

# **Courtney Elizabeth Knapp**

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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Race, migration, just transition planning, regenerative economies, decarceration, environmental justice, critical placemaking, urban history, brownfield redevelopment, geographic information systems, mixed method and participatory action research

## **EDUCATION**

### **Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning**

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

### **M.A. in Urban and Environmental Policy & Planning**

Tufts University, Medford, MA

### **M.A. in Gender/Cultural Studies**

Simmons College, Boston, MA

### **B.A.'s in Philosophy and Political Science**

Simmons College, Boston, MA

## **FACULTY & GRADUATE TEACHING POSITIONS HELD**

**Professor, Graduate Center for Planning & the Environment, Pratt Institute, August 2023 – present**

**Associate Professor, Graduate Center for Planning & the Environment, Pratt Institute, 2018-August 2023**

**Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, California State Polytechnic University Pomona, 2014 – 2018**

**Instructor, Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University, 2013-2014 AY**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University August 2010-May 2012**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Simmons College 2005-2006 Academic year**

## BOOKS

Knapp, C. E. (2018). *Constructing the Dynamo of Dixie: Race, Urban Planning, and Cosmopolitanism in Chattanooga, Tennessee*. University of North Carolina Press Books.

- Winner of the 2019 Associated Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Paul Davidoff Award.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

Knapp, Courtney, Sarmiento, C., Kim, AJ, and Simpson, SA (accepted and forthcoming). *Refusing the Politics of Punishment: Abolitionist Planning for Decarceration and Beyond*. in Robin, Sean and White, Mia. *Transformative Planning*.

Kim, AJ, Knapp, Courtney, and Sarmiento, Carolina (accepted and forthcoming). “Abolitionist Planning: A Framework for Listening” in *Journal of Planning Literature*.

Edited by Courtney Knapp, Jocelyn Poe & John Forester (2022) Repair and Healing in Planning, *Planning Theory & Practice*, DOI: [10.1080/14649357.2022.2082710](https://doi.org/10.1080/14649357.2022.2082710)

Knapp, C. (2022). “Lessons for Planners from Richmond, Virginia’s, Marcus David Peters Circle” *Planning Theory and Practice Interface*.

Knapp, C. E. (2020). Local Planning in the Age of Mass Decarceration. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*; 40(2):169-185. doi:[10.1177/0739456X20911704](https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X20911704).

Knapp, C. E. (2018). Integrating Critical Autobiography to Foster Anti-Racism Learning in the Urban Studies Classroom: Interpreting the “Race and Place” Stories of Undergraduate Students. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X18817822>

Knapp, C. (2018). Unlocking the Democratic Potential of Urban Planner–Librarian Collaborations. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X18810125>

Knapp, C. E. (2017). Experimenting with anarchistic approaches to collaborative planning: The Planning Free School of Chattanooga. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 1-23.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/07352166.2017.1305767>

Knapp, Courtney and Hollander, Justin (2012). “Assessing the Potential for Integrating Community Benefits Agreements into Brownfield Redevelopment Projects” in Hula, R., Reese, L., & Jackson-Elmoore, C. *Reclaiming Brownfields: A comparative analysis of adaptive reuse of contaminated properties*. Farnham: Ashgate Publishing Ltd.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

*Deepest Reckonings: Repairing Legacies of White Supremacy in Planning and Place in Richmond, Virginia.* working title. Book manuscript in progress.

## ACADEMIC AND PLANNING GRANTS

- Co-PI. Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) *Insights Grant*. 2022-2024.
- Co-PI. Kresge Foundation *Climate Change, Health, and Equity Initiative*. Planning and implementation grants. 2020-present.
- Provost's Teacher-Scholar Award, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Spring 2017
- Course Redesign Grant, Center for Community Engagement, Cal Poly Pomona, 2016
- Engaged Learning and Research Grant, Cornell University, Spring 2013
- Graduate School Summer Research Grant, Summer 2012
- City and Regional Planning Graduate Research Award, Summer 2012
- John Nolen Research Fellow, Cornell University, Summer 2011
- City and Regional Planning Graduate Research Award, Summer 2011 & 2012
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Retrofit Ramp-Up Award (Department of Energy), Submitted on behalf of the City of Lowell, MA, Spring 2010
- Economic Development Administration Regional Planning Grant, Submitted by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments, Summer 2010
- Freeman Foundation Grant for East Asian Studies, Hanoi, Vietnam, 2006
- Graduate Student Development Fund Award, Simmons College, 2006
- Freeman Foundation Grant for East Asian Studies, Orissa, India, 2003

