

# ELANA FAYE RESNICK

Department of Anthropology  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
Email: eresnick@anth.ucsb.edu

## CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

- 2017 - Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2018- Faculty Affiliate, Interdepartmental PhD Emphasis in Environment and Society (IEES)

## PREVIOUS ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2016-2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies and Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Global and Intercultural Studies, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio  
2015 Global Europe Resident Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, D.C. (June-September)  
2014-2015 Weatherhead Resident Scholar, School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico

## EDUCATION

- 2007-2016 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Department of Anthropology
  - Ph.D. 2016, M.A. 2011
  - Dissertation: *Nothing Ever Perishes: Waste, Race, and Transformation in an Expanding European Union*

2001-2005 Haverford College, Honors in Anthropology
  - B.A., Double Major in Anthropology and English
  - Senior thesis: *Romani Youth and Linguistic-Material Constructions of Blackness*

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 2018 “Durable Remains: Glass of the Past and a Precarious European Future,” *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology*. 5(1): 103-115. (Spring 2018)  
2017 “Protest and the Practice of Normal Life in Bulgaria,” *Lietuvos Etnologija: Socialinės Anthropologijos ir Etnologijos Studijos (Lithuanian Ethnology: Studies in Social Anthropology and Ethnology)*. 17(26): 193-214. (December 2017)

- 2015 "Discarded Europe: Money, Trash, and the Possibilities of a New Temporality," *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures*. 24(1): 123-131. (Spring 2015)
- 2010 "The Unintentional Activist: Questions of Action, Activism, and Accountability," *Collaborative Anthropologies*. 3(1): 102-109. (December 2010)
- 2009 "Transnational Affiliations, Local Articulations: Consumption and Romani Publics in Bulgaria," *Anthropology of East Europe Review*. 27(2):101-116. (Fall 2009)

### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

- Under Review "Racialized Labor and the Limits of Resilience: Managing Waste in the Urban Anthropocene," *Revise & Resubmit*
- Under Review "Running Water in the Land of Spitting Dragons: Racializing Infrastructure and Imaginative Recuperation."
- In Preparation "Criminalization of Ruination: Urban Scrap Metal Collection and the Ends of Deindustrialization" for journal submission
- In Preparation "Nothing Ever Perishes," book manuscript

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2018 *The Social Life of Materials: Studies in Material and Society*, Ed. Adam Drazin and Susanne Kùchler, 2015, London: Bloomsbury. *American Ethnologist*. 45(1): 151-152. (Winter 2018)

### **INVITED/CONTRACTED PUBLICATIONS**

- 2019 "Materiality." *Oxford Bibliographies in Anthropology*. New York: Oxford University Press. (Invited, under contract)

### **EXTERNAL GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS**

- In preparation National Science Foundation, Faculty Early Career Development Award (CAREER), "Racialized Power: Nuclear Energy and Infrastructural Inequality in Bulgaria"
- 2017 American Councils Title VIII Combined Research and Language Training Program Advanced Research Fellowship, U.S. Department of State, for nuclear energy research in Bulgaria (May-August)
- 2016 Wenner-Gren Foundation. Engaged Anthropology Grant, Bulgaria (June-August)
- 2013-2014 Andrew Mellon/Council for European Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, for dissertation writing in Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2013 ARCS Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, American Research Center in Sofia, Bulgaria

(January-June)

- 2013 American Anthropological Association's Society for the Anthropology of Europe, Annual Graduate Student Paper Prize Winner
- 2011-2012 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, for research in Sofia, Bulgaria (November 2011-October 2012)
- 2011 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork Grant for Research on Waste Management in Sofia, Bulgaria (January-June)
- 2008 American Council of Learned Societies (awarded, declined) for Bulgarian language summer study

### **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA GRANTS**

- 2018-19 ISBER Social Science Research Grants Program (SSRGP), for "The Lives and Afterlives of Nuclear Infrastructure in Bulgaria"
- 2018-19 Academic Senate Faculty Research Grant, for "Legacies of Soviet Energy and the Everyday Politics of Nuclear Infrastructure in Bulgaria"
- 2018-19 Carsey-Wolf Center Faculty Research Support Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara, for "Ethnography in the Time of Facebook: Romani Voices and Social Media"

### **UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS**

- 2014 Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia (WCEE) Summer Fellowship, University of Michigan, for research on evangelical church movements in Bulgaria (June-August)
- 2012-2013 Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship, University of Michigan, for research and writing in Bulgaria
- 2010 Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan International Institute fellowship for Bulgarian language training and preliminary research in Sofia, Bulgaria (October-December)
- 2009 Stanley Frankel Summer Fellowship for Research and Study, University of Michigan, for summer research on Roma and Jewish community issues in Bulgaria (May-August)
- 2009 Anthropology Department Summer Research Grant, University of Michigan, for summer research in Bulgaria (May-August)
- 2009 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS), University of Michigan (summer) for study of Bulgarian language in Sofia, Bulgaria

- 2008-2009 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, University of Michigan (academic year) for study of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian
- 2008 Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies Research, Internship, and Fellowship (CRIF) Grant, University of Michigan, summer research in Bulgaria (May-August)
- 2008 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS), University of Pittsburgh, for the study of Bulgarian language
- 2007-2008 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, University of Michigan (academic year) for study of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian

### **ACTIVISM/POPULAR PRESS PUBLICATIONS**

- 2013 Letter to the Editor, “The Rancor Against Roma in Europe” in *The New York Times* (October 24: A26).
- 2011 “Using Ethnic Tensions for Political Gains (and Games): Anti-Roma Protests in Bulgaria” in *Truth-out.org* (October 8)
- 2011 “Symptom or Disease? Anti-Roma Sentiment in Bulgaria” in the online magazine *Kulturrisse.at* (translated into German)

### **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH INITIATIVES**

- 2018- Director, *Infrastructural Inequalities Research Group*, University of California, Santa Barbara. <http://www.iirglab.com/>
- 2012-2014 “Dirty” and “Clean” Places: Research in the Social Restructuring of Urban Space. A project supported by the National Program for Science and Education in Bulgaria. (In collaboration with Velislava Petrova, Veronika Dimitrova, Slavka Karakusheva, Sofia University)

### **VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY WORK**

- 2013- *Waste and Life*, a film by Elana Resnick and Bojina Panayotova about urban cleaning and sociality of the street in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 2011-2012 *Plums for Trash [Slivi Za Smet]* with artist Christina Freeman. A performance art installation about and using barter exchange in Sofia’s public spaces.

### **ORGANIZED/CHAired PANELS**

- 2018 “With Kith and Kin: Generating Modernity,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose. November 14-18.
- 2016 “The Work of Racialization and the Racialization of Work.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis. November 16-20.

- 2015 “Anthropology of Humor, Humor in Ethnography.” *Executive Session*, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver. November 18-22.
- 2014 “Incongruous Continuities: ‘History’ as Critical Practice.” Council for European Studies Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. March 14-16.
- 2013 “Ethnographies of Things: Time, Materiality, and Change.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago. November 20-24.
- 2013 “Ruin by Design? The Aesthetics of Creativity in European Material Cultures.” 20th International Conference of Europeanists, Council for European Studies, Amsterdam. June 25-27.

### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2018 "Racialized Power: Nuclear Energy and Infrastructural Inequality." Sawyer Seminar: Energy Justice in Global Perspective, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 9.
- 2018 "Beyond the Object: Afterlives of Loss and the Materiality of What Remains." United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Material Culture and the Holocaust workshop and symposium, October 1-4.
- 2018 “Running Water in the Land of Spitting Dragons: Waste, Race, and Environmental Justice in Bulgaria.” University of North Texas, Department of Anthropology. February 16.
- 2017 “Running Water in the Land of Spitting Dragons: The Moral Logics of Urban Infrastructure in Bulgaria.” Oberlin College. November 27.
- 2017 “Infrastructure, EU Accession, and Romani Politics in Bulgaria.” Fulbright-Hays Summer Seminar, Bulgaria in the Context of Migration and Challenges to European Cohesion. Sofia, Bulgaria. August 2.
- 2017 “Running Water in the Land of Spitting Dragons: Romani Labor and the Animation of Urban Infrastructure in Bulgaria.” University of Michigan, Center for Russian and East European Studies. March 15.
- 2016 “Nothing Ever Perishes: Waste, Race, and Transformation in Bulgaria.” Midwaste: Midwestern Wasteways and Global Futures Symposium. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. May 5-6.
- 2016 “Can We Stop Talking about Birth Control Yet? ‘Gypsy’ Bodies as European Problems.” Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut. April 12.
- 2016 “Dismantling the Promise of Progress: Waste Management, Racialized Labor, and Transformation in Bulgaria.” Franz Boas Seminar, Columbia University. March 4.

- 2016 “Scavenging Votes and Scrap Metal: The Politics of Romani Labor and Poverty in Bulgaria.” Anthropology Colloquium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. February 1.
- 2014 “From ‘Gypsy Work’ to E.U. Recycling: Waste, Race, and Environment in Bulgaria.” School for Advanced Research Colloquium, Santa Fe, New Mexico. November 12.
- 2011 “Material Waste, Social Trash and Stigmatization.” The Red House Centre for Culture and Debate, Sofia, Bulgaria. June 7.
- 2011 “Waste, Work, and Racialization.” American Research Center, Sofia, Bulgaria. April 27.
- 2011 “Using, Keeping, Recycling: A History of Social Change vis-à-vis [Recycled] Objects in Bulgaria.” New Bulgarian University, Anthropology Department Winter Symposium, Sofia, Bulgaria. November 17.

#### **PAPER PRESENTATIONS (REFEREED ABSTRACTS)**

- 2018 "Assessing Toxicity and Imagining the Future of Nuclear Infrastructure in Bulgaria." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose. November 14-18.
- 2017 “Running Water in the Land of Spitting Dragons: The Moral Logics of Urban Infrastructure in Bulgaria.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis. November 19-December 3.
- 2017 “The Russian Revolution, Industry, and U.S. Race Relations.” Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies, International Young Researchers Conference, Cuma, Italy. June 13-17.
- 2017 “Jesus is Always Welcome at My Party: Holy Laughter and Experiences of Joy in Bulgaria.” Soyuz Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies, Indiana University, March 3-4.
- 2016 “Waste Labor, Roma Bodies, and the Politics of Movement in Europe.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis. November 16-20.
- 2016 “The Daily Hazards of Cleaning Sofia.” University of Regensburg, Germany. October 6-8.
- 2015 “The Hilarity of Alterity: Romani Waste Workers and Other People’s Trash.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver. November 18-22.
- 2014 “A Mediated Ethnographic Presence: Three Minutes of Fame on Bulgarian Television.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. December 3-7.

- 2014 “I Owe You One: Informal Loans, International Debt, and Roma Workers in Bulgaria.” Council for European Studies Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. March 14-16.
- 2014 “Access to Heaven and Hot Water: Evangelical Churches, Public Utilities, and Attempts at Moral Transformation in Bulgaria.” Council for European Studies Annual Meeting. Washington D.C., March 14-16.
- 2013 “Discarded Europe: Money, Trash, and the Possibility of a New Temporality.” *Invited Session*. Society for the Anthropology of Europe Graduate Student Prize Panel. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago. November 20-24.
- 2011 “From Waste Objects, Recycled Time.” Romanian Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Bucharest, Romania. September 22-25.
- 2009 “Transnational Affiliations, Local Articulations: Moralities of Consumption and Romani Affiliations in Bulgaria.” SOYUZ annual conference, Yale University. April 24-26.
- 2008 “Transnational Affiliations; Local Articulations: Reconfiguring ‘Blackness’ in Bulgaria.” American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 14-18.
- 2008 “Transnational Affiliations, Local Articulations: Romani Configurations of Indianness in Bulgaria.” Michicagoan Linguistic Anthropology conference, University of Chicago. May 2-4.

## **TEACHING**

### **Sole Instructor**

- Winter 2019 *Contemporary Ethnographic Theory* (ANTH 235B), core PhD seminar, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Anthropology (10 students)
- Spring 2018 *Introduction to Anthropology* (ANTH 2), general education lecture course, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Anthropology (250 students)
- Winter 2018 *Development and Decay: Urban Infrastructure and the Politics of Inequality* (AN 197ER), upper-level anthropology course on infrastructural inequalities, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Anthropology (40 students)
- Spring 2017 *Politics of Power in Europe*, upper-level seminar on energy and environmental politics, Miami University, Department of Global and Intercultural Studies (16 students)
- Introduction to International Studies*, introductory-level lecture course, Miami University, Department of Global and Intercultural Studies (40 students)

Fall 2016 *Issues in Post-Soviet Eurasia*, Writing-intensive seminar, Miami University, Department of Global and Intercultural Studies (10 students)

### **Graduate Student Instructor**

Winter 2010 *East Europe in Transition*, cross-listed with CREES, Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology, History, University of Michigan, with Krisztina Fehervary

Fall 2009 *Anthropology 101*, Introduction to Anthropology, University of Michigan, with Holly Peters-Golden

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

2018 Jack and Anita Hess Seminar for Faculty, *Silenced Voices and Marginalized Histories: Roma and Sinti in the Holocaust*, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C. January 8-12.

2013 Junior Scholars' Training Seminar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, Aspen Wye River, Maryland. August 16-19.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Society for Cultural Anthropology (SCA)

Anthropology & Environment Society (A&E)

Society for the Anthropology of Europe (SAE)

American Ethnological Society (AES)

Association for the Advancement of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2018- Colloquium Committee, Cultural Anthropology Wing representative, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Anthropology

2017- Undergraduate Committee, Cultural Anthropology Wing representative, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Anthropology

2017- General Education Assessment Contact for the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara

### **REVIEWER**

National Science Foundation

SOYUZ Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies

Journal of Material Culture

Journal of Linguistic Anthropology

East European Politics and Societies

International Labor and Working-Class History



## **LANGUAGES**

Fluency in Bulgarian, Passive understanding of Romani, Basic understanding Serbian/Bosnian/Croatian

## **FIELDWORK**

Bulgaria (nuclear energy, electricity, waste): August-September 2018

Bulgaria (nuclear energy and waste): May-August 2017

Bulgaria (waste and race): June-August 2016, July 2014, August 2010- December 2013, June-August 2009, July-August 2008, April 2006, June-August 2003

Poland (with Roma): June-August 2004

United Kingdom (with Romani asylum seekers): January–May 2004

## **REFERENCES UPON REQUEST**

*Revised February 2019*