

Dr. Anthony Sean Neal completed his undergraduate degree in Religion and Philosophy at Morehouse College. He earned the top average in religion, which garnered him a full scholarship to Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology. During this period, Anthony concentrated his studies in the areas of philosophical theology and political philosophy. His master's capstone thesis was entitled "Transforming Community Consciousness." After leaving Mercer, Anthony took his doctorate from Clark Atlanta University in Humanities focusing his studies in African American philosophy and religion. His dissertation is entitled, "Common Ground: A Comparison of the Ideas of Consciousness in the Writings of Howard W. Thurman and Huey P. Newton," which was revised and published as a book by the same title through Africa World Press in 2015. In this work, the subject of raising community consciousness as a means of community development and social transformation was explored. While studying this concept, the period of 1896 to 1975 was focused upon as the years that shaped the Modern Era of the African American Freedom Struggle, with the intent of demonstrating that it was during this period the first cadre of academically trained African American scholars, who would dedicate the bulk of their scholarship towards the goal of African American social transformation, developed. Beginning with the publication of W.E.B. DuBois' dissertation, this trend was traced through the New Negro Movement, the Black Arts Movement and the ensuing Black Power Movement. An article, which detailed this trend, was published by the *Journal of Pan-African Studies* in July 2016. Dr. Neal also wrote a chapter entitled "Imposing Morality: Cultural Perspectives on Truth, Apology, and Forgiveness in the U.S.A." in the edited work *Crimes against Humanity in the Land of the Free: Can a Truth and Reconciliation Process Heal Racial Conflict in America*. This book with Praeger Press was published in 2014. Anthony has also presented papers at many major conferences such as American Association of Religion, Philosophy Born of Struggle, and National Council of Black Studies, to name a few. His specialization areas are Aesthetics, Africana Philosophy, Critical Theory, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion. Anthony's presentation will be entitled, "Howard Thurman's Mystical Logic: Creatively Encountering Oneness," and it will explicate, in intricate detail, the logical framework essential to increasing philosophical acuity when reading Howard Thurman. The purpose in writing this work is to show the most salient of Thurman's ideas when considering him as a philosopher, especially in the area of philosophy of religion.