CURRICULUM VITAE

MIA KARISA DAWSON
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	2023	University of California, Davis, Geography, Designated Emphasis in African American Studies
M.A.	2018	University of California, Davis, Geography
B.A.	2015	Oberlin College, Biology, Minor in Geology

Experience in Higher Education

2026-present	University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems
2024-2026	University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems
2025-2026	University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Instructor, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems
2023-2024	University of California, Los Angeles, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of History
2021-2023	University of California, Davis, Graduate Student Researcher, School of Public Health
2021	University of California, Davis, Teaching Assistant, Department of American Studies
2018-2019	University of California, Davis, Graduate Student Researcher, Center for Regional Change
2017-2018	University of California, Davis, Instructor, McNair Scholars Program
2017	University of California, Davis, Teaching Assistant, Department of African American and African Studies
2017	University of California, Davis, Graduate Student Researcher, Center for Regional Change
2016-2017	University of California, Davis, Teaching Assistant, Department of Community and Regional Development

Experience in Other than Higher Education

2021	Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation, Consultant, Race and Equity in the Environment Series

Research Support and Fellowships

2024-2026	Postdoctoral Fellowship for Faculty Development, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

2024	Travel and Lodging, American Association of Geographers and University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Convening of Care, Attendee and publication contributor
2023-2024	Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles
2022-2023	Graduate Student Dissertation Support Grant, Humanities Research Institute, University of California, Davis
2022	Travel and lodging, Residential Dissertation Workshop, Visualizing Abolition Initiative, University of California, Stanta Cruz, Attendee
2021	Graduate Student Research Award, HATCH: A Feminist Arts & Science Shop
2021	Graduate Student Affinity Group Research Award, American Association of Geographers, Conference attendee
2021	Graduate Winter Research Fellowship, Mellon Research Initiative on Racial Capitalism, University of California, Davis
2020	Graduate Summer Research Grant, Women's Resources and Research Center
2020	Graduate Student of Color Research Award, Student Recruitment and Retention Center, University of California, Davis
2019-2020	Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, Graduate Studies, University of California, Davis
2019	Feminist Futures: Collaborative Fellows Grant, Feminist Research Institute, University of California, Davis, Collaborator
2019	Mellon Public Scholars Summer Research Fellowship, Humanities Institute, University of California, Davis, Collaborator
2019	Community Geography Fellowship, Community Mapping Lab, University of Georgia, Workshop attendee
2018	Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Mellon Research Initiative on Racial Capitalism, University of California, Davis
2017	Environmental Leadership Fellowship, Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation
2017	Pruitt Minority Fellowship, Society for Women Geographers
2017	Henry A. Jastro Research Award, University of California, Davis

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Works

Articles

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." 2026. Political Geography, 131. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2026.103634

"Community violence intervention and prevention strategies: Mitigating variations in school and neighborhood violence." 2024. A. Ivey, **M. Dawson**, S. Buggs. Theory, Research, and Action in Urban Education, 9(1).

"Relationships, resources, and political empowerment: community violence intervention strategies that contest the logics of policing and incarceration." 2023. **M. Dawson**, A. Ivey, S. Buggs. Frontiers in Public Health. DOI: 10.3389/fpubh.2023.1143516

"The Kings ain't playin' no one tonight: Desanctifying property as an abolitionist practice in Sacramento." 2022. Environment and Planning D: Society and Space, 20(2): 319-331.

"Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities, Informality and the Struggle for Water Justice." 2021. J. London, A. Fencl, S. Watterson, J. Jarin, P. Seaton, **M. Dawson**, Y. Choueiri, C. Balazs, A. King, A. Aranda, P. Nguyen C. Pannu, L. Firestone, C. Baily. Water Alternatives, 14(2): 520-545.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Works

Reviews

"The legacy of Black Power, the future of abolition, and the urban land question in *the City after Property.*" 2024. Urban Geography, 45(5), 907-911. (Review of "The city after property: Abandonment and repair in postindustrial Detroit" by Sara Safransky).

Reports

"Centering Care in the Academic Research Enterprise: Reflections and a Call to Action from the Inaugural Convening of Care." 2024. Contributor. DOI: 10.14433/2017.0169

"Implementation and Operational Needs and Challenges of Outreach-Based Community Violence Intervention Programs." 2022. S. Buggs, **M. Dawson**, A. Ivey. New York: Local Initiatives Support Corporation.