## ACADEMIC AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Associated Collegiate Schools of Planning Paul Davidoff Award, 2019
- General Demotion/ General Devotion Monument Avenue Design Competition, Storefront for Community Design, Richmond, VA, Innovative Approach to Programming (with Pratt graduate students), 2019

- California State Polytechnic University Pomona College of Environmental Design's Outstanding Faculty Award, 2016
- Center for Community Engagement Faculty Service Learning Course Fellowship, Spring 2016
- Arch R Winter Graduate Fellowship Award, Cornell University, Fall 2013
- Pamela Mikus Graduate Award, Cornell University, Spring 2013
- Sage Diversity Fellowship, Cornell University, 2012-2013
- Simmons College Recent Alumnae Achievement Award, 2010
- Hypatia Award (undergraduate philosophy award), Simmons College, 2003
- Simmons College Multicultural Community Award, 2003
- Laurie Krumpacker Scholar, Simmons College, 2002-2003
- Simmons College Honors Program, 1999-2003.

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

#### **Pratt Institute**

- PLAN 605.01: Planning Methods I
- PLAN 701: Advanced Planning Methods
- PLAN 701: Research Design for Planning Inquiry (course redesign)
- PLAN 714: Social Planning
- PLAN 607/ 801a: Participatory Planning Techniques
- PLAN 801b: Abolitionist Planning
- PLAN 810: Sustainable Communities Studio
- PLAN 891: Thesis I
- HE 712: Main Street Revitalization
- UPM 699: Placemaking Demonstration of Professional Competence

#### **California State Polytechnic University, Pomona**

- Co-Instructor in the College of Environmental Design's China Urban Design Study Abroad Program, Northern China Institute of Technology, Beijing, China & Tokyo
- URP 411: History of American Cities and Planning Movements
- URP 431/L: Community Planning Capstone Studio I
- URP 432/L: Community Planning Capstone Studio II
- URP 434/A: Community Development: Theories and Practices
- URP 501L: Graphic Communication for Urban Design
- URP 502/L: Mixed Method and Action Research Design
- URP 534: Urban Housing Policy and Planning, graduate
- URP 601: Research Design for Planning Inquiry

## **Cornell University**

- CRP 1109: Storytelling the City: Multidisciplinary Perspectives (First Year Writing Program)
- CRP 5190: Urban Spatial Theory (Graduate Teaching Assistant for Bill Goldsmith)
- CRP 5130: Introduction to Planning History and Practice (Graduate Teaching Assistant for John Forester)
- CRP 3184/5184: Green Cities Graduate Teaching Assistant for Stephan Schmidt)

## **Simmons College**

- POLS 101: Introduction to American Politics (Graduate teaching assistant for Leanne Doherty)
- SJ 220: Organizing for Social Change (Graduate teaching assistant for Jill Taylor)

## **ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

### **Graduate Program Assistant, Cornell Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research**

Ithaca, NY

October 2011-May 2014

Conducted research and developed faculty and graduate student initiatives to support engaged course and research design, including graduate academic conferences, fellowship cohort programs, steering committees, and seminar series.

### **Graduate Resident Fellow, Cornell University Department of Residential Life**

Ithaca, NY

AY 2011-2012 & 2013-2014

Provided leadership, mentorship, and social and educational programming for an undergraduate residential community of approx. 350 students. Assisted with house programs, including the Keeton Collective, Black History Month, the West Campus Beautification Project, and the house Sustainability Initiative. Conducted room inspections, provided on-call services, and facilitated resident mediations and negotiations.

### **Graduate Program Assistant, Cornell Center for Teaching Excellence**

Ithaca, NY

August 2010- October 2011

Conducted qualitative evaluative research and developed extracurricular programs to support the Graduate Research on Teaching Fellowship program, faculty institutes, and university-wide workshops.

### **Graduate Research Assistant, Tufts University Department of Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning**

Medford, MA

January - August 2008

Conducted literature reviews and qualitative interviews to support Dr. Justin Hollander's research on shrinking cities and 'smart decline' in the U.S. Rustbelt.

