

BRIANNA B. CASTRO

Vanderbilt University
Department of Sociology
Nashville, Tennessee

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APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – n.d. Assistant Professor of Environmental Sociology (Current Position)
Department of Sociology | Climate Studies Program
Vanderbilt University
- 2022 - 2023 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Program for Society and the Environment
University of Maryland
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EDUCATION

- 2023 **Ph.D., Sociology**
Harvard University
Dissertation: “Shifting Sands: Adapting to Climate Change in Everyday Life”
Committee: Mary Waters (Chair), Jocelyn Viterna, Diane Davis, Elizabeth Fussell
- 2018 **A.M., Sociology**
Harvard University
Qualifying Paper: “Whether to Weather – How environmentally distressed families resist migration during drought”
Committee: Jocelyn Viterna (Chair), Mary Waters, Mario Small, Abby Spinak
- 2009 B.A., Public Policy & Spanish Language and Literature, *summa cum laude*
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Climate Change	Migration and Mobility
Resilience and Adaptation	Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research
Environmental Sociology	Governance and Institutions

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Castro, Brianna. “The Eroding American Dream: Undocumented Immigrants’ Competing Risks and Aspirations in the Changing Climate.” Under Review.

Castro, Brianna. “Becoming a Climate Migrant: Sequential Migration Decision-Making in Response to Climate Change.” Under Review.

Castro, Brianna. 2024. “The Art of Getting By: Ad Hoc Adaptations to Climate Change in Coastal Communities.” Forthcoming in *Qualitative Sociology*.

Masuda, Yuta, Luke Parsons, David Battisti, **Brianna Castro**, James Erbaugh, Edward Game, Teevrat Gard, Peter Kalmus, Timm Kroeger, Vimal Mishra, Drew Shindell, Michelle Tigchelaar, Lucas Vargas Zeppetello, June Spector, Nicholas Wolff. 2024. [“Impacts of Warming on Outdoor Worker Well-Being in the Tropics and Mitigation Options.”](#) *One Earth*.

Castro, Brianna. 2023. "[Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Heterogeneous Governance, Claims-Making, and Forced Eviction in a Megacity.](#)" *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*.

Castro, Brianna and Raka Sen. 2022. "[Everyday Adaptation: Theorizing Climate Change Adaptation in Everyday Life.](#)" *Global Environmental Change* 75:102555.

Aida Cuni-Sanchez, Isaac Twinomuhangi, Abreham B. Aneseyee, Ben Mwangi, Lydia Olaka, Robert Bitariho, Teshome Soromessa, **Brianna Castro**, and Noelia Zafra Calvo. 2022. "[Everyday Adaptation Practices by Coffee Farmers in Three Mountain Regions in Africa.](#)" *Ecology and Society*.

Masuda, Yuta J., **Brianna Castro**, Ike Aggraeni, Nicholas H. Wolff, Kristie Ebi, Teevrat Garg, Edward T. Game, Jennifer Krenz, and June Spector. 2019. "[How are healthy, working populations affected by increasing temperatures in the tropics? Implications for climate change adaptation policies.](#)" *Global Environmental Change* 56: 29-40.

Hagan, Jacqueline, Joshua Wassink, and **Brianna Castro**. 2018. "[A Longitudinal Analysis of Resource Mobilisation Among Forced and Voluntary Return Migrants to Mexico.](#)" *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

Jacqueline Hagan, Nestor Rodriguez, and **Brianna Castro**. August 2011. "[Social Effects of Mass Deportations by the United States Government, 2000-2010.](#)" *Journal of Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

Jacqueline Hagan, **Brianna Castro**, and Nestor Rodriguez. May 2010. "[The Effects of Deportation on Families and Communities: Cross Border Perspectives.](#)" *North Carolina Law Review*.

Book Chapters

Castro, Brianna, Forthcoming. "Migración y Movilidad: Las varias formas de migraciones ambientales debido a impactos de corto y largo plazo." In [Ensayos sobre migraciones asociadas a fenómenos ambientales: Aportes desde las realidades latinoamericanas.](#) Edited by Deysi Jerez-Ramírez, Clara De La Hoz & Gustavo Wilches-Chaux.

Castro, Brianna, 2019. "Drought Challenges in Rural Colombia." In [Drought Challenges, Volume 2, Edition 1: Policy Options for Developing Countries.](#) Edited by Mapedza Ervisto et al. Elsevier Science.

Castro, Brianna and Christina Kuntz. 2022. "Land Tenure Insecurity and Climate Adaptation: Socio-Environmental Realities in Colombia and Implications for Integrated Environmental Rights and Participatory Policy." In [Land Tenure Security and Sustainable Development](#) edited by Margaret Holland, Yuta Masuda, and Brian Robinson. Palgrave/Macmillan.

Fussell, Elizabeth and **Brianna Castro**. 2022. "Environmental Migration in North America." In [International Handbook of Population and Environment](#) edited by Lori Hunter, Clark Gray and Jacques Véron. Springer.

Book Reviews

Castro, Brianna. 2024. Review of Soaking the Middle Class: Suburban Inequality and Recovery from Disaster by Anna Rhodes and Max Besbris. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation. *Social Forces*.

Castro, Brianna. June 2016. Review of Beyond Deportation: The Role of Prosecutorial Discretion in Immigration Cases by Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia. New York, NY: New York University Press. *Ethnic Racial Studies*.

Other Writing

Castro, Brianna. March 2022. "[Waiting for Rain: Climate Change and Social Mobility in Rural Colombia.](#)" ReVista Harvard Review of Latin America.

Natural Hazards Center. March 2021. "[The Art of Getting By: Ad Hoc Adaptations to Climate Change in Coastal Communities.](#)"

United Nations Women's Program. November 2018. "Women's Agency and Resilience in Climate Crisis." Report prepared for launch at COP 24 Katowice.

Climate Security with Local Authorities Project. November 2018. “Geo-Archive on Climate Migration: Adaptive Migration during Drought.” Launched at COP24 / available as an online archive for climate planning.

Farmworker Justice. October 2009. “A Portrait of the Children of America’s Agricultural Workers.” Washington, D.C.: Farmworker Justice.

Brianna Mullis. May 2009. “Neither Here nor There: An Examination of U.S. Immigration Enforcement Policy and Undocumented Migration.” Honors Thesis, UNC Chapel Hill.

TEACHING

Vanderbilt University

- SOC 3311 Climate Change and Society, (Spring 2024; Spring 2025)
- SOC 1030 Environment and Society (Fall 2023; Fall 2024)

Wellesley College

- Independent Study, Climate Change and Migration (Spring 2021)

Harvard University

- Teaching Fellow, American Politics and Public Policy (Fall 2020), Professors Mary Waters and Theda Skocpol
 - Assignment Design, Back to the Future: How the Past Imagined the Cities of Tomorrow (Summer 2020), Professor Bruno Carvalho
 - Teaching Fellow, Urban Diversity and its Discontents (Spring 2020), Professor Bruno Carvalho
 - Teaching Fellow, Graduate Level Methods of Qualitative Analysis (Spring 2018), Professor Mary Waters
 - Teaching Fellow, Models of Social Science Research (Fall 2017), Professor Paul Chang
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FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2024	Global Engagement Travel Grant, Vanderbilt University (\$2,000)
2022	Outer Banks History Center Summer Research Grant (\$1,500)
2020	Joint Center for Housing Studies Research Grant (\$5,000)
2020	Natural Hazards Center Mitigation Matters Research Grant (\$2,500)
2017	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (3-year fellowship, \$127,000)
2019	Doctoral Fellow, Mellon Urban Initiative, Harvard University (\$5,000)
2017	Pre-Dissertation Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA), Harvard University (\$3,700)
2017	Hutchins Center Research Grant, Harvard University (\$6,000)
2016	Summer Research Grant, Graduate Student Council, Harvard University (\$1,000)
2008	Travel Research Grant, Francis L. Phillips Scholarship, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (\$7,000)

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Research Affiliate, Environment and Climate Mobilities Network

Research Affiliate, First Street Foundation, The Flood Lab

Research Affiliate, Institute for Public Knowledge, Social Consequences of Climate Change Working Group, New York University

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Sections: Environmental Sociology; International Migration; Global and Transnational Sociology; Sociology of Development; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

Global De(Centre) Network

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP)

International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM)

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

“Climate Change at the Margins of the Megacity: Informal Adaptation in Everyday Life”

2024: Guest Lecture, Harvard University Sociology Department
National University of Singapore, Department of Geography
University of Pennsylvania Urban Futures Workshop

“Everyday Adaptation to Climate Change”

2023: Environmental Humanities Cluster, Robert Penn Warren Center, Vanderbilt University.

“Sequential Migration Decision-Making in the Context of Climate Change”

2022: Sociology and International Studies Departments, University of Mississippi
Kroc Institute for Peace Studies, University of San Diego
School for Foreign Service, Georgetown University
University of British Columbia
Brandeis University
Vanderbilt University
University of Singapore
2021: Sociology Department, Rutgers University

“Climate Change in Daily Life”

2021: Guest Speaker, Department of Occupational Science, Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Montana

“Adaptation in Daily Life: Hyperlocal Action in a Changing Climate”

2021: Keynote Address, Everyday Adaptation Workshop, Sustainability and Development Initiative, University of Michigan

“Mitigation Measures and Household Level Adaptation to Climate Change”

2021: FEMA + Natural Hazards Center Mitigation Matters Program. Virtual.

