

**Friday, February 7, 2025 at 13:30:38 Pacific Standard Time**

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**Subject:** EM: Religious Studies Department - Job Candidate "Jauhara Ferguson"  
**Date:** Friday, February 7, 2025 at 1:30:05 PM Pacific Standard Time  
**From:** Inform  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png

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**From:** Chavez, Linda

*Sent on behalf of the Religious Studies Department*



## Religious Studies Department

Invites you to attend the

### African American/African Religions Candidate Job Talk

**Jauhara Ferguson, Ph.D. Candidate**

Rice University

**"Race, Religion, Marriage, and the making of Black American Muslims."**

**Abstract:**

Studies on marriage overlook the impact of religion on the marriage choices of Black Americans, despite them having the highest rates of religious belief and participation in the United States. Likewise, extant literature on religion and marriage focuses on Christian communities and ignore the connections between religion and marriage for Muslims, a significant religious minority in the United States and among Black Americans. To fill these gaps, I interview 44 never-married Black Muslims living across Houston and Atlanta. I ask: *How do religion and race intersect to shape marriage processes among Black Muslims?* And *To what extent do Muslim marriage processes influence Black and Muslim identity?* I find that although Black Muslims draw on Islamic frameworks to give meaning to marriage, they also negotiate these frameworks to decide how to navigate romantic relationships as practicing Muslims in the United States. While religious frameworks contribute to Black Muslim understandings of marriage, Black Muslims frequently encounter racialized barriers to marriage within Muslim community. I consider how these barriers impact Black people's marriage opportunities and develop their racial identities. Additionally, I examine how gender shapes experiences with racism, and how such experiences can push Black women to reinterpret Islamic frameworks of marriage.

**Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

**9:45 am-11:00 am**

**Kravis 165**

**Receptions – Come Meet Jauhara Ferguson**

**1:50 pm-2:20 pm CMC Faculty only**

**2:20 pm – 3:10 pm All CMC, 5Cs & CGU Faculty**

**Curb Conference Room, Hegblade Center  
(next to McKenna Auditorium)**

**Linda Chavez-Nunez (She/her/hers)**  
*Coordinator - Psychological Science & Religious Studies*

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Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5pm