

Raquel Douglas

Brown University

Department of Sociology and Institute at Brown for Environment and Society

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

2022-Present *Graduate Affiliate*, Institute at Brown for Environment and Society
 2023 *Lecturer in Environmental Sociology and History*, Brown Environmental Leadership Lab in Alaska

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

Expected 2026 Ph.D. Sociology, Brown University

- Committee: José Itzigsohn, Rachel Wetts, Anthony Barrymore Bogues, Paget Henry, Laura López-Sanders
- Alden Speare, Jr. Award for Excellent Master's Thesis
- Exams: Cultural Sociology (distinction) and Environmental Sociology

2024 Getting Started With Oral History, Baylor Institute of Oral History
 2024 Afro-Indigenous Permaculture Design Certification, Solidarity R.O.O.T.S. Jamaica
 2022 M.A. Sociology, Brown University
 2020 Oral History Training Certificate, Center for Oral History
 2019 B.A. Economics and Africana Studies, Williams College

- *cum laude* with honors in Africana
- Howard University – Visiting Student for Spring 2018
- SIT: IHP Cities in the 21st Century: São Paulo, Brazil; Cape Town, South Africa; Ahmedabad, India – Urban Studies Student

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Engaged Scholarship Mini-grant, Swearer Center: \$500
 2023 Institute at Brown for Environment and Society Research & Training Grant: \$5000
 2023 Beatrice and Joseph Feinburg Memorial Fund for Dissertation Research Grant: \$479
 2022 Explore and Expand Grants, Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship: \$1500
 2021 Alden Speare, Jr. Award for Excellent Master's Thesis, Brown University: \$250
 2019 Cultivating Community Award, The Allison Davis Center in the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity
 2019 Sterling A. Brown Citizenship Prize for Community Leadership, Williams College: \$100
 2018 Leadership Alliance/C3 Fellowship and Grant, Columbia University: \$5000
 2018 Van Duyne Fellowship and Grant, Williams College: \$900
 2017 Allison Davis Center Outstanding Initiative Award for *From Lavender to Purple Ephs*, Williams College
 2016 Michele Y. and Steven S. Rogers Class of 1979 Black Student Union Scholar, Williams College

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH

2022 Breakthrough Lab Fellowship, Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship: \$4000
 2020 Summer Mentored Research Fellowship — John Logan, Brown University: \$2000
 2019-22 Graduate Fellowship, Brown University: \$9000
 2018 Leadership Alliance/C3 Fellowship and Grant, Columbia University: \$5000
 2018 Van Duyne Fellowship and Grant, Williams College
 2016 Public Policy Leadership Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School
 2016 Class of '57 Research Fellow — Lucie Schmidt, Williams College
 2015 EMERGE Fellow, Houston, Tx

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-Present *Environmental Working Group*, Institute at Brown for Environment and Society
 2020 *Graduate Research Assistant*, Brown University
 2019 *Policy Intern*, Mayor's Office of Education, Houston, Texas
 2018 *Leadership Alliance Research Fellow*, Columbia University

2017-2018 *Policy Intern, Coalition on Human Needs, Washington, DC*
 2016 *Economics Research Assistant, Williams College*

PUBLICATIONS

Douglas, Rocky. 2022. "‘Trauma Is Carried in the Spirit:’ The Praxis, Pedagogy, and Freedom Dreams of Black Women’s Healing Faith Practices." Brown University Thesis Repository.
 Douglas, Raquel. 2019. "Reimagine: The Effect of the 2015 Houston METRO Network Reform on Access to Public Transit." Williams Unbound.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

2024 "Trauma is Carried in the Spirit:’ The Praxis, Pedagogy, and Freedom Dreams of Black Women’s Spiritual Practices"
 ➤ Legacy of W.E.B. Du Bois: Crossing Boundaries for Social Justice Conference, Providence, RI
 2023 "Towards Black Landways: Rooting Environmental Sociology in the Black Radical Tradition"
 ➤ Yale Conference in Religion and Ecology, New Haven, CT
 ➤ Eastern Sociological Society, Accepted, Philadelphia, PA
 "Spiritual Tools for Mental Health and Wholeness"
 ➤ Invited Talk for Black Women for Wellness in Los Angeles, CA
 2021 "Root Care: Groundings with my Friends, Cultivating Joy and Collective Restoration."
 ➤ (Re)Imagining and (Re)Claiming Pleasure and Liberation at Harvard Mahindra Humanities Center
 2019 "Reimagine: The Effect of the 2015 Houston METRO Network Reform on Access to Public Transit."
 ➤ Women in Economics Research Conference, Williamstown, MA
 2018 "Reimagine: The Effect of the 2015 Houston METRO Network Reform on Access to Public Transit."
 ➤ Columbia University, New York, NY
 ➤ Leadership Alliance National Symposium, Hartford, CT

