

Kevin Loughran

Assistant Professor of Sociology
Temple University
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Curriculum Vitae
January 2025

EDUCATION

June 2017	Ph.D., Sociology, Northwestern University
May 2012	M.A., Sociology, Columbia University
May 2011	M.A., American Studies, Columbia University
May 2008	B.S., Business Administration, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2020-present	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Temple University
2021-2022	Faculty Fellow, Public Policy Lab, Temple University
2017-2020	Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology, Rice University

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Urban Sociology; Race; Culture; Knowledge; Inequality; Research Methods and Methodology; Climate Adaptation and Public Policy; Environmental Justice; Social Theory

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Kevin Loughran** and Jordan A. Conwell. *W.E.B. Du Bois and Social Inquiry: Embracing and Transcending Research Methods*. Under contract with the University of Chicago Press.
- 2022 **Kevin Loughran**. *Parks for Profit: Selling Nature in the City*. New York: Columbia University Press.
<https://cup.columbia.edu/book/parks-for-profit/9780231194051>
- Featured in [CityLab](#), [Grid](#), [Architect](#), [The Architect's Newspaper](#)
 - Op-Eds in [New York Daily News](#) and [Zócalo Public Square](#)

- Interviewed for the podcasts [Unfrozen](#) and [New Books Network](#)
- Reviewed in [Social Forces](#), [American Journal of Sociology](#), [International Journal of Urban and Regional Research](#), [Journal of Urban Affairs](#), [Journal of the American Planning Association](#), [Annals of Leisure Research](#), [H-Net](#), [Urbanités](#), [Journal of Contemporary Sociology](#)

Journal Articles

- 2024 **Kevin Loughran**. “Environmental Authenticity: Constructing Nature in Postindustrial Urban Parks.” *Qualitative Sociology* 47: 441–463. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11133-024-09570-0>
- Invited submission to special issue, “Qualitative Studies of the Environment,” edited by Max Besbris
- 2024 Jordan A. Conwell and **Kevin Loughran**. “Quantitative Inquiry in the Early Sociology of W.E.B. Du Bois.” *Du Bois Review* 21(2): 368-390. [doi:10.1017/S1742058X23000206](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742058X23000206)
- 2023 **Kevin Loughran**. “Postscript: Environmentalize Urban Sociology?” *City & Community* 22(4): 367-370. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841231207241>
- Invited contribution to special issue, “Environmentalizing Urban Sociology,” edited by Hillary Angelo and Miriam Greenberg
- 2023 James R. Elliott, **Kevin Loughran**, and Phylicia Lee Brown. “The Divergent Residential Pathways of Climate Adaptation: Resettlement from Flood-Prone Homes in a Major Metropolitan Area.” *Social Problems* 70(4): 869-892. <https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spab059>
- Featured on *National Public Radio*, July 1, 2021
- 2022 **Kevin Loughran** and James R. Elliott. “Unequal Retreats: How Racial Segregation Shapes Climate Policies.” *Housing Policy Debate* 32(1): 171-189. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2021.1931928>
- Featured in *Housing Matters*, an Urban Institute initiative, Nov. 2022: <https://housingmatters.urban.org/research-summary/color-blind-climate-policies-reinforce-racial-inequities>
- 2020 **Kevin Loughran**. “Urban Parks and Urban Problems: An Historical Perspective on Green Space Development as a Cultural Fix.” *Urban Studies* 57(11): 2321-38. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098018763555>.

