

**KENDRA CALHOUN**  
**(Pronouns: she/her/hers)**

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**EDUCATION**

- Expected  
Spring 2020    Ph.D. Linguistics  
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Dissertation: “Competing Discourses of Diversity and Inclusion in U.S. Higher Education: Institutional Rhetoric and Graduate Student Narratives at Two Minority Serving Institutions”
  - Committee: Mary Bucholtz (chair), Anne Charity Hudley, George Lipsitz (Departments of Black Studies and Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara), Özlem Sensoy (Faculty of Education, Simon Fraser University)
  - Interdisciplinary Emphases: Black Studies, Language, Interaction, and Social Organization
- 2016            M.A. Linguistics  
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Thesis: “‘What, a Black Man Can’t Have a TV?’: Vine Racial Comedy as a Sociopolitical Discourse Genre”
  - Committee: Mary Bucholtz (chair), Stephanie Leigh Batiste (Department of English, University of California, Santa Barbara), John W. Du Bois
- 2013            B.A. English Language and Literature, Experimental Psychology (double major)  
University of South Carolina, Columbia
- Magna cum laude; with honors from the South Carolina Honors College; with distinction in English
  - Study abroad: University of Leeds, England, Spring 2012
  - Honors thesis: “‘Literally’ Speaking: Language, Prescriptivism, and Ideology”
  - Thesis advisor: Elaine W. Chun

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Sociocultural linguistics, race, power, online discourse and multimodality, activism on social media, humor, African American language and culture, diversity discourses in higher education

**ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

- Spring 2019    Visiting Scholar-In-Residence  
Honors Program, Virginia State University

Spring 2019 Visiting Instructor  
Department of Languages and Literature, Virginia State University

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

### **Fellowships and Scholarships**

2020 Honorable Mention, Dissertation Fellowship Program, Ford Foundation  
2019-2020 President's Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of California  
2016 Honorable Mention, Predoctoral Fellowship Program, Ford Foundation  
2015 Honorable Mention, Predoctoral Fellowship Program, Ford Foundation  
2014-2018 Doctoral Scholars Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2009-2013 McKissick Scholars Merit Scholarship, University of South Carolina  
2009-2013 Lieber Scholars Merit Scholarship, University of South Carolina

### **Research Grants**

2019 Research Minigrant, Department of Linguistics  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
  
2017 Kennedy/Graves Research Fund Award, Black Resource Committee  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
  
2013 Undergraduate Research Grant, Magellan Programs  
University of South Carolina

### **Travel Awards**

2020 Student Travel Award, American Dialect Society  
2019 Student Travel Award, New Ways of Analyzing Variation 48  
2018 Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics Travel Grant, Linguistic Society of America  
2016 Conference Travel Scholarship, Association of Internet Researchers  
2016 Heldrich-Dvorak Travel Fellowship, Southwest Popular/American Culture Association  
2015 Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2015 Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics Travel Grant, Linguistic Society of America  
2012 Study Abroad Scholarship, Foundation for Global Scholars

### **Teaching Awards**

2019-2020 Excellence in Teaching Award nominee  
Graduate Student Association, University of California, Santa Barbara  
  
2018-2019 Excellence in Teaching Award nominee

Graduate Student Association, University of California, Santa Barbara

2016-2017 Excellence in Teaching Award  
Graduate Student Association, University of California, Santa Barbara

## PUBLICATIONS

### In Preparation

**Calhoun, Kendra.** “The Linguistic Construction of ‘Straight White Boys’ on Social Media as Social Critique”

**Calhoun, Kendra.** “‘Okay but like’ as a Discourse Marker Collocation on Twitter”

**Calhoun, Kendra.** “Black Women’s Tumblr Discourse as Black Feminist Activism”

**Calhoun, Kendra** and Joyhanna Garza. “Oh my [ma] god”: Appropriation of African American English and the Construction of Asian American Identity in Ali Wong’s *Baby Cobra*

Charity Hudley, Anne H., Christine Mallinson, **Kendra Calhoun**, Jamaal Muwwakkil, deandre miles-hercules, Jeremy Edwards, Tracy Conner, and Hannah Franz. “A Conversation About What All Black College Students Deserve to Know About African-American English”

