

Dr. April Karen Baptiste

Curriculum Vitae

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Environmental Studies Program,
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Environmental and Natural Resource Policy 2008
State University of New York,
College of Environmental Science and Forestry,
Syracuse, New York, USA

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Fulbright Scholar 2004
GE&RI Research Fellowship (SUNY ESF) 2006
ESF Teaching Fellowship (SUNY ESF) 2007
Technology, Entertainment and Design Fellow 2009

Dissertation Title: *Evaluating Environmental Awareness: A Case Study of the Nariva Swamp, Trinidad*

Advisors: Dr. Richard Smardon, Dr. Brenda Nordenstam
Committee: Dr. Peter Castro

Certificate of Advanced Studies in Latin America and Caribbean Studies 2008
Program on Latin America and the Caribbean
Syracuse University,
Syracuse, New York, USA

M.Sc. in Environmental Management 2004
University of the West Indies, St. Augustine,
Trinidad, W.I.

Masters Project: *Profits b4 People: A Case Study of the physical, social and economic impacts of Atlantic LNG on Point Fortin and surrounding villages.*

B.Sc. in Chemistry and Management 2002
First Class Honors
University of the West Indies,
St. Augustine, Trinidad, W.I.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor July 2009 –

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Environmental Studies
Colgate University

Present

Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow
African American Studies Department,
Syracuse University

Jan – Dec
2008

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Environmental Justice; Sustainability and Development; Natural Resource Conservation and Management/Policy; Environmental Thought (Attitudes, Concerns, Behaviors); Climate Change; Latin America and Caribbean

PUBLICATIONS

Most Recent Articles

- The Impact of Oil and Gas Drilling on the Environmental Awareness of Three Rural Wetland Communities, *Environmental Conservation*, 2009, Vol. 36, No. 1, 14-21
- Environmental Perceptions and Action: Villagers Response to Oil and Gas Drilling in the Wetlands of Rural Trinidad, *Research in Social Problems and Public Policy*, 2010, Vol. 18, 289-321
- Nariva Swamp, (forthcoming), *Biomes and Ecosystems: An Encyclopedia*, Salem Press: Pasadena, CA
- “Using the Environmental Justice Frame to Understand Environmental Concern Toward Oil and Gas drilling in Trinidad”. *Faculty and Student Research Diversity Symposium*, June 2007.
- “The Impact of Oil and Gas Drilling and Environmental Concern of Wetland Communities.” *Great Lakes Research Consortium Program and Abstracts*, March 2007.
- “Evaluating Environmental Awareness: A Case Study of Nariva Swamp, Trinidad”, *ESF Alumni News*, Winter 2007.

Articles under Review

- A review of the wetland use and management of the Nariva Swamp, Trinidad
- Trouble in paradise: A case study of environmental justice in Trinidad and Tobago

Work in Progress

- Shall we go green? Citizens’ reception to the implementation of green infrastructure as an alternative to traditional storm water management controls.
- Livelihood Vulnerability to Climate Change in Wetland situated Rural Communities: A Case Study of Trinidad and Tobago
- Climate Change: Voices of the Vulnerable – The Fisherman’s Plight – A documentary of the impacts of climate change on the fishing industry in Trinidad and Tobago: June 2012

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- This documentary talks a practical approach to research by allowing the researcher to not only report the views of a marginalized community with respect to climate change, but allows for these voices to be visible to a wider audience through the use of film. The video, which is sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, through their Climate Frontlines Grant program, follows fishers in three villages of Trinidad and Tobago.

Work in Pipeline

- Green Infrastructure Perception Differences; Neighborhood to Neighborhood?
- Environmental barriers and influence factors toward green infrastructure

ACADEMIC GRANTS

Awarded

UNESCO Climate Frontlines Grant	2010
Program on Latin America and the Caribbean Summer Grant	2006

Submitted

August 2011: NSF General submission proposal to Geography and Spatial Sciences and Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences Programs

Title: RUI: Understanding vulnerability, environmental psychology and adaptive capacity to climate change among the fishing community in the Caribbean

