

Climate Policy Fellow, Invest in Louisiana
 Adjunct Instructor, Loyola University
 Visiting Scholar, Tulane University

EDUCATION

PhD, Department of Communication, University of California San Diego, December 2019

Dissertation Title: *Clear as Mud: The Struggle over Louisiana's Disappearing Wetlands*.
 Committee: Patrick Anderson (Advisor), Valerie Hartouni, Kelly Gates, Angela Booker,
 Octavio Aburto-Oropeza.

MJ Graduate School of Journalism, University of California Berkeley, 2002

MA Creative Writing, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, 2012

BA Literature, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

Research Interests: Political Ecology, Environmental Justice, Political Economy

Books

Randolph, Ned. *Muddy Thinking in the Mississippi River Delta: A Call for Reclamation*.

University of California Press. Berkeley, CA. February 2024.

Finalist, American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) Open Access Book Prize.

Randolph, Ned. *The State of Energy: Inheritance and Justice in the Gulf South*.

Louisiana State University Press. Baton Rouge, La. *Forthcoming* Winter 2027.

Books in Progress

Randolph, Ned. *A Persistence of Place: Inheritance and Reckoning in America*. (Working title).

Manuscript in progress.

Chapters

Randolph, Ned. "Pipeline Logics and Culpability: Establishing a Continuum of Harm for Sacrifice Zones." *Encyclopedia of the Anthropocene*, Second Edition. Elsevier.

January 2026.

Randolph, Ned. "The Muddy Underbelly: The Fight for Health, Heritage, and Justice in Louisiana's Mississippi River Parishes." Edited Volume: *Mississippi: Soundings on America's Arterial River*. Clemson University Press. *Under Peer Review*.

Peer reviewed articles:

Randolph, Ned. "Modeling Authority Over a Drowning Coast." *Environmental Politics*.

Taylor & Francis. October 6, 2022.

Randolph, Ned. "Muddy Foil: Extraction and Resistance in New Orleans and the Lower Mississippi River Delta." *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*. Taylor & Francis. Spring 2021, Vol 18, Issue 1.

Randolph, Ned. "Pipeline Logic and Culpability: Establishing a Continuum of Harm for Sacrifice Zones." *Frontiers in Environmental Science*. Special Topics Issue: "Coastal Cities in a Changing Climate." July 2021. Vol 9.

Randolph, Ned. “License to Extract: How Louisiana’s Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast is Sinking It.” *Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association*, Fall 2018, Issue 7.2. Winner of the CSA Randy Martin Prize.

Randolph, Ned. “River Activism, “Levees-Only,” and the Great Flood of 1927.” Special issue on Media History and Democracy, *Media and Communication*, Vol. 6, Issue 1.

Essays and Articles:

Randolph, Ned. “Move to Shift New Orleans Utility Regulation to Public Service Commission a Risky Deal for Residents and Climate.” April 2026. *Invest in Louisiana*.

Randolph, Ned. “Data Center Hype Faces AI Regulation and Community Resistance.” May 2026. *DeSmog & Louisiana Illuminator*.

Randolph, Ned. “Fraying Ties: The Shrimp and Petroleum Festival at 89.” Summer 2025. *Oxford American*.

Randolph, Ned. “The Obligation to Endure: Learning from Our Mother Trees.” Summer 2025. *Country Roads Magazine*.

Randolph, Ned & Daniel Trotta. “As Trump’s EPA ends ‘environmental justice,’ minority communities may pay a price.” *Reuters*. April 23, 2025.

Randolph, Ned. “A Legacy of Resistance Lives on in Cancer Alley.” *Yale Climate Connections*. April 9, 2025.

Randolph, Ned. “At the Edge of the Map: A Louisiana Tribe Confronts the LNG Boom.” July 28, 2025. *Stabroek News*.

Randolph, Ned. “Power Surge: The Rising Hunger of AI Data Centers Accelerates the Need for Clean Energy to Meet Demand.” Jan 27, 2025. *DeSmog* and *The Lens Nola*

Randolph, Ned. “Resilient New Orleans Regains its Stride, Hardly Missing a Beat After Truck Attack.” *Reuters*. Jan. 3, 2025

Randolph, Ned. “Finding Hope in a Precarious Place.” *New Orleans Advocate Times Picayune*. May 30, 2024.

Randolph, Ned. “We Need to Reclaim the Muddy Waters of the Gulf Coast from the Climate Crisis.” *Desmog*. May 24, 2024.

