

# ALANAH MORTLOCK

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The London School of Economics and Political Science  
Department of Gender Studies, London, WC2A 2AE, UK

[a.mortlock@lse.ac.uk](mailto:a.mortlock@lse.ac.uk)

## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Gender** 2019 – current

Department of Gender Studies, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)

- Thesis: *Ambiguities in Black: A Black feminist analysis of the post-Dolezal transracialism debates*
- Supervisors: Dr Sadie Wearing (2019-2023), Dr SM Rodriguez (2021-2023), and Dr Leticia Sabsay (2019-2012)
- Funder: ESRC & LSE DTP

**UK Higher Education Academy Associate Fellowship (PoTHE)** 2022

**MSc, Gender** 2016 – 2017

Gender Institute, LSE

- Dissertation: *In defence of not defending “Transracialism:” A Black feminist reading of Tuvel* (2017).
- Graduated with Distinction

**BSc (Hons), Psychology** 2012 – 2015

Department of Psychology, University of Warwick

- Dissertation: *“Why I need...” thoughts on feminism: does internet activism affect changing perceptions of gender discrimination?*
- Graduated with First Class (1) honours.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Black feminisms • Gender theory • Feminist epistemologies • Theorisations of Blackness • Mixed-raceness and racial ambiguity • Trans theory • Theories and critiques of identity • Black philosophies

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal Articles (peer reviewed)

Higson-Sweeney, N., Mortlock, A., & Neville, F. (2022). A tale of two hats: Transforming from the researched to the researcher, *The Open Review*, 7.  
<http://doi.org/10.47967/TOR2022TRANS.VOL7.08>

### Book Reviews

Mortlock, A. (2022). Review of the book *Black Trans Feminism*, by M. Bey. *European Journal of Women’s Studies* (Online first). <https://doi.org/10.1177/13505068221121440>

### Forthcoming

Mortlock, A. Studying whilst Black: Reflections on researching Blackness in white space. Book chapter: Black Scholarship Collective, *Strength, Courage and Wisdom: The Journey and Experiences of Black PhD Students in UK Academia*. (Bristol University Policy Press, expected 2024).

Mortlock, A. Trauma, rage, and the grounds in-between: Black feminist engagements with “transracialism” and Black metaphysics (Submitted).

Mortlock, A. Getting outside, together: The “becoming-Black-woman” and escapes from heteronormativity in *Precious*. (Planned for submission to *Feminist Review*, Summer 2023).

### **Blog posts**

“For bell hooks.” Invited contributor, *Media Diversified*, 16 December 2021.

“Why white women crying is still racist: The work of trauma narratives in self-stories of transracialism.” *Engenderings LSE Blog*, 9 December 2020.

### **Editorial**

**Engenderings, LSE Blog** Editorial collective member, Editor, and Web editor (2019-current). “Location: Interrupted” special series (Co-organiser, ongoing).

Selected edited pieces:

“An exercise in looking” by Anna Blus, *Engenderings LSE Blog*, 12 April 2023.

“Clubbing without the club” by Nina Bo Wagner, *Engenderings LSE Blog*, 13 July 2022.

“Re-centring white victimhood in the age of Black Lives Matter: a ‘gender critical’ project?” by Ilaria Michelis, *Engenderings LSE Blog*, 12 January 2022.

“Dismantling Prisons: Abolitionist Feminism, Women, Incarceration and #MeToo” by Philippa Greer, *LSE Engenderings Blog*, 15 February 2021.

“Straddling the line between gender and sex: How racism, misogyny, and transphobia intertwine to define notions of womanhood in the world of elite sports” by Astha Madan Grover, *Engenderings LSE Blog*, 7 December 2020.

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant, LSE</b>	2021-2022
Department of Gender Studies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Course: Gender theories in a modern world: A interdisciplinary perspective</li><li>- Designed and delivered 16 seminars</li><li>- Marked formative assessment</li></ul>	
<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant, King’s College London</b>	2022
School of Education, Communication, and Society, BA Social Sciences	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Course: Power, Inequalities and Social Change</li><li>- Designed and delivered 15 seminars</li><li>- Marked summative assessment</li></ul>	
<b>Student Research Project Supervisor, LSE</b>	2021
Interdisciplinary Student Research Conference, <i>Knowledge Beyond Boundaries</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Supervised 8 student research conference papers</li></ul>	
<b>Digital Graduate Teaching Assistant, LSE</b>	2020-2021
Department of Gender Studies, Gender and Sexuality programme	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Facilitated student study groups</li><li>- Organised and delivered student assessment support workshops</li><li>- Moodle editor</li></ul>	

## CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

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### Conference presentations

- **British Association for American Studies Conference 2023** “Black Feminism(s): Past, Present and Future” panel participant, Keele, UK, 14/04/2023.
- **11<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference 2022**, “Fear of our anger will teach us nothing: Storytelling as a Black feminist methodological intervention,” Milan, Italy, 15/06/2022.
- **Postgraduate Spring Symposium, Centre for Gender Studies, The University of Winchester**, “Ambiguities in Black: A Black feminist analysis of the post-Dolezalian transracialism debates,” online conference, 04/04/2022.
- **Feminist Gender Equality Network Conference**, “Trans for who, Black for who? The coalescence of anti-trans and anti-Black rhetoric in the transracialism debates,” London, UK, 02/04/2022.

