

# Kieren Rudge

(They/Them)

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## EDUCATION

PH.D., ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, POLICY, & MANAGEMENT (SOCIETY & ENVIRONMENT)  
**University of California, Berkeley, 2022-Present (In Progress) (Expected Candidacy, May 2025)**

Proposed dissertation: Climate activism, colonialism, and the environmental entanglements of Pacific Islander & Asian Diasporas in California

Specializations: Environmental justice; climate change adaptation; critical race theory; postcolonialism and decolonization; critical Pacific islands studies; militarization

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

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## PUBLICATIONS

*Peer-reviewed articles*

7. B. Reade-Malagueño<sup>co-1st</sup>, **K. Rudge**<sup>co-1st</sup>, S. Moss, P. D’Odorico, “From shallow to transformative water justice” *Water Alternatives* (2025).
6. **K. Rudge**<sup>co-1st</sup>, S. Perez<sup>co-1st</sup>, G. Cutter, V. Kammerer, “Relocating occupation: A critical environmental justice analysis of the U.S. military migration from Okinawa to Guåhan”, *Human Geography* (2024).
5. 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.
4. **K. Rudge**, “Leveraging critical race theory to produce equitable climate change adaptation”, *Nature Climate Change* 13 (2023): 623–631.
3. **K. Rudge**, “Participatory climate adaptation planning in New York City: Analyzing the role of community-based organizations”, *Urban Climate* 40 (2021): 101018
2. **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.

1. **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.

#### *Under Review*

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

#### *In Preparation*

**K. Rudge**, “Military-adaptation complex: The United States’ reinforcement of climate injustice across the Pacific”

R. Bromley-Trujillo, J. Basseches, T. Roberts, M. Boykoff, ...**K. Rudge**... “Obstruction of Climate Action at the Subnational Level in the United States”

**K. Rudge**, “Mapping climate change impacts and adaptation progress in Pacific Islander and Asian American diasporic communities of California”

#### *Public Scholarship & Reports*

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| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Moratoriums Aim to Prevent Deep Sea Mining from Causing Widespread Harm</a> ”, <i>East-West Center: Asia Matters for America</i> , August 2023                             |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">US Marines Departing Okinawa may Threaten Critical Ecosystems in The Marianas</a> ”, <i>East-West Center: Asia Matters for America</i> , August 2023                       |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Local Communities Drive Typhoon Recovery and Climate Resilience in Guam</a> ”, <i>East-West Center: Asia Matters for America</i> , July 2023                               |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Diversity and disparities among AAPI communities in higher education</a> ”, <i>East-West Center: Asia Matters for America</i> , June 2023                                  |
| 2022 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Sea level rise adaptation in the San Francisco Bay: Analyzing how local projects align with a regional plan</a> ”, <i>Yale School of the Environment</i> .                 |
| 2022 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">A colonial legacy of environmental injustice in U.S. territories</a> ”, <i>Yale Environment Review</i> , Nov. 2022.  |
| 2022 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">The environmental field must value students of color</a> ”, <i>Yale Environment Review</i> , Oct. 2022.  |
| 2021 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Solar canopies need to be a part of Connecticut’s energy plan</a> ”, <i>Energy News Network</i> , May 2021.  |
| 2021 | M. Scully, <b>K. Rudge</b> , D. Roe, B. Pelletier, “ <a href="#">The path to 100%: Transitioning Connecticut communities to 100% clean, renewable energy</a> ”, <i>PACE</i> , Sept. 2021.                  |
| 2021 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , M. Scully, “ <a href="#">Solar canopies in Connecticut: Siting potential, implementation guidance, and policy considerations</a> ”, <i>People’s Action for Clean Energy</i> , June 2021. |
| 2019 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , “ <a href="#">Environmental justice and the fight to be heard</a> ”, <i>Vibrant Environment</i> , <i>Environmental Law Institute</i> , April 2019.                                       |

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### *Teaching*

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

- Fall 2024: Environmental Problem Solving
- 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.

### *Research & policy*

#### **Co-founder and Research Program Manager, 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.
- Created and facilitating Asian American & Pacific Islander diversity and internship programs.
- Producing podcast on Asian American & Pacific Islander diversity in higher education
- 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; 2024**

- 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 and analyzed impact statements to highlight 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.

## *Mentoring & Other Work*

**Getting into Grad School Mentor**, Graduate Division, UC Berkeley, 2024-Present (1 mentee).

**Department Grad-Grad Mentoring**, ESPM, UC Berkeley, 2023-Present (2 mentees).

**Department Grad-undergrad Mentor**, ESPM, UC Berkeley, 2022-2024 (2 mentees).

**Research Mentor**, Solomon Admissions, 2023-Present (5 students/mentees).

**Graduate Student Research Mentor**, Office of Undergraduate Scholarships and Research, UC Berkeley, 2023 (5 students/mentees).

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## **PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE PANELS**

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| 2024 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "How we adapt matters: externalities and climate justice across The Pacific", <i>Bay Area Youth Climate Summit</i> , September 2024.  |
| 2024 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Colonialism, justice, and Indigenous knowledge: A review of climate change adaptation research on U.S. territories", <i>UC Berkeley ESPM Grad Fest</i> , May 2024.   |
| 2024 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Racialization and colonialism: structures of climate injustice across states and territories", <i>UC Santa Cruz Climate Coalition: Reclaim Earth Day</i> , April 2024.   |
| 2024 | S. Perez, <b>K. Rudge</b> , et al., "Challenging the buildup: A comparative analysis of environmental legal protections across militarizing islands", <i>American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting 2024</i> , Honolulu, HI, April 2024.                |
| 2024 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Political status and climate injustice across U.S. states and territories", <i>American Environmental Studies and Sciences: Student Poster Symposium</i> , April 2024.   |
| 2024 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Environmental justice, climate change, and externalization of harm", <i>Invited Guest Speaker</i> , Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara, March 2024   |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Climate change adaptation through the lens of critical race theory", <i>UCSC Climate Coalition Student Conference</i> , University of California, Santa Cruz, November 2023.   |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> and S. Perez, "Relocating occupation: A critical environmental justice analysis of military migration from Okinawa to Guåhan", <i>Pacific History Association Biennial Conference</i> , Deakin University, November 2023.                       |
| 2023 | M. Mascarenhas, A. Ponce De León... <b>K. Rudge</b> ... "Water and the Restless Motion of Environmental Justice across the Americas", <i>Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference 2023</i> , Honolulu, HI, November 2023.                        |
| 2023 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Analyzing reporting of climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands", <i>Conference on Island Sustainability</i> , University of Guam, Tamuning Guam, April 2023.  |
| 2022 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Participatory climate adaptation planning in New York City: Analyzing the role of community-based organizations", <i>Hixon Fellows Symposium</i> , Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Yale School of the Environment, Virtual, Jan. 2022.       |
| 2022 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , E. Hammerling, P. Hearn, C. Gazillo, "Panel on Land Conservation and Solar Siting", <i>2022 Environmental Summit</i> , Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, Virtual, Jan. 2022.   |
| 2021 | <b>K. Rudge</b> , "Reporting trends on climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands", <i>15<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Climate Conference</i> , University of Washington and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Virtual, Oct. 2021. |

2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "Climate, community, economy, and health: Reporting of climate change and intersecting issues in the U.S. Virgin Islands", <i>Conference on Climate Change and Health in Small Island Developing States: Focus on the Caribbean</i> , Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, CT, Oct. 2021.
2021	X. Zhang, L. Fisher, <b>K. Rudge</b> , Y. Xu, "Joint panel on climate policy", <i>Sino-American Youth Dialogue on Climate Change</i> , Tsinghua University, Virtual, Oct. 2021.
2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "Changing climate, changing discourse: Climate change and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands", <i>Sino-American Youth Dialogue on Climate Change</i> , Tsinghua University, Virtual, Oct. 2021.
2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "Community-based solar and energy democratization: Statewide and municipal cases in Connecticut", <i>Low-Carbon AESS Conference</i> , Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Virtual, June 2021.
2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "Solar canopies in CT: Siting potential, policies, and implementation", <i>Connecticut Energy Network Webinar Series</i> , Virtual, June 2021.
2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "Equitable Adaptation: Examining the Inclusivity of Participatory Climate Planning Processes in New York City", <i>Bren Environmental Justice Symposium</i> , University of California Santa Barbara, Virtual, May 2021.
2021	<b>K. Rudge</b> , "The potential for community-based solar in Connecticut: A geospatial analysis of solar canopy siting on parking lots", <i>New Horizons in Conservation Conference</i> , Yale School of the Environment, Virtual, April 2021.

