

GRADUATE EXIT SEMINAR

THELMA I. VELEZ

A Just Recovery: Agroecology and Climate Justice in Puerto Rico post-Hurricane Maria



What accounts for disaster mobilization in marginalized communities? Under what conditions do social movement organizations devote or redirect their resources to support the goal of another organization or movement? How do academics engage in disaster research without perpetuating colonial, extractivist practices? In my research, I explored these questions through a study centered on climate justice mobilization, the Our Power Puerto Rico #JustRecovery campaign, and expansion of agroecology in Puerto Rico post-Hurricane Maria. In this seminar I summarize my findings from a critical, qualitative mixed-methods study where I incorporated:

participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and thematic analysis of extant and archival data. This research is supplemented with my experience as a volunteer on agroecological farms throughout Puerto Rico, where I participated in brigades rebuilding farms, and connected with various organizations promoting the expansion of agroecology across the island.

Advisor: Dr. Kerry Ard

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021
1:00 P.M.

Join the seminar via Zoom:

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/97335693856> Password: 466882