

Dr Laura F. Burke

Curriculum Vitae

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About

I'm a Medical Anthropologist with research and teaching experience in anthropology, global health and human rights. My work examines the intersections between health and the environment. My doctoral research in Timor-Leste explored how life is reproduced after conflict and crisis, through the lens of reproductive justice. My current project explores the intersections of biomedicine and indigenous health practices at times of environmental and health crisis in Southeast Asia.

Education

2017 - 2022 **Studentship, PhD in Social Anthropology**, Department of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, UK (UK Research and Innovation funding)
Viva 24.10.23 - Pass with No Corrections

Thesis: Reproducing Life After Conflict: Population, Prosperity and Potent Landscapes in Timor-Leste

- Funded by the United Kingdom Research and Innovation Fund, Economic and Social Research Council 1+3 Masters and Doctoral Scholarship (value £64,000)
- Awarded 18 months of Overseas Fieldwork funding and 6 months Difficult Language Training (Tetum) funding in Timor-Leste
- Ethnographic Fieldwork in Timor-Leste February 2018 - July 2019
- Examiners: Ayo Wahlberg (University of Copenhagen) and Natalie Morningstar (University of Kent and University of Cambridge).

2016- 2017 **MA Social Anthropology and Conflict**, Department of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, UK (UK Research and Innovation funding)
Grade: Distinction

2010 - 2013 **BA (Hons) Social Anthropology**, Department of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, UK.
Grade: First Class, Faculty Award for Highest Undergraduate Results

Academic Positions

2024-Present	Postdoctoral Researcher , Institute for Social Anthropology (ISA), Austrian Academy of Sciences (OÄW).
2024	Lecturer in Global Health and Social Medicine , King's College London. Teaching on MSc module 'Designing Qualitative Methods for Social Science and Health'
2024	Associate Lecturer in Medical Anthropology , University of Plymouth. Module Convenor for Medical Anthropology, Undergraduate Stage 2 and 3.
2023- 2024	Post-doctoral Research Assistant - on 'Empowering Communities Through University Partnerships in Public Health' (Medical Research Council Public Health Intervention Development Grant) led by Prof Anna Robinson-Pant, Centre for Reproduction, Technology and Health (CORTH), Department of Anthropology, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex.
2021- 2024	Lecturer in Global Health - MSc Global Public Health, Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Queen Mary University London. Module Lead for Health Inequalities and the State of Global Health and Dissertation Supervisor.
2021-2024	Journal Manager and Editorial Assistant , <i>Social Analysis: International Journal of Anthropology</i>
2022-2023	Lecturer in Anthropology - School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, UK. Module Lead for Stage 3 undergraduate module 'Critical Perspectives in Human Societies'
2022-2023	Associate Researcher - Homelessness in the Countryside: A Hidden Crisis. Multi-sited Ethnographic research in England. The University of Kent and the University of Southampton, UK, Feb 2022-May 2023.
2022-2023	Assistant Lecturer in Sociology School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent, UK. MA and BSc in Adult Social Work, Module Convenor on Sociological Perspectives, Guest Lecturer on: Culture, Ethics and Moral Dilemmas.

2021	Assistant Lecturer School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, UK Seminar Lead, Guest Lecturer and interim Module Lead on 2nd and 3rd stage undergraduate module: 'The Human-Environment Nexus'
2018-2019	Visiting Scholar Department of International Cooperation, University of Timor-Lorosa, Dili Timor-Leste

List of Publications

- Forthcoming (under review) Burke L. 'Reenacting the Past and Recording the Future: Performances of Violence and Freedom as Reproductive Justice in Timor-Leste' in, Postmemory work and the Digital in Southeast Asia (Brauchler eds.) *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*
- Forthcoming (under revision) Burke, L. 'Concealed Coexistence: Choice and Coercion in Timor-Leste's Reproductive Health Landscape', *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.
- 2023 Tunäker, Carr, and Burke with Reyes-Pascal. 'Homelessness in the Countryside: A Hidden Crisis' Final Report. *University of Kent, University of Southampton and England Rural*
- 2023 Tunäker, Carr, and Burke. 'Crisis in The Countryside' *Welsh Housing Quarterly*. Available in English and Welsh.
- 2022 Burke, L. 'Making Kin and Population: Reproductive Abandonment in Timor-Leste' in Special Issue on 'Reproductive Abandonment' Jenny Munro and Alexandra Widmer (eds), *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*
- 2021 Burke, L. 'A Hospital Without People in a Timor-Leste Community' in The Hospital Multiple Series, Janina Kehr and Fanny Chabrol (eds), *Somatosphere*.
- 2020 Burke, L. 'Planning Reproduction, Planning Life: reproduction in Maubisse'. In *Understanding Timor-Leste*, Steven Farram, Dulce Martins da Silva, Leonardo F. Soares, Nuno Canas Mendes, Clinton Fernandes, Mica Barreto Soares, Uka Pinto, Hannah Loney, Robert L Williams, Claudino Ninas Nabais and Michael Leach eds. Hawthorn: Swinburne Press, 2020. Vol. I, II & III

