

ANANDA SELINÉ COLLINS

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EDUCATION

- 2020 - Present **Syracuse University**
Syracuse, NY
Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science
- Dissertation: *Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior.*
 - Committee: Drs. Shana Gadarian (Chair), Jenn Jackson, Emily Thorson, Srividya Ramasubramanian
- 2020 - 2022 **Syracuse University**
Syracuse, NY
M.A., Political Science
- 2016 - 2020 **Jackson State University**
Jackson, MS
B.A., Political Science

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Areas of Research Expertise:

Political behavior, Political Participation, Political Communication, Black Politics, Race and Media. Specialized focus on language, digital media, and young people's political engagement—particularly among Black communities.

Research Skills & Methods:

Quantitative: Survey Design, Survey Experiments, Qualtrics, SPSS

Qualitative: Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Semi-Structured Interviews, NVivo

PEER- REVIEWED ARTICLES

Gray, Lolita, Collins, Ananda (2019). "Should There Be a Mandate to Consistently and Systematically Report Asthma Occurrences Within Minority-Underserved Communities in the

State of Mississippi?" *The International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Invention* 6(0)3:5355-5364.

PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

Collins, A. (under review at *Communication & Race*). Who You Talkin To, Boo? How Black Youth Respond to African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital Political News.

Collins, A. (under review at *Journalism*). Speaking while Black: Audience Bias and the Policing of Black Speech in Journalism.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Collins, A. (manuscript in preparation). That's Cap! Or Is It? Investigating Black User Detection of AI-Generated African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News.

Collins, A. (manuscript in preparation). Talking Black in White Newsrooms: How Black Journalists Navigate Anti-Black Linguistic Racism.

Collins, A., & Johnson, T. (manuscript in preparation). The Shade Room and the Demystification of Politics: A Focus Group Study with Black Digital News Audiences.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Collins, A. (September, 2025). Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior. *Paper accepted at American Political Science Association Conference (APSA), Vancouver, BC*

Collins, A. (June, 2025). Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior. *Paper presented at International Communication Association Conference (ICA), Denver, CO*

Collins, A. (April, 2025). Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior. *Paper presented at Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA), Chicago, IL*

Collins, A. (March, 2025). Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior. *Paper presented at National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS), New Orleans, LA*

Collins, A. (March, 2025). Shade, Tea & Politics: The Role of Black Entertainment News on Black Political Mobilization in the Digital Space. *Paper presented at National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS), New Orleans, LA*

Collins, A. (January, 2025). Talking From the Soul: Exploring the Impact of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News on Black Youth Political Behavior. *Paper accepted at Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan, Puerto Rico*

Collins, A. (September, 2024). That's Cap! Or Is It? Investigating Black Youth Detection of AI-Generated African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News. *Paper presented at American Political Science Association Conference (APSA), Philadelphia, PA*

Collins, A. (March, 2024). That's Cap! Or Is It? Investigating Black Youth Detection of AI-Generated African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in Digital News. *Paper presented at National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS), Los Angeles, CA*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant - Qualitative Data Repository (QDR)

Syracuse, NY (June 2024 - May 2025)

- Curated and managed large-scale qualitative data deposits for institutional archiving and long-term access.
- Supported the development of data recruitment tools and strategies to expand digital user engagement.
- Conducted literature reviews, coded qualitative datasets, and contributed to collaborative, multi-institutional research projects that inform peer-reviewed publications.

Research Assistant - "The Impact of Racially Traumatic Stressful Events on African Americans Psychological, Physiological, and Political Responses" under Dr. D'Andra Orey Jackson, MS (2016 - 2018)

- Recruited study participants and administered online survey instruments for data collection.
- Assisted in designing and implementing field experiments.
- Managed participant compensation and logistics.
- Developed foundational skills in political psychology, survey methodology, and research on race-related stress and political behavior.

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Syracuse University:

Politics and the Media

Upper-level undergraduate elective course examining the relationship between media ownership, political communication, and public opinion (approx. 30 students).

