

STEFANIE K. BENJAMIN
CURRICULUM VITAE

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Educational Foundations and Inquiry

Department of Educational Studies: August 2015
University of South Carolina
Cognate: Hospitality, Retail, & Tourism Management
Advisor: Dr. Michelle Bryan
Dissertation: *Telling a different narrative: Exploring the Values and Challenges of Performing Enslaved Community Members' Stories at U.S. Southern Plantation Museums*

M.S. Sustainable Tourism

East Carolina University: May 2011
Advisor: Dr. Derek Alderman
Thesis: *Lost in Mayberry: The Profile of The 2010 Mayberry Days Festival Tourist.*

B.S. Recreation, Parks, Tourism

Department of Human, Health and Performance
University of Florida; May 2006
Minor: Hospitality/Event Planning
Advisor: Dr. Brijesh Thapa

AREAS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST

General: Sustainable Tourism: Heritage Sites; Film-Induced Tourism

Specific: Power and Politics of Narratives at Heritage Sites; Event Management, Festivals, and Planning; African American Heritage Sites; Qualitative Research: Visual Methodology, Ethnography; PhD Student Experiences; Graduate student mentorship and experiences; Improvisation as a Professional Development Tool.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

Benjamin, S. & Alderman, D. (Forthcoming, 2017). Performing a Different Narrative: Museum Theater and the Memory-Work of Producing and Managing Slavery Heritage at Southern Plantation Museums *International Journal of Heritage Studies*.

Benjamin, S., Williams, J., & Maher, M. (Forthcoming, 2017). "Focusing the Lens to share the story: Using photographs and interviews to explore Doctoral students' sense of well-being": *International Journal of Doctoral Studies* .

Williams, J., **Benjamin, S.**, Kitterlin, M., & Brown, E. (Forthcoming, 2017). Emerging Effectual Soft Skills: Sports infused with Hospitality Concepts and Theories. *Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism Education*.

Williams, J., **Benjamin, S.**, Kitterlin, M., Brown, E., Schoffstall, D., & Zaman, M. (Forthcoming, 2017). A New Model for Hospitality Mentorship Programs. *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Education*.

Benjamin, S., Kline, C., Alderman, D., & Hoggard, W. (2016). Heritage Site visitation and attitudes toward African-American heritage preservation: An investigation of North Carolina residents. *Journal of Travel Research*, 55 (7).

Sox, C., **Benjamin, S.**, Carpenter, J., & Strick, S. (2013). An exploratory study of meeting planners and conference attendees' perceptions of sustainable issues in convention centers. *Journal of Convention & Event Tourism*, 14, 144-161.

Benjamin, S., Schneider, P., & Alderman, D. (2012). Lost in Mayberry: Is film-induced tourism a sustainable option in tourism planning? *Tourism Review International*, 16 (2), 139-150.

Alderman, D. H., **Benjamin, S.**, & Schneider, P. (2012). Transforming Mount Airy into Mayberry: Film-induced tourism as place making. *Southeastern Geographer*, 52 (2), 212-239.

Chapters in Edited Books

Williams, J. & **Benjamin, S.** (2016). Changes in Hospitality Consumer Needs and Wants. *Routledge Handbook of Hospitality Marketing*. Taylor & Francis Group.

Benjamin, S. (2015). Is this how you pictured it? Using photo elicitation as a methodological tool, in Hanna, S., Potter, A., Modlin, E.A., Carter, P., and Butler, D. (eds) *Social Memories and Heritage Tourism Methodologies*, New York: Routledge, pp. 92-108.

Alderman, D., Moreau, T., & **Benjamin, S.** (2012). The Andy Griffith Show: Mayberry as Working Class Utopia in Booker, K. (ed.) *Blue-Collar Pop Culture: From NASCAR to Jersey Shore, (Vol. 2) Television and the Culture of Everyday Life*, Praeger, pp. 51-69.

Chapters in Edited Books in Development

Benjamin, S. (2017). "Constructing a different story: The power behind performing emotional performances of slave narratives at U.S. plantation museums" in *Tourism and Wellness: Travel for the Good of All?* as part of the series Anthropology of Tourism: Heritage, Mobility, and Society coordinated by Michael Di Giovine and Noel Salazar. Lexington Books.

Articles Under Review

Duffy, L., Pickney, H., **Benjamin, S.**, & Mowatt, R. Violence in the Carolinas: Trumpian Implications for the Travel and Tourism Industry. (Under review: *Current Issues in Tourism*. Submitted September 2017).

Working Articles

Benjamin, S., & Knollenberg, W. Sense of Place of the Dirty Dancing Festival. Manuscript development stage

Knollenberg, W, **Benjamin, S.**, & Chen, R. Building an Event Planner's Tool Box: Case Study of Dirty Dancing Festival. Data Collection Stage

Benjamin, S. "Breaking Benjamin: A Woman's Film Tourism Pilgrimage to New Mexico"

Benjamin, S., Dilette, A., & Carpenter, C. "Traveling While Black: Lived experiences of Black travelers on Twitter" Target Journal: *Journal of Travel Research*.

Benjamin, S. & Kline, C. Improv(e) Workshops as Self Efficacy. Target Journal: *Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism Education Inquiry*

McMenamin, J.; **Benjamin, S.**, & Syvick, S. (2017). Animals as Meat: Promoting Concept and Product; *Animals, Food & Tourism*.

Maher, M. & **Benjamin, S.** "Factors Shaping Research Skill and Identity Development of First-year Biomedical Science Students" Target Journal: *The Journal of Higher Education*

Benjamin, S. (2017). When Plan A Fails: A Performance Auto-Ethnography. *Liminalities: a journal of performance studies*.

