

## **William Westerman, Ph.D.**

### **Professional Positions**

**New Jersey City University**, Jersey City, N.J. 2014 to present.

Assistant professor, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology.

Coordinator, Ethnic and Immigration Studies program, Spring 2017 – current.

**New Jersey Scholars Program**, Lawrenceville, N.J. Summers, 2012-15, 2018 to present

Instructor in interdisciplinary program for exceptional high school rising seniors.

Sociological and anthropological approaches to immigration studies, climate change, AI.

**Macaulay Honors College, City University of New York**

Adjunct associate professor, Honors seminars. 2014.

**Goucher College**, Towson, Md. Faculty, Master of Arts in Cultural Sustainability program, 2013-2015.

Courses: Art and Social Change, Culture and Calamity.

**Princeton University**, Princeton, N.J. Full-time lecturer, writing program, 2006 - 2011.

- Course: “Refugees, Immigrants, and Social Justice.”
- Artist-in-Residence, The Carl A. Fields Center for Equality and Cultural Understanding, 2011.

**Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial**, Chicago, Ill.

Director, 2005 – 2006.

Coordinated all functions of the museum within the Cambodian Association of Illinois; fundraising; curriculum; creation of library; giving tours; overseeing development of new exhibitions on the genocide and life before the Khmer Rouge; production of traveling exhibit and catalog, “Eyes of the Storm: A Community Survives after Katrina.”

**New York Foundation for the Arts**, New York, N.Y. Coordinator of Outreach to Immigrant

Communities and Artists. 2004 - 2005.

**Historical Society of Plainfield (N.J.) and Drake House Museum**, Executive Director, 2003.

Coordinated exhibit, “At the March: Plainfield Remembers,” oral histories of the March on Washington.

**International Institute of New Jersey**, Jersey City, 1994 – 2003.

- Program for Immigrant Traditional Artists, founder-director.  
Directed program, grant applications, field research; community organizing; case work, sale exhibits of individual artists; curated traveling exhibit “Arts of the Home: Immigrant Crafts Made or Used in New Jersey Homes.”
- Representative to New Jersey Immigration Policy Network, Detention Task Force, 1997-2003.

**Philadelphia Folklore Project**, staff folklorist, 1990 - 1994.

- Projects: Cambodian arts, music, and genocide memory in Philadelphia; coordination of after-school classes in Cambodian arts; culture and the legal system; Underground Railroad artwork.
- Exhibits curated:
  - “Giants, Kings, and Celestial Angels: Teaching Khmer Arts in Philadelphia,” Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia, and Philadelphia Museum of Art, 1993.
  - “Bamboo Shoots Grow Up to Be Bamboo: Khmer Traditions in Cambodia and Philadelphia,” Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia, 1991.

- Publications (highlights):
  - *The Giant Never Wins: Lakhon Bassac (Cambodian Folk Opera) in Philadelphia*, ed. by Debora Kodish. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Folklore Project, 1994. Author, chapters 1-3 and Ethnographic commentary and Afterword, pp. 1-56, 143-5, 150-61, 169-80.
  - “Cultural Barriers to Justice in Greater Philadelphia: Background, Bias, and the Law,” *Working Papers of the Philadelphia Folklore Project* #9 (1994).
  - “‘He Says You’re Going to Play the Giant’: Ethnographic Perspectives on a Cambodian Arts Class in Philadelphia,” *Working Papers of the Philadelphia Folklore Project* #8 (1994).
  - “Behind the Letter of the Law: Culture and the Work of the Public Defender,” *Philadelphia Folklore Project Works in Progress* 6/3 and 7/1 (Winter 1993): 10-13.
  - “Translating the Truth, Translating the Law: The Case of *Commonwealth v. Thuy*,” *Philadelphia Folklore Project Works in Progress* 5, no. 1 (Winter 1992): 2-3.

### **Exhibits Curated (Freelance)**

“Fly to Freedom’: The Art of the Golden Venture Refugees,” Museum of Chinese in the Americas, New York, N.Y., and touring to Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia; York County College, Pa.; Smithsonian Institution Arts & Industries Building; American Immigration Lawyers Foundation; Seattle Central College; New Jersey Historical Society, 1996-2002.

“Diana S. Forman: “The Bible Doll Lady,” National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia, August 1991 - June 1992.

### **Significant Publications**

- “Kayaktivism: The Anthropology of Protest, Craft, and the Imagination,” *Martor: The Museum of the Romanian Peasant Anthropology Journal* 22 (2017): 109-126.
  - “Museums, Refugees, and Collaborative Social Transformation,” in *Global Mobilities: Refugees, Exiles, and Immigrants in Museums and Archives*, ed. by Amy K. Levin, pp. 31-47. New York: Routledge, 2016.
  - “Reciprocity and the Fabric of Solidarity: Central Americans, Refugees, and Delegations in the 1980s,” in *International Volunteer Tourism: Critical Reflections on Good Works in Central America*, ed. by Katherine Borland and Abigail Adams, pp. 39-51. New York: Palgrave, 2013.
  - “Folk Schools, Popular Education, and a Pedagogy of Community Action,” in *The Critical Pedagogy Reader*, 2nd ed., ed. by Antonia Darder, Marta P. Baltodano, and Rodolfo D. Torres, 541-561. London: Routledge, 2008. (Anthologized reprint of 2005 article.)
  - “Museums, Immigrants, and the Inversion of Xenophobia; Or, The Inclusive Museum in the Exclusive Society,” *International Journal of the Inclusive Museum* 1, no. 4 (2008): 157-162.
  - “Wild Grasses and New Arks: Transformative Potential in Applied and Public Folklore,” *Journal of American Folklore* 119 (2006): 111-128.
  - “Central American Refugee Testimonies and Performed Life Histories in the Sanctuary Movement,” in *The Oral History Reader*, ed. by Robert Perks and Alistair Thomson, 2nd edition, 2006, pp. 495-505. London: Routledge. (Anthologized reprint of 1994 article.)
  - “Global Currents in Work with Immigrant Artists,” *Voices: The Journal of New York Folklore* 32, nos. 3-4 (Fall-Winter 2006): 10-12.
  - “Religious Folklife and Folk Theology in the Sanctuary Movement,” *Journal for the Study of Religions and Ideologies* 1, no. 2 (Summer 2002): 96-113.
- Editor, *Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy*, 2021-present.
  - Editor, *New Jersey Folklife*, 1987-1991.