

# Ann Ngoc Tran

Ph.D. Candidate | American Studies and Ethnicity | University of Southern California

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## Education

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### University of Southern California

Ph.D. in American Studies and Ethnicity

Expected 2025

M.A. in American Studies and Ethnicity

Spring 2023

Dornsife Graduate Fellowship Recipient

Transpacific Studies Research Fellow

Dissertation Committee: Viet Thanh Nguyen (co-chair), Adrian De Leon (co-chair), Francille R. Wilson, Fiori Berhane

### Texas Christian University

B.A. in English, *Phi Beta Kappa* and *magna cum laude*

May 2020

B.A. in History, *magna cum laude*

May 2020

Minor in Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies

## Areas of Interest

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Boat refugees, Southeast Asian history, Diaspora and Migration Studies, Asian American history, Critical Refugee Studies, Vietnam War, transpacific studies, Modern U.S. history

## Publications

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles

2023 “Imperial Gift: Soap, Humanitarianism, and Black Markets in the Vietnam War.” *Radical History Review* 2023 (147): 55–76. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

### Book Reviews

2024 “*Refugee Lifeworlds: The Afterlife of the Cold War in Cambodia*” (Book Review). *Amerasia Journal*. <https://doi-org.libproxy2.usc.edu/10.1080/00447471.2023.2274269>

## Awards

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2022 USC Library Research Award (1<sup>st</sup> Place), University of Southern California  
Awarded for the best graduate research paper using USC Special Collections  
“USC in 1970: Politics, Race, and the Antiwar Movement”

2021–2023 Frank S. Kawana Leadership Scholarship Award, USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association

2021 Raymond J. Cunningham Paper Prize, American Historical Association  
Awarded for the best published article written by an undergraduate student  
“A Bloody Solidarity: Nguyen Thai Binh and the Vietnamese Antiwar Movement in the Long Sixties,” *The Boller Review*, Vol 5 (2020)

## External Grants & Fellowships

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2024	SHAFR-Gale Summer Fellowship in Digital History
2024–2025	AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship (\$25,000)
2024	Center for History and Culture of Southeast Texas and the Upper Coast Fellowship, Lamar University
2024	The Dianne Woest Fellowship in the Arts and Humanities, The Historic New Orleans Collection
2023	Samuel Flagg Bemis Dissertation Research Grant, SHAFR
2022	Immigration History Research Center and Archives Grant-in-Aid Award, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
2022–2023	Global South Research Grant, New Orleans Center for the Gulf South, Tulane University
2022	Short-Term Research Fellowship, Frances S. Summersell Center for the Study of the South, The University of Alabama
2022	The Portal to Texas History Fellowship, University of North Texas
2022	Russell F. Weigley Travel Grant, Society for Military History
2021	AHA Travel Award, American Historical Association
2021	SEASSI Language Scholarship, UW-Madison
2016–2020	Midland College Scholarship - \$20,000

## Internal Grants & Fellowships

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2024–2025	USC-Mellon Humanities in the Digital World Fellowship (\$40,000)
2024	Teresa Wilson Endowed Fellowship, USC Dornsife
2024	EASC Graduate Fellowship, East Asian Studies Center, University of Southern California
2023	Frank S. Kawana Leadership Scholarship, University of Southern California
2023	Transpacific Studies Summer Research Grant, University of Southern California
2023	ASE Summer Research Grant, University of Southern California
2023	Diane Sonosky Montgomery and Jerol Sonosky Graduate Fellowship for Environmental Sustainability Research, USC Wrigley Institute for Environment and Sustainability
2022	ASE Graduate Student Conference Award, University of Southern California
2022	ASE Graduate Student Summer Research Grant, University of Southern California
2022	USC Graduate School Summer Research and Writing Grant
2022	GSG Professional Development Fund Award, University of Southern California
2022	ASE Graduate Student Conference Award, University of Southern California
2021	Transpacific Studies Research Grant, University of Southern California
2021	ASE Summer Research Grant, University of Southern California
2021	Transpacific Studies Summer Research Grant, University of Southern California
2020	Diversity Research Award, Texas Christian University
2019	Kathryne McDorman Honors Scholar, Texas Christian University
2019	Paul Wassenich Founder's Medal, Texas Christian University
2017–2020	Ronald E. McNair Fellow, Texas Christian University
2016–2020	Chancellor's Scholarship (full tuition), Texas Christian University

## External Publications

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Tran, Ann Ngoc. "Vietnamese Migrations and Narratives of Unsettlement." *University of Minnesota Libraries*. September 15, 2023. [Link](#).

Tran, Ann Ngoc. "Local Fishing Villages and the Troubled Future of Fishing in Việt Nam." *USC Dornsife*. July 10, 2023. [Link](#).

