

Amber Patrice Sweat

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Appointments

Fisk University

2023 - Pres. Lecturer in French and Francophone Studies, Film Studies

Education

The University of California, Berkeley

2025 PhD in French
With a Designated Emphasis in Film and Media and certificates in Global Urban Humanities, Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, and Universal Design.

Dissertation: *Coming-of-(im)age*: Black girlhood from self-actualization to communion in Francophone Media

2020 MA in French

L'Université de Paris, Sorbonne IV with Institute for Field Education, Paris (IFE)

2017 Post-Baccalaureate internship and capstone project fulfilled through URM 8695 at L'Université de Paris, Sorbonne IV, Centre Roland Mousnier.

Capstone: « La révolution est un humanisme » : Les théories philosophiques du mouvement universitaire en 1968, avec une intervention sur la loi Edgar Faure.

The University of Texas at Austin

2016 BA in French with Special Honors

Thesis: “Le destin féminin”: Vers l'existentialisme féministe par le lexique dépouillé beauvoirien. Recipient of Senior Thesis Excellence Award.

Fellowships and Awards

National and International Awards

2023 NCSF Ford Dissertation Fellowship–Honorable Mention

2023 Caribbean Digital Scholarship Collective Summer Institute Grant (UMiami)

2020 Women in French Graduate Student Conference Grant

2020 National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity Writing Grant

The University of California, Berkeley

Ongoing	Chancellor's Fellowship
Ongoing	Semesterly Block Grant, Department of French
2023	Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2023	Pension étrangère, L'École Normale Supérieure (<i>declined</i>)
2023	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award
2023	Lyman Fellowship Finalist, Berkeley Center for New Media
2023	Berkeley in Paris, Graduate Student Instructor Honorarium
2022	Georges Gérard Fellowship, Library of French Thought
2022	Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), Universal Design Group Graduate Student Honorarium
2022	Center for Race and Gender Grant
2021	Curriculum Diversification Honorarium, Department of French
2021	Summer Block Grant, Department of French
2021	Mellon-Berkeley Law and Humanities Seminarist Grant
2019	Funding for Summer Institute of Psychoanalysis and Philosophy (<i>declined</i>)
2018	William V. Power Award
2018	Recruitment "Top-Off" Grant
2018	International House Scholarship (<i>declined</i>)

The University of Texas at Austin

2017	Senior Thesis Excellence Award
2016	Special Designation in European Studies
2016	University Departmental Honors, Special Honors
2016	Pi Delta Phi Honors in French
2016	Marjorie B. Poyner Fellowship
2016	Walther Fellowship Finalist
2015	University General Honors/Dean's List

Publications

In Preparation

"Tech-stured/text-ured: Hair as black network tech in Gisèle Pineau's literary margins." In progress, to be circulated spring 2025.

"Tik tok la diougué: Safi Faye's Intermedial Girl." In progress, to be circulated fall/winter 2025-6.

Articles and Chapters (Single-Author)

(2024) "Cyborg Cute: Colors of 'Good' Mixed-Race Algorithms." Chapter for *Color Protocols: Technologies of Racial Encoding in Chromatic Media*. MIT Press: Boston, Massachusetts.

(2023) "'Mise(ère)-en-scène': Transposition and the Child in Hugo's and Ly's 'Les misérables.'" *L'Esprit Créateur* vol. 63 no. 3. Baltimore, Maryland.

Articles and Chapters (Co-Author)

(2025, forthcoming) Faidley, E., Weiher, R., **Sweat, A.**, Davidson, J. “Framing Higher Education Social Movements: The Case of the University of California (UC) System.” Chapter for *Reimagining Graduate and Professional Education: Engaging with Equity and Inclusion*.

Public Scholarship and Reviews

(2024) “Imaginary Girls: Revisiting Stovall’s ‘Black Belt’ and Gendering Urban Transition.” *Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York City*. Online.

(2024) “Space to Breathe: On *Ordinary Notes*, by Christina Sharpe.” *Qui Parle*. Print.

(2023) “The Lost Promise of Childhood.” *Africa Is a Country*. Online.

(2023) “The Colonial Wounds of Senegal’s Girlchild.” *Africa Is a Country*. Online.

(2022) Review of *L’ambivalence de la sacralisation de l’enfance dans l’écriture de Gisèle Pineau, Malika Mokeddem, Ken Bugul*, by Djoher Sadoun. *The French Review*. Print.

(2020) “Diaspora: Identity and the Pathos of Global Labor in Syria, Germany, Nepal, and Hong Kong.” Review commissioned for *San Francisco Urban Film Festival*. Online.