- 2020 James R. Elliott, Phylcia Lee Brown, and **Kevin Loughran**. "Racial Inequities in Federal Buyouts of Flood-Prone Homes: A Nationwide Assessment of Environmental Adaptation." *Socius* 6: 1-15.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2378023120905439>
- Featured in the *New York Times*, June 7, 2021:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/07/climate/FEMA-race-climate.html>
- 2020 Avantika Gori, Ioannis Gidaris, James R. Elliott, Jamie Padgett, **Kevin Loughran**, Pranavesh Panakkal, Andrew Juan, and Philip Bedient. "Accessibility and recovery assessment of Houston's roadway network due to fluvial flooding during Hurricane Harvey." *Natural Hazards Review* 21(2): 04020005-1-20.
[https://doi.org/10.1061/\(ASCE\)NH.1527-6996.0000355](https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)NH.1527-6996.0000355)
- 2019 **Kevin Loughran**, James R. Elliott, and S. Wright Kennedy. "Urban Ecology in the Time of Climate Change: Houston, Flooding, and the Case of Federal Buyouts." *Social Currents* 6(2): 121-40. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2329496518797851>.
- * Covered in 46 media outlets as part of national *NPR* story, "How Federal Disaster Money Favors the Rich" ([link](#))
 - * Featured in *Houston Public Media*, "Researchers Find Connections between Houston-Area Home Buyouts And 'White Flight'" ([link](#))
 - * Ranks #2 out of 222 *Social Currents* publications by Altmetric attention score, May 2023 ([link](#))
- 2019 **Kevin Loughran** and James R. Elliott. "Residential Buyouts as Environmental Mobility: Examining Where Homeowners Move to Illuminate Social Inequities in Climate Adaptation." *Population and Environment* 41(1): 52-70.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11111-019-00324-7>.
- 2018 **Kevin Loughran**, Gary Alan Fine, and Marcus Anthony Hunter. "Architectures of Memory: When Growth Machines Embrace Preservationists." *Sociological Forum* 33(4): 855-76. <https://doi.org/10.1111/socf.12449>.
- 2018 Marcus Anthony Hunter, **Kevin Loughran**, and Gary Alan Fine. "Memory Politics: Growth Coalitions, Urban Pasts, and the Creation of 'Historic' Philadelphia." *City & Community* 17(2): 330-49.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12299>
- * American Sociological Association featured article, June 2018

- 2017 **Kevin Loughran.** "Race and the Construction of City and Nature." *Environment and Planning A* 49(9): 1948-67. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X17713995>
- * Lead article
- 2016 **Kevin Loughran.** "Imbricated Spaces: The High Line, Urban Parks, and the Cultural Meaning of City and Nature." *Sociological Theory* 34(4): 311-34. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0735275116679192>
- 2015 **Kevin Loughran.** "The Philadelphia Negro and the Canon of Classical Urban Theory." *Du Bois Review* 12(2): 249-67. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742058X15000132>
- 2014 **Kevin Loughran.** "Parks for Profit: The High Line, Growth Machines, and the Uneven Development of Urban Public Spaces." *City & Community* 13(1): 49-68. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12050>
- * Ranks #6 all-time among most cited articles published in *City & Community*, the journal of the American Sociology Association's Community and Urban Section, per the Web of Science (as of May 2023)
- * Reprinted in *Deconstructing the High Line: Postindustrial Urbanism and the Rise of the Elevated Park*, eds. Christoph Lindner and Brian Rosa. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2017. ([link](#))

Book Chapters

- 2022 **Kevin Loughran.** "The Coming in of the Southern Freedman's Sons and Daughters': Du Bois and The Urban Question." In *The Oxford Handbook of W.E.B. Du Bois*, eds. Aldon Morris, Walter Allen, Karida Brown, Dan S. Green, Marcus Hunter, Cheryl Johnson-Odim, and Michael Schwartz. New York: Oxford University Press. <https://academic.oup.com/edited-volume/41983/chapter/371507400>
- 2021 Kieran Turner and **Kevin Loughran.** "Historic Preservation." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Sociology*, ed. Lynette Spillman. New York: Oxford University Press. <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199756384/obo-9780199756384-0260.xml>
- 2019 **Kevin Loughran.** "W.E.B. Du Bois." Pp. 1-5 in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies*, ed. Anthony M. Orum. Malden: Wiley-Blackwell. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118568446.eurs0497>.
- 2015 **Kevin Loughran,** Gary Alan Fine, and Marcus Anthony Hunter. "Urban Spaces, City Cultures, and Collective Memories." Pp. 193-204 in the *Routledge*

International Handbook of Memory Studies, eds. Anna Lisa Tota and Trever Hagen. New York: Routledge. ([link](#))

