

JEFFREY AARON SNYDER

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Department of Educational Studies
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EMPLOYMENT

Carleton, Department of Educational Studies

Chair, Educational Studies	2019-2022
Director, Africana Studies Program	2018-2019
Associate Professor	2018-present
Assistant Professor	2012-2018

EDUCATION

New York University , Ph.D., History of Education	2011
Harvard University , Ed.M., Learning and Teaching	2004
Carleton , B.A., Psychology, <i>magna cum laude</i>	1997

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Making Black History: The Color Line, Culture and Race in the Age of Jim Crow (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Forthcoming: "Threats to Academic Freedom and Free Expression on College Campuses" (with Amna Khalid), *Journal of Law and Public Policy* (University of St. Thomas, 2024).

"Educational Gag Orders on U.S. Campuses: Lessons from the State of Florida" (with Amna Khalid), *Revista Artes de Educar* 10, no.2 (Rio de Janeiro State University, 2024): 574-591. Portuguese version available [here](#).

"The War Against 'Woke Indoctrination': How Anti-Critical Race Theory Bills Threaten Academic Freedom in the United States" (with Amna Khalid), *Revista Internacional de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales* 33 (University of Monterrey, Fall 2023): 149-161.

"Progressive Education in Black and White: Rereading Carter G. Woodson's *Miseducation of the Negro*," *History of Education Quarterly* 55, no.3 (August 2015): 273-293.

"Teaching Matters: Observations on Teacher Evaluations" (with W. David Hibler), *Schools: Studies in Education* 12, no.1 (Spring 2015): 33-47.

Amicus Brief

Brief co-authored with Amna Khalid in support of plaintiffs contesting Florida's Stop WOKE Act, *Pernell, et al. v. Lamb, et al. & Novoa, et al. v. Diaz, et al.*, cases no. 22-13992 & 22-13994, submitted to United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, June 2023.

Essays and Commentaries

"Trump's Anti-DEI Directives Trample on Freedom," *Chronicle Review*, March 5, 2025.

"Stop Treating Students Like Babies. They are citizens in a democracy, not infants in a nursery" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, November 8, 2024.

"Campus Protests Don't Undermine the College Mission" (with Amna Khalid), *Education Next*, June 21, 2024.

"Student Activism Is Integral to the Mission of Academe" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, April 2, 2024.

"Colleges Are Cracking Down on Free Speech in the Name of 'Inclusion'" (with Amna Khalid), *The Daily Beast*, February 17, 2024.

"Why We Wrote an Amicus Brief to Contest the Stop WOKE Act" (with Amna Khalid), *Washington Monthly*, July 12, 2023.

"Conservative Attacks on Higher Ed Are Attacks on Democracy" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, April 13, 2023.

"DEI Goals Are Worthy. Campus DEI Bureaucracies Fail Them" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, March 15, 2023.

"The Point of Education Is Not to Reduce Harm" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, February 23, 2023.

"Dark Times for Academic Freedom in the Sunshine State" (with Amna Khalid), *Persuasion*, February 10, 2023.

"Yes, DEI Can Erode Academic Freedom" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, February 6, 2023.

"Is Academic Freedom a Human Right?", *Chronicle Review*, January 11, 2023.

"Education and Indoctrination," *The Point*, September 1, 2022.

"The Truth and Nothing but the Truth?" (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, February 25, 2022.

"When DEI Measures Crush Free Speech," *Chronicle Review*, February 22, 2022.

“The Purpose of a University Isn’t Truth. It’s Inquiry” (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, February 10, 2022.

“Conservatives are the new ‘discomfort’ police,” *Star Tribune*, January 31, 2022.

“Why Americans Don’t Know Enough About Black History,” *Washington Monthly*, December 10, 2021.

“Political Litmus Tests Are Bad for Higher Education,” *Chronicle Review*, November 8, 2021.

“The Data Is In—Trigger Warnings Don’t Work” (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, September 15, 2021.

“How to Fix Diversity and Equity: Ritualized regimes of political expression must be rejected” (with Amna Khalid), *Chronicle Review*, May 27, 2021.

“Does the Term ‘Latinx’ Advance Social Justice?” (with Amna Khalid) *Washington Monthly*, May 1, 2021.

“Don’t Mistake Training for Education” (with Amna Khalid), *Inside Higher Ed*, April 29, 2021.

“Why Ibram Kendi’s Antiracism is So Flawed,” Heterodox Academy blog, February 23, 2021.

