Stanford



Ralph Banks

The Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law, Professor, by courtesy, of Education and Senior Fellow, by courtesy, at the Hoover Institution

Stanford Law School

Bio

BIO

Ralph Richard Banks (BA ’87, MA ’87) is the Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law at Stanford Law School and Professor, by courtesy, at the School of Education. A native of Cleveland, Ohio and a graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Law School (JD 1994), Banks has been a member of the Stanford faculty since 1998. Prior to joining the law school, he practiced law at O’Melveny & Myers, was the Reginald F. Lewis Fellow at Harvard Law School and clerked for a federal judge, the Honorable Barrington D. Parker, Jr. (then of the Southern District of New York). Professor Banks teaches and writes about family law, employment discrimination law and race and the law. He is the author of Is Marriage for White People? How the African American Marriage Decline Affects Everyone. At Stanford, he is affiliated with the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research, the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and the Ethnicity, the Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education and the Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality. His writings have appeared in a wide range of popular and scholarly publications, including the Stanford Law Review, the Yale Law Journal, The New York Times and the Los Angeles Times. He has been interviewed and quoted by numerous print and broadcast media, including ABC News/ Nightline, National Public Radio, The New York Times and the Los Angeles Times, among others.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Stanford Law School
- Professor (By courtesy), Graduate School of Education
- Hoover Senior Fellow (By courtesy), Hoover Institution

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Member, Academic Council, (2019- present)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE)

LINKS

- Stanford Law School Directory: https://law.stanford.edu/directory/ralph-richard-banks/

Research & Scholarship

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Gender & Education
- Race, Culture, and Identity

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Constitutional Law: The Fourteenth Amendment: LAW 7010A (Spr)
- Discussion (1L): Meritocracy, Inequality and Higher Education: LAW 242L (Aut)
- Family Law: LAW 7021 (Spr)
- Race, Meritocracy, and Higher Education: EDUC 309W (Aut)
- Race, Meritocracy, and Higher Education: LAW 7144 (Aut)

2024-25

- Critical Race Theory: LAW 7016 (Spr)
- Family Law: LAW 7021 (Spr)
- Policy Practicum: Roses Talk: Elevating At-Promise Student Voices in San Jose Unified: EDUC 309X (Win, Spr)
- Policy Practicum: Roses Talk: Elevating At-Promise Student Voices in San Jose Unified: LAW 809X (Win, Spr)
- S-Term: Narrative Strategies for Racial Justice: LAW 7131 (Aut)

2023-24

- Constitutional Law: The Fourteenth Amendment: LAW 7010 (Aut)
- Critical Race Theory: LAW 7016 (Spr)
- Family Law: LAW 7021 (Spr)
- Policy Practicum: "What's Next? After Students for Fair Admissions": LAW 809D (Aut, Win, Spr)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **The aftermath of Loving v. Virginia: Sex asymmetry in African american intermarriage** *WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW*
  Banks, R. R.
  2007: 533-542
- **Racial profiling and antiterrorism efforts** *CORNELL LAW REVIEW*
  Banks, R. R.
  2004; 89 (5): 1201-1217
- **Beyond profiling: Race, policing, and the drug war** *STANFORD LAW REVIEW*
  Banks, R. R.
  2003; 56 (3): 571-603