

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Lydia Pelot-Hobbs  
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### EDUCATION

Doctoral Candidate, Geography, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences  
The Graduate Center, City University of New York.  
American Studies Certificate Program

Adviser: Ruth Wilson Gilmore  
Committee Members: Eric Lott and Rupal Oza

Dissertation: The Contested Terrain of the Louisiana Carceral State: Dialectics of Southern Penal Expansion, 1971-2016

MPhil, Geography, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences  
The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2015

MS, Urban Studies, University of New Orleans, 2011.

BA, Oberlin College, 2007. Majors: Comparative American Studies and English. Minor: History.  
Graduated with Highest Honors in Comparative American Studies.

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

The carceral State; racial capitalism; Black, feminist, and queer geographies; social movements and grassroots organizing; state formations; urban studies; the US South; feminist methods and publicly engaged research

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Refereed Journal Articles

“Scaling Up or Scaling Back: The Pitfalls and Possibilities of Leveraging Federal Interventions for Abolition” *Critical Criminology* 26:3 (2018), 423-441.

“Organized Inside and Out: The Angola Special Civics Project and the Crisis of Mass Incarceration” in *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society* 15:3 (2013), 199-217.

#### Book Chapters and Essays

“The Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons,” in *Finding the Struggle: Radical Movements in the Neoliberal United States, 1970-2001*, Eds. Dan Berger and Emily Hobson, Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press (forthcoming 2019).

“Lockdown Louisiana” in *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas*, Eds. Rebecca Solnit and Rebecca Snedeker. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013.

### Book Reviews

*Progressive Punishment: Job Loss, Jail Growth, and the Neoliberal Logic of Carceral Expansion* by Judah Schept in *Punishment & Society*. April 2016.

*Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans* by Matt Sakakeeny in *Southern Spaces*. Posted online February 20, 2015.

*We Shall Not be Moved* by Tom Wooten in *Shelterforce: The Journal of Affordable Housing and Community Development*. Posted online November 1, 2012.

*Arm the Spirit: A Woman's Journey Underground and Back* by Diana Block in *Left Turn Magazine* July/August 2009: 72-73.

*Abolition Now! Ten Years of Strategy and Struggle Against the Prison Industrial Complex* by CR10 Publications Collective, eds. in *Left Turn Magazine* January/February 2009: 76-77.

*Torture and the Twilight of Empire: From Algiers to Bagdad* by Marnia Lazerg in *Left Turn Magazine* October/November 2008: 84-85.

*Red State Rebels: Tales of Grassroots Resistance in the Heartland* by Joshua Frank and Jeffrey St. Clair, eds. in *The Independent*, October 27, 2008.

*The Cost of Privilege: Taking on the Systems of White Supremacy and Racism* by Chip Smith in *Left Turn Magazine*, November/December 2007: 67-68.

*The Other Campaign/La Otra Campaña* by Subcomandante Marcos and the Zapatistas in *Left Turn Magazine*, January/February 2007: 80-81.

### Select Popular Publications

“Prisons Make More Prisons? Louisiana Carceral Crisis from the 1970s to Hurricane Katrina” in *Go To Jail* edited by Students at the Center (forthcoming).

“Louisiana’s Turn to Mass Incarceration: The Building of a Carceral State,” in the *American Association of Geographers Newsletter* (<http://news.aag.org/2018/02/louisianas-turn-to-mass-incarceration-the-building-of-a-carceral-state>). Posted February 1, 2018.

“Organizing the Prisons in the 1960s and 1970s: Prisoner Rights Round Table” in *Process: The Blog for the Organization of American Historians* (<http://www.processhistory.org/tag/prisoners-rights-round-table>) Posted September 22, 2016.

“Alton Sterling and Police Impunity in Louisiana” in Verso Books Blog ([www.versobooks.com/blogs](http://www.versobooks.com/blogs)) Posted July 11, 2016.

