

## ALYSIA STEELE

Associate Professor  
School of Journalism & New Media  
University of Mississippi  
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## DEGREES

**Doctoral student (part-time)**- Major in U.S. History Since the Civil War  
Minor in African American History and Gender Studies. Expected completion May 2023  
**M.A. in Photography**, Multimedia Management, Ohio University, 2010  
**B.A. in Journalism**, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 1997

*Certifications* – Podcasting – University of California Berkeley (Advanced Media Institute), Jan. 2016  
Podcasting script writing/producing - Knight Center Podcasting Certification, Dec. 2016  
Podcasting - Knight Center Podcasting Certification, Dec. 2018

## TEACHING

2020 - **Associate Professor**, University of Mississippi, School of Journalism and New Media  
2014-2020 **Assistant Professor**, University of Mississippi, School of Journalism and New Media  
2012-2014 **Journalist-in-Residence**, University of Mississippi, School of Journalism and New Media  
*Courses taught:* Jour 101 - Introduction to Mass Communications  
Jour 102 - Introduction to Multimedia Writing (beginning journalism)  
Jour 273 - Creative Visual Thinking (Layout & Design)  
Jour 375 - Photojournalism  
Jour 403 - Advanced Photojournalism (multimedia production) Created new curriculum.  
Jour 500 - Journalism Innovation  
Jour 580 - Podcasting. Created new curriculum  
*Computer software:* Adobe Creative Suite - InDesign, Photoshop, Audition, Premiere Pro  
Final Cut Pro. Canon digital cameras & Zoom recorders. Microsoft Office Suite  
2009-2010 **Graduate student teacher**, Ohio University  
*Course taught:* Introduction to Publication Layout & Design  
and senior producer for award-winning student online publication Soul of Athens

## PUBLISHED

2018 Steele, Alysia. "Delta Sisters Dive Deep Into Storied Region." Review of *Realizing Our Place: Southern Women in a Mythologized Land*, Catherine Egley Waggoner and Laura Egley Taylor. USA TODAY NETWORK. 31 July 2018  
2017 Scalawag magazine featured two oral histories from Delta Jewels book.  
*Measure of Progress: The Clyde Kennard Story*. Directed and produced by Alysia Burton Steele. Co-produced by Bobby D. Steele, Jr. Short film for University of Southern Mississippi freshmen orientation, 2017.  
2016 *Boo Knows Music* and *Faces of Delta Blues*, 2016. Two short films directed and produced by Alysia Burton Steele. Co-produced by Bobby D. Steele, Jr. Short film for Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University's International Conference on the Blues.  
2015 Burton Steele, Alysia, *DELTA JEWELS: In Search of My Grandmother's Wisdom*, (New York: Hachette, 2015). A collection oral histories & formal portraits of Mississippi Delta elder/church women of life during the Jim Crow era, including civil rights activist Mrs. Myrlie Evers. Drove 6,000 miles to interview 54 women.

## BOOK FEATURED IN PUBLICATIONS:

1. Freedman, Samuel, "[Chronicling Mississippi's 'Church Mothers,' and Getting to Know a Grandmother,](#)" The New York Times, August 24, 2014.
2. Penrice, Ronda Racha, "[Photojournalist Alysia Burton Steele Finds Her 'Delta Jewels,'](#)" NBC.com, 2015.
3. [USA Today](#), April 4, 2015.
4. Thejirika, Maudlyne, "[In search for grandmother, author finds many 'church mothers,'](#)" Chicago Sun-Times, June 24, 2016.
5. [Garden & Gun](#)
6. [The Free-lance Star](#)
7. Poole, Sheila, "A Tribute to Women in the Mississippi, Delta," The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#),
8. [Theroot.com \(owned by Washington Post\)](#)
9. Watkins, Billy, "[Author follows Destiny to the Delta,](#)" The Clarion Ledger, July 7, 2015.
10. [Mississippi Folklife](#)
11. [Southern Foodways Alliance "Gravy" Podcast](#)
12. [Southern Living, May 2014 issue.](#)

## 2015 BOOK FESTIVAL PRESENTATIONS

Miami Book Festival International, November 2015  
Southern Book Festival (Nashville), October 2015  
Decatur Book Festival (Atlanta), September 2015  
Atlanta Book Club Conference, August 2015  
Mississippi Book Festival, August 2015

