

# VANESSA RADITZ, MPH

Queer Cultural Geographer & Ecological Justice Researcher, Educator, and Organizer

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## EDUCATION

University of Georgia, Athens, GA Aug 2019-Present

PhD Student in Geography | GPA 4.0 | Anticipated Graduation May 2025  
Advisor: Dr. Hilda Kurtz | Committee: Drs. Jennifer Rice, Nik Heynen, and Patricia Richards  
Dissertation: Towards Queer Ecojustice Studies

University of California, Berkeley, CA Aug 2013-May 2016

Master of Public Health in Environmental Health Sciences | GPA 3.88/4  
Final Projects: Indigenous Foodways Program Proposal | Cumulative Risk Assessment of  
Traffic-Related Air Pollution in Urban Agriculture

Smith College, Northampton, MA Aug 2010-May 2012

Bachelor of Arts Conferred May 2012 | Psychology Major | Neuroscience Minor | GPA: 3.89/4  
Vassar College: August 2008-2010

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Queering Biocultural Diversity | Gendered Racial Capitalism | Coalitional Politics & Social Justice

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

Digital Video Production (Canon DSLR) & Editing (Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere and After Effects) |  
Collaborative Qualitative Research | Interview & Focus Group Facilitation | ArcGIS StoryMaps  
Languages: Spanish (Intermediate-Conversational) and French (Introductory)

## RESEARCH FUNDING AND MONETARY AWARDS

\$1,500	UGA Graduate School - Research & Communications Grant	2022
\$2,500	UGA Office of Sustainability - Earth Gay Organizing	2022
\$15,335	Fire & Flood Film Grassroots Fundraising	2019-Present
\$24,000	UGA Graduate Research Assistantship (per year and tuition remission)	2019-Present
\$5,000	UGA xPD Graduate Assistantship in Digital Humanities	2020
\$2,000	UGA Graduate School's Innovative Interdisciplinary Research Grant	2020
\$1,000	UGA Willson Center's Graduate Research Award	2020
\$25,000	Bay Area Air Quality Management District	2018
\$10,000	Opportunity Grant, UC Agriculture and Natural Resource	2017
\$30,000	Green Initiative Fund, UC Berkeley	2016
\$12-24,000	UCB Graduate Instructor Assistantship (per year and tuition remission)	2014
\$25,000	UCB School of Public Health Fellowship Award	2013

Updated July 2022

## COMMUNITY-DRIVEN AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

Graduate Research Assistant, "Athens Eviction Mapping," Community Mapping Lab	2022
<i>Eviction data collection and visualization; mentoring undergraduate research</i>	
Director, Fire & Flood Film: Queer Resilience in the Era of Climate Change	2017-Present
<i>Collaborative Documentary Film; Qualitative Interviews, Focus Groups</i>	
Co-Founder & Educator, Queer Ecojustice Project	2015-Present
<i>National network inquiring into the intersections of Ecological Justice and Queer Liberation</i>	
Qready Project Director, Out for Sustainability	2019-Present
<i>Resilience Preparedness of LGBTQ centers, mixed-methods project in preparation</i>	
Citizen Science Coordinator, Produce Safety after Urban Wildfire, UC Coop Extension	2017-2020
<i>Cumulative environmental health impact assessment of air pollution from wildfires on local produce and agricultural soil</i>	
Graduate Research Assistant & Stewardship Council, UC Gill Tract Community Farm	2014-2016
<i>Co-developed mission, vision, values, and governance structure for community-university partnership in sustainable urban agriculture and food justice</i>	