“Reflections on the Ten Year Aftermath of the Federal Flood” in *Justice Roars* (<http://louisianajusticeinstitute.blogspot.com>) Posted August 28, 2015.

“Writing Across the Walls: Prisoner Journalism for Freedom” in *The Abolitionist*, Fall 2013

## In Preparation

*Captive Words: An Anthology of Poetry from Angola*. Editor. (In Progress)

Experiments in Southern Queer Abolition: An Interview with Southerners on New Ground (SONG) on the Black Mama's Bail Out Campaign (Under Review with *Southern Spaces Queer Intersections* Series)

"Patriarchy, Prisons, and Urban Planning: The 'Public' Struggle Over the Expansion of the Orleans Parish Prison" co-written with Siri J. Colom. (In progress to be submitted at *Gender, Place, & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography*)

"The Plantation as a Beginning Not an End: The Racial Capitalist Productions of the Louisiana Carceral State" (In progress to be submitted to *Antipode: A Journal of Radical Geography*)

"Policing Sex and Gender in the New Orleans Tourism Economy" (In progress)

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND PRIZES

- The Graduate Center, CUNY, American Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2017-2018
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Fall 2016
- CUNY Lost & Found Archival Research Grant, 2016
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Doctoral Student Summer Research Grant, Summer 2016
- Human Geography Small Grants Program, 2015
- New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, Archival and Documentation Grant, 2015
- Neil Smith Research and Travel Fellowship, 2015
- Oberlin College Alumni Graduate Fellowship, 2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Advanced Research Collaborative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies, Summer 2015
- CUNY Macaulay Instructional Technology Fellow, 2013-2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Spring 2015
- The Graduate Center, CUNY Advanced Research Collaborative Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies, Summer 2014
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Doctoral Student Summer Research Grant, Summer 2014
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Fall 2013
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Advanced Research Collaborative Research Praxis Fellowship, Fall 2013
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Conference Presentation Travel Grant, Spring 2013
- University of New Orleans Fritz Wagner Award, 2011
- Oberlin College Comparative American Studies Comfort Starr Prize, 2007
- Oberlin College Jerome Davis Research Award, 2006

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Abolitionist Lineages in Post-Katrina Organizing" to be presented at the "CR South at 15" panel at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 15-18, 2018.

“Refusing Louisiana Exceptionalism: The Politics and Practices of Abolitionist Research.” Paper presented at “Gulf South Geographies of Freedom: Rethinking the Politics and Practices of New Orleans Research in the Geographic Imagination” panel at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 10-15, 2018.

“Policing Sex and Gender in the New Orleans Tourism Economy.” Paper presented at Sexuality and Space Pre-Conference. New Orleans, LA, April 9, 2018.

“Feminist Research Praxis for Contesting Criminalization.” Paper presented at “From Baltimore to Bangalore: Intersectional Geographies and Place-Based Feminist Teaching and Research” panel at the National Women Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 16-19, 2017.

“Oil Booms and Busts, Prisons Boom and Boom.” Paper presented at “Citizenship, Extraction, Real Estate, Waste and Work: Situating Police and Prison Power in the Patterns of Racial Capitalism” panel (co-organizer) at the American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL, November 9-12, 2017.

“‘To Walk Down the Street Without Fear’: Fighting LGBTQ of Color Criminalization, Creating Transformation.” Paper presented at “Critical Prison Studies: Making Freedom: Materializing Abolition Through Non-Reformist Reforms” panel (co-organizer) at the American Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 17-20, 2016.

“Post-Katrina Policing and Dispossession.” Paper presented at “Policing in American Cities,” panel at the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2-5, 2016.

“The Plantation as a Beginning, Not an End: The Racial Capitalist Productions of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at “Critical Penal Geographies I: Histories, Political Economies, and Epistemologies of the Carceral State,” panel at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, March 29-April 2, 2016.

