Stanford



Duana Fullwiley

Professor of Anthropology

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

I am an anthropologist of science, medicine and well-being interested in how social identities, health outcomes and scientific narratives intersect in diverse global contexts.

In my first book, The Enculturated Gene: Sickle Cell Health Politics and Biological Difference in West Africa (Princeton, 2011), I draw on over a decade of ethnographic fieldwork in France and Senegal. By bringing the lives of people with sickle cell anemia together with how the science about them has been made, I weave together postcolonial genetic science, the effects of structural adjustment on health resources, and patient activism between Senegal and France to show how African sickle cell has been ordered in ethnic-national terms at the level of the gene. The first ethnography of its kind, the Enculturated Gene won the Royal Anthropological Institute's 2011 Amaury Talbot Prize and the American Anthropological Association's 2014 Robert B. Textor and Family Prize for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology.

From 2003-2023, I conducted multi-sited ethnography in the United States on emergent technologies that measure human genetic diversity. Within this, I became particularly interested in how scientists engage ethics of genetic inclusion in how they enlist participants in specific disease studies, and how they also grapple with social movements, the writing of history, data privacy and racial capital. My second book, Tabula Raza: Mapping Race and Human Diversity in American Genome Science (UC Press, 2024), also develops the idea of 'sci non-fi' to describe the present where hope and liberation through tech fuse with its possible dystopian consequences. For its unique contribution, Tabula Raza won the AAA's 2024 Diana Forsythe Prize as well as the 2024 C. Wright Mills Award.

My current work extends my analyses of human taxonomies, informed by entrenched notions of racialized geography where differentiated humans are thought "belong," to chronicle inequities around migration and mobility. My focus now draws on the anthropology of science and medicine and environmental anthropology to better understand the forces that push people to leave West Africa for Europe. I am concerned with people's narratives of risk and success at all costs in light of state sponsored surveillance, the simultaneous rigidity and fluidity of borders (land and sea) marked by new technologies, as well as how people draw from and create various forms of science and knowledge to forge relational trajectories that come to constitute home. This work also considers how human-made environmental resource scarcity figures into decisions to migrate (or, rather, to simply move) as people weigh viable futures, stability, and health. The project furthermore investigates new forms of racialization tied to the economics of contemporary border regimes, while the ocean itself is being re-conceptualized as a new frontier for salvatory tech options and economic growth in Africa and elsewhere.

I welcome working with students who are creatively grappling with cultures of science, environmental futures, global geographies of race, and medical power, and who are ethnographically committed to chronicling how people are forging new social forms within these.

My research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the Andrew and Florence White Fellows program in Medicine and the Humanities, the Ford Foundation, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. I have also been an invited scholar at the Centre de Sociologie de l'Innovation in Paris, a USIA Fulbright Scholar to Senegal, a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at the Harvard School of Public Health and the History of Science Dept, and a recipient of a NSF Scholars Award in the Science & Society Program, co-sponsored by the Directorate of Biology.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Anthropology

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University, (2025- present)
- Associate Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University, (2012-2024)
- Associate Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University, (2011-2012)
- Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African-American Studies, Harvard University, (2007-2011)
- Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard School of Public Health and Department of History of Science, (2005-2007)
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, National Science Foundation, New York University, (2003-2005)
- Invited Scholar, Ecole des Mines de Paris, Centre de sociologie de l'innovation (CSI), (2002-2002)
- Dissertation Fellow, Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of Califronia, Berkeley, (2001-2002)
- Research Fellow, Ecole Normale Supérieure, (2001-2002)
- Invited Scholar, Ecole des Mines de Paris, Centre de sociologie de l'innovation (CSI), (2000-2000)
- Invited Scholar, Ecole des Mines de Paris, Centre de sociologie de l'innovation (CSI), (1997-1997)
- Research Assistant, Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics, (1995-1996)
- Research Assistant, Department of Medical Anthropology, University of California, San Francisco, (1995-1996)
- Junior Research Specialist, Institute for the Study of Social Change, (1994-1996)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- The 2024 C. Wright Mills Award Winner, for the book Tabula Raza, Society for the Study of Social Problems (2025)
- Faculty Fellow, FGSS, Stanford University (H&S) (2024-2026)
- The 2024 Diana Forsythe Prize Winner, for the book Tabula Raza, Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing, American Anthropological Assoc. (2024)
- Humanities and the Arts Enhanced Sabbatical Fellowship, Stanford University (H&S) (2022-2023)
- Distinguished Faculty Fellow of Science, Technology and Society, STS, Stanford University (H&S) (2015-2018)
- Robert B. Textor and Family Prize for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology, The American Anthropological Association (2014)
- Amaury Talbot Prize for Most Valuable Work of African Anthropology, The Royal Anthropological Institute (United Kingdom) (2013)
- General Anthropology Division (Award for Exemplary Cross Disciplinary Research (Honorable Mention), The American Anthropological Association (2013)
- NSF Scholars Award (Directorate for Biology and Science and Technology Studies), National Science Foundation (2009-2012)
- Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Harvard University (2005-2007)
- Institute for Advanced Study Scholar, Member of the School of Social Science, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey (2004-2005)

