

## Kimberly S. Compton, Ph.D., M.S.W.

Assistant Director of the M.S.W. Program and Instructor  
VCU School of Social Work  
comptonk2@vcu.edu

### Areas of Interest

---

Environmental Justice activism; critical race theory; participation and participatory action research; transformative practice, research, and pedagogy.

### Education

---

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work, 2021

*Pro-Environmental Behaviors Among Black Environmentalists: A Critical Race Perspective (linked)*

Master of Social Work, 2013

*Social Work Administration, Planning and Policy Practice*  
Virginia Commonwealth University

Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management, 2013

*Fundraising, Governance, and Financial Management*  
Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs  
Virginia Commonwealth University

Bachelor of Arts: Middle Eastern Studies

*Minor: Studio Art*

The College of William & Mary

### Academic Service

---

- 2021-present: University Council
- 2021-present: University Graduate Council
- 2021-present: MSW Program Committee, School of Social Work
- 2020-present: Radical Alliance for Anti-Racism, Change, and Equity
- 2020-present: Academic Programs, School of Social Work
- 2020-2021: Curriculum Work Group, School of Social Work
- 2019-present: M.S.W. Course Lead and Sequence Coordinator
- 2014-2019: M.S.W. and B.S.W. Field Instructor, Longwood University and Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2017-2018: President, *Social Work Doctoral Student Association*
- 2017-2018: Student Representative, *Programs Committee*
- 2016-2018: Student Representative, *Doctoral Program Committee*
- 2016-2017: Vice President, *Social Work Doctoral Student Association*

### Awards

---

- Elaine Rothenberg Social Work Award, 2020
- Robin M. McKinney Dissertation Honor Fund, 2019
- VCU SSW Annual Research Symposium, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 2018
- VCU School of Social Work, *Leadership and Service Award*, 2018
- VCU School of Social Work, *Leadership and Service Award*, 2017
- Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship, 2016
- VCU School of Social Work, *Distinguished Service Award*, 2013

## Academic Appointments

---

### 2021- Present

#### **Assistant Director of the Master of Social Work Program**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

## Research, Teaching, and Practice Experience

---

### 2019-Present

#### **Teaching Faculty, Instructor, and Course Lead Developer**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

#### Courses taught/teaching

- Social Work and Social Justice
- Policy, Community and Organizational Practice I
- Policy, Community and Organizational Practice II
- Concentration Social Policy - Child and Youth Well Being
- Advanced Standing Policy, Community and Organizational Practice

#### Online Course Lead Developer:

- Policy, Community and Organizational Practice I
- Policy, Community and Organizational Practice II
- Concentration Social Policy – Child and Youth Well Being
- Advanced Standing Policy, Community and Organizational Practice

### 2019

#### **Field Instructor – MSW Concentration**

Partnership between the Institute of Contemporary Art and School of Social Work, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

### 2011-2019

#### **Adjunct Instructor, MSW Program, In-person and Online/Distance Education**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

- *Social Work and the Natural Environment*, MSW Program Elective
- *Social Work Planning & Administrative Practice I*, MSW Program Macro Concentration course

- *Social Work Planning & Administrative Practice II*, MSW Program Macro Concentration course
- *Social Work and Social Justice*, In person and Online/Distance Education MSW Foundation course
- *Social Work Practice – Organizing for Social Change*, MSW Program Community Organizing Elective

**2018**

**Teaching Assistant – MSW Foundation Research**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA  
*Foundations of Social Research*

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Sue Murdock

**2018**

**Teaching Assistant – Doctoral Research Lab**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA  
*Quantitative Research Methods & Analysis II Lab*,  
Doctoral-level Software and Statistics Research Lab

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Karen Chartier

**2017**

**MSW Course Development**

Developed and taught new MSW elective course to meet Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards on environmental justice.

*Social Work and the Natural Environment*

**Faculty Mentor:** Dr. Elizabeth Cramer

**2015-2017**

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

**Project:** Advocates for Richmond Youth

**Under the direction of** Dr. M. Alex Wagaman

**Responsibilities:** Develop semi-structured interview guide in collaboration with supervisor; collect and manage data on the processes of the you-led participatory action research group; analyze qualitative semi-structured youth and adult interviews using lumping, sorting, and developing themes in collaboration with co-researchers.

