

LAURA A. BRAY
Curriculum Vitae

North Carolina State University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
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EDUCATION

- 2021 Ph.D., Sociology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
(*expected*) Dissertation: “Dividing the San Juan: Water Inequality in the Southwest”
 Committee: Thomas E. Shriver (Chair), Stefano Longo, Kim Ebert, and Michael
 Schulman
- 2015 M.S., Sociology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
- 2009 B.A., Sociology and Political Science (double major), Austin College, Sherman, TX

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Environmental Justice	Environmental Health
Environmental Sociology	Social Movements
Disasters and Hazards	Rural Sociology

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- 2021 “Settler Colonialism and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” **Laura A. Bray**. Forthcoming in *Rural Sociology*, special issue on “Race, Ethnicity, and Rurality in the United States.”
- 2021 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental Illness: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” **Laura A. Bray**, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E. Shriver. Forthcoming in *The Sociological Quarterly*.
- 2020 “Petrochemical Pollution and the Suppression of Environmental Protest.” Alison E. Adams, Thomas E. Shriver, **Laura A. Bray**, and Chris Messer. *Sociological Inquiry* 90(3):646-68. doi: [10.1111/soin.12321](https://doi.org/10.1111/soin.12321).
- 2020 “Opportunity and Threat behind the Iron Curtain: The Failed Diffusion of Human Rights Activism in Romania.” Thomas E. Shriver, Adriana Szabo, and **Laura A. Bray**. Forthcoming in *International Sociology*. doi: [10.1177/0268580920928925](https://doi.org/10.1177/0268580920928925).

- 2020 “Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism.” Thomas E. Shriver, Annika Wilcox, and **Laura A. Bray**. *Social Currents* 7(1):11-28. doi: [10.1177/2329496519870554](https://doi.org/10.1177/2329496519870554).
- 2019 “Framing Authoritarian Legitimacy: Elite Cohesion in the Aftermath of Popular Rebellion.” **Laura A. Bray**, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. *Social Movement Studies* 18(6):682-701. doi: [10.1080/14742837.2019.1597698](https://doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2019.1597698).
- 2019 “Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotion in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising.” **Laura A. Bray**, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. *Sociological Perspectives* 62(1):77-95. doi: [10.1177/0731121418791771](https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121418791771).
- 2019 “Political Power and Manufacturing Consent: The Case of the 1953 Plzeň Protest.” Thomas E. Shriver, Alison E. Adams, and **Laura A. Bray**. *The Sociological Quarterly* 60(1):26-45. doi: [10.1080/00380253.2018.1526046](https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2018.1526046).
- 2018 “Legal Repression of Protesters: The Case of Worker Revolt in Czechoslovakia.” Thomas E. Shriver, **Laura A. Bray**, and Alison E. Adams. *Mobilization* 23(3):307-28. doi: [10.17813/1086-671X-23-3-307](https://doi.org/10.17813/1086-671X-23-3-307).
- 2017 “Media and ‘Undone Science’ in West Virginia’s Elk River Chemical Spill.” **Laura A. Bray**. *Environmental Sociology* 3(4):359-69. doi: [10.1080/23251042.2017.1324241](https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2017.1324241).

Other publications

- 2020 “Promoting Environmental Justice through Participatory Disaster Research: Hurricane Recovery in Robeson County, North Carolina.” **Laura A. Bray**, Olivia Vilá, Bethany B. Cutts, David Lowry, Margaret Crites, Hannah Goins, Nathan McMenamin, Mac Legerton, and Angela Harris. *Carolina Planning Journal* 45.
- 2020 “Between a River & a Swamp: ‘All That Water’s Gotta Go Somewhere.’” Part 1 of *Bridging Recovery & Resiliency in Robeson County*. Project BRIDGE. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University. [research documentary]
- 2020 *Disaster Recovery Soil Testing: Robeson County Community Report*. Project BRIDGE. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University.
- 2019 *Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context*. Olivia Vilá, **Laura Bray**, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, and Gracie Hornsby. Quick Response Report. Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center (<https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/environmental-risk-and-recovery>)

