

Lauren Woodard

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2022– Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
- 2021–2022 Postdoctoral Associate and Lecturer in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies and Lecturer in Anthropology, Yale University, New Haven, CT

EDUCATION

- 2019 PhD, Anthropology, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA
- 2015 MA, Anthropology, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA
- 2011 BA, Russian Civilization, Smith College, Northampton, MA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Migration, processes of racialization, ethnicity, diversity, political anthropology, anthropology of the state, borders, diaspora, settler colonialism, climate change, multiculturalism, liberalism, postsocialism, Russia, former Soviet Union

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- In progress *Ambiguous Inclusion: Transforming Migrants into Compatriots on Russia's Border with China* (under advance contract with University of Toronto Press, with an anticipated submission date of April 30, 2024)

Peer-reviewed articles

- R & R “Conceptualizing moral migration: disillusionment, the transnational right, and migration to Russia,” submitted March 29, 2023 to *the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* and received revise and resubmit on September 8, 2023.
- 2022 “‘As if I Were an Illegal’: Racial Passing in Immigrant Russia,” *Cultural Anthropology* (37)4: 653–678.
- 2020 “‘Yeast for the Russian Land’: the Return of Primorskii krai’s Old Believers,” *REGION: Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia* (9)2: 81–99.

2018 "From Prikaz to Procedures: Becoming an International Organization in Post-Soviet Kazakhstan," *Political and Legal Anthropology Review* (41)1: 75–89.

Book reviews

2023 (Invited) *Racism in Modern Russia: From the Romanovs to Putin* by Eugene Avrutin, New York, Bloomsbury Academic, 2022, for *Canadian Slavonic Papers* 65 (2) 264–65.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External grants and fellowships

2023 Kennan Institute Title VIII Research Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC (May–August)

2022 Kelter Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College, Hartford, CT (declined)

2020 Kennan Institute Title VIII Research Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC (declined)

2018 Kennan Institute Title VIII Summer Research Scholarship, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC (May–June)

2017 Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fellowship for research in Moscow, Russia (April–August)

2016–2017 Fulbright Research Grant for research in Vladivostok, Russia (October 2016–April 2017)

2015 Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship for pre-dissertation research in Moscow (June–August)

2013 Kathryn Wasserman Davis Fellowship for Russian language training, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT (June–August)

2011–2012 Fulbright Research Grant to Kazakhstan for research in Almaty, Kazakhstan (August 2011–June 2012)

2010–2011 Boren Scholarship for language study in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia (August 2010–June 2011)

Internal grants and fellowships

- 2018 European Field Studies Graduate Student Research Award, University of Massachusetts Amherst, for fieldwork in Moscow (October)
- 2018 University of Massachusetts Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship Award for writing (January–May)
- 2013–2014 Culture and Heritage in European Societies and Spaces grant for fieldwork and data analysis training (September 2013–December 2014) and fieldwork in Almaty, Kazakhstan (February–May 2014)
- 2013 University of Massachusetts Anthropology Department Pre-Dissertation Research Award for fieldwork in Almaty, Kazakhstan (May–June 2013)

INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

Invited talks

- 2023 “Ambiguous Inclusion: Transforming Migrants into Compatriots on Russia’s Border with China,” Kennan Institute, Wilson Center, Washington, DC, June 6
- 2022 “A Common Language, a Common Culture? Producing Similarity, Difference, and Race in Migrant Russia,” Smith College, March 23
- 2022 “A Common Language, a Common Culture? Producing Similarity, Difference, and Migrant Categories in Russia,” Yale University, February 24
- 2021 “Like Yeast for the Russian Land: Climate Migration and Race along Russia’s Border with China,” *Global Vantage Point Lecture Series*, Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College, November 2
- 2021 “Talking about Whiteness: Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia,” *Race in Focus Series*, University of Pittsburgh and ASEES, February 19
- 2019 “The Politics of Return: Russia’s Resettlement of Compatriots Program in the Far East,” George Washington University, Washington, DC, March 19
- 2018 “The Politics of Return: Migration and Development in Russia’s Far East,” US Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC, August 1
- 2018 “Russia’s Compatriots: Imperialist Tools or Demographic Resources?” Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC, June 8
- 2017 “Returning Home? Stories of Resettlement through the Compatriots Program,” The Institute of Socio-Political Research, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, June 22 (in Russian)