- National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, The National Science Foundation and New York University (2003-2005)
- Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, The National Academies of Science, Medicine, and Engineering (2001-2002)
- Wenner-Gren Dissertation Research Grant, The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research (2000-2001)
- IIE Fulbright Scholar to Senegal, IIE Fulbright Program (1999-2000)
- International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF), The Social Science Research Council (1999-2000)
- Rocca Scholar for Advanced African Studies, University of California, Berkeley (1999)
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, The National Science Foundation (1996-1999)
- Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship (declined), The National Academies of Science, Medicine, and Engineering (1996)
- Louise Patterson Academic Achievement Award, University of California, Berkeley (1994, 1996-1998)
- McNair Scholar, University of California, Berkeley (1994)
- Phi Beta Kappa, graduated summa cum laude (BA), The Phi Beta Kappa Society-University of California, Berkeley (1994)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Reviewer, Ethics and Society Review Panel, concerning Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (2024 - present)
- Advisory Board Member, Simons Collaboration, Theory of Computing : Understanding the Foundations for Algorithmic Fairness (2021 - 2024)
- Faculty Advisory Committee, Graduate Fellowship, Technology and Racial Equity. CCSRE, Stanford (2021 - 2024)
- Reviewer, Ethics and Society Review Panel, concerning Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (2021 - 2022)
- Scientific Advisory Committee Member, Anthropologie et Santé: Revue internationale francophone d’anthropologie de la santé. (2020 - present)
- Area Advisor, Area Advisor for Anthropology of Science, Oxford Bibliographies. (2019 - present)
- Executive Board Member, Stanford Center for African Studies (2018 - 2019)
- Executive Board Member, Interdepartmental Program in Science, Technology and Society, Stanford University (2015 - 2019)
- Advisory Panel Member/ Award Selection Committee, Robert B. Textor and Family Prize for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology, The American Anthropological Association (2015 - 2018)
- Trustee of the Board, Association of Members, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton New Jersey (2014 - 2018)
- Executive Board Member, Interdepartmental Program in Science, Technology and Society (2012 - 2013)
- Member, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University (2004 - 2005)
- Member, Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society (1994 - present)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for African Studies
- Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE)
- Science, Technology and Society

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco , Medical Anthropology (2002)
- M.A., University of California, Berkeley , Anthropology (1997)
- B.A., University of California, Berkeley , Social Sciences (1994)

Research & Scholarship

PROJECTS

- The Blue Beyond: The Sea as Salvation in a Time of Environmental Crisis - Stanford University

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Medical Anthropology, a Global View: AFRICAAM 151C, ANTHRO 151, CSRE 151A (Spr)
- Proposal Writing Seminar in Cultural and Social Anthropology: ANTHRO 308 (Spr)
- The Anthropology of Science: Global Politics and Laboratory Life: ANTHRO 367 (Win)
- The Body, Race, and Difference in Contemporary France: OSPPARIS 80 (Aut)

2025-26

- Medical Anthropology, a Global View: AFRICAAM 151C, ANTHRO 151, CSRE 151A, FEMGEN 151A (Spr)
- Proposal Writing Seminar in Cultural and Social Anthropology: ANTHRO 308 (Spr)
- Writing and Voice: Anthropological Telling through Literature and Practices of Expression: ANTHRO 265G, CSRE 265G (Win)

2024-25

- Genes and Identity: ANTHRO 41, CSRE 41A, FEMGEN 41 (Win)
- Race and Power: The Making of Human Difference in History, Biology and Capital: ANTHRO 345A (Aut)
- Science as Culture: ESF 20 (Aut)
- Science as Culture: ESF 20A (Aut)
- Writing as Intervention: Science, Medicine, and Ethics in Today's World: ANTHRO 350A, FEMGEN 350A (Win)

2023-24

- Method and Evidence in Anthropology: ANTHRO 91 (Win)
- Science as Culture: ESF 20 (Aut)
- Science as Culture: ESF 20A (Aut)
- The Anthropology of Science: Global Politics and Laboratory Life: ANTHRO 367 (Aut)
- Writing and Voice: Anthropological Telling through Literature and Practices of Expression: ANTHRO 265G, CSRE 265G (Win)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

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Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Salma Alkhoudi, Tiên-Dung Hà

Doctoral (Program)

Awa Hanane Diagne, Madeline Turner

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Genes, Race, Nature, Phenotype** *Mapping Medical Anthropology for the Twenty-First Century*
  Fullwiley, D.
  Rutgers University Press.2026: 126–140
- **Field Poems from Mars on Earth** *Midway Journal*
  Fullwiley, D.

