

:: JOEVA ROCK

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EDUCATION

- PhD **Anthropology, American University (2018)**
MA **Public Anthropology, American University (2016)**
BA **International Studies, University of California-San Diego (2010)**
African Studies Minor. Graduated Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.65
--- **University of Ghana (2008-2009)**
Enrolled as a full-time international student

POSITIONS HELD

- 2019 – present **Visiting Research Scholar**, Department of International Studies, University of San Francisco
2018 – 2019 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, New York University

GRANTS & AWARDS

Extramural

- 2017 Association for Africanist Anthropology Graduate Essay Award (Honorable Mention)
2015 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
2015 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant
2015 Explorers Club Washington Group Exploration and Field Research Grant
2014 Society for Applied Anthropology Student Committee's Student Endowed Award

Internal

- 2017 American University College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Student Conference Travel Grant (2015, 2016, 2017)
2016 American University CAS Graduate Student Mellon Research Grant (declined)
2015 American University Office of Graduate Studies Doctoral Student Research Award
2014 American University Greenberg Professional Development Conference Travel Grant (2013, 2014)
2013 American University CAS Graduate Student Mellon Research Grant
2012 American University Department of Anthropology Graduate Assistantship (2012-15, 2016-17)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2018 "Complex Mediascapes, Complex Realities: Critically Engaging with Biotechnology Debates in Ghana." *Global Bioethics* 29(1): 55-64.
2018 "'We Are Not Starving': Challenging Genetically Modified Seeds and Development Discourse in Ghana." *Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment* 41(1): 15-23.

Manuscripts Under Review

- Under Review "Not Too Big to Fail? Theorizing Agricultural Biotechnology Trajectories in Africa."
(Submitted to *African Affairs*, with Rachel Schurman)

Manuscripts in Preparation

- 2019 "We are not starving: the Struggle for Food Sovereignty in Ghana." Book Manuscript.

- 2019 “Recipient Fatigue and Moral Geographies of Agricultural Development in Ghana.”
 2019 “From Peasantry to Prosperity: Building an African Green Revolution for Ghana.”

Selected Public Scholarship

- 2018 “Don’t Turn Foreign Aid Over to the Heritage Foundation.” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, December 20 (with Jacob M. Grumbach). <https://fpif.org/dont-turn-foreign-aid-over-to-the-heritage-foundation>.
- 2018 “Only the Soil Can Save Us.” *Africa is a Country*, November 27. <https://africasacountry.com/2018/11/only-the-soil-can-free-us>.
- 2018 “Catering Ghana’s Agricultural Development.” *Anthropology News*, November 21. <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2018/11/21/catering-ghanas-agricultural-development>.
- 2018 “Silent Aid.” *Africa is a Country*, October 11. <https://africasacountry.com/2018/10/silent-aid>.
- 2018 “Abject Lessons.” *Popula*, August 8. <https://popula.com/2018/08/08/abject-lessons>.
- 2018 “Pythons and Lily Pads.” *Africa is a Country*, April 2. <https://africasacountry.com/2018/04/pythons-and-lily-pads>.
Featured on: The Koketso Sachane Show (South Africa), <https://omny.fm/shows/the-koketso-sachane-show/joeva-rock-speaking-about-her-piece-titled-pythons>
- 2014 “Why Are We Sending Soldiers Trained for War to Respond to the Ebola Crisis?” *The Nation*, September 25. <https://www.thenation.com/article/militarizing-ebola-crisis/>.
- 2014 “Militarized Humanitarianism in Africa.” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, May 14. <http://fpif.org/militarized-humanitarianism-africa/>.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2019 “A Vision that Refuses to Die: The Struggle for Food Sovereignty and Political Freedom in an Era of Climate Change.” University of California-San Diego. May 31.
- 2018 “‘The Africans, I think, will choose to let their people have enough to eat’: Global Assemblages and Genetically Modified Crops for Africa.” New York University. August 31.
- 2018 “We are not starving: Debating Development and Genetically Modified Crops in Ghana.” University of Texas-Austin. March 22.
- 2017 ["We are not starving: Genetically Modified Crops and Development Debates in Ghana."](#) University of California-Berkeley. February 7.
- 2016 “‘There are no hungry people in this land’: Understanding Food Sovereignty in Ghana.” University of San Francisco. December 7.
- 2016 “Constructions and Practices of Food Sovereignty in Ghana.” University of Ghana. March 11.

Conference Panels Organized

- 2019 “Critical Technologies and Ecologies in Ghana.” The Ghana Studies Association 3rd Triennial Conference.
- 2017 “Reports from the Field: Critical Perspectives on Food and Agricultural Development in Ghana.” The 60th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA).
- 2015 “Food as Continuity and Change.” The Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) 75th Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “Anthropology, Militarization and Development.” The SfAA 74th Annual Meeting.
- 2013 “Anthropological Explorations of Debt.” The Northeastern Anthropological Association 53rd Annual Meeting.

