

SAMANTHA THOMPSON, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
UBC Centre for Climate Justice | School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Education
University of British Columbia
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Geography (2018-2023)

Department of Geography, University of Washington

Dissertation: *Crises of Care: Spatializing infrastructures of care through tenant protections.*

Committee: Sarah Elwood (Chair), Kim England, Lawrence Knopp, Eugene McCann (SFU Geography), Rebecca Walter (Runstad Dept of Real Estate).

Certificate in Housing Studies (2020)

Runstad Department of Real Estate, University of Washington

Master of Arts in Geography (2016-2018)

Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University

Thesis: *"It's yours": Tenant experiences of home and care in women's non-profit housing.*

Committee: Eugene McCann (chair), Tiffany Muller Myrdahl.

Bachelor of Arts in History (with Distinction) (2012-2016)

History major, Geography minor, Certificate in Urban Studies, Simon Fraser University

Associate of Arts in Global Stewardship (2009-2012)

Community and international studies, Capilano University

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025-present	Postdoctoral Research Fellow , Centre for Climate Justice, School of Kinesiology and Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC. (under supervision of Drs. Liv Yoon and Mohammed Rafi Arefin).
2024-present	Adjunct Assistant Professor , School of Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC.
2023-present	Research Associate , Right to Housing Research Cluster. University of Victoria, Victoria, BC.

2023-2025 **Postdoctoral Fellowship** (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Housing Research Training Award). School of Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC (under supervision of Dr. Jeff Masuda).

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS & RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 Research Assistant, “The Housing Spectrum, Temperature Extremes, and the Costs of Thermal Safety and Comfort: A Community-Informed Policy Evaluation of Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs.” PI: Dr. Sam Kay, Department of Geography, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Funded by UW EarthLab Innovations Grant.

2020 Research Assistant, “Transitioning to Homeownership: Asset Building for Low- and Moderate-Income Households.” PIs: Dr. Rebecca J. Walter and Dr. Arthur Acolin, Runstad Department of Real Estate, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

2020-2023 Research Assistant, “Domestic Workers’ Labor Rights in Seattle.” PI: Kim England, Department of Geography, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Funded by Washington State Labor Research Grant (the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies).

2020 Research Assistant, “Impact of hotels as non-congregate emergency shelters.” PIs: Drs. Gregg Colburn and Rachel Fyall, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology and Runstad Department of Real Estate, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

2019 Staff Associate, University of Washington (Summer 2019).

2017 Research Assistant, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University with Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative. PI: Dr. Eugene McCann.

2016-present Editorial Assistant, *Environment and Planning C: Politics & Space*.

AWARDS

2022 Edward L. Ullman Doctoral Award for Excellence in Scholarship (Department of Geography, University of Washington).

2020 Howard Martin Medal for Extraordinary Achievement in Scholarship, Teaching, &

Service (Department of Geography, University of Washington).

- 2018 CWAG (Canadian Women and Geography) 2018 Graduate Student Paper Award.
Affordable housing? A feminist interpretation of housing shortages and class crises.
- 2018 Jennifer Fluri and Amy Trauger Student Essay Competition winner (with the Place + Space Collective) (Supporting Women in Geography, Pennsylvania State University).
Care-full friendships? Resisting the neoliberal university through solidarity collectives.
- 2017 Canada Graduate Scholarship-Master's (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada).
- 2009 Excellence Scholarship (Capilano University).

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- 2024-2026 Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Project: "Care-full housing: Impacts of care on renters' experiences of crises in housing co-operatives".
- 2022 Graduate School Presidential Dissertation Fellowship in the Social Sciences (University of Washington).
- 2022 Digital Humanities Fellowship (Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington).
- 2022 Howard Martin Research Grant (Department of Geography, University of Washington).
- 2022 Gerlach Fellowship (Department of Geography, University of Washington).
- 2021 Martha H. Duggan Fellowship in Caring Labor (Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington).
- 2020-2022 Doctoral Fellowship (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada).
- 2018 Graduate Students' Society at SFU Professional Development Grant (Simon Fraser University).
- 2017 Michael Geller Graduate Scholarship in Urban Development (Simon Fraser University).
- 2017 Department of Geography Graduate Fellowship (Simon Fraser University).
- 2015 Building Owners and Managers Association International Undergraduate Scholarship in

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles with Peer Review

Thompson, S. and Elwood, S. Feminist digital ethnographies. (*Under Review*).