"Community Engagement in AB 617: An Evaluation of Challenges, Successes, Lessons Learned, and Recommendations for the Future." 2020. J. London, P. Nguyen, **M. Dawson**, K. Manrique. Davis, CA: UC Davis Center for Regional Change.

"The Struggle for Water Justice in California's San Joaquin Valley: A Focus on Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities." 2018. J. London, A. Fencl, S. Watterson, J. Jarin, A. Aranda, A. King, C. Pannu, P. Seaton, L. Firestone, **M. Dawson**, P. Nguyen. Davis, CA: UC Davis Center for Regional Change.

Presentations

Accepted for Presentation

"The Black commune: co-operation, autonomy, and abolitionist possibilities for housing futures." Housing and the carceral state paper session. American Association of Geographers Meeting, New York, NY. February 2027.

Conference/Poster Presentations (Non-Juried/Refereed)

"'The Decolonization of the Black Race': Nathan Hare, Black Studies, and Radical Ecologies." Roundtable discussion. American Association of Geographers Meeting, San Francisco, CA. March 2026.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Carceral Geographies in the United States: Past, Present, and Future paper session. American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, CA. March 2026.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Geographies of Property: Housing Continuums paper session, American Association of Geographers Meeting, Detroit, MI. March 2025.

"Abolition and the discipline of care and labor in Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." American Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, MD. October 2024.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Narratives of Crisis, Crisis of Narratives paper session, American Association of Geographers Meeting, virtual. March 2024.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Washington, D.C. October 2023.

"Notes on abolition geography as method: the everyday life of social movements and the politics of scale." Scale Matters paper session, American Association of Geographers Meeting, Denver, CO. March 2023.

"The Kings ain't playin' no one tonight: Desanctifying property as an abolitionist practice in Sacramento." Activism and Feminist Geography paper session, Feminist Geographies Conference, virtual. June 2022.

"Jumping fences: Black life, the terms of order, and abolitionist futurities." Desirable Futures paper session, American Association of Geographers Meeting, April 2021. Virtual.

"Abolition Geography and Urban Architectures." Planners of Color Interest Group Roundtable, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Clemson University, Greenville, SC. October 2019.

"Crisis and Liberation through Time and Space." Critical Geographies Conference, University of Oregon, Eugene. October 2019.

"The Kings ain't playin' no one tonight: Black Lives Matter Sacramento's abolition work and the desanctifying of property." Racial Regimes of Property: Futures panel, American Association of Geographers Conference, Washington, D.C. April 2019.

"Our Lives, Our Streets, Our Maps: GIS for Racial Justice." American Association of Geographers Meeting, New Orleans, LA. April 2018.

"Afrofuturism and Radical Geography." Imagining America Conference, University of California, Davis. October 2017.

<u>Other Professional Presentations</u>

"Defining your lens: Balancing interdisciplinarity and 'expertise.'" Panel presentation, Geography and Environmental Systems Seminar Series, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. October 2026.

"Incarceration and housing precarity: ongoing research, college-level education, and community-engaged grant opportunities." Presentation, Maryland Statewide Alliance for Returning Citizens Meeting, virtual. September 2026.

"Building Careers Post-Graduate School." Panel presentation, Geography and Environmental Systems Graduate Student Organization, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. December 2025.

"The principle of self-defense in the Black Radical Tradition." Guest Lecture, Urban Geography, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. November 2025.

"Indigenous Allyship: Past and Present." Panel presentation, Indigenous Peoples' Union, University of Maryland, Baltimore County. November 2025.

"Doing Community-Engaged Research: A Q&A with GES." Panel presentation, Geography and Environmental Systems Seminar Series. October 2025.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." President's and Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship Spring Academic Retreat, Lake Arrowhead, CA. April 2024.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Geography and Community Development Seminar Series, University of California, Davis, CA. April 2024.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Geography Seminar Series, University of California, Berkeley, CA. April 2024.

"Abolition and the everyday life of Sacramento's carceral housing crisis." Anthropology Seminar Series, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA. April 2024.

"The Kings ain't playin' no one tonight: Desanctifying property as an abolitionist practice in Sacramento." Guest Lecture, Abolition Feminisms, University of California, Davis. March 2023.

