

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## DOUGLAS A. BAFFORD

Department of Anthropology, Mailstop 006  
Brandeis University, 415 South Street, Waltham, MA, USA  
+1 443-823-6364 • [bafford@brandeis.edu](mailto:bafford@brandeis.edu) • [www.dougbafford.com](http://www.dougbafford.com) • +27 060-818-1548

Updated December 2020

---

### EDUCATION:

**Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology** **In progress (ABD)**  
Brandeis University Waltham, Massachusetts  
Dissertation: “The Sins of Our Ancestors: Conservative Evangelical Christianity and Cosmological Responses to Racial Division in Post-Apartheid South Africa”  
Committee: Janet McIntosh (Chair), Anita Hannig, and Sarah Lamb

**Master of Arts in Anthropology** **May 2015**  
Brandeis University Waltham, Massachusetts  
Thesis: “Contesting the Secular Other, Constructing the Creationist Self: Scientific Discourse and Religious Narrative among Kentuckian Evangelical Christians”  
Readers: Janet McIntosh and Richard Parmentier

**Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology, *Summa Cum Laude*** **May 2012**  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County Baltimore, Maryland  
Minor: Modern Languages & Linguistics – Spanish  
Honors Thesis: “Personal and Communal Expressions of Islam on a University Campus: An Ethnography of Religious Practice”

**Associate of Arts, *Summa Cum Laude*** **May 2010**  
Carroll Community College Westminster, Maryland

### ORIGINAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

**Evangelical Christianity in Post-Apartheid Southern Africa** **July 2018 – July 2019**  
Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
Faculty Advisor: Janet McIntosh

**Modernity and Creation among South African Evangelical Christians** **May 2017 – August 2017**  
Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
Faculty Advisor: Janet McIntosh

**Religious and Scientific Discourse among Kentuckian Evangelical Creationists** **June 2014 – August 2014**  
Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
Faculty Advisor: Ellen Schattschneider

**Religious Practices of Muslim Students at a U.S. University** **September 2011 – May 2012**  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
Faculty Advisor: Seth Messinger

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

Anthropology of religion; evangelical Christianity; political and religious conservatism; cosmology; southern Africa; race and multiculturalism in post-apartheid South Africa; scientific and evolutionary discourse; the anthropology of knowledge; cross-cultural epistemology; ritual and embodiment; linguistics; social theory

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS:**

<b>Higher Education Administrative Fellowship</b> Office for Undergraduate Research and Creative Collaborations, Brandeis University	<b>July 2020 – Present</b>
<b>University Fellowship</b> Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University	<b>August 2015 – May 2020</b>
<b>Visiting Researcher</b> Department of Anthropology, University of the Witwatersrand	<b>July 2018 – June 2019</b>
<b>Doctoral Fellow</b> Science, Religion, and Culture Program, Harvard University	<b>August 2016 – May 2018</b>

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING GRANTS:**

<b>Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (#BCS-1919715)</b> Cultural Anthropology Program, National Science Foundation	<b>July 2019</b> \$10,022
<b>Provost Dissertation Fellowship</b> Office of the Provost, Brandeis University	<b>May 2019</b> \$1,000
<b>Provost Research Grant</b> Office of the Provost, Brandeis University	<b>April 2018</b> \$15,622
<b>Teaching Innovation Grant</b> Center for Teaching and Learning, Brandeis University	<b>May 2017</b> \$6,900
<b>Dissertation Research Grant</b> Andrew J. Mellon Foundation, Brandeis University	<b>April 2017</b> \$3,825
<b>Travel and Research Grant</b> Graduate Student Association, Brandeis University	<b>March 2017</b> \$375
<b>Travel and Research Grant</b> Graduate Student Association, Brandeis University	<b>December 2014</b> \$50
<b>Graduate Student Summer Research Grant</b> Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University	<b>April 2014</b> \$1,100
<b>Master's Research Grant</b> Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Brandeis University	<b>March 2014</b> \$154

**AWARDS AND PRIZES:**

- University Prize Instructorship** **May 2019**  
 Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Brandeis University  
*Recognizing several advanced doctoral candidates each year by allowing them to design and teach an undergraduate course related to the themes of their dissertation research (awarded for the course “African Ways of Knowing” taught in Spring 2020)*
- Robert A. Manners Prize** **May 2019**  
 Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
*Recognizing a significant piece of scholarly writing by a doctoral student in anthropology (awarded for the article “Aging and the End Times” published in 2019 in Anthropology & Aging)*
- Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award** **May 2017**  
 Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Brandeis University  
*Recognizing excellence among graduate-student teaching assistants, nominated by their respective departments*

**RESEARCH ASSISTANCE:**

- United States Physician Aid-in-Dying Project**, with Anita Hannig **December 2015 – May 2017**  
 Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University
- Ethiopian Obstetric Fistula Hospital Project**, with Anita Hannig **May 2014 – June 2014**  
 Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University
- Ecuadorian Sociolinguistics Project**, with John Stolle-McAllister **October 2012 – April 2013**  
 Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication,  
 University of Maryland, Baltimore County

**PUBLICATIONS:****Refereed Articles**

- “Aging and the End Times: Evangelical Eschatology and Experiences of Elderhood in the United States and South Africa.” *Anthropology & Aging* 40(1):32-47. doi:10.5195/aa.2019.197 **2019**
- “Religion and Science.” In *The International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. Hilary Callan, general editor. Simon Coleman, associate editor. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. doi:10.1002/9781118924396.wbiea1812 **2018**

**Non-Refereed Contributions**

- “Pentecostal Promise and a South African Dream Deferred.” *Africa Is a Country*, March 31. **2020**  
<https://africasacountry.com/2020/03/pentecostal-promise-and-a-south-african-dream-deferred>
- “What’s in Your Bag, Anthropologists?” with Tammy Clemons, A.J. Faas, Taylor R. Genovese, Carol Hendrickson, Alejandro Ponce de Leon, Brooke Scelza, Nancy White, Laura Zanotti, Susan Mazur-Stommen, Claire-Marie Hefner, Michael T. Balonek, Ashley Stinnett, and Natalia Maksymowicz Mroz. *Anthropology News* website, July 18. doi:10.1111/AN.929 **2018**
- “Multiculturalism Is No Enemy of Democracy.” *Baltimore Sun*, June 7: 18. **2013**

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS:

### Academic Paper Presentations

“African Bodies Out of Place: Evangelical Discourses of Material Religion in Contemporary South Africa.”

*Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, December 2, 2020*

“Gender Regimes as Imported Secularism?: Conservative Christian Responses to Shifting Demands of Sex, Sexuality, and Kinship in South Africa.”

*Brandeis Anthropology Research Seminar, Brandeis University, June 19, 2020*

“Evangelical Christianity and the Formation of a Multiracial South Africa.”

*Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, California, November 23, 2019*

“The Challenge of a New Right in Post-Apartheid South Africa: A Componential Reading of Conservative Evangelical Christianity.”

*The 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada, November 22, 2019*

“Evangelical Christians’ Engagement with the Cultural Other: Constructing an Alternative Post-Apartheid Modernity through Religious Cosmology.”

*Provost Research Awards: A Celebration of Scholarly Inquiry, Brandeis University, November 1, 2019*

“Embodiment and the Word: The Ambiguity of Boundary Making among Conservative Evangelical Christians in South Africa.”

*Religion and the Strange: Boundary Making and Crossing, Boston University Department of Religion, September 15, 2019*

“The Prosperity Gospel and an Unprosperous Reality in Post-Apartheid South Africa: Conservative Evangelical Responses to Charismatic Christianity.”

*Wits Interdisciplinary Seminar in the Humanities, Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, March 4, 2019*

“A Laboratory for Scholarly Inquiry: Integrating Writing Workshops into the First-Year Curriculum.”

*Celebration of Teaching and Learning, Brandeis University, April 27, 2018*

“Origins Science and Evangelical Christianity in the Construction of a Post-Apartheid South African Modernity.”

*The 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, December 1, 2017*

“A Specter of Worldly Decline: Cosmopolitical Stances toward Liberal Social Change within Conservative South African Christianity.”

