

Sarah Franzen

Assistant Professor – Department of Geography and Anthropology
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Academic Positions

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Anthropology, 2020-present

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Postdoctoral Fellow in the Wolf Humanities Center, 2019-2020

Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA

Part-time Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, 2018

Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

Part-time Faculty in the Sociology and Anthropology Department, 2017-2018

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Research Advisor in the Masters in Development Practice, 2016-2017

Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, GA

Instructor in the Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program, 2015

Education

PhD **Emory University**, Atlanta, GA

Institute of the Liberal Arts Department, Graduated 2016

Dissertation: *Visualizing Possibilities: Rural Development Strategies Among African American Farmers in the Southeastern US*

MA **Emory University**, Atlanta, GA

Institute of the Liberal Arts Department, Graduated 2011

MA **University of Manchester**, Manchester U.K.

Department of Anthropology, Visual Anthropology Program, Graduated 2006

Thesis: *Imagining Rye Farm: Filming Farmers in Northern England*

Film: *Searching for the Rural*

Graduated with Merit

BA **Colorado State University**, Fort Collins, CO

Interdisciplinary Major in Cultural Studies and Visual Arts; Minor in Religious Studies, Graduated 2002

University Honors Program, Graduated Cum Laude

Grants and Fellowships

Center for Community Partnerships Teaching Fellowship, Emory University, 2013-2014

Engaged teaching fellow for Emory's Masters in Development Practice program

Race and Difference Initiative Grant, Emory University, 2011

Support for summer 2011 research and filming

Professional Development Support Funds, Competitive Grant, Emory University

Support for pre-dissertation research 2010, and dissertation research for 2012

Piedmont TATTO, Emory University, 2010

Fellowship program on Sustainability, Teaching, and Curriculum involving sustainability workshop, development of a course involving sustainability, and an outreach activity around sustainability.

Center for Creativity and the Arts, Emory University

Support for film "Contested Land" completed October, 2009

Institute of Critical International Studies, Emory University

Support for film "Contested Land" completed October, 2009

Peer-Reviewed Publications

"The Value of Farming: Multi-faceted Wealth Generation through Cooperative Development." *Economic Anthropology*. 7(2): 279-292. (2020)

"Digital Transformations: Integrating Ethnographic Video into a Multimodal Platform." In R. Freeman and J. Crowder (Eds). *Anthropological Data in the Digital Age: New Possibilities – New Challenges*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. (2019)

"Framing Nature: Visual Representations of Ecological Paradigms." *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*. 1-3 (2017)

"Reality Education: Agricultural Knowledge Exchange in the US South." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. 7(2): 69-83. (2017)

"Introduction: Participatory Research and Visual Methods." *Visual Methodologies*. 4(1): 1-9. (2016)

(Editor) Participatory Research [Special Issue]. *Visual Methodologies*. 4(1). (2016)

"Engaging a Specific, Not General, Public: The use of ethnographic film in public scholarship." *Qualitative Research*. 13(4): 414-427. (2013).

Additional Trainings**Technology, Pedagogy, Curriculum and Research**, Emory University

Semester long training in new digital technologies for teaching and research, 2014

Archives Research Training Program, Emory University

Two day intensive workshop with Emory's Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, 2013

Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity, Emory University

Teacher training program at Emory University, 2009

School for International Training, Brattleboro, VT

Semester Abroad in Kenya,

Independent Study Project: *Entangled Roots: Traditional Medicine of the Maasai*, 2001

School for International Training, Brattleboro, VT

Semester Abroad in Ghana,

Independent Project *Bush Pharmacy: Studying Traditional Medicine of the Dogomba*, 2000**Film Festivals**

“Attala County: An Interactive Documentary”

Featured Screening at Alternate Roots Arts Week, 2018

“Portrait of a Cooperative”

Screened at Ethnofest: Athens Ethnographic Film Festival, Athens Greece, 2016

Screened Art and Anthropology Symposium, Atlanta, GA, 2016

Screened at Oakland International Film Festival, Oakland, CA, 2016

Conferences

“Perceiving Agricultural Impact: A comparison of practices”

Presented at American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2019

Organized Panel: “Genres of Expression in the Anthropocene”

American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2019

“A Place Called Home: The role of spatial practices in African American claims to place in the rural US South”

Presented at Association of American Geographers – Annual Conference, 2019

Presented at American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2017

“The Value of Farming: Multi-faceted Wealth Generation through Cooperative Development”

Presented at Society for Economic Anthropology – Annual Conference, 2019

“The Sense of Farming: Filmmaking as a Tool for Sensory Ethnography”

Presented at American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2018

“Imagining a Future for Farming in the US South”

Presented at National Women’s Studies Association – Annual Conference, 2018

“Claiming Place: Race, Land, and Spatial Justice”

Presented at International Sociological Association – World Congress, 2018

“The Sustainability of Goat Farming”

Presented at Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society – Annual Conference, 2018

Organized Panel: “Visual Matters: The practice of artistic practices in academic research.”

