

# Andreana S. Cunningham

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Areas of Specialty: Interdisciplinary anthropology, African diaspora, migration history  
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## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### Boston University

Sept. 2023 – present *Affiliated Faculty*, Center for Innovation in Social Science  
August 2023 – present *Joint Programmatic Appointment*, African American & Black Diaspora Studies Program  
August 2023 – present *Joint Programmatic Appointment*, Archaeology Program  
July 2023 – present *Assistant Professor*, Department of Anthropology

### University of Miami

August 2021 – Dec. 2021 *Lecturer*, University of Miami, Anthropology

### University of Florida

August 2017 – July 2022 *Graduate Research Fellow*, National Science Foundation  
August 2016 – May 2020 *Graduate Student Fellow*, University of Florida Graduate School

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## EDUCATION

PhD in Anthropology University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32603  
April 2018 – Aug. 2023 Doctoral Program in Biological Anthropology  
Dissertation Title: *Reframing Diaspora: Southeastern African contributions to biosocial variation in Atlantic Afro-descendant groups*  
Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. Valerie Burke DeLeon  
Date of PhD Candidacy: October 21, 2019  
Date of PhD Defense: June 23, 2023

M.A. in Anthropology University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32603  
Aug. 2016 – March 2018 Doctoral Program in Biological Anthropology  
Thesis Committee Chair: Dr. Valerie Burke DeLeon  
Thesis Title: *Hyoid morphological diversity across ontogeny, sex, and matriline in Macaca mulatta*

B.A., *cum laude* University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL 33146  
Aug. 2012 – May 2016 Anthropology and Criminology, Civic Scholar

## SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

### *Peer-reviewed Publications*

*In Press.* Cunningham A.S. (2024). Postmortem Racialization: Reconceptualizing Frantz Fanon's Black Subject. *Transforming Anthropology*, 32(1).

Dwyer I., Justinvil, D., **Cunningham, A.S.** (2023). Caribbeanist casualties: Examining the Intersections of Migration and Forensic Identification through Critical Biocultural Approaches to Structural Violence. *Forensic Science International: Synergy*, 6.

Cunningham A.S. (2020). Growth and sexual dimorphism of the hyoid body in *Macaca mulatta*. *International Journal of Primatology*, 41(3), 538-557.

### *Articles/Chapters in Preparation*

*In Prep.* Cunningham, A.S. (2025). Atlantic Crossings: Biosocial interventions in African diasporic bioarchaeological thought and practice. In Rachel Watkins and Sheela Athreya (Eds.), *American Journal of Biological Anthropology* (Special Issue).

*In Review.* Cunningham, A.S. (2024). The journey toward equitable bioarchaeological research practices in the South Atlantic. In Felicia Fricke and Eduardo Herrera Malatesta (Eds.), *Ethics in Caribbean Archaeology: Past, Present, and Future*. University Press of Florida.

*In Review.* Shuler K.A., **Cunningham, A.S.** (2023). African Diasporas: Bioarchaeological Approaches to Intercontinental and Global Legacies of Displacement.

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Spring 2022 – present**

### **Rupert's Valley Burial Ground Project**

- Site: Jamestown, St. Helena
- Project Contact: Dr. Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, Helena Bennett
- Coordinate and lead project of morphological data collection, heritage preservation, historical facial approximation, and ongoing community outreach

**Fall 2020 – present**

### **Biosocial health and experiences in 19<sup>th</sup> century enslavement contexts**

- Site(s): Barbados, St. Helena, Cape Town
- Coordinate data collection and analysis of archival and bioarchaeological datasets

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Boston University, Department of Anthropology**  
*Assistant Professor*

(2023-present)

Anthropology 390 Slavery and the In-Between  
Anthropology 400 African Diaspora Archaeology  
Anthropology/Archaeology 550 Human Osteology  
Anthropology/Archaeology 357 Bioarchaeology and the Body

**University of Florida, Department of Anthropology**

(2017-2022)

*Instructor*

Anthropology 4905 Slavery and the In-Between  
Anthropology 4525 Human Osteology and Osteometry

*Teaching Assistant*

Anthropology 4525/5525 Human Osteology and Osteometry  
Interdisciplinary Studies 2935 Becoming Black

**University of Miami, Department of Anthropology**

(2021)

*Instructor*

Anthropology 101 Introduction to Anthropology

**TRAININGS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2023-2024	Boston University D&I STARS (Supporting Thriving, Achievement, Retention, and Success)
2023	SAA Seminar: Teaching Curation in the Classroom and in the Field
2021	Facial Reconstruction Advanced Course
2021	Facial Reconstruction Fundamentals Course

**FUNDING**

2023	Boston University, Hub Course Enhancement Fund
2022	University of Florida College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship
2021	“Doctoral Dissertation Research: Morphological biodistances as indicators of slave trade migration histories in the African Diaspora” <a href="#">NSF BCS-2041182</a> Role: Co-Principal Investigator (PI: Dr. Valerie Burke DeLeon)
2020	University of Florida Department of Anthropology Travel Grant
2020	University of Florida Office of Research Travel Grant
2019	James C. Waggoner Grant-in-Aid Research Award
2019	University of Florida College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Travel Award
2017-2022	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program Research featured in <a href="#">UF Explore magazine</a>
2018	Graduate Student Council Travel Grant
2017	Graduate Student Council Travel Grant
2016-2020	University of Florida Graduate Student Fellowship

## HONORS AND AWARDS

2023 Selected for induction to the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society

## CONFERENCES

### *Conference Presentations*

Cunningham, A.S. (2024). *Women in recaptivity: Subversion and kinship in the mid-19th century South Atlantic*. Paper to be presented at the New York University Atlantic History Conference, New York.

