

JESSIE K. LUNA

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PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2018 - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University
Faculty Affiliate and Advisory Council, Center for Environmental Justice
Faculty Associate, Center for Fair and Alternative Trade

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. 2018, Sociology, University of Colorado Boulder. Dissertation title: “Capitalism, Culture, and Cotton: New Agricultural Technologies in Burkina Faso.” Chair: Jill Harrison (now in Geography); Committee: Lori Hunter, Liam Downey, Emily Yeh (Geography), Mara Goldman (Geography)
- M.A. 2012, Development Studies (specialization in Global Ecology and Sustainable Development), The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland
- B.A. 2006, International Relations; Film Production, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, *magna cum laude*

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Environmental Sociology, Political Ecology, Race and Racism, Food and Agriculture, Environmental Inequality, Development, Science and Technology Studies, Qualitative Methods, Health and Embodiment

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Luna, Jessie K., Becca Chalit Hernandez, and Abdoulaye Sawadogo. 2021. “[The paradoxes of purity](#) in organic agriculture in Burkina Faso.” *Geoforum* 127:46-56.
- Stein, Serena, and Jessie K. Luna. 2021. “[Toxic Sensorium](#): Agrochemicals in the African Anthropocene.” *Environment and Society* 12:87-107.
- Luna, Jessie K. and Brian Dowd-Urbe. 2020. “[Knowledge politics](#) and the Bt cotton success narrative in Burkina Faso.” *World Development* 136(105127).
- Luna, Jessie K. 2020. “[Peasant essentialism in GMO debates](#): Bt cotton in Burkina Faso.” *Journal of Agrarian Change* 20(4): 579-597.

- Luna, Jessie K. 2020. “[Pesticides are our children now](#)’: Cultural change and the technological treadmill in the Burkina Faso cotton sector.” *Agriculture and Human Values* 37(2): 449-462.
- Luna, Jessie K. 2019. “[The ease of hard work](#): Embodied neoliberalism among Rocky Mountain fun runners.” *Qualitative Sociology* 42(2): 251–271.
- Honorable Mention, 2016 ASA Body and Embodiment Section Student Paper Award
 - Outstanding Research Paper Award, 2015, Department of Sociology, CU Boulder
- Luna, Jessie K. 2019. “[The chain of exploitation](#): Intersectional inequalities, capital accumulation, and resistance in Burkina Faso’s cotton sector.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 46(7):1413-1434.
- Luna, Jessie K. 2018. “[Getting out of the dirt](#): Racialized modernity and environmental inequality in the cotton sector of Burkina Faso.” *Environmental Sociology* 4 (3): 221-34.
- Honorable Mention, 2017 ASA Environmental Sociology Section Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award
- Hunter, Lori M., Jessie K. Luna, and Rachel M. Norton. 2015. “[The environmental dimensions of migration](#).” *Annual Review of Sociology* 41: 377-97.

RESEARCH IN PREPARATION

- Luna, Jessie K. and Gabin Korbeogo. “Environmental inequalities in Africa,” chapter in the *Handbook of Inequality and the Environment*, edited by Michael J. Lynch, Michael A. Long, and Paul B. Stretesky. Invited chapter; draft submitted and under peer review.
- Luna, Jessie K. “Lions and tigers and Malthus, oh my! Racialized nature and naturalized race at the Denver Zoo.” In preparation
- Luna, Jessie K. “Technological healthism and the inequalities of rationality.” In preparation.
- Luna, Jessie K. *White Gold, Black Debt: Racial Capitalism and Agricultural Modernization in West Africa*. Book manuscript in preparation.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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| 2017- 2018 | American Association of University Women American Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000) |
| 2016 | National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, Sociology (\$9,500) |
| 2016 | U.S. Student Fulbright to Burkina Faso (\$25,000) |
| 2016 | CU Boulder Dean’s Graduate Student Research Grant (\$10,000) |
| 2014 | NSF Scholarship to summer seminar “Science and Technology Studies and Environmental Sociology and Policy,” Vanderbilt University, with David Hess |
| 2010- 2012 | Full academic scholarship, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland |

AWARDS

- 2017 Ralph and Barbara Dakin Award, Dept of Sociology, CU Boulder. Awarded for outstanding scholarship that contributes to peace, intercultural understanding, resolution of conflict, or the amelioration of important social problems (\$1000)
- 2017 Honorable Mention, ASA Environment and Technology Section Marvin E. Olsen student paper award for “The Color of Progress: Racialized Narratives and Environmental Inequality in the Cotton Sector of Burkina Faso”
- 2016 Honorable Mention, ASA Body and Embodiment Section graduate student paper award for “The Ease of Hard Work: Distinction, Boundary Work, and Embodied Neoliberalism”
- 2015 Outstanding Research Paper Award, Dept of Sociology, CU Boulder for “The Ease of Hard Work: Distinction, Boundary Work, and Embodied Neoliberalism”

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 “Réguler l’invisible: les compromis et paradoxes au sein des politiques relatives aux pesticides en Afrique,” Keynote address at Pesticides and Public Policies in the Global South International Conference at Université Alassane Ouattara, Bouaké, Côte d’Ivoire
- 2020 “Is it natural? Is it earned? Sociological insights on justifying inequality.” Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Colorado State University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Panels Organized

- 2021 “Political Ecology and New Green Revolutions in Africa.” Co-organized with Joeva Rock and Brian Dowd-Urbe. Association of American Geographers Conference (virtual)

Discussant or invited panelist

- 2021 Discussant, “Contradictions et antagonismes au carrefour des espaces agricoles, sanitaires, économiques, environnementaux ou écologiques,” at Pesticides and Public Policies in the Global South International Conference at Université Alassane Ouattara, Bouaké, Côte d’Ivoire
- 2021 Author Meets Critics panelist for Matthew Schnurr’s *Africa’s Gene Revolution: Genetically Modified Crops and the Future of African Agriculture*, Association of American Geographers Conference (virtual)
- 2021 Discussant, “Political Ecology and New Green Revolutions in Africa,” Panel 2, Association of American Geographers Conference (virtual)
- 2019 Discussant, “Pesticide uses and their drivers” at the Pesticide Politics in Africa Conference, Arusha, Tanzania
- 2019 Discussant, “Intersections of interventions: On development, difference, dispossession and discourse.” Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, Lexington, Kentucky

Papers Presented

- 2020 “Clean white cotton: race and the paradoxes of organic agriculture in Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Conference (virtual)
- 2019 “Peasant imaginaries in the debate over GMOs: evidence from Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the Association for the Study of Food and Society and the Agriculture, Food,

- and Human Values Society Conference, Anchorage, Alaska
- 2019 “Cultural and economic treadmills driving pesticide use in Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the Pesticide Politics in Africa Conference, Arusha, Tanzania
- 2019 “Quantified Deservingness: a comparative political ecology of technological healthism.” Paper presented at Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, Lexington, Kentucky
- 2018 “‘Pesticides are our children now’: changing labor dynamics and agricultural modernization in Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the Association of American Geographers Conference in New Orleans
- 2017 “The color of progress: race, status, and technology in the cotton sector of Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Conference in Montréal
- 2017 “Who is capital and who is the peasant? Chains of exploitation and intersectional inequalities in the cotton sector of Burkina Faso.” Paper presented at the Association of American Geographers Conference in Boston
- 2015 “The paradox of ease: bodies, boundaries, and distinction in contemporary America.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Conference in Chicago
- 2015 “Disciplining neoliberal bodies: Runners, fitness tracking, and the reproduction of meritocracy.” Paper presented at the Association of American Geographers Conference in Chicago
- 2014 “The political ecology of vulnerability: climate change and food security in West Africa.” Paper presented at the Critical Geography Conference in Boulder, Colorado

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Colorado State University (2018-)

- SOC 205: Sociology of Race and Racism (every semester)
- SOC 220: Global Environmental Issues
- SOC 380: Science, Technology, and Society
- SOC 668: Environmental Sociology

