

### Instructors

**Martina L. Sharp-Grier, MA, LSW** is a Certified Equity Instructor for National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE) as well as an Assistant Professor and Department Coordinator of Sociology at Stark State College in North Canton, Ohio. Her research is varied and interdisciplinary. Her methodology includes indigenous cultural research methods and critical performance pedagogy; and her areas of interest are racial and gender identity formation; inequalities in the social structure as related to race, sex, and sexuality; micro-aggressions in higher education; feminist pedagogy; sexual harassment; and bullying in the workplace as correlated with minority status. Her research on racial and gender identity formation among African American women, feminist identity and pedagogy, and the impact of microaggressions on collegiate faculty of color have been presented to international audiences. Sharp-Grier is a co-editor of the text, *Feminist Pedagogy, Practice, and Activism: Improving Lives for Women and Girls*, released by Routledge Press in 2017.



In addition to her work with NAPE, Martina has provided multicultural and diversity training to community corrections organizations, led seminars regarding the stigmatizing effects of HIV/AIDS, provided education and training to organizations on Gender and Sexual Minorities (GSM), and delivered workshops analyzing microaggressions and culturally responsive pedagogy. She has also addressed medical and legal professionals on the indicators and effects of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV), and has facilitated national conversations regarding curriculum design and management, student success, and student engagement.

**Annissa Langworthy** is a Certified Equity Instructor for National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE). Annissa (pronounced like Vanessa without the “V”) is also a Biology Instructor at Stark State University. Annissa current research includes the impact of stereotype threat and microaggressions on student learning, retention and success. Her focus is the stress response, cortisol’s impact on cognition and learning, and observing microaffirmative strategies to reduce cortisol to improve student learning and performance.



Annissa served on the NSF funded Ohio Science and Engineering Talent Expansion Project (OSTEP) as SSC grant coordinator, partnered with the Ohio State University. In 2014, Annissa was selected as Stark State’s Distinguished Teacher, and subsequently selected as NAPE’s Rising Star Award Recipient, where she was recognized for her advocacy for educational equity, STEM education and workforce development for underrepresented populations; and for her support of these initiatives through statewide and national public policy work. She is also a member of NAPE’s public policy committee, and is responsible for reviewing various legislative policies on education initiatives, Carl D. Perkins reauthorization, and workforce development. As a member of the committee, Annissa provides feedback and commentary to senators, congresspersons, and Department of Education staff.