“Poverty of the Imagination: #DisruptTexts and the problem with teaching literature for social justice” (with Amna Khalid), *Arc Digital*, January 12, 2021.

“Can I Get a Witness? Until recently, Black testimony about racism had to be validated by whites. That’s changing,” *Public Seminar*, November 19, 2020. Reprinted in Thomas J. Sugrue and Caitlin Zaloom (eds.), *The Long Year: A 2020 Reader* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2022).

“Is This Thing On? Classroom Recordings, ‘Reasonable Accommodations’ and Academic Freedom” (with Amna Khalid), *Inside Higher Ed*, October 14, 2020.

“Why diversity training on campus is likely to disappoint” (with Amna Khalid), *The Conversation*, August 5, 2020.

“Sure, Get Rid of College Admissions Tests but Not Because They’re Biased,” *Inside Higher Ed*, July 7, 2020.

“Higher Education in the Age of Coronavirus,” *Boston Review*, April 30, 2020.

“Activists want a San Francisco high school mural removed, saying its impact today should overshadow the artist’s intentions” (with Amna Khalid), *The Conversation*, May 10, 2019. Syndicated on CNN.com, June 10, 2019.

“Not a False Alarm” (with Amna Khalid), *Inside Higher Ed*, January 23, 2019.

“Not A Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy: Why Left-Leaning Faculty Should Care About Threats to Free Expression on Campus” (with Amna Khalid), 2018 FIRE Faculty Conference Papers.

“White nationalists have tried to weaponize free speech. Here’s why it’s still worth defending,” *Washington Post*, November 16, 2018.

“The Staying Power of Black History Month,” *American Prospect*, February 8, 2018.

“Fear of Contagion and the Rage to Censor,” invited essay for special issue of *Salmagundi* Magazine on campus politics, Winter-Spring 2018: 112-123.

“Free Speech? Now, That’s Offensive!”, *Inside Higher Ed*, September 1, 2016.

“What is Education For?”, invited contribution for *Boston Review* forum, May/June 2016.

“The Rise of ‘Bias Response Teams’ on Campus” (with Amna Khalid), *New Republic*, May 30, 2016.

“Social Justice is Not the Most Compelling Reason to Teach Race,” *Education Week*, December 2, 2015.

“Teaching Kids ‘Grit’ is All the Rage: Here’s What’s Wrong With It,” *New Republic*, May 6, 2014.

“The King Memorial Fails to Capture the Spirit of the Man and the Movement,” *History News Network*, October 20, 2011.

“The Paradox of Race: Lessons from the Smithsonian,” *Teachers College Record*, October 7, 2011.

Essay Book Reviews

“What Are the Limits of Academic Freedom?” Review of *It’s Not Free Speech: Race, Democracy and the Future of Academic Freedom* by Michael Bérubé and Jennifer Ruth, *Chronicle Review*, May 5, 2022.

“Fight Misinformation with Education, Not Censorship.” Review of *Free Speech: A History from Socrates to Social Media* by Jacob Mchangama, *Washington Monthly*, February 18, 2022.

“Petty Antiracism.” Review of *Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm* by Robin DiAngelo, *Arc Digital*, July 9, 2021.

“We Don’t Need No Education?” Review of *The Case Against Education: Why the Education System is a Waste of Time and Money* by Bryan Caplan, *Boston Review*, May 11, 2018.

“America Will Never Move Beyond the Culture Wars.” Review of *A War for the Soul of America: A History of the Culture Wars* by Andrew Hartman, *New Republic*, April 23, 2015.

“What Sat Critics Miss.” Review of *The Tyranny of the Meritocracy: Democratizing Higher Education in America* by Lani Guinier, *Boston Review*, January 13, 2015.

“Charting a New Life Course—to College.” Review of *Hold Fast to Dreams: A College Guidance Counselor, His Students and the Vision of a Life Beyond Poverty* by Beth Zasloff and Joshua Steckel, *Chronicle Review* 60, no. 28 (March 28, 2014), B15.

“Why Public Schools Outperform Private Schools.” Review of *The Public School Advantage: Why Public Schools Outperform Private Schools* by Christopher and Sarah Lubienski, *Boston Review*, December 5, 2013.

Review of *The Eve of Destruction: How 1965 Transformed America* by James Patterson, *History News Network*, May 8, 2013.