Tran, Ann. "8 Essential Vietnamese Restaurants in Houston's Bellaire Neighborhood." *Vietcetera*. January 5, 2022. [Link](#).

## Invited Lectures

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"Unsettled Histories of the Vietnamese Diaspora," Lecture for the *Contested Histories* Workshop, World History and Literature Initiative (WHaLI) at the International Institute at the University of Michigan, June 17–18.

## Conferences and Symposiums

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Association for Asian American Studies, Seattle, WA, April 27, 2024

Paper Presented: "Uncharted Waves: Alternate Routes, Refusals, and Returns on the Boat"

CSEAS Vietnam-Centric Approaches, Berkeley, CA, April 19–20, 2024

Paper Presented: "Imagined Diaspora: Anticipating Departure in Postwar Việt Nam"

Global Asias Conference, Irvine, CA, February 23, 2023

Paper Presented: "Phantasmatic Geography: Riverine Wars in the Mekong Delta"

American Studies Association, Montreal, Canada, November 5, 2023

Roundtable Participant: "The Political Lives of Infrastructure"

Western Historical Association, San Antonio, TX, October 15, 2022

Paper Presented: "Placemaking, Cultural Memory, and Refugee Politics in Westminster's Vietnamese Supermarkets"

Society for Military History Conference, Fort Worth, TX, May 1, 2022

Roundtable Participant: "The Elusive Home Front and Its Place in Military History"

Vietnam War Studies Symposium, "1972: The War Between North and South Vietnam," April 2022

Paper Presented: "Imperial Gift: Soap, Squalor, and the Archives of Medical Humanitarianism"

Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Conference, October 15, 2021

Paper Presented: "Battle on Two Fronts: The Vietnamese Left in the Anti-War Movement"

Cultural Studies Association, Virtual Conference, June 10, 2021

Paper presented: "Fooding on Facebook: How Facebook Groups Saved Asian/American Restaurants in the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Association for Asian American Studies, Virtual Conference, April 8, 2021

Paper presented: "Archives in Transit: Boat Refugees and the Refuse of Viet Nam"

Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture Symposium, USC, March 2, 2021

Paper presented: "Living in Memory: The Counternarratives of War at the Boat Refugee Memorial"

Society for Military History Young Scholars Conference, Arlington, VA, May 3, 2020 (cancelled)

Paper accepted: "From Student to Hijacker: The Conversion of Vietnamese Students in America During the Vietnam War"

Association for Asian American Studies, Washington, D.C., April 11, 2020 (cancelled)

Paper accepted: "A Bloody Solidarity: Nguyen Thai Binh and the Union of Vietnamese in the Anti-Vietnam War Movement"

Association for Asian American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 26, 2019

Paper presented: "Work After War: Sanctuary, Labor, and Vietnam American Literature"

## Teaching

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### Teaching Assistant

Spring 2023 AMST 150: The American War in Viet Nam with Viet Thanh Nguyen

Fall 2022 AMST 101: Race and Class in Los Angeles with George J. Sánchez

Spring 2022 AMST 206: The Politics and Culture of the 1960s with George J. Sánchez

Fall 2021 AMST 252: Black Social Movements with Francille Rusan Wilson

## Professional Academic Training

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*Journal of Southern History* Manuscript Workshop, July 8, 2022

VOCES Oral History Center Summer Institute, June 6-10, 2022

SEASSI Summer Intensive Language Program, June-August 2021

Language Completed: Advanced Vietnamese I & II

## Service

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Graduate Representative, Vietnam Studies Group, Association for Asian Studies, January 2024–Present

Co-organizer and Participant, Transpacific Research Cluster, Department of American Studies & Ethnicity at USC, August 2021–May 2023

Organizer, *Archipelagic/s Symposium*, University of Southern California, April 5, 2023

Invited scholars: Candice Fujikane, Keith Camacho, Jodi Kim, Eryn Le Espiritu Gandhi

## **Employment**

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Short-Term Consultant, *Orange County School District*, June 2023–August 2023

- Designed and co-wrote “The Vietnamese American Refugee Experience” model curriculum and lesson plans for K-12

Freelance Writer, *Vietcetera*, September 2021–December 2021

- Created storytelling content with original angles and cultural relevance to a Vietnamese American reading audience

Outreach Fellow, Department of English, Texas Christian University, Fall 2019–May 2020

- Managed social media and publicity for the Created storytelling content with original angles and cultural relevance to a Vietnamese American reading audience department
- Designed posters, flyers, and PowerPoints for events and important news

Writing Intern, Magacin Kabare, Bosnia and Herzegovina, June 2019–July 2019

- Conducted research and composed documents with terminology for grant proposals
- Designed student-led workshops and discussions for art and activism projects

## **Professional Associations**

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American Studies Association

American Historical Association

Association for Asian Studies

Association for Asian American Studies

The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations