

**CFP Edited Book:  
Reconceptualizing Caribbean Migration: Contemporary and Critical Perspectives**

**Edited by Natasha Kay Mortley and Andrea N. Baldwin**

Caribbean migration is a dynamic and complex phenomenon that has shaped communities, societies and cultures across the globe and remains one of the most researched phenomena in the Caribbean. From historical forced migrations to contemporary patterns of free movement, labour mobility and diasporic communities, Caribbean migration defies simplistic categorizations and Westernized models. Traditional migration research has framed Caribbean migration in economic and socio-historic terms including discourses on trends, limited opportunities, family networks, movement for employment and education, brain drain and remittances. Further, these discourses have often adopted and applied Westernized and androcentric lenses to migration. This narrative usually presents migration as having a destabilizing effect on Caribbean families, households and communities. While migration studies have grown vastly in the past 30 years, there remains a need to accurately assess the distinctive culture, identities, and overall social structures of Caribbean societies and the impact on migration.

This book will present contemporary and critical perspectives on Caribbean migration. It seeks to reconceptualize Caribbean migration by adopting a transnational perspective, which acknowledges the interconnectedness of sending and receiving societies, as well as the fluidity of migrant identities and experiences across borders. Further, the book will also focus on emerging trends and issues in Caribbean migration including displacement, accelerated free movements, return migrations, human mobility in the context of natural disasters, conflict situations and situations of crises and violence. The contributions will include interdisciplinary perspectives and critical insights on these under-researched areas of Caribbean migration. The scholarship contained in this volume will also have implications for broader frameworks of action and policy for better migration management and governance as Caribbean small island developing states are being confronted by and grappling with other regional and global crises.

**Themes:**

This book proposes an expansive, contemporary and interdisciplinary perspective on Caribbean migration with a particular focus on transnationalism, gender and decoloniality. We are interested in scholarship that employ innovative methodological and theoretical approaches. We offer a comprehensive examination of Caribbean migration in three main sections exploring the following themes:

**Section I: Reimagining and Reconceptualizing Historical Debates in Caribbean Migration**

Section one will contain chapters which take a historical view of migration using a decolonial, transnational and gender lens. These chapters will engage with migration as a historical phenomenon, writing critically about these movements beyond the traditional and Westernized theorizing of migration. Contributors will move beyond the unilateral, push/pull, brain drain and remittance framings of migration. This fresh examination of longstanding discussions and debates surrounding migration within the Caribbean region will re-evaluate and rethink

established narratives about Caribbean migration which involves revisiting historical accounts, theoretical frameworks, and scholarly interpretations to uncover overlooked perspectives, marginalized voices, and hidden complexities within migration histories. The chapters will encourage interdisciplinary perspectives, critical analyses, and innovative research methods that shed light on the multifaceted nature of migration processes. Overall, the chapters in this section will approach the history of Caribbean migration from a critical lens, engaging the complexities, contradictions, and nuances of migration within the Caribbean region. Topics can range from and address:

- Indigenous Migrations and Early Settlements
- The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Forced Migrations
- Indentured Labor and Contractual Migrations
- Post-Colonial Migration Waves including
- Windrush Generation

## **Section II: Reframing the Contemporary: Caribbean Migration, Coloniality, Capital, Culture, Climate, and Covid**

Section two will contain chapters which take a comprehensive look at any of the myriad causes, consequences and complexities of our contemporary movements. Chapters in this section acknowledge the historical legacies of colonialism including the coloniality of gender and how they shape our contemporary Caribbean societies and its migration patterns. Chapters in this section interrogate emerging trends in Caribbean migration and address why and how people are moving in our contemporary societies. They scrutinize the social construction of borders, capital flows, neoliberal policies, inequality, and utilize cultural and feminist frameworks to address, landscape, belonging, resistance and innovation, climate change, conflict and violence, pandemics, and how these intersect with migration dynamics, shaping both opportunities and inequalities for Caribbean people at home and abroad. Concepts in this section include, Black geographies and the poetics of landscape, liminality, fugitivity and marronage, displacement, among others. These chapters will engage critical theory to explore any of the below topics:

- Labor Mobility and the Global Economy
  - Education, Employment, and Socio-Economic Integration
- Creolization, Hybridity, and Cultural Continuities
- Cultural Productions and Expressions in Diaspora
- Identity Formation and Transnational Belonging
- Transnational Identities and Intersectional Experiences
  - Transnational Networks and Social Remittances
  - Social Capital, Networks, and Transnationalism
  - Social Remittances and Cultural Transfers
  - Diasporic Engagement and Development Initiatives
- Gendered Migrations and Family Dynamics
- Race, Ethnicity, and Diasporic Consciousness
  - Racism, Xenophobia, and Social Exclusion
- Class, Mobility, and Social Stratification
- Politics of Immigration and Citizenship
  - Immigration Policies and Legal Frameworks
  - Citizenship, Belonging, and Rights
  - Migrant Activism and Advocacy

