

Michael Warren Murphy

Assistant Professor of Black Studies

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Department of Black Studies, Occidental College (with an affiliation with the Department of Sociology), 2022-present
- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Pittsburgh (with a secondary appointment in the Department of Africana Studies), 2018-2022

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Sociology, Brown University, 2018
- M.A. Sociology, Brown University, 2014
- B.A. Sociology, University of San Diego, 2012

AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING SPECIALIZATION

- Anticolonial, Historical, and Environmental Sociology
- Critical Environmental Justice
- Black and Native/Indigenous Studies
- Race, Slavery, and Colonialism
- Knowledge and Ignorance
- Social Theory and Praxis

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Articles

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|------|---|
| 2024 | - Togami, C., & Murphy, M.W. (2024). The politics of airing grievances: an analysis of air quality knowledge and ignorance in Pittsburgh. <i>Local Environment</i> , 29 (4), 446-459.* |
| 2021 | - Murphy, M.W., Weddington, G., Rio-Glick, AJ. Black Ecology and Critical Environmental Justice. <i>Environmental Justice</i> , 00, 1-5.* |
| | - Murphy, M.W. On the Eco-materiality of Racial/Colonial Domination in Rhode Island. <i>Political Power and Social Theory</i> , 38, 161-189. |
| | - Murphy, M.W. Notes Towards an Anticolonial Environmental Sociology of Race. <i>Environmental Sociology</i> , 7(2), 122-133. |

* Published with graduate student colleagues.

- 2020 - Murphy, M. W., & Schroering, C. Refiguring the Plantationocene: Racial Capitalism, World-Systems Analysis, and Global Socioecological Transformation. *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 26(2), 400-415.*
- 2018 - Murphy, M.W. ‘No Beggars amongst Them’: Primitive Accumulation, Settler Colonialism, and the Dispossession of Narragansett Indian Land. *Humanity & Society*, 42(1), 45-67.
- 2016 - Murphy, M.W. Mapping Environmental Privilege in Rhode Island. *Environmental Justice*, 9(5): 159-165.
- Brown, K. L., **Murphy, M.W.**, & Porcelli, A. M. Ruin’s Progeny: Race, Environment, and Appalachia’s Coal Camp Blacks.” *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 13(2), 327–344.

Edited Works and Symposia

- 2020 - Murphy, M.W. and Sklair, L. Special issue titled “World-Systems Analysis in the Anthropocene.” *Journal of World Systems Research* 26(2).
- Murphy, M.W., Smith, J., Manning, P., and Mostern, R. “Using World History to Inform Work for Reparations.” *Journal of World Systems Research* 26(2).

Manuscripts in Preparation/Submission

- Murphy, M.W. *The Plantation Problem: An Inquiry into the Environmental Significance of Race*. (Book manuscript in preparation for submission to a university press TBD).
- Murphy, M.W. “The Lyrical Sociology of W.E.B. Du Bois.” (Article in preparation for submission to *The Black Scholar*).
- Murphy, M.W. “An Anticolonial Approach to Environmental Sociology.” (Invited book chapter in submitted for *Environmental Sociology Now*, an edited volume contracted and under review with University of California Press).

Reference Work

- 2022 - Murphy, M. W. Robert D. Bullard: The Father of Environmental Justice. In R. Brinkmann (Ed.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Sustainability*. Palgrave MacMillan.
- 2014 - Murphy, M.W. Actor-Network Theory. In *Discard Studies Compendium*. Retrieved from <http://discardstudies.com/discard-studies-compendium/#ANT>

Other Publications

- 2017 - Murphy, M.W. “‘The Whiteness Project’: A Pedagogical Tool for Sociologists of Race and Ethnicity.” *Radical Pedagogy*, 14(2). ISSN: 1524-6345.
- 2015 - Baum, J., Bustos, C., Durand, A., **Murphy, M.W.**, Santiago, O., and Roberts, T. *Adaptation Aid Projects: Genuinely Categorized?* Adaptation Watch.

- Bustos, C, and **Murphy, M.W.** “On race, the environment, and confronting bias.” *Brown Daily Herald*.
- 2014 - Murphy, M.W. (2014). Film Review: Blackfish. *Humanity & Society*, 38(1), 101–102.doi:10.1177/0160597613519301.
- Edwards, G., **Murphy, M.W.**, & Eisner, P. (2014, March). Venezuela’s 2014 climate summit faces credibility crisis. *Responding to Climate Change*. Retrieved from <http://www.rtcc.org/2014/03/11/venezuelas-2014-climate-summit-faces-credibility-crisis/>
- 2013 - Murphy, M.W. (2013). “Climate Change and the Color Line.” *Class, Race, and Corporate Power*, 1(1). Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/classracecorporatepower/voll/iss1/7>

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

- 2021 - Pitt Engaged Scholarship Initiative Summer Design Intensive Fellowship
- 2018 - Pitt Department of Sociology Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Award
- 2017 - Institute at Brown for Environment and Society Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2016 - Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (Honorable Mention)
- 2015 - National Institute for Environmental Health Science Superfund Research Program Traineeship
- 2013 - National Science Foundation-Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training Pre-Doctoral Fellowship
- 2012 - Outstanding Leadership and Achievement in the Sociology Major Award
- 2011 - Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative Fellowship
- 2010 - Ronald E. McNair (Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program) Scholar

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Presentations

- 2022 - Murphy, M.W. “The Plantation Problem and Environmental Justice” Paper presented at the 117 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA.
- Murphy, M.W. “The Possibility of Environmental Justice after Man” Paper presented at the 117 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2019 - Murphy, M.W. “Rooted in the Land: Racialization, Conquest, and Settler Colonialism in Rhode Island” Paper presented at the 114 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. New York City, N.Y.