“Fifty Years Later: Letter from Birmingham Jail.” Review of *Gospel of Freedom: Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Letter from Birmingham Jail and the Struggle That Changed a Nation* by Jonathan Rieder, *New Republic*, April 19, 2013.

Book Reviews (Scholarly Journals)

Review of *The Color of Mind: Why the Origins of the Achievement Gap Matter for Justice* by Derrick Darby and John L. Rury, *Teachers College Record*, September 21, 2018.

Review of *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture (Vol. 17): Education* by Clarence L. Mohr (ed.), *Louisiana History Journal* 55, no.1 (Winter 2014): 123-25.

Review of *Back to School: Why Everyone Deserves a Second Chance at Education* by Mike Rose, *Education Review*, April 15, 2013.

Review of *A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth-Century America* by Stephen G. Hall, *Afro-Americans in New York Life and History* 37, no.1 (January 2013): 179-81.

Review of *Critical Rhetorics of Race* by Michael Lacy and Kent Ono (eds.), *Teachers College Record*, January 10, 2012.

Review of *Open Wound: The Long View of Race in America* by William McKee Evans, *Callaloo* 34, no.1 (Winter 2011): 214-16.

Review of *In Search of the Talented Tenth: Howard University Public Intellectuals and the Dilemmas of Race, 1926-1970* by Zachery R. Williams, *Journal of American Studies* 44, no.3 (2010): E57.

Review of *Desegregating Private Higher Education in the South: Duke, Emory, Rice, Tulane and Vanderbilt* by Melissa Kean, *History of Education Quarterly* 50, no.3 (August 2010): 406-8.

Review of *The Cost of Unity: African-American Agency and Education in the Christian Church, 1865-1914* by Lawrence A.Q. Burnley, *Journal of African American History* 95, no.1 (Winter 2010): 106-8.

Review of *American Education: A History* by Wayne J. Urban and Jennings L. Wagoner, Jr., *Education Review*, September 9, 2009.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS and INVITED TALKS

“Speak Up! Why Free Expression is Essential for Diversity, Democracy and Education” (with Amna Khalid), Annual Preston Lecture, The Hotchkiss School, April 2025.

“Academic Freedom in Historical Perspective,” panelist, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2025.

“Speak Up or Shut Up? A Conversation about the State of Campus Free Expression Today,” invited speaker, Princeton University, November 2024.

“Free Speech on Campus: Is the Juice Worth the Squeeze?” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, University of Denver, October 2024.

“Free Expression and Academic Freedom Under Fire: Campus Censorship from the War on ‘Woke Indoctrination’ to the War in Gaza” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, sponsored by the Carleton AAUP chapter, Carleton, April 2024.

“The Protections of Academic Freedom” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, A Conversation about Academic Freedom, Mitchell Hamline School of Law, April 2024.

“Free Speech for Me, But Not for Thee: Campus Censorship from the ‘Stop WOKE Act’ to Israel-Palestine” (with Amna Khalid), Hugo L. Black Lecture on Freedom of Expression, Wesleyan University, March 2024.

“First, Do No Harm? Campus Free Speech in the Age of ‘Inclusion and ‘Belonging’” (with Amna Khalid), President’s Speakers Series, Medical College of Wisconsin, March 2024.

“Diversity Hiring Statements,” invited panelist and conference participant, Restoring Inclusive Critical Discourse on Campus, Stanford Law School, March 2024.

“Free Speech Under Fire: Campus Controversies from the War on ‘Woke Indoctrination’ to the War in Gaza” (with Amna Khalid), Annual American Ideals Lecture, North Carolina State University, February 2024.

“Teaching as a Crime: Anti-Woke Legislation and What It Means for Teaching Race in Florida Colleges and Universities and the Rest of the Nation,” panelist, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2024.

“Threats to Academic Freedom and Free Expression on College Campuses” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, St. Thomas Journal of Law & Public Policy Fall Symposium (Free Speech and the U.S. Constitution), November 2023.

“Trigger warnings and intergenerational concerns surrounding academic freedom,” panelist, National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, October 2023.

“Parental Rights and Book Banning,” invited panelist, Free Speech at the Crossroads: A Minnesota Dialogue, Hamline University, September 2023.

“Teaching Civil Discourse in the College Classroom,” invited faculty seminar participant, Duke University, August 2023.

“The Promise of Diversity and the Problem with DEI, Inc.: Why a Corporate Approach to Campus DEI Issues is So Misguided” (with Amna Khalid), opening plenary address, Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference, Boston, August 2023.

