

LAVAR POPE

Loyola University Chicago
Arrupe College
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CURRENT POSITION

Clinical Associate Professor of Political Science,
Loyola University Chicago (Arrupe College), 2017-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **Politics**, University of California Santa Cruz, 2012

Fields of Study: American Political Development; Race & Ethnicity; Political Communication; Political Ethnography

Dissertation: “Internal Colonization and Revolt: Rap as An Underground Political Discourse in Oakland, CA from 1965-2010”

Committee: Michael K. Brown, Politics (Chair); Dan Wirls, Politics; and Eric Porter, American Studies, History, and History of Consciousness

M.A. **Political Science**, Lehigh University, 2005

B.A. **Political Science / English**, Lehigh University, 2004

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

American politics, race & ethnicity, urban studies, (ethno)musicology,
social movements, popular culture, and sound design & technology

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Pope, L. (Forthcoming, 2024) *American Rap Scenes: An Analysis of 25 Locations*. New York and London: Bloomsbury Academic Press

Pope, L. (2020). *Rap and Politics: A Case Study of Panther, Gangster, and Hyphy Discourses in Oakland, CA (1965-2010)*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
<https://doi.org/10.1057/978-1-137-60011-0>

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Pope, L. (2014). “Hyphy Rap Music, Cooptation, and Black Fanatics in Oakland, CA (1994-2010).” *SOULS: A critical journal of Black politics, culture, and society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10999949.2014.970471>

Pope, L. (2014). "The Politics of Violence, Hustling, and Contempt in the Oakland, CA Rap Music Scene." In C. Malone & G. Martinez (Eds.), *The organic globalizer: The political development of hip hop*. New York and London: Bloomsbury Press. <https://doi.org/10.5040/9781501302299.ch-011>

Reviews of Publications

Bonnette-Bailey, L (2022). Review: Rap and Politics: A Case Study of Panther, Gangsta and Hyphy Discourses in Oakland, CA (1965–2010). By Lavar Pope. *National Review of Black Politics*; 3 (3-4): 141–144. <https://doi.org/10.1525/nrbp.2022.3.3-4.141>

Baptist, N. (2022). Rap and Politics: A Case Study of Panther, Gangster, and Hyphy Discourses in Oakland, CA (1965–2010). By Lavar Pope. *Perspectives on Politics*, 20(4), 1459-1461. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592722002869>

Book Reviews

Pope, L. "Review: Rap Capital: An Atlanta Story Joe Coscarelli, Simon & Schuster. 2022. 448 pp. \$29.99 hardcover." *Journal of Popular Culture*, 56 942-943, October/December 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpcu.13280>

Pope, L. "Review: Lakeyta Bonnette-Bailey and Adolphus Belk (Editors), *For the Culture: Hip-Hop and the Fight for Social Justice* (University of Michigan Press, 2022)" *Popular Culture Review*, Summer 2023. <https://doi.org/10.18278/pcr.34.2.7>

Pope, L. "REVIEW: Mitchell Schwarzer, *Hella Town: Oakland's History of Development and Disruption* (Oakland: UC University Press, 2021)." *California History*, Vol. 99, No. 4, November (Winter) 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1525/ch.2022.99.4.119>

EDITORIAL BOARDS

Associate Editor, Journal of Hip-hop Studies, 2022-present

GRANTS & AWARDS

Pedro Arrupe SJ Faculty Award for Diversity Leadership, Loyola University Chicago's Office of the Provost, 2022

Anti-Racist Pedagogy Microgrant, "Teaching Power, Rap, and Urban America," Loyola University Chicago's Faculty Center for Ignatian Pedagogy, 2022

Travel Grant to attend the 2012 American Political Science Conference, American Political Science Association, 2012

Graduate Assistantship, Department of Politics, University of California Santa Cruz, 2006 – 2009

Dean's Fellowship, University of California Santa Cruz, 2005

President's Scholarship, Lehigh University, 2004

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Pope, L. "Rap in America" (Series and funding proposal in development)

This series examines rap music's emergence in different local scenes, forging a nexus between scholarship and multimedia—and featuring primary sources unique to local scenes and representative of the local communities past and present. The series uses local, independent, and underground rap music as primary source material and seeks to create a database of community-informed sources for 25 American rap music scenes.