Cunningham, A.S. (2024). *3D skeletal digitization as a tool for collaborative artistic commemoration*. Published abstract for the Society for American Archaeology annual conference, New Orleans.

Cunningham, A.S., de la Cova, C.M. (2024). *Fraught (re)conceptions: Diasporic decedents and paths to commemoration*. Published abstract for the American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual conference, Los Angeles.

Cunningham, A.S., Shuler, K.A. (2022). *Biocultural interpretations of skeletal and archival indicators of health in enslavement in Barbados*. Poster presented at the American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual conference, Denver.

Cunningham, A.S. (2021). *Positioning enslaved persons in 19th century Barbados fugitive slave advertisements*. Poster presented at the University of Florida Graduate Student Diversity Research Symposium, virtual.

DeLeon, V.B., **Cunningham, A.S.**, Haynes, L., Smith, T.D. (2021). *Effects of nasal capsule cartilage in shaping the primate face*. Paper presented at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference, virtual.

Cunningham, A.S. (2020). *Geographic distance from central slave trade ports as a measure of cranial morphological similarity between Barbados and the United States*. Published abstract for the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference. (Conference canceled)

Cunningham, A.S. (2019). *Cranial morphological distribution of African descent peoples as reflectors of migration, variation, and race construction*. Paper presented at the International Association for Caribbean Archaeology biannual conference, Barbados.

Cunningham, A.S., DeLeon, V.B. (2019). *Patterns of cranial morphological diversity among peoples of African descent*. Poster presented at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference, Cleveland.

Cunningham A. S., DeLeon, V.B. (2018). *Morphological integration of hyoid and skull through ontogeny in *Macaca mulatta**. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference, Austin.

Cunningham A. S., Smith, T. D., & DeLeon, V.B. (2017). *Hyoid proportions, growth, and spatial placement in non-human primates*. Poster presented at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference, New Orleans.

Cunningham, A. S., Hunt, D. R., & Coolidge, R. H. (2016). *Biocultural evidence through taphonomic observations in the Karluk Salmon Cannery Chinese of Kodiak Island, Alaska*. Poster presented at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual conference, Atlanta.

Cunningham, A. S., Hunt, D. R., & Coolidge, R. H. (2016). *Analyzing the patterns of health, trauma, and disease in 19<sup>th</sup> century Chinese salmon cannery workers in Kodiak Island, AK*. Poster presented at the Paleopathology Association annual conference, Atlanta.

(Conference poster PDFs and papers available [here](#))

### ***Conference Sessions Organized***

2024 “Beyond Bones, Bodies, and Behavior: Shifting the Disciplinary Landscape towards Biocultural Bodies”  
Session Organizer and Chair (with Isis Dwyer and Delande Justinvil), 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists

### **INVITED LECTURES**

Fall 2023  
*Guest Speaker* Tertulia: The Junior Faculty Colloquium, Boston University College of Arts & Sciences  
-Lecture Title: “Interdisciplinary approaches to studying group formation and change in 19th century enslavement contexts”

Fall 2023  
*Guest Speaker* Museum of St. Helena, St. Helena  
-Dissertation findings community public talk  
-Lecture Title: “St. Helena and the African diaspora: An interdisciplinary approach”

Fall 2022  
*Guest Speaker* Institute of Learning in Retirement, Oak Hammock  
- Summer 2022 Speaker Series  
- Lecture Title: “St. Helena and the Slave Trade: What we can learn from this remote island”

Summer 2022  
*Guest Speaker* Museum of St. Helena, St. Helena  
- Fieldwork community public talk  
- Lecture Title: “Biocultural approaches to slave trade migration history”

Fall 2021  
*Facilitator* Digital Library of the Caribbean (Virtual)  
- “Exploring the Caribbean in DH: A dLOC as Data workshop series”  
- Lecture Title: “Text analyses of fugitive slave advertisements in Barbados”

Fall 2020  
*Guest Speaker* Department of Anthropology, University of Arkansas (Virtual)  
- “Paradigm in Biological Anthropology” speaker series  
- Lecture Title: “Cranial variation and the slave trade: Group formation and change”

Spring 2020  
*Guest Speaker* Department of Anthropology, University of Miami  
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Department of Anthropology speaker series  
- Lecture Title: “Cranial biodistances as reflectors of slave trade migration histories”

Fall 2019  
*Guest Speaker* Institute of Learning in Retirement, Oak Hammock  
- Summer 2019 Speaker Series  
- Lecture Title: “Impacts of slave trade migration on cranial diversity”

