

**Monica A. Starks**  
***Professor, Sociology***



Monica is a published author, transformational speaker, Sociology professor, and Chronic Kidney Disease advocate. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management from Tiffin University and a Master's degree in Sociology from Cleveland State University with a concentration in racial, ethnic, gender inequality, and criminology. She is currently a Sociology professor at Cuyahoga Community College where she has taught for the past thirteen years. She has spent most of her career in higher education in various roles including Academic Advising at Cleveland State University and Supervisor of the Testing Center at Tri-C's Western Campus.

Monica is also a member of several organizations including the Cuyahoga Community Colleges Black American Council where she mentors several students. She is a lifetime member of the Sociology Honors Society, Alpha Kappa Delta, and several other sociology associations. Outside of her career, she is involved with several social activities including sitting on the board of the Bedford Heights City Educational Foundation, Tri-C's Stand for Racial Justice- Task Force II and she is the proprietor of Hosanna House Enterprises.

**Speech Topics:**

**Societal Issues / Sociology:** The discipline of Sociology studies human behavior but, more importantly, we help students gain new knowledge. There are no societal issues or social problems that are off-limits. In this presentation, we will discuss and dissect the societal patterns that influence individuals and groups of individuals and discover how the context of society shapes our lives. This knowledge of the social and historical context in which people live will help us understand a person or group of people's experiences.

**Cultural, Diversity and Inclusion:** There are many misconceptions pertaining to what inclusion is and is not. Diversity has become a household term yet, many are not completely aware that is larger than matters of black and white. In this presentation, we will learn LGBTQ+ terminology, discuss implicit bias, belonging, ADA of 1973, and create calls to action.