### Forthcoming and Published

Franz, Hannah, Anne Charity Hudley, Rachael King, **Kendra Calhoun**, deandre miles-hercules, Jamaal Muwwakkil, Jeremy Edwards, Cecily Duffie, Danielle Knox, Bishop Lawton, and Tre Merritt. Forthcoming. “The Role of the Graduate Student in Inclusive Undergraduate Research Experiences,” *Pedagogy* Special Issue: Undergraduate Research as a Future of English Studies (Invited)

**Calhoun, Kendra**, Anne H. Charity Hudley, Mary Bucholtz, Jazmine Exford, and Brittney Johnson. Forthcoming. “Attracting Black Students to Linguistics Through a Black-Centered Introduction to Linguistics Course,” *Language* (to appear 2021)

**Calhoun, Kendra.** 2020. “Blackout, Black Excellence, Black Power: Strategies of Everyday Online Activism on Black Tumblr,” In Allison McCracken, Alexander Cho, Louisa Stein and Indira Neill Hoch (eds.), *a tumblr book: platform and cultures*, University of Michigan Press  
DOI: [10.3998/mpub.11537055](https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.11537055)

**Calhoun, Kendra.** 2019. “Vine Racial Comedy as Anti-Hegemonic Humor: Linguistic Performance and Generic Innovation,” *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 29(1), 27-49  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jola.12206>

**Calhoun, Kendra.** 2016. “Six Seconds to Talk Back: The Emergence of Racial Comedy as a Sociopolitical Discourse Genre on Vine,” *Selected Papers of Internet Research 2016: The 17th Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers*  
<https://spir.aoir.org/ojs/index.php/spir/issue/view/581>

**Calhoun, Kendra.** 2015. “‘It is the worst of our time’: Youth Language, Language Attitudes, and Arguments About *Literally*,” *Texas Linguistic Forum* 58, 1-10  
<http://salsa.ling.utexas.edu/proceedings/2015/Calhoun.pdf>

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Research Collaborations

- Fall 2020 Research Fellow, “Disciplining Diversity” Residential Research Group  
 University of California Humanities Research Institute (<https://uchri.org/>)  
 University of California, Irvine
- 2017-present Graduate Student Researcher, Talking College Project  
 Supervisors: Professors Anne Charity Hudley and Mary Bucholtz,  
 Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara

### Research Assistant

- Sum. 2016 Supervisor: Lal Zimman, Associate Professor of Linguistics  
 University of California, Santa Barbara
- Segmented and transcribed audio interview data using ELAN software
- 2015-2016 School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS)  
 University of California, Santa Barbara
- Researched and compiled academic articles, popular journalism, and media examples for use in SKILLS 2016 curriculum
- Sum. 2015 Supervisor: Mary Bucholtz, Professor of Linguistics  
 University of California, Santa Barbara
- Organized student-generated content to create a reader for 2016 SKILLS curriculum

### Research Supervision

- Winter 2020 Undergraduate Research Assistants Supervisor  
 University of California, Santa Barbara
- Supervised four undergraduate students’ transcription, coding, and analysis of audio interview data; taught students how to use ELAN transcription software, assigned readings on sociocultural linguistic theory and qualitative analysis for discussion, and guided their analysis of discourse data
- Fall 2019 Undergraduate Research Assistants Supervisor  
 University of California, Santa Barbara

- Supervised one undergraduate student's analysis of Twitter data for a project on use of the phrase "okay but like," including review of relevant literature and coding
- Sum. 2018      Research Mentor  
UC-HBCU/NSF REU Scholars in Linguistics Program, University of California Santa Barbara
- Mentored two undergraduate students' independent pilot research projects on language, race and identity on social media, including literature review, data collection, and data analysis
- Spring 2017    Research Project Supervisor  
School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS), University of California, Santa Barbara
- Collaborated with co-instructor and undergraduate classroom mentors to supervise students' original linguistic research for their final project and presentation at UCSB SKILLS Day
- Winter 2016    Undergraduate Research Assistants Supervisor  
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Supervised four undergraduate students' coding of multimodal video data for a project on racial comedy on Vine
- Spring 2015    Research Project Supervisor  
School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS), University of California, Santa Barbara
- Collaborated with co-instructor and undergraduate classroom mentors to supervise students' original linguistic research for their final project and presentation at UCSB SKILLS Day

### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Refereed Conference Presentations**

- 2020            "Attracting Black Undergraduate Students to Linguistics through a Black-Centered Introduction to Linguistics Course." Annual Meeting of the American Dialect Society, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 4
- 2018            "'Diversity and inclusion are pretty empty words': Understanding Systematic Discrimination in Academia from the Perspectives of Graduate Students of Color and Women Graduate Students." Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, California, November 16
- 2018            "'Okay but like' as a Discourse Marker Collocation on Twitter." Poster. Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 6

- 2017 “Reversing the Racializing Gaze through the Linguistic Construction of the ‘Straight White Boy’ on Tumblr and Twitter.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, December 3
- 2017 “‘I am 420% heterosexual so I know EVERYTHING about being straight and sports’: How Tumblr and Twitter Constructed (and Dragged) the ‘Straight White Boy.’” Popular and American Culture Association National Conference, San Diego, California, April 14
- 2016 “Stereotypes, Affordances, and Social Critique: Vine Racial Comedy as a Sociopolitical Discourse Genre.” Association of Internet Researchers Conference, Berlin, Germany, October 7
- 2016 “We Gon Be Alright: Black Tumblr as an Online Social Support Group.” Annual Conference on Language, Interaction, and Culture, University of California, Los Angeles, April 22
- 2016 “Blackout, Black Excellence, Black Power: Strategies of Everyday Online Activism on Black Tumblr.” National Council for Black Studies, Charlotte, North Carolina, March 17
- 2016 “Always Reblog, #staywoke: Strategies of Everyday Online Activism on Tumblr.” Southwest Popular and American Culture Association Conference. Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 13
- 2015 “Racial Performance and the Hierarchy of Americanness on Social Media.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, Colorado, November 18
- 2015 “‘It is the worst of our time’: Youth Language, Language Attitudes, and Arguments about *Literally*.” Symposium About Language and Society - Austin (SALSA), University of Texas at Austin, April 18
- 2013 “‘Literally’ Speaking: Language, Prescriptivism, and Ideology.” Discovery Day Student Research Showcase, University of South Carolina, Columbia, April 26

### **Invited Research Presentations**

- 2020 “The Discursive Construction of ‘Straight White Boys’ on Social Media as Social Critique.” Department of English, West Chester University, October 29
- 2020 “‘Black people online are undefeated’: African American Language, Culture, and Activism on Social Media.” Black History Month speaker series, School of English, University of Nottingham, October 22
- 2020 “Analyzing Race, Humor, and Activism Online Through the Lens of Black

Digital Culture.” Inspirational Speaker Series, SECL Student Success Project, University of Kent, July 2 <https://youtu.be/5R1qTkQrlY0>

- 2020 “The Linguistic Construction of ‘Straight White Boys’ on Tumblr and Twitter as Social Critique.” Graduate Recruitment Week colloquium, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara, January 9
- 2019 “Researching Language, Race, and Culture on Social Media.” Black History Month Conference of Undergraduate Writing and Research, Virginia State University, February 21 (Keynote)
- 2018 “‘I’m here for all you Black girls’: Black Women’s Tumblr Discourse as Black Feminist Activism.” Sneak Peek Graduate Research Showcase, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 31

### **Workshops, Symposia, and Other Scholarly Talks**

- 2020 “Centering Black Language and Culture in Introductory Linguistics: A Model for Improving Racial Equity in Linguistics Pedagogy.” Advancing African American Linguist(ic)s Symposium, University of California Santa Barbara, August 7
- 2020 “‘Here, diversity isn’t a buzzword’: Discursive-Ideological Constructions of the ‘Diverse Institution’ on University Websites.” Sociocult Research Group, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara April 17
- 2018 “Race & Racism in Internet Research: Fishbowl with the Center for Critical Race and Digital Studies.” Association of Internet Researchers Conference, Montreal, Canada, October 13

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Instructor of Record**

- Winter 2019 LING 20: Language and Linguistics (7 students; online)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Fall 2018 LING 50: Language and Power (215 students)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Sum. 2018 LING 101: Basic Elements of Linguistic Analysis (14 students)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Winter 2018 LING 20: Language and Linguistics (9 students; online)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Spring 2017 ANTH 104: Language and Culture (26 students; dual enrollment)  
Dos Pueblos High School AVID  
Department of Anthropology, Santa Barbara City College