- Environmental Factors and Migration in the Caribbean
  - Climate Change, Disasters, and Displacement
  - Environmental Justice and Vulnerable Communities
  - Adaptation Strategies
- Challenges and Opportunities for Social Integration
- Community Organizing and Grassroots Initiatives
- War and refugee crises
- Pandemics and COVID-19

### **Section III: Caribbean Migratory Futures**

Section three will examine what it means to think through and imagine Caribbean migratory futures. The chapters in this section will provide a forward-looking perspective on the future trajectories, possibilities, and challenges of migration within the Caribbean region and its diasporas. Here concepts of fugitivity and futurity become critical to how scholars think through how Caribbean people will continue to exist in the global and regional landscape that is anticipated to become even more surveilled and policed, the policy frameworks that will enforce these conditions and resistance to these. The chapters in this section are about thinking through migration not as a static phenomenon or historical trajectory but as a dynamic process shaped by evolving circumstances and aspirations much like what Tina Campt in her book *Listening to Images* (2017) writes about. It involves examining how factors such as globalization, technological advancements, political shifts, and environmental changes will influence patterns of mobility, settlement, and belonging in the Caribbean and beyond, and invites us to critically examine and imagine how movements for social justice and immigration justice requires that we all work in solidarity to recognize a future that is just for all.

#### **Submission Guidelines:**

Authors interested in contributing to this volume are invited to submit proposals including:

- Title and abstract of the proposed chapter (maximum 250-300 words).
- 3-5 Keywords
- A brief author biography highlighting relevant qualifications and expertise.

Proposals should be original and have not been previously published or under consideration elsewhere.

#### **Submission Deadline:**

Proposals should be submitted via email to [natasha.mortley02@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:natasha.mortley02@uwimona.edu.jm) and [andrea.baldwin@utah.edu](mailto:andrea.baldwin@utah.edu) by September 15, 2024. Late submissions may not be considered.

#### **Selection Process:**

Proposals will be reviewed by the editors, and authors of selected proposals will be notified within a one-month period. Selected authors will then be invited to submit full chapters for double blind peer review.

For further inquiries and submissions, please contact Natasha Mortley at [natasha.mortley02@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:natasha.mortley02@uwimona.edu.jm) or Andrea Baldwin at [Andrea.baldwin@utah.edu](mailto:Andrea.baldwin@utah.edu)

## About the Editors:



Dr. Natasha Mortley is a regionally and internationally known scholar of Caribbean migration focused on gender transformational advocacy and gender justice scholarship. Trained in Sociology, she has actively infused her work with feminist thought and gender theories.

Dr. Mortley is a Research Fellow in the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica where her work integrates a gender perspective to Caribbean social development and policy issues. Her research work has focused on migration & development; gender & leadership; gender & climate change; gender-based violence and Caribbean masculinities. Over the past fifteen years, Natasha has developed her migration scholarship in the areas of diaspora issues; transnational and feminist theorizing of Caribbean migration; human mobility, gender & climate justice and migration policy development. Together with Dr. Andrea Baldwin she developed the love power migration theory, which has been published in international peer reviewed journals. Further, she gives international lectures and contributes to regional and international dialogues on a wide range of pressing Caribbean migration issues. Dr. Mortley currently serves as Strategic Advisor to the Commission of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States on gender, migration and social policy.



Dr. Andrea N. Baldwin is an Associate Professor in the Divisions of Gender and Ethnic Studies in the School for Cultural and Social Transformation, and a 2023-2024 Presidential Fellow at the University of Utah. Dr. Baldwin who is an attorney-at-law and holds a master's degree in international trade policy and a Ph.D. in gender and development studies, is the founder of the Black Feminist Eco Lab at the University of Utah. She has several publications including her 2021 book monograph *A Decolonial Black Feminist Theory of Reading and Shade: Feeling the University*; 2019 and 2023 co-edited texts in the *Standpoints Black feminisms* book series with Virginia Tech Publishing; and a 2023 co-edited volume on *Global Black feminisms*. She is the creator and co-host of *Standpoints*, a Black feminist podcast produced by Virginia Tech Publishing, and the co-curator of the Caribbean feminist series for Black Women Radicals. Dr. Baldwin was born and raised on the small Caribbean Island state of Barbados and considers herself an all-around Caribbean woman who loves everything coconut and soca.