- 2017 “The Politics of Return: the Resettlement of Compatriots Program in Primorskii krai,” Institute of Demography, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia, June 13 (in Russian)
- 2016 “Migration and Development: Russia’s Resettlement of Compatriots Program in Primorskii krai,” Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia, December 3

Conferences and workshops organized

- 2022 “Redefining Borders and Peripheries in Central Asia and the Far East,” two-day conference organized for Yale University’s MacMillan Center in collaboration with University of Cambridge’s History Faculty and Moscow State University, virtual, May (co-organized with Malika Zekhni and Nargis Nurulla-Khodzhaeva) (canceled due to war in Ukraine)

Sessions organized or chaired

- 2023 “Europe, Coloniality, and Colonialism: an Anthropological Perspective,” panel chaired for Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, December
- 2022 “Unsettling Bureaucracy: Negotiating Subjectivities, Mediating Spaces, and Upsetting Categories,” session organized for American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, November
- 2021 “Russian Politics in the Late Putin Era,” session organized for Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, November (rescheduled from 2020 due to COVID)
- 2018 “A Friendship of Peoples? Race and Racism in Post-Socialist Societies,” invited session organized for American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November

Conference presentations

- 2023 “Ukrainian Refugees, Filtration Camps, and Forced Migration on the Russia-China Border,” panel on “Empire and Mobility: Migration Categories and Their Lived Experiences” at Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, December
- 2022 “Towards an Anthropology of Public Service: Transforming Migrants into Compatriots in Russia’s Far East,” panel on “Unsettling Bureaucracy” (chair in session) at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, November

- 2022 “Ukrainian Refugees, Filtration Camps, and Forced Migration on the Russia-China Border,” at New York Conference on Asian Studies, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, October
- 2021 “A Common Language, a Common Culture: Whiteness in Productions of Russian Compatriotism,” panel on “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Russian Politics in the Late Putin Era” (chair in session) at Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, virtual, December
- 2021 “Promoting Similarity and Constructing Compatriots in Russia’s Far East,” at Aleksanteri Institute’s Conference on Eurasia and Global Migration, virtual, October
- 2018 “Black and White: Navigating Raciolinguistic Identities in Russia,” panel on “A Friendship of Peoples? Race and Racism in Post-Socialist Societies” at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November
- 2017 “Intentional Ambiguity: Contradictions in Russia’s Migration Policies,” panel on “Keeping the Gate: Refugee Management as Statemaking in a Post-Sovereign Era” at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November
- 2017 “The Politics of Return: Repatriation and Development in Russia’s Far East,” panel on “The Russian Far East: Historical Lessons from Migration Policies, Relocation and Consolidation of the Population” at Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, November
- 2015 “From Kazakhstan to Connecticut: Fieldwork and Fieldnotes in Back-to-Back Ethnography,” panel on Reflections on Methods, Familiarity & Strangeness in the Fieldwork Encounter at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November
- 2015 “Becoming International: Changing Dialogues of Development in Central Asia,” panel on Crisis and Economic Development at Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March
- 2014 “Dammed if We Do? Water, Power, and Aid in Central Asia,” panel on International Relations of Resources Management at Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Meeting, Columbia University, NY, October
- 2012 “Imagining Kazakhstani Identity from a Youth Perspective,” panel organized at KIMEP International Research Conference, Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research, Almaty, Kazakhstan, April

2012 “Imagining Kazakhstani Identity,” panel on Central Asia organized for Fulbright South and Central Asia Regional Conference, Cochin, India, March

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Awards

2023 International Relations Teaching Award, which recognizes excellence in teaching and contributions to the International Relations Undergraduate Program

Syracuse University, Assistant Professor

Global Encounters: Comparing World Views and Values Cross-Culturally (spring 2023, introductory cultural anthropology lecture)