- Murphy, M.W. “Settler Colonialism, Racialized Socioecological Relations, and the Dispossession of Narragansett Land in Rhode Island.” Paper presented at the Forced Displacements in the Americas Workshop. Brown University. Providence, RI.
- 2018 - Murphy, M.W. “Whiteness in the Web of Life: Rethinking Race and Environment with a Postcolonial Environmental Sociology.” Paper presented at the Bridging the Gap: Race and Environment Mini-conference. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 - Murphy, M.W. “Whiteness in the Web of Life: Rethinking Race and Environment in Settler Colonial America.” Paper presented at the Decolonizing the Social Workshop. Boston University. Boston, MA.
- 2016 - Murphy, M.W., Brown, K. Ruin's “Progeny: Race, Environment and Appalachia's Coal Camp Blacks.” Paper presented at the Southern Sociological Association Conference. Atlanta, GA. (April)
- Murphy, M.W., Hammer, R. “Establishing Sovereignty: Legitimizing Dispossession and Slavery in the Americas.” Paper presented at the Decolonial Options for the Social Sciences Mini-conference of the Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. (March)
- 2015 - Murphy, M.W. “Uncovering Historical Environmental Health Threats at Mashapaug Pond, RI.” Poster presented at the NIEHS Superfund Research Program Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2011 - Murphy, M.W. “The Global Food Trade, Globalization, and the Environment.” Paper presented at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium, Old Greenwich, CT. (August)
- Murphy, M.W. “Conservative Media, Obama, and the Fear of Socialism.” Poster presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. (March)

Conferences/Panels Organized

- 2015 - Land and Water in Long-term Perspective. Conference at Brown University, Providence, R.I. (September)
- What is to be done? The State of Development Research. Panel at the Sociology of Development Conference 2015, Brown University, Providence, R.I. (March)

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2024 - Murphy, M.W. “Thinking with the Anthropocene/Plantationocene.” Guest lecture at Occidental College’s Religious Studies Course *Flourishing in a World on Fire*. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2023 - Murphy, M.W. “Untitled.” Panel discussion in celebration of First Gen Day organized by First Generation and Low Income Student Union. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA.

- Murphy, M.W. “W.E.B. Du Bois and Racial-Colonial Capitalism.” Guest lecture at Occidental College’s Sociology Course *Classical Social Theory*. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2022 - Murphy, M.W. “Thinking with the Anthropocene/Plantationocene.” Guest lecture at Occidental College’s Religious Studies Course *Flourishing in a World on Fire*. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2020 - Murphy, M.W. and Togami, C. “Airing Grievances: The Politics of Air Quality in Pittsburgh.” Talk given at the Pitt-CMU Environmental Humanities Research Seminar. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2020 - Murphy, M.W. “A Climate of Racial-Colonial Violence.” Talk given at the Pitt-CMU Micro-course on Climate Change and Global Health. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2019 - Murphy, M.W. “Racialized Socioecological Structures and Enslaved Rice Cultivators in the Low Country.” Response to Edda L. Fields-Black at the Pitt-CMU Environmental Humanities Research Seminar. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2015 - Murphy, M.W. “Transitioning into your Graduate School Career.” Leadership Alliance, Brown University, Providence, R.I.
- 2014 - Murphy, M.W. “Exploring Environmental Inequality and Privilege in Rhode Island.” Session: GIS and Spatial Analysis: Local Applications. Presented at the Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences 2014 Summer GIS Institute, Providence, R.I.
- 2010 - Murphy, M.W., Nunn, L PhD. “Building a Sense of Belonging: A Critical Key for Retention.” Presentation at the University of San Diego, San Diego, CA.

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 - Murphy, M.W. “Untitled.” Presented at the plenary session of the comparative-historical section of the American Sociological Association’s mini-conference *Making Space: Thinking Against the Grain in Historical Sociology*. Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 - Murphy, M.W. “Slavery, Blackness, and the Environmental Significance of Race.” Presented at the Department of Sociology Colloquium via zoom. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL.
- 2015 - Murphy, M.W. “Race and the Environment.” Presented at the Rhode Island Youth Summit on the Environment. Brown University, Providence, R.I.
- 2014 - Murphy, M.W. “Diversity and Environmental Institutions.” Presented at the Rhode Island Youth Summit on the Environment. Brown University, Providence, R.I.

