

# Emma L. Banks

## Curriculum Vitae

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emmbanksphd.com

### EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University

PhD in Anthropology, 2020  
Certificate in Latin American Studies  
Certificate in College Teaching

Cornell University

BA in College Scholars Program, Magna Cum Laude, 2010  
Minor in Latin America studies

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2022-present Assistant Professor in International Relations, Bucknell University  
2020-2022 Mellon Partners for Humanities Education Postdoctoral Fellow, Tennessee State University

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Journal Articles

2023 (co-authored with Steven Schwartz) “Co-opted energy transitions: Coal, wind, and the corporate politics of decarbonization in Colombia. *Journal of Political Ecology*, 30(1).

2023 “Banks, E. (2023). Contentious Consultations: Black Communities, Corporate Experts, and the Constitutional Court in Colombia’s Coal Region. *Dialectical Anthropology*, 47(4). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10624-023-09705-9>

2017 “We Are Bruno: Citizens Caught Between an Absentee State and a State-Like Corporation During Water Conflicts In La Guajira, Colombia,” *Urban Anthropology and Studies of Cultural System and World Economies* 46 (1-2): 61-94.

2015 (co-authored with Gloria C. Perez-Riviera) “The Life of a Colombian Union Organizer: An Interview with Fredy Lozano,” *Dialectical Anthropology* 39(3): 321-327.

#### Book Chapters

2023 “Forced Displacement and Indigenous Resettlement Planning in Colombia’s Coal Region.” In *Ethnographic Insights on Latin America and the Caribbean*. Melanie A. Medeiros and Jennifer R. Guzmán (eds). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

2023 (co-authored with Andrea Cardoso) “The Landscape of Others: How Coal Exports and Afflicting Community and Environment in Colombia.” *The Power of Landscapes: Novel Narratives to Engage with the Energy Transition*. Iven Stremke, Dirk Oudes and Paolo Picchi (eds). Amsterdam: nai010 publishers.

2012 “Desde los cultivos de coca al gabiente,” (From the coca fields to the cabinet). In The European Union and Puente Investigación y Enlace (eds), *Coca: Una Mirada Integral: Movimientos Sociales y Situación Legal* (Coca: An Integral Look: Social Movements and Legal Situation), La Paz.

2012 “Ya basta yanqui: enfrentamientos entre USAID y cocaleros en el trópico de Cochabamba,” (Enough Yankee: Conflicts between USAID and the coca growers in the Cochabamba Tropics). In The European Union and Puente Investigación y Enlace (eds), *Coca: Una Mirada Integral: Movimientos Sociales y Situación Legal* (Coca: An Integral Look: Social Movements and Legal Situation), La Paz.

### **Book Reviews**

2022 Review of “Embracing the Anaconda: A Chronicle of Atacameño Life and Mining in the Andes” by Anita Carrasco. *Environment and Society* (forthcoming)

2021 Review of “The Frontier Effect: State Formation and Violence in Colombia” by Teo Ballvé. *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*

### **Other Publications**

2021 “Facing Political Persecution, Colombian Protestors Need International Support,” North American Congress on Latin America Online Edition, September 2. (<https://nacla.org/political-persecution-colombian-protestors-international-support>)

2016 “We are Victims Too: Incorporating communities displaced by natural resource extraction in Colombia’s post-conflict agenda,” North American Congress on Latin America Online Edition, August 31. (<http://nacla.org/news/2016/08/31/we-are-victims-too>).

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2023 Confounding Problems Curriculum Development Grant, Bucknell Humanities Center

2020-2022 Mellon Partners Digital and Public Humanities Grant

2019 Society for Applied Anthropology Involuntary Resettlement Travel Award

2018-2019 Robert Penn Warren Graduate Fellow, Vanderbilt University

2017 Mark Claster Mamolen Dissertation Workshop Award, Harvard University

2017 Humanities Without Walls National Pre-Doctoral Fellow

2017 Vanderbilt Anthropology Graduate Research Grant

2016-2017 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant

2012-2017 Graduate Student Fellow, Vanderbilt Graduate School

2015 Tinker Field Research Grant, Center for Latin American Studies, Vanderbilt University

2014 Arts and Sciences Summer Research Award, Vanderbilt University

2013 Center for Latin American Studies Summer Travel Award, Vanderbilt University

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

2022 “The mine wanted to obliterate our culture”: Blackness, Dispossession, and Resistance in

Colombia's Coal Region. The ALARI Second Conference on Afro-Latin American Studies.

2022 Forced Displacement and Indigenous Resettlement Planning in Colombia. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting

2022 El Archivo Afro Guajiro: Recuperando memoria en las comunidades desplazadas. FORO internacional encuentro con la memoria desde la diáspora africana en el caribe colombiano - conmemoración de la afrocolombianidad, Riohacha, Colombia (invited).

2022 Prior Consultation and Corporate Governance in Colombia's Coal Zone. Latin American Studies Annual Congress (virtual).

2021 Corporate Co-optation of Climate Justice through Conservation in Colombia's Coal Region. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (virtual).

2021 Solidaridad internacional para apoyar la cultura de paz en Colombia en el marco del paro nacional Semana universitaria por la paz y vi jornadas del constitucionalismo de la paz "obstáculos y desafíos de la paz en Colombia." Bogota, Colombia (Invited).