Randolph, Ned. “How federal tax dollars meant to fight climate change could end up boosting Louisiana’s fossil fuel production.” *The Conversation*. March 31, 2024.

Randolph, Ned. “Industry-backed Carbon Capture won’t solve the climate crisis.” *New Orleans Advocate Times Picayune*. Dec. 1, 2023.

Randolph, Ned & Autumn Hannah. “Capturing Methane would be a win for the state’s bottom line and the environment.” *New Orleans Advocate Times Picayune*. June 8, 2024.

Randolph, Ned. “The Katrina Effect and the Ethical Extraction of Louisiana.” *Society and Space Magazine*. Oct. 20, 2022.

Randolph, Ned. “Battered by Hurricanes and Pollution, It Is Time for Louisiana to Imagine Life Beyond Oil.” *DeSmog*. Oct. 10, 2020.

Schaberg C. & Ned Randolph. “Teaching through the Doom.” *Inside Higher Ed*. Washington D.C. Jan. 30, 2020.

Randolph, Ned, “Mapping the Environment of Coronavirus: A Lesson Plan.” *The Lens Nola*. April 20, 2020.

Awards, Scholarships and Grants

2026 — Book award finalist, Environmental Humanities, American Council for Learned

Societies (ACLS) Open Access Book Prize.
 2022 — SIP Award (Supporting Impactful Publications), Tulane University
 2021 — Studio in the Woods Scholarly Retreat and stipend, Tulane ByWater Institute
 2020 — Dissertation of the Year, American Studies Division, National Communication Association (NCA)
 2019 — Monroe Fellowship Research Grant, Tulane Center for the Gulf South
 2019 — PhD Fellowship Award, UCSD Institute for Practical Ethics
 2016 — Judith and Neil Morgan Endowed Fellowship, (2 years).
 2018 — Randy Martin Prize for Best Student Paper, Cultural Studies Association
 2017 — Institute of Arts & Humanities Dissertation Writing Workshop Award, UCSD
 2015-17 UCSD Communication Department Travel and Research Grants:
 -Science & Technology Studies California Summer Retreat, Marin Headlands, CA
 -Mid-American Studies Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence KS
 -San Francisco State University Graduate Student Conference, San Francisco, CA
 -Multiple trips to New Orleans and south Louisiana for field research.
 2014-18 -Graduate Assistantship, UCSD (3 years)
 2013 — Fellowship for Graduate Study, UCSD
 2012 — Travel Fellowship for Disquiet Literary Seminar in Portugal, Eastern Michigan Univ.
 2010-12- Graduate Assistantship, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI. (2 years)
 2001 — Asian Studies Travel Grant to Hong Kong, UC Berkeley
 2000 — Graduate Opportunity Fellowship, UC Berkeley

Reviews and Media Coverage of *Muddy Thinking*

- Monk-Carter, Lucie, “Sunk Coast Fallacy,” *64 Parishes*. Aug. 29, 2025.
- Sarah Heck, “Book Review: Ned Randolph, *Muddy Thinking* in the Mississippi Delta...” *Cultural Geographies*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/14744740251361146>, July 29, 2025.
- Mallika, Sardeshpande, “Editor's Review of *Muddy Thinking*... An Immersive Account of Urban Reclamation,” *Cities and the Environment (CATE)*: Vol. 17: Iss. 2, Article 6. DOI: 10.15365/cate.2024.170206
- Smardon, R. “Ned Randolph. *Muddy thinking* in the Mississippi River Delta: a call for reclamation *Environ Stud Sci* 14, 622–623 (2024) <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-024-00923-3>
- Featured on **Louisiana Life Insider Podcast**, Episode 201, “Down the River – Author Ned Randolph Explores ‘The Big Muddy,’” October 17, 2024.
- Featured on **Cultural Studies Podcast**, Episode, “Ned Randolph on Louisiana, the environment, New Orleans, mud, capitalist extraction, and grassroots,” 2024.
- Discussed on University of Washington Press Blog., July 31, 2025.
- *Muddy Thinking* has been adopted for courses at Tulane University (Architecture & Anthropology), University of Washington (Environmental Science), University of South Florida (Civil and Environmental Engineering), and the University of North Carolina Greensboro (Anthropology).

Selected Endorsements (*Muddy Thinking in the Mississippi River Delta*)

- **Toby Miller**, author of *Greenwashing Culture*.