## **GUEST LECTURES & STUDIO CRITIQUES**

Guest Lecturer (invited)

- Pratt Institute School of Architecture (spring 2019, fall 2020, fall 2021)
- Texas A&M University (Spring 2018, fall 2019)
- Columbia University (Spring 2021)
- Cornell University (Spring 2021)
- Portland State University (Spring 2018)

Guest Critic (invited)

- Yale University School of Architecture (Spring 2022)
- Pratt Institute Department of Architecture (biannually)
- Pratt Institute Department of Interior Architecture (fall 2018)

**PROFESSIONAL PLANNING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Principal, Integrated Urban Equity Solutions, Brookfield, CT** 2016- present

Contracts include: an update to the Green Resilient Industrial District (GRID) plan for Sunset Park, Brooklyn, NY; multiple contracts to assist with research related to exclusionary housing policies in the United States; land use analysis and technical assistance for Los Angeles’s Cannabis Equity program and the Think and Grow Lab.

**Research Fellow, Project for Public Spaces, New York, NY** Spring 2012

Conducted literature reviews and case study research for the PPS/UN Habitat placemaking guide for informal settlement upgrading, which was introduced at the UN World Urban Forum 6 in Naples, Italy, in November 2012.

**Regional Economic Development and Housing Planner, Northern Middlesex Council of Governments, Lowell, MA** March 2009- August 2010

Crafted Department of Energy Retrofit Ramp-Up grant, resulting in a \$5 million ARRA award to the City of Lowell; Assisted senior staff with all aspects of production of the Greater Lowell region’s annual and five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) documents, including research, writing, public forums, and graphic design. Provided technical and writing support to regional towns, updating their Affordable Housing Production, Economic Development, and Master Plans; Completed grant applications to Federal and state agencies; Assisted with development of the City of Lowell’s Nanotechnology Ordinance.

**Research Assistant, Department of Economic and Community Development, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, MA** October 2008 -July 2009

Provided technical and research support to senior research staff on projects related to university-community partnerships, community land trusts, gentrification and land loss in African American communities, and community benefits agreements. Coordinated reprint and permissions process for the

Community Land Trust Reader (Ed. John Davis); Edited and created Online Courses based on the 2008 National Community Land Trust Conference in Boston, MA.

**Research and Planning Intern, Project for Public Spaces**

New York, NY

May 2007- February 2009

Contributed to the evaluation of the Kellogg Foundation Diversifying Farmers Markets grants initiative; Assisted with qualitative and quantitative data collection for client and internal projects focused on “Streets as Places”; Administered surveys and conducted stakeholder interviews for projects in Boston, New York, Houston, and Providence.

**Research Assistant, University of Massachusetts-Boston/ Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation,**

July 2008- December 2008

Performed qualitative data collection and analysis for a community needs assessment in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Boston. This needs assessment examined residents’ access to and awareness of social service organizations throughout the neighborhood.

**Community Planning Intern, Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation**

Boston, MA

October 2007- July 2008

Researched and produced a community economic impact assessment of Harvard University’s campus expansion into the North Allston neighborhood of Boston; Researched and produced draft of Housing Tenure reports; Provided research and technical assistance about Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) the Allston Brighton North Neighbors Forum and colleagues in the Community Organizing department.

**SELECTED CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS**

“Imagining Communities of Care” Icebreaker and Workshop. ACLU Decarceral Visions Pre-Conference Strategy Session. UCLA Luskin School for Public Affairs. Sep 20, 2023 .

“Solidarity Planning for Decarceration and Abolition” Envisioning a New Future: Community Planning and Architecture in Re-envisioning Carceral Sites and Preventing New Facilities (workshop). ACLU Decarceral Visions Conference. UCLA Law School. Sep 21, 2023 .

“Planning, Policing, and Abolition” round table, 61st American Collegiate Schools of Planning. November 2022. Toronto, Canada.

“Lessons for Planners from Richmond, Virginia’s Marcus David Peters Circle”. Urban Affairs Association, April 2022. Washington DC.

“Craft Cannabis in NYC” Panel moderator. Pratt Center for Community Development. May 14, 2021.

“Abolitionist Planning and Afrofuturism” roundtable. Moderator. Pratt Institute Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment. May 4, 2021.

“Place-Based Racial Healing and Justice in Richmond, Virginia: Contested Memories and Radical Futures” 59<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning. November 5, 2020.

Round Table on Book Publishing, participant. 59<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning. November 7, 2020.

“Planning beyond the Carceral State” roundtable participant. Planners Network. October 1, 2020.