## TEACHING AND CURRICULUM DESIGN

Instructor of Record   University of Georgia	
World Geography	Spring 2021
Human Geography	Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant   University of Georgia	
World Geography   Nik Heynen   Josh Barkan	Fall 2020, Fall 2021
Teaching Apprentice   University of Georgia	
Digital Humanities Pedagogy (Graduate-level teaching course)	Fall 2020
Graduate Student Instructor   University of California, Berkeley	
Environmental Health and Development   Rachel Morello-Frosch	Spring 2016
Environmental Philosophy and Ethics   Carolyn Merchant	Fall 2015
Environmental Justice   Dara O'Rourke	Spring 2014
Instructor and Curriculum Design   Democratic Education at Cal (DeCal)   UC Berkeley	
Queer Ecologies & Collective Liberation   Carolyn Merchant	Spring 2016
Food & Justice Storytelling   Public Service Center	Fall 2014-Jan 2015
Community-Based Teaching & Curriculum Design	
Bridge Academy College Prep Instructor	Aug 2016-Aug 2017
Larkin Street Youth Services   San Francisco, CA	
Gonzalez Environmental Justice Leadership Academy	Summer 2014
Greenaction   Salinas Valley, CA	

## PUBLICATIONS

### Forthcoming:

Fontenot, Desi and Vanessa Raditz. *Queer Ecojustice*. Book proposal in progress for a popular press west-coast publisher focused on ecosocial movements. Estimated publication: 2025-6.

Tilland-Stafford, Anika and Vanessa Raditz. *Hands in the Dirt: Teaching Queer Ecojustice in the Women's Studies Classroom*. Book proposal in progress for a popular press west-coast publisher focused on ecosocial movements. Estimated publication: 2026-7.

### Academic Publications

Raditz, Vanessa. "Collaborative documentary film for representational justice; The praxis of visibilizing queer and trans people in climate disasters." (2022) *The Just City in the Era of Climate Change: Theory, Praxis, Resistance*. Edited by Jennifer L. Rice, Joshua Long, and Anthony Levenda.

Goldsmith, L., Raditz, V. and Méndez, M. (2021), *Queer and Present Danger: Understanding the Disparate Impacts of Disasters on LGBTQ+ Communities*. Disasters. Accepted Author Manuscript. <https://doi.org/10.1111/disa.12509>

### Non-Academic Publications

Berne, Patty and Vanessa Raditz. "To Survive Climate Change, look to Queer and Disabled folks." *YES Magazine*. 2019. -- Reprinted in Wong, A. *Disability visibility: First-person stories from the twenty-first century*. Vintage. 2020.

Raditz, Vanessa. "Queer Land Justice." *The New Farmer's Almanac*, Vol 4. The Greenhorns. Chelsea Green Publishing. 2019.

Raditz, Vanessa, Julia Van Soelen-Kim, Rob Bennaton, Suzi Grady, Mimi Enright. *Final Report: Produce Safety After Urban Wildfire Citizen Science Initiative*. UC Cooperative Extension of Sonoma County and Petaluma Bounty Farm. 2019.

Fontenot, Desi and Vanessa Raditz. "Queer Ancestral Futures; From Queer Ecologies to Queer Ecojustice: Collective Liberation for People and the Planet." *Towards a Common Survival*. Institute of Queer Ecologies. 2018.

Dayaneni, Gopal and Vanessa Raditz. "To achieve a just transition, we must queer our movements." *From Banks and Tanks to Cooperation and Caring; A Strategic Framework for a Just Transition*. Movement Generation. 2017.

## EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS & FACILITATION - *ACADEMIC*

### Guest Lectures & Invited Talks

“Representational Justice in Climate Change Narratives” Guest Lecture   Introduction to Sustainability   Harvard Extension	April 2, 2022
“Intersectional Climate Vulnerability & Justice” Guest Lecture   Introduction to Human Geography   University of Georgia	Oct 27, 2021
“Queer Resilience in the era of Climate Change” Invited Lecture   Pandemic as Portal Series   University of Oregon	Mar 9, 2021
“Justice at the Roots: Climate Justice 101” Guest Lecture   Intro Env Studies   LIU Global College	Nov 5, 2020
“Visibilizing queer and trans people in climate disasters.” Invited Lecture   Institute for Women’s Studies   University of Georgia	Jan 31, 2020
“Queer Resilience in the Time of Climate Change.” Invited Workshop   Gender and Equity Center   University of California, Berkeley	Feb 1, 2018

