

Kirk A. Johnson

E-mail: johnsonki@montclair.edu

EDUCATION:

Drew University, Madison, NJ

Doctorate in Medical Humanities, May 2016

Drew University, Madison, NJ

Masters of Arts in Divinity, May 2012

Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ

Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, Minor in Political Science, May 2009

AREAS OF

RESEARCH:

· Vulnerable Populations · Bioethics · Race & Medicine

TEACHING

EXPERIENCE:

Montclair State University

Montclair, NJ

Assistant Professor, Justice Studies & Medical Humanities

9/21-Present

Justice Studies (Tenure-Track)

Course: Perspectives in Justice Studies

- Understanding the connections between the social determinants of health and social justice.
- Interpreting the intersectionality of cultural representations of health, illness, and well-being.
- Interacting with other learners by sharing ideas, engaging in debates, and acquiring creative problem-solving skills.

Course: Environmental Justice

- Understanding the connections between the environment, the social determinants of health, and social justice.
- Interpreting the intersectionality of cultural representations of health, illness, and well-being.
- Improving students' ability to independently do research, organize material, and analyze ethical concerns by way of short presentations.

Course: Senior Seminar & Internship

- Applying acquired knowledge to the work environment.
- Application of social justice to contemporary issues.

Course: Environmental Crime

- Understanding the connections between environmental crime and the social determinants of health.
- Examining the consequences of environmental offenses that produce natural disasters.

Medical Humanities

Course: Introduction to Medical Humanities

- Analyzing the politics and narrative forms of health-related texts.
- Recognizing and understand the histories of medical discourses.
- Interpreting cultural representations of health, illness, and well-being.

Course: Body & Soul

- Recognizing and understand the histories of medical discourses.
- Understanding and analyze the dilemmas between theology and differently-abledness.
- Interpreting cultural representations of health, illness, and well-being.

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Course: Medical Humanities Capstone

- Developing a research topic.
- Conducting research using methods and strategies appropriate to your subject matter.
- Gaining experience and develop proficiency in all stages of researching, writing, and revising, including time-management skills.

Assistant Professor, Honors Program

Course: Religion and Race

- Reviewing a range of contemporary thinkers in race and whiteness studies, and the application of such approaches in the cultural study of religion.
- Relating questions about postcolonialism to students' understanding of religion.
- Describing and discuss debates about religion and racial history as a category and its problems within the social paradigm.

Adjunct Professor, Department of Religion

1/19-9/21

Course: World Religions

- Students analyzed the relationships between religion and other aspects of human culture such as science, philosophy, art, and politics.
- Identified basic perspectives and characteristic practices of the major religions of the world.

Course: Religion and Culture

- Explored a range of theoretical tools for critical analysis in the cultural study of religion.
- Developed a broad understanding of the analysis of categories of race, gender, and sexualities, and the implications of intersectionality as a methodological approach.
- Engaged in contemporary debates about the historicization of the concepts of religion and religions.

Princeton University

Professor, WEB Du Bois Scholars Summer Institute

Princeton, NJ

07/17-Present

Course: Ethics

- Assisting students in the interpretation of philosophical texts and arguments.
- Aiding students in constructing arguments and clearly explaining philosophical ideas in writing.
- Allowing students to practice and apply moral ideas in everyday life to critically evaluate their own moral convictions and actions.

Course: Leadership Typologies

- Evaluating basic leadership theories, styles, concepts, and praxis.
- Instructing students to improve writing and public presentation skills.
- Encouraging students to develop leadership competencies.

Berkeley College

Adjunct Professor, General Education Dept.

New York, NY

09/16-Present

Course: Introduction to Ethics

- Improving students' ability to independently inquire ethical concerns.
- Demonstrating moral theories, principles and values for students' daily application.

- Establishing students' ability to process moral theories.

Course: Introduction to Philosophy

- Students gaining an understanding of the various sub-disciplines of philosophy.
- Teaching major turning points and figures involved in the history of philosophy.
- Assisting students' ability to formulate and assess arguments.

Course: World Religions

- Students analyzing the relationships between religion and other aspects of human culture such as science, philosophy, art, and politics.
- Identifying basic perspectives and characteristic practices of the major religions of the world.

Course: Ethics of Sports

- Differentiating between the moral and legal ramifications of illegal drug use, performance enhancements, cheating, sports betting, and the cover-up of scandals.
- Identifying current ethical issues facing the sport industry; sports journalism, sports medicine and sports fans.
- Explaining how sports have been used for religious, social, and/or political purposes in specific cultures and societies.

Seton Hall University

Adjunct Professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies Dept.