*Ways of Knowing 2017: The Sixth Annual Conference on Religion, Harvard Divinity School, October 27, 2017*

“Lessons from an Ethnographer’s ‘Among-the-Text’: Some Comparative Notes on Epistemological Authority across History, Anthropology, and Christianity.”

*Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 16, 2017*

“Evangelistic Failures and Imperial Anxieties among Nineteenth-Century American Missionaries to the Zulu.”

*Science, Religion, and Culture Program Symposium, Cambridge, Massachusetts, May 15, 2017*

“‘Only One Race’: Religious and Scientific Rhetoric of Anti-Racism among Young-Earth Creationists.”

*The 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, Colorado, November 19, 2015*

“Confiding in ‘God’s Word’; Confirming through ‘Man’s Word’: The Intersection of Religious and Scientific Discourse among Kentuckian Evangelical Creationists.”

*Ways of Knowing 2014: The Third Annual Graduate Conference on Religion, Harvard Divinity School, October 25, 2014*

“‘God’s Word’ in a ‘Fierce’ World: Religious and Scientific Discourse among Kentuckian Creationists.”

*Brandeis Anthropology Research Seminar, Brandeis University, September 19, 2014*

### Invited Guest Lectures

“Belief, Religion, and Witchcraft”

*21a.00, Introduction to Anthropology: Comparing Cultures.* October 6, 2020.

“Christian Fundamentalism in America: Politics, Language, and Belief”

*ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies.* March 19, 2018.

“Who Is a Witch? Anthropological Reflections on Witchcraft, Magic, Christianity, and Death”

*ANTH 80a, Anthropology of Religion.* October 31, 2017.

“Anthropological Reactions to Sociobiology”

*ANTH 5a, Human Origins.* April 27, 2017.

“Evangelical Christianity, Anthropology, and the Problem of Irrationality: Can a Nonbeliever Truly Study and Understand Religious Belief?”

*ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies.* March 29, 2017.

“Christian Fundamentalism: Religious Education and Identity Construction”

*ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies.* November 2, 2016.

“Christian Fundamentalism: Ecstatic Experience and Cultural Contestation”

*ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies.* March 23, 2016.

“Structural Violence and the Provision of Medical Care”

*ANTH 127a, Medicine, Body, and Culture.* November 21, 2014.

“American and Japanese Attitudes toward Organ Donation: Life and Death in Cross-Cultural Perspective”

*ANTH 127a, Medicine, Body, and Culture.* November 7, 2014.

“Science Fiction as a Lens: Writing about *Ender’s Game*”

*TYP 8a, Technological Monsters: Men and Machines in Contemporary Science Fiction.* November 14, 2013.

“Identifying Ineffective Writing Styles”

*TYP 8a, Technological Monsters: Men and Machines in Contemporary Science Fiction.* October 10, 2013.

### Workshop and Conference Organizing

The Contours of Conservatism: Ethnographic Approaches to Shifting Political Climates

*Panel at the 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada, November 22, 2019*

Workshop for Critical Inquiry and Education

*Myra Kraft Transitional Year Program, Brandeis University, August 2017 – May 2018*

Anthropology, Law, and the Pursuit of Social Justice: A Conference in Honor of Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis

*International Center for Ethics, Justice, and Public Life, Brandeis University, April 16, 2016*

## PEDAGOGICAL EXPERIENCE:

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology

September 2020 – Present

Fall 2020: *21a.00, Introduction to Anthropology: Comparing Cultures* (with Lauren Bonilla)

### Babson College

Babson Park, Massachusetts

Adjunct Lecturer of Anthropology, History and Society Division

August 2019 – Present

Fall 2020: *AHS 1000, Foundations of Critical Inquiry: Nature and Environment*

Summer 2020: *IND 3604, Anthropology of Brand Marketing* (independent research project)

Spring 2020: *CVA 2005, Anthropology of Religion*

Fall 2019: *CVA 2008, Cultural Anthropology* (two sections)

### Brandeis University

Waltham, Massachusetts

Lecturer, Department of Anthropology

January 2020 – May 2020

Spring 2020: *ANTH 31b, African Ways of Knowing*

Study Group Leader, Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

September 2019 – December 2019

Fall 2019: *SOC5-10, Youth, Aging, and Human Connection: Theory and Practice*

Co-Facilitator, Department of Anthropology

August 2019 – December 2019

Fall 2019: *EL 42a, Sages and Seekers: A Fieldwork Practicum in the Life Course across Generations* (with Sarah Lamb)

Instructor, Myra Kraft Transitional Year Program

August 2014 – May 2018

Spring 2018: *Elementary Structures of the Academic Life II: Critical Approaches to Evaluating Evidence, Research, and Knowledge Production*

Fall 2017: *Elementary Structures of the Academic Life I: An Introduction to the Style, Substance, and Logics of Scholarly Discourse*

Spring 2017: *Expressing Affliction II: Embodied Ills from Horror Fiction to the Halls of Medicine*

Fall 2016: *Expressing Affliction I: The Structural Violence of Social Marginalization*

Spring 2016: *Writing Culture II: The Intersection of Gender, Kinship, and Cosmology*

Fall 2015: *Writing Culture I: The Intersection of Language, Race, and Ethnicity*

Spring 2015: *Introduction to Ethnography II: Writing about Gender, Kinship, and Religion*

Fall 2014: *Introduction to Ethnography I: Writing about Culture, Language, and Race*

Teaching Fellow, Department of Anthropology

August 2015 – December 2017

Fall 2017: *ANTH 80a, Anthropology of Religion* (with Rupa Pillai)

Spring 2017: *ANTH 5a, Human Origins* (with Javier Urcid)

Fall 2016: *ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies* (with Janet McIntosh)

Spring 2016: *ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies* (with Janet McIntosh)

Fall 2015: *ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies* (with Sarah Lamb)

Course Assistant, Department of Anthropology January 2014 – May 2015  
 Spring 2015: *ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies* (with Jonathan Anjaria)  
 Fall 2014: *ANTH 127a, Medicine, Body, and Culture* (with Anita Hannig)  
 Spring 2014: *ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies* (with Jonathan Anjaria)

Writing Consultant, Writing Center September 2013 – May 2016  
 Writing Tutor, Myra Kraft Transitional Year Program September 2013 – May 2015  
 Language Tutor, English Language Program August 2013 – May 2014

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County****Baltimore, Maryland**

Writing Tutor, Writing Center September 2011 – May 2012  
 Peer Facilitator, Office of Undergraduate Education August 2011 – December 2011  
 Peer Tutor, Learning Resources Center September 2010 – May 2012

**Outside Higher Education**

English and Mathematics Tutor, Total Tutoring Services, LLC September 2012 – June 2013  
 Private Instructor, Spanish Language and Culture September 2012 – May 2013

**SERVICE:****Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals and Proposals****Ad hoc basis**

Journal of the American Academy of Religion  
 Anthropology & Aging  
 Brandeis University Teaching Innovation Grant

**Graduate Student Representative, Working Group on the Future of Graduate Education****April 2017 – March 2018**

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Brandeis University

**Learning Goals Evaluator, University Accreditation Assessment****April 2016 – June 2018**

Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University

**Learning Goals Evaluator, University Accreditation Assessment****July 2016**

Environmental Studies Program, Brandeis University

**Student Member, New Student Book Experience Committee****September 2011 – December 2011**

Office of Undergraduate Education, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

**Classroom Assistant, Even Start Program****September 2011 – December 2011**

Education Based Latino Outreach

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

American Anthropological Association **2015 – Present**  
 Society for the Anthropology of Religion **2015 – Present**  
 Association for Africanist Anthropology **2017 – Present**

American Academy of Religion  
Anthropology Southern Africa

**2019 – Present**  
**2020 – Present**

**LANGUAGES:**

español/Spanish: written and verbal proficiency

français/French: reading facility and basic verbal competency

isiZulu/Zulu: limited communicative competency

Afrikaans/Afrikaans: limited communicative competency