

Ishan Elizabeth Gordon-Garth

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Cultural Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center, February 2022

- Dissertation: “*She Too ‘Omanish.*” Young Black Women’s Sexuality and Reproductive Justice in Bluefields, Nicaragua.”
- Committee: Dr. Dana-Ain Davis (Chair), Dr. Leith Mullings, Dr. Ismael García-Colón, Dr. Donald Robotham, and Dr. Juliet Hooker

M.A. Cultural Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center, Spring 2018 ○

Supervisor: Dr. Dana-Ain Davis

B.A. Cultural Anthropology, Africana Studies (Minor), *Magna Cum Laude*, Howard University, Spring 2012

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- The Anthropology of Afro-Central America (politics, history, and culture).
- Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latin American gender, sexuality, and reproduction.
- Black Feminist - Critical Race Theory.
- Afro-Diasporic Sexuality and Reproductive Justice.
- Cultural Politics of Race and Gender in the African Diaspora.
- Feminist Ethnographic Methods.

PUBLICATIONS

2022 Gordon-Ugarte, Ishan. 2022. “*A Christmas Play, Sexual Panic, and Reproductive Justice in Bluefields, Nicaragua.*” In Melanie A. Medeiros, Keisha-Khan Y. Perry eds. Black Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: Critical Research and Perspectives. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

2018 “Sexual Panic’ in Bluefields, Nicaragua.” *The Center for Anthropology and Reproduction Newsletter: Fall 2016 v 23 #2*. Council for Anthropology and Reproduction.

- 2017 with Edmund Wyatt Gordon and Andrew Shurtleff. “*High-Performance Learning Communities.*” In Betina Jean-Louis, Edmund W. Gordon, Nkechi Obiora eds. Strengthening Families, Communities, and Schools to Support Children's Development Neighborhoods of Promise. N.Y.: Routledge.
- 2016 “*On the Power and Potential Drawbacks of Challenging Positivism.*” In DanaAin Davis and Crista Craven eds. Feminist Ethnography: Thinking Through Methodologies Challenges and Possibilities. N.Y.: Rowman and Littlefield.
- 2016 “*Whitney Battle-Baptiste on Historical Archaeology and Literary Fiction.*” In Dana-Ain Davis and Crista Craven eds. Feminist Ethnography: Thinking Through Methodologies Challenges and Possibilities. N.Y.: Rowman and Littlefield

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

- 2024 Gordon-Ugarte, Ishan., Offen, Karl. 2023. “*The Hodgson’s: A Genealogy of Blackness on the Atlantic Coast.*”
- 2024 “*UT’s Fraternity Row and the Studentification of Wheatville.*” (Peer Reviewed article)
- 2024 “*Breeding Women: Mosquitian Creole Women as Slave Holders.*” (Peer Reviewed article)
- 2024 “*San Jeronimo: The Cultural Production of Sexual Panic.*” (Peer Reviewed Article)
- 2025 Reproductive Justice: Sexual Panic in a Black Community. (Book Manuscript)

PROJECT REPORTS

- 2018 with Dana-Ain Davis. “Sexual and Reproductive Justice Community Engagement Documentation Project.” New York City Department of Health.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 “Sexual Panic in Black Nicaragua.” Presented at the 115th Anthropological Association Minneapolis. April 2016.
- 2011 “The Hidden Life at Ojo Caliente” poster presentation at Society for American Archaeology and Howard University Undergraduate Research Symposium, February 2011.

