

KEVIN MICHAEL BURKE

Curriculum vitae – December 2024

kburkevin@gmail.com • +1-267-357-7645

3260 South St. Philadelphia, PA 19104

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA

Visiting Assistant Professor

2022-2025

Department of Anthropology

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT

Lehigh University

Bethlehem, PA

Visiting Assistant Professor

2021-2022

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA

PhD, Anthropology

July 2020

Dissertation: *Future Forests: A Biogeography of an Industry-University Forest Science in the American South*

Committee: Adriana Petryna, Nikhil Anand, Theodore Schurr

College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia PA

B.A. Anthropology, *Magna cum Laude*

2007

RESEARCH AREAS

Environmental Anthropology, Science and Technology Studies, Political Ecology, Environmental History, Life Sciences, Economic Anthropology, Energy, Climate Change, US South, Forestry, Ecology, Ethnography

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Wenner-Gren Foundation Post-PhD Research Grant

2022

Project Title: *The Social Lives of Dead Trees: Ghost Forests and the Politics of Landscape Management Across the Atlantic Coastal Plain*

Penn Program in Environmental Humanities Fellow, University of Pennsylvania

2016-2017

Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

2015-2016

Sustainable Science Fellowship, US Forest Service

2015

Lewis Henry Morgan Graduate Student Travel Award

2015

Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

2014

Summer Field Funds, University of Pennsylvania Museum

2013, 2014

Department Field Funds, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

2012

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

2009-2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania

Economic Anthropology	Spring 2024 & 2025
Cultures of Science and Technology	Fall 2023 & Spring 2025
Anthropology of the Environment	Fall 2024
Globalization and Its Historical Significance	Fall 2022, 2023, 2024
The Modern World and Its Cultural Background	Spring 2023 & 2024
Pharmaceuticals and Global Health	Fall 2022
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	2015-2020
Development of Anthropological Theory	Fall 2014

Lehigh University

Environment & Culture	Fall 2021
Cultures of Science and Technology	Fall 2021
The Politics of Life	Spring 2021 & 2022
Economic Anthropology	Spring 2021 & 2022
Human Evolution & Prehistory	Fall 2019, Spring 2021-22
Primatology	Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant – University of Pennsylvania

Archaeological Field Project	2016-2018
Engineering Ethics	Fall 2016
The Modern World and Cultural Background	Spring 2012
Introduction to Human Evolution	Fall 2011
Animal Behavior	Spring 2010, Fall 2014

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher, US Forest Service	2014-2015
Manager, Urban Forest Assessment, US Forest Service	2014
Visiting Scholar, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources North Carolina State University	2013-2014
Research Assistant, Malawi Longitudinal Study of Families and Health	June-August 2010
Research Assistant, Proyecto Primates	2008-2009
Lab Manager, Reproductive Ecology Laboratory, UPenn	2007-2010

PUBLICATIONS

In Progress:

Burke, Kevin M. (*in progress*). On the Performance of a Future Forest. To be submitted to *Cultural Anthropology*.

Burke, Kevin M. (*in progress*). “Under Such Conditions”: Races of Trees, Families, and a Plantation Science in the US South. To be submitted to *Social Studies of Science*.

Published:

Fernandez-Duque, E. Burke K.M., Schoenrock K., Wolovich, C., and Valeggia, C.R. (2011). Hormonal monitoring of reproductive status in monogamous wild female owl monkeys of the Argentinean Chaco *Folia Primatologica* 82:143-153. [45]

Valeggia, C.R., Burke, K. M., and Fernandez-Duque, E. (2010). The impact of socioeconomic change on nutritional status among Toba and Wichi populations of Argentina. *Economics and Human Biology* 8(1):100-10.

Lanza, N., Burke, K.M., and Valeggia, C.R. (2009). Fertility among the Toba, an Argentine indigenous population in transition. *Society, Biology, and Human Affairs* 73(1-2):26-3

BOOK REVIEWS

Burke, K.M. (2023). Review of Andrew Mathew’s *Trees Are Shape Shifters: How Cultivation, Climate Change, and Disaster Create Landscapes*. Yale University press. *American Anthropologist*.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13932>

Burke, K.M. (2023). Review of Sophie Chao’s *In the Shadow of Palms: More-than-human Becomings in West Paupa*. Duke University Press. *American Ethnologist*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/amet.13216>

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Burke, K.M. (2021). Transecting Ghost Forests. *Anthropology News*.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/AN.1596>

Burke, K.M. (2015). Tree Improvement Derivatives. Annual Report of North Carolina State University’s Cooperative Tree Improvement Program.

