

Martin J. Aucoin

Economic Anthropologist
Ph.D. Candidate, Boston University

Contact Professional Experience

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September 2022 - Present

Graduate Research Fellow – Dept. of Anthropology, Boston University
Trained in mixed methodology, economic theory, globalization, and agricultural sustainability. Wrote multiple federal and private grants, conducted multi-year research on transnational poultry commodity value chains:
6 months of on-site research in Georgia (USA) and 10 months in The Gambia.

Education

West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV
M.A. in Geography, 2020

August 2021 – August 2022

Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellow – BU African Studies Center
Received immersive language training, wrote and received U.S. Dept. of Education grant, took courses in African geopolitics, policy and linguistic change. Taught section of International Relations course: Coping with Crisis in Africa.

University of North Texas
Denton, TX
B.S. in Geography, 2014

August 2020 – July 2021

Dean's Fellow – Dept. of Anthropology, Boston University
Trained as qualitative researcher, conducted literature reviews in economic theory, globalization, linguistics, migration management, and development studies.

Key Skills

Qualitative Research
Mixed Methods Research
Grant Writing & Management
Interviews & Focus Groups
Surveys
Literature Reviews
GIS
SPSS

June 2018 – July 2020

Graduate Teaching Fellow – Dept. of Geography, West Virginia University
Teaching assistant for Intro. to Geopolitics, instructor for African Geopolitics. Wrote and received multiple grants, evaluated International Organization for Migration (IOM) projects in West Africa, trained in spatial analysis using ArcGIS.

October 2015 – January 2018

Food Security Specialist – US Peace Corps, The Gambia
Received and administered USAID grant, developed multi-lingual curricula, managed agricultural training school, assisted with management of non-profit organization, managed tree nursery.

October 2014 – September 2015

Environmental Educator – SCA Massachusetts, Hawley, MA
Created curricula for grades pre-K – 6, co-taught classes, led field trips, directed after-school program, coordinated volunteers, designed service projects.

Research and Consulting

March 2023 – Present

Principal Investigator – Rapid Urban Protein Appraisal, The Gambia
Partnered with Jokkolabs Banjul to investigate changing protein availability throughout the Greater Banjul Region. Wrote and administered grants, managed research team, surveyed 360 households, led focus-groups with community stakeholders.

Languages

English – Native
French – Advanced
Pulaar – Advanced
Wolof – Advanced
Mandinka – Intermediate

May 2023 – Jan 2024

Research Mentor – SOL Edu, Seoul, Korea

Mentored high school students through independent research projects, provided feedback on essays and articles, assisted with publication formatting.

August 2021 – Present

Language Consultant – NEH Ajami Project, Boston, MA

Cross-checked translated documents, worked with interdisciplinary team to publish documents in English and French, copy-edited book proofs.

May – August 2020

Research Assistant – Flooding and COVID-19 in Rural West Virginia

Administered participatory community data collection, conducted interviews with research participants, coordinated photo exhibits and publications.

June 2019 – August 2020

Research Assistant – Green Climate Fund, Johannesburg, S. Africa

Evaluated climate change adaptation development projects in South Africa. Assembled literature reviews, analyzed funding structures, conducted interviews and focus groups with beneficiary communities in South Africa.

May 2018 – August 2020

Research Assistant – Migration and Labor Economics in Appalachia

Analyzed refugee resettlement policies in West Virginia and Maryland. Maintained GIS database, conducted and transcribed interviews, prepared materials for publication.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Aucoin, M. (2022). “You can make it here!': Producing Europe's mobile borders in the New Gambia. *Political Geography* 97: 102641

Aucoin, M. (2022). “Hanna Horáková, Stephanie Rudwick, and Martin Schmiedl, eds. Africa on the Move: Shifting Identities, Histories, Boundaries. Zurich: LIT Verlag, 2020.” *African Studies Review*, 1-3.

Aucoin, M. (2019). “Smuggling and Sovereignty: Individual agencies within the structures of human smuggling and enforcement in the Mediterranean”. *Geopolitics* 25(2): 538-543

Aucoin, M. and M. Fry (2015). “Growing Local Food Movements: Farmers' Markets as Nodes for Products and Community”. *The Geographic Bulletin* 56(2): 61-78.