**2017**

**Project Evaluation Contractor**, Randi Korn & Associates, Alexandria, VA

**Project:** Climate Connections

**Responsibilities:** Conduct detailed participant observation of two climate change- and resilience-focused programs for further use in program evaluation related to climate change education outcomes.

**2017**

**Student Researcher**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

**Project:** Investigating motivations and barriers to environmental change

**Under the direction of** Dr. Sarah Kye Price (PI)

**Responsibilities:** Project design; participant identification and recruitment; data collection, management, transcription, coding, and content analysis.

**2017**

**Student Researcher**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

**Project:** Social stressors and genetic influences on precursors of alcohol-use risk behaviors in African-American adolescents

**Under the direction of** Dr. Karen Chartier

**Responsibilities:** Using data from the Genetic, Environment, Neighborhood Interaction study, in collaboration with research team: conceptualize the current project; clean and prep data for analysis using SPSS; analyze data using generalized estimating equation models; conference abstract write-up and submission.

**2016**

**Project Evaluation Contractor,** Randi Korn & Associates, Alexandria, VA

**Project:** Climate Connections

**Responsibilities:** Conducted and recorded structured interviews with museum visitors about climate change and resilience for further use in program evaluation related to climate change education outcomes.

**2015-2016**

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

**Project:** Competency-based education and the 2015 EPAS

**Under the direction of** Dr. Frank Baskind

**Responsibilities:** Research and compose literature review on competency-based social work education to be used to develop assessment tool for social work programs.

**2015**

**Teaching Assistant, Distance Education Program**

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

**Class:** *Social Work and Social Justice*, MSW Program, Distance Education

**Under the direction of** Dr. Peter Nguyen

**Responsibilities:** Co-develop online class for 25 MSW-level students addressing power, inequality, privilege and oppression; create ScreenCast video presentations for lessons on Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*; provide thorough feedback to students on assignments and group discussions.

### **2013-2015**

**Executive Director**, ReEstablish Richmond, Richmond, VA

**Responsibilities:** Research, build, execute and evaluate culturally appropriate programs for refugee clients; develop and oversee fundraising plan, including individual, corporate, and grant resources; fiscal management of operational and programmatic budgets; build and maintain relationships with current and potential community partners, including faith communities, business associations, resettlement agencies, and academic institutions; supervise all interns, volunteers, and staff; collaborate with board and other community providers; project manager for VCU Council for Community Engagement community-based participatory research grant, "Agri-Culture" (Co-PIs: Dr. Hyojin Im and Dr. Katie Vatalaro-Hill).

### **2012-2013**

**Interim Program Coordinator**, Tricycle, Richmond, VA

**Responsibilities:** Education and outreach for *Get Fresh East End* corner store initiative, a food access, urban agriculture, and nutrition program; engage and survey local communities for corner store readiness and sustainability; volunteer coordination, including individuals, groups, and VCU service-learning students; income and expense accounting in QuickBooks; donor information management; monthly newsletter and website content maintenance.

### **2011-2012**

**Refugee Case Manager Intern**, Journey Point, Richmond, VA

**Responsibilities:** Direct case management with individual refugees and families; demonstrate application of coursework to field work in weekly supervision and through process recordings.

### **2008**

**Communications Intern**, Refugees International, Washington D.C.

**Responsibilities:** Research and publish *Empowering Women in the Fight Against Gender-Based Violence*; develop reports on political and refugee situations in Afghanistan and the Middle East for advocates and UNHCR policy-makers; maintained email communication alerts on emerging refugee crises.

### **Publications**

---

Wagaman, M. A., **Compton, K.S.**, Williams, E., Lange, J. Haynes, T., & Caballero, R. (In press). Youth Participatory Action Research as an Approach to Developing Community-Level Responses to Youth Homelessness in the United States: A Model for Change. *Handbook on Community Development and Participatory Action Research*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

**Compton, K. S.,** Barr, P., Bares, C., Karriker-Jaffe, K., Aliev, F. Mustanski, B. Dick, D. & Chartier, K.G. (2019). Evaluating Neighborhood, Social, and Genetic Influences on Precursors of Alcohol Use Risk Behavior in African-American Adolescent. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

Nguyen, P.V., Corona, R., DeCarlo, M.P., Yaros, A., Le, A.T., & **Compton, K.** (2018). Help seeking behavior in a diverse sample of Asian American adults. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Studies*, 5(2), 1-15.

