

Kristal Brent Zook

Professor of Journalism, Media Studies, and Public Relations at Hofstra University

Hempstead, NY, US

Author and award-winning journalist whose work on race, women, culture and social justice has appeared in dozens of media outlets.

Biography

Dr. Kristal Brent Zook is a professor of journalism in the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication at Hofstra University and has more than 30 years of experience as an author and award-winning journalist. She is a former contributing writer for The Washington Post and Essence and her work on race, women, culture and social justice has been published by dozens of magazines, newspapers and digital outlets, including The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, The New York Times Sunday Magazine, The New York Times Book Review, LIFE, TIME, Entertainment Weekly, the Nation, Vibe, and the Guardian. Dr. Zook has provided on-air commentary for NPR, CNN, BET, MTV, MSNBC, and C-Span and appeared on CNN's "The Nineties" where she discussed black television. A highlight of her career was interviewing Oprah Winfrey. She is the author of four books, including her most recent, a memoir, The Girl in the Yellow Poncho.

Industry Expertise

Media - Print, Writing and Editing, Media - Online, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Journalism, Media Analysis, Social Justice Issues, Politics, Race and Gender Relations

Affiliations

National Association of Black Journalists, Essence Magazine - Contributing Writer , Alicia Patterson Foundation Board of Directors

Education

University of California Santa Cruz

Ph.D. History of Consciousness

University of California Santa Barbara

B.A. English

Accomplishments

The Girl in the Yellow Poncho

In her memoir, *The Girl in the Yellow Poncho* (Duke University Press), Kristal Brent Zook recalls growing up biracial and the painful search for her white father while being raised by two generations of black women, her mother and grandmother. It speaks to the rapidly exploding multiracial population, and to a daughter's story of faith, forgiveness, and redemption.

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