Thompson, S. (2025). “I hope you can help me”: Tenant careworkers and the accessibility of local state care infrastructure in housing crises in Vancouver, BC. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*.

Thompson, S. (2024). Caring Housing Futures: A Radical Care Framework for Understanding Rent Control Politics in Seattle, USA. *Antipode* 56(3), 739-1067. DOI: 10.1111/anti.12874.

Thompson, S. and Barr, J. (2024). “It’s the hope that kills you”: challenging cisheteropatriarchal possibilities of romance, friendship, and care in *Ted Lasso*. *Journal of Popular Television* 12(2), 213-230. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1386/jptv_00125_1.

Thompson, S. (2023). “Homes not shelters”: co-productions of home in financialized social housing for women in Vancouver, Canada. *Urban Geography* 44(4), 668-686 DOI: [10.1080/02723638.2021.2014668](https://doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2021.2014668).

Colburn, G., Fyall, R., McHugh, C., Moraras, P., Ewing, V., **Thompson, S.**, Dean, T., and Argodale, S. (2022). Hotels as Noncongregate Emergency Shelters: An Analysis of Investments in Hotels as Emergency Shelter in King County, Washington During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Housing Policy Debate*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2022.2075027>.

Thompson, S. (2021). “Not your ‘poor dear’”: Community, care, and support in women’s non-profit housing. *Gender Place & Culture* 29(8), 1121-1140. DOI: [10.1080/0966369X.2021.1937063](https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2021.1937063).

Acolin, A., Ramiller, A., Walter, R.J., **Thompson, S.**, Wang, R. (2021). Transitioning to Homeownership: Asset Building for Low- and Moderate-Income Households. *Housing Policy Debate* 31(6), 1032-1049. DOI: [10.1080/10511482.2021.1949372](https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2021.1949372)

Book Chapters with Peer Review

Thompson, S. and Masuda, J. (Accepted). Community care and tenant wellbeing. Chapter for *Exploring Place and Health through Community Health Interventions*, Fall 2024.

Thompson, S. and England, K. (2025). Care Geographies: work, home, and bodies. Chapter in

Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Cultural and Social Geography. Eds. Jamie Winders and Ishan Ashutosh.

Journal articles without Peer Review

Steffen, R., Krish, B., Handscombe, D., Jamil, H., Lancione, M. and **Thompson, S.** (2022). ‘The rents keep on rising and so will we’: Reflections on the 2021 Rent Strike at Sussex University. *Radical Housing Journal*, 4(1), 117-133. <https://doi.org/10.54825/QWNJ9656>.

Lawanson, T., Ibezim-Ohaeri, V., Akinpelu, D. with Vilenica, A., Lancione, M., **Thompson, S.** (2021). State interventions, inequalities, and people as infrastructure at times of COVID-19 in Lagos, Nigeria. *Radical Housing Journal* 3(1), 75-84. <https://radicalhousingjournal.org/2021/state-interventions-inequalities-and-people-as-infrastructure-at-times-of-covid-19-in-lagos-nigeria/>.

Editorials, Commentaries, and Reviews

Thompson, S. (2025). Review of the book, *For a Liberatory Politics of Home* by Michele Lancione. *Antipode*. <https://antipodeonline.org/2025/01/09/for-a-liberatory-politics-of-home/>.

Keller, J., McElroy, E., **Thompson, S.** and A. Vilenica (2024). Editorial: Archiving the Housing Conjuncture. *Radical Housing Journal*, 6(2), pp. 1-10; <https://doi.org/10.54825/ALYF7011>.

Radical Housing Journal Editorial Collective (2023). Editorial: Life-affirmative struggles for home across borders. *Radical Housing Journal*, 5(1), 1-10. <https://radicalhousingjournal.org/2023/life-affirmative-struggles-for-home-across-borders/>.

Thompson, S. (2022). Understanding politics of effort in a right to housing: book review forum of *The Right to Dignity: Housing Struggles, City Making, and Citizenship in Urban Chile* by Miguel Pérez. *International Journal of Housing Policy*. DOI: 10.1080/19491247.2022.2084225.

