Stanford

Emma Shaw Crane

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Bio

BIO

Emma Shaw Crane is an urban and environmental anthropologist. Her research and teaching focus on war, environment, and racialization in the urban Americas.

Her current book project, Counterinsurgent Suburb, is a study of the environmental and spatial arrangements that sustain U.S. empire on the peripheries of Miami, Florida. It draws on ethnographic fieldwork across a military base, a detention camp for migrant children, a nuclear power plant, and industrial plantations sustained by Indigenous Maya migrant workers. The project engages war as a transnational racial project that is routinized and reproduced in the American suburb.

A second project examines aftermaths of war in Bogotá and draws on long-term fieldwork with former guerrilla combatants in Colombia's civil war. It examines how peripheral neighborhoods become the targets of municipal, humanitarian, and insurgent efforts to repair past atrocity, often in ways that seek to remake urban built environments.

Crane's work is grounded in the principles and practices of research justice. She currently co-directs a project investigating a county jail and federal migrant detention center in Glades County, Florida.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Anthropology

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- PhD, New York University , American Studies (2021)
- BA, University of California, Berkeley , Interdisciplinary Studies (2009)

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Body and Environment: ANTHRO 167, CSRE 169 (Spr)
- Environment & Power: ANTHRO 319 (Spr)

2025-26

- Body and Environment: ANTHRO 167, CSRE 169 (Aut)
- From Criminal Justice to(wards) Prison Abolition: CSRE 4SI (Spr)
- Methodologies for Research Justice: ANTHRO 392 (Spr)

- Prefield Research Seminar: ANTHRO 93 (Spr)

2024-25

- Body and Environment: ANTHRO 167, CSRE 169 (Spr)
- Environment & Power: ANTHRO 319 (Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Luca DeCola

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Kola Heyward-Rotimi, Chen Shen

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Lush aftermath: Race, labor, and landscape in the suburb** *ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING D-SOCIETY & SPACE*
  Crane, E.
  2023; 41 (2): 210-230
- **The Poisoned Periphery: Research Methods for Cities Edge**
  Crane, E. S.
  Duke University Press. Public Culture.
  2022 359–364
- **Cities, Racialized Poverty, and Infrastructures of Possibility** *ANTIPODE*
  Baldwin, D. L., Crane, E. S.
  2020; 52 (2)
- **"The Anti-Poverty Hoax": Development, pacification, and the making of community in the global 1960s** *CITIES*
  Roy, A., Schrader, S., Crane, E.
  2015; 44: 139-145
- **Territories of Poverty: Rethinking North and South** *TERRITORIES OF POVERTY: RETHINKING NORTH AND SOUTH*
  edited by Roy, A., Crane, E. S.
  2015; 24: 1-374