### Fire & Flood Academic Screenings

Western Washington University   Intro to Women and Gender Studies	2019, 20, 21, 22
MiraCosta College	2022
University of Oklahoma	2022
Agnes Scott College	2021
Binghamton University	2021
Rice University   Fondren Library	2021
Oregon State University	2021
Sonoma State University   Department of Nursing	2020
Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayagüez	2019
University of Georgia   Global Gender Grad Seminar; Political Ecology Grad Seminar	2019
Yale University   School of Forestry	2019
Duke University   Gender, Sexuality, Feminist Studies	2019
Merrimack College   McQuade Library	2019
University of Massachusetts, Amherst   W.E.B. DuBois Library	2019

### Organized Paper Sessions & Panels

(Canceled due to COVID19) Out in the Fields; Challenges and Opportunities for Queer Farmers in Sustainable Ag, Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Symposium. UGA, Athens, GA. [2020](#).

### Conference Papers & Workshops

Queer Ancestral Futures. Dimensions of Political Ecology. U of Kentucky, March 2022

Roundtable: Ecological Crisis in the age of Ecological Crisis. Dimensions of Political Ecology. U of Kentucky, March 2022

Visibilizing Queer Resilience. American Association of Geographers. April [2021](#).

Representational Justice as Scholar-Activism. Dimensions of Political Ecology. U of Kentucky, Feb 27, 2020.

Visibilizing queer and trans people in climate disasters. Social Justice Symposium. UGA School of Social Work Jan 31, 2020.

## EVENTS, PRESENTATIONS & FACILITATION - COMMUNITY

### Guest Lectures & Invited Talks

Forthcoming: Pride panel, Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA).

Forthcoming: Social vulnerability to extreme heat webinar series. National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS).

Queer and Present Danger: Disparate Disaster Impacts. Community panel including FEMA's Office of External Affairs. December 2, 2022.

La Intersección de Cambio Climático y Derechos LGBTQ+ (The intersection of Climate Change and LGBTQ+ Rights). "SREescucha" series. Subsecretary of Human Rights, Office of External Relations, Mexico. June, 2020.

A Safer Response: Including LGBTQ Communities in Disaster Planning and Resilience. California Department of Public Health, California Building Resilience Against Climate Change Effects (CalBRACE). August 16th, 2018.

Building Bridges, Creating Connections, Increasing Resilience. Panel Discussant. Northern California Building Resilient Communities Permaculture Convergence. Hopland, CA. September 16, 2016.

### Fire & Flood Community Screenings

"Earth Gay! Gay de la Tierra: Un evento bilingue", Athens, GA, April 22, 2022

Intersectional Environmentalism, online screening 2021

Lilith Archive and Shado Magazine, online screening 2021

Scottish Queer International Film Festival, online screening 2020

American Library Association, "Libraries Respond to Climate Change" 2020

Newark Public Library, 2019

Interlocking Roots, 2019

### Core Organizing Roles:

Queer Ecologies! An LGBTQ Mixer. Bioneers Conference. San Rafael, CA. 2018 and 2019

Out in the Open Summit for Rural and Small town LGBTQ community. Brattleboro, VT. 2018.

Queer Magic Center. Building Resilient Communities Permaculture Convergence. Hopland, CA. 2017 and 2018

Queers4ClimateJustice Contingent to the RISE March for Climate, Jobs, and Justice. San Francisco, CA 2018.

### Workshops and Panels:

Crafting a Rural Queer Femifesto. Out in the Open Summit. Brattleboro, VT. Nov 10th, 2018.

Dreaming the Queer Ecological Future. Bioneers Conference, Youth Unity Tent. San Rafael, CA. October 20, 2018.