Thompson, S. (2022). Understanding Black spatial politics in Atlanta’s public housing: review of the book *Diverging Space for Deviants: The Politics of Atlanta’s Public Housing* by Akira Drake Rodriguez. *City*. DOI: [10.1080/13604813.2022.2046906](https://doi.org/10.1080/13604813.2022.2046906).

Vilenica, A., McElroy, E., Lancione, M. and **Thompson, S.** (2022). Editorial: Carcerality, housing precarity, and abolition. *Radical Housing Journal*, 4(1), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.54825/SSEI7993>

Reyes, A., Vilenica, A., McElroy, E., Chen, H-Y., Lancione, M., **Thompson, S.**, Muñoz, S. (2021). Editorial: Tenant organizing, scholar activism, and global south perspectives as

alternative infrastructures of knowledge production. *Radical Housing Journal* 3(1), 1-10. <https://radicalhousingjournal.org/2021/editorial-3/>.

Thompson, S. (2018). Review of the book *Indigenous Homelessness: Perspectives from Canada, Australia, and New Zealand* edited by Evelyn J. Peters and Julia Christensen. *Canadian Geographer*, 62(3), e10-e11.

Public Scholarship

Thompson, S., Mishak, B., Pauly, B., and Masuda, J. (21 November 2025). B.C. declared housing as a human right. Now what? *The Tyee*.
<https://thetyee.ca/Opinion/2025/11/21/BC-Cities-Declared-Housing-Human-Right/>.

Thompson, S. (2023). Tenant Tales podcast: Initiative 23. Access:
<https://samanthapthompson.com/public-scholarship/>.

Environment & Planning C: Politics and Space. Minor Revisions podcast (2021). *Environment & Planning C: Politics & Space*. (Role: graphic designer). Access:
<https://journals.sagepub.com/page/epc/collections/podcasts>.

Thompson, S. and the Place + Space Collective (2020). Acadammit: a Place + Space Collective podcast. *Society & Space Magazine*. Access:
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/acadammit-using-collective-podcasting-to-build-solidarity-in-academia>.

Thompson, S. and the Place + Space Collective (2018). Care-full friendships? Resisting the neoliberal university through solidarity collectives. Winner of the Jennifer Fluri and Amy Trauger Student Essay Competition. Access:
https://placeandspacecollective.files.wordpress.com/2018/04/psc_swig-submission_forcirc1.pdf.

Thompson, S., and Romisher, J. (2015). *Vancouver Historical Tours: This City is Ours—A history of contentious space in Vancouver* walking tour, Simon Fraser University and the Museum of Vancouver. Access: <https://thiscityisourstour.wordpress.com>.

Research Reports and Working Papers

Colburn, G., Fyall, R., **Thompson, S.,** Dean, T., McHugh, C., Moraras, P., Ewing, V., and Argodale, S. (2020). Impact of Hotels as Non-Congregate Emergency Shelters: an analysis of investments in hotels as emergency shelter in King County, WA during the COVID-19 pandemic. Access: https://kcrha.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Impact-of-Hotels-as-ES-Study_Full-Report_Final-11302020.pdf

WORKSHOPS & ORGANIZED CONFERENCE SESSIONS

- 2025 Beyond open access: a panel discussion about accessible research with the *Radical Housing Journal*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit USA. With Drs. Judith Keller, Melora Koepke, Aysegul Can, and Erin McElroy.

- 2021 Expanding Futures of Care Geographies (3 sessions), American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle USA (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic). With Dr. Caitlin Alcorn.

- 2019 Taking Care: a conference for engaging the politics, processes, and ethics of care work, Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington. With Dr. Kim England and Dr. Caitlin Alcorn.

- 2018 Faculty of Environment Graduate Research Day, Simon Fraser University.

- 2018 Geography Graduate Association's Graduate Workshop Series, Simon Fraser University.

- 2017 Strategies for Solidarity: a mini-conference on forming collectives in the neoliberal academy, Simon Fraser University. With the Place + Space Collective.

- 2017 Department of Geography's Teaching Assistant Training Workshop, Simon Fraser University.

- 2016 This City is Ours: a History of Contentious Space in Vancouver walking tour. Your Future Home: Creating the New Vancouver Exhibit, Museum of Vancouver.

CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED

- Wideman, T. and **Thompson, S.** (2025). Moments of urban care within and beyond the housing-property nexus in Vancouver, Canada. Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Canada.