Kline, C. & **Benjamin, S.** "Tourism as a demand reduction strategy for pangolin trafficking: Inspiring an ethic of care among college students" Target Journal: *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*

Benjamin, S., Williams, J., Mowatt, R., Dilette, A., & Whaley, J. "Racial components of AirBnB Experiences"

Benjamin, S. & Hur, S. "The Three E's of Film-Tourism: Exploring the Engagement, Embodiment, and Emotional Experiences of *Game of Thrones* Film-Tourists Through Instagram". Target Journal: *Journal of Travel research*.

Benjamin, S. & Moret, L. "Improv(e) Your Fieldwork Skills: Enhancing Qualitative Research Through Improvisational Games"

Working Book Chapter

Benjamin, S. "Let them be heard: The emotional performances of slave narratives at US plantation sites" In *Tourism and Wellness: Travel for the Good of All?* series Anthropology of Tourism: Heritage, Mobility, and Society coordinated by Michael Di Giovine and Noel Salazar.

CERTIFICATIONS

Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research 2015

University of South Carolina

Administered by the Department of Educational Studies in the College of Education, the Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research program brings together several courses in qualitative research theory, method, and design in an effort to prepare graduate students, professors, professional researchers, program evaluators, etc. to conduct and apply best practices in the study of qualitative research and in conducting qualitative inquiry.

Certified Hospitality Educator 2014*American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute*

The Certified Hospitality Educator designation is globally recognized throughout the hospitality education community and is recommended by the International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (CHRIE); The Club Managers Association of America (CMAA); and the American Culinary Federation (ACF). Designed to arm Hospitality Educators with tools and strategies to motivate their students and revitalize the subject matter, CHE is a must have for every Hospitality teaching professional.

Topics covered in the CHE workshop include:

- Course Curriculum
- Planning the Course
- Instructional Objectives
- Understanding Learning Theory
- Creating a Positive Classroom Culture
- Lesson Planning
- Introducing the Daily Lesson
- Effective Endings to a Class
- Content Presentation Methods
- Interactive Teaching Methods
- Evaluations

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Benjamin, S. & Dilette, A. (2017). Workshop: Issues of Diversity & Inclusion in Hospitality & Tourism – A discussion amongst scholars. Critical Tourism Studies Conference. Spain, June 25-27.

Dilette, A. & **Benjamin, S.** (2017). *Traveling While Black: Storytelling Through Twitter*. Critical Tourism Studies Conference. Spain, June 25-27.

Benjamin, S. & Moret, L. (2017). Workshop: “Yes, and-ing” Fieldwork: Using Improvisational Games to Assist Researchers and Novice Evaluators" Critical Tourism Studies Conference. Spain, June 25-27.

Benjamin, S. (2017). *Breaking Benjamin: A Woman’s Pilgrimage to New Mexico*. Critical Tourism Studies Conference. Spain, June 25-27.

Benjamin, S. (2017). *Improv(e) Your Communication, Listening, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration Skills Using Improvisational Games Workshop*. CIDER 2017 Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy. Virginia Tech University, February 5-7, 2017

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Improv for the Academic Workshop*. Critical Tourism Studies North America Conference. Hunstville, Ontario, Canada. August 1-5, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Let Them Be Heard: the Emotional Performances of Slave Narratives at U.S. Plantation Sites*. Critical Tourism Studies North America Conference. Hunstville, Ontario, Canada. August 1-5, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *How Improvisation Can Help You Succeed Both on Stage and Off*. Annual ICHRIE Summer Conference & Marketplace. Dallas, Texas, July 20-22, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). When Plan A Falls Through: A Collective Story Methodology to Construct a

Narrative. 2016 Travel & Tourism Research Association's (TTRA) Annual Conference. Vail, Colorado, June 13-16, 2016.

Benjamin, S., Maher, M., Feldon, D., & Roska, J. (2015). *First Year of Doctoral Education in Pictures and Words: Understanding Influences on Students' Skill Development*. American Education Research Association Conference. Washington D.C.. March , 2016.

Benjamin, S. *Plantation Sites as Anti-Racist Landscapes: Interpreting How Counter-Narratives are Presented Through Enslaved Community Performances at Historic Plantation Sites*. Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Conference. Athens, Georgia, November 23, 2014.

Shepard, C., **Benjamin, S.,** & McMurtie, D. *Culturally responsive practice using critical race methodologies across Three fields*. Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment Annual Conference: Forging Alliances for Action: Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment Across Fields of Practice, Oak Brooks, Illinois, September 18-20, 2014.

Benjamin, S. & Alderman, D. *Getting lost in Mayberry: The pilgrimage of tourists to the 50th Mayberry Days Festival*. Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference, Chicago, IL. April 16-19, 2014.

McMurtie, D., Shepard, C., & **Benjamin, S.** *Using a Critical Race Theory lens in education, social work, and Tourism*. Intersections and Complexity in Diversity: College of Education Third Annual Diversity Forum, Columbia, South Carolina. March 21, 2014

Benjamin, S. *Is This How You Pictured It? Using Visual Methodology as an Empowering Tool in the Classroom* Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, Virginia Tech, VA, February 5-7, 2014.

Maher, M., **Benjamin, S.,** Hardee, M. *Conversation: A Cross-Disciplinary Consideration of Purpose, Placement, and Content of College Teaching Courses for Novice and Future College Instructors*. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, Virginia Tech, VA, February 5-7, 2014.

Platt, S., **Benjamin, S.,** & Shepard, C. *Culturally Relevant Teaching*. South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education. Columbia, SC. November, 8, 2013.

Maher, M., McLain, T., & **Benjamin, S.** *Walking the Tight Rope in Academia: A Consideration of Facilitating Strategies*. USC's Oktoberbest: A Symposium on Teaching. Columbia, SC. October 11, 2013.

Benjamin, S. *Cameras, Smartphones, iPads – Oh My! Using Visual Methods in the Classroom*. USC's Oktoberbest: A Symposium on Teaching. Columbia, SC. October 11, 2013.