**Co-Instructor**

- Spring 2019 ENGL 422: History of the English Language (8 students)  
Department of Languages and Literature, Virginia State University
- Spring 2015 ANTH 104: Language and Culture (30 students; dual enrollment)  
Dos Pueblos High School AVID  
Department of Anthropology, Santa Barbara City College

**Teaching Assistant**

- Spring 2017 BLST 5: Blacks in Western Civilization (54 students, 3 sections)  
Department of Black Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Winter 2017 BLST 1: Introduction to African American Studies (40 students, 3 sections)  
Department of Black Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Fall 2016 LING 136: African American Language and Culture (53 students, 2 sections)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Spring 2016 LING 180: Language, Race, and Ethnicity (55 students, 2 sections)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Winter 2016 LING 70: Language in Society (55 students, 2 sections)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Fall 2015 LING/CHST 187: Language, Power, and Learning (42 students, 2 sections)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Sum. 2015 LING 50: Language and Power (18 students, 1 section)  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara

**Invited Guest Lectures**

- 2020 “Memes as Social Critique and Stance-Taking: ‘Straight White Boys’ on Social Media.” Linguistics 135: Memes: When Language and Culture Go Viral, University of California, Santa Barbara, January 29
- 2019 “Identity and Community on Social Media.” Linguistics 50: Language and Power, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 4
- 2017 “Language, Race, and Activism on Social Media.” Linguistics 50: Language and Power, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 25
- 2016 “Vine Videos as Multimodal Memes.” Linguistics 135: Memes: When Language



and Culture Go Viral, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 15

- 2016 “African American Discourse Online.” Linguistics 136: African American Language and Culture, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 1
- 2016 “Hegemonic and Subversive Performances of Gender and Sexuality on Vine.” LING 132: Language, Gender, and Sexuality, University of California, Santa Barbara, July 19
- 2016 “Racial Humor.” Linguistics 180: Language, Race, and Ethnicity, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 16

### **Additional Teaching Experience**

- 2013-2014 Adult Basic Education Tutor  
Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Created weekly lesson plans and supplementary learning materials for individual sessions with an adult student preparing to enroll in community college
- 2010-2013 Tutor and Mentor  
Academic Enrichment Services for Athletics, University of South Carolina
- Tutored students in academic coursework, helped them to prepare for course assessments, and created supplementary study materials
  - Mentored students in study skills, time management, and organization

### **Pedagogy Training and Development**

- In progress Certificate in College and University Teaching  
Instructional Development, University of California, Santa Barbara  
(<https://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/interdisciplinary-emphases-certificate-programs/ccut>)
- Sum. 2018 Summer Teaching Institute for Associates  
Instructional Development, University of California, Santa Barbara

## **SERVICE**

### **Academic Partnership Programs**

- 2018-2019 Graduate Student Mentor, UC-HBCU/NSF REU Scholars in Linguistics Program, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2015-2016 Site Coordinator, School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS), Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara

2015-2016 Undergraduate Mentor Supervisor, School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS), University of California, Santa Barbara

### **Committee Service**

#### *Job Search Committees*

2019-2020 Member, Job Search Committee: Assistant Professor of Psycholinguistics, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara

2015-2016 Member, Job Search Committee: North Hall Endowed Chair, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara

#### *Organizing Committees*

2016-2017 Member, Conference Organizing Committee, Language, Interaction, and Social Organization Research Group, University of California, Santa Barbara

#### *Award Committees*

2019-2020 Member, Awards Subcommittee, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America

2018-2019 Member, Travel Grant Subcommittee, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America

2015-2016 Member, Travel Grant Subcommittee, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America

#### *Other Committee Membership*

2017-2019 Member, Black Resource Committee, Academic Initiatives, University of California, Santa Barbara

2015-present Member, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America

### **Reviewing**

2020 *Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code* by Ruha Benjamin, *Black Perspectives*, African American Intellectual History Society (Invited) <https://www.aaihs.org/race-after-technology/>

2019 Textbook Proposal Reviewer, Cambridge University Press

### **University Programs and Organizations**

- 2017-2018 Graduate Student Coordinator, Black Student Engagement Program Academic Initiatives, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2017-2018 Graduate Student Mentor, Black Student Engagement Program Academic Initiatives, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2017-2018 Executive Board, Black Graduate Student Association, University of California, Santa Barbara

