ALFRED L. MARTIN, JR.

University of Iowa
105 Becker Communication Studies Building
Iowa City, IA 52241
319/353-1996
Alfred-Martin@uiowa.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, **University of Iowa**, Department of Communication Studies and Program in African American Studies, 2018 present
- Assistant Professor, University of Colorado Denver, Department of Communication, 2016 2018
- Visiting Assistant Professor, The New School University, Department of Culture and Media, 2015 2016
- Lecturer, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film, 2015
- Instructor, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film, 2012 2014
- Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film, 2010-2012

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin
Ph.D., Media Studies, May 2015
Concentrations in Cultural Studies and Women's and Gender Studies

DePaul University M.A., Sociology, August 2008

Arizona State University B.A., Journalism, August 1998

MONOGRAPHS

- The Generic Closet: Black Gayness and the Black-Cast Sitcom (Indiana University Press, 2021).
- Tongues Untied, co-authored with Andrew J. Owens (under contract with McGill-Queen's University Press)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "Blackbusting Hollywood: Racialized Media Reception, Failure and *The Wiz* as Black Blockbuster." *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, 60, no. 2 (2021): forthcoming.
- "Fandom While Black: Misty Copeland, *Black Panther*, Tyler Perry and the Contours of U.S. Black Fandoms." *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, 22, no. 6 (2019): 737-753.
- "The Queer Business of Casting Gay Characters on U.S. Television." *Communication, Culture & Critique*, 11, no. 2 (2018): 282-297.
- "Queer (In)Frequencies: SiriusXM's OutQ and the Limits of Queer Listening Publics." Feminist Media Studies, 18, no. 2 (2018): 249-263.
- "Scripting Black Gayness: Television Authorship in Black-Cast Sitcoms." *Television and New Media* 16, no. 7 (2015): 648–663.
 - Outstanding Scholarly Article Award, National Communication Association African American Culture and Communication Division, 2016
 - Lorena Romera Memorial Graduate Award for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Texas Austin,
 2015

- "It's (Not) in His Kiss: Gay Kisses and Camera Angles in Contemporary U.S. Network Television Comedy." *Popular Communication* 12, no. 3 (2014): 153 165.
- "TV in Black and Gay: Examining Constructions of Gay Blackness and Gay Crossracial Dating on GRΣΣΚ." Spectator 31, no. 2 (2011): 63 69.
- "Walk Like a Man, Talk Like a Man: Examining Masculinity and Femininity in Gay Black Men on the Cable Television Show *Noah's Arc.*" The Journal of Black Masculinity 1, no. 1 (2010): 48 65.
 - o Reprinted in *Black Masculinity in America: Can I Get a Witness*, edited by C. P. Gause, 83-100. Bradenton, FL: Book Locker, 2014.

INVITED ESSAYS AND INTRODUCTIONS

- "For Scholars... When Studying the Queer of Color Image Alone Isn't Enough." *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, "Forum," 17, no. 1 (2020): 69-74.
- "The Tweet Has Two Faces: Two-Faced Humor, Black Masculinity and RompHim." *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, "In Focus," 58, no. 3 (2019): 160-165.
- "Introduction: What is Queer Production Studies/Why is Queer Production Studies?" *Journal of Film and Video.* 77, no. 3-4 (2018): 3-7.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED COLLECTIONS

- "Why All the Hate?: Four Black Women's Anti-Fandom and Tyler Perry." In *Anti-Fandom: Dislike and Hate in the Digital Age*, edited by Melissa Click. New York: New York University Press, 2019.
- "Generic Closets: Sitcoms, Audiences and Black Male Gayness." In *Comedy Studies Reader*, edited by Matt Sienkiewicz and Nick Marx. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2018.
- "Norman... It's Not About You: De-Centering Black Gayness in *Norman... Is That You?*" In *Beyond Blaxploitation*, edited by Gerald Butters and Novatny Lawrence. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2016.

EDITED JOURNAL ISSUES

• Queer Production Studies. *Journal of Film & Video*. 77, no 3-4.

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *Double Negative: The Black Image and Popular Culture* by Racquel J. Gates, *Film Criticism*, 44, no. 2 (2020) https://quod.lib.umich.edu/f/fc/13761232.0044.305?view=text;rgn=main.
- Review of Black Power TV by Devorah Heitner, International Journal of Communication, 8 (2014): 1924-1927.
- Review of Black Television Travels: Black Television around the Globe by Timothy Havens, International Journal of Communication, 7 (2013): 1711-1713.

