

JOB POSTING—PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Assistant Professor of Black Studies

Application Deadline: October 1, 2024

Overview and Position Summary. Providence College invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Black Studies. Applicants from any subfield of Black studies are welcome to apply, and we are particularly interested in: Black feminism in theory and practice; the Black radical tradition; Black studies research methodologies; Black theater arts and performance studies; Black spirituality and religious practice; and Black politics, public policy, and public opinion. We seek an individual whose scholarly research, teaching excellence, and disciplinary engagement, will allow the Department of Black Studies to broaden our course offerings, enhance our scholarly visibility and reputation, and serve the broader College community. *Depending on previous experience and qualifications, the successful candidate may be hired with an accelerated tenure review timetable.*

A Commitment to Students. Applicants should have a deep commitment to mentoring and supporting undergraduate majors and minors. We have a strong preference for candidates who value publicly engaged scholarship, student-centered learning, and the success of students from historically marginalized economic, social, and cultural groups—as well as candidates who demonstrate potential to navigate the sometimes challenging environment of colleges and universities like ours, where Black students, faculty, and staff are in the distinct minority—about 20% of our students, and 21% of our full-time faculty, are people of color.

Teaching Responsibilities. As a liberal arts college, our normal teaching load is three courses per semester, typically with 20 or fewer students per course section. We keep our curriculum current by giving colleagues the opportunity to design new lecture, seminar, and research courses in areas which reflect their particular interests and expertise. In all cases, faculty are accorded substantial autonomy in the design and content of their courses.

Research Expectations and Support. Known for teaching excellence, our faculty are also respected scholars with active research agendas. The College and the Department provide substantial support for research, in the form of College-sponsored research grants, grant writing assistance, generous conference and research travel funding, individual discretionary funds, access to research librarians and other library resources, undergraduate research assistants, and opportunities for collaboration with research scholars at other Rhode Island universities including, for example, Brown University, the University of Rhode Island, and Roger Williams University. In addition, members of the faculty are eligible to apply for a single one semester pre-tenure research leave, after a minimum of three years of service as a member of the Ordinary Faculty.

The Department of Black Studies. Each year, our department offers about forty Black Studies courses taught by core faculty jointly-appointed in Black Studies and another department, affiliated faculty from political science, education, history, sociology, public and community service, music, and English, and part-time, community-based adjunct faculty. Founded as an interdisciplinary minor in 1995, following student protests and with strong faculty support, Black

Studies became a full department in 2023. With our diverse team of accomplished teachers, our majors and minors are able to choose from a wide portfolio of courses, including those which are cross-listed as both Black Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies, Art and Art History, Health Sciences, Global Studies, Political Science, English, Music, Latin American and Latina/o Studies, American Studies, and Public and Community Service Studies.

Salary, Benefits, and Resources. The position offers competitive salary and benefits, annual and step salary increases, and campus amenities including fitness center, swimming pool and athletic facilities, free on-campus parking, chapels and meditation spaces, and information technology resources including MacOS and Windows desktop systems on secure campus networks.

How to Apply. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in hand, or by the start date, in Black Studies, Africana Studies, or any associated discipline with a focus on the interdisciplinary study of African-descended people, anti-Black racism, racial justice, or collective forms of resistance to racism and its intersections with other systems of oppression. We are open to scholars whose geographic focus is the U.S., or elsewhere in the Americas, Europe, the Atlantic World, the Pacific World, and/or Africa itself, or whose work is transnational or comparative in nature. Apply online at <https://careers.providence.edu/postings/8776> where you will submit a cover letter, *curriculum vitae*, three letters of recommendation, graduate transcripts, teaching materials including syllabi and evidence of teaching effectiveness, and one or more samples of peer-reviewed scholarly writing. For additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Affigne, interim chair of the Black Studies Department, at affigne@providence.edu.

Deadline. For full consideration, your completed application should be submitted no later than October 1, 2024. Review of applications will commence as they are received, and will continue until the position is filled. We anticipate completing on-campus interviews by mid-November, and announcing a final decision before December 15.

About Providence College. Providence College is located in the City of Providence—the capital of the State of Rhode Island (“The Ocean State”) and the third-largest city in New England. With a four-year graduation rate of 86%, student/faculty ratio of 11:1, and average class size of 19, students enjoy close cooperation with our faculty—94% of whom hold terminal degrees in their fields. For five consecutive years, the College has been ranked #1 in the U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges,” in the regional (North) universities category. The Department of Black Studies is housed in the School of Arts and Sciences, the largest of the College’s four divisions, but our popular courses also attract students from the School of Business, the new School of Nursing and Health Sciences, and the School of Education and Social Work.

About the City of Providence. Founded by religious dissident Roger Williams in 1636, the City of Providence is one of North America’s oldest European settler cities. Nearby Pawtucket, Rhode Island was the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution in 1793, and Providence has long welcomed immigrant populations, most recently from West Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. Providence is a majority-minority city, and more than 30% of its 2020 population was foreign-born. The city’s annual calendar is filled with diverse ethnic and cultural festivals, while a vibrant arts scene is anchored by world-class galleries, museums, live theater, performances across music genres and traditions, and film festivals. Located on the main highway and rail corridors serving the northeastern United States—I-95 and Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor—Providence is

connected to Boston (40 miles) via MBTA commuter rail, to New York City (150 miles) via frequent rail, air, and bus service, and to the rest of the world via T.F. Green International Airport.

Providence College is a primarily undergraduate, liberal arts, Catholic institution of higher education conducted under the auspices of the Dominican Friars and seeks candidates who can affirm and contribute to its Mission and encourages the deepest respect for the essential dignity, freedom, and equality of every person. Committed to fostering academic excellence, the College provides a variety of opportunities for intellectual, social, moral, and spiritual growth in a supportive environment. Providence College believes that cultural and intellectual pluralism is essential to the excellence of its academic programs, and strives to foster an academic culture and campus community that attracts and supports the development of a stellar and diverse faculty reflecting the global environment in which we live and work. As our student body grows increasingly diverse, experience and commitment to teaching and mentoring students from a range of economic, social and cultural backgrounds is preferred. An AA/EOE, the College especially encourages the applications from women and persons of color. The full Statement of Nondiscrimination is in the [Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Policy](#).