Manuscripts in review and preparation

- “Law in Environmental Inequality Formation: Water Politics in the American Southwest.” **Laura A. Bray**. (in preparation)
- “The Symbolic Mobilization of Rurality in Natural Resource Conflicts.” **Laura A. Bray**. (in preparation)

“Coal and Climate Change: The Battle over Mining Limits in the Czech Republic.” Thomas E. Shriver, **Laura A. Bray**, and Landen Longest. (in preparation)

“Shifting Terrains: Soils and Environmental Risk Perception Following Floods.” Olivia Vilá, **Laura A. Bray**, Bethany B. Cutts, Gracie Hornsby, and Angela Harris. (in preparation)

“Human Rights and Dissent in Hybrid Environments: The Impact of Shifting Rights Regimes.” Thomas E. Shriver, **Laura A. Bray**, Annika Wilcox, and Adriana M. Szabo. (under review)

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2020 Water Resources Research Institute (\$120,000 requested). “Research to Resilience: Transformative Watershed Planning with Socially Vulnerable Communities.” PIs: Bethany Cutts and Angela Harris.* (outcome pending)
- 2020 North Carolina Sea Grant, Mini Grant (\$10,000). “Planning nature-based flood mitigation strategies through participatory videos.” PI: Bethany Cutts.*
- 2019 Foundation for the Carolinas, Hurricane Florence Response Grant Program (\$40,000). “Robeson County – 100 soils tests near flooded homes.” Bethany Cutts (PI), Olivia Vilá, **Laura Bray**, David Lowry, and Angela Harris.
- 2018 Rural Sociological Society, Dissertation Research Award Grant (\$1,405). “Dividing the San Juan: Water Inequality in the Southwest.”
- 2017 NCSU Sociology Graduate Student Association, Dissertation Mini Grant (\$100). “Dividing the San Juan: Settler Colonialism, American Indians, and Water Rights in the Southwest.”

***Note:** Graduate students cannot serve as principal investigators, but I co-authored the original application and helped direct the research.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 Graduate Student Mentor Award, Sociology Graduate Student Association, NC State University
- 2017 Lead Peer Mentoring Collaborative, NC State University. \$1,000.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 “Racial Projects and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” Laura Bray. Accepted for the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (August 6 – 9), Westminster, CO. [Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2020 “Pesticide Exposure and Transnational Legal Mobilization of Farmworkers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas Shriver. Accepted for the Annual

- Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (August 6 – 9), Westminster, CO. [Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2019 “Environmental Justice and Disaster Recovery: The Role of Citizen Science and Fecal Indicator Bacteria.” Gracie Hornsby, Olivia Vilá, Laura Bray, Angela Harris, and Bethany Cutts. Presented at UNC Water and Health Conference (October 7 – 11), Chapel Hill, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E. Shriver. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 10 – 13), New York.
- 2019 “Environmental Risk and Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Laura Bray, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the 44th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop (July 14 – 17), Broomfield, CO.
- 2019 “Water Conflicts and Rural Environmental Justice.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10 – 13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism.” Thomas E. Shriver, Annika Wilcox, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10 – 13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Repression and Dissent behind the Iron Curtain: Human Rights Activism in Romania.” Thomas E. Shriver, Adriana M. Szabo, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10 – 13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Water Conflicts and Rural Environmental Justice.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Food and Environment Brownbag Series, NC State University (April 4), Raleigh, NC.
- 2019 “Post-Disaster Environmental Risk: Insight Gained from Citizen Science Participation.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the RISING NC Exhibit (March 28), Raleigh, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the Citizen Science Association Conference (March 13 – 17), Raleigh, NC.
- 2019 “Environmental Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the 6th Latin American Student Association Research Symposium, NC State University (February 15), Raleigh, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E.