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

- "Pose(r): Ryan Murphy, Trans and Queer of Color Labor, and the Politics of Representation." Los Angeles Review of Books, August 2, 2018.
- "Notes from *Underground:* WGN's Black-Cast Quality TV Experiment." Los Angeles Review of Books, May 31, 2018.
- "Why NBC's The Wiz Makes Sense Even as It Doesn't Make Sense." Antenna, April 10, 2015.
- "Say My Name: Unnamed Black Objects in This Year's 'Quality' Films." Antenna, December 20, 2013.
- "Awkward Black Girl: Too Black for TV." InMediaRes, May 1, 2013.
- "Searching for Queerness in Television's Past: Moesha." This Was TV, April 1, 2013.

- "Searching for Queerness in Television's Past: Sanford Arms." This Was TV, March 4, 2013.
- "The Cancellation of Don't Trust the B and Gay Black Tele(in)visibility." *Antenna*, February 12, 2013.
- "Archiving Blackness: The DVD and Cultural Memory." Antenna, December 27, 2012.
- "Different for Boys: Frank Ocean and the 'Problem' of Male Bisexuality." Antenna, August 1, 2012.
- "FOX Formula 3.0?: TBS, Cougar Town, and the Disappearing Televisual Black Body." Antenna, June 18, 2012.
- "Doing Double Duty: Toward a Theory of Compound Otherness on Television." *Antenna*, Vol.14, No. 6., August 18, 2011.
- "Hottentot Venus 2.0?: Still Gawking at the Black Woman's Buttocks." InMediaRes, March 23, 2011.

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

2020

- "Looking Black: Understanding Black Fandoms." University of California Los Angeles, April 15.
- "Blackness and Anti-Fandom." Auburn University, Auburn, AL, March 4.
- "Race and Fandom Studies." University of Georgia, Athens, GA, March 5.
- "Blackness, Media and the Cultural Production of Difference." The Meredith Corporation, Des Moines, IA, February 27.

2019

- "Laughing at Black Queens: The Laugh Track & the Queer Politics of the Black-Cast Sitcom." *Queer Television International Conference*, Montreal, QB, CAN, May 10.
- "Queer (In)Frequencies: Queer Publics and Queer Radio." In Dr. Mia Fischer's Intro to Media and Cultural Studies graduate course, *University of Colorado Denver*, Denver, CO, April 15.

2018

- "Star Acting & Formation of a Star Image: Diana Ross and *The Wiz*." The University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI, November 7.
- "Producing Queerness/Queering Production." *University of Colorado Denver*, Denver, CO, October 29.
- "Concluding Roundtable." Fan Studies Network North America, Chicago, IL, October 27.

2017

- "MaskYouLinities: A Conversation about Masculinity in the 21st Century." University of Colorado Denver, Women and Gender Center. April 24
- "Race and Media Production Studies." University of Kentucky. April 4.
- "Queer Television Histories." College of William and Mary. February 22.
- "Representation Matters." Office of Natural Resources Revenue. January 25.

2016

- "Race and Queer TV." Colorado College, Critical Media Studies. December 20.
- "The Queer Politics of the Black-Cast Sitcom: Moesha, Gay (Tele)visibility and the Generic Closet." University of Iowa, October 11.
- "Trapped in a Generic Closet: The Queer Politics of Post-Network Black-Cast Sitcoms." Bentley University, April 14.
- "It's (Not) in His Kiss." Hunter College, Media and Popular Culture Analysis. April 11.

2015

- "Narrative Strategies in Representing Gay Male Bodies in Post-Network Television Comedy." Film and Television in the 21st Century Conference, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX, November 3.
- "Queer Representation on TV: Coming Out in the 80s, 90s, and 2000s." Harvey Milk Society, University of Texas at Austin, March 29.

SELECTED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

2020

- "Was *The Wiz* a Flop? The Industrial Politics of Black-Cast Media Failure." *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Denver, CO, April 2. ** Conference Canceled because of COVID-19.
- "Ryan Murphy Makes History with Largest Cast of Transgender Actors for FX's *Pose*": *Pose*, Casting and the Politics of LGBT Representation." *Media Industries Conference*, London, UK, April 17. ** Conference Canceled because of COVID-19.

2019

- "Oz-ing While Black: *The Wiz*, Motown Productions & Black Cultural Politics." *American Studies Association*, Honolulu, HI, November 8.
- "I Felt Extremely Uncomfortable Watching Them": Paranoid Reading, Controlling Images and Black Gay Men." *International Communication Association*, Washington, DC, May 28.
- "Casting and Queer of Color Representation." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Seattle, WA, March 16.