Benjamin, S. *Is this how you pictured it? Perceived values of heritage sites through the lens of a camera*. American Association of Geographers Annual Conference. Los Angeles, CA. April 3-9, 2013

Benjamin, S. *Into the great "White" Open: How college students perceive the outdoors, 2012*. Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Conference, Asheville, North Carolina. November 18 – 22, 2012.

Benjamin, S. *How Hospitable is the South? A case study of African American residents in Columbia, South Carolina*. Race Ethnicity and Place Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico October 23-27, 2012.

Benjamin, S. *Sustainability: Tourism related Issues*. Workshop at USC of Global Service Leadership: YOU Creating Change. Columbia, South Carolina. October 4, 2012.

Benjamin, S. *How minority residents perceive their community as a viable minority tourist destination: A case study of African American residents in Columbia, South Carolina* Travel Tourism Research Association 2012 Annual Conference, Virginia Beach, VA June 2012.

Benjamin, S. *How minority residents perceive their community as a viable minority tourist destination: A case study of African American residents in Columbia, South Carolina.* HRTM Research Symposium. Columbia, South Carolina. March 30, 2012.

Benjamin, S. *On Being Black in Mayberry: The Racial Politics of Tourism in Mount Airy, North Carolina.* University of South Carolina Anthropology Research Workshop. Columbia, South Carolina. March 30, 2012.

Benjamin, S. *On Being Black in Mayberry: The Racial Politics of Tourism in Mount Airy, North Carolina.* African and African Diaspora Studies Colloquium with the Anthropology Department. Columbia, South Carolina. March 16, 2012.

Benjamin, S., & Alderman, D. *On Being Black in Mayberry: The Racial Politics of Tourism in Mount Airy, North Carolina.* Paper accepted for the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. New York, New York. February 24-28, 2011.

Alderman, D., & **Benjamin, S.** *Remaking Mount Airy into Mayberry: Film-Induced Tourism and the Politics of Place Identity* South Eastern Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Conference 2011. Savannah, Georgia November 19 – 22.

Oliver, J. & **Benjamin, S.** *Can I save the Planet While I am on Vacation?* Academy of Marketing Science 2011 Annual Meeting: Coral Gables, FL May 24-27, 2011.

INVITED UNIVERSITY PRESENTATIONS/SPOTLIGHT

Benjamin, S. Fall 2017 Faculty Lecture Series. Presentation to UT Chancellor's Honors Students on "Improv(e) Yourself: Using Improv Theater Games to listen, communicate, and collaborate better" September 28, 2017.

Benjamin, S. Fall 2017. Invited by Dr. Knollenberg & Dr. Barbearli to be a guest speaker for the PRTM's Equitable and Sustainable Tourism (EaST) Research Circle at NC State University Raleigh, NC. September 15, 2017.

Benjamin, S. Fall 2017. Invited by Dr. Chen to be on the RHTM590 PhD Seminar Class Panel: Topic: Teaching Excellence.

Benjamin, S. Fall 2017. Invited to talk on the Faculty Panel at New Faculty Teaching Institute through the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center (August, 2017).

Benjamin, S. (2017). Invited by Stephen Chastain, Informational Technology, for Faculty Spotlight with HRT410 Work.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Heritage Tourism Presentation, Sustainable Tourism Class, Invited by Dr. Kline. Appalachian State University. April 13, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Film Tourism Presentation, Hospitality Industry Course, Maryville College, Invited by Dean Aaser. April 11, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Film Tourism Presentation Sustainable Tourism Class, Invited by Dr. Kline. Appalachian State University. March 7, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Sustainable Tourism Presentation for Wildland Recreation Planning and Management, Forestry 423 Course, Invited by Dr. Fly. March 21, 2017

Benjamin, S. (2017). Film Tourism Presentation. Invited by Dr. Chen: HRT224 Course. March 2, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). *How to Yes-And In Life: Using Improvisational Games to Improv(e) Your Communication, Listening, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration Skills*. Invited by Dean Bob Rider to represent the College of Education, Health and Sciences for Mic/Night
<https://utworks.tennessee.edu/micnite/Pages/results.aspx?sp=137>

Benjamin, S. (2017). *Improv Workshop*. University of Tennessee Faculty Appreciation Week. February, 9, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). *Improv Workshop*. University of Tennessee PhD HPER 393 Psychology Seminar. February 3, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Smile For The Camera: Encouraging Visual Methodology To Tell a Narrative*. First Annual University of Tennessee Teaching and Learning Symposium: Reimagining Teaching. November 2, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Improv Workshop for PhD Seminar*. RHTM641, October 14, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Film Tourism Presentation*. HRT224 Course. September 20, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Speaking Engagement on Improvisational Games in the Classroom with the U.T. Dean's Board of Advisors*. Knoxville, TN September 16, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Presentation for Visual Auto-Ethnography for PhD Seminar*. RHTM641, August 26, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Improv(e) Your Communication, Listening, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration Skills Using Improvisational Games: Improv Workshop*. RHTM Faculty Retreat. Knoxville, TN. August 15, 2016.

Benjamin, S. (2016). Guest Speaker for Sustainable Tourism Class. Invited by Dr. Kline. Appalachian State University

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Improv(e) Your Communication, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration Skills Using Improvisational Games*. New Faculty Workshop with UT Geography Department. Invited by Dr. Alderman. Knoxville, TN, June 24, 2016.

Benjamin, S. Graduate student panelist for the "Claflin-University South Carolina: Next Stop, Grad School" Symposium for TRiO scholars. Columbia, SC. June 28, 2013.

Benjamin, S. *Alternative Tourism and Film Induced Tourism*. University of South Carolina HRTM (2011): Sustainable Tourism Class: Guest Lecturer

Benjamin, S. The Center for Sustainable Tourism, MS Degree, and Personal Work Experience East Carolina University RCLS 2000 (2011): Travel and Tourism Management Class: Guest Lecturer

Benjamin, S. East Carolina University Interior Design Class (2010): Guest Lecturer: *The Truth about the Event Industry* (2011).