Invited Review Essays

- 2022 **Kevin Loughran**. Review of Hillary Angelo, *How Green Became Good: Urbanized Nature and the Making of Cities and Citizens*. *City & Community*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841221076662>
- 2022 **Kevin Loughran**. Review of Melissa Checker, *The Sustainability Myth: Environmental Gentrification and the Politics of Justice*. *The British Journal of Sociology*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-4446.12943>
- 2021 **Kevin Loughran**. Review of José Itzigsohn and Karida L. Brown, *The Sociology of W. E. B. Du Bois: Racialized Modernity and the Global Color Line*. *Social Forces* 99(4): e8. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soaa128>
- 2019 **Kevin Loughran**. "Development and Its Disruptions on Manhattan's Far West Side, 1971-2014." *Journal of Urban History* 45(4): 852-7. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0096144219843840>.
- Review of William W. Buzbee, *Fighting Westway: Environmental Law, Citizen Activism, and the Regulatory War That Transformed New York City* and David Halle and Elisabeth Tiso, *New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side*.
- 2018 **Kevin Loughran**. Review of John Krinsky and Maud Simonet, *Who Cleans the Park? Public Work and Urban Governance in New York City*. *Contemporary Sociology* 47(5): 601-3. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0094306118792220y>.

Other Publications

- 2023 **Kevin Loughran**. "How Public is Your Favorite Public Park?" *Zócalo Public Square*. Op-Ed. August 24. ([link](#))
- 2022 **Kevin Loughran**. "Return all New York City parks to the people." *New York Daily News*. Op-Ed. April 8. ([link](#))
- 2021 **Kevin Loughran** and James R. Elliott. "The Policy Challenges of Urban Flooding, Managed Retreat & Social Equity." Policy brief prepared for the Public Policy Lab, Temple University. July 27. ([link](#))
- 2019 **Kevin Loughran**. "Nature, Race, and Cultural Power." *ASA Sociology of Culture Section Newsletter*, roundtable on Nature and Culture. Summer Issue. ([link](#))

2015 Gary Alan Fine, Marcus Anthony Hunter, and **Kevin Loughran**. "Getting Malled in Philadelphia: The Growth Coalition and the Historic City." *Discover Society*. ([link](#))

Works in Progress

Kevin Loughran, James R. Elliott, Caitlin Tickman, Phylicia Lee Brown, and A. Alexander Priest. "Race and Other Hazards: Racial Ideologies in Climate Relocation."

James R. Elliott, **Kevin Loughran**, A. Alexander Priest, and Phylicia Lee Brown. "White Communities in Retreat: Climate Change, Racial Privilege, and Adaptation in Flood-Prone US Cities."

Jordan A. Conwell and **Kevin Loughran**. "Du Boisian Quantitative Methodology in Theory and Practice." Invited contribution to *Upending the Color Line: Towards a Du Boisian Methodology*, edited by José Itzigsohn, Ricarda Hammer, Michael Rodriguez-Muñiz. Duke University Press. Under review.

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Award (with Andy Aguilar), Temple University (\$2000)
2024	Summer Research Award, Temple University (\$7000)
2022	Summer Research Award, Temple University (\$7000)
2021-24	National Science Foundation. "Urban Flooding and Residential Adaptation." Temple University PI with James R. Elliott, Rice University PI (\$578,885)
2021-22	Faculty Fellow, Public Policy Lab, Temple University
2021-22	Grant-In-Aid, Temple University (\$3000)
2016-17	Graduate Writing Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University (\$3000)
2016	Fieldwork Research Fellowship, Northwestern University Department of Sociology (\$7200)
2015	Mellon Foundation Short-Term Summer Fellowship, Black Metropolis Research Consortium (\$4000)
2015	Research Grant, Kellogg School of Management, Dispute Resolution Research Center (\$5520)

- 2015 MacArthur Foundation Summer Research Grant (with Gary Alan Fine), Northwestern University Department of Sociology (\$1250)
- 2014 Robert F. Winch Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University Department of Sociology
- 2014 Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University (\$3000)
- 2014 MacArthur Foundation Summer Research Grant (with Wendy Griswold), Northwestern University Department of Sociology (\$1150)
- 2013 MacArthur Foundation Summer Research Grant (with Gary Alan Fine), Northwestern University Department of Sociology (\$1200)
- 2012-17 University Fellow, Northwestern University