2018

- "Race in Fandom and Fan Studies." Fan Studies Network North America, Chicago, IL, October
- "Getting Misty-Eyed: Black Fandoms, Misty Copeland and Ballet." *International Communication Association*, Prague, May 28.
- "The Queer Politics of Casting: Casting Gay Roles in/on U.S. Television." *Media Industry Studies*, London, UK, April 19.
- "Quality TV While Black: *Underground* and the Precarity of Black Failure." *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Toronto, ON, March 17.

2017

- "Ties that Bind: Black Women, Displeasure, and Watching Tyler Perry." *International Communication Association*, San Diego, CA, May 28.
- "Re-Fashioning Black Queens: Production, Audience Reception, and Reclaiming the Black Fag." *International Communication Association*, San Diego, CA, May 28.
- "Queerly Cast: Television Production, Casting, and the Erasure of Queer Labor." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chicago, IL. March 25.
- "Never Been South of 125th Street: The Wiz and the Search for Home in Lower Manhattan." American Studies Association, Denver, CO, November 17.

2016

- "Coming Out Straight: The Paratextual Politics of Casting Male Gayness on Network Television." *National Communication Association*, Philadelphia, PA, November 12.
 - o Top Paper in Critical and Cultural Studies Division
- "The Generic Closet: Queer Labor, Black Masculinity, and Sanford Arms." Console-ing Passions, South Bend, IN, June 18.
- "From Domestic Space to Workplace: Generic Closets, Sitcoms and Black Gayness." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Atlanta, GA, March 30.

2015

- "Unruly Queens: Discourses of Silence and Bravo's Fashion Queens." National Communication Association, Chicago, IL, November 23.
- "Illegible Blackness: *The Wiz*, Historical Reception, and Discourses of Cinematic Failure." *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Montreal, QB, March 29.

2014

- "Black Gayness in White Televisual Spaces." Race and Media Conference, Madison, WI, October 17.
- "Whew, You A Bad Bitch!': Authorship, Fandom and the Possessive Investment in Beyoncé." *Cultural Studies Association*, Salt Lake City, UT, May 29.
- "Flipping the Script?: Television Authorship and Black Gay Male Characters in Black-Cast Sitcoms." *International Communication Association*, Seattle, WA, May 22.
- "Not a Queer Scandal: Shonda Rhimes, GLAAD and Discourses of Gay Respectability." *Console-ing Passions*, Columbia, MO, April 10.
- "Disrupting the TV Canon." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Seattle, WA, March 19.

2013

- "Gay Picket Fences: Gay Men, Reception, and Modern Family." *National Communication Association*, Washington, DC, November 21.
- "Producing Particularized Black Queerness: Drama Queenz and the Reification of Whiteness." *International Communication Association*, London, UK, June 19.

2012

- "Reading Queerness onto the Televisual Black Gay Male Body: Fashionably Abjecting Black Queerness from Black Masculinist Discourses in Television." Console-ing Passions: International Conference on Television, Audio, Video, New Media and Feminism, Boston, MA, July 20.
- "Fucking the Other: Marking Race and Communicating Intra- and Cross-Racial Desire on Manhunt.net." *International Communication Association*, Phoenix, AZ, May 25.
 - o Top Student Paper, Ethnicity and Race in Communication Division

2011

• "Queerly Clothed: The Queer Telepistemology of Clothing in Representations of Black Gay Men." *Queer Studies Conference*, Los Angeles, CA, October 15.

CHAIR AND RESPONDENT TO SCHOLARLY PANELS

- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Failure in Black: Hollywood Production and Black Precariousness." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, April 2, 2020. ** Conference Canceled because of COVID-19.
- Chair, "Queer-ying Popular Culture." International Communication Association, May 28, 2019.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Rethinking Studies of Race, Media and Culture." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 16, 2019.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Fandom Studies in Living Color: Intervening in the Whiteness of Fandom Studies." *International Communication Association*, May 28, 2018.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Putting the 'Queer' in Media Industry Studies." Media Industries, April 19, 2018.
- Chair, "Obscene and Sublime: Queer Media, Queer Representations." *International Communication Association*, May 26, 2017.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Queer(ing) Production/Producing Queerness." *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Chicago, IL, March 25, 2017.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Race, Gender & Sexuality in Production Studies." *Flow*, Austin, TX, September 15, 2016.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Back to Black: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Media Industries." *Console-ing Passions*, South Bend, IN, June 17, 2016.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "It's Reigning Men?: Gender and Difference in 1970s TV Culture." Console-ing Passions, South Bend, IN, June 18, 2016.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Iowa, Department of Communication Studies, Assistant Professor