South Orange, NJ

01/17-05/21

Course: Christian Values and Health Issues

- Proposed non-religious and religious ethical theories and ethical principles.
- Encouraged students to evaluate complexities in biotechnology & bioengineering.
- Students draw connections between the medical-ethical issues studied, current events, and the student's personal and professional interests.
- Heightened student awareness of their own faith system and how it provides resources for encounters with illness, suffering and death.

Course: Introduction to Bible

- Familiarized students with basic factual knowledge and vocabulary.
- Presented conceptual understandings of the Bible.
- Developed students' critical reading, writing, and thinking skills through biblical texts.

Course: Martin Luther King Jr. Honors Seminar

- Developed an understanding of the societal context within which Dr. King was nurtured and built a movement for social change.
- Situated the Black Church as the social institution upon which King grounded his leadership of the Civil Rights Movement.
- Examined the basic tenets and the religious and philosophical roots of Dr. King's ideology of non-violent direct action.

QVersity

Online Instructor

New York, NY

01/19-01/20

Course: Bioethics

- Taught students in the United Arab Emirates.
- Articulated ethical theories and ethical principles, both non-religious and religious, as these are applied to problems in medical and healthcare practices.

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- Draw connections between the medical-ethical issues studied, current events, and the student's personal and professional interests.
- Assessed U.S. and global health/healthcare issues.

Drew University

Madison, NJ

Assistant Director and Lecturer, Medical Humanities Program **07/17-08/18**

- Oversaw and developed program curriculum including hiring faculty, correspondence with academic committees, managing course listings, annual conference, and other programs.
- Responsible for admissions processes involving recruiting, marketing, interviewing, reviewing applications, and working with Admissions office for the promotion of the program.
- Advised students to ensure continuing registration status, engagement, practicum support, and retention.
- Evaluated full-time and adjunct faculty, student learning assessment plan, and student learning outcomes.

Course: Bioethics

- Articulated ethical theories and ethical principles, both non-religious and religious, as these are applied to problems in medical and healthcare practices.
- Drew connections between the medical-ethical issues studied, current events, and the student's personal and professional interests.
- Assessed U.S. and global health/healthcare issues.

Course: Contemporary Intersections: Theology and Racialized Medicine

- Examined the connections of race in theological and medical ideology.
- Explored the historical relationship between medicine and religion.
- Assessed theology and medicine intersectionality in society.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Florham Park, NJ

Adjunct Professor, University Core Curriculum Dept.

01/17-05/18

Course: Global Issues

- Adjudicated global issues such as human rights, poverty, health, and education.
- Defined "globalization" in economic terms and how it will affect students' future.
- Fostered understanding of individual, societal, and global perspectives.

Drew University-Caspersen School of Graduate Studies

Madison, NJ

Teacher Assistant, Medical Humanities Dept.

09/13-05/16

Course: Medical & Healthcare Ethics

- Taught subject matter to students through lectures and discussions.
- Graded papers and final projects.
- Assisted the professor in planning and implementing curriculum and activities.

PROFESSIONAL/ VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Atlantic Health Systems Medical Bioethics Committee
Member

Summit, NJ
01/17-Present

- Providing ethical considerations associated with the organization's clinical, educational and research mission.

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- Promoting ethical environment for patients and health care professionals.
- Fostering awareness of ethical issues and concerns within the organization.

Health Outreach and Prevention Education (H.O.P.E.)

Nashville, TN

Ambassador/Advocate

07/12-07/17

- Educated African American faith communities about health prevention.
- Created health ministry within African American churches.
- Established health awareness in African American faith communities.

American Heart Association

Robbinsville, NJ

Multicultural Initiatives Leadership Fellow

09/14- 06/15

- Educated communities about sodium intake, fruit and vegetables consumption, and maintaining healthy blood pressure.
- Empowered communities through CPR training and stroke awareness.
- Established Health Literacy and Prevention Initiatives.
- Advocated to alleviate health disparities in disadvantage communities.

Healthy Families, Healthy Planet

Washington, DC

Ambassador/Advocate

09/12-09/15

- Educated faith communities about maternal health and family planning.
- Trained ambassadors for grass roots advocacy.
- Advocated for better policies for maternal health.

PUBLICATIONS:

Published

“Who Do We Serve? Who Do We Protect? Abolitionist Approaches to Medicine and Health Care, and What Academic Librarianship Needs to Know.” *Intersections in Healing Academic Libraries and the Health Humanities*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, May 2024. (ISBN: 978-1-5381-7132-5)

“Inclusive Approaches to Redevelop Medical Textbooks” *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal* (November 2023)

<https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2023/11/29/inclusive-approaches-to-redevelop-medical-textbooks/>

“Equitable Representation in Medical Textbooks” *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal* (October 2023)

<https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2023/10/16/equitable-representation-in-medical-textbooks/>

“Historical Sketch: Breaking Down Racial Barriers” *PFO: Healthcare Professionalism Education, Assessment, Remediation & Research*. (September 2023) Volume 6, Issue 10

“Exploring Social Determinants of Health: COVID-19 Vaccine Challenges and Solutions in Communities of Color.” *Review & Expositor*. 119, no. 1-2 (2022): 41-49.