Wagaman, M. A., **Compton, K. S.,** & Segal, E.A. (2018). Social empathy and attitudes about dependence of people living in poverty on government assistance programs. *Journal of Poverty*.

**Compton, K.S.,** Wagaman, M.A., Lange, J., & Haynes, T. (2016). Advocates for Richmond Youth service provider training – June 2016: Planning & evaluation report.

Wagaman, M.A., Obejero, R.C., Keel, R., & **Compton, K.S.,** (2016). Youth Count Report.

### **Juried Presentations**

---

**Compton, K. S.** (2021). *Using Pedagogy of Play in Online Environments to Develop Critically Playful Practitioners*. Social Work Distance Education Conference. San Antonio, TX.

**Compton, K.S.** (2019). *Resistance and Resilience: Capturing the Experiences of People Directly Affected by Environmental Hazards*. 20X20 Paper Presentation for ResilienceCon, Nashville, TN.

**Compton, K.S.,** Cummings, C., Aliev, F., Bares, C., Mustanski, B., Dick, D., & Chartier, K.G. (2018). *Evaluating Neighborhood, Social, and Genetic Influences on Precursors of Alcohol Use Risk Behavior in African-American Adolescents*. Poster for Virginia Commonwealth University Graduate School Research Symposium. Richmond, VA.

**Compton, K.S.,** Cummings, C., Aliev, F., Bares, C., Mustanski, B., Dick, D., & Chartier, K.G. (2018). *Evaluating Neighborhood, Social, and Genetic Influences on Precursors of Alcohol Use Risk Behavior in African-American Adolescents*. Poster for Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work Research Expo. Richmond, VA.

**Compton, K.S.,** Cummings, C., Aliev, F., Bares, C., Mustanski, B., Dick, D., & Chartier, K.G. (2018). *Social stressors and genetic influences in African-American adolescents: Evaluating precursors of alcohol-use risk behaviors*. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of Society for Social Work and Research. Washington, D.C.

Wagaman, M. A. & **Compton, K.S.** (2018). *YPAR As an Approach to Developing Community-Level Responses to Youth Homelessness*. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of Society for Social Work and Research. Washington, D.C.

Casey, R. & **Compton, K.S.** (2017). *Freire and the Grand Challenges: Problem-Posing and Praxis in Social Work Classrooms*. Interactive workshop for the Annual Program Meeting of the Conference on Social Work Education. Dallas, TX.

**Compton, K. S.** & Cody, A. M. (2017). *Mapping the Possibilities [presenting methods for integrating qualitative and tial data]*. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Wagaman, A.M., Segal, E., & **Compton, K.S.** (2017). *The relationship between social empathy and attitudes about the poor's dependence on government assistance programs*. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Jettner, J., **Compton, K.** , & Im. H. (2016). *We are like the plant*. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA. [Poster]

**Compton, K.** (2016). *Social Work and Participatory-Action Research: Why Action and Power Matter*. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

**Compton, K.** (2016). *Culture, Bias and OBGYN Care: Informing health outcomes for refugee women*. International Conference on the Global Status of Women and Girls. Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia.

**Compton, K.** & Amirzai, S. (2016). *From Hidden Lessons to Lessons Learned: Lessons on education, war, and health from Afghanistan*. International Conference on the Global Status of Women and Girls. Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia.

Jettner, J., **Compton, K.** Im, H. & Vattalaro-Hill, K. (2015) *The Use of Container Gardening to Improve Health among Refugees: A preliminary assessment*. Gardening for Good Conference. Monmouth University, Monmouth, New Jersey.