### **Course Guest Lectures**

Spring 2024  
Department of Anthropology, Brown University  
-Intersectional Anthropology course

Spring 2024  
Department of Anthropology, Boston University  
-Anthropology Across Sub-Disciplines graduate course

Spring 2024	Department of Sociology, Boston University -Migration and Immigration Enforcement in the United States course -Lecture Title: “Archival migration data in enslavement contexts: methods and possibilities”
Fall 2023	Department of Anthropology, Boston University -North American Archaeology course -Lecture Title: “Interdisciplinary approaches to African diasporic archaeology”
Fall 2023	Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, Boston University - History, Method, and Theory in Biological Anthropology course - Lecture Title: “Reflexivity as a tool for ethical study of enslavement contexts”
Fall 2020	Department of Math & Science Education, University of Georgia (Virtual) - Special Topics in Science Education: Life Sciences for Middle Grades Teachers course
Spring 2019	Department of Anthropology, University of Florida - Lectured on ‘Human Variation’ unit in Introduction to Biological Anthropology course

## **SERVICE**

### **Institutional**

Spring 2024 – present	Coalition for Caribbean Archaeological Heritage, <i>Working Group Member</i>
Spring 2024 – Fall 2026	Black in Biological Anthropology Collective, <i>Board of Directors</i>
Spring 2024	BU Center for Innovation in Social Sciences (CISS), <i>Writing Group Coordinator</i>
Fall 2023 – Spring 2024	BU Department of Anthropology, <i>Emerging Scholars Organizing Committee</i>
Fall 2023 – Spring 2024	BU Archaeology Program, <i>Curriculum Committee</i>
Summer 2020 – Spring 2023	Black in Biological Anthropology Collective, <i>Operations Coordinator</i>
Spring 2022 – Summer 2022	International Association for Caribbean Archaeology, <i>Ethics Working Group Member</i>
Spring 2021	AAPA 2021 Annual Meeting, <i>Assistant Session Chair</i>
Fall 2020	UF BIPOC Anthropology Group, <i>Mentorship Program Coordinator</i>
Spring 2020	UF Department of Anthropology, <i>Undergraduate Mentor</i>
Spring 2019	AAPA Committee on Diversity Undergraduate Research Symposium, <i>Mentor</i>
Spring 2019	UF Department of Anthropology, <i>Faculty Search Committee (Internal), Graduate Student Member</i>
Fall 2018 – Spring 2019	UF Department of Anthropology, <i>Faculty Search Committee Graduate Student Member</i>
Spring 2018	Graduate Assistants United, <i>Election Committee Co-chair</i>
Fall 2017 – Spring 2018	Florida Anthropological Student Association (FASA), <i>Graduate Student Council Representative</i>

Spring 2017 - Spring 2018 Graduate Assistants United, *Anthropology Department Steward*

## Community

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024 St. Helena Cultural Heritage Implementation Committee, *Consulting Member*

Fall 2022 – present St. Helena National Trust, *Facial Approximation Outreach Project Coordinator*

Fall 2019 – Fall 2022 Institute of Learning in Retirement, *Guest Speaker Recruiter*, Gainesville, FL

Fall 2016 – Fall 2022 Guardian Ad Litem, *8th Circuit Volunteer and State Diversity Committee Member*, Gainesville, FL

Spring 2020 – Summer 2020 Skype a Scientist, *Recurring Guest Speaker (Virtual)*, Gainesville, FL

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020 Letters to a Pre-Scientist, *Pen Pal (Distance)*, Gainesville, FL

Fall 2014 – Summer 2021 Memory Project, *Portrait Coordinator (Distance)*, Middleton, WI

## PANELS

Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018 Served on four Graduate Student Panels organized by the Undergraduate Florida Anthropological Student Association (uFASA)

Fall 2018 Served on NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program student panel

## MEDIA

Fall 2023 Boston University College of Arts & Sciences, Dec. 1, 2023  
- [“Meet Andreana Cunningham”](#)

Fall 2023 Boston University Department of Anthropology, Oct. 18, 2023  
- [“Featured Faculty: Andreana Cunningham”](#)

Summer 2022 The St Helena Independent Newspaper, Volume VXII Issue 26, 2nd June 2022  
- [“Andree Cunningham has a Life’s Work Ahead \(p.8\)”](#)

Spring 2022 Saint Helena Government Press Release, May 2 2022  
- [“Scientific Research Being Conducted On St Helena”](#)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2024 – present Coalition for Caribbean Archaeological Heritage

2023 – present Society of Black Archaeologists

2023 – present Society for American Archaeology

2022 – present Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora

2020 – present Black in Biological Anthropology Collective

2019 – present	International Association of Caribbean Archaeology
2018 – 2022	African American Intellectual Historical Society
2015 – present	American Association of Biological Anthropologists

### **STUDENT ADVISING**

Warrenkevin Henderson – Dissertation Committee Member, Ph.D. Anthropology, Boston University  
Haylee Backs – Comprehensive Exams Committee Member, Ph.D. Anthropology, Boston University