American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2017

“Growing Black Farmers: The role of education in rural communities”

Presented at Association for the Study of African American Life and History – Annual Conference, 2017

“Framing Nature: Visual Representations of Ecological Paradigms”

Presented at Society for Applied Anthropology – Annual Conference, 2017

“Rethinking Digital Ethnographies”

Presented at Visual Research Conference – Annual Conference, 2016

“Reality Education: Agricultural Knowledge Exchange in the US South”

American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2016

Presented paper: “Rights and Resistance: Identity Politics and the Black Farmer”

Organized Panel: “Negotiating Citizenship: Ethnography, Race, and Contested Politics”

Discussant on Round Table: “Conceptualizing a Rural Anthropology”

American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2015

“Wealth, Not Capital: Rural Development Strategies Farmers Cooperatives”

Presented Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society – Annual Conference, 2015:

“The Aesthetics of the Ethnographic”

Presented at Poetics and Politics, Documentary Research Symposium, 2015

“Contested Landscapes: Film Narratives and the Meaning of Land Rights”

Presented at Association of American Geographers – Annual Conference, 2015

Presented at International Sociological Association – World Congress, 2014

“Visually Speaking: Meaning Making within Ethnographic Film”

American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2014

Session Organizer: “Using Visual Material for Knowledge Creation”

International Sociological Association – World Congress, 2014

Presented Film: “Mississippi Reality Tour”

Organized Panel: “Show Me Yours: Participatory Visual Methods”

Society for Visual Anthropology/American Ethnological Society– Annual Meeting, 2014

“Negotiating Between Capitalist and Anti-Capitalist Strategies within Black Farmer Cooperatives”

Presented at American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference, 2013

“Developing New Possibilities Among African American Farmers”

Presented at Association of Humanist Sociology – Annual Meeting, 2013

“Embodied Development: The Role of Affect in Rural Community-Based Development in the US South”

Presented at Southern Sociological Society – Annual Conference, 2013

“Material, Ideological, and Aesthetic Aspects of Development Strategies”

Presented at The Collegium for African American Research – Annual Conference, 2013

Presented paper:

“Visualizing Culture and Power: The Aesthetics of Farming”

Presented at International Sociological Association – World Forum, 2012

“Growing Community in Alternative Food Praxis”

Presented at Association of American Geographers – Annual Conference, 2012

Coming to the Table Conference

Designed and organized two-day multi-disciplinary conference surrounding issues of food, health, justice, and sustainability, 2010

Teaching Experiences

Black Geographies and the Meaning of Land Rights

Africana Department – University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2020

Introduction to Anthropology

Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice – Clark Atlanta University, Fall 2018

From King Cotton to Queen Sugar: The history of African American farmers

Department of Sociology and Anthropology – Spelman College, Spring 2018

Between Art and Anthropology

Department of Sociology and Anthropology – Spelman College, Spring 2018

Independent Study – Visual Studies of Maori Dance Aesthetics

Department of Sociology and Anthropology – Spelman College, Fall 2017

Visual Research Methods

Department of Sociology and Anthropology – Spelman College, Fall 2017

Documentary and Difference

Department of Film Studies – Agnes Scott College, Spring 2017

Environmental Justice and Sustainable Dilemmas

Sustainability Studies Program – Emory University, Spring 2016

Foundations of Sustainable Development

Masters in Development Practice – Emory University, Fall 2015

Systems and Food Production

Sustainability Studies Program – Agnes Scott College, Spring 2015

Development and Social Change in the US South

Masters in Development Practice – Emory University, Summer 2014, Summer 2015

Visual Methods for Social Change

Institute for the Liberal Arts – Emory University, Spring 2015

Visual Culture: An Introduction to the Use and Meaning of Visual Media

Institute for the Liberal Arts – Emory University, Fall 2014

Development Studies Capstone Seminar

Development Studies Program – Emory University, Spring 2014, Spring 2015

Development Theory and Community Practicum I and II

Masters in Development Practice – Emory University, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

Food Sovereignty: A Critical Look at the Current Global Agricultural System and Food Movements

Institute for the Liberal Arts – Emory University, Fall 2011

Visual Culture: Representations of Self and Other within Visual Anthropology

Institute for the Liberal Arts – Emory University, Spring 2011

Invited Lectures

“Race and Agriculture” lecture for Sustainable Agriculture, taught by Ioulia Fenton at Clark Atlanta University, 2019.

