

## Candis Watts Smith, Ph.D.

---

Associate Professor of Political Science and African American Studies  
The Pennsylvania State University

cwsmith@psu.edu  
227 Pond Lab  
University Park, PA 16802

814.863.8978 (office)  
www.candiswsmith.com

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, Duke University, 2011  
M.A. Political Science, Duke University, 2008  
B.A. Political Science and International Comparative Studies (*Cum Laude*), Duke University, 2005

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan, 2012  
Summer Institute for Political Psychology, Stanford University, 2010  
Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, Duke University, 2005

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Pennsylvania State University, 2019-present  
Associate Professor of Political Science and African American Studies  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 2015-19  
Assistant Professor of Public Policy  
Adjunct Assistant Professor of African, African American, and Diaspora Studies  
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Williams College, 2012-15  
Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Texas A&M University, 2011-12  
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science

### AWARDS AND HONORS

- Herbert Kaufman Award for Best Paper in Public Administration, American Political Science Association, 2019
- Lucius Barker Award for Best Paper on Racial and Ethnic Politics, Midwest Political Science Association, 2019
- Women's Caucus Early Career Award, Honorable Mention, Midwest Political Science Association, 2019
- Best Paper by an Emerging Scholar Award, Midwest Political Science Association, 2018
- Kenneth J. Meier Award for Best Paper in Bureaucratic Politics, Public Administration or Public Policy, 2018
- Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation (ENACT) Faculty Fellowship, Brandeis University, 2018
- Junior Faculty Development Award, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2016-18

- Best Dissertation Award, American Political Science Association, Organized Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, 2013
- Ted Robinson Memorial Award, Southwestern Political Science Association, 2010
- American Political Science Association Minority Fellowship, 2006-08

## BOOKS

DeSante, Christopher and Candis Watts Smith. 2020. *Racial Stasis: The Millennial Generation and the Stagnation of Racial Attitudes in American Politics*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Bunyasi Lopez, Tehama and Candis Watts Smith. 2019. *Stay Woke: A People's Guide to Making All Black Lives Matter*. New York, NY: NYU Press.

Smith, Candis Watts and Christina Greer, eds. 2018. *Black Politics in Transition: Immigration, Gentrification and Suburbanization*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2014. *Black Mosaic: The Politics of Black Pan-Ethnicity*. New York, NY: NYU Press.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Capers, K. Jurée and Candis Watts Smith. 2016. "Linked Fate at the Intersection of Race, Gender, and Ethnicity." In *Distinct Identities: Minority Women in U.S. Politics*, eds. Nadia E. Brown and Sarah Allen Gershon. New York: Routledge. 29-48.

McClain, Paula D., Gerald E. Lackey, Efren O. Perez, Niambi M. Carter, Jessica D. Johnson Carew, Candis Watts Smith, Eugene Walton Jr., Monique L. Lyle, and Shayla C. Nunnally. 2011. "Intergroup Relations in Three Southern Cities." In *Just Neighbors? Research on African American and Latinos Relations in the United States*, eds. Edward Telles, Mark Q. Sawyer and Gaspar Rivera-Salgado. New York: Russell Sage Foundation. 201-241.

Haynie, Kerry L., and Candis S. Watts. 2010. "Blacks and the Democratic Party: A Resilient Coalition." In *New Directions in American Political Parties*, ed. Jeffrey M. Stonecash. New York: Routledge. 93-109.

## PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

DeSante, Christopher and Candis Watts Smith. "Less is More: A Cross-Generational Analysis of Racial Resentment." 2020, Forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*.

Smith, Candis Watts, Tehama Lopez Bunyasi, and Jasmine Smith. "Linked Fate Over Time and Across Generations," 2019. *Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

Lopez Bunyasi, Tehama and Candis Watts Smith. 2019. "Do All Black Lives Matter Equally to Black People?: Respectability Politics and the Limitations of Linked Fate." *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, 4(1), 180-215.