EXHIBITIONS

2024 Douglas, Raquel, *Fresh Out of Water*, ca. 2023, poem, The Black Biennial Digital Exhibition, Accepted April 2024
 2019 Douglas, Raquel, *The Weight of It All*, ca. 2018, acrylic and pencil on canvas, 8.5"x11," Schow Gallery for "For Such A Time As This" exhibition, curated by Dr. Rhon Manigault Bryant, In display January 2019-May 2019, Williamstown, MA.
 Assistant to the curator. My archival research and multimedia painting were featured
 2016-Present Douglas, Raquel, *From Lavender to Purple Ephs - Mission*, ca. 2016, framed archival print mounted on Gatorboard, 66"x60"x3" Mission Park, In display November 2016-present, Williamstown, MA.
 2016-Present Douglas, Raquel, *From Lavender to Purple Ephs - Paresky*, ca. 2016, a series of three archival quality prints on Hydrosol and DiBond aluminum stock, 200"x30," Henze Lounge, In display November 2016-present, Williamstown, MA.
 Curated stories and photos from over 100 women of color throughout Williams’ history to design and fully manage this series of 4 permanent installations. Fundraised over \$14000 to create and successfully execute the project, the accompanying website, and the unveiling ceremony. See Leadership & Service.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

2024 *Lecturer*, Equity and the Environment: Movements, Scholarship, and Solutions, Brown University (Mindi Schneider)
 Taught two classes on "Rethinking ‘the Environment:’ Race and Nature" as a guest lecturer
 2023 *Teaching Assistant*, Organizations and Society, Brown University (Rachel Wetts)
 2023 *Lecturer*, A Critical Introduction to Environmental Studies and Indigenous Histories in Alaska, Brown Environmental Leadership Lab: Alaska
 Residential instructor during a intensive two week program on environmental leadership in Alaska for high school students
 2023 *Teaching Assistant*, Methods of Social Research, Brown University (Carrie Spearin)
 2022 *Lecturer and Teaching Assistant*, Classical Sociological Theory, Brown University (José Itzigsohn)
 2019 *Program Mentor*, Tapia Turner Healthcare Scholars, City of Houston Mayor’s Office of Education
 Co-organized an intensive 7-day residential healthcare program for 25 high school students

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- 2023-Present *Workshop Organizer at Violet's Summer Camp*, Southside Community Land Trust, Providence, RI
Organized a field trip to a Black owned community farm and led two days of instruction on Black people's historical and ongoing experiences with farming for 15 students at an Afrocentric summer camp. Activities included plant identification, making a foraged plant-infused body butter, and a talent show, of course
- 2022-Present *Farmer-in-Training and Volunteer*, Bami Farm & African Alliance of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
Co-steward a learning farm plot on a Black owned community farm. Grow food, vegetables, and medicinal herbs to disseminate to the community for free. Create programming and opportunities to connect dozens of Black and Brown people with the land each year. Volunteer for other initiatives at the farm
- 2022-Present *Diversity Committee*, Department of Sociology, Brown University, Providence, RI
Organized concurrent and plenary sessions for the 2024 Du Boisian Conference
- 2022-2023 *Garden Steward and Event Planner*, Mt. Hope Sharing Garden, Providence, RI
Grew food for and with Mt. Hope residents. Developed marketing campaigns. Engaged local community through free events, collective gardening, and more based on principles of food sovereignty
- 2021-Present *Community Event Organizer and Curator*, Root Care LLC, Houston, Tx & Providence, RI
Create, direct, and execute events centered on community building, herbalism, and self-care, often in partnership with local businesses, organizations, and wellness practitioners. Successful events executed with the Red Ink Community Library; Counseling Center at Wheaton College; the Sarah Doyle Center for Women and Gender at Brown University; Black Women for Wellness; Reclaiming Soul Work, and more.
- 2018-2019 *Co-Chair*, Black Student Union, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
Orchestrated campus-wide town halls that led to institutional reform. "Single-handedly saved the Black Student Union's house," according to President Maud Mandel. Organized weekly events to discuss current issues, engage in restorative cultural practices, and build community ties. Brainstormed and supervised all logistics for Black history month programming, off campus trips, and collaborations with student groups
- 2016-2017 *Treasurer*, Black Student Union, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
Spearheaded and managed a 50-person trip across state lines to a weekend conference. Restructured and refined bookkeeping practices. Fundraised over \$10,000 for community programming
- 2016-2017 *Founder and Manager*, From Lavender to Purple Ephs, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
Curated stories and photos from over 100 women of color throughout Williams' history to design and fully manage this series of 4 permanent installations. Fundraised over \$14000 to create and successfully execute the project, the accompanying website, and the unveiling ceremony which raised money for the Elizabeth Freeman Center and Doctors Without Borders. Hired and managed two students to finalize the project designs. Self-taught graphic design, Photoshop, HTML/CSS for websites, fundraising, large scale event-planning etc. to successfully execute the project, the website, and the unveiling ceremony

SELECTED COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 2024 *BIPOC Restoration Day: Listening to Herbs and Sounds*, Brown Center for Students of Color, Providence, RI
- 2023 *Black Restoration Day: Farm Tour, Plant Walk, DIY Herbal Workshop, and More*, Bami Farm, Providence, RI
Root Care: Connecting Herbalism, Spirituality, and Mental Health, Sarah Doyle Center for Women and Sexuality, Providence, RI
Science of Self-Love: Herbalism, Spiritual Care, & DIY Products, Wheaton College Counseling Center, Norton, MA
- 2022 *Sound Bath and Paint Party*, Red Ink Community Library, Providence, RI
Sound Bathing Into Self-Compassion, Houston, Tx