“Identity Politics, Cancel Culture and Free Speech,” invited panelist, Free Speech and the Left Conference, Plebity Foundation, June 2023.

“Viewpoint Diversity on Campus in Censorious Times” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, Alumni Free Speech Alliance, June 2023.

“DEI, Inc.?” invited panelist, University of California, Riverside, May 2023.

“Solutions on Campus,” invited panelist and conference participant, Freedom, Controversy and Respect on Campus: Advancing Liberal Arts in Contested Times, College of the Holy Cross, April 2023.

“Defending the freedoms of learning and teaching in the Americas,” invited panelist, State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, April 2023.

“Teaching at Carleton during the New Culture Wars: Triggers, Cancel Culture and Academic Freedom,” co-organizer and panelist, Carleton, April 2023.

“Are Attacks on Academic Freedom a Threat to Democracy?” invited panelist, #SpeechMatters Conference, University of California National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement, March 2023.

“Dark Times for Academic Freedom in the Sunshine State: Ron DeSantis's War against 'Woke Indoctrination' in Higher Ed” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, UC Berkeley, March 2023.

“Anti-Critical Race Theory Bills: The New Threat to Academic Freedom in the United States,” First Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas, University of Monterrey, Mexico, November 2022.

“Antiracism and Free Expression” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, Counterweight Conference on Liberal Approaches to Diversity and Inclusion, September 2022.

“Academic Freedom and Why It Matters” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, North Dakota State University, March 2022.

“Free Speech and Why It Matters” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, North Dakota State University, February 2022.

“Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Work and Antisemitism on US Campuses,” invited panelist, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, University of Minnesota, November 2021.

“Antiracism and Free Expression” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, Ursinus College, November 2021.

“Fostering Inclusion and Free Inquiry,” invited panelist, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, October 2021.

“Beyond the Search for Truth: Why Critical Inquiry Will Win More Hearts and Minds for the Academic Freedom Cause” (with Amna Khalid), FIRE Faculty Conference, October 2021.

“Covid and the Future of Higher Education,” panelist, Carleton, September 2021.

“Op-Ed Writing for Public Audiences,” Heterodox Academy workshop, March 2021.

“Viewpoint Diversity and Student Call-Out Culture” (with Amna Khalid), roundtable discussion, Heterodox Academy Annual Conference, New York, June 2019.

“Campus Censorship and the Decline of the Liberal Arts” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, Twin Cities Carleton Club, Minneapolis, March 2019.

“Not A Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy: Why Left-Leaning Faculty Should Care About Threats to Free Expression on Campus” (with Amna Khalid), FIRE Faculty Conference, Chicago, October 2018.

“Trigger Warnings, Safe Spaces and Shout-Downs: The Dumbing Down of Higher Education” (with Amna Khalid), keynote address, Minnesota Conference of the American Association of University Professors Winter Forum, St. Catherine University, February 2018.

“Reverse the Stage: Black History Month in the Past and the Present,” Angelina Weld Grimké Lecture, Carleton, February 2018.

“Threats to Free Expression on Campus Undermine Teaching and Learning,” keynote address, Campus Free Speech Forum, North Dakota State University, December 2017.

“What’s Wrong with Bias Response Teams? Free Expression, Higher Education and the Diversity Paradox” (with Amna Khalid), American Association of University Professors Annual Conference, Washington, DC, June 2017.

“Why Academic Freedom Matters in the Classroom” (with Amna Khalid), invited talk, Augsburg, November 2016.

“Teaching Race and the Color Line in U.S. History: Lessons from Yesterday’s Association for Today’s Schools,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, Atlanta, September 2015.

“From Piety to Grit: A Brief History of Character Education from Common Schools to Charter Schools,” American Educational Research Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, April 2014.

“Re-reading Carter G. Woodson’s *Miseducation of the Negro*: Progressive Education Beyond the Color Line,” History of Education Society Annual Convention, Seattle, November 2012.

“The New Negro Goes to School: Black History and the Harlem Renaissance,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, Raleigh, September 2010.

“The New Negro Goes to School: Black History and the Harlem Renaissance,” Organization of American Historians Annual Convention, Washington, DC, April 2010.

“The Dilemmas of Segregation: African American Scholars Debate Black Education During the New Deal,” History of Education Society Annual Convention, Philadelphia, October 2009.

“Color, the Unfinished Business of Democracy: Howard University Scholars on Black History, Race and Citizenship, 1942-1954,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, Cincinnati, October 2009.