Re-imagining the Headquarters of the Confederacy: Race and Placemaking Politics along Richmond's Monument Avenue. 49<sup>th</sup> Urban Affairs Association conference. Los Angeles, CA. April 24, 2019.

Planning in the Age of Mass Decarceration: Understanding how Local Planning Interfaces with Ex-Offender Re-Entry and Integration in U.S. Cities. 56<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Denver, Colorado. October 12, 2017.

“Integrating Critical Autobiography to Expand Anti-Racism Learning in the Planning Classroom” 55<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP). Portland, OR: 30 October 2016.

“Enabling Democratic Opportunities through Increased Planner-Librarian Collaboration.” 45<sup>th</sup> Urban Affairs (UAA) Annual Conference. San Diego, CA: 16 March 2016.

“Rethinking Community Engagement” Roundtable Discussion Participant. 54<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP). Philadelphia, PA: 31 October 2014.

“Planners Supporting and Enabling Diasporic Placemaking: Lessons from the Planning Free School of Chattanooga” 54<sup>th</sup> American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP). Philadelphia, PA: October 2014.

“Planning Beyond the Citizen-Expert-Decision-maker Divide” Graduate Engaged Research Conference. Ithaca, NY: 21 May 2013.

“Deep Reckoning: Toward Transformative Planning + Development in Chattanooga, Tennessee.” 43<sup>rd</sup> Urban Affairs Association (UAA) Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA: 3 April 2013.

“Diasporic Placemaking in the Urban South: Stories from Chattanooga, Tennessee.” Planners Network Forum. Ithaca, NY: 17 May 2012.

“Using the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Process to Prioritize Regional Equity Goals.” Planners Network Conference. Memphis, TN: 24 May 2011.



“Assessing the Potential for Integrating Community Benefits Agreements into Brownfield Projects: Lessons from Trenton, New Jersey” 41st Annual Urban Affairs Association. New Orleans: 3/ 18/ 2011.

“A Geospatial Framework for Integrating Community Benefits Agreements into Brownfield Projects.” 2010 ESRI International User Conference. San Diego, CA. 14 July 2010.

“Representations of ‘National Security’ in the 2004 Presidential Television Ad Campaigns.” Fourth Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association. Washington DC. 20 April 2006.

“Promises and Pitfalls: Gender and Sustainable Forestry in India.” Second International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability. Hanoi, Vietnam. 11 January 2006.

“An Introduction to Environmental Justice and the *Clean and Healthy Communities Act*.” 15 March 2003, Simmons College.

### **SELECTED PLANNING DOCUMENTS & EVALUATION REPORTS**

*Green Resilient Industrial District (GRID) Plan Update*. Prepared for UPROSE. 2023.

*Diversifying Farmers Markets: New Opportunities for Farmers, Communities and Consumers*. Published by Project for Public Spaces for the WG Kellogg Foundation. 2011. New York, New York.

*Greater Lowell Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2009-2013*. Prepared by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments for the Economic Development Administration, October 2010. Lowell, Massachusetts.

*Chelmsford Master Plan: 2020 Vision*. Produced by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments for the Chelmsford Master Plan Committee. October 2010. Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

*Chelmsford Affordable Housing Action Plan*. Produced by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments for the Town of Chelmsford. July 2010. Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

*Westford Housing Production Plan*. Produced by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments for the Town of Westford. October 2010. Westford, Massachusetts.

*Making the Grade: A Performance Analysis of Five MBTA Key Bus Routes*. Co-authored. Submitted to Alternatives for Community and Environment and the T Riders Union. Roxbury, MA: May 2008.

*A New Prototype for Brownfield Redevelopment in Somerville, MA*. Co-authored. Submitted to the City of Somerville’s Office of Sustainability and Environment. Cambridge, MA: May 2008.

*Property and Tax Base Analysis of Harvard University's 50-Year Campus Expansion in the North Allston-Brighton Neighborhood.* Prepared for the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation. Boston, MA: March 2008.

*Re-Envisioning Greater Kennedy Plaza.* Prepared by Project for Public Spaces. Produced for the City of Providence Greater Kennedy Plaza Working Group. Providence, RI: February 2008.

*A New Vision for the Gulfton Neighborhood Community Center and Plaza.* Co-authored. Prepared for Project for Public Spaces. Produced for Southwest Neighborhood Center. Houston, TX: October 2007.

*Placemaking in a Pluralistic World: Using Public Spaces to Encourage Social Diversity.* Prepared for Project for Public Spaces. New York, NY: August 2007.