## **Other Presentations**

---

Carpenter, J. & **Compton, K.S.** (facilitators/presenters) (2021, July). Best practices: Grief, loss, and support. School of Social Work Office of Field Education Interactive Community Panel. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

**Compton, K.S.** (2021, February). *Critical Pedagogy in Social Work*. Interactive workshop for Ph.D. students. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Wagaman, M.A. & **Compton, K.S.** (2018). *Adventures in Team-Teaching*. A facilitated dialogue at the School of Social Work Teaching Colloquia. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

**Compton, K.S.** & Casey, R. (2018). Retrospective. Guest facilitation for Doctoral Prospective Seminar. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Casey, R. & **Compton, K.S.** (2018). *Problem-Posing and Praxis in Social Work Classrooms*. Interactive workshop for Ph.D. students. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Chartier, K., **Compton, K.S.** (organizers/presenters), Ciminelli, J., Bogenschutz, M., & Edwards, A. (presenters). (2017, November). Perspectives on interdisciplinary research: A panel discussion. School of Social Work Research Colloquia. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

**Compton, K.S.** (2017). *Clean Water for Whom? A social construction analysis of water and the people who need it*. Paper presented at the Policy Symposium and Research Sharing. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Wagaman, M. A., **Compton, K.S.**, & Advocates for Richmond Youth (2016). *YPAR as a Community-Driven Solution Addressing Youth Homelessness*. Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Research Exposition. Richmond, VA. [Poster]

**Compton, K.S.** (2016). *The relationship of ethnicity and anxiety among students who have experienced natural disaster*. Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work Research Expo. Richmond, VA.

## Community Facilitation

---

### 2016

- Co-facilitation of a Communities in Schools youth affirmation training  
*Advocates for Richmond Youth*
- Co-facilitation of Service Provider Training  
*Advocates for Richmond Youth*

### 2015

- Refugees 201: Reaching out to our Refugee Neighbors  
*Tuckahoe YMCA*
- Refugees 101: An introduction to international conflicts and resettlement  
*Tuckahoe YMCA*

### 2014- 2015

- After the SNAP Challenge: What now?  
*University of Richmond, Jepson School of Leadership*

### 2012-2015

- Pedagogy of the Oppressed  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice, classroom and distance education, 3 week lecture and workshop series*



## Invited Presentations and Guest Lectures

---

### 2017

- Developed and implemented an APA writing workshop for 100+ incoming MSW students
- Panel discussant: Humanitarianism x Environmentalism  
*Hosted by the Virginia League of Conservation Voters and VCU Political Science department*
- Macro Social Work: Tackling the big issues  
*UNCW graduate-level Social Justice lecture, 2016, 2017*

### 2016

- Macro Social Work: Tackling the big issues  
*UNCW graduate-level Social Justice lecture*
- Macro Strategies for Social Justice: Through an emancipatory lens  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice lecture*
- Social Work Origins and Social Justice  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice lecture*

### 2015

- Macro Strategies for Social Justice: Through an emancipatory lens  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice lecture,*
- Food Justice: An Overview  
*VCU Focused Inquiry lecture*

### 2014

- Refugees and Immigrants in Richmond  
*VCU Globe: A Global Education Living-Learning Community*
- Differences in Social Work: the macro perspective  
*VCU Social Work Alum panel discussion*
- Creating Change in Organizations  
*VCU BSW panel discussion*
- ReEstablish Richmond: Refugees among us  
*Richmond Rotary Club presentation*
- ReEstablish Richmond: Who we are and how we collaborate  
*RCLI Human Library presentation*
- Two Case Studies in Community Building: Get Fresh! Initiative and ReEstablish Richmond  
*VCU BSW Human Behavior lecture*

### 2013

- Refugee Crises: Religious and political persecution

*VCU undergraduate-level Global Ethics and World Religions lecture*

- Integrating Theory in Macro Practice  
*VCU Social Work Alum panel discussion*
- The Informed Consumer's Dilemma: Where do we go after Pollan?  
*VCU Focused Inquiry lecture*
- Intersecting Food Policies in Richmond, Virginia  
*VCU graduate-level Social Work Policy lecture*

## **2012**

- Food Justice: An Overview  
*VCU graduate-level Social Work Human Behavior lecture*
- Food Justice: The Movement  
*VCU graduate-level Social Work Human Behavior lecture*
- The Intersection of Racism, Classism, and Sexism  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice lecture*
- Harvey Milk: sexual orientation and social justice  
*VCU graduate-level Social Justice lecture*