

CURRICULUM VITAE

Lydia Pelot-Hobbs

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EDUCATION

PhD, Geography, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, American Studies Certificate.
The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2019.

MPhil, Geography, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences
The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2015

MS, Urban Studies, University of New Orleans, 2011.

BA, Oberlin College, 2007. Majors: Comparative American Studies and English. Minor: History.
Highest Honors in Comparative American Studies.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2020 - Present Assistant Professor of Geography and African American & Africana Studies
University of Kentucky.

2019 - 2020 Postdoctoral Research Associate, NYU Prison Education Program,
New York University.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Carceral Crises: Punitive Power, Racial Capitalism, and Struggles for Abolition Democracy in Louisiana
(Under Contract University of North Carolina Press)

The Jail Is Everywhere: Fighting the New Geography of Mass Incarceration, co-edited with Jack Norton and
Judah Schept (Under Contract Verso Books)

Refereed Journal Articles

“Constructing the Unruly Public: Governing Affect & Legitimate Knowledge in Post-Katrina New Orleans,” co-written with Siri J. Colom, *Gender, Place, & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography*, 29:9 (2022), 1317-1337.

“Amnesty for All: Organizing Against Criminalization in Post-Katrina New Orleans,” *Southern Cultures*, 27:3 (2021), 98-118.

“Life and Death in Louisiana’s Petrochemical Industrial Complex,” *GeoHumanities: Space, Place, and the Humanities*, 7:2 (2021), 625-642.

“Scaling Up or Scaling Back: The Pitfalls and Possibilities of Leveraging Federal Interventions for Abolition,” *Critical Criminology* 26:3 (2018), 423-441.

“Organized Inside and Out: The Angola Special Civics Project and the Crisis of Mass Incarceration” in *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society* 15:3 (2013), 199-217.

Book Chapters and Essays

“Inequalities,” in *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Cultural and Social Geography*, Eds. Ishan Ashutosh and Jamie Winders, Malden, MA: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Publication (**Under review**).

“The Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons,” in *Remaking Radicalism: A Grassroots Documentary Reader of the United States, 1973-2001*, Eds. Dan Berger and Emily Hobson, Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2020.

“Lockdown Louisiana” in *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas*, Eds. Rebecca Solnit and Rebecca Snedeker. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013.

Public Scholarship

“Law-and-Order Policies Make Us Less Safe. The Trajectory of the 90s Shows Us Why.” In *Truthout* (<https://truthout.org/articles/law-and-order-policies-make-us-less-safe>) Posted September 13, 2022.

“Biden’s Private Prison Executive Order Doesn’t Undo Mass Incarceration” in *Truthout* (<https://truthout.org/articles/bidens-private-prison-executive-order-doesnt-undo-mass-incarceration>) Posted January 27, 2021.

"Accept Nothing Less Than Police Abolition" in *Boston Review*. (<https://bostonreview.net/law-justice/lydia-pelot-hobbs-accept-nothing-less-police-abolition>) Posted June 24, 2020.

“Louisiana’s Turn to Mass Incarceration: The Building of a Carceral State,” in the *American Association of Geographers Newsletter* (<http://news.aag.org/2018/02/louisianas-turn-to-mass-incarceration-the-building-of-a-carceral-state>). Posted February 1, 2018.

“Organizing the Prisons in the 1960s and 1970s: Prisoner Rights Round Table” in *Process: The Blog for the Organization of American Historians* (<http://www.processhistory.org/tag/prisoners-rights-round-table>) Posted September 22, 2016.

“Alton Sterling and Police Impunity in Louisiana” in *Verso Books Blog* (www.versobooks.com/blogs) Posted July 11, 2016.

“Reflections on the Ten Year Aftermath of the Federal Flood” in *Justice Roars* (<http://louisianajusticeinstitute.blogspot.com>) Posted August 28, 2015.

“Writing Across the Walls: Prisoner Journalism for Freedom” in *The Abolitionist*, Fall 2013.

“Defeating ‘White Rage’: An Anti-Racist Call to Action!” in *Left Turn Magazine*, January/February 2010.

Encyclopedia Articles

“Antiracism and Prison Abolition” with Celeste Winston in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*. London: Routledge (forthcoming).

Book Reviews

We Are Not Slaves: State Violence, Coerced Labor, and Prisoners’ Rights in Postwar America by Robert T. Chase in *Journal of African American History*, 2022: 141-143.

All Our Trials: Prisons, Policing, and the Feminist Fight Against Violence by Emily Thuma in *Against the Current*. July/August 2020.

Progressive Punishment: Job Loss, Jail Growth, and the Neoliberal Logic of Carceral Expansion by Judah Schept in *Punishment & Society*, 2018: 255-258.

Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans by Matt Sakakeeny in *Southern Spaces*. Posted online February 20, 2015.

We Shall Not be Moved by Tom Wooten in *Shelterforce: The Journal of Affordable Housing and Community Development*. Posted online November 1, 2012.

Arm the Spirit: A Woman’s Journey Underground and Back by Diana Block in *Left Turn Magazine* July/August 2009: 72-73.

Abolition Now! Ten Years of Strategy and Struggle Against the Prison Industrial Complex by CR10 Publications Collective, eds. in *Left Turn Magazine* January/February 2009: 76-77.

Torture and the Twilight of Empire: From Algiers to Bagdad by Marnia Lazerg in *Left Turn Magazine* October/November 2008: 84-85.

Red State Rebels: Tales of Grassroots Resistance in the Heartland by Joshua Frank and Jeffrey St. Clair, eds. in *The Independent*, October 27, 2008.

The Cost of Privilege: Taking on the Systems of White Supremacy and Racism by Chip Smith in *Left Turn Magazine*, November/December 2007: 67-68.

The Other Campaign/La Otra Campaña by Subcomandante Marcos and the Zapatistas, January/February 2007: 61-62.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, PRIZES

- The Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies, University of Kentucky, Research Materials Grant, 2020
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, American Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2017-2018
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Fall 2016
- CUNY Lost & Found Archival Research Grant, 2016
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Doctoral Student Summer Research Grant, Summer 2016
- Human Geography Small Grants Program, 2015
- New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, Archival and Documentation Grant, 2015

- Neil Smith Research and Travel Fellowship, 2015
- Oberlin College Alumni Graduate Fellowship, 2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Advanced Research Collaborative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies, Summer 2015
- CUNY Macaulay Instructional Technology Fellow, 2013-2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Spring 2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY Advanced Research Collaborative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies, Summer 2014
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Doctoral Student Summer Research Grant, Summer 2014
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Fall 2013
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Advanced Research Collaborative Research Praxis Fellowship, Fall 2013
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Spring 2013
- University of New Orleans Fritz Wagner Award, 2011
- Oberlin College Comparative American Studies Comfort Starr Prize, 2007
- Oberlin College Jerome Davis Research Award, 2006

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Oil Booms and Busts, Prisons Boom and Boom” at the Global Law and Society Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, July 13-16, 2022.

“Rethinking ‘Disaster Preparedness’: Undoing Carceral Power for Climate Justice” Presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 7-10, 2021. **Virtual.**

“Rethinking ‘Disaster Preparedness’: Undoing Carceral Power for Climate Justice” Paper to be presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 12-15, 2020. **CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19.**

“Policing Race and Space in the New Orleans Tourism Economy” Paper to be presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, April 6-10, 2020. **CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19.**

“Policing Racialized Sex and Gender in the New Orleans Tourism Economy.” Paper presented at the 8th International Conference of Critical Geography, Athens, Greece, April 19-23, 2019.

“Jailing Louisiana: A Spatial Fix to Penal Overcrowding” (Panel Co-Organizer). Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington DC, April 3-7, 2019.

“Abolitionist Lineages in Post-Katrina Jail and Policing Activism” (Panel Co-Organizer). Paper presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 15-18, 2018.

“Refusing Louisiana Exceptionalism: The Politics and Practices of Abolitionist Research.” (Panel Organizer). Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 10-15, 2018.

“Policing Sex and Gender in the New Orleans Tourism Economy.” Paper presented at Sexuality and Space Pre-Conference. New Orleans, LA, April 9, 2018.

“Feminist Research Praxis for Contesting Criminalization.” Paper presented at the National Women Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 16-19, 2017.

“Oil Booms and Busts, Prisons Boom and Boom.” (Panel co-organizer) at the American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL, November 9-12, 2017.

“‘To Walk Down the Street Without Fear’: Fighting LGBTQ of Color Criminalization, Creating Transformation.” (Panel Co-Organizer) Paper presented at the American Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 17-20, 2016.

“The Plantation as a Beginning, Not an End: The Racial Capitalist Productions of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, March 29-April 2, 2016.

“Scaling Back or Scaling Up? Tracking the Lessons of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at the American Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, October 8-11, 2015.

“From Crisis to Consolidation: The Build Up of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 21-25, 2015.

“Reconfigurations of the Southern Carceral State: Understanding the Redemption Roots of Neoliberalism.” Paper presented at the Southern American Studies Association Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA, February 19-21, 2015.

“Patriarchy, Prisons, and Planning: The ‘Public’ Struggle over the Expansion of the Orleans Parish Prison.” Paper presented at the American Studies Association Conference, Washington D.C., November 21-24, 2013.

“Organizing for Freedom: Abolitionist Reforms and the Angola Special Civics Project.” Paper presented at the Rethinking Prisons Conference, Nashville, TN, May 2-5, 2013.

“Power, Prisons, and ‘Public’ Meetings.” (Panel Co-Organizer) Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropology Association, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.

“Patriarchy, Prisons, and ‘Public’ Meetings.” Paper presented at the Southeast Women’s Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 24-26, 2011.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Mass Incarceration and Racial Capitalism” Rights & Democracy Organizer Institute, Online Webinar, July 20, 2021.

“Co-ops Not Cops” Grassroots Economic Organizing and United States Federation of Worker-Cooperatives, Online Webinar, June 22, 2021.

“Lessons for Today from Past Moments of Prisoner Resistance,” at Southern Policy Law Center, New Orleans, May 12, 2017.

“Historical Geographies of the Louisiana State Penitentiary—Angola,” at States of Incarceration, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA, April, 8, 2017.

"Prisons Make More Prisons: Carceral Crisis from the 1970s to Katrina" at Katrina After Ten symposium, Brown University, Providence, RI, October 3, 2015.

“From Crisis to Consolidation: Building the Louisiana Carceral State” at One Book One New Orleans, New Orleans, LA. September 18, 2014.

“Lockdown Louisiana: Mapping the Future” at Bard Early College, New Orleans, LA. February 24, 2014.

“Mapping Mindsets: Containment and Outbreak” at Proteus Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY. October 27, 2013.

“Lockdown Louisiana” at Fordham University, Lincoln Center. New York, NY. October 20, 2013.

“Decommodifying Housing for Gender Justice” at Fit for a King Fair Housing Summit 2012: Women and Fair Housing. New Orleans, LA. January 13, 2012.

“Hate Crimes Legislation and Mass Incarceration” at Louisiana State University Law School, Baton Rouge, LA. September 22, 2011.

TEACHING

Courses Taught

University of Kentucky

GEO 220: US Cities (Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

AAS400/GEO 365: The Carceral State (Spring 2021, Fall 2022)

AAS 401: Reading and Research in African American & Africana Studies (Fall 2021)

GEO 422: Urban Geography (Fall 2022)

ST 600: Social Theory Seminar: Reproductive Politics and Justice (Spring 2022)

GEO 713: Economic Geography Seminar: Racial Capitalism (Fall 2021)

New York University

Prison Education Program at Wallkill Correctional Facility

Neoliberalism (Fall 2020)

Racial Capitalism (Fall 2019)

Social and Cultural Analysis

Carceral Geographies: Race, Space, and Punishment (Spring 2020)

Hunter College, City University of New York

GEO 101: People and Their Environment (Fall 2012, Spring 2013)

Graduate Advising

- 2022 – present Committee Member. Ian Spangler, University of Kentucky, PhD Geography.
2021 – present Committee Member. RL Martens, University of Kentucky, MA Geography.
2021 – present Committee Member. David Heim, University of Kentucky, PhD History.

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer

ACME: International Journal of Critical Geographies

Environment and Planning D: Society and Space

Journal for the Anthropology of North America

Modern American History

Radical History Review

Southern Cultures

Women Studies Quarterly

Service to the Discipline

2022, Annual Meeting Local Site Committee, American Studies Association

2017-2019, Co-Coordinator Critical Prison Studies Caucus, American Studies Association

Departmental and Program Service

University of Kentucky

2022-present, Graduate Committee (Geography)

2020-present Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (Geography)

2022-present Carceral Studies Working Group (Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies)

2020-2022 Colloquium Committee, Chair 2021-2022 (Geography)

New York University Prison Education Program

Summer 2020 Abolition Study Group Co-coordinator

Spring 2020 Post-Incarceration Leadership Development: Understanding Mass Incarceration Workshop Coordinator (cancelled halfway through semester due to COVID-19 restrictions on NYS prison programs).

The Graduate Center, City University of New York

2014-2015, Curriculum Committee (Earth and Environmental Sciences)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Geographers

American Studies Association

Critical Prison Studies Caucus (ASA)