“Rooting Rural Prosperity” lecture for Georgia Organics’ Annual Conference, 2017

“Materiality and Race” invited participant in online –empire- series curated by Alessandra Raengo, 2016

“Visual Anthropology” lecture for Qualitative Methods taught by Asante Reese at Spelman, 2016

“Ethnographic and Participatory Methods for Agricultural Research” lecture for Human Ecology of Food and Sustainability taught by Jennifer Gaddis at University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2015.

“Rights and Resistance” lecture for Spelman College’s Food Studies seminar series, 2015.

“Introduction to Issues in Food Production” for Introduction to Sustainability course taught by John Pilger and Susan Kidd at Agnes Scott College, 2015.

Visual Methods for Development” workshop as part of masters level course, Research Methods for Development Practice taught by Kristin Phillips at Emory University, 2013, 2014, 2015.

“Visual Anthropology” lecture for Visual Culture course taught by Emanuela Guano at Georgia State University, 2012.

Academic Service

Web Fellow for Culture and Agriculture, 2019-2021

Executive Board member for Society for Visual Anthropology, 2018-2022

Anonymous reviewer for Visual Methodologies, 2016-2017

Pre-Screener for Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival, 2013

Juror for “Making Development Work” at Emory University, 2011

Institute for the Liberal Arts Committee Graduate Committee, 2011

Coming to the Table Conference

Designed and organized two-day multi-disciplinary conference surrounding issues of food, health, justice, and sustainability, 2010

President and Founder, Visual Scholarship Initiative, Emory University, 2009-2016

Graduate Student Representative Development Studies Committee, Emory University, 2009-2015

Independent Film Productions (selected)

“Attala County: An Interactive Documentary”

Interactive documentary that presents stories from members of the Attala Cooperative, 2018

“Dog Days”

This short vignette showcases how environmental knowledge emerges as a negotiated process. Included as part of publication, “Framing Nature” (2017)

“Portrait of a Cooperative”

This film examines the practices that make up Indian Springs Farmers Association. Premiered at Art and Anthropology Symposium, 2016

“Mississippi Reality Tour”

Documents a farmer-to-farmer training program among small-holding African American farmers in Mississippi. Premiered at Society of Visual Anthropology Conference, 2014

“Doppelgänger”

Co-produced with Ugochukwu-Smooth Nzewi. The film explores the dark surrealism that haunts the process of transition by exploring an individual’s “Present” and his alter ego “Past.” Premiered at Arts Africa, Dakar, Senegal, 2010

“Searching for the Rural”

Final thesis film for MA degree at University of Manchester. Searching for the Rural explores the tension between conceptions of the rural idyll and actual struggles of modern farmers in Yorkshire, England. Premiered at Visual Anthropology Student Screening, 2006

Additional Work Experience (selected)

Emory College Language Center (ECLC). Atlanta, GA, 2011

Position: Videographer and Editor

Responsibilities: Film and Edit interviews for ECLC website

Southern Spaces: Poets in Place series, Atlanta, GA, 2008-2009

Position: Videographer and Editor

Responsibilities: Film and Edit for Poets in Place series as part of online journal, *Southern Spaces*.

US Social Forum, Atlanta, GA, 2008

Position: Tech Manager

Responsibilities: Update website, graphics, manage database <http://www.ussf2007.org/>

SankofaSpirit: Passport to Adventure, Atlanta, GA, 2007-2008

Position: Documentary Coordinator/ Film Teacher

Responsibilities: Coordinate and produce participatory documentary with students taking part in Passport to Adventure program. www.sankofaspirit.com

Emory University Law School, Atlanta, GA, 2007-2008

Position: Website Consultant

Responsibilities: Copyedit, format, and design manuscript into an interactive website. <http://sharia.law.emory.edu>

Free Speech TV (FSTV), Boulder, CO, 2003-2004

Position: Camera Person and Editor (2004)

Responsibilities: Film and edit issue-based and journalistic films and TV series

Position: Programming Intern (2003)

Responsibilities: Find, attain, organize, and schedule airing of documentaries.