Pope, L. *American Rap Scenes: An Analysis of 25 Locations* (Book manuscript with 2024 Release)

This manuscript examines what we know about the development of rap music on 25 local scenes in the US. Focus areas include geography, migration, social movements, musicology, and technology.

Bonnette-Bailey, L and Pope, L. "Racism and Rap Activism During the Obama Years" (Article manuscript under review)

This manuscript examines how rap music artists resisted racial violence during Obama's presidential administration.

Pope, L. "Understanding 'Rap and Politics': The Plight of the Bay Area, California Rap Underground DJ/Ethnographer at the Outset of the Digital Age" (Chapter submission accepted for *Stories in the Field* edited volume)

This chapter recounts the author's role as an active-participant on the Bay Area, CA underground rap music scene in the mid- to late- 2000s—as a DJ, producer, and sound engineer. The chapter's methodological contribution is in its deep ethnographic account, which highlights the types of day-to-day activity around recording, touring, and promotion.

Pope, L. "Rap as Political Communication A Content Analysis Test of Rap Music Lyrics from California's Bay Area" (article manuscript in progress)

This article examines the content of newsletters and statements from West Oakland in the 1960s and 1970s, rap albums from the Oakland/East Bay Area in the 1980s and 1990s, and rap singles from the San Francisco in the 2000s. Utilizing a political content analysis dictionary, the article examines a total 504,543 words, finding 14,588 of the words in the political dictionary (2.89% of all words). The vast majority of references were about the following topics and areas: the economy (35.56%); institutions (20.83%); law and order (17.68%) (with 99.3% of the references related to particular types of law and order); values (10.79%); and ethnic groups (4.51%).

SELECT MEDIA APPEARANCES, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, AND INTERVIEWS

Feature Interviewee, ABC 7 (Chicago) "Our Chicago: Freedom Music" Juneteenth Special, Summer 2023, <https://abc7chicago.com/juneteenth-2023-chicago-black-music-house/13392258/>

Presenter, "Meet the Author Series: Rap & Politics with Dr. Lavar Pope," African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Summer 2023.
<https://oaklandlibrary.bibliocommons.com/events/646faa775a33d42800cdb039>

Featured, 14th Annual Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, Loyola University of Chicago Libraries, Spring 2023

Participant, 2023 Faculty of Color Retreat, Loyola University Office of Faculty Affairs, Woodstock, IL, Spring 2023

Panelist, "Black History Month Newsletter: A Conversation about Belonging," Come to Believe Network, Spring 2023, <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/come-to-believe/episodes/Building-Belonging-in-the-Arrupe-College-Black-Student-Union-e1vatsv/a-a9cents>

Speaker, Pedro Arrupe SJ Faculty Award for Diversity Leadership Remarks, Faculty Convocation, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL, Fall 2022,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_5hsgbAVts

Guest, "Teaching Power, Rap Music, and Urban America" on the *Writing Remix Podcast*, University of Southern California Writing Program, Summer 2022,
<https://writingremixpodcast.com/2023/02/14/95-digging-into-hip-hop-scholarship-w-professor-lavar-pope/>

Participant, 2022 Faculty of Color Retreat, Loyola University Office of Faculty Affairs, Woodstock, IL, Spring 2022

Panelist, "Designed with Inclusion in Mind: Belonging in Higher Education." Come to Believe Network, Spring 2022, <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/come-to-believe/episodes/Designed-with-Inclusion-in-Mind-Belonging-in-Higher-Ed-e1etrnl>

Presenter, "Race in America Lecture Series," College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Sociology, and Loftin Fund. Mississippi State University, Fall 2020,
<https://www.msstate.edu/newsroom/article/2020/09/race-america-lecture-series-begins-sept-25-msu-addresses-covid-19-racial>

Seminar Leader, "Rap and Politics Series: Understanding Rap Music as Grassroots Political Communication." Newberry Teachers' Consortium, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, Fall 2020

