

Michelle Rungamirai Munyikwa

Education

University of Pennsylvania

exp. 2021 MD, Perelman School of Medicine

2019 PhD, Anthropology
Dissertation Title: “Up from the Dirt”: Racializing Refuge, Rupture, & Repair in Philadelphia
Committee: Deborah Thomas (chair), Adriana Petryna, John Jackson, Ramah McKay

College of William and Mary

2011 B.S. Interdisciplinary Studies, Self-Designed (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) & B.A. Anthropology

Selected Publications

Works in Progress

Munyikwa, Michelle. “Locating Refuge: Racialized Displacement and the Spatial Politics of Belonging.” An invited contribution to a special issue of *Humanity*. [Under Review]

Amutah, Christina; Greenidge, Kaliya; Mante, Adjoa; Munyikwa, Michelle; Surya, Sanjna; Tsai, Jennifer; Aysola, Jaya. Misrepresenting Race: the Role of Medical Schools in Propagating Physician Bias. [In preparation]

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Forthcoming Munyikwa, Michelle. “Health.” Invited entry for the *SAGE Handbook for Cultural Anthropology*.

2020 Munyikwa, Michelle. My COVID-19 Pandemic Diary. *Anthropology Today*.

2020 Munyikwa, Michelle. “(De-)Racializing Refugee Medicine.” An invited contribution to a special issue of *Science, Technology, and Human Values* on “Race as a Ghost Variable in Biomedical Research.”

2019 Zeidan, Amy; Khatri, Utsha; Munyikwa, Michelle; Barden-Maja, Aba; Samuels-Kalow, Margaret. “Barriers to accessing acute care for newly arrived refugees.” *Western Journal of Emergency Medicine*.

2018 Dao, Diane*; Goss, Adeline*; Hoekzema, Andrew*; Kelly, Lauren*; Logan, Alex*; Mehta, Sanjiv*; Sandesara, Utpal*; Munyikwa, Michelle; and DeLisser, Horace. “Integrating Theory, Content, and Method to Foster Critical Consciousness in Medical Students: A Comprehensive Model for Cultural Competence Training.” *Academic Medicine*. (*co-first authors)

Book Reviews

2018 Review of *Last Project Standing* by Catherine Fennell. *City*.

2018 Review of *Race Becomes Tomorrow* by Gerald Sider. *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review*.

- 2015 Review of *Anthropology of Infectious Disease* by Merrill Singer. *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 21(10): 1890.

Public Scholarship

- 2020 Munyikwa, Michelle. "On Iatrogenesis." *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal*.
- 2019 Munyikwa, Michelle. "On gratitude, ethnography, and care." *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal*.
- 2019 Munyikwa, Michelle. "asylum/human: a meditation in 8 parts." *Tendon Mag*.
- 2019 Munyikwa, Michelle. "Vigilance as coping, vigilance as injury." *Somatosphere*.
- 2017 Munyikwa, Michelle. Interview with Mariam Durrani for *Anthropological Airwaves*.
- 2017 Munyikwa, Michelle. "Racialization, Affect, and Refuge." *Anthropology News*.
- 2015 ELISS Fellows.* "Reimagining Epidemic Communications." *DomPrep Journal*. (*Erion, Grubert, Mosbah, Munyikwa, Paul, Train; all authors contributed equally)
- 2014 Munyikwa, Michelle. "(Hi)stories our bodies tell: Experiencing racism." Guest post on *Absolutely, Maybe, A Scientific American Blog*.
- 2014 Munyikwa, Michelle. "Vulnerability as Strength: Thoughts on Changing Medicine's Hidden Curriculum." Guest post on *Absolutely, Maybe, a Scientific American Blog*.
- 2014 Munyikwa, Michelle. "Out from the shadows of racist anthropology." Guest post on *Absolute, Maybe, a Scientific American Blog*.

Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

- 2020 – pres. Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania Center for Health Equity Advancement
- 2019 – 2020 GATHER Fellowship, Drexel University [declined]
- 2018 – 2019 American Fellowship for Dissertation Completion, American Association of University Women [declined]
- 2018 – 2019 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
- 2018 Kathryn Davis Fellow for Peace, Middlebury Language School
- 2017 – 2018 Perry World House Graduate Fellow, Program on Global Shifts, Urbanization, Migration, and Demography, University of Pennsylvania
- 2017 Graduate and Professional Student Association Research Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 – 2017 Hopkinson Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 Martin Luther King Community Involvement Student Award, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 – 2017 Dissertation Research Fellowship Fieldwork Grant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2015 – 2016 Judith and William Bollinger Fellow, University of Pennsylvania
- 2014 – 2015 Emerging Leaders in Science and Society Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science