(2020) “Urban Manufacturing: Nostalgia or Necessity? On Montreal, Metalsmithing, and the Materialization of *Patrimoine*.” Review commissioned for *San Francisco Urban Film Festival*. Online.

(2017) “Le destin féminin’ : Towards a feminist existentialism via stripped Beauvoirian lexis.” In the *Honors Compendium, Perry Casteñeda Library*. Austin, Texas.

Translations

Juan Antonio Elvira Calito, and Amber Sweat (2022). “BENEATH THE SURFACE.” *Maya America*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 66–75. French to English.

Sophie Villers, and Amber Sweat (2022). “I, Volcano: Of Earth and Fire.” *Maya America*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 47–61. French to English.

Dominique Barjot, and Amber Sweat (2018). “Globalization, National Patterns of Development and Strategies of Firms from the 19th-21st Century.” *Joint review of the 22nd Congress of the International Committee of Historical Sciences*. PUBS Sorbonne-IV and the CNRS. French to English.

Dominique Barjot, and Amber Sweat (2017). “Marxism in The Industrial Revolution.” *Revue Française d’Histoire Économique*. French to English.

Dominique Barjot, and Amber Sweat (2017). “The Emergence of an Asian Steel Industry Leader: Posco (1968-2010).” Conference paper for *European Business History Association (EBHA) in Vienna, Austria*. French to English.

Presentations

As Presider

(2025, January TBD). “Don’t look away’: Visualizing children in times of conflict.” Panel organizer and presider. Modern Language Association. New Orleans, Louisiana.

(2024, January 4). “Ecstasies of Youth in French and Francophone Media.” Panel organizer and presider. Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

(2023, April 29). Panel presider, moderator, and conference organizer. Francophone subjects: new conversations. An undergraduate conference at UC Berkeley. Berkeley, California.

Conference Presentations

- (2024, January 7). “Deserving Play: Rousseau, Race, and Rascality in Contemporary Francophone Media.” Paper presented at Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- (2023, June 24). “Technologies, Deconstructing Coloniality, and Constructing Networks in a Black Girlhood Triptych.” Paper accepted to Society for French Studies Conference. Newcastle, United Kingdom.
- (2023, June 16). “Mwen se yon fi || Moi, c’est une femme: Celebrating Francophone Caribbean Women and their (Net)Works.” Presented at Caribbean Digital Scholarship Initiative. Miami, Florida.
- (2023, January 6). “‘Franchement, je déteste lire’: ‘Usefulness’, diverse identities, and re-thinking reading in the French language classroom.” Poster presented at Modern Language Association. San Francisco, California.
- (2022, November 14). “Audience’s baby, Mama’s maybe: On pornography, conception, and the cyborg-child in Marie NDiaye’s ‘Rosie Carpe.’” Paper presented at Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association. Los Angeles, California.
- (2022, April 8). “Essential work: Race, gender, and spaces of the *bonne* in French Banlieue Film.” Paper presented at Louisiana State University Graduate Student Conference on Space and Place. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Virtual.
- (2020, November 13). “‘Boys’ Law’: Black girlhood and the aesthetics of resistance in ‘Bande de Filles.’” Paper presented at South-Atlantic Modern Language Association. Virtual.

Campus Talks

- (2023, April 12). “In search of accessible interfaces: Canvas revamped, Canvas remanié.” Paper co-presented with Vesna Rodic for Universal Design for Learning Symposium. Berkeley, California.
- (2023, March 20). “Communion: Reflections on teaching Blackness where Black doesn’t exist.” Paper presented at Berkeley French Works-in-Progress Series and the Berkeley PhD Admissions Panel Presentation. Berkeley, California.
- (2022, November 9). “‘Du thé avec des profs’ with Amber Sweat.” Invited faculty and interviewee for undergraduate French students’ semesterly tea. Berkeley, California.
- (2021, September 6). “A conversation with Dr. Stephanie Maroney: What are Public Humanities?” Co-interviewer and co-moderator for UC Berkeley, Practicing the Humanities Colloquium. Berkeley, California.
- (2017, April 29). “Le destin féminin: Vers l’existentialisme féministe par le lexique dépouillé beauvoirien.” Paper presented at University of Texas System Research Symposium. French, adjoining English supplement/subtitles. Remote.

Public Engagements and Presentations

- (2024, March 2). “Breakdancing going to the Olympics? Sports and Arts in Community Praxis.” Panelist at San Francisco Villa Albertine’s Nuit des idées. San Francisco, California.

