

# Adrien Sebro, Ph.D.

Department of Radio-TV-Film | Moody College of Communication  
The University of Texas at Austin | CMA 6.134  
asebro@utexas.edu

## Academic Appointments:

- 2020- Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Austin  
Department of Radio-Television-Film
- 2019-2020 Lecturer, University of Texas at Austin  
Department of Radio-Television-Film

## Education:

- 2019 University of California, Los Angeles  
Ph.D., Film and Television (Cinema and Media Studies)
- 2014 Columbia University in the City of New York  
Master of Arts in African American Studies
- 2012 University of California, Los Angeles  
Bachelor of Arts in Women's Studies, Minor in Film, Television, and  
Digital Media

## Monographs:

- Sebro, Adrien. *Scratchin' and Survivin': Hustle Economics and the Black Sitcoms of Tandem Productions*. Under contract and submitted with Rutgers University Press.

## Publications:

- Sebro, Adrien. "1970s," "Sanford and Son," and "Situation Comedies" chapter sections in *Race and Ethnicity in American Television: The Complete Resource* ed. David Leonard. ABC-Clio, 2021.
- Sebro, Adrien. Data collection for the Chicano Studies Research Center at UCLA, *Make 'Em All Mexican*, Dr. Chon Noriega, 2016.
- Sebro, Adrien. Data collection for the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA, *Hollywood Diversity Report: Flipping the Script*, Dr. Darnell Hunt, 2015.
- Sebro, Adrien. "Once Lost, Painfully Present: Maya Angelou's *Blacks, Blues, Black!* (1968)," *International Journal of Communications*, USC Annenberg Press (forthcoming)

- Sebro, Adrien. “Radical Ambiguity: Black Women and Embodiment in *Sanford and Son*” *Television and New Media* Special Issue on “Hidden Feminist Media Histories,” SAGE Publications, submitted and under review.
- Sebro Adrien. “On Air Black: *The Breakfast Club*, Visual Radio, and Spreadable Media,” in *Watching While Black Rebooted: The Television and Digitality of Black Audiences*. Ed. Beretta E. Smith-Shomade, Rutgers University Press (under contract, forthcoming).
- Sebro, Adrien. “Streaming for Black Lives,” in *Black Cinema in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Eds. Ed Guerrero and Artel Great. Routledge (forthcoming).
- Sebro, Adrien. “Sanford and Son” in *TV Memories: Love Letters to our Televisual Past*. Ed. Bambi Haggins. Rutgers University Press (forthcoming).

### **Trade Publications/Interviews:**

- Jensen, Erin. “Media, police pay less attention to missing Black people. HBO’s new soc wants to change that,” *USA Today* 11/23/2021.
- Jackson, Angelique. “Sterling K. Brown, Jurnee Smollett and Jeremy Pope on Television Re-Imagining Black History,” *Variety Magazine* 08/17/2021.

### **Book Reviews**

- *The Generic Closet: Black Gayness and the Black-cast Sitcom* by Alfred J. Martin, *The Communication Review*, 2022, Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 143-146  
DOI: 10.1080/10714421.2022.2085488

### **Teaching Experience:**

Spring 2022: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication  
RTF 335: Race, Class, and Gender in American Television  
RTF 370: Black Filmmakers

Spring 2021: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication  
RTF 386: Black Popular Culture (Web-Based, Graduate Course)

Fall 2020: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication  
RTF 370: Black Filmmakers (Web-Based)  
RTF 359S: Black Television Comedy (Web-Based)

Summer 2020: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication  
RTF 359S: Black Television Comedy (Web-Based)

Spring 2020: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication  
RTF 359S: Film and Social Change

RTF 370: Black Filmmakers

RTF 335: Race, Class, and Gender in American Television

Fall 2019: University of Texas at Austin, Moody College of Communication

RTF 321C: History of American Television

RTF 359S: History of the Black Sitcom

RTF 359S: Film and Social Change

### **Fellowships and Awards:**

- University of Texas at Austin, Center for Advancing Teaching Excellence (CATE): Above and Beyond Award (2022)
- University of Texas at Austin, Summer Research Assignment (2021)
- University of Pennsylvania Pre-Doctoral Fellow for Excellence through Diversity, Annenberg School of Communications (2018-2019)
- UCLA Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellow (2014-2018)
- Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society (2017)
- Jack K. Sauter Award for Merit in Critical Television Studies (2017-2018)
- Ford Predoctoral Fellowship “Honorable Mention” (2016)
- Zora Neale Hurston Award Winner for the Best Thesis in the Social Sciences (2014)
- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow (2010)

### **Faculty Advising:**

Thesis Committee

- Christal Spence, “*Fresh Photos with the Bold Lighting*”: *Visualizing the Radical Work of Fat Black Women on Instagram* (M.A., Women and Gender Studies, University of Texas at Austin, 2021).
- Paris Vincent, *Chopped and Screwed Music and Space Assertion* (B.S., Radio, Television, and Film, University of Texas at Austin, 2021).

