

William Henry Pruitt III

Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Loyola Marymount University

Los Angeles, CA, US

Bellarmino College of Liberal Arts

Biography

Dr. William Henry Pruitt III, Ph.D. is a scholar of twentieth and twenty-first century U.S. literature, culture, and politics. He researches the production of knowledge about the U.S. nation-state, especially its liberal democracy. His current book project, tentatively entitled "Black U.S. Presidents During the Jim Crow Era: A History of Hypotheticals," narrates, explicates, and assesses debates about the meaning and function of a Black U.S. Presidency. Spanning the infamous Compromise of 1877 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, this manuscript analyzes novels, short stories, poems, plays, essays, comics, cartoons, films, songs, recorded interviews, and theatrical performances as well as the campaigns of Black Presidential candidates and Black Vice-Presidential candidates.

Areas of Expertise

Twentieth and Twenty-First Century U.S. Literature, Black Radicalism, Black Intellectual History, Black Performance Studies, Black Queer Studies

Affiliations

Modern Language Association : Member, 2021 - Present, American Studies Association : Member, 2017 - Present, Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, 2023 - Present

Education

Harvard University

Ph.D. African and African American Studies

Columbia University

M.A. Comparative Literature

Amherst College

B.A. Black Studies and Political Science,

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