- 2020 Burke, L., Beach, C, Betz-Heineman, A. ‘Why a platform cooperative experiment to deliver mass Covid testing failed’, *Mutual Interest Media*,
- 2019 Burke, L. ‘It’s Cold’, Perspectives Series, *Weather Matters*, Institute for Science, Innovation, and Society (InSiS), University of Oxford
- 2018 Burke, L. ‘Perceptions of Reproduction and Demography in Timor-Leste’s Post-Conflict Population Boom’, in *New research on Timor-Leste*, Peter Job, Antero B. da Silva, Nuno Canas Mendes, Alarico da Costa Ximenes, Mica Barreto Soares, Sara Niner, and Therese Tam eds. Universidade Nacional de Timor-Lorosa’e (UNTL), Avenida Cidade de Lisboa, Dili, Timor-Leste, 29-30 June 2017. *Timor-Leste Studies Association*

Grants and Awards

- 2024 Disruptive Innovation Seed Funding**, Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and Austrian Academy of Sciences (OÄW)
- 2023 Director of Research and Knowledge Exchange (DRaKE) and Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF)** *Individual Grant for Research Partnerships and Community Engagement*, University of Sussex
- 2022 Heather Trickey Essay Prize**, *Highly Commended*, BPAS AND NTC
- 2021 Jessica Small Postgraduate Teaching Award**, School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent,
- 2020 Visiting Scholarship Grant**, University of Toronto, UKRI *ESRC*
- 2018 Overseas Fieldwork Grant**, UK Research and Innovation, *ESRC*
- 2017 Difficult Language Learning Grant** UK Research and Innovation, *ESRC*
- 2016 Doctoral Studentship in Social Anthropology** UK Research and Innovation, *ESRC* 1+3 Masters and PhD Scholarship Award, Full funding including stipend.

Conferences and Engagement

AAA 2024 Presenter, Round Table Discussion: Wellbeing and environment: new phenomenological approaches

EASA 2024 European Association of Social Anthropology.
Early Career Plenary Speaker, Panel Convenor and Panel Presenter

GALAST 2024, Gender, Adult Literacy, and Social Transformation -Empowering Communities Through University Partnerships in Public Health Conference, University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines (Upcoming)
Co-organiser, Scientific Committee, Online Lead and Workshop lead on Ethnography

Shifting Power in Sexual and Reproductive Health - Power Shifting in Global Health Webinar Series, Guttmacher Institute and Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences (IAPHS)
Invited Speaker (2024)

Postmemory and the Digital in Southeast Asia Workshop: The Department of Anthropology
The University of Copenhagen,
Workshop Participant (2023)

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, UK
Invited Speaker on Reproductive Justice (2022)

Truth Be Told II: Safety during Fieldwork, International Postgraduate Training Workshop *Organiser and Facilitator (2021)*

WorldFest 2021 Podcast Speaker Episode 2: 'White Innocence'. Reading group discussion of 'White Innocence: Paradoxes of Colonialism and Race' by Gloria Wekker, University of Kent

Association of Social Anthropology of Oceania Conference
Panel Presenter (2020)

Timor-Leste Studies Association Conference *Panel Presenter and Panel Chair (2019)*

Truth Be Told: Encounters in the Field Workshop, School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent *Organiser and Facilitator (2021)*

Population Everywhere Workshop *Organiser and Presenter,* Kent Institute of Spatial Studies, University of Kent (2019)

Visions of the Future in Timor-Leste, International Conference, University of Kent *Conference Assistant and Discussant (2016)*

Academic Training

Economic Social Research Council PRoPEL Knowledge Exchange Training - 8-10 January 2024, University of Westminster, 2024

Media Engagement for Academics - University of Kent, 3 April 2020

GIS, Geographic Information Systems Mapping Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for -Spatial
Studies, 12-13 October 2016