In Preparation

Colgate Major grant
Colgate University Upstate Institute

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SUNY ESF	Alumni Memorial Scholarship	April 2007
SUNY ESF	Certificate of Accomplishment	April 2006, 2007
Berger Paints Ltd	Best Year II Chemistry Student	Oct 2001
Chromospec Ltd	Best Year II Chemistry and Management Student	Oct 2001
Penta Paints Trinidad Ltd	Best Graduating Student in Chemistry	Oct 2002
Industrial Gases Ltd	Best Year III Performance in Chemistry	Oct 2002
Western Scientific Co. Ltd	Best Year III Performance in Chemistry and Management	Oct 2002
U.W.I Endowment and Development Fund Bursary	Outstanding Academic Performance	Oct 2000 and Oct 2001
Book Prizes	Best Graduating Student Geography	Oct 1999

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PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, African American Studies Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York: Designed and taught undergraduate Environmental Justice course: January to December 2008.

Public Policy Intern, The National Wildlife Refuge Program, Public Policy Department, The Wilderness Society, Washington D.C: Researched and developed a database on potential wilderness areas: June to August 2007.

High School Teacher, Trinity College, Moka, Maraval, Trinidad, W.I.: Taught Geography, Biology, Integrated Science and General Paper: September 2002 to December 2003.

Research Assistant for Dr. R. Smardon, Graduate Program in Environmental Studies Department, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF): August 2006 to January 2007

Research Assistant for Dr. A. Maxwell, Chemistry Department, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad: June 2001 to August 2001

TEACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Assistant Professor for Environmental Studies Courses, Environmental Studies Program, : Various undergraduate courses related to environmental concepts: July 2009 to present.

Instructor for Environmental Justice: Theory, Case Studies and Applications (AAS 200/400), African American Studies Department, Syracuse University: Undergraduate course designed to introduce students to the concepts of Environmental Justice: January to December 2008.

Teaching Assistant for Psychological Principles of Risk Communication (EST 388), Environmental Studies Department, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry: Advanced Undergraduate course that introduces students to the social science approach to environmental risk communication: August to December 2007.

Teaching Assistant for American History (EST 201), Environmental Studies Department, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry: Lower level undergraduate course that examines the history of changes occurring in America post 1865 including land use, government, economic and international relations: January to May 2007.

Teaching Assistant for Environment and Social Justice (EST 496), Environmental Studies Department, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry: Advanced Undergraduate course examining the concepts of environmental and social justice as they intersect: January to May 2007.

Tutor for undergraduate Chemistry, Tutoring Centre, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY: January 2006, 2007 to May 2006, 2007

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Student Assistant and Laboratory Demonstrator for undergraduate Chemistry, Chemistry Department, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad, W.I.: January 2004 to August 2004

COURSES TAUGHT

- ENST 232: Introduction to Environmental Justice
- ENST 321: Global Environmental Justice
- ENST 101: Social Science Perspectives on Environmental Issues
- ENST 390: Community Based Environmental Problems
- Core 154S: Caribbean Ecology and Environmental Concerns

COURSES INTERESTED IN TEACHING

- Sustainable Development and Natural Resource Conservation/management
- Environmental Policy

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences: June 23rd – 26th, 2011
Burlington, VT

“Green Infrastructure implementation as an alleviation of environmental injustices? A Case Study of Syracuse, NY”

Caribbean Studies Association: May 31st to June 3rd
Curacao, W.I.

“Smelters and Environmental Justice in Trinidad”

Association of American Geographers: April 12th – 16th, 2011
Seattle, WA

“Exploratory research examining the concerns, perceptions and adaptation of fishermen to climate change in Trinidad and Tobago through the use of video documentary.”

Association of American Geographers: April 14th – 18th, 2010
Washington, DC

“A Tale of Two Smelters: Environmental Justice in Trinidad and Tobago”

Environmental Studies Brown Bag: December 7th 2009
Colgate University, NY

“Aluminium Smelters in Trinidad: A Case of Environmental Injustice”

Technology, Entertainment and Design Conference: February 2nd – 7th, 2009
Long Beach, CA

“Climate Change as an Environmental Justice Issue in the Caribbean”

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Black Women's Health and Environmental Justice: April 25 – 26th, 2008

African American Studies Department,
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

“Environmental Perceptions and Concerns through the Eyes of Rural Women: A Human Rights Perspective”

Science and Technology in Society Conference: April 5 – 6th, 2008

American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington DC

“Wetland Social Characterization and Management”

Identity, Territory and Social Justice in Latin America: February 28 – 29th, 2008