Conference Papers Presented

- 2019 "We are not starving: the Struggle for Food Sovereignty in Ghana." The Ghana Studies Association 3rd Triennial Conference.
- 2018 "We are made to believe that our food is not good': Development Foodscapes in Ghana." The 117th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA).
- 2017 "The So-Called NGOs, Some of Them are Just Killing Us!': Recipient Fatigue and Agricultural Development in Ghana." The 116th Annual Meeting of the AAA.
- 2016 "Does Bill Gates Love Africa More Than Me?' Ghanaian Agricultural Advocacy in the Age of the African Green Revolution." The 59th Annual Meeting of the ASA.
- 2016 "GMOs and Anti-Colonial Narratives in Ghana." The 115th Annual Meeting of the AAA.
- 2015 "Food as a Marker of Continuity and Change in an Economic Crisis." The SfAA 75th Annual Meeting.
- 2015 "Queer Corn and Foodscapes of Activism in Ghana." The 22nd Annual Lavender Languages Conference.
- 2014 "Contemporary Coloniality, Sites of Resistance and Contestations of Development in Ghana." The 113th Annual Meeting of the AAA.
- 2014 "African Solutions to African Problems: US Assistance on the African Continent." The 11th Annual Public Anthropology Conference.
- 2014 "'Our stomachs are being colonized!' Food and Resistance in Ghana." The 11th Annual Public Anthropology Conference.
- 2014 "Capacities, Cooperation and Coercion: Militarized Development in Contemporary Africa." The SfAA 74th Annual Meeting.
- 2013 "Sankofa: Navigating Spaces, Identities and Loyalties." The 56th Annual Meeting of the ASA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record, American University (Department of Anthropology)

- Health Geographies (graduate, Fall 2019)
- Living in Multicultural Societies (undergraduate, Summer 2017)
- Militarization and Health (graduate, Summer 2019)
- Neoliberal Globalization and Health (graduate, Fall 2019)

Teaching Assistant, American University (Department of Anthropology)

- Anthropology of Life in the U.S. (undergraduate, Fall 2013)
- Culture and the Human Experience (undergraduate, Spring 2013 & 2014)
- Environmental Anthropology (undergraduate, Spring 2015)
- Health, Care and Social Movements (undergraduate, Spring 2017)
- Militarization and Health (graduate, Fall 2016)
- Neoliberal Globalization and Health (graduate, Fall 2017)
- Sex, Gender and Culture (undergraduate, Fall 2012 & 2014)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 **Fieldwork**, Ghana
Conducted follow up interviews and validated research findings with key informants.
- 2015 – 16 **Dissertation Fieldwork**, Ghana
Funded by the Fulbright-Hays Program and Wenner-Gren Foundation, I carried out participant observation and semi-structured interviews with government officials, scientists, farmers and activists to understand the social, political and economic aspects of genetically modified crops in Ghana.
- 2014 **Pre-Dissertation Research**, Ghana
Carried out two months of ethnographic research on the Food Sovereignty Platform, a social movement based in Accra, Ghana.

2012 – 14 **Research Assistant**, Washington, DC
Conducted archival and ethnographic research in support of the Civil War Contraband Ethnographic Study, an ethno-historical project funded by the National Park Service.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

2018 **Research Consultant**, Thousand Currents (Oakland, CA)
Served as the primary investigator on an 8-month research project investigating the financial flows of industrial agricultural aid in Africa. Conducted a desk review of academic and non-profit literature, analyzed primary source documents, filed Freedom of Information Act requests and oversaw the work of two research assistants.

2018 **Research Consultant**, Samuel Hall (Nairobi, Kenya)
Completed a 13,000 word literature review for UNICEF-funded study on school attendance in Zambia.

PROFESIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

2018 – present **Contributor**, [Africa is a Country](#)

2018 – present **Secretary**, Association for Africanist Anthropology

2013 – 2018 **Associate Copy-editor**, African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review

2012 – 2014 **Secretary**, Anthropology Graduate Council, American University

2014 **Intern**, Foreign Policy in Focus, Institute for Policy Studies

2013 **Conference Co-Coordinator**, American University Public Anthropology Conference

TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

2017 Online Faculty Training, American University

2012 – 2015 [Greenberg Ph.D. Seminars for Effective Teaching](#), American University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

African Studies Association, American Anthropological Association, Association for Africanist Anthropology, Ghana Studies Association, West Africa Research Association

LANGUAGES

English (native), French (basic), Spanish (basic), Twi (basic)