- **Dominic Boyer**, author of *No More Fossils*; Director, Rice University Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences.
- **Eugene Turner**, Boyd Professor of Coastal Sciences, LSU.
- **Patrick Anderson**, Chair, UCSD Department of Communication, author of *Autobiography of a Disease*.
- **Valerie Hartouni**, Professor Emerita, UC San Diego.
- **Christopher Schaberg**, author of *Searching for the Anthropocene: A Journey into the Environmental Humanities*.
- **Rebecca Snedeker**, coauthor of *Unfathomable City*

Invited Talks, Book Events, and Conference Presentations

A. Invited Academic Talks

- 2026 — “Muddy Thinking,” University of North Carolina Greensboro, Anthropology.
 2025 — “Muddy Foil, Guest Lecture, University of Washington, Environmental Sciences
 2024 — “Muddy Foil,” Guest Lecture, Tulane School of Architecture
 2021 — “Emerging Voices from the Gulf,” LSU Human Coast Initiative Symposium
 2020 — “Storytelling and Public Problems,” UCSD Democracy Lab
 2019 — “Ungovernable as Mud,” Future Cities // Future Coasts Speaker Series, Tulane ByWater Institute
 2019 — “Drill Baby Drill,” LSU Department of Communication Studies Colloquium
 2016 — “Racialization of Space, Spatialization of Race,” UCSD Urban Studies & Planning
 2015 — “The Production of News as Situated Practice,” UCSD Department of Communication
 2014 — “The Work of Being Watched,” UCSD Department of Communication

B. Book Talks & Author Events

- 2024 — “Muddy connections: levees, race and environmental justice.” Hermann-Grima + Gallier Historic Houses, lecture series.
 2026 — *Muddy Thinking* New Orleans Public Library, Algiers, La.
 2024 — *Muddy Thinking* Book Talk, Pass Christian Historical Society, MS.
 2024 — *Muddy Thinking* Book Talk, Thank You Books, Birmingham, AL.
 2024 — Alabama Rivers Alliance “Water Is Life” Series
 2024 — Octavia Books, New Orleans (in conversation with Rebecca Snedeker)
 2024 — “Mississippi River Past and Present,” Louisiana Book Festival panel

C. Conference Presentations

- 2024 — Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences Annual Conference (Finding Hope)
 2021 — National Communication Association (NCA) Annual Meeting, (Building Bridges)
 2021 — Cultural Studies Association Annual Meeting, (ecologies of petroculture)
 2020 — Cultural Studies Association Annual Meeting (Biopolitics of Covid-19)

- 2019 — Cultural Studies Association Annual Meeting (Pipeline Logic)
- 2019 — Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), ((Un)Making the Mississippi River)
- 2019 — Cultural Studies Association (Muddy Waters / Modeling Authority)
- 2018 — Cultural Studies Association (Problematizing the “Working Coast”) Randy Martin Prize
- 2017 — Dirt: Intersectional Approaches to Messiness, Ryerson University
- 2016 — Mid-American Studies Association, (Of Mud and Water)

Advocacy Work

- 2026-27 — Climate Policy Fellow, Invest in Louisiana
Grant funded position to investigate the social, fiscal and energy impacts of hyper-scaler datacenter projects in Louisiana
- 2022-26 — Policy Advisor, Invest in Louisiana
I research fiscal and social impacts of the fossil fuel industry; and participate in an Environmental Defense Fund coalition to decrease methane emissions.

Academic Appointments

- 2026-27 — Adjunct Professor, Department of Sociology, Loyola University
Teaching the Sociology of Disaster.
- 2021-22 — Visiting Assistant Professor, Joint appointment: Departments of Communication/English, Tulane University
Instructor of Media Industries Analysis
Instructor of Environmental Writing
- 2020-21 — Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, Tulane University.
Instructor Environmental Communication
Instructor of Political Communication
Instructor of Media and the Public Sphere
Instructor of Environmental Journalism
- 2020-21 — Summer Enrichment Program, Tulane University
Instructor of Environmental Justice in the Anthropocene.
- Fall 2019 — Adjunct Professor, Department of Communication, Tulane University
Special Topics: Life and Culture on the Mississippi.
- 2017-18 — Lecturer, Department of Communication, UCSD.
Special Topics: News Media Workshop.
Special Topics: Journalism in a Time of Crisis.
- 2014-17 — Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Communication, UCSD.
Interpretive Strategies: political economy of representation through media.
Intro to Communication: communication technology, scholarship and theory.
Situated Practices: in communication.
Social Formation: political economy of media

Introduction to Urban Planning, Office of Urban Studies.