*A New Vision for 295 Eastern Avenue.* Co-authored. Submitted to the Chelsea Green Space and Recreation Committee. Chelsea, MA: December 2006.

*BOLD Teens Diesel Project Toolkit.* Co-authored. Submitted to Breath of Life Dorchester (BOLD Teens) and the Codman Square Community Health Center. Dorchester, MA: December 2006.

*Re-envisioning Medford Common.* Co-authored. Submitted to the City of Medford Office of Housing and Community Development. Medford, MA: November 2006.

## **MAGAZINE ARTICLES & BLOGS**

Autobiographical Writing: Fostering Critical Self-Reflection, Empathy, and Courage. *Planetizen*. February 28, 2019.

<https://www.planetizen.com/blogs/103117-autobiographical-writing-fostering-critical-self-reflection-empathy-and-courage>

Trumpism and Anarchist Problem Solving. University of North Carolina Press. May 24, 2018.

<https://uncpressblog.com/2018/05/24/courtney-elizabeth-knapp-trumpism-and-anarchist-problem-solving/>

Reckoning with Local Legacies of Racialized Violence. University of North Carolina Press. May 15, 2018.

<https://uncpressblog.com/2018/05/15/courtney-elizabeth-knapp-reckoning-with-local-legacies-of-racialized-violence/>

DIASPORIC PLACEMAKING IN CHATTANOOGA: A Q&A WITH COURTNEY KNAPP. Project for Public Spaces. May 11 2018.

<https://www.pps.org/article/diasporic-placemaking-in-chattanooga-a-q-a-with-courtney-knapp>

Knapp, Courtney (2013). "Flipping the Script: Toward a Transformative Urban Redevelopment Agenda in Chattanooga, Tennessee" in *Progressive Planning*, No. 195, 14-17.

Eight Lessons to Promote Social Diversity in Public Places. Project for Public Spaces. January 2, 2007.  
<https://www.pps.org/article/diversityinpublicspaces>

### **ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Manuscript reviewer: Journal of Planning Research and Education, University of North Carolina Press, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Urban Affairs
- Co-editor (with Dr. John Forester and Jocelyn Poe, AICP), *Journal of Planning Theory and Practice* Special Interface Issue on Healing and Repair in Planning
- Co-Chair, Architectural Research Humanities Association (AHRA) Conference, *Building Ground for Climate Collectivism*. Pratt Institute, November 17-19, 2022
- Co-Chair, Pratt Center for Community Development Executive Director Search Committee, Spring 2023
- Pratt Institute Faculty Senate Steering Committee, 2022-2023 AY
- Chair, Academic Service Award Committee, 2022-2023 AY
- Co-Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of City and Regional Planning, Pratt Institute, 2021-present
- Member, Curriculum Committee, Pratt Institute School of Architecture, 2020-present
- Council Member, Pratt Institute School of Architecture Faculty Council, 2020- present
- Member, Pratt Institute College of Architecture Governing Group, 2020- present
- Senator, Pratt Institute Faculty Senate, 2018- 2021
- Member, Historic Preservation Academic Coordinator Search Committee, Pratt Institute, 2018-2019
- University Liaison and former Interim Policy Director, American Planning Association Los Angeles Chapter Board, December 2015- 2018.
- Graduate Program Coordinator, Cal Poly Pomona Department of Urban and Regional Planning, 2016-2018
- Member, Alternative Transportation Advisory Committee, Cal Poly Pomona, 2016-2018
- Member, Undergraduate Research Faculty Advisory Council. Cal Poly Pomona. 2014- 2016.
- Campus Physical Planning Committee. Cal Poly Pomona. 2014- 2015.
- Chair, Associate Dean Search Committee, College of Environmental Design, Fall 2016.
- Curriculum Committee. Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University, 2013-2014
- Committee Member. Save the Africana Center Action Committee. 2010-2011.

- Member. Cornell Participatory Action Research Network. 2011- 2014.
- Doctoral Program Student Representative. Organization of Cornell Planners. 2010-2011.
- Campus Liaison, Tufts University, Planners Network. Spring 2008.
- Student Representative, Tufts University, Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planners Association. 2006- 2007.
- Executive Board Member. Tufts University Student Policy and Planning Association. 2006- 2007.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Institute of Certified Planners (ID# 028415), American Planning Association, Associated Collegiate Schools of Planning