

Andreana S. Cunningham

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

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.** (2024). African Diasporas: Bioarchaeological Approaches to Intercontinental and Global Legacies of Displacement.

In Review. Cunningham, A.S. (2024). St. Helena and stories of biosociality.

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 19th 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

(2023-present)

Assistant Professor

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” NSF BCS-2041182 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 UF Explore magazine
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*. Poster presented at 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*. Published abstract for 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*. Published abstract for 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*. Published abstract for 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**. Published abstract for the 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*. Published abstract for 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*. Published abstract for 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 19th century Chinese salmon cannery workers in Kodiak Island, AK*. Published abstract for 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), 93rd 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
- 50th 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, *Faculty Search Committee Graduate Student Member*
Spring 2018 Graduate Assistants United, *Election Committee Co-chair*
Fall 2017 – Spring 2018 Florida Anthropological Student Association (FASA), *Graduate Student Council Representative*
Spring 2017 - Spring 2018 Graduate Assistants United, *Anthropology Department Steward*

Community

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024 Statia 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

Spring 2024 Boston University Center for Innovation in Social Science, April 1, 2024
[CISS Affiliate of the Month, April 2024](#)
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
- [“Andre 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