



Toniesha L. Taylor, Ph.D.

Department Chair and Professor of Communication in the Communication Studies Department

Toniesha L. Taylor is Department Chair and Professor of Communication in the Communication Studies Department in the School of Communication at Texas Southern University. Her research melds the boundaries of Womanist Rhetoric, Afrofuturism Studies, Intercultural Communication, Gender Communication, and Digital Humanities.

Toniesha's recent research and conference presentations center on womanist rhetoric as a method and theory, practical social justice pedagogy for faculty and students, and digital humanities methods for activist recovery projects. Recent publications include ["Signifying Shade as We #RaceTogether Drinking Our #NewStarbucksDrink 'White Privilege Americana Extra Whip.'" In Digital Black Atlantic](#) and ["World-Making or World Breaking?: A Black Womanist Perspective on Social Media Crises in Higher Education."](#) [Communication Education 68, no. 3.](#)

Dr. Taylor is working with colleagues on two major grant-funded projects, one with the NIH focused on increasing the equitable inclusion of POCs in medical trials. The second is a Mellon Foundation funded project titled [DEFCon](#) to increase collaboration and inclusion of POC scholars in digital humanities. Dr. Taylor is the founding Faculty Director of the Center for Africana Futures at TSU. In addition, Dr. Taylor is an affiliate of the [Center for Critical Race and Digital Studies](#) at NYU and a National Teaching partner for the [Colored Conventions Project](#).

Dr. Taylor is an active member of the National Communication Association, where she serves as the Book Review Editor for the [Quarterly Journal of Speech](#). Dr. Taylor is a member of the Western States Communication Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and a Life Member of the California State University, San Marcos Alumni Association.