“Scaling Back or Scaling Up? Tracking the Lessons of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at “Critical Prison Studies Caucus: Contradictions and Changing Permutations of the Prison Industrial Complex” panel at the American Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, October 8-11, 2015.

“From Crisis to Consolidation: The Build Up of the Louisiana Carceral State.” Paper presented at the “Rethinking Grounds of Punishment, Mass Incarceration, and Reform” panel at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 21-25, 2015.

“Reconfigurations of the Southern Carceral State: Understanding the Redemption Roots of Neoliberalism.” Paper presented at “The South and the PIC” panel at the Southern American Studies Association Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA, February 19-21, 2015.

“Patriarchy, Prisons, and Planning: The ‘Public’ Struggle over the Expansion of the Orleans Parish Prison.” Paper presented at the “Confronting Carceral America: Activist Responses to the Punitive Logics of Debt” panel at the American Studies Association Conference, Washington D.C., November 21-24, 2013.

“Organizing for Freedom: Abolitionist Reforms and the Angola Special Civics Project.” Paper presented at the “Carceral Geographies” panel at the Rethinking Prisons Conference, Nashville, TN, May 2-5, 2013.

“Power, Prisons, and ‘Public’ Meetings.” Paper presented at the “Urban Spaces of Submission and Subversion” panel (co-organizer) at the 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropology Association, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.

“Patriarchy, Prisons, and ‘Public’ Meetings.” Paper presented at the “Dangers of Privatization” panel at the Southeast Women’s Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 24-26, 2011.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2015    Instructor, The Politics of Punishment, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 23)

Instructional Technology Fellow, Shaping the Future of New York, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 20)

Instructional Technology Fellow, Peopling New York, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 14)

Fall 2014    Instructional Technology Fellow, Arts in New York, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 18)

Instructional Technology Fellow, Science Forward, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 18)

Spring 2014,    Instructional Technology Fellow, Shaping the Future of New York, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 20)

Instructional Technology Fellow, Peopling New York, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 18)

Fall 2013    Instructional Technology Fellow, Of All Lies: Art is the Least Untrue, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 20)

Instructional Technology Fellow, Science and Technology in New York City, Macaulay Honors College (enrollment 13)

Spring 2013    Instructor, Introduction to Geography: People and Their Environment, at Hunter College (enrollment 25)

Fall 2012    Instructor, Introduction to Geography: People and Their Environment, at Hunter College (2 sections: enrollment 100 and 24)

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Lessons for Today from Past Moments of Prisoner Resistance,” at Southern Policy Law Center, New Orleans, May, 12, 2017.

“Historical Geographies of the Louisiana State Penitentiary—Angola,” at States of Incarceration, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA, April, 8, 2017.

"Prisons Make More Prisons: Carceral Crisis from the 1970s to Katrina" at Katrina After Ten symposium, Brown University, Providence, RI, October 3, 2015.

“From Crisis to Consolidation: Building the Louisiana Carceral State” at One Book One New Orleans, New Orleans, LA. September 18, 2014.

“Lockdown Louisiana: Mapping the Future” at Bard Early College, New Orleans, LA. February 24, 2014.

“Mapping Mindsets: Containment and Outbreak” at Proteus Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY. October 27, 2013.

“Lockdown Louisiana” at Fordham University, Lincoln Center. New York, NY. October 20, 2013.

“Decomodifying Housing for Gender Justice” at Fit for a King Fair Housing Summit 2012: Women and Fair Housing. New Orleans, LA. January 13, 2012.

“Hate Crimes Legislation and Mass Incarceration” at Louisiana State University Law School, Baton Rouge, LA. September 22, 2011.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

2017-2019, Co-Coordinator Critical Prison Studies Caucus, American Studies Association

2014-2015, Curriculum Committee, Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, The Graduate Center, CUNY

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Studies Association

American Association of Geographers

National Association of Women’s Studies

Critical Prison Studies Caucus (ASA)