“Migration and Climate Change: Crisis migration to Chronic Mobility”

2021: Guest Lecture, Wellesley College Sociology Department

“Household Level Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal North Carolina”

2021: UNC-CH City and Regional Planning Department

“Climate Change in Context: the Political Landscape of Everyday Resilience”

2021: Guest Lecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design

“Living with Climate Change: Crisis Migration to Chronic Mobility”

2020: Climate Migration and Managed Retreat Working Group, American Society of Adaptation Professionals
2020: Guest Lecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design

“Micro-Level Adaptation to Climate Change in Rural Colombia”

2020: Cimpatico TV, Climate Change Migration Channel. Virtual.

“Living with Climate Change: Resisting Migration | Adapting in Place”

2019: UNC Chapel Hill Sociology Department, Migration Workshop

“Environmental Migration” Panel Participant

2019: UNC Chapel Hill International Law Journal Symposium - *Discrete Issues in Immigration Law*

CONFERENCES

“Hope in Climate Grief: Building Communities of Engagement in a Context of Environmental Loss”

2024: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Panel Participant

Climate Change Regular Session Organizer

2024: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Organizer of 3 panels and presider of one panel

“Purchasing Risk: Undocumented Immigrant Home Ownership and Adaptation to Climate Change”

2023: ICARUS VI Climate Change Adaptation Workshop
School for Environment and Sustainability University of Michigan

“Climate Change: Interpretive and Affective Dimensions”

2023: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Panel Presider

“Erosion: A Global View of Climate Change Adaptation as a Mechanism for Displacement”

2023: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Climate Change Regular Session

“Becoming a Climate Migrant: Climate Change and Sequential Migration Decision-Making”

2021: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Virtual.

“Everyday Adaptation: Theorizing Climate Change “Adaptation” in Daily Life

2021: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association Roundtable, with Co-author Raka Sen.

“Everyday Adaptation: How Coastal Residents Adapt to Climate Hazards”

2021: Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference. Durham, North Carolina

“Autonomous Adaptation: Coastal Homeowner Response to Climate Hazards”

2020: Annual Meeting, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. Virtual.

“A Longitudinal Study of Forced Return Migration and Labor Market Reintegration in Mexico.”

2018: Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association, Philadelphia Pennsylvania

“Vulnerability and Resilience during Slow Onset Environmental Crisis.”

2018: Annual Association of Geographers Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

“Migration to Mobility: Adaptive Mobility in the Context of Climate Change”

2024: ECMN Annual Conference. Liège, Belgium.

“Environmental Mobilities: Communication and Policy Challenges”

2024: IMISCOE Annual Conference. Lisbon, Portugal.

“Purchasing Risk: Undocumented Immigrant Home Ownership in the Context of Climate Change”

2023: IMISCOE Annual Conference. Warsaw, Poland.

“The Temporality of Migration during Environmental Crisis”

2018: TransRe Closing Conference, Adaptation in Motion. Bonn, Germany.

“Whether to Weather: How environmentally distressed families resist migration during drought”

2018: The Migration Conference. Lisbon, Portugal.

“Drought Migration in Rural Colombia”

2018: Environmental Humanities Training: Loss, Damage, and Security. Naples, Italy.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Vanderbilt University

2023 – 2024 Member, Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Sociology

2024 Panelist, Successful CVs, Department of Sociology

2023 - Faculty Mentor, First Generation and Low Income Student Mentorship Program

2023 – 2024 Member, Speakers, Nominations, Website, and Publicity Committee, Department of Sociology

Occasional Reviewer: *Population and Environment*, *Social Forces*, *Journal of Environmental Policy*, *Environmental Management*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ecology and Society*

Global De-Centre Network
Migration Research Group Coordinator January 2022 – December 2023

Resistance. A Journal of Radical Environmental Humanities
Member of the Radical Environmental Humanities Editorial Collective August 2023 – Present

Friends of Colombia
Board of Directors January 2020 – Present

Harvard Sociology Politics and Social Change Workshop
Coordinator May 2017 – September 2018

LANGUAGES

English (native); Spanish (fluent); Italian (intermediate proficiency); Yoruba (basic proficiency)

SOFTWARE

STATA; SPSS; Atlas.ti; NVivo; GIS; MAXQDA

REFERENCES

Mary C. Waters
John L. Loeb Professor of Sociology
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33 Kirkland Street
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