TEACHING

Temple University

- 2020-present Urban Sociology (graduate)
Classical Social Theory (graduate)
Urban Dynamics (undergraduate)
Research Design and Methods (undergraduate)
Development of Sociological Thought (undergraduate)
History and Significance of Race in the US (undergraduate)
Introduction to Sociology (undergraduate)
Human Sexuality (undergraduate)

Thesis and Exam Committees

- 2024 Matt Atwell, "Analyzing the Impacts of the Proposed 76ers Arena at Philadelphia's Fashion District," master's thesis, Temple University Department of Sociology
- 2022 Jonathan Marty, "The Transfer of the Commons: Assessing Publicness in New York City's Privately-Run Public Parks," master's thesis, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University
- 2022 Kent Rigg, Area Exam – Urban Sociology, Temple University Department of Sociology
- 2020 Allison Yelvington, "Libraries and Disaster Recovery and Resilience: Houston Libraries and Hurricane Harvey," senior honors thesis, Rice University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 “What’s Really Happening in Climate Desettlement Zones? Resident Relocation, Community Attainment, and the Revolving door of Risk.” With James R. Elliott, Phylcia Lee Brown, and A. Alexander Priest. Presented at The Social, Political, and Economic Consequences of Climate Hazards, Russell Sage Foundation. October. New York, NY.
- 2024 “A Moving Target: The Policy and Practice of Climate Relocation among Participants and Neighbors Nationwide.” With James R. Elliott, Phylcia Xin Yi Lee Brown, Anthony Alex Priest, and Zheyue Wang. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August. Montreal, QC.
- 2023 “Urban Flooding and Residential Adaptation: Findings from a national assessment of residential mobility in urban flood zones in the US.” With James R. Elliott. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 “Quantitative Inquiry in the Early Sociology of W.E.B. Du Bois.” With Jordan A. Conwell. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 “Quantitative Inquiry in the Early Sociology of W.E.B. Du Bois.” With Jordan A. Conwell. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists. August. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 “White Communities in Retreat: Climate Change, Privilege, and Adaptation in US Cities.” With James R. Elliott and Jay Wang. Presented at the Columbia Climate School, “At What Point Managed Retreat? Habitability and Mobility in an Era of Climate Change.” June. New York, NY.
- 2022 “Urban Flooding and Residential Adaptation: Findings from a national assessment of residential mobility in urban flood zones in the US.” With James R. Elliott. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 “The Divergent Residential Pathways of Climate Adaptation: Resettlement from Flood-Prone Homes in a Major Metropolitan Area.” With James R. Elliott and Phylcia Lee Brown. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (virtual), August.
- 2021 “The Divergent Residential Pathways of Climate Adaptation: Resettlement from Flood-Prone Homes in a Major Metropolitan Area.” With James R. Elliott and Phylcia Lee Brown. Presented at the Columbia Earth Institute, “At What Point

- Managed Retreat? Resilience, Relocation, and Climate Justice,” New York, NY (virtual), June 23.
- 2020 “Where Do Americans Go When They Leave Their Flood-Prone Homes? Investigating the Maintenance and Recreation of Geographic Community in the Face of Climate Dislocation.” With James R. Elliott and Phylcia Lee Brown. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, April 23, Washington, DC. (Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)
- 2019 “Residential Buyouts as Environmental Mobility: Examining Where Homeowners Move to Illuminate Social Inequities in Climate Adaptation.” With James R. Elliott. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August 10.
- 2019 “Adaptive Mobility: The Case of Property Buyouts and Resettlement Pathways in Urban Flood Zones.” With James R. Elliott. Presented at the Columbia Earth Institute, “What Point Managed Retreat? Resilience Building in the Coastal Zone,” New York, NY, June 21.
- 2018 “Urban Ecology in the Time of Climate Change: Houston and the Case of Water.” With James R. Elliott and S. Wright Kennedy. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, Phoenix, AZ, November 9. (Panel organizer: “Sun Belt Cities”).
- 2018 “Urban Ecology in the Time of Climate Change: Houston and the Case of Water.” With James R. Elliott and S. Wright Kennedy. Presented at Green Cities: Inequality, Space, and Sustainability, Princeton, NJ, September 28.
- 2018 “Urban Ecology in the Time of Climate Change: Houston and the Case of Water.” With James R. Elliott and S. Wright Kennedy. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 14.
- 2018 “A Social Ecology of Property Buyouts in Houston/Harris County, 1970-2017.” With James R. Elliott and S. Wright Kennedy. Presented at Cultures of Energy 7, Houston, TX. April 13.
- 2017 “Urban Parks and Urban Problems: An Historical Perspective on Green Space Development as a Spatial Fix.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, Montreal, QC. November 3. (Panel organizer: “Cities, Environments, and Nature”).
- 2016 “Nature, Race, and Social Space.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL. November 19.

