

Dr. Thompson, African American Studies Visiting Scholar

Dr. Courtney L. Thompson is an interdisciplinary scholar whose work focuses on political discourse in Black women's writings. In 2011, she earned her PhD in American Studies with an area of concentration in literature from Purdue University. In her dissertation titled "Capturing Democracy: Black Women Activists and the Struggle for Equal Rights, 1920s-1970s," she investigates the relationship between Black women's activism and democratic reform in the U.S. This study represents the core of her book manuscript, tentatively titled *In Pursuit of All Things Equal*, and reflects her broader research interests in the African American literary tradition, American political discourse, progressive movements, and Black feminist theory. In addition to presenting her work nationally and internationally, Dr. Thompson has given invited lectures and shared her work in the community. She has taught courses on the African diaspora, Black women's activism, Black women writers, and Black autobiography in the U.S. During her appointment, she will prepare her manuscript for publication and offer an undergraduate course on Black women's contemporary activism.