

# Eugenia Rainey

Department of Religion, Thornton Hall  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755  
[E.Rainey@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:E.Rainey@Dartmouth.edu)

---

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Anthropology, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA  
Dissertation Title: *We're Not in Cuba Anymore: Negotiating Race, Biomedicine, and Lucumí Religion in South Florida* (2022)  
Committee: Adeline Masquelier (chair), Sabia McCoy-Torres, Andrew McDowell  
M.A. Anthropology, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA  
M.F.A. Writing, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE  
B.A. Anthropology and South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago

---

## POSTDOCTORAL EXPERIENCE

2022-2024  
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Leslie Center for the Humanities  
Dartmouth College, Department of Religion, Hanover, NH

---

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Pigeons at the Bedside: Negotiations Around Ritual Space in the Hospital" (*Nova Religio* 27.3, February 2024)

"From the Margins In: How Santería is Conceptualized by Non-Cuban Practitioners" (February 2023 initial review *Culture and Religion*)

### Book Chapters

"On Seeking Guidance." In *Spirited Diasporas: New Frontiers and Futures of Afro-Atlantic Religions*, edited by Martin Tsang. Gainesville, FL: University of Florida Press (August 2023)

### Work-In-Progress

*We're not in Cuba Anymore: Religion as Negotiated Practice* (forthcoming monograph)  
"Lucumí, Race, and Modern Medicine" (forthcoming submission: *American Ethnologist*)

### Public-Facing Scholarship

"Ayurveda: An Indian Medical System for the Ages." *Healthcare Journal of New Orleans/of Baton Rouge*: Smith W. Hartely, March/April 2018

"Regla de Ocha in the Hospital". *Cuba Counterpoints: Public Scholarship about a Changing Cuba*: Ariana Hernandez-Reguant, March 2017  
<https://cubacounterpoints.com/archives/5130.html>

### Book Reviews

*Electric Santería: Racial and Sexual Assemblages of Transnational Religion* by Aisha M Beliso-De Jesús." *Cuba Counterpoints: Public Scholarship about a Changing Cuba*: Ariana Hernandez-Reguant, November 2016  
<https://cubacounterpoints.com/archives/4272.html>

### **Creative Non-Fiction**

*American Ghost Story*. Eugenia Rainey. Blog. January 2012-March 2020.

<http://americanghoststory.blogspot.com/>

“How Many Tour Guides Does It Take to Screw in a Light Bulb?” *Future Earth Magazine*.  
Travis Hedge-Coke, Summer 2012

### **Fiction**

“Life After.” *Wilde Oates Ezine*. Stanley Ridge, August 2011

“Burying the Moon.” *Future Earth Magazine*. Travis Hedge-Coke, Summer 2010

---

## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Panels and Lectures**

“When the Spirits Say 'No': Divination and Spiritism in the Management of Illness.” Embodied Religiosities: Theorizing Syncretism Through the Body, panel American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting November 2021

Participant, *Three Minute Thesis Competition*. Competed against nine other advanced PhD students in a university-wide competition; “Culture in the Doctor’s Office,” research on the impact of the cultural competency paradigm on lucumí identity in south Florida presented to a general audience of 150 individuals. Tulane University, Nov. 2021

“Listening to Religious Patients,” The Basics of the Anthropology of Religion applied to the Medical Encounter. Interdisciplinary Seminar Series, Tulane University School of Medicine (February 2022)

“Listening for the Here and Now”: How to Avoid Alienating Minority Religions and Build a Religious Biography for the Medical Encounter. Interdisciplinary Seminar Series, Tulane University School of Medicine (April 2023)

*Negotiating Lucumí Religious Practice in the Midst of Biomedical Hegemony*  
Florida International University, Miami Florida (July 2023)

“‘Deserving’ Immigrants and Standardization in Biomedicine.” ‘*Culture, ’ and the Making of Modern Medicine: Medical Anthropology and the History of Medicine*, panel American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting November 2023

### **Conference Papers Presented**

“From Cultural Competency to Cultural Humility: How Santería helped shape Medical Training in South Florida,” Society for Medical Anthropology, Biannual Meeting March 2020

“From the Margins In: How Santería is conceptualized by Non-Cuban practitioners,” American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting November 2017

