

Department of Environmental Science and Policy

Seminar Series

Intersectional Ecologies: Transforming Environmental Science and Policy from the Inside Out

Amelia Moore

University of Rhode Island

DATE: Tuesday, 03/08/2022 Time: 10:00 am Location: Zoom

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Abstract: Audre Lorde famously stated, “The master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house.” Using my own past, present, and future career as an imperfect model, this seminar will explore what it will take to transform the environmental sciences from a siloed space built on legacies of patriarchy, hierarchy, and dispossession into a source of social and ecological reparation. My narrative will cover every aspect of my academic practice, including descriptions of my coastal research in The Bahamas, Indonesia, and the US, the evolution of my course design, advising, and teaching methods, my documentary film and book projects, and my current and future collaborations grounded in institutional and disciplinary transformation. My goal is to show how entrenched we all are in supremacist structural formations that limit sustainability and resilience for far too many people and environments. In response, I want to offer guidance for rebuilding anti-colonial and anti-racist institutions, programs, policies, research practices, and ecologies. If we need environmental science and policy programs that can adequately respond to the multilayered and compounding injustices of our planetary present, then we will require revitalized ethics, theories, methods, vocabularies, and projects to help us reimagine more just and equitable relationships. Please join me in thinking through what this might mean for our field and our roles within it.

Bio: Amelia Moore is an Associate Professor of Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Biology from Columbia University and a Doctorate in Sociocultural Anthropology from the University of California Berkeley. Since 2010 she has taught at the University of California Berkeley, the University of Miami, the University of The Bahamas, and the University of the Pacific in addition to the University of Rhode Island. In 2019, she published her first book with the University of California Press, *Destination Anthropocene: Science and Tourism in The Bahamas*, winner of the 2020 Nelson Graburn Prize from the Anthropology of Tourism Interest Group of the American Anthropological Association. She studies coastal and island socio-ecologies and marine sciences in The Bahamas, Indonesia, and the United States utilizing anti-racist and anti-colonial methods, perspectives, and relationships.

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