- *Instructor:* Spring 2026

Race, Ethnicity, and Politics

Upper-level undergraduate elective course examining race and ethnic politics in the U.S., with an emphasis on political attitudes, representation, and identity (approx. 60 students).

- *Teaching Assistant*: Fall 2025

American National Government and Politics

Required undergraduate course introducing the foundations of U.S. government, constitutional design, institutions, and political behavior (approx. 100 students).

- *Teaching Assistant*: Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Summer 2024

Comparative Government and Politics

Undergraduate introduction course to comparative political systems, focusing on regime types, democratization, and state–society relations (approx. 80 students).

- *Teaching Assistant*: Spring 2024

Political Theory

Undergraduate course on the history of political thought from classical to modern theorists (approx. 60 students).

- *Teaching Assistant*: Fall 2022

Introduction to U.S. Public Policy

Undergraduate course on agenda-setting, policymaking processes, and the role of institutions in shaping outcomes across issue domains (approx. 50 students).

- *Teaching Assistant*: Spring 2022

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP AND MEDIA PROJECTS

Brown Suga Politics Blog

Founder (2025–Present)

- Curate and produce original political news content written in AAVE, blending cultural critique with political analysis to center Black youth and digital political engagement.
- Translate academic research into accessible, community-centered journalism that bridges scholarly insight with everyday political realities.
- Leverage culturally affirming language to advance political awareness, media literacy, and civic engagement among Black digital audiences.
- <https://substack.com/@brownsugapolitics>

Strategic Communications & Political Advocacy Campaign – IMPACT Strategies

(2025 - Present)

- Collaborate with political strategist Angela Rye and Impact team to develop messaging for racial equity, policy impact, and social justice initiatives.
- Develop culturally resonant advertising and campaign social media content designed to mobilize Black voters and support civic participation.
- Engage in mentorship sessions with Black staffers on Capitol Hill, gaining insight into policy priorities that shape campaign communications and advocacy efforts.

Freelance Writer – The Beet Magazine

(2020 - 2021)

- Reported on the intersections of race, diet, and wellness with a focus on health equity in the Black community.
- Researched and published a health and wellness feature highlighting the experiences of Black women using plant-based living to navigate health challenges.
- Conducted interviews with Black doctors and Black health coaches to highlight accessible paths to healing and holistic health through plant-based lifestyles.
- Worked closely with editors to craft compelling, accessible articles tailored to national audiences and digital platforms.
- Collins, A. (2020). In Light of COVID-19, This Doctor Tells His Black Patients to Eat Vegan or Plant-Based. *The Beet*.
<https://thebeet.com/in-light-of-covid-19-this-doctor-tells-his-black-patients-eat-vegan-or-plant-based/>
- Collins, A. (2020). Going Vegan Helped This Health Coach with PCOS Finally Conceive. *The Beet*.
<https://thebeet.com/going-vegan-helped-this-health-coach-with-pcos-finally-conceive/>

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2025 The Ketcham Award for Research on Citizenship and Public Affairs (\$800 awarded by the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs)

2024 Spark Award (\$850 awarded by the Political Communication Section, American Political Science Association)

2024 Meiklejohn Award for Commitment to Open and Just Public Life (\$2,000 awarded by Syracuse University)

2024 Elections, Public Opinion and Voting Behavior (EPOVB) Early Career Fellowship (\$500 awarded by the American Political Science Association)

2020 McNair Scholars Program Fellow (awarded by the U.S. Department of Education TRIO Program)

2019 Dianne M. Pinderhughes Mentorship Legacy Award (\$500 awarded by National Black Political Science Association)

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2025 – Present — African Initiative, Committee Member

2024 – 2025 — Political Science Graduate Association, Syracuse University, Justice & Equity Committee Member

2020 Spring Initiate — Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Delta Pi Chapter, Jackson State University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Communication Association

American Political Science Association

National Black Political Science Association