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## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Critical Pacific Islander Studies Fellowship, Asian Pacific American Student Development (APASD) <b>(\$5,000)</b> .
2024	The Green Initiative Fund: Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC) <b>(\$40,000)</b> .
2024	Big C Grant: Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC) <b>(\$2,000)</b> .
2024	AAPISC Grant: Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC) <b>(\$7,000)</b> .
2023	Hitchcock Lecture Series Grant: Critical Pacific Island Studies Collective (CPISC) <b>(\$15,000)</b> .
2023	Social Science Matrix Research Team Grant: Marianas Critical Research Initiative <b>(\$5,000)</b> .
2023	Summer Research Grant, Environmental Science, Policy, & Management Department, University of California, Berkeley <b>(\$2,000)</b> .
2023	Environmental Forum Research Grant, Environmental Science, Policy, & Management Department, University of California, Berkeley <b>(\$2,000)</b> .
2023	Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship.
2022	Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, <b>(\$34,000)</b> .
2021	Hixon Fellowship, Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Yale School of the Environment <b>(\$5,000)</b> .
2020	Climate Project Fellowship, Climate Change Science and Solutions Learning Community, Yale School of the Environment <b>(\$500)</b> .

2018	Non-Profit and Government Research Project Grant, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, Johns Hopkins University <b>(\$2,500)</b> .
2017	Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship, National Science Foundation <b>(\$5,000)</b> .

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## AWARDS

2025	Teaching Effectiveness Award, Graduate Council's Advisory Committee for GSI Affairs and GSI Teaching and Resource Center UC Berkeley <b>(\$500)</b> .
2025	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, ESPM, UC Berkeley.
2024	Student Environmental Resource Center - Brian Gialketsis SERQueer Scholarship <b>(\$2,000)</b> .
2024	Trans Student Wellness Initiative Research, Honorable Mention, UC Berkeley.
2022	Stratchen Donnelley Research Award, Yale School of the Environment <b>(\$500)</b> .
2022	Best Presentation Award. Sino-American Youth Dialogue on Climate Change, Tsinghua University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology <b>(\$2,000)</b> .
2021	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Winner, Flash Talk Competition. Bren Environmental Justice Symposium, University of California, Santa Barbara.

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## PEER REVIEWER

*Solar Energy Journal*, 2023-Present. (4)  
*Discover Environment*, 2025-Present. (1)  
*npj Climate Action*, 2024-Present. (1)  
*American Journal of Climate Change*, 2022. (1)

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## OTHER SERVICE

**AAPI Trans-Pacific Futures Faculty Cluster Hiring Committee Member**, 2024-2025.  
**Speakers Bureau**, School Outreach, Office of Resources for International and Area Studies, 2023-Present  
**Department Steward**, Academic Student Employees Union, 2023-Present.  
**Member**, Climate Social Science Network, 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.

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## MEDIA COVERAGE

["Campus Critical Pacific Islands Studies Collective pushes for greater representation for Pacific Islanders"](#), *The Daily Californian*, December 2024.

["The US Military Has Polluted Guam for Decades. This Year, It Could Get Even Worse"](#), *Truthout*, August 2024.

["A target without bomb shelters: Guam official says resilience is our armor"](#), *Pacific Island Times*, May 2024

["Guam, CNMI bear the price for national security"](#), *Pacific Island Times*, May 2024.

["Kieren Rudge on the intersection between climate adaptation and justice"](#), *KQSD Talk of the Bay*,

December 2023.

[“Six flags magic mountain’s solar carport will power 2,800 homes”](#), *ABC7 Los Angeles*, November 2023

[Shining Bright: How a Connecticut Group Is Pinpointing Potential Parking Lot Solar Canopies](#)”, *ESRI Stories*, March 2023.

[Yale researchers highlight environmental health disparities in LGBTQ+ populations](#)”, *Yale Daily News*, February 2021.

[“Why putting solar canopies on parking lots is a smart green move”](#), *Yale Environment 360*, November 2021.

[“Study: Connecticut could conserve land by installing solar above parking lots”](#), *Energy News Network*, November 2021.

[“Solar-covered parking lots could offer multiple benefits”](#), *PV Magazine*, November 2021.

[“Youth Vow to take urgent action on climate change”](#), *ChinaDaily.com*, November 2021.

[“Sino-American Youth Dialogue ‘Making Carbon Neutral, Youth in Action’”](#), *China-United States Exchange Foundation*, November 2021.