**CV**

Rasheed J. Atwater

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**Education:**

**Temple University** Philadelphia, PA

Doctorate of Philosophy Expected Graduation: May 2023

Africology and African-American Studies

**Eastern Michigan University** Ypsilanti, MI

Masters of Arts & Graduate Certificate Degree Conferred April 2019 Social Foundations and Community Education & African American Studies Graduated Magna Cum Laude

Bachelors of Arts Degree Conferred April, 2016 Double Major: History and African American Studies Graduated Cum Laude

**Publications:**

Joining the ranks of military friendly colleges for student vets: A better way to serve those who have served by moving from veteran-friendly to veteran-effective

<https://www.universitybusiness.com/article/joining-ranks-military-friendly-colleges-student-vets> (2017)

Captives As Commodities: The Transatlantic Slave Trade (2008), Lisa A. Lindsay Review

<http://www2.ucp.pt/resources/Documentos/SCUCP/GaudiumSciendi/Revista_Gaudium_Sciendi_N9/15recens%C3%B5es.pdf> (2016)

Works in Progress:

“Show Me Some Strength That I Can Use: Using an Afrocentric Epistemology as a Catalyst for EcoJustice” (pending journal article)

**Research Presentations:**

“Show Me Some Strength That I Can Use: Using an Afrocentric Epistemology as a Catalyst for EcoJustice”

Finnish Educational Research Association Conference (Fall 2018)

State of Michigan Equity Within the Classroom Conference (Winter 2019)

EcoJustice & Activism Conference (Winter 2019)

“Afrocentric Pedagogy in Schooling and Educational Practice”

EcoJustice & Activism Conference (Winter 2018)

“Traditional African Values and Afrocentricity”

Riverside Art Center Black History Month Celebration (Winter 2018)

“The Haitian Revolution and Ambiguity of African-American Freedom”

Riverside Art Center Black History Month Celebration (Winter 2018)

“Revisiting Martin Luther King Jr. 3 Evils of Society Speech”

Eastern Michigan University MLK Celebration Academic Program (Winter 2018)

Parkridge Community Center Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Program (Winter 2018)

“Black Protest: Eastern Michigan University Student Activism Against Racism 1968-2016”

EcoJustice & Activism Conference (Winter 2017)

Eastern Michigan University College of Arts & Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Workshop (Winter 2018)

Washtenaw International High School Pan-African Student Union Black History Month Event (Winter 2018)

“The Gun Cycle in the Atlantic Slave Trade, U.S. War on Drugs, and the Outburst of #BLACKLIVESMATTER”

Eastern Michigan University Undergraduate Symposium (Winter 2016)

**Grant Writing Experience:**

Parkridge Community Center Community Foundation 2018 (funded)

Black History Signage Project 2017 (funded)

Eastern Michigan University Veterans Affairs Office 2016 (funded)

City of Ypsilanti Loan Forgiveness Grant 2015 (funded)

**Academic Achievements:**

EMU College of Education Student Travel Scholarship  
EMU Department of Africology and African-American Studies Travel Scholarship  
EMU Graduate Fellowship

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.-Cesar Chavez-Rosa Parks Future Faculty Fellowship 2017

National Honor Society 2016

Marcus Garvey EMU NAACP Image Award 2016

Frederick Douglass EMU NAACP Image Award 2016

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. EMU NAACP Image Awards 2016

Department of Africology and African American Studies Outstanding Student Leadership Award 2016

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Student Humanitarian Award 2016

McNair Scholar 2014-2016

Dean’s List 2013-16

**Community and Military Honors:**

Ypsilanti Kiwanis Club Community Service Award 2018

Ypsilanti Community Middle School Certificate of Appreciation 2018

Student Government Executive Board Award 2017

MING Joint Task Force: Flint Water Response Team Certificate of Recognition 2016

United States Army Advanced Individual Training Honor Graduate 2013

**On-campus Involvement:**

Organizer- Eastern Michigan University 68-72 Protest Archival Collection 2018

Treasurer- Students for EcoJustice Education Student Organization 2018

Member- Eastern Michigan University EcoJustice & Activism Conference Planning Committee 2018

Directory of Philanthropy- Eastern Michigan University Student Government 2016-2017

Member- Eastern Michigan University College of Arts and Science Grade Grievance Committee 2014-2016

Member- Eastern Michigan University Student Leadership Group 2015

Member- Eastern Michigan University Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Planning Committee 2014-2016

President- Society of Africology Student Organization 2014-2015

**Community Involvement:**

Enrichment Instructor- Washtenaw International High School Africology Enrichment Class 2018

Panelist- EcoJustice & Activism Conference 2016-2018

Panelist- Rainbow Push Coalition Citizenship Education Fund International Convention 2018

