

Monique Wingard

Monique Wingard is a media literacy scholar and educator whose research focuses on how adolescent girls develop critical thinking skills and navigate digital spaces. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in Communication and Information at Kent State University, where she serves as a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the School of Media and Journalism.

Monique has taught at Howard University, Cleveland State University, Ohio University, and Kent State University. Her courses include Principles of Social Media, Media and the Creative Process, Professional Communication, and Principles of Speech. Her academic work examines how young people develop media literacy and news literacy skills, with particular attention to misinformation, representation, and ethical online engagement.

Her research and teaching emphasize a "pedagogy over panic" philosophy—equipping students with critical thinking skills rather than simply warning them away from technology. She has presented at the Broadcast Education Association Annual Convention, the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) 50th Annual Convention, McCormick Theological Seminary, and on panels at Google Headquarters in Chicago, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago. Most recently, she organized and presented at Ohio Tech Day: Welcome to the Future of Education at Cleveland Public Library's Main Campus, a statewide initiative to raise awareness about technology's role in Ohio's economy and to inspire the next generation of tech leaders.

Her writing has appeared in EBONY, Blavity, Code M Magazine, and WTTW-Chicago/PBS.

She holds an M.A. in Media Management from Ohio University, a B.A. in Public Affairs Journalism from The Ohio State University, and an M.S. in Social Science Administration from Case Western Reserve University. She is a member of Cleveland Bridge Builders Class of 2026, serves on the board of Girls on the Run Northeast Ohio, and was appointed by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to serve as a Board Trustee at Kent State University.