BIO:
Joy Pierce (PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication. Her research focuses on new media technologies and underserved populations, particularly Black and Mexican immigrant populations. Dr. Pierce employs critical cultural and contemporary social theories as well as qualitative research methods to interrogate inequities in digital media use among historically marginalized populations. Her works in new and emerging technologies, digital literacies, information communication policy and social problems have been presented at national and international conferences. She has published in communication, sociology, and qualitative methods journals and served as guest editor for a special issue of Social Identities. Dr. Pierce’s, Digital Fusion: A Society Beyond Blind Inclusion (Peter Lang Press, February 2015), is a culmination of more than a decade of community-based ethnographic research in two regions of the United States. Multi-vocal and multi-lingual narratives from racial and ethnic minorities as well as institutional administrators lay the groundwork for potential policy implications and digital infrastructure and design. She is working on a methodology book (Left Coast Press) that articulates the theoretical and practical significance of using autoethnography when working with underserved and marginalized populations.