Benjamin, S. East Carolina University Students Traveling Abroad Seminar (2009,2010, 2011): Presented on How to be a Responsible Traveler While Abroad

Benjamin, S. East Carolina University HMG 4200: Travel and Tourism Management Class (2009): Guest Lecturer. The Center for Sustainable Tourism.

Long, P. & **Benjamin, S.** East Carolina University Hospitality Class (2009): *Guest Lecturer How to be a Responsible Traveler While Abroad*.

INVITED PROFESSIONAL/INDUSTRY PRESENTATIONS

Benjamin, S. (2017). Invited guest speaker for Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association Monthly Lunch Meeting to present on SCI/HRT410 Lenoir City Project. Invited by Rachel Baker, Director of Loudon County DMO. June 1, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Invited guest speaker for Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association Stars of the Industry Luncheon PAULY Awards & Scholarship Presentations. May 4, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Invited by Julie Graham, Executive Director of Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council to facilitate improv workshop with hospitality/tourism leaders. May, 3, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2017). Presented with HRT410 students to the Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council on their Lenoir City Project at Visit Knoxville. March 1, 2017.

Benjamin, S. (2016). *Improv Workshop: Improv(e) Your Communication, Listening, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration Skills Using Improvisational Games: Improv Workshop for ABN Impact Exchange*. Knoxville Tennessee Alliance for Better Nonprofits Conference. Maryville College, Knoxville, TN. October 4, 2016.

Campbell, J., & **Benjamin, S.** *Preliminary Profile of South Carolina Farmer Market Vendors*. Market Managers Annual Workshop. Charleston, SC. November 7, 2012.

Benjamin, S., & Knollenberg, W., *Eco-Tourism and Mapping Opportunities in Greenville, North Carolina* Greenville City Council (2011): Greenville, NC.

Benjamin, S. *Case Study on the Roanoke River Paddle Trail in Morrisville, North Carolina*. Carolina Thread Forum (2010):

Benjamin, S., & Arnold, S. Ecotourism Luncheon (2010): Presented on *Developing a Regional Approach to Tourism for Greenville, NC* to the Assistant City Manager of Greenville, North Carolina

McKinnon, H. & **Benjamin, S.** *Retrofitting Rental Properties on the Outer Banks to be more Sustainable*. Outer

Banks Homebuilder's Association Meeting (2010)

Landry, C. & **Benjamin, S.** Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce Hatteras/ Ocracoke Island Council Retreat (2009): Presented on *The Center for Sustainable Tourism*

McKinnon, H. & **Benjamin, S.** Create the Future Initiative (2009): Presented on *Retrofitting Rental Properties on the Outer Banks to be more Sustainable*

Benjamin, S. North Carolina's Eastern Region Tourism Advisory Group (2009): Presented on *The Center for Sustainable Tourism and the Masters of Science of Sustainable Tourism Program*

ACCEPTED CONFERENCE POSTERS

Pinnix, E., Schneider, P., & **Benjamin, S.** *Diversity in adventure travel: The white face of adventure travel media*, 2012 Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium, April 1- 3, 2012. Cooperstown, New York.

Oliver, J., & **Benjamin, S.** *Why Do I Forget to Recycle While on Vacation?* 2011 Annual Travel Tourism Research Association Conference: "Seeing the Forest AND the Trees – Big Picture Research in a Detail Driven World" London, ON Canada. June 19-21, 2011.

Benjamin, S. *Lost in Mayberry: The Impact of the Andy Griffith Show on Sense of Place in Mount Airy, North Carolina.* National Extension Tourism Conference. Charleston, SC., 2011.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Improv(e) You Workshops: Improvisational Workshops to Help With Listening, Communication, and Creative Thinking Skills (<http://improvwithstefanie.weebly.com/>)

- 2017 **Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council Meeting**
Oak Ridge, TN
- 2017 **Marriott Leadership Training with Dr. James Williams (April 2017)**
Pigeon Forge, TN
- 2017 **University of Tennessee Faculty Appreciation Week (February 2017)**
Knoxville, TN
- 2017 **PhD HPER 393 Psychology Seminar (February 2017)**
- 2016 **PhD RHTM Seminar Course (October 2016)**
Knoxville, TN
- 2016 **University of Tennessee Advisory Board Meeting (October 2016)**
Knoxville, TN
- 2016 **Alliance for Better Nonprofits ABN Impact Exchange Conference (September)**
Knoxville, TN
- 2016 **Consumer Behavior PhD Class (August, 2016)**
RHTM 641 PhD Course, UT
- 2016 **RHTM Faculty Retreat (August, 2016)**
RHTM Faculty Retreat, Knoxville, TN
- 2016 **GFDA Geography Symposium (June 24, 2016)**
Knoxville, TN
Workshop of 20 new faculty and graduate students

UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee**January 2016 – Present*****Assistant Professor***

Assistant Professor in the Retail, Hospitality and Tourism Management department in the College of Education and Health and Human Performance

CORE: Progressions of Skill Development in Biology Doctorates**September 2014 – Present*****Qualitative Researcher***

- Working with Dr. David Feldon, Director, STE2M Center (Science, Technology, Engineering, Education, Mathematics) Associate Professor, Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences at Utah State University and Dr. Michelle Maher (USC) with conducting in-depth interviews with Biology PhD first year students to understand their experiences thus far with their doctoral process
- This study is funded through the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation exploring 260 participants at multiple universities across the United States
- This study has potential to transform understanding of graduate school experiences and to provide a foundation for new interventions aimed at enhancing the quality of future students' experiences and outcomes
- I am the lead researcher on an additional component of this study using Volunteer Employed Photography to capture what the doctoral student's daily routines are through photographs