2025; 19 (4): 1

- **Tabula Raza: Mapping Race and Human Diversity in American Genome Science** *Atelier: Ethnographic Inquiry in the Twenty-First Century*
  Fullwiley, D.
  University of California Press.2024
- **Guidelines for genetic ancestry inference created through roundtable discussions.** *HGG advances*
  Wagner, J. K., Yu, J. H., Fullwiley, D., Moore, C., Wilson, J. F., Bamshad, M. J., Royal, C. D.
  2023; 4 (2): 100178
- **"Reverie in Reverse: Placebo Medicine" and "Sand Lines" (poems)**
  Fullwiley, D.
  Elyssar Press. Redlands, California.
  2022 ; Black Rootedness: 54 Poets from Africa to America 163-166;169
- **Chronique d'un Terrain Partagé: La fusion des formes, des esprits et des genres** *Revue des Sciences Sociales, "50 ans d'écriture en sciences sociales. Rétrospectives et perspectives,"*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2022; 68: 106-115
- **The song of power: A fugue of dystopia and racial regeneration** *HAU-JOURNAL OF ETHNOGRAPHIC THEORY*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2021; 11 (2): 739-747
- **Of Maps, Ancestors and Genes** *Anthropology News*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2021
- **DNA and Our Twenty-First-Century Ancestors** *The Boston Review*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2021
- **Toward a Compassionate Intersectional Neuroscience: Increasing Diversity and Equity in Contemplative Neuroscience.** *Frontiers in psychology*
  Weng, H. Y., Ikeda, M. P., Lewis-Peacock, J. A., Chao, M. T., Fullwiley, D., Goldman, V., Skinner, S., Duncan, L. G., Gazzaley, A., Hecht, F. M.
  2020; 11: 573134
- **Genomics in emerging and developing economies** *HANDBOOK OF GENOMICS, HEALTH AND SOCIETY, 2ND EDITION*
  Fullwiley, D., Gibbon, S.
  edited by Gibbon, S., Prainsack, B., Hilgartner, S., Lamoreaux, J.
  2018: 228–37
- **Poetry in the Medical Humanities-- Diverse Facts / Eugenics / Genes and Sleep / Pain Planet** *Ars Medica, Special Issue: Placebo/Nocebo*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2017; 12 (2): 18-27
- **Race, genes, power.** *British journal of sociology*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2015; 66 (1): 36-45
- **The "Contemporary Synthesis" When Politically Inclusive Genomic Science Relies on Biological Notions of Race** *ISIS*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2014; 105 (4): 803-814
- **A Heart for the Work: Journeys through an African Medical School (Book Review)** *AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST*
  Book Review Authored by: Fullwiley, D.
  2012; 114 (3): 557-558
- **Can DNA 'Witness' Race?: Forensic Uses of an Imperfect Ancestry Testing Technology** *Race and the Genetic Revolution: Science, Myth and Culture.*
  Fullwiley, D.

edited by Krimsky, S., Sloan, K.
Columbia University Press.2011

- **The Enculturated Gene: Sickle Cell Health Politics and Biological Difference in West Africa**
  Fullwiley, D.
  Princeton University Press.2011
- **Revaluating genetic causation: Biology, economy, and kinship in Dakar, Senegal** *AMERICAN ETHNOLOGIST*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2010; 37 (4): 638-661
- **The biologistical construction of race: 'Admixture' technology and the new genetic medicine** *SOCIAL STUDIES OF SCIENCE*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2008; 38 (5): 695-735
- **Out from under the skin: Disease etiology, biology and society: A commentary on Aronowitz** *SOCIAL SCIENCE & MEDICINE*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2008; 67 (1): 14-17
- **The legitimacy of genetic ancestry tests - Response** *SCIENCE*
  Bolnick, D. A., Fullwiley, D., Marks, J., Reverby, S. M., Kahn, J., Tallbear, K., Reardon, J., Cooper, R. S., Duster, T., Fujimura, J. H., Kaufman, J. S., Morning, A., Nelson, et al
  2008; 319 (5866): 1039-1040
- **Can DNA 'Witness' Race: Forensic Uses of an Imperfect Ancestry Testing Technology** *Genewatch*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2008; 21 (3-4): 12-14
- **The Molecularization of Race and Institutions of Difference: Pharmacy and Public Science after the Genome** *Revisiting Race in a Genomic Age*
  Fullwiley, D.
  edited by Koenig, B. A., Lee, S. S., Richardson, S.
  Rutgers University Press.2008: 149–171
- **Racial categories in medical practice: How useful are they?** *PLOS MEDICINE*
  Braun, L., Fausto-Sterling, A., Fullwiley, D., Hammonds, E. M., Nelson, A., Quivers, W., Reverby, S. M., Shields, A. E.
  2007; 4 (9): 1423-1428
- **The Science and Business of Ancestry Testing** *Science*
  Bolnick, D. A., Fullwiley, D., Duster, T., Cooper, R. S., Fujimura, J. H., Kahn, J., Kaufman, J. S., Marks, J., Morning, A., Nelson, A., Ossorio, P., Reardon, J., Reverby, et al
  2007; 318 (5849): 399-400
- **The Molecularization of Race: Institutionalizing Racial Difference in Pharmacogenetics Practice** *Science as Culture*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2007; 16 (1): 1-30
- **Race and Genetics: Attempts to Define the Relationship** *Biosocieties*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2007; 2 (2): 221-237
- **Biosocial Suffering: Order and Illness in Urban West Africa** *Biosocieties*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2006; 1 (4): 421-438
- **Discriminate biopower and everyday biopolitics: views on sickle cell testing in Dakar.** *Medical anthropology*
  Fullwiley, D.
  2004; 23 (2): 157-194
- **Contingencies of illness: the cultural politics of sickle cell trait suffering in Senegal** *La drépanocytose: Regards croisés sur une maladie orpheline*