### **Academic Service:**

Department

- Faculty Representative, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative, Department of Radio, Television, and Film (2019- )
- Faculty Advisor, Black Film Student Association (2019- )
- Pilot Cohort Member, Moody Faculty Diversity, Inclusion, Justice, and Equity Program (2021)

Field

- Co-Chair, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Comedy and Humor Studies Special Interest Group (2022-2025).

- Panelist, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Professional Development Committee Discussion: “Finding a Book Publisher”
- Panelist, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Media Industries Studies SIG Roundtable Discussion: “Applying to Academic Media Industries Jobs,” July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Inaugural Member, Ethnic Studies Educators Academy, Virtual. August 19-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

### **Conference Presentations:**

- Sebro, A. “The Radical Ambiguity of LaWanda Page and *Sanford and Son*,” Console-ing Passions. Orlando, FL. June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Sebro, A. “On Air Black: The Breakfast Club and Spreadable Black Popular Culture,” Roundtable: “What is This ‘Black’ in Black Media Studies?” International Communications Association Conference. Paris, France. May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Sebro, A. “Four(Fore)-Mothers: The Radical Ambiguity of Black Women in Comedy,” Society of Cinema and Media Studies. Virtual, April 2, 2022.
- Sebro, A. “Streaming Black Lives,” American Studies Association Conference. Virtual, October 12, 2021.
- Sebro, A. “Once Lost, Painfully Present: Maya Angelou’s *Blacks, Blues, Black!*” Cultural Studies Association Conference, Virtual. June 11, 2021.
- Sebro, A. “‘We Live for Today’: Precarious Livelihood of Young Black Men in 1970s Media.” Fall Media Studies Colloquium, Department of Radio-Television-Film, University of Texas at Austin. November 21, 2019.
- Sebro, A. Conference Paper Presenter, “Spiritual, Present, and Sometimes Heard: The Black Women of *Sanford and Son*.” at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference in Seattle, Washington. March 14, 2019.
- Sebro, A. Conference Paper Presenter, “‘*Blacks, Blues, Black!*’ Local and Public Access Television in 1968.” at Critical Mediations: A Communication and Cultural Studies Conference, “The Fire This Time: Afterlives of 1968,” at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. October 4-5, 2018.
- Sebro, A. Conference Paper Presenter, “‘Remember, I’ve Been Black the Longest,’ Esther Rolle and the Black Gender Politics of Tandem Productions” at the 15th Annual Yale Edward A. Bouchet Conference on Diversity and Graduate Education. Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New Haven, Connecticut. April 26-28, 2018

### **Invited Lectures and Presentations:**

- Sebro, A. “Black Matters: Television and Social Change,” Interdisciplinary Communication Foundations, COM302. Virtual, University of Texas at Austin. September 17, 2021.
- Presenter, Ethnic Studies Educators Academy, Virtual. August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.
- Inclusive Teaching Workshop Panelist, Center for Advancing Teaching Excellence, Moody College of Communication, Virtual. August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.
- Panelist, Diversity in Media Symposium for the Moody College of Communication, “Is this Black Media Renaissance Real?” Virtual, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

- Sebro, A. Guest Lecturer, “History of the Black Sitcom” for UCLA FTV 10A “American Television History” Spring 2019, Instructor: Dr. Andrew deWaard. April 25, 2019.

### **Public Scholarship:**

- A. Sebro, Moderator. *Sankofa* Screening and Panel Discussion. In partnership with Moody College of Communication’s Office of Diversity, the Warfield Center, and Ava DuVernay’s ARRAY. University of Texas at Austin, February, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- A. Sebro, “Black Television Comedy: From Beulah to Black-ish,” Northbrook Public Library (Northbrook, IL). Virtual, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.
- RTF Media Studies Colloquium Book Talk: Alfred L. Martin Jr.’s *The Generic Closet: Black Gayness and the Black-Cast Sitcom*, University of Indiana Press. Virtual, April, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- A. Sebro and M. Alvarez. “The Legacy of the L.A. Rebellion: A Conversation with Filmmakers Charles Burnett and Haile Gerima,” University of Texas at Austin. Virtual, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Moody Movie Club: A Conversation with Elon Washington of the Black Film Alliance, in collaboration with the Black Film Student Association. Virtual, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- Moody Movie Club: A Conversation with Director Rashaad Ernesto Green, in collaboration with the Black Film Student Association. Virtual, September, 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- RTF Media Studies Colloquium Book Talk: Samantha N. Sheppard’s *Sporting Blackness: Race, Embodiment, and Critical Muscle Memory on Screen*, University of California Press. Virtual, September, 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **Memberships:**

- Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- International Communications Association
- American Studies Association
- Cultural Studies Association

### **References:**

- Ellen C. Scott, Associate Dean, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Associate Professor Cinema and Media Studies, University of California, Los Angeles  
ecscott@ucla.edu
- John T. Caldwell, Distinguished Research Professor; Professor Cinema and Media Studies, University of California, Los Angeles  
john@tft.ucla.edu

- Denise R. Mann, Professor  
Cinema and Media Studies, University of California, Los Angeles  
dmann@tft.ucla.edu
- John L. Jackson, Jr., Walter H. Annenberg Dean, Richard Perry University Professor  
Annenberg School of Communications, University of Pennsylvania  
dean@asc.upenn.edu