Kreitzer, Rebecca and Candis Watts Smith. 2018. "Reproducible and Replicable: An Empirical Assessment of the Social Construction of Politically Relevant Target Groups." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51(4), 768-774.  
Based on the Kenneth J. Meier Award for best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy.

Lopez Bunyasi, Tehama and Candis Watts Smith. 2018. "Get in Formation: Black Women's Participation in the Women's March on Washington as an Act of Pragmatic Utopianism." *The Black Scholar*, 43(3).

Smith, Candis Watts, and K. Jureé Capers. 2018. "The (Additional) Determinants of Pan-Ethnic Black Partisanship." *National Political Science Review*, 19:97-120.

Smith, Candis Watts, and Sarah Mayorga-Gallo. 2017. "The New Principle-Policy Gap: How Diversity Ideology Subverts Diversity Initiatives." *Sociological Perspectives* 60: 889-911.

Capers, K. Jureé, and Candis Watts Smith. 2015. "Straddling Identities: Identity Cross-Pressures on Black Immigrants' Policy Preferences." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 4: 393-424.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2014. "Shifting from Structural to Individual Attributions of Black Disadvantage Age, Period, and Cohort Effects on Black Explanations of Racial Disparities." *Journal of Black Studies* 45: 432-52.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2013. "Ethnicity and the Role of Group Consciousness: A Comparison between African Americans and Black Immigrants." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 1: 199-220.

McClain, Paula, Jessica D. Johnson Carew, Eugene Walton Jr., and Candis S. Watts. 2009. "Group Membership, Group Identity, and Group Consciousness: Measures of Racial Identity in American Politics?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 471-84.

## **OTHER REFEREED PRODUCTS OF SCHOLARSHIP**

Kreitzer, Rebecca, Candis Watts Smith, and Feiya Suo. Forthcoming. "The Dynamics of Racial Resentment Across the 50 States." *Perspectives on Politics*.  
Based on the Lucius Barker Award for Best Paper on Racial and Ethnic Politics.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2017. "Youth and Generational Differences in US Politics." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*, ed. Sandy Maisel: Oxford University Press.  
[www.oxfordbibliographies.com](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com).

Smith, Candis Watts. 2016. "Identity and Political Behavior." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*, ed. Sandy Maisel: Oxford University Press.  
[www.oxfordbibliographies.com](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com).

## **PRODUCTS OF ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP**

Saunders, Tracee, Rebecca Kreitzer, and Candis Watts Smith. 2018. "Variation in Title X Leads to Contraception Deserts." Gender Policy Report.

Smith, Candis Watts and Christopher DeSante. 2018. "The Racial View of White Americans—Including Millennials—Depend on the Questions Asked." [Scholars Strategy Network](#).

Smith, Candis Watts. 2017. "Black Immigrants in the U.S. Face Big Challenges. Will African Americans Rally to Their Sides?" [Monkey Cage](#): *The Washington Post*.

UNC-TV. July 3, 2016. "What Is Race?" on *Black Issues Forum*: UNC-TV.

Smith, Candis Watts, and Christina Greer. 2016. "Immigration, Ethnicity & Black Political Futures: A T.B.S. Conversation." ed. Chryl Laird: *The Black Scholar*.

Kreitzer, Rebecca, and Candis Watts Smith. 2016. "'Contraception Deserts' Are What You Get When You Cut Off This Little-Known Federal Program." [Monkey Cage](#): *Washington Post*.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2014. "Younger Blacks Are Less Likely to Suggest That Discrimination Explains Racial Disparities, Tending to Ascribe Them to Blacks' Lack of Will to 'Pull up Their Bootstraps.'" [United States Politics and Policy](#): London School of Economics.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Smith, Candis Watts. 2018. *The Power of Race in Cuba: Racial Ideology and Black Consciousness during the Revolution* by Danielle Pilar Cleland. *American Review of Politics*. 36:109-112.