“Racial Equity: A pedagogical approach.” *Transforming Health Care Education: Applied Lessons Leading to a Deeper Moral Reflection*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, March 2020.

“Implementing Racial Equity Training in Medical School Curriculum.” *Transforming Health Care Education: Applied Lessons Leading to a Deeper Moral Reflection*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, March 2020.

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“Prayer: A Helpful Aid in Recovery from Depression.” *Journal of Religion and Health*. December 2018, Volume 57, Issue 6, 2290–2300.

“A Black Theological Response to Race-Based Medicine: Reconciliation in Minority Communities.” *Journal of Religion and Health* (June 2017): Volume 56, Issue 3, 1096–1110.

Accepted

Under Review

“Race-Based Medicine (Race-Based Therapeutics).” *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Health Humanities*.

“SARS & COVID-19 Pandemics: Historical Fear and Biological Misappropriations Toward Asians & Pacific Islanders.” *Journal of Language, Literature, and Interdisciplinary Studies*.

Submitted

“Political and Religious Connections of the January 6th Insurrection.” *International Social Science Review*

In Development

“Approaches to Humanize Healthcare with the Rise of Artificial Intelligence”

Books

The Anti-Racism Resource Guide Volume One: Supporting Black Businesses and Economics. Peculiar Capital, December 2020. ISBN: 979-8577188269

Medical Stigmata: Race, Medicine, and the Pursuit of Theological Liberation. Palgrave Macmillan, October 2019. ISBN: 978-981-13-2991-3

FUNDING:

2023-Present Project: “Student Nurses’ Perceptions of Root Causes of Health Care Inequities”
Organization: Montclair State University
Role: Principal Investigator
Funded: \$3,787.12

2022-Present Project: “Expanding Awareness of the History and Current Impact of Race and Racism On All Of Us”
Organization: NJ Council of the Humanities
Role: Principal Investigator
Funded: \$13,203

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS:

“Race & Biology: Misapplications and Consequences” **Lecture at Berkeley College (2023, December)**

“Black Lives Matter in Research: Transforming the Health Research Landscape for Justice & Equity” **Moderator at Montclair State University (2023, November)**

“The Social Determinants of Health: Race, COVID-19 Vaccination, and the Importance of Dignity” **Panel Presentation at the Society for Christian Bioethics (2023, October)**

“What Does Black Progress Look Like?” **Panel for the Political Soul Food Forum online (2023, August)**

“The 1619 Project” **Panel presentation at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2022, December)**

“Black Lives Matter in Research Symposium: Scholar Activism” **Panel presentation at Montclair State University Montclair, NJ (2022, November)**

“Reimagining and Claiming the Role of Public Bioethics and Health Humanities” **Panel presentation at the American Society for Bioethics & Humanities (ASBH) Conference in Portland, OR. (2022, October).**

“How Do We (Mis)Understand Critical Race Theory In The Classroom?” **Co-moderator for the Montclair Public Forum panel at Montclair State University Montclair, NJ (2022, March)**

“Black Men in White Coats: Virtual Talk-Back Session” **Moderator for Summit Health partnership with the American Medical Association Summit, NJ (2022, February)**

“Health Inequities in the Black Community” **Lecture for the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church Phoenix, AZ (2022, February)**

“Conscience, Vaccines, and the Obligations of Community” **Panel discussion at Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine Nutley, NJ (2022, February)**

“Disjointed Gazes: Truncated Understandings of Black & AAPI Bodies” **Co-lecture presentation at the 2022 Student Leadership Symposium at Montclair State University Montclair, NJ (2022, January)**

“Systemic Racism and COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy” **Interview for The COVID Ethics Series Podcast Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine Nutley, NJ (2022, January)**

“Medical Racism: Speaking Truth: Countering Disinformation About Racial History” **Panel for the Living Legacy Project. (2021, November)**

“Bioethics in the Margins” **Podcast co-host discussion at the American Society for Bioethics & Humanities (2021, October)**

“Peace and Justice Narratives in the Shadow of Covid-19” **Panel discussion at the Peace & Justice Studies Association and the Wisconsin Institute for Peace & Conflict Studies: Health, Equity, & Peacebuilding Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2021, October)**

“Mental Health in the Black Community: Coping vs. Healing” **Interview with the Black Doctoral Network (2021, September)**

“Health Outcomes: COVID-19, Ethics, and the Social Determinants of Health” **Panel discussion at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine at Seton Hall University Nutley, NJ (2021, April)**

“The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” **Lecture for Summit Medical Group (Summit Health) New Providence, NJ (2021, February)**

