

# UGA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

## FALL 2021 COLLOQUIUM SERIES



GEORGIA



## “MESTIZAJE UNDONE: A QUALITATIVE SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS OF AFRO-LATINX IDENTITY & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS”

Ashley Crooks-Allen is a Sociology Ph.D. candidate at the University of Georgia, where they focus on Black immigrant identity and social movements. Their dissertation is tentatively titled, “Mestizaje Undone: A Qualitative Social Media Analysis of Afro-Latinx Identity & Social Movements.” This work will take a qualitative approach to understanding how Afro-Latinx people use social media to make identity claims in relation to the Black Lives Matter Movement. They also completed a certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies. They graduated from Emory University with a major in creative writing and a minor in sociology. At Emory, they were a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow. They are from Irvington, NJ and are of Afro-Costa Rican descent. What happens when Afro-Latinx people enter the U.S. context with completely different notions of race? Their interest in Black migratory identity formation came from living the effects of their parents migrating to the U.S. and settling into Black prescribed spaces. In conjunction with academia, they also devote time to spoken word poetry and activism.

Ashley Crooks-Allen  
Sociology  
University of Georgia

November 12, 2021  
3:00 P.M.  
Online via Zoom  
Meeting ID: 957 4581 1720  
Passcode: 774035

[https://zoom.us/j/95745811720?](https://zoom.us/j/95745811720?pwd=Ynowc1N5VnZUS3Z4Zmh3d1dpQT1Rdz09)  
[pwd=Ynowc1N5VnZUS3Z4Zmh3d1dpQT1Rdz09](https://zoom.us/j/95745811720?pwd=Ynowc1N5VnZUS3Z4Zmh3d1dpQT1Rdz09)

In the U.S., those who identify as Afro-Latinx, do so at the intersection of a Latinx community that often rejects them and an African American community that often does not understand them. I examine the relationship between Afro-Latinx identity and the #BlackLivesMatter movement via social media. By employing, a combination of Twitter analysis and in-depth interviews with social media users, I provide insight into how Afro-Latinxs understand themselves in racial justice movements like Black Lives Matter.