- Thompson, S.** and Wideman, T. (2025). Collective care at the nexus of property and housing: tensions and possibilities. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit, USA.

- Thompson, S.** (2023). Spatializing tenants' experiences of care infrastructures in housing crises. Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Montreal Canada.

- Thompson, S.** (2023). Tenants' practices and politics of collective care in housing crises.

American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, USA (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2022). Caring in crises: spatializing infrastructures of care through tenant protections. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New York, USA (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2021). Disrupting housing crises with care: rent control debates in Seattle, USA. Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Prince George, Canada (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2021). “We Deserve Rent Control”: Radical Care Disruptions in Rent Control Movements in Seattle, WA. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Seattle, USA (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2020). The Art of Real Estate: Global intimacy in urban development campaigns. Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Victoria, Canada (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2020). “We Deserve Rent Control”: Care networks across rent control movements in Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Denver, USA (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Thompson, S. (2018). Care-full homes?: Producing home and care in non-profit housing for women. Faculty of Environment Graduate Research Day, Simon Fraser University,

Thompson, S. (2018). More than shelter: producing home and care in non-profit housing for women. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, New Orleans, USA.

Thompson, S. (2018). More than shelter: producing home in Vancouver’s non-profit women’s housing. Power at the Margins: Mobilizing Across Housing Injustice, University of Minnesota.

Thompson, S. (2018). More than shelter: producing home in Vancouver’s non-profit women’s housing. Department of Geography Graduate Research Day, Simon Fraser University.

Thompson, S., Nowell, M. and the Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society (2017). Whose Priorities, Whose Knowledge, Whose Projects? Navigating Community and Institutional Relationships within Activist-Oriented Research. Critical Geographies mini-conference, University of Northern British Columbia. With Magnus Nowell and the Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society.

Thompson, S. and the Place + Space Collective (2017). Processes for Forming Cross-Disciplinary Solidarity Collectives. Bridging Gaps: Making Connections Through Social Research—Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, University of British

Columbia. With the Place + Space Collective.

Thompson, S. (2016). Home-making?: a feminist analysis of the production of home in contemporary housing forms. Critical Geographies mini-conference, University of Washington.

INVITED KEYNOTES AND GUEST LECTURES

Thompson, S. (2025). The work of urban justice (invited panelist). American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit, USA. Panel organized by Drs. Libby Porter and Michele Lancione.

Thompson, S. (2024). Community care in housing. Guest lecture for URB 620: Urban Communities and Cultures, Simon Fraser University.

Thompson, S. (2023). Sustaining Life in Housing Crises: Impacts of landlord-tenant laws on tenants' experiences of care and housing. Keynote address. A Place Like Home: Community and Housing in Research conference, Simon Fraser University.

Thompson, S. (2022). Caring in Crises: Mutual Care Relationships of Tenants in Seattle, USA. Care Infrastructures in Unequal Cities panel, Visualizing Care conference, Duke University.

Thompson, S. (2021). Exploring Ethnography in Housing. Geography 315: Research and Understanding in Geography, University of Washington.

Thompson, S. (2020). Global Intimacy in Urban Real Estate Campaigns. Geography 375: Geopolitics, University of Washington.

Thompson, S. (2019). Placing Care in Urban Housing: tenant experiences of care in women's non-profit housing. Geography 277: Geography of Cities, University of Washington.

Thompson, S. (2018). Finding Home: tenant experiences of home and care in women's non-profit housing. Urban Studies 665: Urban Housing Policy, Simon Fraser University.

Thompson, S. (2018). Geographies of Care. Geography 387: Gender and Geography, Simon Fraser University.

GRADUATE ADVISING & MENTORING

Graduate Committee Membership

In progress:

Keavy McAbee (PhD, Social Dimensions of Health Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Victoria)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024-present Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Victoria.

SDH 590: Theories of Human Geographies (Fall 2024, 1 student – directed study).

2020-2023 Predoctoral Instructor, University of Washington.

GEOG 375: Geopolitics (Fall 2020, 42 students)

GEOG 271: Geographies of Food and Eating (Winter 2021, 75 students, TA supervision).

GEOG 301: Cultural Geographies (Summer 2021, 42 students).

ENGL 298: Intermediate Writing in the Social Sciences (Fall 2022 & Winter 2023; 16-21 students).