- Seminar Leader*, “The Ballot, the Bullet, or the Microphone.” Newberry Teachers’ Consortium, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, Fall 2019
- “Movement Building: Youth, Art, and Activism,” at “The Fire This Time: Citizenship, Civil Rights, and New Racisms in the 21st Century” Symposium. Department of African American Studies, The Pennsylvania State University, Spring 2016
- Panelist*, Professional Development Roundtable and Podcast, “On-Line Teaching and Instruction.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2015
- “The Underground Method: A Live Interactive Demonstration of Production, Recording, and Remixing Urban Protest Media,” at The Inter(Play) Hip Hop Symposium. Department of Theater, Lehigh University, Spring 2015
- “A New Industry Standard: Illustrating Video Manipulation with a Digital Vinyl System and Exploring its Implications for Political Communication Specialists,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2015
- “The Tools of Political Ethnography: How the Practice of ‘in-group’ and ‘out-group’ Approaches Can Contribute to Methods in the Discipline” (with Nanke Verloo), American Political Science Association Conference, Washington, D.C., 2015
- Keynote Speaker*, “The Ballot, the Bullet, or the Microphone: Rap Music’s Origins, Development, and Future as a Form of Political Communication in America” at the 2014 Frederick Douglass Interdisciplinary Research Conference (Theme: Turning Points) at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2014
- “The Plight of the Urban Political Ethnographer in the Oakland, CA Digital Age,” National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Wilmington, DE, 2014
- “The Plight of the Underground Political Ethnographer,” American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013
- “The Rise of the Politics of Visibility, Last Resort, and Disregard in the Bay Area Underground Rap Music Scene,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013
- “The Rise of the Politics of Visibility, Last Resort, and Disregard in the Bay Area Underground Rap Music Scene,” Left Forum, Pace University, New York, NY, 2013
- “Epilogue to Internal Colonization and Revolt,” for the Working Group on Political Ethnography, American Political Science Association Conference Working Group, New Orleans, LA, 2012
- “Internal Colonization and Revolt,” Paper prepared for American Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Clinical Associate Professor of Political Science, Arrupe College (2021-current)

Clinical Assistant Professor of Political Science, Arrupe College (2018-2021)

Instructor of Political Science, Arrupe College (2017-2018)

American Government and Citizenship (ACPOL 101)

Summer 2023, Spring 2023 (2 Sections), Fall 2022 (2 Sections), Summer 2022 (2 Sections), Spring 2022, Fall 2021 (3 Sections), Summer 2021, Fall 2020 (3 Sections), Summer 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019 (3 Sections), Summer 2019, Spring 2019 (2 Sections), Fall 2018 (2 Sections), Summer 2018, Spring 2018 (2 Sections), Fall 2017 (2 Sections)

Arrupe College Seminar (ACUNI 101) (Co-Instructor)

Fall 2021, Fall 2019, Fall 2017

Introduction to Political Thought (ACPOL 200)

Summer 2021, Summer 2019

Power, Rap Music, and Urban America (ACPOL 205)

Summer 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Summer 2020

International Relations (ACPOL 202)

Fall 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2017

Visiting Assistant Professor, Ohio University (2015)

American Whiteness (POLS 4753/5753, upper division and graduate level)

Fall 2015

Engaging Politics (POLS 1600)

Fall 2015

Special Topics in American Politics: Power, Rap Music, and Urban America

(4901, upper division and graduate level)

Fall 2015

Black Political Thought (POLS 4754/5754, upper division and graduate level)

Spring 2015

Politics of Race (POLS 4739/5739, upper division and graduate level)

Spring 2015

Urban Politics (POLS 3200, upper division)

Spring 2015

Visiting Instructor, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania (2013-2014)

U.S. Government (POLISCI 120)

Spring 2014 (2 sections), Fall 2013 (3 sections)

Parties, Groups, and Public Opinion (POLISCI 326, upper division)

Spring 2014

President & Congress (POLISCI 440, upper division)

Fall 2013

Seminar: Power, Rap Music, and Urban America (POLISCI 492-02, upper division; cross-listed for Gender Studies Minor)

Spring 2013

Instructor, Lehigh University (2010-2012)