Fullwiley, D.
edited by Lainé, A.
Paris: Karthala.2004: 243–277

- **Race, biologie et maladie: la difficile organisation des patients atteints de drepanocytose aux Etats-Unis. (Race, Biology, and Illness: Barriers to Sickle Cell Patient Group)** *Sciences Sociales et Sante*
  Fullwiley, D.
  1998; 16 (3): 129-157

PRESENTATIONS

- "What's in a Line? The Cartographic Stakes of Racialized Wellbeing in a Global World and Migrant Hopes." UC Berkeley and UCSF 50th Anniversary, Medical Anthropology PhD program. April 25, 2026
- "Into the Lab: Racial World Building and its Discontents," The Human Genomics without Racism (HUGERA) 2026 lecture series, University of Exeter, UK. February 2, 2026. - University of Exeter, HUGERA
- Going Beyond 'Race Corrections' to Address Conceptual Clarifications," Weinberger-Vermut Annual Lectures in Genetics Ethics, Health Ethics Center, UCLA Medical School. Nov 19-20, 2025 (11/19/2025 - 11/20/2025)
- "What's in a Line? The Cartographic Stakes of Racialized Wellbeing in a Global World." Distinguished Keynote Lecture, Program in Global Health Studies, Northwestern University. April 25, 2025 (April 25, 2025)
- "Skin and Code: The Racial Life of Data in the Genome Age." Annual Lecture in Medical Anthropology, The Edinburgh Centre for Medical Anthropology, University of Edinburg. March 28, 2024.
- "The Tabula Raza: Thinking Through Its Multiple Forms," Department of Anthropology, Pomona College. Claremont, California. November 14, 2024.
- "Ancestors and the Algorithmic Shadows: Ghost DNA and the Kinfolk of Today." Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, Brown University. October 18, 2022 - Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (October 18, 2022)
- "Refusing the Separate Self: Rewriting Sickle Cell Futures in Dakar." Keynote for Assemblages of Rare Diseases, Rare Disease Social Research Center, Polish Academy of Sciences. Warsaw, March 10, 2022 - Rare Disease Social Research Center Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences (March 10, 2022)
- "Breaking Anthropology Open: Art, Science and the Vibrational Possibilities of Un-disciplining Ethnography." 6th Annual McCurdy Distinguished Lecture, Macalester University. April 23, 2021 - Department of Anthropology Macalester University. (April 24, 2021)
- "Ethnographic Attunement." Keynote speaker for "Refusing Poetic Restraint," The Ethnography Studio 2021 Ethnographic Salon, Rice University. May 14, 2021
- "Sci Non-fi in the Laboratory and Beyond." Department of Anthropology Colloquium, University of Chicago. November 9, 2020
- "Racialized Foundations in Science, Medicine, and Law." After Dark Online, The San Francisco Exploratorium, Science Museum. July 23, 2020
- "The Ancestors Watch in Disbelief: Genomic Ancestry, Power, and (Un)freedom." The Yale Barbara and Richard Franke Lectures. The Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University. March 5, 2019.
- "Habits of Power: Science Politics in Anti-science Times, Race Politics in Anti-Racist Times." Inaugural Annual Lecture in Medical Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley. April 11, 2018.
- "Naturalizing Inequality and the Politics of Inclusivity: Race, Geography, 'Ancestry," Invited Keynote for Naturalisation, déterminisme biologique et sciences sociales. Bierville, France Oct 30, 2018