Queer Ecologies 101: The Biological Exuberance of Living Beings. Permaculture Convergence. Hopland, CA. Sept 20, 2018.

Honoring LGBTQ Ancestors. Burlington County Library System. Bordentown, NJ. June, 2018.

Queer Resilience in the Time of Climate Change. Creating Change Conference. Washington, DC. January 20th, 2018.

Community Town-Hall: Produce Safety after Urban Wildfire. Santa Rosa, CA. Nov 17th, 2017.

Just Transition and Resilience-Based Organizing. Out in the Open Summit. Brattleboro, VT. October, 29th, 2017.

Queering Climate Change & Organizing for a Just Transition. Creating Change Conference. Philadelphia, PA. Jan 18, 2017.

Queer Ecojustice for Collective Liberation. Powershift West Conference. Berkeley, CA. November 12, 2016.

Resilience-Based Organizing for a Just Transition. West Coast Communities Conference. Guerneville, CA. October 2, 2016.

## COURSEWORK:

### Doctoral (Geography):

Content: Political Ecology, Racial Capitalism, Queer Abolition, Black Feminism, Environment Gender Race Class, Global Perspectives on Gender, History of Geographic Thought

Methods: Feminist Research Methods, Analyzing Qualitative Data, Qualitative Research Methods, Digital Video Production, Visual Anthropology,

Pedagogy: Feminist Pedagogy, Digital Humanities Pedagogy,

### Masters (Public Health):

Content: Race, Identity, and the Environment; Environmental Health Sciences; Workers' Health and Social Justice; Health Policy Advocacy; Science and Policy for Ecology and Health; Social Epidemiology; Biological Embedding of Social Factors; Risk Assessment; Toxicology; Exposure Assessment and Control;

Methods: Introduction to GIS; GIS for Health; Science and Power; Introduction to Statistics for Public Health Research; Categorical Statistics

Pedagogy: Critical Pedagogy; Intro to Teaching in Public Health

### Undergraduate (Psychology with Neuroscience Minor):

Pre-Medical: Biology, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, EMT Certification

Additional Interests: Women and Gender Studies, Medical Anthropology, Advanced Poetry, Latin American Poetry of War & Peace (Spanish-language course),

## ACADEMIC SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founding Committee Member | Social Justice Committee | UGA Geography

Fall 2020- Present

Editorial Assistant | Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space

Jan 2021- Sept 2021

Apprentice Instructor   Digital Humanities Graduate Pedagogy Seminar	Fall 2020
Professional Development Assistantship   UGA Digital Humanities Lab	Summer 2020
Finalist   Three Minute Thesis Competition   UGA	May 2020

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Contracts

Pt Bonita YMCA - Queer Ecologies Curriculum & Staff Training	2018-2019
Indigenous Land Access Committee – Grant Research Consultant	2016
Multinational Exchange in Sustainable Agriculture – Grant Research Consultant	2016

### Agricultural Experience

Volunteer Lead, Nellie B Community Garden, Athens, GA	May 2021 - Present
Edible Landscaper, Hungry Gnome, Athens, GA	Apr 2020 - Present
Seasonal Support Staff, Isles, Inc., Trenton, NJ	May-Aug 2018
Part-time farm staff, Fernbrook Farm CSA, Chesterfield, NJ	Mar-Aug 2018
Environmental Educator, Fernbrook Farm Education Center, Chesterfield, NJ	Mar-May 2018
Part-time farm staff, New Hope Farms Cooperative, Martinez, CA	May-Jul 2016
Various Positions, UC Gill Tract Community Farm, Albany, CA	Jan 2014-May 2016
Health Educator, “Gardening for Health”, Petaluma, CA	Aug 2012-Aug 2013
Intern, Prospect Meadow Farm, Hatfield, MA	Jan-Jun 2013
WWOOF Volunteer, Several locations, Japan	May-Aug 2010
Assistant to Community Seeds Program, Poughkeepsie Farm Project, NY	Aug 2009-May 2010