Dr. Valin S. Jordan is an academic and social justice educator. She is a longtime educator beginning her career as an elementary special education teacher in her hometown of New York City, and eventually moving into higher education supporting the development of pre-service teachers and faculty towards more socially just practices in classrooms. From 2017-2020 she was an Assistant Professor of Diversity Education at University of Louisiana at Lafayette. After leaving UL she joined San Jose State University as the Associate Director of Teaching and Learning in the Center for Faculty Development. Dr. Jordan has recently started a new role as the National Director of Learning with a non-profit called Sponsors of Educational Opportunity. Dr. Jordan’s scholarship and teaching uses self-inquiry and contemplative practices as a tool for examining issues of oppression and marginalization as a way to move closer towards equity and social justice. She has publications in the Journal of Contemplative Inquiry, Perspectives on Urban Education, Research in Contemporary Education, and the American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies. Dr. Jordan recently published a book chapter entitled, “It’s Like Boiling a Frog”: Experiences of Deintellectualization, Devaluation, and Dehumanization through the eyes of a Black Woman Academician in the Deep South”. The book, Critical Perspectives on Teaching in the Southern United States is available now.

Dr. Jordan also founded an organization called Yoga4SocialJustice® in 2018. Through Yoga4SocialJustice® she provides workshops combining a yoga practice, which is a practice of embodied and spiritual learning to social justice work to support people in their continued efforts towards transformative change in our society. Dr. Jordan also produces a podcast called Being Social Justice, each episode focuses on the connections of mind, body, and spirit practices as it’s connected to the commitment of social change and justice – the podcast is available on Anchor, Apple, Google Podcast, and Spotify.