Smith, Candis Watts. 2016. *Pulse of the People: Political Rap Music and Black Politics* by Lakeyta M. Bonnette. *Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Politics*. 1: 359-361.

## ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

Capers, Jurée and Candis Watts Smith. "Crossing Ethnic Lines: Immigrant Representation in Bureaucratic Agencies" (Invited to Revise and Resubmit.)

Bunyasi Lopez, Tehama, Candis Watts Smith and Hannah Walker. "The Political Geography of Black Politics." (Under review.)

Crowder, Chaya and Candis Watts Smith. "From Suffragists to Pink Pussy Hats: An Analysis of Intersectional Coalition Politics at the Women's March" (Under review.)

DeSante, Christopher and Candis Watts Smith. "Fear, Institutionalized Racism, and Empathy (FIRE): A Holistic Measure of White Americans' 21<sup>st</sup> Century Racial Attitudes." (Under review.)

Kreitzer, Rebecca and Candis Watts Smith. "Where's the Party in Social Theory?:Partisan Mappings of Politically Relevant Target Groups." (Under review.)

Kreitzer, Rebecca, Candis Watts Smith, Tracee Saunders, and Kellen Kane. "Contraception Deserts: Race, Class and Access to Contraception." (In progress.)

Kreitzer, Rebecca, Elizabeth Maltby, and Candis Watts Smith "Assessing the Relationship between Policy and Social Constructions in US States." (In progress.)

Rubacalba, Joaquin and Candis Watts Smith. "In Pursuit of Happiness: An Economic Value of Racial Inequality." (In progress.)

Smith, Candis Watts and Jasmine Carrera Smith. "Colorism in Police Interactions." (In progress.)

## REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: Dialogue with Dawson: 25 Years of Linked Fate and the Politics of Group Identity; "How Racial Empathy Moderates White Identity and Racial Resentment" with Christopher DeSante; "Assessing the Relationship between Policy and Social Constructions in US States" with Rebecca Kreitzer and Elizabeth Maltby.

"Where's the Party in Social Theory?:Partisan Mappings of Politically Relevant Target Groups" with Rebecca Kreitzer. Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Austin, TX

"Contraception Deserts: Assessing the Geography of Reproductive Healthcare and Family Planning Resource Accessibility" with Rebecca Kreitzer, Tracee Saunders, and Kellen Kane. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

- "Colorism in Police Interactions" with Jasmine Carrera Smith. National Conference of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 2018 "The Status of Black Women" with Kia Caldwell, Dawna Jones, Gloria Thomas, and Erica Wallace. Black Communities: A Conference for Collaboration. Durham, NC.
- "Crossing Ethnic Lines: Immigrant Representation in Bureaucratic Agencies" with Jurée Capers. American Political Science Association Meeting, Boston, IL
- "Dynamics of Racial Resentment Across the 50 States" with Rebecca Kreitzer and Feiya Suo. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "The Political Geography of Black Politics" with Tehama Bunyasi Lopez and Hannah Walker. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 "Contraception Deserts: Race, Class and Access to Contraception" with Rebecca Kreitzer. Gender and Political Psychology. Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.
- "Do All Black Lives Matter Equally to Black People?: The Effects of Linked Fate, Respectability Politics, and a Generational Rift on Mainstreaming Intersectional Politics" with Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "Fear, Institutionalized Racism, and Empathy: The Underlying Dimensions of Whites' Racial Attitudes" with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. (*Midwest Political Science Association's Best Paper by an Emerging Scholar Award*)
- "Reproducible and Replicable: An Empirical Assessment of the Social Construction of Politically Relevant Target Groups" with Rebecca Kreitzer. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. (*Midwest Political Science Association's Kenneth J. Meier Award for best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy*)
- "Ethnicity, Inequality, and Space: Comparing Socioeconomic Well Being Across Black Ethnic Groups and Location" with Jurée Capers. Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists. San Diego, CA.
- "The Influence of Black Lives Matter on Mainstreaming Intersectional Black Politics" with Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists. San Diego, CA.
- "Contraception Deserts: Assessing the Geography of Reproductive Healthcare and Family Planning Resource Accessibility in North Carolina" with Rebecca Kreitzer and Tracee Saunders. Gender & Political Psychology Conference, Tulane University.