“A Review of Medical Stigmata: Race, Medicine, and the Pursuit of Theological Liberation” **Author presentation for Pennsylvania Public Libraries Bethlehem, PA (2021, February)**

“Exploring The Black Lives Matter Movement: Protests and Lessons Learned” **Facilitator for Holmdel Community United Church of Christ Holmdel, NJ (2021, February)**

“Racism in Medical Ideology and Practice” **Lecture at the Dr. Martin Luther King Symposium at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2021, January)**

“Racial Equity Training in Medical Education” **Lecture at Drew University Madison, NJ (2020, October)**

“Stop Killing our Patients: Pandemic, Protest, and the Outcry for Justice” **Panel discussion at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine at Seton Hall University Nutley, NJ (2020, June)**

“COVID-19: Religious Convictions vs Practices of Wellness” **Panel discussion at Petersheim Virtual Academic Expo at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2020, April)**

“Moving Beyond Bias to the Praxis of Equity: Models for instruction and professional development” **Panel discussion at the Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum Conference at Villanova University Villanova, PA (2019, October).**

“Conversations on Race: The Invention of Race & Its Implications” **Facilitator at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2019, May).**

“Minority Patient Health” **Lecture presentation at The Jewish Theological Seminary New York, NY (2019, April).**

“Roots of Oppression: Racism, Sexism, Native Genocide, Classism, and Religion” **Panel discussion at the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2019, January)**

“Tools of Hope: Mindfulness and Depression” **Lecture presentation at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2018, November).**

“Eugenics: Foundations of America’s Race Theory.” **Lecture presentation at Berkeley College Woodland Park, NJ (2018, April).**

“Patient-Physician Relationship: Consequences and Reconciliation in Racialized Medicine.” **Lecture presentation to the Atlantic Health Systems Medical Bioethics Committee Summit, NJ (2017, October).**

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.” **Lecture presentation to the Montclair History Center and NJ Amistad Commission Montclair, NJ (2017, April).**

Interprofessional Case Study Event. **Talk about incorporating humanism into medical practice and patient rehabilitation at the Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (2017, March).**

“Black Church Health Advocacy: Tradition & Inspiration for Re-Enchantment” **Paper presentation at the Conference on Medicine & Religion “Re-Enchanting Medicine,” Houston, TX (2017, March).**

“Heart Illness: Developments of Racial Discourse” **Paper presented to The New York Academy of Medicine’s (NYAM) Academy Section on the History of Medicine and Public Health for the “Sixth Annual History of Medicine Night” New York, NY (2016, March).**

“Race-Based Medicine: Propaganda & Contagion in America’s Eugenics Era” **Paper presented to the Popular and American Culture Association’s (PCA/ACA) National Conference for the “Medical Humanities: Health and Disease in Culture” area Seattle, WA (2016, March).**

Submission Reviewer. **Conference on Medicine & Religion “Approaching the Sacred: Science, Health and Practices of Care” Houston, TX (2016, March).**

“Mortimer Adler and Medicine: a Mutable Science?” **Paper presented at the Dean Hopper New Scholar’s Conference Drew University Madison, NJ (2015, June).**

“National Negro Health Week: Foundations of Minority Patient Care.” **Paper presented at The Mandela-King Symposium on Global Social Justice at Seton Hall University South Orange, NJ (2015, April).**

SERVICE:

MSU Future College Graduate Academy Mentoring Program **1/22-Present**
Mentor

MSU Open House: Justice Studies & Medical Humanities **09/21-Present**
Department Representative

Dr. David Kountz “Health Inequities: Examining the Problems & Solutions” **09/23**

Conference of Medicine & Religion **2016-2022**
Reviewer

Dr. Patrick D. Herron Ethical Approaches to LGBTQ+ Health **12/22**
Guest Speaker

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Eva Chávez "Health Implications of Forced Migrants" **11/22**
Guest Speaker

CHSS Humanities Working Group **5/23-7/23**
Dean's Committee

Assistant Director of the Office for Social Justice and Diversity **5/22-7/22**
Search Committee

Journal of Review of Religious Research **2017-2021**
Reviewer

INTERVIEWS:

Interview "Abolitionist Approaches to Health Services" with Lauren P. Cantwell at Colorado Mesa University **3/2023**

Interview "Shadowing and the Culture of Medicine" with Dr. Claire Clark at University of Kentucky **3/2023**

"Cooper University Health Care and Cape Regional Health expect merger agreement by March" **1/2023**

"Car Insurance Bills Shine Spotlight on Lawmaker Ethics." **9/2022**
New Jersey Monitor

"New Jersey's Black, Latinx students face shrinking access to school mental health staff, report says" **8/2022**
Chalkbeat Newark

ORGANIZATIONS: American Society for Bioethics and Humanities **02/13-Present**
Member