Music and Politics in Contemporary American Society (POLS 395, upper division and graduate level; cross-listed for Africana Studies)
Fall 2013, Fall 2011, Fall 2010

American Political System (POLS 001)

Summer 2013, Spring 2013, Summer 2011, Summer 2010 (2 sections)

Political Insurrection and American Government (POLS 298, upper division, cross-listed for Africana Studies)

Spring 2012, Spring 2011

Instructor, Montgomery County Community College (2010-2012)

American National Government (POL 124, core course)

Fall 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2011 (2 sections), Fall 2010 (3 sections), Summer 2010

Introduction to Political Science (POL 101)

Spring 2011 (2 sections), Fall 2010

International Politics (POL 245, upper level)

Fall 2010

Graduate Assistant, University of California Santa Cruz (2007-2009)

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Summer 2009, Summer 2008

Global Politics

Spring 2009

Eurasian Politics

Winter 2009

Society and Democracy in American Political Development

Winter 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2007

State and Capitalism in American Political Development

Spring 2008, Fall 2006

Congress, President, and the Court in American Politics

Fall 2007

American Social Policy

Winter 2007

Graduate Assistant, Lehigh University (2005-2006)

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Spring 2006

Propaganda, Media, and U.S. Politics

Fall 2005

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Service to the University or Campus

Faculty Council Member, Loyola University Chicago Faculty Council, April 2017 – present

Faculty Council Service Communications Committee Member, Loyola University Chicago
Faculty Council, April 2020 – present

Faculty Affiliate, Loyola University Chicago Institute of Racial Justice, Fall 2023 – present

Faculty Affiliate, Loyola University Chicago Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Fall
2017 – present

Faculty Affiliate, Loyola University Chicago Department of Political Science, Fall 2017 –
present

Faculty Administrator, Ongoing Review of the Articulation Agreement for ACPOL 101,
ACPOL 200, ACPOL 202, and ACPOL 205 at Arrupe College, Illinois Articulation
Initiative, July 2017 – present

Faculty Participant, Mission Integration, USA Midwest Province of Jesuits, Loyola
University Chicago, Chicago, IL, Fall 2022

Faculty Member, Loyola University Chicago Course Evaluation Task Force, July 2019 –
July 2021

Author, Proposal for Loyola to Consider Arrupe College Tenure Working Group, Arrupe
College, Faculty Council Faculty Affair Committee, and Faculty Council – Spring
2021

Faculty Advisor, Facilitator, and Event Coordinating Team, Bridging the Divide (BTD),
University of Chicago, Institute of Politics (IOP) with a partnership with faculty and
staff from University of Chicago, Eureka College, and Arrupe College, August 2018
– 2021

Search Committee Member, Loyola University Chicago Dean of Arrupe College Search,
Fall 2019 – Summer 2020

Host, MC, and DJ, Arrupe College Black Student Union (BSU) Summer Mixer on
Instagram Live, Summer 2020

Executive Council Member, Loyola University Chicago Faculty Council Executive Council,
April 2018 – April 2020

Faculty Advisor, African American Male Initiative (AAMI) Steering Committee at Ohio
University, January 2015 – December 2015

Faculty Selection Committee Member, Blackburn/Spencer Scholarship and Achievement
Awards at Ohio University, The Black Student Cultural Programming Board, Spring
2015

Event Co-Planner, Linda Williams “On the Wire” Visit and Talk for 2015 James Lecture in Urban Politics at Ohio University, Department of Political Science, Spring 2015

ACT 101/Equal Opportunity Program Mentor and Advisor, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Event Liaison, Ajamu Baraka “From Damascus to Detroit: The Human Rights Dilemma of the Obama Administration” Visit and Talk, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science, and Global Awareness Society International, Spring 2014

Event Liaison, Marc Bamuthi Joseph, “The Spoken Word” Talk and Performance, Lehigh University, Department of Theater, Fall 2012

Panelist, “Love the Way You Lie” Music Video Panel Discussant, Lehigh University, Women’s Center, Spring 2011 and Fall 2010

Event Liaison, Kris “KRS-ONE” Parker’s “The Fundamentals of Hip-Hop” Visit and Talk, Lehigh University, University Productions and the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Spring 2004