- Shriver. Presented at the Culture and Politics Workshop, University of North Carolina (February 15), Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2018 “Authoritarian Legitimacy and Elite Cohesion.” Laura Bray, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 4 – 7), New Orleans, LA.
- 2017 “Discursive Obstruction and the Vilification of Grassroots Environmental Activists.” Alison E. Adams, Thomas E. Shriver, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 29 – April 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotional Liberation in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising.” Laura Bray, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 29 – April 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Media, Lay Knowledge and ‘Undone Science’ in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Laura Bray. Presented at the North Carolina Sociological Association (February 17), High Point, NC.
- 2016 “Elite Framing and the Vilification of Dissent in Authoritarian Settings.” Thomas E. Shriver, Laura Bray, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 20 – 23), Seattle, WA.
- 2016 “Agrochemical Exposure Abroad: The Cultural Dynamics of Transnational Tort Litigation.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 13 – 16), Atlanta, GA.
- 2016 “State Official Frames and the Vilification of Dissent.” Thomas E. Shriver, Alison E. Adams, and Laura Bray. “Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 13 – 16), Atlanta, GA.
- 2015 “Media Risk Framing in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 25-28), New Orleans, LA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 – 2021 **Research Assistant** for Bethany B. Cutts (College of Natural Resources). “Project to Build Resilience and Innovation through Diverse Group Engagement (BRIDGE): Long-Term Recovery from Hurricane Matthew.” Funded by NC Sea Grant, Foundation for the Carolinas, and UC Boulder Natural Hazards Center.
- Project manager responsible for overall project coordination and data management
 - Trained and supervised five community research specialists
- 2014 – 2017 **Research Assistant** for Thomas Shriver (Sociology). “Elite Framing of Social Movements.” Funded by the National Science Foundation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Instructor of record**

Technology in Society and Culture, online (Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Summer 2019, Spring 2019, and Summer 2018)
Current Social Problems (Fall 2018, Fall 2017, and Spring 2017)
Sociology of Agriculture and Rural Society (Spring 2018)
Current Social Problems, online (Summer 2017)

Teaching assistant

Theories of Social Structure (Spring 2014)

Teaching training

Accessibility in the Classroom, 6-week Online Course (Fall 2020)
Creating Anti-Racist Learning Environments Online, Workshop (Summer 2020)
Creating Interactive Content on Moodle, Workshop (Fall 2018)
Teaching Sociology, SOC 710 (Fall 2014)

Mentoring activities

Jaeleen Mendoza, undergraduate student researcher (NCSU, graduated 2020)
Taleek Harlee, undergraduate student researcher (NCSU)
Jenna Minser, undergraduate student researcher (University of Alabama, graduated 2020)
Hannah Goins, undergraduate student researcher (UNC Pembroke, graduated 2019)
Nathan McMenamin, graduate student researcher (UNC Greensboro)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**University & department**

Co-organizer, Environmental Justice and Health Working Group, 2019 – present
Co-organizer, University Workers COVID-19 Townhall, 2020
Hiring Committee, Hurricane Recovery Interview Specialists, 2018 – 2019
Lead Mentor, Lead Peer Mentoring Collaborative, 2017 – 2018
Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, 2016 – 2017
Climate Survey Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2015 – 2016
Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2015 – 2016
Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, 2014 – 2015
Finance Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2014 – 2015

Professional meetings

Session Presider, “Environmental Change and Inequality,” American Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2019.
Session Presider, “Media, Mobilization, and Repression,” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2019.
Session Presider, “Domestic and International Economic Development,” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2016.

Journal article reviewer

*American Sociological Review, Environmental Sociology, International Sociology,
Social Movement Studies, Social Problems, Social Forces, Sociological Perspectives*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
Environmental Sociology Section
Indigenous Peoples and Native Nations
Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section
Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences
Rural Sociological Society
Southern Sociological Society