariah J. Arki is an educator, an activist and an organizer. Currently serving as the inaugural post-doctoral scholar in intersectional feminisms at the Flora Stone Mather Center and as the founder and program director of the Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy (both housed at Case Western Reserve University), and as an adjunct in the department of Pan African Studies at Kent State University, she is an intersectional feminist scholar with expert knowledge and skills to develop, implement, facilitate and evaluate curricula that promote institutional equity, communication, and access for traditionally marginalized students and families. Dr. Arki received her BBA and MEd from the American Intercontinental University and her EdD from Northeastern University.

Dr. Arki's dissertation research centered on the voices of northeast Ohio youth as they respond to hate, particularly in the wake of #BlackLivesMatter.

Objectives

This presentation will use the direct experiences of those in the room with organizing, diversity education and activism, along with Black feminist thought and critical race theory to address the need for activism in the classroom and beyond to confront the injustices faced by minoritized populations.



Wellness Word of the Week

source: dictionary.com

empathy [em-puh-thee] *n.*: vicarious experiencing of the feelings, thoughts, or attitudes of another.

ex.: We often feel **empathy** when we see someone else going through a struggle we have been through.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Presenter: _____ Topic: _____

List Significant Points (what information is being conveyed to you?)

A. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

C. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Summarize the main takeaway(s) from this presentation:

What questions do you have for the presenter(s)?:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Ask yourself: "If I remember one thing from this presentation, it will be..."

These notes are your exit pass from Provost Scholars today. Please return to Ms. Kate before you leave.