

Whitney Battle-Baptiste

Professor of Anthropology / Director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Center at University of Massachusetts Amherst

Amherst, MA, US

Whitney Battle-Baptiste's research focuses on how the intersection of race, gender, class and sexuality look through an archaeological lens.

Biography

A historical archaeologist who focuses on the historical intersection of race, class and gender in shaping cultural landscapes in the African diaspora. Whitney Battle-Baptiste has appeared in print, electronic and digital media to discuss a wide range of topics including the significance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and the history of W.E.B. Du Bois. Her theoretical interests include Black feminist theory, African American material and expressive culture, and critical heritage studies. Her work spans a variety of historic sites in the Northern and Southern United States, including the home of Andrew Jackson in Nashville, Tennessee; Rich Neck Plantation in Williamsburg, Virginia; the Abiel Smith School in Boston, Massachusetts; and the W. E. B. Du Bois Homesite in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Her latest research is a community-based archaeology project at the Millars Plantation site on the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas. Battle-Baptiste is the current president of the American Anthropological Association.

Expertise

Black Feminist Theory, Race, Labor and Social Justice, Black Archeology, W.E.B. Du Bois, Heritage Studies, Black Feminist Archeology

Affiliations

UMass Amherst Department of Anthropology, W.E.B. Du Bois Center at UMass Amherst, Amherst History Museum

Education

University of Texas
Ph.D. Anthropology

The College of William & Mary
M.A. History

Virginia State University
B.A. History & Education

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