- 2016 "Contraception Deserts: Race, Class and Access to Contraception" with Rebecca J. Kreitzer. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- "Beyond Ideology and Resentment: The Dimensions of Whites' Racial Attitudes" with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 "Countervailing Forces: Millennials' Attitudes about Race" with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 "New Attitudes or Old Measures?: Determining the Levels, Structure, and Role of Racial Attitudes among the Millennial Generation" with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "White Group Consciousness and Perceptions of Commonality with Racial Minorities." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2013 "We're not Racists. We Voted for Obama!": An Age-Cohort-Period Analysis of White Americans' Explanations of Black Disadvantage with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 "New Attitudes or Old Measures?: Determining the Levels, Structure, and Role of Racial Attitudes among the Millennial Generation" with Christopher DeSante. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "Straddling Identities: Identity Cross-Pressures on Black Immigrants' Policy Preferences" with Jureé Capers. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

## **INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- 2019 "Where's the Party in Social Theory?: Partisan Mappings of Politically Relevant Target Groups" with Rebecca Kreitzer. Texas A&M Ethics and Political Science; Indiana University American Politics Group
- 2018 "Black Flight: The Political Ramifications of Black Interstate and International Movement" James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference, Emory University
- "Equity Eyes & Social Justice: A Note on Intersectionality" Justice United, Chapel Hill
- "New Attitudes or Old Measures; Racial Resentment, Millennials, and American Politics." American Politics Research Group, UNC-CH Department of Political Science; Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Political Science

- 2017 “Black Mosaic: The Politics of Pan-Ethnic Diversity.” In-Class book discussion, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- COUNT: Stories from America’s Death Row. Playmakers Repertory Company. Panelist.
- “The Diversity Dilemma.” Just Spaces Conference, Keynote Speaker. Durham, NC.
- “New Attitudes or Old Measures; Racial Resentment, Millennials, and American Politics,” Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Political Science.
- 2016 “Countervailing Forces of True Racial Progress.” Plenary Speaker for the Annual Meeting of the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE). UNC-Chapel Hill.
- “The (Additional) Determinants of Pan-Ethnic Black Partisanship.” Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, Duke University.
- 2015 “Power, Politics, Policy, and Race.” Committee on Cultural Competency. Housing, Dining, and Residence Life. Duke University.
- “Black Mosaic: The Politics of Black Pan-Ethnic Diversity.” Writer’s Discussion Series, Stone Center for Black Culture and History, UNC-Chapel Hill
- “Countervailing Forces: Millennials’ Attitudes about Race and Racism.” Williams College Reunions Faculty Lecture; Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows, Duke University
- 2014 “Change and Continuity: Racial Attitudes Across Time and Across Generations” Bard College, Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement Speaker Series
- “New Attitudes or Old Measures?: Determining the Levels, Structure, and Role of Racial Attitudes among the Millennial Generation.” Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, Duke University
- “Are We There Yet?: Racial Attitudes in American Politics.” Smith College.
- 2013 “The Changing Dynamics of Black Youth Attitudes and Political Behavior.” Black Student Union, Williams College.
- 2012 “Who’s Black? Whose Black? Pan-Ethnic Identity and Diasporic Consciousness among African Americans and Black Immigrants.” Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC), Texas A&M University



## **GRADUATE STUDENTS & DISSERTATIONS**

2018-prst. Stefany Ramos, Public Policy, UNC-Chapel Hill, Committee Chair (3<sup>rd</sup> Year doctoral student)