RESET Initiative, Center for Sustainable Tourism, East Carolina University**May 2011 – Present*****Research Associate***

- Social Equity and the Representation of the Enslaved Community in Plantation Heritage Tourism
 - Racial/Gender Diversity and Social Responsibility in Tourism Marketing
 - Constructing the African American Traveler Profile
- Issues and Challenges Facing Civil Rights Movement Heritage Tourism

Inner Banks Qualitative Research Study**June 19, 2014 – July 19, 2014*****Qualitative Researcher***

- Collaborated with Associate Professor Christine Avenarius of Anthropology and her team on the perceptions and awareness about the natural environment of the Inner Banks, NC.
- Recruited residents of Washington, Hyde, and Tyrell counties and facilitated in-depth interviews including photo elicitation and social mapping in addition to focus groups
- Attended local community meetings and volunteered at the local middle school and food banks

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

University of South Carolina: Educational Leadership and Policies – Columbia, South Carolina**August 2013 – September 2014*****Research Assistant***

- Critique of Syllabi Project across 15 disciplines at the graduate level to understand how Teacher

Assistants were being trained and prepped

- PhD students of color experience in higher education with Dr. Spencer Platt. Facilitated in-depth interviews, transcribed and coded interviews
- T. Greener memorial team working on erecting the statue of the first African American professor at USC

SmartState Center of Economic Excellence – Columbia, South Carolina

August 2011 – December 2012

Research Assistant

- Distributed surveys and compiled statistical analysis of potential and current visitors to the Pee Dee, SC area to understand their motivations and perceptions of the region
- Joint effort with an interdisciplinary team on creating an economic impact study of African American tourism to the state of South Carolina
- Collaborated with the town of Aiken, South Carolina in an equestrian feasibility study including focus groups, surveys, and participant observation

Center for Sustainable Tourism – Greenville, North Carolina

August 2009 – June 2011

Graduate/Research Assistant

- Collaborated with the BlueGreen Initiative and Resort Realty to retrofit rental properties throughout the Outer Banks to be sustainable and energy efficient in order to market the Outer Banks as a sustainable vacation destination
- Implemented online surveys at Outer Banks rental homes to see if environmental values, environmental self-efficacy, attitudes toward recycling, perceptions that recycling is worth the effort is associated with knowledge of environmental policies and attitudes toward environmental responsibility
- Facilitated online surveys, in-depth interviews, and volunteer elicited photography to understand how film/television induced tourism influences the economic, social/cultural, environmental aspects of a place, specifically the town of Mount Airy, North Carolina
- Educating event planners, students, communities on being sustainable through research flyers, brochures, and lectures
- East Carolina University Office of International Affairs: Created the *Minimize Your Carbon Footprint While Abroad* Brochure educating students how to be a responsible and sustainable traveler

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

UT: Improv(e) You: Learning Improvisation Techniques to Enhance Creativity –UNHO101

Fall 2017

Honors 1 credit topic-based course that includes an Experience Learning element

20 students; invited by Virginia Stormer (Assistant Director of Honors and Scholars Program) to create a new course for first-year honor students

UT: Critical Sustainable Tourism – HRT 484

Fall 2017

Developed new undergraduate course around critical issues in tourism including race, gender, sexuality, power and politics.

34 Students.

UT: Strategic Management – HRT 410

Fall 2016; Spring 2017 University of Tennessee

Redesigned the course to include experiential learning and collaboration with Tennessee communities to help bring tourism to their area sustainably. Received two teaching grants for redesign including a photo-voice project and facilitating improvisational workshops.
24-35 undergraduate students

Fall 2016 – Lenoir City, TN

Photos: <https://goo.gl/photos/EfmpcrfqSTUf4rW47>

Video: <https://goo.gl/photos/gikKbxRosw56QT5M9>

Press: <https://t.e2ma.net/message/oaf14d/gsr8p9>

Spring 2017 – Anderson County, TN

YouTube promotional video:

<https://youtu.be/2IOoKefAuxY>

UT: Qualitative Research Methods – RHTM 695

Summer 2017

Developed a new PhD seminar course on qualitative research methodology in RHTM.
7 Students.

UT: Conventions/Meetings/Events – HRT 212

Understanding the concepts and models of conventions/meetings, roles of meeting planners, identifying decision makers, site selection, negotiating, budgeting, and marketing commitment.
Spring 2016; Fall 2016; Spring 2017: University of Tennessee
41-56 undergraduate students

USC: Schools and Communities – EDFN 300

Social, political, and historical aspects of diverse educational institutions in American culture with an emphasis on families, schools, and communities
Fall 2014, University of South Carolina
28 undergraduate students

USC: Co-Instructor for Principles of College Teaching – EDHE 738

Designed for prospective teachers in institutions of higher education. Considers the practice of teaching from philosophical, empirical, conceptual, and practical vantage points to prepare instructors for a changing and diverse student population.
Fall 2014, University of South Carolina
12 PhD/MS Students

USC: Foundations of Tourism – HRTM280

Basic introduction to the social science of tourism in the U.S. and the world, including definitional issues, motivations for travel, factors influencing demand-side and supply-side growth, the tourism product, market segmentation and marketing, socioeconomic, and ecological impacts, and destination life cycle dynamics
Fall 2012, University of South Carolina
50 undergraduate students

Teaching Assistant

USC: Schools in Communities – EDFN 300

Spring 2014, University of South Carolina
25 undergraduate students

USC: Resort Management – HRTM 388

Examines effective practices in the sustainable planning, development, and management of resorts and spas, including host community relations, social effects, design, marketing, operations, finance, and recreation programming.