Burke, K.M. (2012). An Ecology of Houses. *Scitable Blog* by Nature Education.

https://www.nature.com/scitable/blog/student-voices/an_ecology_of_houses/

Technical Report

Burke, K.M. (2014). Philadelphia Urban Wood Utilization Assessment. Prepared for the US Forest Service Philadelphia Field Station.

INVITED TALKS

Burke, K.M. (December 2024). *Transecting Ghost Forests: Speculation, the Spectral, and Histories of the Future in Coastal North Carolina*. University of Pennsylvania.

Burke, K.M. (May 2022). Roundtable: Dispatches from other disciplines. Music Studies & the Anthropocene Research Network Conference. University of California, Berkeley.

Burke, K.M. (2014). An Anthropologist Looks at Tree Improvement. Annual Meeting of North Carolina State University's Cooperative Tree Improvement Program.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Burke, K.M. (2024). *Transecting Ghost Forests: Speculation, the Spectral, and Histories of the Future in Coastal North Carolina*. Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the *American Ethnological Society*.

Burke, K.M. (2023). *Transecting Ghost Forests: Speculation, the Spectral, and Histories of the Future in Coastal North Carolina*. Presented at the *American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropology Society 2023 Annual Meeting*.

Burke, K.M. (2022). "Under Such Conditions": Races of Trees, Families, and a Plantation Science in the US South. Presented at the annual meeting of the *Society for Social Studies of Science*.

Burke, K.M. (2021). A Report on US Southern Forests. Presented at the *121st Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M. (2018). "A Land with a Future." Presented at the *118th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M. (2018). "We Shouldn't Be Scared of the Trees Moving." Presented at the *American Ethnological Society Annual Meeting*.

Burke, K.M. (2018). Writing Slow Disaster. Collaborative presentation at the *Society for Cultural Anthropology Annual Meeting*.

Burke, K.M. (2017). Distributed Life: Finance and the Biogeography of an Industry-University Forest Science. Presented at the *117th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M. (2017). Plants, Plantations, and a Science of Improvement. *Binocular Conference*. Annual graduate conference for York University's Science and Technology Studies Department and Toronto University's Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology.

Burke, K.M. (2016). A Political Biogeography of Future Forests. *116th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M. (2014). Pioneering Pines and Sustainable Futures. *113th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M. (2013). Making Natural History: Indigenous Plants and Community Forestry in Central North Carolina. *112th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association*.

Burke, K.M., Valeggia, C.R., and Ellison, P.T. (2009). Duration of lactational amenorrhea and changes in energy balance among Toba women from Northern Argentina. *Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists*.

MEDIA APPERANCES

"Scientists Race To Preserve Climate Change Data Before Trump Takes Office," in All Things Considered, December 14, 2016, NPR.

"Canada Holds on to U.S. Climate Data for a Bit," March 9, 2017, The Daily Show.

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Organizer and Chair of the session:

“Future Forests//Ghost Forests”

Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association and Canadian Anthropology Society 2023

#DataRefugePhilly Conference Organizer

January 13-14 2017

Organizer and Chair of the session:

“Life, Distributed: Biogeographies of the Anthropocene”

117th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association 2017

Organizer and Chair of the session:

"Biogeographies: Anthropological Engagements at the Intersection of Life and Earth.”

116th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association 2016

Colloquium Organizer, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

2010-2011

THESIS ADVISOR

Undergraduate

Joseph Menell – University of Pennsylvania (Spring 2025)

Devynn Goodspeed – Lehigh University Department of Sociology & Anthropology (Fall 2021)

Allie Kirkpatrick – Lehigh University Department of Sociology & Anthropology (Spring 2022)

Henry Nordahl – Lehigh University Department of Sociology & Anthropology (Spring 2022)

REFERENCES

Adriana Petryna, PhD
Professor of Anthropology
University of Pennsylvania
petryna@sas.upenn.edu
+1-215-746-0423

Nikhil Anand, PhD
Associate Professor of Anthropology
University of Pennsylvania
nikhil.anand@sas.upenn.edu
+1-215-898-6984

Theodore Schurr, PhD
Professor of Anthropology
University of Pennsylvania
tgschurr@sas.upenn.edu
+1-215-573-7632