

Shannon John

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Kamloops, BC

Professional Summary

Firsthand research and work experience with vulnerable populations. Clear understanding of contemporary and historical social issues with an emphasis in Indigenous studies. Trained in social research methods, survey design and analysis. Currently a Graduate student with a bachelor's degree in Sociology. Holds a Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages certificate which is accredited by TESOL Canada. Eager to contribute to team success through hard work, attention to detail and excellent organizational skills. Bilingual.

Employment

Summer – Fall 2025: Research Associate

Resilient Community Futures Research Network (RCFRN)

Dr. Bala Nikku: Associate Professor, Faculty of Education & Social Work, Thompson Rivers University

- Working with a diverse group of scholars, analysts, students, and community knowledge keepers.
- The RCFRN initiative works to promote inclusive, diverse, and respectful community science centered research, with a focus on resource management, informed risk reduction and resilience building policies.

Winter 2024: Research Assistant

Human Rights and Social Justice Research Group

Dr. Wilson Bell - Chair of the Arts Graduate Program, Thompson Rivers University

- Developed the guidelines and directives for the Human Rights and Social Justice Research Group.
- Gained insights of the operational intricacies of a graduate level research group.

Winter 2024: Teaching Assistant

Dr. Kriston D'Amuro - Environment, Culture and Society, Thompson Rivers University

- Invigilator for the course SOCI 2500: Crime and Society.

February 2023 – Current: English Language Teacher (substitute)

Kamloops Immigrant Services, Kamloops, BC

- Experience teaching groups of all skill levels.
- Familiar with the LINC (Language Instruction of Newcomers to Canada) system.
- Teaching in-classroom, online, and synchronous blended classes.

June-July 2022: Instructor

International Training Centre, TRU World, Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC

- Work with students from Japan, Mexico, Columbia, Korea.
- Responsible for students' curricular and extracurricular activities.
- Responsible for creating a safe, inclusive, and exciting experience for international exchange student.
- Facilitate opportunities for communication in English (On-campus and in Kamloops community), experiential learning, and gaining Canadian experiences, and allowing opportunities for reflective practices, resulting in growth.
- Courses taught: Leadership Skills, English Studies, Canadian Studies, and Intercultural Communication Skills.

2007, February – 2014, December: Music Teacher

Thompson Okanagan Professional Sound Ltd., Kamloops, BC

- Maintained student records and evaluated pupil's musical growth, performance and musical understanding.
- Taught a variety of instruments including guitar, drums, banjo, and mandolin.
- Taught both adults and children.
- Experienced with teaching special needs students.
- Experienced teaching groups in a classroom setting as well as private one-on-one sessions.
- Devised and executed challenging and advanced curricula to foster excellence among students.
- Developed strong working relationships with other teachers, parents and students.

Education

Present: Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice, Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC.

Bachelor of Arts - BA, Sociology and Anthropology, Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC, 2020 Major in sociology with a concentration in anthropology, Coursework in domestic and international social issues, qualitative and quantitative social research methods and data analysis.

Certification

2022: TCPS 2 - Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Certificate

Thompson Rivers University

2022: TESOL/TESL - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Certificate

Thompson Rivers University

- Accredited by TESOL Canada
- Post Baccalaureate certificate from a recognized Canadian university

2021: Global Competency Certificate

Thompson Rivers University

- Certificate recognizes global and cross-cultural work, education, language, and experience.

2019: Aboriginal Studies Certificate

Thompson Rivers University

- Coursework regarding local and global Indigenous groups
- Studied Indigenous history, culture, and both modern and historical social issues
- Land use and rights

Field School

2024, May-June: Master's Degree Practicum/Field School

Kathmandu, Nepal

- Engaged with multiple humanitarian non-government organizations which provided valuable insights into the operations, challenges, and impacts of these organizations in the context of a developing country.
- A valuable networking opportunity where I made meaningful relations and acquired international connections relevant to my areas of expertise.

2022, May: Field School: Cultural Exchange Program

Zaragoza, Spain - CPA Salduie Grupo San Valero

Thompson Rivers University

- Attended a month of classes at the Zaragoza campus technical institute designed to give students international experience and build connections.
- Spanish classes

2016, April-May: Research Field School

Eastern/Central Europe Field School designed to provide experience researching vulnerable populations

Thompson Rivers University

- Slovakia, Svinia. Research on the Roma Gypsy population
- Ukraine, Vishinski. Research on the rural ethnic Ukrainian population

Community Engagement and Volunteer Experience

Volunteer - Kamloops Immigrant Services, Since 2021 - ongoing

- Lead and participate in language learning programs such as the English Language Circle and the Spanish English Language Exchange.
- Co-facilitating outdoor adventures, such as hikes, snowshoeing trips, skating and more.
- Ongoing Facilitator: Canadian Citizenship 101 course to immigrants applying for Canadian citizenship.

- Creating a sense of belonging and supporting new-to-Kamloops immigrants to settle in the community, provide support by way of advice around employment, volunteer opportunities, language support, things to do, and ways to be involved in the community and more.

Publication

McLaughlin, H., & Teater, B. (2025). *Research Handbook on Social Work and Societies*.

- Collaborated with Dr. Bala Nikku, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education & Social Work, Thompson Rivers University, and Yunisha Katuwal, Global Skills Opportunity scholar and co-founder of Project Manjari, Nepal.
- Wrote a chapter-section titled *The Captive Mind*, which reflects on the colonial history of both Nepal and Canada.

Presentation and Workshops

Feb 13, 2025: Presenter - Community Partner Appreciation Function, Thompson Rivers University

- Invited to present at the Community Partner Appreciation Function. The function's objective was to inform community members of the work and achievements of the Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice program, as well as the opportunities and possibilities that it provides to students.

Nov 7, 2024: Guest Facilitator - Arts-Informed Research Project with Sara Arias Palacio, Simon Fraser University

- Collaborated with PhD researcher (Sara Arias Palacio, SFU) to design and lead two participatory photography workshops with immigrant adult participants in a community-based language program. Introduced photography as a creative tool for exploring belonging, identity, and place through an arts-informed, relational framework.

Sept 27, 2024: Guest Presenter – SOCW 4800, Thompson Rivers University

- Invited as a guest presenter in Dr. Bala Nikku's Social Work class: SOCW 4800, to share my work as a Graduate student, my field school experiences, as well as other ongoing projects relevant to the course.

Jan 22, 2024: Domestic Student Representative, Thompson Rivers University

- Chosen as a representative to provide a domestic student's perspective to the Degree Quality Assessment Board (DQAB). The DQAB is a provincial assessment body and independent advisory board that ensures legislated quality assurance requirements are met for post-

secondary education in B.C. The board was there to assess an application by TRU to be able to have a more streamlined approach to creating new graduate programs.

References

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