Spring 2012, University of South Carolina

35 undergraduate students

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

The Nickelodeon Independent Theater – Columbia, South Carolina

May 2013 – March 2014

Concession Manager

- Concession stand manager and Box office manager
- Started films in the projector room and gave *curtain speeches* before each show in front of 99 persons
- Worked with educational outreach on Civil Rights Sundays production with guest speakers

Burberry – New York, New York

Sept 2007 – March 2009

Special Events Coordinator of the Americas

- Assisted in planning and implementing over 65 marketing and public relations events from seasonal trunk shows to multimillion dollar events
- Maintained VIP guest lists, researched, evaluated proposals, and contracted with caterers, models, hair and make-up artists, photographers, videographers, musicians, ground transportation, and security force
- Managed charitable donations, sponsorships, journal ads, and table seating arrangements
- Collected and logged invoices and expense reports, using SAP
- Recruited, managed and trained Interns and assisted in recruiting volunteers
- Coordinated marketing calendar published on intranet and distributed to retail stores in North America
- Prepared PowerPoint presentations of all events including recap, photographs, and press coverage
- Organized and shipped gift bags and caterers equipment, and rented glassware, chairs, and tables

Christian Dior – New York, New York

March – Sept 2007

Public Relations Assistant

- Catalogued couture samples and collected clothing, shoes, handbags, and jewelry for fashion shoots and advertisements
- Compiled, electronically scanned, and organized press releases

Gen Art – Miami Beach, Florida

June 2006 – Feb 2007

Marketing Intern

Leading arts and entertainment organization showcasing talent of new artists and performers –
www.GenArt.org

- Assisted in planning over 20 events for fashion, music, film, and art industries with 30 – 2,000 guests

- Identified regional partners and negotiated value-added services for members
- Managed office tasks including compiling expense reports, coordinating meetings, and scheduling event itineraries

Ritz Carlton Hotel – Amelia Island, Florida

Jan – May 2006

Recreation Intern

- Worked in 5 service areas including, Ritz Kids, Beach/Pool, Gym, Spa, and Bicycle Rentals
- Managed Easter events for teen program including sports activities, sand castle competition, and karaoke/dance night out
- Conceptualized and implemented recreation department daily staff schedule
- Received two *First Class Act Awards* for excellent customer service

FUNDING/ GRANTS ACCEPTED

- 2016 Anderson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Faculty Proposal
University of Tennessee
First Place \$1000 grant for “Creating a Film Event Management Toolbox:
Implementing sustainable initiatives to assist stakeholders with the 2016 Dirty Dancing
Festival
- 2016 Teaching Innovation Grant
University of Tennessee
Awarded an internal grant of \$3,500 for the redesign of HRT’s Capstone Course
(HRT410); “Using a Different Lens in HRT410: Implementing photovoice as an active
learning pedagogy”
- 2016 Teaching for Impact Grant
University of Tennessee
Awarded an internal grant of \$500; Improv Workshop for HRT410

Critical Tourism Studies North American Conference 2016

Awarded \$550 conference waiver to present an Improv for Academics workshop by CTSNA.

Pop Culture/ American Culture Association Annual Conference 2014

Awarded a \$500 conference waiver to attend and present.

Conference in Chicago, IL by University of South Carolina Graduate School Travel Grant

American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting 2013

Awarded a \$450 conference waiver to attend and present. Asked to present based on presentation at Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference from Dr. David Butler.

Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference 2012

Awarded \$750 funding to attend and present at the Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico by University of South Carolina Graduate School Travel Grant

Travel Tourism Research Association 2011 Conference Funding

Awarded \$860 funding to attend and present at the Travel Tourism Research Association in London, Ontario, Canada by East Carolina University Student Government

FUNDING/ GRANTS (WORKING/DENIED)

(UNDER REVIEW) *Trends and Strategies for Tourism in Appalachia*: \$190,168. [PIs: Tim Ezzell, Rachel JC Chen, and Cat Wilt]. Role of **Stefanie Benjamin**: UT research team member. [funding portion to Stef: \$7,773 + \$1,399]. Funding Agency: Appalachian Regional Commission.

(Denied) **Benjamin, S.** & Moret, L. (2017). Professional and Scholarly Development Awards Visual Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. “Yes, and-ing” *Fieldwork: Using Improvisational Games to Assist Researchers and Novice Evaluators*. \$5,000. University of Tennessee.

(Denied) **Benjamin, S.** & Hur, Sonia. (2016). Faculty/Staff Research Award. *The Three E's of Film Tourism: Exploring the Engagement, Embodiment, and Emotional Experiences of Game of Thrones Film Tourists*. \$1500. University of Tennessee.

AWARDS

Pi Beta Phi at The University of Tennessee

Recognition of select faculty and staff nominated by Pi Beta Phi members for being great members of University of Tennessee

November, 2016

East Carolina University Research & Creative Achievement Week

Humanity Poster Winner

Lost in Mayberry: The Impact of the Andy Griffith Show on Sense of Place in Mount Airy, North Carolina

April 2011

\$50

National Extension Tourism

Recipient National Extension Tourism Scholarship

March 2011

Conference Scholarship

Tourism Cares

Recipient Eric Friedheim Scholarship

August 2010

\$1000 Tuition Scholarship

MASS MEDIA ENGAGEMENT & RECOGNITION

- Provided consultation and interviewed on Dirty Dancing Festival data collection, “I went to a dirty dancing festival and it made me weepy” [BuzzFeed.com](https://www.buzzfeed.com/elisabethdonnelly/i-went-to-a-dirty-dancing-festival-and-it-made-me-weepy?utm_term=.ippeY8oeBW#.eqPnJpAnLN), September 2, 2017. https://www.buzzfeed.com/elisabethdonnelly/i-went-to-a-dirty-dancing-festival-and-it-made-me-weepy?utm_term=.ippeY8oeBW#.eqPnJpAnLN
- Contributor to Wallet.Com for their “Best States for Summer Road Trips” piece. [Wallet.Com](https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-for-summer-road-trips/4648/), June 7, 2017. <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-for-summer-road-trips/4648/>
- University of Tennessee Office of Communications and Marketing “Expert” Guide