“The Role of the Spiritual Mass in Promoting Spiritual and Temporal Agency,” Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Biennial Meeting May 2017

“In Jail with a Pigeon: Santería Navigation of Biomedical Space,” Central States Anthropology Society, Annual Meeting April 2017

“*La Regla de Ochá* and Health: Subaltern Navigation of Space in a South Florida Hospital,” City, Culture, and Community Program Tulane University, Symposium March 2017

---

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

### Fellowships (external)

Henry Luce Foundation, Sacred Writes, Public Scholarship Fellow Spring 2023  
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Fall 2022-Spring 2024

### Grants (external)

Reed Foundation, Ruth Landes Memorial Research Fund Grant, Summer 2019

### Grants and Fellowships (internal)

Covid-19 Fellowship, Tulane University, Spring 2022  
Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Tulane University, Fall 2021  
J.E. Land Fund for SLA Graduate Student Travel, Spring 2020  
School of Liberal Arts, Summer Merit Fellowship, Tulane University, Summer 2018  
Anthropology Graduate Student Fund, Tulane University, Spring 2018  
J.E. Land Fund for SLA Graduate Student Travel, Fall 2017  
Graduate Studies Student Association, Tulane University, Fall 2017  
J.E. Land Fund for SLA Graduate Student Travel, Spring 2017  
Graduate Studies Student Association, Tulane University, Spring 2017  
Anthropology Graduate Student Fund, Tulane University, Summer 2016  
Tulane Graduate Student Stipend, August 2014-May 2017

---

## TEACHING

### Tulane University (Fall 2017-Spring 2021)

Department of Anthropology  
*Cultural Anthropology* (Instructor of Record)  
*Anthropology of Gender* (Instructor of Record)  
*Anthropology of Women and Men* (Instructor of Record)  
*Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion* (Instructor of Record)

Gender and Sexuality Studies  
*Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies* (Instructor of Record)

Phyllis M. Taylor Center for Social Innovation and Design Thinking  
*Introduction to Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship* (Teaching Assistant)

### Loyola University (Spring 2019, Fall 2020-Spring 2021)

Department of Religious Studies  
*Transatlantic Cosmologies: Exploring Religions of the African Diaspora* (Instructor of Record)

Department of Sociology

Eugenia Rainey

*Cultural Anthropology* (Instructor of Record)

Center for International Education

*Anthropology of Asian Religions, Nepal, Summer 2022* (Instructor of Record)

**Delgado Community College (Spring 2008-Spring 2014)**

Department of Communications

*Developmental Composition* (Instructor of Record)

*English Composition* (Instructor of Record)

*Advanced English Composition* (Instructor of Record)

*Introduction to Fiction* (Instructor of Record)

**Department Service**

Contributing Editor to *Images* magazine: 2009-2014

Delgado Community College, New Orleans, LA

*Conduct review of student submissions to literary journal*

Member of On-Line Committee: 2010-2012

Delgado Community College, New Orleans, LA

*Contribute expertise from years of on-line teaching experience*

Member of English 101 Prompt Committee: 2012-2013

Delgado Community College, New Orleans, LA

*Provide expertise and instructional paradigms for student evaluation*

Member of English 101 Committee: 2013-2014

Delgado Community College, New Orleans, LA

*Participate in development of new tools in classroom instruction and student outcomes*

---

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Tulane University, New Orleans, LA**

Research Assistant: 2014-2017

*Provide support to professors: manuscript review, bibliography organization, website design*

**Haunted History Tours, New Orleans, LA**

Licensed Professional Tour Guide: 2004-2020

*Create intellectually stimulating and interesting tours, manage large crowds of people, and manage money collected for tours and other company commodities*

**H. Corman & Co. LLC, Chicago, IL**

Account Executive: 1997

*Contacted potential consumers for managed commodity futures accounts, Series C licensed Commodities Broker (not current)*

**James Heckman (Noble Laureate 2000, Economics) Research Group, Chicago, IL**

Research Assistant: 1994-1997

*Gathered and organized material for Economic research, proofread articles for academic publication*

Eugenia Rainey

**Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, IL**

Docent/Assistant to Education Director: 1993-1994

*Designed and executed educational programs for school children*

---

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Anthropological Association

American Academy of Religion

Association of Black Anthropologists

Society for Medical Anthropology

Society for the Anthropology of Religion