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| 2013 – 2021 | Medical Scientist Training Program Grant, National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the NIH, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine |
| 2013 – 2018 | Benjamin Franklin Fellowship for Graduate Education, University of Pennsylvania |
| 2011 | Phi Beta Kappa, College of William and Mary |
| 2011 – 2013 | Gamble Scholarship, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine |
| 2010 | UNCF-Merck Undergraduate Science and Research Scholarship Award |
| 2007 | Murray Scholarship (now 1693 Scholarship), College of William and Mary |

Selected Scholarly Participation

Invited Lectures and Panels

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| 2020 | “Humanitarian Anthropology: Complicity & Action in a Time of Crisis.” Yale University Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series. New Haven, CT. Postponed due to COVID-19. |
| 2019 | “Structural Competency: Anthropological Perspectives on Health.” Co-presented with Sara Rendell at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. “Structural Competency and Medical Practice.” University of Pennsylvania Student Health Services. Philadelphia, PA. (Approved for 1 CME credit.) |
| 2018 | “Intersections of Health & Justice.” Philadelphia Human Rights Clinic Speaker Series. Philadelphia, PA. “Structural Competency: Anthropological Perspectives on Health.” Co-presented with Utpal Sandesara at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. “Inequality, Racial Justice, & Global Health: Grappling with our complicity.” Internal Medicine Resident Workshop, Brigham & Women’s Hospital. Boston, MA. “Locating Refuge: Refugee Resettlement, Race, and Belonging in the Contemporary United States.” Anthropology Colloquium Series, University of Delaware. Newark, DE. Ethnographic Field Methods. Workshop given to the Creative Resilience Collective. Slought Foundation. |
| 2017 | “Refugees in Philadelphia,” Central High School. Philadelphia, PA. |
| 2015 | Invited Panelist. The Voices: Black Girls and Women Speaking Out at the Summit on Black Girls and Women in Education. Philadelphia, PA. |

Workshop Participation

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| 2019 | De-exceptionalizing Displacement: Precarity and Mobility in a Neoliberal World. University of Pittsburgh. |
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Panels Organized

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| 2020 | “Cruel Optimism, Care, and Aspirations for Producing a Liveable Future.” Panel at the 119th Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. St. Louis, MO. |
| 2019 | “Black Feminist Health Science Studies: Exploring New Possibilities.” 2019 Meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science. New Orleans, LA. |

- 2017 “(under)exposed: ethnographic investigations of racialized recognition, refusal, and elision.” Panel co-organized with Sara Rendell for the American Ethnological Society Conference on the theme “Exposure.” Stanford, CA.

Presentations & Panel Participation

- 2020 Co-chair. “Legal Concerns: the Intra-Judicial Character of anti-Blackness.” Panel presentation at the 119th Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.
“Critical Refugee Studies, Settler Colonialism, and Racial Capitalism.” Panel presentation at the Association for Asian American Studies. Washington, DC.
*Cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 2019 “Projects and Projections of Care for Human Rights in Detention and Resettlement.” with Sara Rendell. Presentation at the National Conference for Physician-Scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Ann Arbor, MI.
“Intersections of Anthropology and Medical Education.” with Josh Franklin and Utpal Sandesara. Presentation at MD/PhD Grand Rounds, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2018 “Working with and For Immigrants and Refugees in the Era of Zero Tolerance: Practical, Ethical, and Theoretical Challenges.” Panel presentation at the American Anthropological Association 117th Annual Meeting on the theme “Resistance, Resilience, Adaptation.” San Jose, CA.
“Locating Refuge.” American Studies Association conference on the theme “States of Emergence.” Atlanta, GA.
“It’s a sin to be a woman, to be black’: Imagining Sites of Refuge from Blackness.” Princeton African American Studies Conference on the Theme “i am my ancestors’ wildest dreams’: Contemporary Cultures of Black Impossibility. Princeton, NJ.
“between a rock and a hard place: locating refuge.” Society for Cultural Anthropology/Society for Visual Anthropology Joint Conference on the Theme “Displacements.”
“For a New and More Possible Meeting: Theorizing Afropessimism in Sites of Care.” Participation in Portraits of Black Women at the Intersections of Science, Medicine, and Media. Black Portraiture[s] IV Conference on the Theme “The Color of Silence.” Cambridge, MA.
“On the Comparative Racialization of Refuge: a Response to the Work of Jemima Pierre.” Scholar for a Day, Conference in honor of Jemima Pierre, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2017 “Resilient communities, resilient city: Risk, refugees, and race in Philadelphia.” American Anthropological Association 116th Annual Meeting on the theme “Anthropology matters.” Washington, DC.
“Political Diagnosis: Illness Narratives as a Site for Resistance.” Workshop co-presented with Sourik Beltràn at the 4th Annual Racism and Health Conference, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.
“Racializing Refugees: On Medical Practice & Research.” 2017 Meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science. Boston, MA.