- 5 Questions with Professor Stefanie Benjamin” – Tennessee Today: News and Events for the UT Community. September 7, 2017. <http://tntoday.utk.edu/2017/09/07/5-questions-professor-stefanie-benjamin/>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

- 14th Annual Qualitative Research Summer Intensive: July 24-28, 2017 in Chapel Hill, NC. Took two workshops: Oral History and Storytelling
- Discussing Race in the Classroom with TN Teaching and Learning Center (2017)
- Getting to Know Canvas with TN Teaching and Learning Center (May 2017)
- Nvivo 11 Fundamentals (2017)
- STRIDE Faculty Search Committee Workshop (2017)
- Experiential learning workshop, Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center (Feb, 2016)
- University of Tennessee Teaching and Learning Symposium: Reimagining Teaching (Nov, 2016)
- Jumpstart Course Redesign with TN Teaching and Learning Center (May 2016)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2017	UTK Faculty Senate Alternate UTK Faculty Senate Alternate for The Benefits and Professional Development Committee (2017)
2017	University of Tennessee Office of Communications and Marketing “Expert” Guide
2017	University of Tennessee Garden Gala (April 28, 2017) <i>University of Tennessee Gardens; Volunteer</i>
2017	Big Orange Preview Event, April 1 <i>Represented RHTM at the Big Orange Preview Event at UT Visitor Center with Dr. Williams</i>
2017	Committee Search Member for HRT Faculty Position
2017	SETTRA Conference <i>Negotiated sponsorship of Research Symposium and registration costs at SETTRA; Worked the tradeshow booth at the conference</i>
2017	13th Annual CEHHS Graduate Student Research Colloquium Judge <i>University of Tennessee</i>
2017	CIDER Conference <i>Organized the CIDER trip to Blacksburg, VA and recruited Dr. Williams, Dr. Childs, and Kenny Jordan to attend</i>
2017	University of Tennessee Faculty Appreciation Week <i>Facilitated an improvisational workshop for Faculty Appreciation Week</i>

- 2016 - Present RHTM Social Media Coordinator**
Conducted "Real Students of RHTM" for Facebook and Instagram collecting in-depth interviews of RHTM students' experiences with their tenure; Created publication book
- 2016 - Present** Meetings Planning International (MPI) Student Group Faculty Advisor
- 2016 University of Tennessee Garden Gala (May 2, 2016)**
University of Tennessee Gardens
 Volunteered with my HRT212 2016 students in the set-up, distribution of appetizers/plated dinner/dessert, and break-down of event. All proceeds went to the Gardens.
- 2016 Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week (April 4-8)**
University of Tennessee
 Judge for Three Minute Thesis Competition
- 2016 2016 CEHHS Graduate Student Research Colloquium Judge**
University of Tennessee
 Judged student posters
- 2016 GHKA Career Fair**
Knoxville, TN
 Promoted and represented the RHTM Department for Knox County Career Day
- 2014 Civil Rights Documentary Series: April 15, 2014**
40 Years Later: Now Can We Talk?
 Associate Director, screening and presentation of the Witten Award for Distinguished Documentary Film in Education; Museum of Education
 Assisted community leaders to assigned seats and floated the event to attend to any unseen tasks/concerns.
 Part of Indie Grits Film Series with Dr. Craig Kridel
- 2013 Claflin-University South Carolina: Next Stop, Grad School: June 28, 2013**
University of South Carolina
 Panelist for symposium for TRiO scholars. Spoke about my experiences and gave advice on graduate school
- 2011-2012 HRTM Graduate Student Association**
University of South Carolina
 President
 Graduate student group consisting of MS and PhD students
 Organized first HRTM Research Workshop. Volunteer opportunities, and social activities
- 2010-2011 Students for Sustainable Tourism**
East Carolina University
 Vice President
 Student group consisting of undergraduates and graduate students
 Organized sustainable tourism fieldtrips, guest speakers, and research symposiums
- 2004-2006 Member, Cicerones Student Alumni Association**
University of Florida

Selected out of 500 applicants to receive *Cicerone All Star Award*
 Led multicultural groups of 100 prospective students on 90-minute informational tours
 Recruited and interviewed new applicants, and led informational sessions on being a
 Cicerone

PHD DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 2017 – Present** GEO PhD Student, Janna Caspersen, Dissertation Committee Member
- 2017 – Present** GEO PhD Student, Emma Walcott-Wilson, Dissertation Committee Member
- 2017 – Present** RHTM PhD Student, Thamer Alshammari, Dissertation Committee Member
- 2016 - Present** RHTM PhD Student, Kenny Jordan, Dissertation Committee Member
- 2016 - Present** RHTM PhD Student, Fateen Alshammari, Dissertation Committee Member
- 2016 - 2017** RHTM PhD Student, Justin Kaewnopparat, Dissertation Committee Member

MENTORING OF STUDENTS

- Summer 2017: UT Educational Advancement Program's 2017 Summer Research Institute: Research Mentor for Chelsea Carpenter with *Traveling While Black* study. She received 3rd place in the poster competition
- Spring 2017: Independent Study with PhD Marketing Student, Andrew Anglin
- Spring 2017: Independent Study with Caroline Coldiz
- Spring: 2017: Independent Study with Alison Smith
- Fall 2016 – Spring 2017: Mentor for Honors Thesis Undergraduate Maddie Rule
- Fall 2016: Independent Study with Thad Johnson

INVITED LETTER OF SUPPORT; SUBMISSION OF ARTICLE

- July, 2017: Promotion of Full Professor for Dr. Mowatt at Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington; Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies
- June, 2017: Dr. Joseph Cheer invited to submit to *Tourism Geographies* and *Tourism Anthropology* after seeing my CTS presentations
- June, 2017: Martina Petrović, University College of Management and Design ASPIRA, Croatia invited to be a guest speaker through grant

