

# Courtney Nelson

(919) 622-2256 | [cnelson98@g.ucla.edu](mailto:cnelson98@g.ucla.edu) | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/courtneyn~/>

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy, Psychocultural Medical Anthropology** **GPA: 4.0**  
*University of California, Los Angeles – Los Angeles, California* **September 2024 – Present**  
**Expertise:** Medical Anthropology, Anthropology of Religion, Phenomenology, Schizophrenia, Psychosis, Madness, Voices, Visions, Magic, Spirit Possession, Hauntology, Healing, Vietnam

**Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology and Religion, Minor in Video**  
*Bennington College – Bennington, Vermont* **February 2021 – June 2023**

• John Dewey Scholarship, 2021 – 2023

*University of Wisconsin – Madison, Wisconsin* **Summer 2019, Summer 2022**

• Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, 2022

• Wisconsin Intensive Summer Language Institutes Tuition Full Scholarship, 2019

*Appalachian State University – Boone, North Carolina* **August 2017 – December 2019**

• ASU Office of International Education and Development Scholarship, 2018

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## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Executive Member** **January 2025 – Present**

*Project Inspire, Los Angeles, California*

- Organized and facilitated peer support meetings, fostering a safe and inclusive environment for individuals with lived experience of voices, visions and “unusual beliefs” and their families
- Planned guest speaker events on various topics related to voices, including social and structural factors influencing these experiences, cross-cultural perspectives, the intersections of voices with incarceration and homelessness, alternative care approaches, and insights from disability and mad studies
- Organized educational outreach initiatives and materials delivering workshops to youth on understanding and destigmatizing the experience of voices

**Associate Editor, Communications Coordinator** **June 2023 – September 2024**

*The Association for the Anthropology of Consciousness, Remote Work*

- Proficient in utilizing ScholarOne Manuscripts for manuscript submission, peer review coordination, and tracking, ensuring efficient workflow management and adherence to publication guidelines
- Identified and selected appropriate reviewers based on expertise and the subject matter of the academic articles
- Evaluated reviewer feedback and contributed to decision-making process for article acceptance or revisions
- Orchestrated and executed social media campaigns to promote academic journal articles, facilitating wider dissemination of research findings, increasing the journal's online presence, and engaging with the scholarly community, resulting in enhanced visibility and engagement across social platforms

**Social Media Coordinator** **January 2024 – March 2024**

*The International Society for Psychological and Social Approaches to Psychosis*

- Monitored research trends in mental health, psychology, and social approaches to psychosis to craft timely, thoughtful posts that foster online dialogue
- Developed and scheduled engaging content across social media platforms to promote ISPS events, publications, and initiatives

**Vietnamese Culture & Language Teacher** **October 2022 – January 2023**  
***Village School of North Bennington, Bennington, VT***

- Managed a diverse classroom of first-grade students, fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment
- Developed and implemented lesson plans to promote active learning and participation
- Utilized various instructional techniques, including hands-on activities, visual aids, and technology integration

**Research Assistant** **January 2022 – March 2022**  
***Bennington College, Remote Work***

Supervisor: Diane P Mines, PhD, MA

- Assisted in conducting research on spirit possession, phenomenology, ethnobotany, and traditional medicine in India
- Conducted literature reviews to gather relevant scholarly articles and resources, adhered to research protocols to ensure the accuracy and reliability of collected data

**Recruitment Co-Chair, Cohort Member** **June 2018 – July 2020**  
***The Arete Project, Celo, NC***

- Created compelling marketing materials including brochures, flyers for social media campaigns
- Conducted information sessions promoting the project and answering questions from prospective participants
- Reviewed and evaluated candidate applications to assess alignment with the project's goals and values

**Executive Member** **August 2018 – April 2020**  
***Appalachian State University Religious Studies Club, Boone, NC***

- Collaborated with fellow club members to organize and execute events and workshops
- Facilitated regular meetings, ensuring effective communication, brainstorming and planning among club members
- Managed the club's social media presence, creating engaging content and increasing followership to enhance the club's visibility and engagement

**Teacher Assistant** **August 2019 – January 2020**  
***Appalachian State University Anthropology Department, Boone, NC***

Professor: Diane P. Mines, PhD, MA

Class: Magic, Witchcraft & Religion

- Prepared instructional materials and resources and promoted a positive classroom environment
- Assessed student progress and provided one-on-one and small group support to reinforce learning concepts

**Research Assistant** **August 2019 – January 2020**  
***Appalachian State University Anthropology Department, Boone, NC***

Supervisor: Christina Sornito, PhD

- Assisted in conducting research on auto-ethnography, haunting, sorcery and shamanism in the Philippines
- Managed primary and secondary research materials, ensuring efficient and systematic retrieval and storage of data

**Research Assistant** **August 2018 – January 2019**  
***Appalachian State University Religious Studies Department, Boone, NC***

Supervisor: Randall Reed, PhD

- Conducted research on the relationship of artificial intelligence and religion

- Upheld research protocols throughout the project to guarantee the precision and dependability of collected data
- Developed tutorial videos for Dedoose, a platform for utilizing mixed methods research for students

### **Field Research Intern**

**May 2018 – June 2018**

*Appalachian State University Office of International Education and Development, Boone, NC*

Supervisor: He Xi, PhD and Scott Relyea, PhD

- Conducted immersive fieldwork examining Tibetan Buddhism in modern China
- Employed ethnographic research methods, including participant observation, interviews, and data collection through surveys and structured questionnaires
- Adapted research techniques to effectively navigate cultural nuances, ensuring ethical and respectful engagement

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### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Nelson, Courtney, Timbrook, G. “**Special Issue: Hauntology in Anthropology**”. Manuscript in Progress.

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### **PRESENTATIONS**

**Hauntology & Traditional Healing** **April 2025**

*The Society for Psychological Anthropology*

**Magic, Modernity & Medicine** **May 2023**

*Bennington College Society, Culture & Thought Senior Thesis, Bennington, VT*

**Trần Hưng Đạo & the Vietnamese State** **December 2019**

*Appalachian State University Religious Studies Club, Boone, NC*

**Yin Illness in Lân Đông** **July 2019**

*2019 Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute Conference, Madison, WI*

**The Ruse of Medusa** **March 2019**

*Black Mountain College, Black Mountain, NC*

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### **CERTIFICATES**

**Hearing Voices Facilitator** **February 2025**

*Wildflower Alliance*

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### **LANGUAGES**

- English
  - Vietnamese (Beginning Level)
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