

# Joseph Charles Recupero III

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

Driven, charismatic graduate student pursuing teaching and research positions prior to doctoral school to become a researcher and professor of anthropology. Region of Focus: Former-Soviet Union. Motivated by the pursuit of **global understanding** and **life-long learning** through education and travel. Dedicated to **social justice** as well as **artistic expression**, and the use of education in both arenas.

## EDUCATION:

**Columbia University**, New York City, NY      **GPA:** 3.81  
**Master of Arts:** Anthropology

**Graduation:** October 2019

**Gettysburg College**, Gettysburg, PA      **GPA:** 3.71 (Magna Cum Laude)  
**Bachelor of Arts:** Anthropology and Political Science with a minor in African Studies

**Graduation:** May 2017

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

**Lead Researcher** | *Master's Thesis, Columbia University*      September 2018 – Present

- Examine historical memory in the former Soviet/Yugoslav space, "Soviet-nostalgia", as an influential power alongside processes of transformation, violent or nonviolent, of ethnonational background to ethnonational identity and the ways in which these identities are constituted in structures of power and the narrative of the everyday
- Conduct archival and library research and potential field research in the former-Yugoslav state of Bosnia

**Lead Researcher** | *Mini-Ethnography Semester Project, Making Ethnography, Columbia University*      September 2018 - Present

- Examine dynamics of power and influence among the queens of the New York City drag scene and the ways these forces shape perceptions of the self and relationality to others
- Employ participant observation field research in New York City among the drag queens of Midtown and Hell's Kitchen
- Conduct, record, and transcribe interviews with informants

**Lead Researcher** | *Honors Anthropology Senior Thesis, Gettysburg College*      August 2016 – May 2017

- Examined the relationship between masculinity, sexuality, and the sport of surfing in the context of Costa Rica and the ways in which the emergence of counter identities is changing the nature of the subculture of surfing
- Engaged in short term participant observation field research on two occasions (June 2014/January 2017) in surf towns along the Pacific coast of Costa Rica
- Analyzed survey data from Costa Rican surfers
- Conducted, recorded, and transcribed structured and semi-structured interviews with participants
- Published and presented the completed thesis

**Lead Researcher** | *Independent Study Project, SIT Mongolia Program*      September 2015 – December 2015

- Examined the development of the Mongolian tourism industry around community-based cultural initiatives and the changes, including cultural commodification and understandings of authenticity, among the communities participating in the industry
- Conducted participant observation field research among the Tsaatan reindeer herders and Kazakh eagle hunters of two regions of Mongolia
- Collected data on and mapped kinship charts for the tourist communities in which I conducted research
- Conducted, recorded, and transcribed structured and semi-structured interviews with participants
- Published the completed project

**Lead Researcher** | *Mini-Ethnography Semester Project, Field Methods, Gettysburg College*      August 2014 – December 2014

- Examined the restructuring of the Diversity Peer Educators at Gettysburg college and its effects on the group dynamic as well as on the organization's efforts to promote understanding, diversity, inclusion, and equity
- Conducted structured interviews with members of the Diversity Peer Educators
- Charted and analyzed organizational changes among the Diversity Peer Educators

**Research Assistant** | *Hakim Williams, Gettysburg College Africana Studies Department*

November 2013 – May 2014

- Conducted research alongside Dr. Hakim Williams focused on critical education analysis of pedagogical methods
- Gathered and filed academic sources, organized research materials both physically and through dropbox
- Worked collaboratively with professor and one other researcher in material preparation and background research

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Fulbright English Teaching Assistant to Lithuania** | *The Fulbright Association* July 2017 – June 2018

- Planned and instructed Beginner and Intermediate English language courses for the Lithuanian Border Patrol Service at the United States Embassy in Vilnius
- Served as English Teaching assistant for the Fulbright Association working in Vilnius University; lectured classes and designed and graded semester projects and presentations
- Guest lectured on US Media and the Ethics of Traveling at high schools in the Vilnius School District

**Volunteer English Language Teacher** | *Lithuanian Gay League, Vilnius, Lithuania* December 2017 – June 2018

- Organized and instructed creatively focused English language lessons at the Lithuania Gay League
- Proof-read and edited documents in English for the organization

**Peer Learning Associate** | *Gettysburg College Africana Studies Department* August 2017 – December 2017

- Scheduled and met with peers to explain and review concepts from courses
- Offered study tips, provided assignment reminders, and reviewed work for errors
- Taught review session lectures weekly

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

*Claiming the Indomitable Wave: Masculinities, Sexualities, and the Realm of Surfing in Costa Rica*, June 2017, Gettysburg College Cupola (<http://bit.ly/2y5dODv>)