Member- Michigan Juvenile Youth Advisory Board 2017-2018

Historian- Black Ypsilanti Signage Project 2017-2018

Volunteer- We the People Growers Association 2017

Founder- Mosaic Project 2017

Advisor- Eastern Michigan University Academic Service Learning at Ypsilanti Community Middle School 2016-2018

Ambassador- Transformative Justice Coalition Millennial Votes Matter 2016-2018

Outreach Coordinator- Military and Veterans Affairs 2015

Member- Washtenaw My Brother's Keeper Task Force 2015-2018

Founder- Saginaw Improvement Association 2015

Member- Parkridge Summer Festival Committee 2014

Member- City of Ypsilanti Adopt-A-Park 2014-2016

Founder- Saginaw Community Clean Up Day 2014-2016

Volunteer- Parkridge Summer Camp 2014

Volunteer- Ypsi Proud Day 2014-2017

Volunteer- Mentor2Youth 2014

Volunteer- Dedicated to Make a Change 2013

Soldier- Michigan Army National Guard 2012-2016

Coach- Bridgeport High School Varsity Track and Field 2012

Coach- Saginaw Arthur Hill High School Junior Varsity Football Running Back 2011

**Recent Employment History:**

**Temple University** Philadelphia, PA

*Financial Aid Counselor* 08/2019 - Current

* Learn and comply with current regulations for all federal, state, and university financial aid programs.
* Address financial aid incidents received through various venues; e-mail, assigned by call center or by phone.
* Recommend and administer policies/procedures for the administration of financial aid programs and the day to day activities of the financial aid office.

**Delta Community College** Saginaw, MI

*Employment Service Advisor* 03/2019 - 08/2019

* Provide job seekers excellent customer service and assistance in utilizing services at Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works! One Stop Service Centers. Work in compliance with unemployment regulations.
* Work one-on-one with job seekers to connect them to community resources, job opportunities, and help provide access to necessary tools to aid them in securing employment.
* Give direction to job seekers in the completion of a job search. Maintain a working knowledge of programs available through Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works and partner agencies.

**Parkridge Community Center** Ypsilanti, MI

*Recreation Supervisor* 02/2018 - Current

* Assist in developing and planning active and passive recreation programs for youth and supervise various recreation programs, field trips and activities in which target age group(s) participate.
* Promote interest and provide information regarding recreation programs to school officials, other recreation officials, community service groups, other city departments, and the public as directed by supervisor.
* Participates in the development of short and long-range plans; gather, interpret, and prepare data for studies, reports and recommendations to supervisor.

**Michigan National Guard** Battle Creek, MI

*Motor Vehicle Operator* 05/2012 - 05/2018

* Serve in support of national defense, conduct humanitarian efforts and relief for state emergencies, mentored soldiers, enforced policies and military procedures, and assist soldiers meet professional/academic goals.
* Honor graduate out of 120+ soldiers from Advanced Individual Training. Training included upholding army ethics, teamwork, high physical fitness scores and understanding missions.
* Supported Flint, MI during Water Crisis. Educated residents about water concerns, distributed water, filters, and information to residents.

**Ypsilanti Community Middle School** Ypsilanti, MI

*College and Career Advisor* 09/2016 – 06/2018

* Encourage students to consider a broad range of appropriate options for postsecondary education and help each student complete admissions and financial aid forms.
* Facilitate a positive impact group for at-risk students to cultivate study habits, positive relationships, critical thinking, financial planning, and reconciliation tactics for personal and academic success.
* Develop for each student a college and career plan, including high school course selection and assist each student in interpreting post-secondary educational options.

**City of Ypsilanti** Ypsilanti, MI

*Downtown Development Authority Coordinator* 09/2015 – 02/2018

* Connect business owners with DDA sponsored grants and assist owners/operators with grant application. Work with DDA Director and Board in application review and award decision.
* Assisting with other projects or programs as assigned by DDA Director or Community and Economic Development Staff members such as researching other Michigan cities beautification efforts, which resulted in the city of Ypsilanti’s adoption of Neighborhood Enterprise Zones and current implementation strategy.
* Conduct research and work with community stakeholders to implement positive economic, physical, and community changes in each DDA district, which included assisting with the management of the Ypsilanti Downtown Dumpster Program.

**Professional Development:**

**Juvenile Justice Youth Advisory Board** Ypsilanti, MI

*Board Member* 02/2017- 05/2018

* Study adolescent development and participatory action research to defend youth justice recommendations.
* Investigate State of Michigan juvenile justice system and work with board members to recommend systematic changes.
* Work with youth who are or were incarcerated to research their experiences and create policy reform based off their testimonies.

**Transformative Justice Coalition** Ypsilanti, MI

*Committee Member* 02/2016 – 10/2018

* Attend conferences and connect with millennials involved in social activism from across the country to initiate community activism.
* Work with Transformative Justice Coalition board members to conduct voter education and registration training for millennials.
* Participate in bi-weekly voter justice conference calls and work with organizations across the country toward creating a more democratic and just society.