University of Colorado Boulder (2012 - 2018)

Instructor of Record

- SOCY 2077: Environment and Society
- SOCY 4117: Food and Society

Teaching Assistant (with recitations)

- SOCY 1001: Intro to Sociology
- SOCY 1004: Deviance in U.S. Society
- SOCY 4017: Animals and Society
- SOCY 4117: Food and Society

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY AND SERVICE

Professional service

- Council Member-At-Large of the ASA Environmental Sociology Section, 2020-2022
- Nominations Committee for the ASA Environmental Sociology Section, 2020-2022

Colorado State University, Department of Sociology

Social Justice and Equity Working Group, founder and chair, 2020-present
College of Liberal Arts Equity Committee, 2021-present
Undergraduate Committee, 2021-present
Undergraduate Scholarship Committee for Sociology and College of Liberal Arts, 2020-present
Faculty Search Committee, fall 2021
AKD Honors Society Undergraduate Advisor, 2019-2020
Graduate Committee, 2018-2019

Affiliations

American Sociology Association

Member of sections: Environmental Sociology, Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Sociology of Development, Global and Transnational Sociology, Science Knowledge and Technology, and Political Economy of the World-System

American Association of Geographers

Member of sections: Cultural and Political Ecology, Development Geography, Food and Agriculture, Africa, Black Geographies, Human Dimensions of Global Change

Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society

Professional development

“Navigating Difficult Classroom Conversations.” Organized workshop for the Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, 2021

Online Course Design, 16-hour course with CSU Online, 2020, with training in Quality Matters and Universal Design

Intergroup Relations Institute (3 day workshop on inclusive pedagogy, intergroup relations, and social justice), 2020

Series of Inclusive Pedagogy workshops, Colorado State University, 2018-2020

Academic Journal Reviews (ad-hoc)

American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Problems, Agriculture and Human Values, Population and Environment, Climatic Change, Environmental Sociology, Qualitative Sociology, African Geographical Review, Annals of the American Association of Geographers, Journal of Environment and Development, Journal of Rural Studies, Cahiers Agricoles (French), Journal of Agrarian Change, Environment and Planning E, Weather Climate and Society, Society and Natural Resources

RELEVANT PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2009 Video editor, Forestry Media Center, Corvallis, Oregon
- Edited videos on sustainable animal agriculture in the Pacific Northwest
- 2007- 2009 Agriculture and Environment Volunteer, Peace Corps Mali, West Africa
- Facilitated a Farmer Field School to facilitate farmer-led field experiments with two dozen local farmers, in collaboration with ICRISAT (Bamako)
 - Co-hosted a weekly radio show in Bambara on environmental and social issues for one year; broadcast in Southern Mali
 - Facilitated the founding of a women’s regional shea production cooperative

- Produced educational videos for Malian National Television (ORTM)
- 2006, 2009 Research Technician for Integrated Pest Management research trials, Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University, with Dr. Vaughn Walton, extension entomologist
- 2004, 2005 Research Assistant for vegetable breeding program, Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University, with Dr. Jim Myers, Professor of Vegetable Breeding
- 2003- 2005 Research Assistant, School of Social Work, University of Southern California, with Dr. Bruce Jansson, Professor of Social Work
 - Archival research for: *The Reluctant Welfare State: Engaging History to Advance Social Work Practice in Contemporary Society* (2009)
- 2005- 2006 Assistant to film director, Bal-Maiden Films, Los Angeles
 - Worked on labor-rights and union oriented films: *No Sweat: Inside American Apparel* (2006), and *Eye of the Storm: The story of the ILWU lock-out* (2007)
- 2004 Production assistant, Greenfire Productions, Oregon
 - Worked on wildlife conservation films: *Wild Connections: The Hells Canyon-Wallowa Ecosystem*, and *Common Ground: Oregon's Ocean*

LANGUAGES

English (native)

French (professional proficiency; IRL level 4)

Bambara/Dioula (professional proficiency; IRL level 3+)