Program on Latin America and the Caribbean,
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

“Environmental Action in Trinidad: Suggestions to Consider”

Faculty and Student Environmental Justice Research Symposium: June 6 – 9th, 2007

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

“Using the Environmental Justice Frame to Understand Environmental Awareness of Rural Illiterate Communities”

Great Lakes Consortium Student/Faculty Conference: March 16 – 17th, 2007

State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse, NY

“The Impact of Oil and Gas Drilling and Environmental Concern of Wetland Communities”

Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Social Policy: March 2 – 3rd, 2007

Cornell University
Ithaca, NY

“Environmental Awareness and Concern of Rural Wetland Communities, Trinidad”

Latin American Social and Public Policy Student Conference: February 21st – 23rd, 2007

University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA

“Evaluating Environmental Awareness: A Case Study of the Nariva Swamp, Trinidad”

PLACA Graduate Brown Bag Presentation: November 9th 2006

Maxwell School of Citizenship, Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY

“Evaluating Environmental Awareness: A Case Study of the Nariva Swamp, Trinidad”

Guest or Invited Lectures

Guest Lecture: October 25th, 2010

EST 220: Urban Ecology
SUNY ESF, Syracuse, NY

“Survey Methodology in understanding Environmental Issues”

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Global Women's Inventors and Innovators Network Symposium: November 1st – 5th, 2010
Abuja, Nigeria
“Invited Panel Speaker”

Guest Lecture: October 27th 2008
EST 220: Urban Ecology
Environmental Studies Department
State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse, NY
“*An Introduction to Environmental Justice: A Comparative Approach*”

Guest Lecture: September 25th 2007
EST 388: Psychological Principles of Risk Communication
Environmental Studies Department
State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse, NY
“*Perceptions of Dangers to Oil and Gas Drilling in Rural Trinidad: Implications for Risk Communication*”

WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Emerging Scholars Workshop – June 23rd 2011
Burlington, Vermont

Colgate University White Eagle Retreat – May 2011
Hamilton, NY

Technology, Entertainment and Design Conference – July 10th – 17th 2010
Oxford, England

Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences – June 16th – 20th 2010
Portland, Oregon

Colgate University White Eagle Retreat – May, 2010
Hamilton, NY

Technology, Entertainment and Design Conference – February 7th – 14th 2010
Long Beach, CA

State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Symposium on Teaching, Research and Outreach – Oct. 2006, 2007

SERVICE

Professional Journals

Reviewer for *Journal of Environmental Management*

Last Updated 08/17/11

Reviewed JEMA-D-09-01630: December 2009

Reviewed JEMA-D-11-00745: June 2011

Reviewer for *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*

Reviewed manuscript for JESS workshop: June 23rd 2011

Reviewer for *Environmental Sciences and Policy*

Reviewed D-2027: July 2011

Associations

Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences

Awards Committee

July 2010 to June 2011

Organizations

Youth Environmental and Development Coalition

Founder and President

March 2009 to present

The Community HUB

Director of Environment

May 2009 to present

Institute for Caribbean Studies, Environmental Working Group

August 2008 to present

University and Departmental

Internal Committees and Activities

CORE Faculty Enhancement Trip: India

January 2012

Udall National Fellowship Faculty Committee

Fall 2011 – Spring 2012

Environmental Studies Representative for Qualitative data hire

Fall 2011

Environmental Studies Steering Committee

July 2009 – May 2012

Multicultural Affairs Admission Committee

July 2010 – present

Africana and Latin American Committee

July 2010 – May 2013

April Visit Days Faculty Panel

April 20th 2011 – Memorial Chapel

Student Committees

Carly Keller: Advisee,

Wanjun Peng: Masters Candidate, SUNY ESF

Catherine Foley: Masters Candidate, SUNY ESF

Alternative Break Trips

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Nairobi, Kenya – May 16th – 30th 2011

COVE

Jamaica, W.I. – March 2010

University Church

New Orleans, LA – January 10th to 16th 2010

COVE

General

Search Committee for Department Chair for Environmental Studies:

January 2007 to August 2007

Environmental Studies Department Graduate Committee:

October 2007 (one year appointment)

Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program Aide:

August 2007 (one year appointment)

Baptist Campus Ministries, Syracuse University

Mission Trip to Senegal (2006), India (2008)

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of American Geographers

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences

Caribbean Studies Association