*The Price on Our Practices: Motivation and Cultural Commodification in the Mongolian Tourism Industry*, February 2016, Gettysburg College Cupola (<http://bit.ly/28OxBHC>)

*The Semantics of Repression: Understanding the Continued Brutality towards LGBTQA Individuals in the Russian Federation*, June 2015, Gettysburg College Cupola (<http://bit.ly/28QXR4H>)

### **HONORS & AWARDS:**

Fulbright Scholar | David Wills Scholar | Pi Lambda Sigma National Honor Society | Order of Omega Greek Leadership Society | Pi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society | Lambda Alpha National Honor Society | Hartzell Award of Anthropology | Sigma Chi Founders Scholarship | Sigma Chi Balfour Outstanding Senior | Gettysburg College Outstanding Fraternity Man

### **BOARDS & COMMITTEES:**

**Initiative Member** | *Sigma Chi Fraternity Scobey Spirit Diversity Initiative* March 2017 – Present

- Work with national committee to draft and implement diversity and inclusion policies for the national fraternity

**Member and Participant** | *Campus Climate Study Implementation Group* September 2016 – May 2017

- Analyzed results of campus climate survey aimed at raising awareness of the social environment at Gettysburg College
- Created and put into action policies based on the results of the survey and the will of the student body

**Executive Tour Guide Board Member** | *Gettysburg College Admissions* August 2016 – May 2017

- Served as a resource for tour guides and aided in organizing open houses and events
- Calculated productivity quotas and distributed late work notices
- Organized tour guide trainings and employee social gatherings

### **LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS:**

*News and Views in the USA: From Past to Present*, Conference of the Department of Philology at Vilnius University, May 2018, Vilnius, Lithuania

**Experiential Advantages**, Lithuania Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language Spring Conference, March 2018, Vilnius, Lithuania

**Lithuanian Expression, English Language**, Lithuanian National Public Speaking Competition, December 2017, Klaipeda, Lithuania

**Claiming the Indomitable Wave: Masculinities, Sexualities, and the Realm of Surfing in Costa Rica**, Anthropology Senior Thesis Presentations, May 2017, Gettysburg College

**The Price on Our Practices: Motivation and Cultural Commodification in the Mongolian Tourism Industry**, Celebration Academic Colloquium, May 2016, Gettysburg College

#### **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Staff Member | Butler Library, Columbia University** January 2019 – Present

- Assist patrons in locating and checking out library materials
- Record and edit library records
- Shelf, organize, inspect, and retrieve library materials

**Participant | Eisenhower Institute Strategy and Leadership in Transitional Times Program** September 2016 – May 2017

- Created strategic program for Human Rights at the Diplomatic University of Baku, Azerbaijan
- Studied the historic context of US-Russian relations and their importance on the world stage today
- Worked with Susan Eisenhower and other leaders in the field to draft policy for possible future implementation

**Tour Guide, Presenter, & Ambassador | Gettysburg College Admissions** October 2013 – May 2017

- Led tours and hosted day visits for prospective/accepted students and their families while promoting unique selling points of academics, culture, and co-curriculum at Gettysburg College in accordance with college brand and mission
- Presented verbally and shared experiences at group information sessions alongside Admissions counselors

**Student Team Manager | Gettysburg College Track and Field** October 2014 – May 2015

- Recorded times, coded results, and created statistical data sheets of athletic progress for team records
- Documented events on video and compiled athletic highlights presentations

**Diversity Peer Educator | Gettysburg College** January 2014 – December 2015

- Worked to create understanding and cooperation among students and faculty across ethnic, socioeconomic, religious, sexuality, and other lines of diversity
- Planned and implemented diversity educational lectures and group activities for a variety of campus organizations
- Conducted bi-yearly diversity and bystander intervention trainings for the campus community

#### **ADDITIONAL SKILLS:**

- |                         |                                      |   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Research Design       | • Fieldwork Implementation           | • Group Observation                     |
| • Data Analysis         | • STATA (statistics)                 | • Public Speaking                       |
| • Writing & Publication | • Organization/Scheduling            | • Elementary Spanish, French, Mongolian |
| • Lesson Planning       | • Classroom Management and Lecturing | • Bosnian (self-teaching)               |
| • Library Cataloging    |                                      |   |

#### **REFERENCES:**

**Dr. Hakim Williams**, Assoc. Professor of Africana Studies  
Gettysburg College  
hwilliam@gettysburg.edu, (717) 337-6694

**Dr. Donna Perry**, Assoc. Professor of Anthropology  
Gettysburg College  
dperry@gettysburg.edu, (717) 337-6197

**Dr. Ellen Marakowitz**, Director of MA in Anthropology  
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University  
em8@columbia.edu, (212) 854-8268