PEER REVIEW EXPERIENCE

e-Review of Tourism Research Journal

2017

Associate Editor

International Journal of Retail & Distribution Management Reviewer

July 2017 – Present

Tourist Studies Reviewer

July 2017 – Present

Critical Tourism Studies Conference

2016

Conference Reviewer

Journal of Tourism Management Reviewer

June 2016 – Present

Southeastern Geographer Reviewer

January 2017 – Present

Chapter Reviewer

May 2016

- *Craft Beverages and Tourism, Volume 1 – The Rise of Breweries and Distilleries in the United States* (Eds. Carol Klein (Appalachian State University), Sue Slocum (George Mason University), Christina Cavaliere (Stockton University))

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Journal of Tourism Geographies Reviewer

August 2013 – Present

- Peer review

Illuminare Peer Reviewer

September 2012 – 2015

- Peer review journal articles for the Illuminare Student Journal

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Travel and Tourism Research Association	2010 – Present
Southeastern Geography Member	2012 – 2017
American Association of Geographers	2012 – 2017
South Carolina Council for African American Studies	2012 – 2015
University of Florida Alumni Association	2006 – 2014
Historic Columbia Foundation	2011 – 2013
The International Ecotourism Society	2009 – 2012
American Marketing Association	2002 – 2006

RELEVANT GRADUATE COURSE WORK

Sustainable Tourism

Principles of Tourism and Sustainability (Dr. Joseph Fridgen)
 Environmental Systems and Sustainability (Dr. Tom Allen)
 Planning and Policy of Sustainable Tourism (Dr. David Edgell)
 Development and Management of Sustainable Tourism (Dr. Carol Klein)

Hospitality Management/Recreation, Leisure Studies

Ph.D. Graduate Seminar in Hospitality Management (Dr. Eugenia Cox)
 Hospitality Marketing Strategy (Dr. Simon Hudson)
 Managing Commercial Tourism (Dr. Bill Obenour)
 Smoky Mountain Consortium (Dr. Hans Vogelsong)

Education

Racial and Ethnic Diversity and the Curriculum (Dr. Daniella Cook)
 The School and Social Order (Dr. Nick Mariner)
 History of American Education (Dr. Nick Mariner)
 Ethnography and Education (Dr. Allison Anders)
 Understanding Sexual Diversity in the Classroom & other Social Institutions (Dr. Susan L. Schramm Pate)

Teaching

Principles of College Teaching (Dr. Michelle Maher)
 Teaching the Professor Seminar (Dr. Cathy Gustafson)
 College Teaching Seminar (Dr. Richard Williams)

Research Methods

Advanced Qualitative Research (Dr. Michelle Bryan)
 Qualitative Research Methods in Sociology (Dr. Lee Maril)
 Field Problems in Ethnology (Dr. Erica Gibson)
 Ethno-history through Anthropology (Dr. Terry Weik)
 Applied Research in Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management (Dr. Jason Carpenter)
 Advanced Research Seminar in Hospitality and Tourism Management (Dr. Ercan Turk)

Theory

Critical Race Theory (Dr. Allison Anders)
 Cultural Theory and Ethnography in Anthropology (Dr. David Simmons)
 Scientific Foundations of Hospitality and Tourism Management (Dr. Robert Li)

Geography

Advanced Geographic Images (Dr. Derek Alderman)
 Seminar in Cultural Geography (Dr. Derek Alderman)

Statistics

Educational Statistics II (Dr. Michael Seamen)
 Statistics Analysis (Dr. Hans Vogelsong)

VOLUNTEER WORK
Einstein Simplified Improv Group, Knoxville, TN.

March 2016 – Present

Free improv show every Tuesday in Knoxville, TN.

Oak Ridge Children's Festival – Part of entertainment; Love Kitchen Benefit Show

- Chuckle Sandwich Improv Group, Columbia, SC*** Sept. 2014 – Aug. 2015
Only female improv member on a local comedy sketch team
- Jam Festival, Columbia, SC*** September 2013
Helped with capturing attendee's zip codes and gave out wristbands
- City Roots, Columbia, SC*** May –Nov. 2013
Urban City farm volunteer: Work with crops and packaging of produce
- Rosewood Crawfish Festival, Columbia, SC*** May 2013
Festival Volunteer: Distributed surveys at the festival
- Mardi Gras Festival, Columbia, SC*** February 2012
Festival Volunteer : Worked check-in
- Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Sugar grove, VA*** July 2011
Konnarock Trail Crew Volunteer
Week long restoration work of the Appalachian Trail
- FROGGS (Friends of Greenville, NC Greenways)*** July 2011
Organized Greenville, North Carolina Greenway Fun Day by creating a photo scavenger hunt. Created a list of highlights about the Greenway to be placed on Greenville's public TV Station to publicize the Greenway.
- Cue Grass Festival, Columbia, SC*** April 2011
Festival volunteer
- Habitat for Humanity, Kauai, HI*** June 2009
Global Trip to Hawaii

BIOGRAPHY

Stefanie K. Benjamin completed a Master of Science in Sustainable Tourism from East Carolina University where she completed her thesis on film-induced tourism. In August 2015, she graduated with her doctorate in foundations of inquiry in the College of Education at the University of South Carolina. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management program in the College of Education and Health and Human Performance at the University of Tennessee. Her research interests include cultural and historical landscapes regarding heritage tourism in the U.S. South with special attention devoted to power, politics, and collective memory. Additionally, she is devoted to sustainable tourism through planning, education, and development; film-induced tourism; performances; festivals/events; and pop-culture. Furthermore, Benjamin is a certified qualitative researcher implementing visual methodology, ethnographical methodology, and performance studies in her research.