- 2016 "Parks and Racial Inequality in Postwar Chicago, 1945-70." Presented at the Bi-Annual Meeting of the Urban History Association, Chicago, IL. October 15.
- 2016 "Memory Politics: Growth Coalitions, Urban Pasts, and the Creation of 'Historic' Philadelphia." With Marcus Anthony Hunter and Gary Alan Fine. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA. August 23.
- 2016 "Nature, Race, and Social Space, 1945-75." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Seattle, WA. August 21.
- 2016 "The Symbolic Economy and Racial Geography of Nature in the United States, 1850-2015." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, CA. March 31.
- 2016 "Nature, Race, and Social Space." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, IL. March 25.
- 2015 "Cyborg Spaces: City and Nature from Central Park to the High Line." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL. August 22.
- 2014 "The Great Depression, Old Cities, New Money, and the Arts." With Wendy Griswold. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, Toronto, ON. November 7.
- 2014 "The City of Memory: Collective Memory and Urban Change in Postwar Philadelphia." With Marcus Anthony Hunter and Gary Alan Fine. Presented at the 10th Anniversary Conference, the Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University, New Haven, CT. April 26.
- 2014 "Whiteness in the City." Presented at the 16th Chicago Ethnography Conference, Chicago, IL. March 15.
- 2013 "The City of Memory." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY. August 12.
- 2013 "Parks for Profit: The Urban Growth Machine and the Case of the High Line." Presented at the 15th Chicago Ethnography Conference, Chicago, IL. March 2.
- 2012 "Privileged Public Space: The High Line and Neoliberal Urbanization." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, New York, NY. February 23.

2012 "Occupy Wall Street: Ethnographic Perspectives." Panel organizer and discussant, Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, New York, NY. February 24.

SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

Departmental Service

Temple University

2023-24 Committee Member, Executive Committee
2022-23 Committee Member, Chair's Canvassing Committee
2021-present Committee Member, Urban Sociology Preliminary Examination Committee
2020-23 Committee Member, Graduate Affairs

Northwestern University

2014-15 Committee Member, Undergraduate Affairs
2014, 2015 Reader, Exum Award for Best Undergraduate Paper on Race and Ethnicity
2013-14 Graduate Student Coordinator, Urban and Community Workshop

Disciplinary Service

2018-present Book reviewer, *Social Forces*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Journal of Urban History*, *City & Community*, *British Journal of Sociology*, NYU Press
2022-23 Chair, annual meeting reception committee, Community and Urban Sociology Section, American Sociological Association
2022-23 Panel organizer, "Environmental Publics, Policy, and Practice," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
2018 Panel organizer, "Sun Belt Cities," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting
2017 Panel organizer, "Cities, Environments, and Nature," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting
2015-16 Graduate Student Representative, Community and Urban Sociology Section Council, American Sociological Association
2014-present Reviewer, *American Sociological Review*, *Sociological Theory*, *City & Community*, *Du Bois Review*, *Social Forces*, *Urban Studies*, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Social Currents*, *Social Problems*, *Acta Sociologica*, *Population and Environment*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Urban Geography*, *Urban Research and Practice*, *Town Planning Review*, *Environment and Planning E*, *Climatic Change*, and *Sociology Compass*
2012 Panel organizer, "Occupy Wall Street: Ethnographic Perspectives," Eastern Sociological Society

Professional Associations

Current: American Sociological Association

Past: Association of Black Sociologists, Eastern Sociological Society, Midwest Sociological Society, Social Science History Association, Association of

American Geographers, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Vernacular
Architecture Forum