CAMPUS TALKS/EVENTS ORGANIZED

- 2021
- “Combatting Anti-Asian Violence Amidst Covid-19: Perspectives from Local and National APIA Organizers.” Co-organized with Christina Ong and Karen Lue. Panelists included Randy Duque, Sam Huynh, Judy Suh, and Tiffany Diane Tso. Event held on 3/15/2021 at the University of Pittsburgh.
 - “Pitt Sociologists Beyond the Professoriate.” Panelists included Ervin Dyer, Margee Kerr, and Maria Dillard. Event held on 4/9/2021 as first part of professional development series for graduate students.
 - “Demystifying the Academic Job Market.” Event held on 4/31/2021 as second part of series on professional development for graduate students.
- 2020
- “Reparations and Restorative Justice for the Enslavement and Dispossession of Black Americans: A Moral Imperative Whose Time Has Come.” Talk given by Dr. Joyce Hope Scott on 10/30/2020 at the University of Pittsburgh.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Occidental College

- Black Ecological Thought (Fall 2022; Fall 2023)
- First Year Seminar: Race and the Environment (Fall 2022; Spring 2023; Fall 2023; Spring 2024)
- Waywardness, Fugitivity, and the Anarchism of Blackness (Spring 2023; Spring 2024)

University of Pittsburgh

- Society and the Environment (Spring 2022; Fall 2021; Fall 2020; Fall and Spring 2019; Fall 2018)
- Social Theory: Anticolonial Perspectives (Spring 2020; Fall 2019)
- Classical Sociological Theory (Spring 2021)
- Sociology Capstone Research Practicum: Critical EJ Lab on Air Pollution in Pittsburgh (Spring 2021; Fall 2020)
- Sociology Capstone Research Practicum: Critical EJ Lab on the Prison Industrial Complex (Spring 2022; Fall 2021)
- Environmental Sociology Graduate Seminar (Spring 2020)

Brown University

- Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the Modern World (Spring 2014; Fall 2012: teaching assistantship)

Blackstone Academy Charter School

- Engaging the Sociological Imagination (Fall 2014)

STUDENT ADVISING

Occidental College

- Senior Comprehensives: Matalin Crossgrove (Reader; Black Studies; 2024), Isac Benyam-Desbel (Reader; Black Studies; 2024), Gieselle Gatewood (Reader; Black Studies; 2024), Hannah Pearlman (Reader; Black Studies; 2024), Deandre Ortiz (Reader; Black Studies; 2024), and Satya Sheftel-Gomes (Reader; Black Studies; 2023).

University of Pittsburgh

- Dissertation Committees: Sinan Dogan (Anthropology), Alannah Caisey (2023), George Weddington (2022), Chie Togami, christina ong (2024), and Lynette Moran.
- Master's Thesis Committees: Jesse Fulkerson (2021), Carolina Hernandez (2021), and Anna Fernandez (2021).
- Comprehensive Examination Committees: Sinan Dogan (Anthropology; 2020), Lynette Moran (2020), Carolina Hernandez (2020), and christina ong (2019).

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Occidental College

- 2023-2024 - Organizer of Fall Open House/Welcome Back

University of Pittsburgh

- 2021-2022 - Faculty Search Committee
- 2020-2022 - Graduate Studies Committee
- 2019-2020 - Sociology Speakers Series Co-organizer
- 2018-2019 - Undergraduate Studies Committee

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE SERVICE

Occidental College

- 2023-2024
 - Search Committee Associate Director for Racial Equity
 - Stafford Ellison Wright Black Alumni Scholar in Residence Organizing Committee
 - First Stage Writing Proficiency Portfolio Assessment Committee
 - Faculty Representative for the Better Together (Black Alumni Organization) Event Planning Committee
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 - Faculty Representative for the Better Together (Black Alumni Organization) Event Planning Committee

University of Pittsburgh

2021-2022 - Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Peer Buddy Program for New Faculty

Brown University

2016-2017 - Diversity and Inclusion Oversight Board
Served on the committee to oversee the development and implementation of university wide Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.

2014-2015 - Graduate Program Association Selection Committee
Served on selection committee for pilot program aimed at fostering a sense of community among graduate students within their home departments.

2014-2015 - Mental Health Community Council
Graduate student representative on committee tasked with evaluated mental health services at the university.

2013-2014 - VP of Communications Graduate Student Council
Elected to the executive board of the representative body of graduate students.

2013-2014 - Chair of GSC Communications Committee
Co-Chair on the Graduate Student Council committee in charge of communicating information of relevance to graduate students.

2012-2014 - Graduate Student Council Representative
Sociology department representative to the advocate and governing body of graduate student life.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023- - Member, Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice, American Sociological Association Section on Environmental Sociology.

2022-2024 - Council Member-At-Large, American Sociological Association Section on Environmental Sociology.

2021 - Member, Graduate Student Paper Award Selection Committee, American Sociological Association Section on Environmental Sociology.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2021 - Diversity and Inclusion Certificate Program at the University of Pittsburgh.

2014 - Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences GIS Institute at Brown University.

2013

- Teaching Certificate I: Program on Reflexive Teaching at
Brown University's Center for Teaching and Learning.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Sociological Association

- ASA Sections: Environmental Sociology

International Sociological Association

- RC24 Environment and Society