BANISHED

Banished is a podcast and accompanying blog that explores higher education, free expression and the culture wars. Episodes and blog posts, all done in collaboration with Banished’s creator and primary host, Amna Khalid:

[“Supercharged since October 7.”](#) podcast episode, February 17, 2025.

Ken Stern, Director of the Bard Center for the Study of Hate, discusses antisemitism and campus conflicts over Israel/Palestine.

[“Who Speaks the Language of Social Justice?”](#), podcast episode, February 8, 2025.

Sociologist Musa al-Gharbi on his new book, We Have Never Been Woke: The Cultural Contradictions of a New Elite. Episode 2 of 2.

[“You Can’t Be an Egalitarian Social Climber.”](#) podcast episode, February 1, 2025.

Sociologist Musa al-Gharbi on his new book, We Have Never Been Woke: The Cultural Contradictions of a New Elite. Episode 1 of 2.

[“Trouble Ahead.”](#) podcast episode, January 21, 2025.

PEN America’s Jeremy Young on What Trump 2.0 Portends for Higher Education.

[“On the mission of higher education, Trump’s election and today’s most pressing threats to campus free expression.”](#) podcast episode, December 20, 2024.

What is the state of campus intellectual freedom in this moment of extraordinary political polarization?

[“Carleton College’s New Statement on Academic Freedom.”](#) blog post, September 3, 2024.

As colleges and universities revise their academic freedom policies, here is what we like about ours.

[“Diversity Is Great, DEI, Inc. Isn’t.”](#) podcast episode, March 31, 2024.

On what’s wrong with conventional campus DEI initiatives.

[“DEI, Inc. is a Snake Eating its Own Tail.”](#) blog post, March 14, 2024.

A Chief Diversity Officer at Johns Hopkins Medicine apologizes for sending an email about “privilege” because it was “exclusionary” and “hurtful.”

[“Diversity Statements Are Not the Answer to Diversify Faculty Ranks.”](#) blog post, March 11, 2024.

Reflections from a Stanford Law School conference on “Inclusive Critical Discourse on Campus.”

["The Sunshine State Descends into Darkness \(Again\)."](#) podcast episode, January 23, 2023.

On Florida's all-out assault on academic freedom in higher education.

["Will Florida's "Stop WOKE Act" Hold Up in Court?"](#), podcast episode, November 1, 2022.

On the status of Ron DeSantis' marquee culture wars legislation targeting higher education.

["Cancel Culture."](#) blog post, July 24, 2022.

It's real and on the rise, on the right and left.

["Should More Colleges Drop the ACT and SAT?"](#), podcast episode, December 22, 2021.

On the growing test-optional movement in college admissions.

["Diversity, Equity and Inclusion on Campus."](#) animated explainer video, December 1, 2021.

Why training is no substitute for education when it comes to campus DEI initiatives.

["Why We Don't Use Trigger Warnings."](#) animated explainer video, October 2, 2021.

What the social science research says about trigger warnings.

TEACHING

Carleton

2012-present

Will This Be on the Test? Standardized Testing and American Education

Introduction to Educational Studies

The Future is Now: Education and Technology in the 21st Century

History of American School Reform

Fixing Schools: Politics and Policy in American Education

Culture Wars in the Classroom

ESOL TEACHING

Beijing, China

2004

Boston, Massachusetts

2001-2003

Dharamsala, India

2001

Montpellier, France

1999-2000

Prague, Czech Republic

1997-1999

Pokhara, Nepal

1995

AWARDS, GRANTS and FELLOWSHIPS

Hewlett Mellon Fellowship, Carleton

2023 & 2016

University of California National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement Fellowship

2022-2023

Mellon Public Works Grant, Carleton

2019

Broom Public Scholarship Project Grant, Carleton

2017

Curriculum Development Fund Grant, Carleton

2015 & 2013

Humanities Center Student Research Assistant Grant, Carleton

2012

Carter G. Woodson Fellowship,

2009-2010

Emory University Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library

Dean's Grant for Student Research, New York University

2009-2010

Founders Fellowship, New York University

2007-2010

Dean's Fellowship Award, Harvard University

2004-2005

National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy Fellowship

2004-2005

SERVICE

Carleton

Academic Freedom Task Force

2023

Faculty Personnel Committee

2020-2023

Off Campus Studies Committee

2017-2020

Junior Faculty Affairs Committee

2014-2016