Leah Christiani, Political Science, UNC-Chapel Hill, Committee Member  
“He Said What?! The Shifting Effectiveness and Acceptance of Negative, Explicit, Group-Based Appeals.” (Currently: Doctoral Candidate)

2017-2018 Jacob Smith, Political Science, UNC-Chapel Hill, Committee Member  
“Chamber Competitiveness, Political Polarization, and the Battle for Legislative Majority Control.” (Currently: Post-Doctoral Fellow, Duke University)

## **TEACHING**

### **PENN STATE UNIVERSITY**

PLSC/AFAM 497 Black Politics

PLSC/AFAM 497 Race, Politics, and Policy

### **UNC-CHAPEL HILL**

AAAD 50 FYS: Defining Blackness

AAAD 240 African American Politics

AAAD 333 Race and Public Policy

OMED 404 Racial Equity in Medicine (UNC School of Medicine)

PLCY 220 The Politics of Public Policy

PLCY 354 The Lived Experience of Inequality and Public Policy

## **GRANTS**

- University Research Council Professional Development Grant, UNC, 2017, \$7,500
- Interdisciplinary Course Development for “The Lived Experience of Inequality and Public Policy,” UNC, 2017, \$2,500
- IMB Junior Faculty Development Fellowship, UNC, Principal Investigator, 2017, \$7,500
- Hellman Fellow Grant, Principal Investigator, 2014, \$19,700 (declined)
- Glasscock Ad Hoc Faculty Stipendiary Fellowship, Principal Investigator, 2011, Texas A&M University, \$1,000
- Program for the Study of Democracy, Institutions, & Political Economy Grant, Principal Investigator, 2011, \$5,300
- Social Science Research Council Pre-doctoral Research Development Grant, Principal Investigator, 2010, \$3,000
- Social Science Research Council Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant 2009, Principal Investigator, \$1,500
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, Principal Investigator, 2008-2011, \$90,000

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

- Collaborative Multiracial Politics Study, 2020, Co-Director of the Black Immigrant Sample
- McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Penn State University

### CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

- Division Co-Chair, Racial and Ethnic Politics Section, American Political Science Association, 2017-2018
- Section Head, Racial and Ethnic Politics Section, Midwest Political Science Association, 2015-2016
- Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2010-2018

### EDITORIAL BOARDS

- *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 2019-present
- *Politics & Gender*, 2019-present
- *Politics, Groups and Identities*, 2017-present

### ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

- Committee on the Status of Blacks, American Political Science Association, 2018-present
- Executive Council Member and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Elections, Public Opinion and Voting Behavior (EPOVB) Section of the American Political Science Association, 2016-2018

### AWARD COMMITTEES

- Theodore J. Lowi *Policy Studies Journal* Best Article Award Committee, American Political Science Association. 2018-2019
- Best Paper on Political Behavior Committee, Midwest Political Science Association, 2018-2019
- Lucius Barker Award Committee 2014, Midwest Political Science Association
- Ted Robinson Award Committee Chair 2014, Southern Political Science Association

### MANUSCRIPT & BOOK REVIEWS

- Manuscript Reviewer for *American Politics Research*; *American Political Science Review*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Ethnic and Racial Studies*; *Journal of Black Studies*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Political Power and Social Theory*; *Policy Studies Journal*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Psychology*; *Political Opinion Quarterly*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Politics, Groups, and Identities*; *Presidential Studies Quarterly*; *Public Choice*; *Public Opinion Quarterly*; *Qualitative Sociology*; *Sociological Forum*; *Sociological Perspectives*; *Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences*; *Women, Politics and Policy*

- Book Reviewer for *American Review of Politics; Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Politics*
- Book Manuscript Reviewer for NYU Press, Rowman & Littlefield, Westview Press

**SERVICE TO NON-ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES**

- Cultural Advisory Board, City of Durham, 2018-2019

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- National Conference of Black Political Scientists
- Scholars Strategy Network