HONORS/AWARDS

- 2017 – 2018 Dean K Harrison fellowship (research)
2016 CUNY Doctoral Student Research Grant
2013 – 2018 Harrison Grant, CUNY Graduate Center
2008 – 2012 Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude. Howard University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 Instructor, “Sex and Power in the African Diaspora” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- Co-Instructor, “Power and Place in Making Texas History” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- Co-Instructor, “Introduction to Black Studies” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- 2023 Instructor, “Race/Gender/Surveillance” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- Co-Instructor, “Power and Place in Making Texas History” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- Co-Instructor, “Introduction to Black Studies” African and African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas at Austin.
- 2021 Instructor, “Ethnography of Youth and Social Justice” Anthropology Department, John Jay College.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2023 – Present

Assistant Professor of Instruction, Department of African and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin

March 2022 – Present

Research Associate for City of Austin (COA), on a social justice project conducted by the COA Equity Office. Gathered data from deeds, releases, liens, archived newspapers and yearbooks, and tax reports. Organized information in a database to ensure data can be easily analyzed. Conducted literature searches. Created a literature review of published scholarly articles related to gentrification, displacement, studentification, and community reform. Analyzed multidisciplinary research to find associations between topics and themes like the intersection of race, gender, and university-involved expansion into surrounding communities of color to show who, when, and how the Wheatville freedom colony was displaced by fraternities at UT Austin. This project ultimately pushes for community reform through reparations and education.

January 2017 – January 2019

Anthropology Department at CUNY Grad Center, research assistant to Dr. Leith Mullings. Developed a database of “Unarmed Black Murder by Police.” Worked on multidisciplinary research to find associations between topics and themes like the intersection of race, gender, and police brutality. Conducted literature searches. Collected data, organized it, and participated in data analysis.

March 2016 – August 2017

Anthropology Department at CUNY Grad Center. Research assistant to Dr. Mullings, the lead researcher for North America, for the IAF and Wenner-Gren funded project “When Rights Ring Hollow: Racism and Antiracist Horizons in the Americas.” For this project I engaged in participant observation of Black Lives Matters meetings in NYC, interviewed Black Lives Matters members, created a database of all Black Lives Matters protests, meetings, events, etc. and analyzed Black Lives Matters as a Movement. I created a Retrospective Report on the Black Lives Matter Movement this was a draft for the article “Neoliberal Racism and the Movement for Black Lives in the United States.”

January 2016 – December 2016

New York City Department of Health Project. Graduate research consultant with Dr. Dana-Ain Davis. Contributed to developmental research examining the relationship between race, class, gender, sexuality, and reproductive justice. Conducted ethnographic research/participant observation of community meetings at the Department of Health. Produced a research report containing concise recommendations for how minority women can access reproductive justice. Conducted open-ended interviews of participants. Developed qualitative data analysis: pattern recognition, key insights, and actionable recommendations. Assisted in creating quantitative and qualitative analytical processes for data analysis. Obtained informed consent from participants

and their guardians. Edited early drafts of research reports ensuring they were ready for publication by looking for grammatical and conceptual errors. Input data into SPSS and ran descriptive analysis. Transcribed interviews.

August 2012 – April 2013

The Gordon Committee on the Future of Assessment in Education

Assisted editors in managing a team of over 20 writers working on 20-plus articles at any one time. Drafted and edited grant proposals. Participated in copyediting, content editing, and proofreading. Used technology to send masses of complex information, creating one voice from communications written by multiple team members. Worked with academic members of the project team to deliver project outcomes. Responsible for writing up research papers and presenting research findings to senior managers and at academic meetings. Transcribed, recorded, and documented meetings.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Graduate

Blackness and the Human: Exploring a Radical Black Anthropology (independent study)

Colonialism, Race, Intimacy and Reproduction (independent study)

Afro-Pessimism, Race, and Gender

Politics of Reproduction

Feminist Ethnographies

Medical Anthropology

Gender and State in Latin America

Immigration, Race, and Citizenship

Ethnography of the US

Transnational Social Movements

Placing Race and Nation

Language, Sex, and Gender

Youth Cultures in the Americas

ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

Society for American Archaeology, American Anthropological Association, Association of Black Anthropologists, Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Association of Latino/a and Latinax Anthropologists, Society for Cultural Anthropology, Critical Urban Anthropology Association, Society for Medical Anthropology, Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Association for Queer Anthropology, Association for Feminist Anthropologists

LANGUAGES

Standard English (native speaker and written), Miskito Coast Creole English (native speaker), Spanish (spoken)