

# KIANA N. NADONZA

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## EDUCATION

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### University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, expected June 2026

Graduate Specialization in Asian Studies

Graduate Certificate Program, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

Dissertation: "Crowning Community: the cultural politics of beauty pageantry in the Philippines."

Committee: Philip W. Scher (Chair), Lamia Karim, Lynn Stephen, Maria Fernanda Escallón, Oluwakemi Balogun

### University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

M.A. Anthropology, June 2019

Thesis: "Skin and Nation: cultural politics of beauty in the Philippines and India."

### University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

B.A. Anthropology, B.A. Women, Gender & Sexuality, 2015

Concentration in Media Studies

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Feminist theory, postcolonial theory, gender, political economy, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, ethnic identity, diaspora, politics of beauty, Asian American issues

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

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Center for Asian and Pacific Studies Grant, University of Oregon, 2019, 2025

M. Gregg Smith Fellowship, University of Oregon, 2022, 2025

Dissertation and Thesis Award, University of Oregon, 2023

John R. Moore Scholarship, University of Oregon, 2023

Doctoral Service Award, University of Oregon, 2023

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research Grant, U.S. Department of Education, 2022

Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, The Wenner-Gren Foundation, 2022

Graduate Student Research Grant, Center for the Study of Women in Society, 2022

Fulbright U.S. Student Grant, Fulbright IIE, Finalist, 2020, 2022

Kimble First Year Teaching Award, 2020

Gary E. Smith Professional Development Award, University of Oregon, 2019

Miller Family Scholarship, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Oregon, 2018

Promising Scholar Award, University of Oregon, 2017

Dean's Merit Award, University of Oregon, 2017

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, 2016, 2017

Service-Learning Grant in Pastaza, Ecuador, University of Virginia, 2015

Full Scholarship, Field School Program in Indigenous Rights and Legal Pluralism, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, 2014

Off the Beaten Path Grant, Expeditions in Applied Anthropology, 2014

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Instructor of Record, University of Oregon Department of Anthropology, Eugene, OR, 2021-present

Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, 2017-present

College Advisor, Virginia College Advising Corps, Charlottesville, VA, 2015-2017

Education and Programs Intern, Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection, 2015-2016  
 Casework and Resettlement Services Intern, International Rescue Committee, 2014-2015  
 Lead Facilitator, Women's Asian American Leadership Initiative, University of Virginia, 2013-2015

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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ANTH 119: Anthropology and Aliens, Summer 2022 - Sole Instructor, Summer 2025  
 ANTH 114: Anthropology of Pirates and Piracy, Winter 2020, 2021, Fall 2021- Sole Instructor  
 ANTH 161: Intro to Cultural Anthropology, Summer 2018, Winter 2022, Fall 2023  
 ANTH 165: Sexuality and Culture, Spring 2020  
 ANTH 220: Intro to Nutritional Anthropology, Fall 2024  
 ANTH 274: Animals and Humans, Spring 2024  
 ANTH 315: Gender, Folklore, and Inequality, Fall 2019, Spring 2022 - Sole Instructor  
 ANTH 365: Food and Culture, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2024 - Sole Instructor  
 GEOG 181: Our Digital Earth, Winter 2025  
 GEOG 141: Natural Environment, Spring 2025  
 WGS 221: Bodies and Power, Disability Studies: Fall 2018, Feminist Theory: Winter 2019  
 WGS 315: History and Diversity of Feminist Theory, Spring 2019

## UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Kaya! Kabataan! Youth Program, Mentor, Portland, OR, 2024-present  
 Filipino Bayanihan Center, Volunteer, Portland, OR, 2024-present  
 Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, Asian and Pacific Islander Caucus Founding Chair 2019-2022,  
 Equity Committee 2019-2022, Executive Council 2019-2022, General Member 2017-present  
 Association of Anthropology Graduate Students, University of Oregon, Co-Director 2020-2022,  
 Undergraduate Mentor 2019-2022, General Member 2017-present  
 DisOrient Asian American Film Festival, Volunteer, Eugene, OR, 2019-2020  
 Siren Magazine, Print Content Editor, University of Oregon's Women's Center, 2018-2020  
 Iris Magazine Contributor, Maxine Platzer Lynn Women's Center, University of Virginia, 2013-2015

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PANELS

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"Engaged Anthropology in the Contemporary Context: Grappling with Ghosts of Anthropological Theory, Practice, and Legacy" (Panelist). Ghosts. American Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Nov 19-23, 2025 (Accepted)  
 "Directions in Carnival Studies" (Panelist). Roots, Rootlessness, and Uprooting, American Folklore Society's 135th Annual Meeting, Nov 2, 2023  
 "Locating the beauty pageant in everyday practices of the Philippines." Western States Folklore Society's Annual Conference, April 9, 2022  
 "*Buong Pilipinas*: Constructing Ethnic Identity and Building Nation in the Miss Universe Pageant." Western States Folklore Society's Annual Conference, Apr 18, 2020  
 "Re-framing Leadership: Using Social Change Model to Empower Asian/Pacific American Emerging Student Leaders." NASPA Leadership Educators Institute, Fort Worth, TX, Dec 11-13, 2014

## INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

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"Teaching Insights Forum." Eugene, OR: Day of Teaching, Teaching Engagement Program, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, 21 Sept 2022

“Embodiment and Empire: the cultural impacts of imperialism in the contemporary Philippines.” Eugene, OR: “Society Culture & Place” Guest Lecture, Department of Geography, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, 24 Feb 2022

“AAPI Colorism & Beauty Industry.” ClubHouse Speaker Series (Virtual), 20 Feb 2021

“Decolonizing Anthropology: Starting Conversations Around Methodologies, Frameworks & Approaches.” Stephen, L., Younker, J., McCarter, J., & Nadonza, K. (Panel Organizer). Colloquia Speaker Series, Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, 9 Nov 2020

## **SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS**

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“Review of *Beauty Diplomacy: Embodying an Emerging Nation* by Dr. Oluwakemi Balogun.” Annual Review, Center for the Study of Women in Society, University of Oregon, 2021

## **LANGUAGES**

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English (native); Spanish (advanced mid); Tagalog/Filipino (novice high)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

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American Anthropology Association (AAA), member of the following sections: Association of Feminist Anthropology (AFA), Association for Queer Anthropologists (AQA), Critical Urban Anthropology, National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA), Society for Cultural Anthropology (SCA), Society for Humanistic Anthropology (SHA), Critical Urban Anthropology Association (CUAA), General Anthropology Division (GAD)