- COMM 4157: Queer Media Studies, Fall 2020
- COMM 2069/AFAM 2070: Black Television Culture, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020
- COMM/AFAM 2076: Race, Ethnicity and Media, Spring 2019, Spring 2020
- COMM 2085: Media Industries and Organizations, Spring 2019
- COMM 6350: Media Reception Studies, Fall 2019

University of Colorado - Denver, Department of Communication, Assistant Professor

- COMM 1021: Introduction to Media Studies, Fall 2016, Spring 2017
- COMM/WGST 4660: Queer Media Studies, Fall 2016
- COMM 3640: Television, Culture and Communication, Spring 2017, Spring 2018
- COMM 5221: Qualitative Research Methods, Spring 2018

The New School, Department of Culture and Media, Visiting Assistant Professor

- LCST 2039: Media/Theory/Technology, Fall 2015
- LCST 3704: Thinking with Television, Fall 2015, Spring 2016
- LCST 3062: Narrative Strategies in Film and Television, Spring 2016
- LCST 3129: Queer Media: Authorship and Reception, Spring 2016

University of Texas at Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film, Assistant Instructor and Lecturer

- RTF 316: History of Radio and Television, Summer 2014
- RTF 317: Narrative Strategies in Film and Television, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Summer 2015
- RTF 316M: Race and Entertainment Media, Fall 2014

DePaul University, Department of Sociology, Adjunct Professor

- SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2008, Spring 2009
- SOC 280: Mass Media and Culture, Spring 2009, Fall 2009

HONORS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- Arts and Humanities Initiative, University of Iowa, June 2020
- Arts and Humanities Initiative, University of Iowa, May 2019
- International Programs Stanley International Travel Award, University of Iowa, May 2020, December 2019.
- Office of Research Services Small Grant, University of Colorado Denver, December 2017, June 2017, May 2017.
- Office of Diversity and Inclusion Retention Grant, University of Colorado Denver, May 2017.
- Young Upwardly Mobile Professors (YUMPS) Grant, University of Colorado Denver, August 2016.
- Faculty Fellow, National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2016 Faculty Seminar.
- Lora Romero Memorial Graduate Award for Interdisciplinary Research in Race, Ethnicity and Gender, University of Texas at Austin, 2014-2015.
- New York Public Library Short-Term Research Fellowship, New York, NY, 2014 2015.

- Continuing Fellowship, Department of Radio-Television-Film, University of Texas at Austin, 2013-2015.
- University Editorial Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, 2011-2013.
- Minority Recruitment Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, 2010.

MEDIA APPEARANCES/INTERVIEWS

- The Ringer, "Amid the Black Lives Matter Movement, Hollywood Examines Its Own History of Racism," July 10, 2020. https://www.theringer.com/tv/2020/7/10/21319242/hollywood-racism-blackface-tv-episodes-song-of-the-south.
- Washington Post, "Classic black sitcoms like Fresh Prince of Bel-Air and Living Single are finally streaming. Why did it take so long?, July 9, 2020. https://www.washingtonpost.com/arts-entertainment/2020/07/09/black-sitcoms-streaming/.
- Gayest Episode Ever, "Roc Has a Gay Uncle," July 8, 2020. https://gayestepisodeever.libsyn.com/roc-has-a-gay-uncle.
- The Benjamin Dixon Show, podcast episode 852, April 15, 2020.
- Zora, "Lena Waithe's 'Twenties' Signals LGBTQ+ Progress at BET and Beyond," March 4, 2020, https://zora.medium.com/lena-waithes-twenties-signals-lgbtq-progress-at-bet-and-beyond-ba819357197f
- It's a Thing, December 2019 episode, https://itsathing.net/2019/12/02/episode-6-alfred-l-martin/
- *Black Press USA* (wire service), "Reality TV: The Respectable and the Ratchet," November 6, 2019, https://northdallasgazette.com/2019/11/06/reality-tv-the-respectable-and-the-ratchet/
- *Marketplace*, National Public Radio, July 26, 2019. https://www.marketplace.org/shows/marketplace-morning-report/orange-is-the-new-black-bingeable/
- *Talk of Iowa*, Iowa Public Radio, April 16, 2019. https://www.iowapublicradio.org/post/contours-black-fandom#stream/0
- *Talk of Iowa*, Iowa Public Radio, June 27, 2018. https://www.iowapublicradio.org/post/legacy-after-downfall-wake-metoo#stream/0
- *The Outline*, "Blackish' Pushes the Televised Black Family Forward," May 29, 2018, https://theoutline.com/post/4692/blackish-black-family-history?zd=1&zi=xhgokk2c
- The Benjamin Dixon Show, guest hosted by Matt Sienkiewicz, podcast episode 573, March 29, 2018.
- Independent Sources, CUNY-TV, January 25, 2016.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Impact Communications, Director of Media Relations, Leawood, KS, 2006 2016
- Kaplan Publishing, Senior Marketing Communications Specialist, Chicago, IL, 2003 –2006
- Weber Shandwick Worldwide, Account Supervisor, Chicago, IL 2002 –2002
- Ketchum Public Relations, Senior Account Executive, Chicago, IL, 2000 –2001
- Golin/Harris International, Account Executive, Chicago, IL, 1999 –2000
- Hill & Knowlton, Assistant Account Executive, Chicago, IL, 1998 –1999

