



## Matthew D. Morrison

Associate Professor of African and African American Studies

---

### Bio

#### BIO

Matthew D. Morrison, a native of Charlotte, North Carolina, is an Associate Professor in the Department of African and African American Studies in the School of Humanities and Sciences. Professor Morrison holds a Ph.D. in Musicology from Columbia University, an M.A. in Musicology from The Catholic University of America, and was a Presidential music scholar at Morehouse College. His research focuses on the relationship between identity, performance, property, copyright law, and inequities within the history and performance of music, with a focus on the history of American popular music and its global impact and circulation.

His published work has appeared in publications such as the *Journal of the American Musicological Society*, *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, *American Music*, the *Grove Dictionary of American Music*, *Oxford Handbooks*, art forums/publications, and on Oxford University Press's online music blog. Professor Morrison has been awarded several fellowships from institutions such as the American Council of Learned Societies (Susan McClary and Robert Walser Endowed Fellow), Harvard University (Hutchins Center Fellow), the American Musicological Society, Mellon Foundation, the Library of Congress, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Center for Popular Music Studies/Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. His research has been highlighted in media outlets such as *The New Yorker*, as well as featured in NPR's *Throughline*. Morrison serves as a consultant, advisor, and collaborator with organizations in and beyond the arts, such as The Schubert Club, "The Sound Track of America" opening concert series at the SHED, NYC, The Glimmerglass Festival Opera, as well as Theory, Warner Music Group, and SONY music.

Professor Morrison's book, *Blacksound: Making Race in Popular Music in the United States*, is published by The University of California Press (2024), and it has been awarded the Prose award for excellence in the Humanities by the Association of American Publishers, recognized by *Rolling Stone* as one of the "Best Books in Music of 2024," selected as the "Outstanding Academic Title in Music" by Choice Reviews of the American Library Association, and was a finalist for the Museum of African American History Stone Book Award (2024). In addition to his work as a musicologist and within Black Studies, Professor Morrison is an interdisciplinary scholar whose work engages with Sound Studies, Performance Studies, Race and Intellectual Property Studies, and Queer Studies.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, African and African American Studies

---

### Teaching

#### COURSES

2025-26

- Black Arts in Theory and Practice: AFRICAAM 180 (Aut)
- Copyright, IP, and AI in Popular Music: AFRICAAM 274, AMSTUD 274, MUSIC 214 (Spr)
- The Foundations of American Popular Music: Present Day Implications: AFRICAAM 113N, AMSTUD 113N, MUSIC 113N (Win)

## **Publications**

---

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- **Confronting ethical and social issues related to the genetics of musicality** *ANNALS OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES*  
Gordon, R. L., Martschenko, D. O., Nayak, S., Niarchou, M., Morrison, M. D., Bell, E., Jacoby, N., Davis, L. K.  
2023; 1522 (1): 5-14