Spring 2013 — Adjunct English Instructor, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI

2012-13 — Adjunct English Instructor, Eastern Michigan University

2010-11 — Teaching Assistant and events coordinator, Bathhouse Journal, Department of English, Eastern Michigan University

Spring 2010 — Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Rhetoric & Composition, San Diego State University

Workshop and Seminars

2020 — Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning at Tulane, moving to hybrid teaching.

2020-21 Braid and Flow, Center for the Gulf South at Tulane.

2019 — "Anthropocene River Campus: The Human Delta," *Mississippi. An Anthropocene River* Max Planck Institute and HKW (Haus der Kulturen Der Welt), hosted by The Center for the Gulf South and Tulane ByWater Institute.

2016 — Science & Technology Studies California Summer Retreat, Marin Headlands, CA.

2010 — Disquiet Literary Seminar, Lisbon, Portugal.

2002 — Reporting on China from Shanghai & Hong Kong, UC Berkeley.

Professional Societies, Service and Committee Memberships

2024-25 Member, National Communication Association (NCA)

2024-25 Member, American Studies Association (ASA)

2022-24 Associate Editor, Journal of the Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences

2022-25 Member, Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences

2018-22 Cultural Studies Association (CSA)

Governing Board Member, 2019-22

Working Group, Co-Chair, Environment, Space and Place, 2019-21

Program Committee, 2020-21

Executive Board Member, 2019-20

Conference Site Committee, 2018

2021 — National Communication Association (NCA), Review Committee, Environmental Communication Division

2021 — Monroe Fellowship Selection Committee, Center for the Gulf South, Tulane University.

2021 — Ad-hoc reviewer, Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies.

2019 — Ad-hoc reviewer, Journalism and Mass Communication Educator, peer-reviewed journal.

2019-20 Member, Society of Social Studies of Science (4S)

2016-17 Member, Mid-American Studies Association

2017-18 Advisory Board Member, *The Triton*, Student Newspaper, UCSD

2015-16 Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee, UCSD

2015-15 Graduate Student Representative, CommPlayground, UCSD.

2011 — Volunteer at 826Michigan, a nonprofit writing and literacy program that provided in-class support at Roberto Clemente alternative high school

1999 — Fellow, The Institute of Politics, Loyola University, New Orleans.

Certificates

2017 — Certificate for Completion of CET Course Design Studio, UCSD

2016 — Certificate for Public Speaking, UCSD

Journalism and Professional Writing

2026 — SeaChange WWNO Podcast

2002-25 — *Reuters*, Stringer, 2002-2025

2008-09 — *San Diego Business Journal*, Staff Writer, 2008-09

2007-08 — *City News Service*, Stringer, San Diego, CA, 2007-08

2007-08 — *Video Business*, Stringer, San Diego, CA, 2007-08

2006-07 — *Union Tribune/North County Times*, Staff Writer, Escondido, CA, 2006-07

2003-06 — *The Advocate*, Staff Writer, Baton Rouge, LA, 2003-06

1997-2000 - Mayor's Office of Communication, Head Writer and Sr. Speechwriter, New Orleans

1995-97 — *Associated Press*, News Clerk, New Orleans, LA, 1995-97

Reporting Internships

2002 — *Financial Times*, San Francisco, CA, Summer 2002

2001 — *TIME*, Hong Kong, Summer 2001

2001 — *MarketWatch.com*, San Francisco, CA, Winter 2001

1996 — *Daily Union Democrat*, Sonora, CA, Fall 1996

1993 — *Alexandria Town Talk*, Alexandria, LA, Summer 1993

1993 — *WWL-TV (CBS)*, New Orleans, LA, Spring 1993

News Honors

2010 — Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society

2009 — San Diego Press Club, 1st place, Non Daily Feature

2009 — San Diego Press Club, 1st place, Non Daily Science and Technology

2009 — San Diego Press Club, 1st place, Non Daily Architect and Design

2009 — Society of Professional Journalists San Diego, 2nd place Investigative

2009 — Society of Professional Journalists San Diego, 2nd place real estate

2008 — Society of Professional Journalists San Diego 2nd place breaking news online,

2008 — San Diego Press Club, 1st place feature non-daily.

2000 — Fellow, The Institute of Politics at Loyola University of New Orleans.