Service to the Department or College Unit

Faculty Advisor, Arrupe College Black Student Union (BSU), Spring 2019 – present

Faculty Committee Member, Arrupe College Black Men for Success (BMS), 2022-2023

Member, Arrupe College Promotion Committee, 2021-2022

Chair, Arrupe College Advising Committee, July 2018 – July 2020

Search Committee Member, Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago’s Assistant Dean of Office of Student Success, Spring 2019

Advisor, Black Men for Success (BMS) Planning and Implementation Committee at Arrupe College, Summer 2019, Fall 2017, Summer 2017

Faculty Co-Advisor, Arrupe College Hip-hop Congress, Spring 2018 – Fall 2018

Search Committee Member, Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago’s Social Work Team Member, Spring 2018

Co-Leader for Arrupe Brotherhood, Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago’s Brotherhood Organization, Fall 2017 – Summer 2019

Faculty Leader, Advising Committee Professional Development Programming, Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago, Summer 2018 – Summer 2020

Presenter, Political Science Symposium, Lehigh University, Spring 2011

Event Coordinator, Former Illinois Congressional Representative Jessie Jackson, Jr.'s "Protecting the Right to Vote in America" Visit and Talk for 2005 Tresolini Lecture, Lehigh University, Department of Political Science, Spring 2005

Service to the Profession

Discussant, "Standing ePanel: Race, Inequality, Power," Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference (Section 76, Theory and Institutions), Chicago, IL 2022

Beta Tester, American Political Science Association website (content restructure and membership database testing), 2015

Beta Tester, WikiEdu website's Course Design Interactive Wizard, 2015

Co-Discussant, "Political Forms of Exclusion, Inclusion" Panel, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2015

Chair and Discussant, "Framing and Priming Marginalized Groups," Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013

Coordinator, "Political Ethnography: Discussion of Experiences, Methods & Techniques" Dine Around, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2013

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training

Participant, Virtual Book Discussion for the *Equity Talk*, *Equity Walk*, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Loyola University, Fall 2023

Alumni Publications/Recognition

Alumni Publication Feature, USSC "Graduate Program Alumni Publications," Rap and Politics, <https://politics.ucsc.edu/graduate/politics-alumni-publications.html>

Alumni Dispatch Feature (Photo and Story), Lehigh Alumni Bulletin, Fall 2023, <https://flippingbook.lehigh.edu/FallBulletin-23-interactive/47/>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (APSA)
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS)
Western Political Science Association (WPSA)

PRACTITIONER MEMBERSHIPS

The Association of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP)
Coast 2 Coast DJ Coalition

SOLO RECORDING ALBUMS

Sam Soul, *Lost in Space City Vol. 1* (2022)
Sam Soul, *Lost in Space City, Vol. 2* (2022)

RELEVANT TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCIES

Operating Systems: Mac OSX (Advanced); Microsoft Windows (Advanced);
Linux (Intermediate)

Research Software: Thomson Reuters Endnote (Advanced); Microsoft Word
(Advanced); Microsoft Excel (Intermediate)

Instructional Technology: Microsoft Teams (Advanced); Blackboard
(Advanced); Moodle (Advanced); D2L (Advanced)

Audio/Video Hardware: Technics SL-1200 MK2, M3D, and MK5
turntables (Advanced); Rane 57, Sixty-One, Sixty-Two, Sixty-Four, and Sixty-
Eight mixers (Advanced); Shure 58 Beta microphone (Advanced); Shure 44-7
turntable cartridge (Advanced); AKAI MPC Live II (Advanced); AKAI
MPCONE (Advanced)

Audio Engineering and Editing Software: Logic Pro (Advanced); AKAI MPC
(Advanced); Adobe Audition (Advanced); Audacity (Advanced); Avid Pro Tools
(Intermediate)

Video Engineering and Editing Software: Final Cut Pro (Advanced)

Live Audio/Video Mixing Software: Rane Serato DJ Pro and Video Plug-in
(Advanced); Virtual DJ (Advanced); Mix Emergency (Intermediate)