GEOG 258: Digital Geographies (Summer 2023, 40 students, reader-grader supervision).

2018-2022 Teaching Assistant, University of Washington.

GEOG 230: Geographies of Global Inequality (Fall 2018, 75 students).

GEOG 280: Introduction to the Geographies of Health and Healthcare (Winter 2019, 75 students).

GEOG 277: Geography of Cities (Spring 2019, 75 students).

GEOG 335: Geographies of the Developing World (Winter 2020, 75 students).

GEOG 315: Explanations and Understanding in Geography (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, 42-50 students).

GEOG 271: Geographies of Food and Eating (Fall 2021, 75 students)

GEOG 258: Digital Geographies (Win 2022, 75 students).

2016-2018 Teaching Assistant, Simon Fraser University.

GEOG 327: Geographies of Tourism (Fall 2016, 55 students).

GEOG 362: Urban Built Environments (Spring 2017, 42 students).

GEOG 362: Urban Built Environments (Spring 2018, 42 students).

GEOG 387: Geography and Gender (Summer 2018, 42 students).

ACADEMIC & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Positions and Committees

Service to Department and University:

2023-present Member, Centre for Environmental Health Equity, University of Victoria.

External Service:

2024-present Executive Member-at-Large, Feminist Intersectional Solidarity Group of the Canadian Association of Geographers.

2021-present Editor/member of editorial collective, *Radical Housing Journal*.

2016-present Co-founder and member, Place + Space Collective (interdisciplinary human geography and urban studies academic collective), Simon Fraser University.

Service as a Graduate Student:

2020-2022 Co-President, Geography Graduate Students' Association, Department of Geography, University of Washington.

2020-2023 Head Steward, UAW Local 4121, University of Washington.
Member of International Solidarity Workgroup and Housing Justice Workgroup.

2020-2023 Member, Caring Labor Research Group, Harry Bridges Center for Labor, University of Washington.

2019-2020 Colloquium Committee, Department of Geography, University of Washington.

2018-2019 Senator, Graduate and Professional Student Senate, University of Washington.

2017-2018 President, Geography Graduate Association, Simon Fraser University.

2017-2018 Graduate Student Representative, Speaker Series Committee, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University.

2016-2017 Graduate Student Department Representative, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University.

2016-2017 Secretary, Geography Graduate Association, Simon Fraser University.

Proposal and manuscript reviews

Insight Grant external reviewer for Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2024)

Fernwood Publishing (2024)

Manuscripts reviewed for international journals

Gender Place and Culture (2021, 2023), *Antipode* (2023, 2024), *Australian Geographer* (2024), *Housing Studies* (2025), *International Journal of Housing Policy* (2024, 2025), *Journal of Urban Affairs* (2023), *International Indigenous Policy Journal* (2024, 2025), *Radical Housing Journal* (2021), *Journal of Environmental Media* (2024), *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* (2024), *Canadian Geographies* (2025); *Health and Place* (2025).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2022 UW Libraries Storytelling & Podcasting Fellows program, University of Washington.

2021 Podcasting and the Art of the Interview with Hrishikesh Hirway, *Atlas Obscura*.

2020 Teaching Online 101 Workshop, University of Washington.

2019 Higher Education Teaching Course, University of Washington.

2016 Instructional Skills Certificate, Simon Fraser University.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2017-present Member, American Association of Geographers.

2016-present Member, Canadian Association of Geographers.

2017 Member, Economic Geographies Reading Group, Simon Fraser University.

2016-2018 Member, Critical Geographies of Policy Reading Group, Simon Fraser University.

SELECTED COMMUNITY WORK & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2018-2025 Volunteer and Vice President on Board of Directors (since 2022), Downtown Eastside SRO Collaborative Society.

- 2001-2018** Provincial Liaison and Unit Guider, Girl Guides of Canada.
- 2012-2016** Children and Youth Program Instructor, Champlain Heights Community Association.
- 2013-2016** Executive Editor, *The Runner* newspaper, Kwantlen Polytechnic University.
- 2009-2013** Editor-in-Chief and Editor, *The Capilano Courier*, Capilano University.
- 2010-2013** Board of Directors, citizenU (anti-racism and anti-discrimination program supporting youth), City of Vancouver.