## BOOK-IN-PROGRESS

- 2018 -2019** **COTTON** - Second nonfiction book of oral histories about cotton from the Mississippi Delta and surrounding regions. Expected completion in January 2020. Book proposal submitted to literary agent.
- 2013 Photography for [Bookriot](#) article "A Literary Guide to Oxford by Emily Gatlin. Photo of William Faulkner's home, Rowan Oak. 13 November 2013.
- 2012 **Lifeline of Ohio** - designed organization's 2012 official poster with photographs commissioned to take the entire year of 2011. Gallery-sized photos hanging in headquarters office, including the boardroom. **American Federation of Teachers**, photography published in organization's national magazine
- 2011-2012 Dispatch Niche Publications, Columbus, Ohio  
Photojournalist and multimedia producer for three magazine publications.
- 2010 National Urban League, New York, NY  
Designed the official 100th commemorative poem booklet written by Dr. Maya Angelou, which was given to all of the Fortune 500 corporate-sponsors as a gift from the National Urban League.
- 2008-2010 Ohio University, Athens, Ohio  
SoulofAthens Graduate Student Teacher, Multimedia Producer and Lead Interactive Magazine Designer for award-winning student [website](#).
- 2001 One Family at a Time: Twenty Give years of Building Houses and Hope Habitat for Humanity 25th anniversary coffee table book. Volunteered six weeks vacation to document life in South Africa, Uganda and Ivory Coast.

## EXPERIENCE

Photojournalist, photo editor, deputy director of photography and multimedia producer for newspapers and magazines for 13 years. My work has been published and shared throughout the U.S. My newsroom practical experience adds credibility to teaching methods and philosophies.

- 2010-2012 Staff Photographer and Multimedia Producer, The Dispatch Niche Publications, Columbus, Ohio  
2006-2008 Deputy Director of Photography and Enterprise Picture Editor, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Atlanta  
2004-2006 Night Photo Editor, The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas  
1999-2004 Photojournalist and Picture Editor - The Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, Ohio

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY</b>
2019	Fellowship, Sarah Isom Gender Studies, two-year fellowship teaching two classes. University of Mississippi Featured in MFA Film “ <i>Getting at the Root</i> ” about hair journeys for African American scholars.
2017 - current	Scholarship Committee, Graduate Committee and Diversity Committee for journalism school. Also served on two search committees for administrative position and tenure-track position.  <i>Presenter</i> , Gender Studies graduate class - Women in Journalism and Biases.
2016-2017	<b>Faculty Senate</b> (two-year term) National Endowment for the Humanities panel speaker - Civil Rights Literacy and the Common Good Served on Scholarship Committee - helped rate students for over 150 scholarships Youth Summit Storytelling and Social Justice workshop, William Winter Institute of Racial Reconciliation Rising Horizons - taught interviewing skills to Rising 4th and 5th graders Volunteer, photographing three subjects for colleague’s upcoming book. Spent a full day in Delta. Organized and coordinator multimedia workshop LensCollective.org that involved 28 students from 8 universities who produced multimedia in one day and produced in half a day. Nine months planning. Also created and helped code website for hosting students’ work. Scholar’s Day recruiting table, spend several hours answering recruiting questions Mentoring - University of Mississippi Association of Black Journalists - reviewing resumes and websites Curated student photo exhibition - selected, framed and hung student photography throughout building ESPN TV interview for SEC sports film on Johnny Neumann Academic advisor for over 50 students every semester <i>Chair</i> , undergraduate honor student’s thesis <i>Second reader</i> , undergraduate honor student’s thesis
2015	Photo exhibition Delta Jewels – SarahFest (women’s rights festival) Committee member for graduate student thesis.
2014-2015	Lecturer for two years, Southern Foodways Alliance’s oral history workshop. Teach best practices for interviewing and photographing subjects, and providing technological advice for equipment.  Took three journalism students to Allegheny College (Penn.) for intensive multimedia workshop, collaborating with three colleges, with a total of 50 students. Each team recorded a multimedia (audio/video) project in one day and produced video second day. Based off that experience, one of my students was offered a photojournalism internship at San Diego Star-Tribune.  Served on three committees: Technology, Website and Student Contest faculty committees Help advise school on photography/audio equipment, review and recommend student work for state and national contests and research and post internships listings from various sources/websites.
2014	<i>Coordinator</i> - Strategic Planning Committee Engage/Inspire students in journalism school. Organized and photographed faculty for journalism school website and staff at the Student Media Center.  Drove 7 hours to take three photojournalism students CPOY.org (College Photographer of the Year) competition to University of Missouri. Students were given opportunity to watch judging and talk with photojournalism industry leaders from National Geographic, The New York Times and L. A. Times.  Proposed and curator of student gallery throughout halls of Meek School of Journalism and New Media – to showcase student work and boost engagement within school.  Taught basic photojournalism and Photoshop workshops to Southern Foodways Alliance oral historians.  Taught Photoshop to high school seniors for MSPA (high school journalism program)  Helped edit over 15, 000 photos for student in-depth journalism magazine DEEP SOUTH, which produced the top national SND design award for student layout and design.

## SERVICE

## COMMUNITY

- 2019 *Commencement Speaker*, Mississippi School of the Arts.  
*Artist-in-Residence*, Mississippi School of the Arts, spent three days with group and individual teaching about oral history in junior and senior literary classes.
- Wrote preface** for Write for Mississippi book by students from Mississippi High School and high school teachers, who traveled throughout the state to conduct oral histories.
- 2018 *Keynote speaker*, Mississippi Arts Commission 50th Anniversary Conference, Jackson, MS.  
*Presenter*, Southern Foodways Alliance oral history workshop, University of Mississippi  
*Interviewee*, film about minority picture editor - film selected to premiere at Tribeca Film Festival.
- 2017 Taught week-long reading summer camp for American Literacy Corporation in Harrisburg, PA. Taught 4th-10th graders how to do oral histories, collected their stories and published books for them.  
*Keynote speaker* - Jackson State University's School of Communication's graduating award program  
*Volunteer*, taught English writing composition - American Literacy Corporation and Boys & Girls Club - in Harrisburg, PA.  
Panelist, "Art from the Vault Conversations" - panel member at University of Mississippi Museum event  
*Interviewee* - video subject for Visit Mississippi (state) tourism video. One of five artists highlighted.  
*Presenter*, Natchez Literary Celebration, oral history & spoke at Natchez High School.  
*Volunteer*, Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy, created teaching matrix, prep questions and curriculum for school project on oral history assignment. Partnered with LINKS Magnolia Chapter and Morehouse College - Division of King Papers
- 2016 **Board of Directors, Mississippi Historical Society**, various committees, 3-year term  
**TEDxJackson** - TEDTALK Presenter in Jackson, Mississippi
- 2015 Partner with Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area and Delta Center for Culture & Learning.  
*Volunteer* - mentoring to visiting Illinois high school students.  
*Volunteer*- teaching session on interviewing, photojournalism at Jackson State University  
Taught eight-hour oral history workshop at Vanderbilt University – Scarritt Bennett Center.  
Panel speaker - Martin Luther King, Jr. University of Mississippi Law School program
- 2014 *Volunteer* - photograph official staff/faculty portraits for William Winter Institute of Racial Reconciliation, a nonprofit organization on campus for racial healing and education.
- Lectured two sessions about importance of storytelling through audio and video for MSPA (Mississippi) high school program and taught basic Photoshop technique workshop
- 2013 Skype mentoring and bi-annual visits to at-risk high school students at Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls in Albany, NY.  
Taught a Photoshop Workshop for SPJ Region 12 Conference, Oxford, Miss.  
*Judge*, picture editing for International Regional Magazine Awards (IRMA).  
Taught media trends workshop for Mississippi Press Association yearly convention in Biloxi, Miss.

## AWARDS

- 2016 **2016 Recipient of Preserver of Mississippi Culture Award**, Mississippi Humanities Council, funded by Congress through The National Endowment for the Humanities.
- 2015 **Ofield Dukes Educator of the Year Award**, National Black Public Relations Society.  
Finalist, Jessie Redmon Fauset Book award in nonfiction
- 2012 Society of Professional Journalists of Ohio, Second Place, Pictorial and General News Picture Story photography awards.
- 2006 **Pulitzer Prize - Breaking News** for Hurricane Katrina, Staff award at The Dallas Morning News.  
Was picture editor who decided to send staff to New Orleans to cover hurricane.

