



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK PRESENTS  
**The 2024 Arthur L. Beeley Lecture**  
Sponsored by Charles S. Pohl, LCSW, CGP

# Barred from Learning

**Examining School Suspension &  
the Criminalization of Blackness in U.S. Public Schools**

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**  
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (MT)

Okazaki Community Meeting Room (155), University of Utah College of Social Work  
and Online via Zoom

Personal and institutional biases in public school systems contribute to the over-representation of Black students in school punishment settings. While one might assume Black students who receive suspensions are guilty of an offense, many are not, and they are often denied the opportunity to speak prior to the distribution of punishment. Dr. Charles Bell, assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences at Illinois State University, will discuss his work in interviewing hundreds of Black students (and their parents) who received out-of-school suspensions and the impact this discipline has had on their lives.



Dr. Bell's research explores how out-of-school suspension, seclusion, restraint, and school safety measures impact students, parents, and teachers. He also examines social factors that contribute to violent student-student and student-teacher altercations.



This event is free and open to the public  
Please register in advance: [socialwork.utah.edu/events](https://socialwork.utah.edu/events)  
1.5 NASW-approved CEUs anticipated