2019 Autonomous Consultation in a Wayúu Community: New Avenues for Mining-Induced Resettlement. Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.

2019 Making Environment Conflicts Visible in Colombia's Coal Region. Human Rights after the Peace Accord in Colombia Conference. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT (invited).

2018 On the Frontlines after the FARC: New Challenges and Possibilities for Environmental Defenders in Colombia. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA.

2018 Challenges in Regulating Forced Resettlement in the Mining Sector. International Network on Displacement and Resettlement Meeting, Oaxaca, Mexico.

2018 Community (Un)Making Under Pressure in Three Afro-Colombian Resettlements. Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies Annual Meeting. Nashville, TN

2018 Applying Autonomous Consultation to Mining-Induced Resettlement in Colombia's Coal Region. Development, Displacement, and Human Rights Conference, Knoxville, TN

2017 Victims of Development in Colombia's Post-Conflict Agenda. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

2017 Becoming Afro-Guajiro: Race, Resistance, and Resettlement at a Colombian Coal Mine, presented at the 51st Latin American Studies Annual Congress, Lima, Peru.

2017 Buscando una vida digna: El arte como vehículo de denuncia y memoria histórica en los reasentamientos (Searching for a Dignified Life: Art as a Vehicle for Protest and Historical Memory in Resettlements). Audiovisuals for Environmental Justice Conference. University of Magdalena, Santa Marta, Colombia (invited).

2015 Challenging the Corporation, Making the State: Activist Networks in La Guajira, Colombia, presented by invitation at the Empire and Solidarity in the Americas Conference, University of New Orleans (invited).

2015 The Congress for Life, Autonomy, and Territorial Permanence: Identity and Class-Based Claims in Resource Extraction Conflicts in La Guajira, Colombia, presented at the Disasters, Displacement, and Human Rights Conference at University of Tennessee Knoxville.

2015 Ancestral Land or Corporate Land: Conflicts over Identity and Territory in La Guajira,

Colombia, presented at the 49th Latin American Studies Annual Congress, San Juan, PR.

## INVITED TALKS

2020 [Basta ya Cerrejón](#) (Enough already Cerrejón). Colectivo de Abogados (Lawyers' Collective).

2020 [Desplazamiento por Desarrollo: Desplazamiento](#) Forzado (Displacement for Development: Forced Displacement). Seminario Internacional Transición del Modelo Minero-energético (International Seminar on Transition from the Mining-Energy Model). Universidad del Magdalena.

2017 Conflictos de agua en La Guajira (Water Conflicts in La Guajira). Invited lecture at The Sabana University Chía, Colombia.

2017 Nosotros somos Bruno: Luchas locales para el agua como transformación del estado extractivista en La Guajira (We are Bruno: Local Water Struggles as Transformation of the Extractivist State in La Guajira). Invited lecture at Javeriana University Bogota, Colombia.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021-2022 Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Intro to Cultural Anthropology and Special Topics: Environmental Justice, Department of Sociology, Tennessee State University

2021 Mentor, Anthropology in Action Mentorship, Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth

2019 Instructor, Is Green Energy the Answer? Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth

2018 Graduate Instructor for Global Wealth and Poverty, Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University

2012-2017 Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University

2017 Instructor, Anthropology and Culture, Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth

2015-2016 Certificate in College Teaching, Vanderbilt Center for Teaching

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2020-present Director, [Afro Guajiro Digital Archive Project](#)

2015-2018 Graduate Research Assistant, Vanderbilt University

2015 Dean's Fellow, Helguera Collection, Vanderbilt University Libraries

## NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2019-2020 Farmworker Paralegal, Southern Migrant Legal Services, Nashville, TN

2010-2012 SAT Tutor and Instructor, Cochabamba, Bolivia

2010-2012 Assistant Researcher, Andean Information Network, Cochabamba, Bolivia

2010 Student Intern, Committee on US Latin American Relations, Ithaca, NY

2007-2008 Community Fellow, Immigration and Refugee Services, Ithaca, NY

2007 Intern, Engineers Without Borders Canada, Toronto, ON

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Board member, Griot Institute for the Study of Black Lives & Cultures  
Department Liaison, L&IT Committee, Bucknell University  
Mentor for undergraduate and graduate research assistants at Tougaloo College and Tennessee State University  
Member of MSc in Agriculture thesis committee, Tennessee State University

## SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Reviewer of article manuscript for *Energy Research & Social Science*  
Reviewer of article manuscript for *Economics of Energy & Environmental Policy*  
Reviewer of article manuscript for *Cartografías Del Sur*  
Reviewer of article manuscript for *Colombia Internacional* journal

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Member, SOS Colombia Human Rights Versification Mission  
Delegation Leader, Witness for Peace Solidarity Collective  
Bilingual Worker Advocate & Interpreter at Workers Dignity Project  
Jury Member, International Tribunal on Mining and Territory

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association  
International Network on Displacement and Resettlement  
Latin American Studies Association  
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association  
Society for Applied Anthropology

## LANGUAGES

Spanish (advanced reading, writing, speaking)  
French (beginner reading, beginner speaking)