- (2024, January 26). “‘Allons Enfants!’ Hip Hop pedagogies in the banlieue and beyond.” Panel discussant. The Alliance Française de San Francisco in partnership with NBC Bay Area, the San Francisco Villa Albertine, Lycée Français SF, and UC Berkeley Centre d’Excellence.
- (2021, May 3). “Manifesting a New Antioch Youth Center: New Sites for Transitional-Age Youth.” Project co-manager and panelist, presented at Berkeley Transformative Justice Roundtable in conjunction with JustCities. Virtual.
- (2018, May 20). “Topic: Assistant considerations in the Parisian Region, Aubervilliers.” Interviewee for the Académie de Créteil. Tournage publique de l’Education Nationale. Public Announcement for the French National Department of Education. Paris, France.
- (2018, January 10). “Roundtable for Assistants de Langue en France, representative of the 93rd District, Aubervilliers.” Panelist for the Académie de Créteil. Middlebury Institute, Paris, for Program in International Education. Paris, France.

Admissions and Study Abroad Workshops

- (2022, October 17). “Graduate Diversity Admissions Panel: French Ph.D. Program.” PhD candidate Panelist for French Studies. Berkeley Graduate Division, Graduate Diversity Admissions Fair 2022. Remote.
- (2021, December 3). “Teaching Assistant Program in France— Information Session.” Académie de Créteil panelist for Cultural Services of the French Embassy of the United States. Berkeley, California.
- (2020, October 14). “Graduate Student Panel for Prospective PhDs.” Panelist for French Studies. Hosted by Donna Honarpisheh with Berkeley Connect and the Department of Comparative Literature. Berkeley, California.
- (2018, November 8). “‘Un semestre à la Sorbonne’: Internships in Paris through IFE.” Presenter and panelist. Hosted by the Berkeley Study Abroad Office and the Institute for Field Experience. Berkeley, California.

Podcasts and Digital Media

- (2024, forthcoming). “What is Caribbean Digital Pedagogy? A Conversation in Honor of Pr. Halcyon Lawrence.” *Essah’s Way*.

Teaching Experience, University

University of California, Berkeley || Berkeley, CA

As Lead Instructor– French Culture

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| (Spring 2024) | “ <i>Sell out!</i> ”: <i>Hip Hop, capitalism, and arts of resistance</i> ,
In-Person. Lead Instructor & Designer. |
| (Fall 2023) | “ <i>Beauty Secrets</i> ”: <i>Contemporary codes of beauty and belonging</i> ,
In-Person. Lead Instructor & Designer. |
| (Fall 2022) | “ <i>Noir et fier de l’être</i> ”: <i>Celebrating Black Lives in the Francophone World</i> , In-Person. Lead Instructor & Designer. |

As Lead Instructor– Language

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| (Summer 2023) | <i>Accelerated French 1 (Immersion)</i> , In-Person. Lead Graduate Instructor |
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	for Berkeley in Paris.
(Summer 2022)	<i>Accelerated French 3</i> , In-Person. Lead Instructor & Designer.
(Spring 2022)	<i>French 3</i> , In-Person. Lead Instructor.
(Fall 2021)	<i>French 2</i> , In-Person. Lead Instructor.
(Spring 2021)	<i>French 2</i> , Online. Lead Instructor.
(Fall 2020)	<i>French 1</i> , Online. Lead Instructor.
As Reader or Assistant	
(Fall 2022)	<i>Black Film and Visual Culture (Film Aesthetics)</i> . Reader.
(Spring 2022)	<i>Seed: Monstrosity, Horror, and Sex in Children's Literature</i> . Reader.
(Fall 2021)	<i>Cultures of Franco-America</i> . Reader.
(Summer 2021)	<i>Entertainment Law</i> . Teaching Assistant.
(Spring 2021)	<i>Film Composition Course: Media, Power, & Resistance</i> . Reader.
As Project Advisor	
(2023)	Undergraduate Research Conference Organizer and Moderator. "Francophone subjects, new conversations: an interdisciplinary undergraduate conference."
(2022)	Translation and Faculty Aide for Student's Institutional Review Board Project: Senegalese Repatriation, a Social Sciences Approach.
(2022)	Guided French 3 Reading Project on Leila Slimani, <i>Chanson Douce</i> .
(2021)	Guided French 2 Reading Project on Albert Camus, <i>L'Étranger</i> .
Invited Guest Lectures	
(2023)	"Screening 'Bande de Filles' and revisiting the Girls' Banlieue." Undergraduate guest lecture for FR80, The Cultural History of Paris.
(2023)	"Net language, youth language." Undergraduate guest lecture for FRc26, Introduction to Romance Languages and Linguistics.
(2023)	"Breakin' the Olympiad–Paris' Hip Hop Landscape." Undergraduate guest lecture for FR43A, Aspects of French Culture.
(2023)	"How to teach 'la voile': France, the Middle East, and Global Perspectives after 2022." Graduate seminar speaker and roundtable leader for FR303, Upper-Division Language Pedagogy.
(2022)	"Reading de Beauvoir in 2022, from TikTok to Ketanji Brown Jackson." Undergraduate guest lecture for FR140, Bodies, Affects, Gender, and Aesthetics.
(2022)	"Wesh, bien ou quoi?: The diachronic lives of subversion, race, and the 'langue des jeunes.'" Undergraduate guest lecture for FRc26, Introduction to Romance Languages and Linguistics.
(2022)	"C'est ouf ça ! Une courte introduction aux banlieues." Undergraduate guest lecture for FR35, Practical Phonetics and Listening Comprehension.
(2021)	"Reading Law, Literature, and Tragedy: Antigone in the Migrant Crisis." Graduate seminar student lecture for Berkeley-Mellon Law And Humanities Colloquium. Remote (COV-19).

