

## Kevin Winstead

### AY 2017-18 All-S.T.A.R. Fellow

College of Arts and Humanities

Department of American Studies

6<sup>th</sup> year Graduate Student, AA



I have had the pleasure of working on a diverse set of assistantships at the University of Maryland, where I learned many valuable lessons. Working assistantships within and outside of my discipline and college have contributed to my interdisciplinary scholarship. During my first year of graduate study, I employed by the Rawlings Undergraduate Leadership Fellows Program. My duties included producing programming for undergraduates and formulating end of the year reports. From this, I gained skills in service learning education as a pedagogical method and data analysis.

My two-year assistantship within American Studies as a graduate instructor and tutor with the football team provided me the opportunity to hone my pedagogical skills, mainly putting into practice two central texts of my teaching philosophy - *Paulo Freire's Pedagogy of the Oppressed* and *Chela Sandoval's Methodology of the Oppressed*. I taught AMST289A Shifting Sands: Constructing Cultural Mainstreams & Margins in the U.S.; AMST260 American Culture in the Information Age; and AMST203 Popular Culture in America.

I served as webmaster for American Studies, Powerlines, USLT, TLTC, ARHU Center for Synergy, and African American History, Culture and Digital Humanities. These positions allowed me to practice different visual production and editing skills for multiple audiences.

The National Endowment for the Humanities funded Baltimore Stories Initiative, and the Andrew F. Mellon-funded AADHum grants afforded me the opportunity to explore various aspects of my research in regards to social movements, religion, and digital studies. Allowing me the space to think about my positionality in relationship to academic communities, the communities I study, and the methodologies behind my efforts.