"Rethinking property through an abolitionist lens in Sacramento." Urban Planning and Design Studio, University of California, Davis, CA. May 2022.

"Black lives unbounded: scholar activism and the movement for abolition in Sacramento." Public lecture, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA. April 2022.

"Black life unbounded: activism and well-being in the university." Black Graduate Ed Talks, UC Davis Cross Cultural Center, Davis, CA. March 2021.

"Community Conversations: Black Activism in the Bay Area." Panel Moderator, Critical Orientations to Race and Ethnicity, Stanford University, Stanford, CA. February 2021.

"Trans Day of Resilience: Honoring Black Trans Life." Speaker, UC Davis LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, University of California, Davis. November 2020.

"Public Scholarship and Radical Geography." Guest Lecture, Honors Cultural Geography, California State University, Sacramento. November 2019.

"The Movement for Black Lives and Environmental Justice." Guest Lecture, Environmental Justice, University of California, Davis. February 2019.
"Black Spatial Praxis and Critical Quantitative Methods in Geography." Guest Lecture, Nature/Environment/Society: Theoretical Perspective Environmental Justice and Water, Carleton University, Ottowa. February 2019.
"Happy Birthday to the Fence: Policing and Property in Black Lives Matter-Sacramento's Actions." Mellon Research Initiative on Racial Capitalism Graduate Student Panel, University of California, Davis. February 2019.
"Introduction to Black Lives Matter-Sacramento." Guest Lecture, African American History, University of California, Davis. December 2018.
"Bonded Metropolis: Debt, Redevelopment, and Racial Inequality in Postwar San Francisco by Destin Jenkins: Response." Mellon Initiative on Racial Capitalism Event Series, University of California, Davis. May 2018.
"Black Lives Matter, Afrofuturism, and Radical Geography." Guest Lecture, Cultural Geography, California State University, Sacramento. May 2018.
"Creative Map Making Workshop." Graduate Diversity Orientation Program Extension Rethinking Identity event, University of California, Davis. January 2018.
"Audre Lorde, Black Radicalism, and Intersectionality." Guest Lecture, Black Female Experience in Contemporary Society, University of California, Davis. February 2017.
"Reflections on Creative Map Making Workshop Leadership." Graduate Students of Color Mentorship Program Spring Research Symposium, University of California, Davis. May 2017.
"BlaQ Map Making Workshop." BlaqOUT Conference, University of California, Davis. April 2017.

Media Activities

Interviewee. *CapRadio,* article by Janelle Salanga. June 9, 2023.
Interviewee. *KDVS* (University of California, Davis Student Radio). November 4, 2022.

Creative Achievements

Non-Juried Works

Creative writing

"This movement will take you so high and so low." 2024. ACME: an International Journal for Critical Geographies, 23(2), 128–132.

SERVICE

Service to the Department and University

2026-present	Graduate Program Committee Member, Department of Geography and Environmental Systems, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

2020-2021	Continuing Student Alternate Representative, Executive Committee, Geography Graduate Group, University of California, Davis
2019	Mentor, Ted Bradshaw Engaged Student Scholars Program, University of California, Davis
2017	Mentor, Graduate Academic Achievement and Advocacy Program, University of California, Davis
2017-2023	Founder and Organizer, CDOGS (Geography and Community and Regional Development Graduate Student of Color Support Group), University of California, Davis

Service to the Community

2022-2023	Coordinating Committee Member, Decarcerate Sacramento
2021-2023	Equity Advisory Group Member, First Response Transformation Campaign, Public Health Advocates, Sacramento
2017-2019	Organizer, Research Lead, and Grant Writer, Black Lives Matter-Sacramento
2017-2019	Organizer, Black Lives Matter-Sacramento Freedom Schools

Service to the Profession

Manuscript reviewer for: Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space; Politics, Groups, and Identities; Urban Geography; Frontiers in Psychology

2026-present	Founding member, Solidarity Geographies Affinity Group, American Association of Geographers
2018-2019	Organizer, Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation Women of Color Support Initiative

Affiliations

American Association of Geographers (AAG)
Mid-Atlantic Division of the AAG (MAD-AAG)
AAG Convening of Care Collective
Desirable Futures Geography Collective
Community Geographies Collective
American Studies Association
Open Forum on Participatory Geographic Information Systems and Technologies
Switzer Environmental Leadership Foundation