

Kieren Rudge

(They/Them)

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EDUCATION

PH.D., ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, POLICY, & MANAGEMENT
University of California, Berkeley, 2022-Present (In Progress)

Specializations: Environmental justice; climate change adaptation; critical race theory; U.S. territories; postcolonialism and decolonization

M.Esc., ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Yale University, 2022

Specialization: People, Equity, and the Environment

Thesis: Frameworks to attain climate justice: Critical analyses of climate change adaptation planning and research

B.S., ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Johns Hopkins University, 2019

Transferred from United States Naval Academy, 2017

Specialization: Environmental Justice and Policy

Capstone project: Urban water systems and green spaces: Designing and implementing an experiential environmental education curriculum

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- 2024 S. Frain, **K. Rudge**, N. Tilton, "Democratic Deficiencies and the Price of Security: Diplomacy, Environmental Justice, and Genuine Security for Guam and the Mariana Islands", *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs* 7 (2) (2024): 16-43.
- 2023 **K. Rudge**, "Leveraging critical race theory to produce equitable climate change adaptation", *Nature Climate Change* 13 (2023): 623–631. doi: doi.org/10.1038/s41558-023-01690-9
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "Participatory climate adaptation planning in New York City: Analyzing the role of community-based organizations", *Urban Climate* 40 (2021): 101018. doi: doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2021.101018
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "The potential for community solar in Connecticut: A geospatial analysis of solar canopy siting on parking lots", *Solar Energy* 230 (2021): 635-644. doi: doi.org/10.1016/j.solener.2021.10.038
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "Changing climate, changing discourse: Analyzing reporting of climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands", *Climate Risk Management* 33 (2021): 100350. doi: doi.org/10.1016/j.crm.2021.100350

Under Review

K. Rudge, “Colonialism, justice, and Indigenous knowledge: A critical analysis of climate change adaptation scholarship on U.S. territories”

Reports

2021 M. Scully, **K. Rudge**, D. Roe, B. Pelletier, “[The path to 100%: Transitioning Connecticut communities to 100% clean, renewable energy](#)”, *PACE*, Sept. 2021.

2021 **K. Rudge**, M. Scully, “[Solar canopies in Connecticut: Siting potential, implementation guidance, and policy considerations](#)”, *People’s Action for Clean Energy*, June 2021.

Public Scholarship

2023 **K. Rudge**, “[Moratoriums Aim to Prevent Deep Sea Mining from Causing Widespread Harm](#)”, *East-West Center: Asia Matters for America*, August 2023

2023 **K. Rudge**, “[US Marines Departing Okinawa may Threaten Critical Ecosystems in The Marianas](#)”, *East-West Center: Asia Matters for America*, August 2023

2023 **K. Rudge**, “[Local Communities Drive Typhoon Recovery and Climate Resilience in Guam](#)”, *East-West Center: Asia Matters for America*, July 2023

2023 **K. Rudge**, “[Diversity and disparities among AAPI communities in higher education](#)”, *East-West Center: Asia Matters for America*, June 2023

2022 **K. Rudge**, “[A colonial legacy of environmental injustice in U.S. territories](#)”, *Yale Environment Review*, Nov. 2022.

2022 **K. Rudge**, “[The environmental field must value students of color](#)”, *Yale Environment Review*, Oct. 2022.

2021 **K. Rudge**, “[Solar canopies need to be a part of Connecticut’s energy plan](#)”, *Energy News Network*, May 2021.

2019 **K. Rudge**, “[Environmental justice and the fight to be heard](#)”, *Vibrant Environment, Environmental Law Institute*, April 2019.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching

Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley, 2023-Present

- Spring 2024: Environmental Health and Development.
- Fall 2023: Environmental Justice: Race, Class, Equity, and the Environment.

Teaching Fellow, Yale School of the Environment, 2021-2022

- Spring 2022: Food Systems: Implications of Unequal Access.
- Fall 2021: Critical Race Theory – joint with Yale Law School.
- Spring 2021: Poverty, Environment, and Inequality.

Environmental Educator and Park Ranger, New York City Parks Department, 2019-2020

- Designed and taught environmental justice-focused education programs
- Lead outreach to involve local teachers and K-12 students in education and conservation programs.

Teaching Assistant, United States Naval Academy, 2016-2017

- Spring 2017: Engineering Statics
- Fall 2016: Introduction to Chemistry

Research & policy

Co-founder and Member, Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC), 2023-Present

- Co-founded a research, mentorship, and public scholarship collective to produce work on understudied Pacific Islands across Oceania.
- Mentoring undergraduates and managing a growing team of early career researchers.

Young Professionals Program, East-West Center in Washington, 2023

- Wrote independent articles on critical issues facing Pacific Islands and AAPI communities.
- Co-produced multi-issue policy reports on Hawai'i partnerships with Pacific Island nations.
- Contributed to curriculum on environmental aspects of militarization in The Pacific.

Graduate Student Researcher, Yale School of the Environment, 2020-2022

- Researched climate resiliency planning processes to investigate environmental justice concerns using mixed methods approaches.

Operations Manager People's Action for Clean Energy, 2020-2021

- Completed geospatial siting study assessing the potential for community-based solar in Connecticut.
- Designed clean energy policy guide to aid local groups in enacting municipal climate action plans.

Research and Publications Intern Environmental Law Institute, 2019

- Researched the implementation of solar microgrids in low-income urban communities.
- Proposed coastal community revitalization plans to support justice for towns on the Gulf of Mexico.

Clean Transportation Intern, Sierra Club, Maryland Chapter, 2018

- Facilitated transit equity coalition meetings in coordination with multiple community organizations.
- Interviewed public transit riders to shape a political platform.
- Analyzed impact statements and highlighted vulnerable areas.

Climate Policy and GIS Intern, WE ACT For Environmental Justice, 2018

- Supported policy advocacy to address racial and economic disparities related to climate change in Northern Manhattan.
- Analyzed spatial data and mapped resources and vulnerabilities related to climate hazards.

National Science Foundation Research Intern (REU), University of Pittsburgh, 2017

- Completed independent project researching robotic technology to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.
- Won intern poster presentation contest that centered on effective science communication towards public stakeholders.

Other positions

Research Mentor, Solomon Admissions, 2023-Present

- Mentoring high school students to complete independent research on environmental issues.

ORIAS Speakers Bureau, University of California, Berkeley, 2023-Present

- Giving presentations to high school and community college classes.
- Focusing on climate justice, small islands, and non-self-governing territories.

Graduate Student Research Mentor, University of California, Berkeley, 2023

- Supported undergraduate students in writing effective research proposals.
- Lead workshops on research design, scientific writing, conducting literature reviews, community-engaged research, and other skills.

Staff Writer, Yale Environment Review, 2022

- Produced broadly accessible articles on emerging environmental research.

Social Media Producer, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, 2020-2021

- Created infographics and messaging to communicate data on climate change public perceptions.

Constituent Services Intern, Office of Congressman Elliot Engel, 2015

- Led outreach to constituents to increase awareness of government services.
- Supported case work to aid people having issues with other agencies.

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE PANELS

- 2024 **K. Rudge**, S. Perez, et al., “Challenging the buildup: A comparative analysis of environmental legal protections across militarizing islands”, *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting 2024*, Honolulu, HI (Forthcoming, April 2024).
- 2023 **K. Rudge**, “Environmental justice, climate change, and externalization of harm”, *Invited Guest Speaker*, Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara, March 2024
- 2023 **K. Rudge**, “Climate change adaptation through the lens of critical race theory”, *UCSC Climate Coalition Student Conference*, University of California, Santa Cruz, November 2023.
- 2023 **K. Rudge** and S. Perez, “Relocating occupation: A critical environmental justice analysis of military migration from Okinawa to Guåhan”, *Pacific History Association Biennial Conference*, Deakin University, November 2023.
- 2023 M. Mascarenhas, A. Ponce De León, **et al.**, “Water and the Restless Motion of Environmental Justice across the Americas”, *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference 2023*, Honolulu, HI, November 2023.
- 2023 **K. Rudge**, “Analyzing reporting of climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands”, *Conference on Island Sustainability*, University of Guam, Tamuning Guam, April 2023.
- 2022 **K. Rudge**, “Participatory climate adaptation planning in New York City: Analyzing the role of community-based organizations”, *Hixon Fellows Symposium*, Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Yale School of the Environment, Virtual, Jan. 2022.
- 2022 **K. Rudge**, E. Hammerling, P. Hearn, C. Gazillo, “[Panel on Land Conservation and Solar Siting](#)”, *2022 Environmental Summit*, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, Virtual, Jan. 2022.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, “Reporting trends on climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands”, *15th Annual Graduate Climate Conference*, University of Washington and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Virtual, Oct. 2021.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, “Climate, community, economy, and health: Reporting of climate change and intersecting issues in the U.S. Virgin Islands”, *Conference on Climate Change and Health in Small Island Developing States: Focus on the Caribbean*, Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, CT, Oct. 2021.
- 2021 X. Zhang, L. Fisher, **K. Rudge**, Y. Xu, “Joint panel on climate policy”, *Sino-American Youth*

Dialogue on Climate Change, Tsinghua University, Virtual, Oct. 2021.

- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "Changing climate, changing discourse: Climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands", *Sino-American Youth Dialogue on Climate Change*, Tsinghua University, Virtual, Oct. 2021.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "[Community-based solar and energy democratization: Statewide and municipal cases in Connecticut](#)", *Low-Carbon AESS Conference*, Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Virtual, June 2021.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "[Solar canopies in CT: Siting potential, policies, and implementation](#)", *Connecticut Energy Network Webinar Series*, Virtual, June 2021.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "Equitable Adaptation: Examining the Inclusivity of Participatory Climate Planning Processes in New York City", *Bren Environmental Justice Symposium*, University of California Santa Barbara, Virtual, May 2021.
- 2021 **K. Rudge**, "[The potential for community-based solar in Connecticut: A geospatial analysis of solar canopy siting on parking lots](#)", *New Horizons in Conservation Conference*, Yale School of the Environment, Virtual, April 2021.
- 2017 **K. Rudge**, "Comparing mobility with the Strong Arm Robotic Assisted Transfer Device to a Standard Patient Lift: A pilot study", *ASPIRE Research Competition*, Human Engineering Research Laboratories, University of Pittsburgh, August 2017.
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GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 AAPISC Big C Grant: Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC) (\$7,000).
- 2023 Social Science Matrix Research Team Grant: Marianas Critical Research Initiative (\$5,000).
- 2023 Summer Research Grant, Environmental Science, Policy, & Management Department, University of California, Berkeley (\$2,000).
- 2023 Environmental Forum Research Grant, Environmental Science, Policy, & Management Department, University of California, Berkeley (\$2,000).
- 2023 Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship.
- 2022 Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, (\$34,000).
- 2021 Hixon Fellowship, Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Yale School of the Environment (\$5,000).
- 2020 Climate Project Fellowship, Climate Change Science and Solutions Learning Community, Yale School of the Environment (\$500).
- 2018 Non-Profit and Government Research Project Grant, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, Johns Hopkins University (\$2,500)
- 2017 Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship, National Science Foundation, (\$5,000).
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AWARDS

- 2022 Stratchen Donnelley Research Award, Yale School of the Environment (\$500)
- 2022 Best Presentation Award. Sino-American Youth Dialogue on Climate Change, Tsinghua

University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (\$2,000)

- 2021 3rd Place Winner, Flash Talk Competition. Bren Environmental Justice Symposium, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2017 Winner of Research Intern Poster Presentation Competition. ASPIRE Competition, Human Engineering Research Laboratories, University of Pittsburgh
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OTHER SERVICE

Department Steward, Academic Student Employees Union, 2023-Present.

Board Member and Mentor, ESPM mentoring program for undergraduates, University of California, Berkeley, 2022-Present.

Member, Climate Social Science Network, 2022-Present.

Peer Reviewer, Solar Energy Journal, 2023-Present.

Peer Reviewer, American Journal of Climate Change, 2022-Present.

Student Leader, EJAY - Environmental Justice Student Group, Yale School of the Environment, 2021-2022.

Community Conversations Committee, Yale School of the Environment, 2020-2022.

Yale Senior Symposium Judge, Yale College, 2021.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Interviewed and featured in *Talk of the Bay* radio show episode and podcast, "[Kieren Rudge on the intersection between climate adaptation and justice](#)", *KQSD*, December 2023

Interviewed in Phillip Palmer's article and new clip entitled, "[Six flags magic mountain's solar carport will power 2,800 homes](#)", *ABC7 Los Angeles*, November 2023

Featured in ESRI article entitled, "[Shining Bright: How a Connecticut Group Is Pinpointing Potential Parking Lot Solar Canopies](#)", *ESRI Stories*, March 2023

Interviewed in Hamera Shabbir's article entitled, "[Yale researchers highlight environmental health disparities in LGBTQ+ populations](#)", *Yale Daily News*, February 2021

Featured in Richard Conniff's article entitled, "[Why putting solar canopies on parking lots is a smart green move](#)", *Yale Environment 360*, November 2021

Featured in Lisa Prevost's article entitled, "[Study: Connecticut could conserve land by installing solar above parking lots](#)", *Energy News Network*, November 2021

Featured in John Fitzgerald Weaver's article entitled, "[Solar-covered parking lots could offer multiple benefits](#)", *PV Magazine*, November 2021.

Featured in Liu Xuan's article entitled, "[Youth Vow to take urgent action on climate change](#)", *ChinaDaily.com*, November 2021

Featured in article entitled, "[Sino-American Youth Dialogue 'Making Carbon Neutral, Youth in Action'](#)", *China-United States Exchange Foundation*, November 2021.