ACADEMIC SERVICE

UNIVERSITY

- Member, UIOWA Staff Council Awards Committee, 2019
- Mentor, Association for Black Graduate and Professional Students, Fall 2018-Spring 2019
- Member, Women & Gender Studies Faculty Colloquium, University of Colorado Denver, Fall 2016 Spring 2018

COLLEGE

 College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Council, Department of Communication Representative, University of Colorado Denver, 2017-2018

DEPARTMENT

- Member, Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee, Summer 2019
- Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Collaboration Committee, University of Iowa, Fall 2018 Present
- Department of Communication Outcomes Assessment, University of Colorado Denver, 2017-2018
- Department of Communication Publicity Committee, University of Colorado Denver, 2016-2017

PROFESSIONAL

- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Board Member At-Large, 2020-2023
- Media Industries Conference, Advisory Committee Member, 2019-2020
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Conference Program Planning Committee, 2019-2020
- Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies, Editorial Board Member, 2018 2021
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chair, Katherine Singer Kovacs Essay Award Committee, 2018-2019
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Conference Program Planning Committee, 2017-2018
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Faculty Representative, TV Studies Scholarly Interest Group, 2017 2020
- Queer Studies in Media and Popular Culture, Editorial Board Member, 2016 Present
- International Communication Association, Secretary, Popular Communication Division, 2015 2017
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Graduate Student Representative, Black Caucus, 2014 2016
- International Communications Association, Secretary, Ethnicity and Race in Communication Division, 2013 2015
- International Communication Association, Paper Reviewer, 2013 Present
- Polaris Film Festival, Selection Committee, 2013
- Velvet Light Trap
 - Editor, 2013 –2014
 - Editorial Collective Member, 2011 –2013
- Flow Media Journal
 - Co-Managing Editor, 2011 –2013
 - Column Editor, 2010 –2011
- Ad Hoc Article Reviewer
 - Journal of Homosexuality
 - Journal of Cinema and Media Studies
 - Feminist Media Studies
 - Journal of Communication
 - Communication and Critical Cultural Studies
 - Communication, Culture & Critique
 - Critical Studies in Media Communication
 - International Journal of Cultural Studies
 - Journal of Radio and Audio Media
 - Open Cultural Studies
 - Popular Communication
 - Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society
 - Television and New Media

THESIS EXAMINATION AND ADVISING

Dissertation/Thesis Advisor

- Cameron L. Brown, on white queer male audiences (PhD, Communication Studies, University of Iowa, expected 2023).
- Lisa Almeida, "The Plin Plin: Brazilian Storyland of Telenovelas" (B.A., Culture and Media, The New School, December 2015).

Dissertation/Thesis Committee Member

- Taylor Henry, "Same Time Tomorrow, Knuckleheads": The Emergence and Racial, Gendered, and Industrial Politics of Sport Media Punditry" (PhD, American Studies, University of Iowa).
- Emma Gabrielle on identity construction, media production and blogging (PhD, Communication Studies, University of Iowa)
- Tessa Adams on blackness and/in horror film
- Laurel Carlson on media and feminism
- Patrycja Humienik, "The Body is a Well-Contested Site': Dances for Solidarity and Collaboration through Letter Writing with Prisoners" (M.A., Communication, University of Colorado Denver, March 2018).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- International Communication Association
- National Communication Association
- American Studies Association