### Conferences and Events – Organiser

- **British Association for American Studies** panel at BAAS Conference 2024, (Panel co-organiser).
- **British Association for American Studies** “Black Feminism(s): Past, Present and Future” panel at BAAS Conference 2023, 14/04/2023 (Panel co-organiser).
- **PhD Academy & Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Research/er/ed: Navigating, disrupting, and exploring liminal spaces between researcher and researched,” 03/10/2022 (Workshop co-organiser).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Death Worldings: The LSE Gender Annual Conference,” online conference, 10/06/2022. (Conference co-organiser).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Doing Gender: A Conversation with LSE Gender PhD students on the pains and pleasures of studying Gender” panel presentation, online, 06/10/2021 (Co-convenor).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Doing a PhD in Gender Studies,” online public event, 03/03/2021 (Co-convenor).

### Seminars and Events - participant

- **Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies, Duke University** “16<sup>th</sup> Annual Feminist Theory Workshop,” participant, 24-25/03/2023.
- **PhD Academy & Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Welcome and Opening Remarks” at “Research/er/ed: Navigating, disrupting, and exploring liminal spaces between researcher and researched,” online workshop, 03/10/2022.
- **Centre for Black Studies, University of Nottingham** “Storytelling as advocacy” workshop participant, 05/07/2022.
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Closing Roundtable” panel participant at “Death Worldings: The LSE gender annual conference,” online conference, 10/06/2022.
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Ambiguities in Black: A Black feminist analysis of the post-Dolezalian transracialism debates,” presenter at “Third Year Panels,” online event, 11/05/2022.
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Becoming Part of the LSE Gender” seminar series panel participant, 22/09/2021.
- **Womxn’s Network, School of Public Policy’s, LSE** “Gender Research” invited speaker, 25/03/2021 (cancelled due to COVID-19).

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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- **PhD Academy & Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Recursivity, Reflexivity, and Social Change” keynote by Dr Audrey Alejandro at “Research/er/ed: Navigating, disrupting, and exploring liminal spaces between researcher and researched,” 03/10/2022 (Chair).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Doing Gender: A Conversation with LSE Gender PhD students on the pains and pleasures of studying Gender” panel presentation, online, 06/10/2021 (Panellist).
- **Department of Gender Studies & Middle East Centre, LSE** “Weaving Resistive Imaginaries” panel at “A World in Revolution,” online conference, 30/06/2021 (Chair).
- **LSE100, LSE** “Interrogating intersections: gender and sexuality in global context” panel at “Knowledge beyond boundaries: An interdisciplinary student research conference,” online conference, 17/06/2021 (Chair).
- **LSE100, LSE** “Political perceptions: analysing discourse in an era of social change” panel at “Knowledge beyond boundaries: An interdisciplinary student research conference,” online conference, 17/06/2021 (Chair).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** “Doing a PhD in Gender Studies,” online public event, 03/03/2021 (Panellist).
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE** Department SSLC PhD student representative, 2019-2020.

## AWARDS AND RESEARCH GRANTS

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- **British Association for American Studies, Targeted Research Panel Funding**, £5,000/annum, 2023-2024. Awarded to organising committee to support panels at consecutive conferences on theme “Black feminist futures”.
- **Duke University, Travel Award**, USD\$1,200. March 2023. Awarded individually to support participation in the 16th Annual Feminist Theory Workshop.
- **ESRC & LSE DTP, PhD studentship**, £18,000/annum, 2019-2023.
- **Department of Gender Studies, LSE**, Highest dissertation grade (80), MSc Gender (2016-2017).

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

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- **Future Black Doctor** “Doing a PhD in Gender Studies with Alanah Mortlock” (podcast), 24/05/2021.
- **Metro** “The destructive power of white women’s tears” by Leona Awoyele, 28/01/2021 (interviewed as expert voice).

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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- **UKHEA Principles of Teaching in Higher Education: Assistant Fellowship programme** (2021-2022).
- **LSE Eden Centre** “PGCert Module 1: Teaching in Our Discipline” (2021-2022).
- **LSE Eden Centre** “Planning and designing your teaching” and “Feedback and assessment” workshops, (October, 2021).
- **LSE Methodology Department** “Discourse Analysis” (elective module, 2020)

## **SKILLS AND LANGUAGES**

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**Languages:** English (Native); Japanese (Intermediate); French (Conversational); Cantonese (Beginner, spoken only)

**Technical:** Moodle, Wordpress, MS Office

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/ MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Feminist Gender Equality Network
- Black Women Studies Association
- African-Caribbean Research Collective

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected)**

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<b>Researcher,</b> Saxton Bampfylde, UK	2017 – 2019
<b>English Instructor,</b> Nova English Conversation School, Japan	2016
<b>Publishing Assistant,</b> Chambers & Partners, UK	2015 – 2016

## **REFERENCES**

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Dr Sadie Wearing – PhD Supervisor  
Dr SM Rodriguez – PhD Advisor  
Dr Leticia Sabsay – former PhD Advisor