Fisk University || Nashville, TN

As Lead Instructor–Culture

- (Fall 2024) *Hip Hop Culture in the Francophone World: Film, TV, and Music from the 1980s to the Present*, Online. Lead Instructor & Designer.
(Fall 2023) *French and Francophone Film: On Blackness and Being*, Online. Lead Instructor & Designer.

As Lead Instructor–Language

- (Spring 2024) *French 2*, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.
(Fall 2024) *French 1*, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.
(Spring 2024) *French 2*, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.
French 1, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.
(Fall 2023) *French 3*, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.
French 1, Online, asynchronous. Lead Instructor.

L'Université de Paris, Sorbonne IV || Paris, FR

As Assistant

- (Spring 2017) *L'économie française au XXe siècle: considérations transatlantiques*. Assistant.

Teaching Experience, Non-University

Lycée Henri Wallon || Aubervilliers, France (Île-de-France)

As Lead English Assistant

- (2018–2019) Levels taught: 1ere L, 1ere S, 1ere STMG, 1ere ES / 2eme L, 2eme S, 2eme STMG, 2eme ES / Terminale L, T-L, T-S, T-STMG / BTS.

Research and Collaboratory Units

The Caribbean Digital Scholarship Collective

- (2023) Caribbean Digital Scholarship Summer Institute (CDSsi)

The University of California, Berkeley

- (2024) The Oakland-Saint Denis Project, *in collaboration with* Villa Albertine
(2023) Universal Design for Learning Working Group
(2023) Berkeley Center for Race and Gender
(2021) Berkeley Mellon Law and Humanities Colloquium
(2021) Global Urban Humanities, Transformative Justice Seminar

Université de Paris, Sorbonne IV–Maison de Recherches

- (2017) Centre Roland Mousnier for Contemporary History

Academic Service

University of California, Berkeley

(2022–Present)	ABD Writing Group Co-Facilitator, Berkeley French
(2021–Present)	Social Media/Communications Board Member, Berkeley French
(2023)	Training: Universal Design for Learning & Accessible Canvas Sites
(2023)	Librarian/Undergraduate Programming Coordinator, Library of French Thought, Berkeley French
(2022–2023)	Cal Day Organizing Committee, Berkeley French
(2019–2022)	Official Delegate to the Graduate Assembly
(2020–2022)	Graduate Student Mentor, Berkeley French
(2021–2022)	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Curricular Committee, Berkeley French
(2021–2022)	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion/Anti Racism Statement Draft Committee, Berkeley French
(2022)	Graduate Student Lead, Grant Committee: French and Francophone Studies Grant, sponsored by the <i>Ambassade de France</i>
(2021)	Citation assistant for Pr. Mairi McLaughlin, Berkeley French
(2021)	Critical Race Theory & Public Policy Course— Application Drafting Team, Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley
(2020–2021)	“Visiting Days” Panelist, Berkeley French
(2019–2021)	Union Representative Sub-Delegate

Université de Paris, Sorbonne IV

(2017–2018)	Course Materials Translator (<i>French to English</i>)
(2017)	Publications de la Sorbonne (PUBS) English Editor for Centre Roland Mousnier
(2017)	Administrative Intern
(2017)	Doctoral Panel and Defense Organizer

Professional Affiliations

American Association for Teachers of French
Modern Language Association (National, Pacific/Ancient)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies
Women in French

Languages

English (Native) • **French** (Advanced) • **Tagalog** (Intermediate, secondary household language) • **Spanish** (Elementary-Intermediate, passed Berkeley Doctoral proficiency exam) • **Italian** (Elementary-Intermediate, passed Berkeley DPE)