Migration and the Everyday (fall 2022, upper-level undergraduate seminar)

Transformations in Eastern Europe (fall 2022, upper-level undergraduate/MA seminar)

Yale University, Lecturer

Race and Ethnicity: Soviet and Post-Soviet Debates about Diversity (spring 2021 and 2022, upper-level undergraduate/MA seminar)

Migration and the Everyday in Russia and Eurasia (fall 2021, upper-level undergraduate/MA seminar)

The Politics of Diversity from Central-Eastern Europe to Russia (co-taught with Agnieszka Pasięka, spring 2021, upper-level undergraduate/MA seminar, online)

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Teaching Assistant

Problems in Anthropology (fall 2017)

Russian Politics, Law and Society (fall 2014)

Elementary Russian (fall 2014, spring 2015, fall 2015, spring 2016, fall 2017)

Introduction to Anthropology: Culture through Film (fall 2013)

Introduction to Anthropology: Ancient Civilizations (spring 2013)

Introduction to Anthropology: Culture, Society and People (fall 2012)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018–2020 Analyst, US Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC
Conducted mixed methods research for US congressional committees on effectiveness of government programs for nuclear cleanup, veteran employment, and Indian Health Service’s response to COVID-19.
- 2017–2018 Visiting Scholar, Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University
- 2016–2017 Visiting Scholar, the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Russia, and the Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok, Russia
- 2016 Research Assistant, *Examining Multilevel System Dynamics Affecting HIV Community Viral Load*, Institute for Community Research, Hartford, CT
Conducted interviews and participant observation as part of multidisciplinary team on HIV in Hartford, CT area.
- 2015–2016 Research Assistant, Regine Spector, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- 2015–2016 Research Assistant, William Taubman, Amherst College, Amherst, MA
- 2008–2010 Planning Intern, Planning and Sustainability, City of Northampton, MA

COMMISSIONED REPORTS

US Government Accountability Office, Analyst (contributor)

- 2021 “Indian Health Service: Actions Needed to Improve Oversight of Federal Facilities’ Decision-Making About the Use of Funds.” Report. Washington, DC: US Government Accountability Office, November 12, 2020. GAO-21-20.
- 2020 “Veteran Federal Employment: OPM and Agencies Could Better Leverage Data to Help Improve Veteran Retention Rates.” Report. Washington, DC: US Government Accountability Office, July 22, 2020. GAO-20-592.
- 2019 “Nuclear Cleanup: Actions Needed to Improve Cleanup Efforts at DOE’s Three Former Gaseous Diffusion Plants.” Report. Washington, DC: US Government Accountability Office, December 17, 2019. GAO-20-63.

SERVICE

- 2023 Member of Salary Committee, Department of Anthropology, Syracuse University

- 2023 Ad Hoc Book Manuscript Reviewer, Routledge
Ad Hoc Peer Manuscript Reviewer, *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2022 Ad Hoc Peer Manuscript Reviewer, *REGION*
- 2021–2022 Coordinator for Social Sciences and Humanities, Faculty-Postdoc Mentorship Program, Yale Postdoctoral Association
- 2021 Ad Hoc Peer Manuscript Reviewer, *REGION*
- 2020 Ad Hoc Peer Manuscript Reviewer, *American Anthropologist*
- 2019–2020 Co-led Qualitative Data Analysis Community of Practice and provided on-demand training on using NVivo for qualitative data analysis, US Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC
- 2016 Planned and co-led a group of 16 undergraduate students on two-week cultural immersion trip to Russia, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2014–2015 Served as graduate representative on Department Personnel Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2013–2015 Served as treasurer for Graduate Association of Europeanists, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2012 Reviewed and selected high school student applications to study in the US for Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) Program, American Councils for International Education, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2011–2012 Served on founding committee of American Corner, a community center with learning resources in English, and ran weekly women’s group at the Zhambyl Youth Library, Almaty, Kazakhstan

LANGUAGES

Fluency in Russian
Native in English

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association (AAA), 2015–present
Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), 2017–present