“Freedom Dreams: Thinking Refuge as an Imaginative Tool for the Anthropocene.” An Ecotopian Toolkit for the Anthropocene, conference at the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

“Refugees and the Emergency Room.” Poster presented at Health Equity Week, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

“I Just call 911...’: Refugees and the Emergency Department.” Co-presented with Amy Zeidan and Utsha Khatri at Emergency Medicine Research Day, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

“it’s a sin to be a woman, to be black’: on asylum and difference.” American Ethnological Society Conference on the theme “Exposure”. Stanford, CA.

2016 “‘Making a Difference’: Imagining Humanitarianism in Philadelphia.” American Anthropological Association 115th Annual Meeting on the theme “Evidence, Accident & Discovery.” Minneapolis, MN.

“Toward a Decolonial Practice of Refugee Women’s Health.” National Women’s Studies Association Meeting on the theme “Decoloniality.” Montreal, Quebec, CA.

“Seeking Refuge: Black Americans Seeking the Otherwise.” New School for Social Research, Anthropology Student Conference on the theme “Refuge.” New York, NY.

“Refuge from Blackness: On the Case of Kyle Lydell Canty.” University of Pennsylvania Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Conference on the theme “Protest.” Philadelphia, PA.

2014 “Writing Our Worlds: Creating Narratives for Social Justice.” Co-presented with Irène Mathieu at Examined Life Conference. Iowa City, Iowa.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

2019 Introduction to Medical Anthropology, University of Delaware; Spring 2019

2018 Introduction to Medical Anthropology, Haverford College; Spring 2018

Teaching Assistantships

2015 Global Health: Anthropological Perspectives, University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Adriana Petryna

2015 Becoming Human, University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Janet Monge

2014 Introduction to Medical Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Fran Barg

Other positions

2020 Course Co-developer. Service Learning During COVID-19, Perelman School of Medicine

2015 – 2017 Graduate Fellow. Center for Africana Studies Summer Institute for Pre-Freshmen, University of Pennsylvania [TA Assignments: Race, Science, & Society; Slaves, Rebels, & Abolitionists in History; Philosophy of Race]

- 2014 – 2015 Course Liaison/Co-Director. Doctoring IA: Introduction to Medicine and Society, Perelman School of Medicine
- 2013 Facilitator. Doctoring IA: Introduction to Medicine and Society, Perelman School of Medicine

Research Experience

- 2017 – 2018 Research Assistant: Refugee Experiences with Acute Care [PIs: Amy Waldner, MD and Margaret Samuels-Kaslow, MD]
- 2015 – pres. Analyst: Topos Partnership

Training & Professional Development

- 2020 – 2021 Medical Education Certificate Program, University of Pennsylvania
- 2019 Summer Institute on GIS and Public Health, University of Pennsylvania
- 2018 Course in College Teaching, University of Pennsylvania Center for Teaching & Learning
- 2018 Middlebury Language School: French, Middlebury College
- 2018 Text Analysis, Humanities Intensive Learning and Teaching, University of Pennsylvania
- 2017 Introduction to Freud, Brooklyn Institute for Social Research
- 2017 Python for Humanists, University of Pennsylvania Price Lab/Wolf Humanities Center
- 2014 NSF Summer Institute for Research Design in Cultural Anthropology
- 2012 LGBT Health Student Symposium, Chicago

Service

- 2020 – 2021 Co-chair. Physicians for Human Rights Student Advisory Board.
- 2019 – pres. Volunteer, Mobile Medical Unit. Global Response Management Matamoros Project, Mexico.
- 2019 – pres. Contributing writer. *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal*.
- 2018 – 2020 Advocacy Committee Member. Physicians for Human Rights Student Advisory Board.
- 2017 – pres. Contributing Section Editor. Association of Black Anthropologists Section, *Anthropology News*, American Anthropological Association.
- 2016 - 2017 Health Ecologies Lab Core Team Member. University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice and Slought; director: Aaron Levy, PhD.
- 2017 Volunteer Health Educator. Multicultural Community Family Services, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.
- 2015 – 2017 Co-webmaster. Penn Anthropology Graduate Student Blog.
- 2015 Co-organizer. 6th National Conference for Physician-Scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities

- 2014 - 2016 Student Volunteer Co-Coordinator. Women's Refugee Clinic, Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2012 – pres. Student Volunteer. Penn Human Rights Clinic, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2011 - 2012 Co-Coordinator. Cut Hypertension Clinic, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Languages

French: Advanced reading, writing, and speaking

Spanish: Intermediate reading, writing, and speaking

Affiliations & Memberships

American Anthropological Association (Association for Black Anthropologists, Society for Cultural Anthropology, Society for Medical Anthropology, Society for Urban, Transnational/Global Anthropology)

American Ethnological Society

American Medical Association

American Studies Association

American College of Physicians

Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers

Society for Social Studies of Science