### **Panelist or Moderator**

- Winter 2020 Panelist, Graduate Teaching Assistant Q&A, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, February 12
- Winter 2020 Moderator, “Black Becoming for Language and Linguistics Researchers” symposium. Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 3
- Fall 2019 Panelist, Inclusive Communication in Teaching and Research, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, October 3
- Fall 2019 Panelist, Graduate School Q&A, Faculty-in-Residence Undergraduate Event, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 5
- Fall 2017 Panelist, Graduate Teaching Assistant Q&A, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, December 5
- Winter 2017 Panelist, Graduate Student Q&A, Graduate Recruitment Week, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, January 17
- Winter 2016 Panelist, Graduate Student Q&A, Graduate Recruitment Week, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, January 16
- Spring 2015 Panelist, Graduate Student Experience Q&A, Sneak Peek Graduate Recruitment Event, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, May 26
- Fall 2015 Panelist, Graduate Student Orientation Q&A, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, September 21

### **Additional Service**

- Spring 2019 Member, Women’s and Gender Studies Faculty Working Group, Virginia State University
- 2015-2016 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, University of

California Santa Barbara

### **ADDITIONAL DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION WORK**

#### **Ongoing Roles**

2020-2021 Graduate Student Expert, Inclusive Curriculum Initiative  
Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara

#### **Presentations and Panels**

2020 “This IS Linguistics: Scope, Positionality, and Graduate Apprenticeship when Diversifying the Linguistics Curriculum,” presented with deandre miles-hercules and Jamaal Muwwakkil. Racial Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Linguistics Curriculum webinar series, Linguistic Society of America, September 11 (Invited)

<https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/webinar-linguistics-scope-positionality-and-graduate-apprenticeship-when-diversifying>

2020 Panelist, Townhall on Race and Anti-Blackness in Linguistics and Academia, Department of Linguistics, University of California Santa Barbara, June 11

2020 “A Roadmap for Inclusion in Sociocultural Linguistics.” With Anne H. Charity Hudley, Lal Zimman, Tracy Conner, Jamaal Muwwakkil, deandre miles-hercules, Aris Keshav, and Joyhanna Garza. Department Colloquium, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara, April 17

2019 “A Roadmap for Inclusion in Sociocultural Linguistics” workshop. With Anne H. Charity Hudley, Lal Zimman, Tracy Conner, Jamaal Muwwakkil, deandre miles-hercules, Aris Keshav, and Joyhanna Garza. New Ways of Analyzing Variation 48, University of Oregon, October 10 (Invited)

2018 “Using Everyday Technology as Tools for Racially Inclusive Classrooms.” Graduate Student Teaching Symposium, Instructional Development, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 4

<http://tales.id.ucsb.edu/presentations-from-the-2018-graduate-student-teaching-symposium/>

#### **Trainings**

Fall 2019 Diversity in Graduate Education Through Admissions Practices  
California Consortium for Inclusive Doctoral Education (C-CIDE)  
University of California, Santa Barbara, October 30

Fall 2019 “Are You Aware?” (How Implicit Bias Influences Faculty Hiring)

Performance by Theater Delta, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 22

### IN THE MEDIA

- July 2020 Interview about the evolution of the “Karen” meme online  
“How ‘Karen’ Became a Symbol of Racism,” *Vox*, July 21  
<https://www.vox.com/21317728/karen-meaning-meme-racist-coronavirus>
- April 2020 Interview about anti-hegemonic Vine racial comedy  
“Read Between the Vines,” *The Vocal Fries* podcast, April 13 episode  
<https://radiopublic.com/the-vocal-fries-GOoXdO/s1!a44bb>
- Feb 2020 “Vine Racial Comedy as Anti-Hegemonic Humor: Linguistic Performance and Generic Innovation.” *The Social Life of Language* YouTube series by Mike Mena  
[https://youtu.be/6fFAqbg\\_FHM](https://youtu.be/6fFAqbg_FHM)

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association, Association of Internet Researchers, Center for Critical Race and Digital Studies, Linguistic Society of America, Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Phi Beta Kappa Society