- 2004 **James Gordon Understanding Award**, Excellence in Photographic Project. Month-long documenting life in refugee camp in Kakuma, Kenya
- 2004 **Lifetime Achievement Award**, Lifeline of Ohio. Award for photo essay on organ donation.
- 1997-2004 **Numerous photojournalism awards** from Michigan Press Photographers Association, Ohio National Press Photographers Association and Picture Editing in National Category for National Press Photographers Association

#### **APPEARANCES (Service to Industry)**

- 2019 *Speaker*, Alabama Chanin Cotton Symposium, Florence, AL. Presentation on cotton book.  
*Speaker*, Millsaps College, Jackson, MS - presentation about Delta Jewels book.  
*Speaker*, NPPA (National Press Photographers Association), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2018 *Presenter*, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, statewide journalism conference, Indiana, PA  
*Presenter*, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Delta Jewels presentation and spoke in two classes.
- 2017 *Presenter*, Holmes Community College, Grenada, Mississippi  
 Mississippi Humanities Council's Speakers Bureau Delta Jewels Oral History  
*Speaker*, Neshoba County Library Lunch Lecture Series, Philadelphia, Mississippi  
*Speaker*, AKA Cotillion mentoring program, Tupelo, Mississippi  
*Speaker*, League of Women Voters, Jackson, Mississippi  
 Juneteenth *Speaker*- Greenwood, Mississippi  
*Speaker*, NAACP Raymond, Mississippi  
 Keynote lunch speaker, Port Gibson Gospel Festival, Port Gibson, Mississippi
- 2015-2016 *Presenter*, Smith Robertson Museum, Jackson, Mississippi Delta Jewels program  
*Speaker*, American University presentation of Delta Jewels and lecturing a class  
*Speaker*, Penn State University, presentation of Delta Jewels and lecturing a class  
*Speaker*, West Virginia University, presentation of Delta Jewels and photo exhibition  
*Speaker*, Hattiesburg Arts Council, presentation of Delta Jewels and oral history workshop  
*Speaker*, University of Southern Mississippi, presentation of Delta Jewels and lecturing a class  
*Presenter*, TechxJxn Science and mobile devices workshop, Jackson State University  
 Traveling photo exhibition of DELTA JEWELS. Teaching oral history and best audio practices
- Speaker*, Smithsonian Institute – Anacostia Community Museum in Washington, D.C.  
*Presenter*, Delta State University – Winning the Race, diversity conference  
 Photo exhibition, book signing and multimedia presentation in Cleveland, Miss.  
*Presenter*, Ohio University - Photo exhibition, book signing and multimedia presentation in Athens, Ohio  
*Presenter*, Jackson State University, Jackson Miss. - interviewing/oral history best practices  
*Lunch series presenter*, Oxford Public Library, Oxford, Miss - Delta Jewels presentation and book signing  
*Lunch series presenter*, Columbus (MS) Public Library, Delta Jewels presentation
- Speaker*, Point Park University (Pittsburgh, PA) - Oral history, photojournalism presentation of Delta Jewels, reviewed and critiqued student portfolio
- Lunch Series presenter* Mississippi State Archives, Delta Jewels presentation  
*Speaker*, Mississippi Valley State University, Delta Jewels presentation
- 2014 *Presenter*, lunch series on Delta Jewels - Southern Studies, University of Mississippi  
*Speaker*, Overby Series, University of Mississippi, Meek School of Journalism and New Media

#### **CONFERENCES**

- 2017 *Participant*, Archer City Nonfiction Writers Workshop - week-long workshop in Archer City, Texas  
*Presenter*, Oral History Association - Call for Papers facilitated conversation, Minneapolis, MN  
*Presenter*, Association of African American Museum annual conference, Call for Papers Proposal facilitated conversation proposal accepted - Washington, D.C.

*Presenter*, Women in Higher Education in Mississippi Network, Jackson, Mississippi  
*Speaker*, Bishop T.D. Jakes Pisgah annual workshop for oral history 90-minute workshop  
*Presenter*, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Natchez, Mississippi  
*Keynote speaker*, Memphis Theological Seminary annual conference  
*Presenter*, National Park Service, southeast regional annual training, oral history partnerships, Atlanta

2013 *Presenter*, J/I Teaching Conference - University of Florida

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

***Current*** - NPPA (National Press Photographers Association)

AAIHS (African American Intellectual Historical Society)

***Past memberships***

**AEJMC** - (Association of Education in Journalism and Mass Communication)

**OHA** - (Oral History Association), professional member

**APPM** (Associated Press Photo Managers) - Board of Directors, National Education Representative

Mississippi Historical Society - Board of Directors, nonfiction book award committee member

## **TRAINING**

2017 Attended AEJMC annual conference, Chicago  
OHA annual conference, Minneapolis

2016 *Certifications* -Podcasting script writing/producing - Knight Center Podcasting Certification, Dec. 2016  
Podcasting – University of California Berkeley (Advanced Media Institute), Jan. 2016