



# Anthropology Report 2023-24

Anthropology Report · 2023-24



Artwork: "Cajubi" by Denilson Baniwa

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Anthropology Report • 2023-24

# Letter from the Chair



*Our exceptionally diverse community of scholars is producing inventive, multidisciplinary, and impactful research and pedagogy for pressing areas of concern in the U.S. and internationally, contributing to a bold capacity-building plan for Princeton's future.*

Our times produce absence and social distance, anthropology strives for human proximity and the will to create community, for intense listening to the stories that souls live by, for interrupting algorithms and thinking outside the box, for another account of what has been and what could be. Despite the uncertainties of the present, “time does have a future,” as Nobel laureate Toni Morrison reminds us, “longer than its past and infinitely more hospitable.”

Our exceptionally diverse and passionate students tell us that they are drawn to anthropology for its holistic approach. With their hearts and minds on the pulse of the times, they appreciate the department’s nurturing and stimulating environment and a few other things, like our ethnographic focus on how people think, act and make sense of the world; our theoretical exploration of the forms and stakes of emerging social and technological life and environmental change; and our call for creative experimentation with storytelling.

I thus wish to commence this annual letter by expressing my sincerest gratitude to the faculty, students and staff for their hard work and continued efforts to foster an inclusive and caring community that cultivates intellectual curiosity and rigorous inquiry, alongside ethical and meaningful social engagement and toward a more just kind of tomorrow.

We are all grateful to the University administration for their unwavering support as we continue to build momentum and navigate the excitement and daily challenges of remarkable and exponential growth. Yes, we are now a large department, with over a hundred majors and an exemplary graduate program. Our outstanding and growing ladder faculty and creative team of lecturers have provided instruction to nearly 1,000 students during the previous academic year, with over 700 students on waiting lists. Many of our oversubscribed courses are cross-listed and we greatly value the already strong connections that Anthropology has developed across divisions.

In the vibrant pages that follow, we highlight the ways in which our intergenerational community of scholars is producing inventive, multidisciplinary, and impactful research and pedagogy for pressing areas of concern in the United States and internationally, while being at the forefront of the humanistic social sciences and contributing to a bold capacity-building plan for Princeton’s future. We are very proud of what they’ve accomplished and what they envision moving forward.

Anthropology’s interconnected faculty and students are adapting to the changing landscape of data and knowledge production, building new types of partnerships and avenues of inquiry necessary to address today’s intertwined social, environmental, technological, and ethical challenges. The groundbreaking art exhibition “Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History,” developed in collaboration with the Princeton Art Museum and

PIIRS’s Brazil LAB, which creatively explores issues of Indigenous rights, colonial history, and environmental degradation, is a case in point. In recent years, the department has become a particularly active campus hub for students and faculty working on a wide range of Indigenous issues and scholarship. Meanwhile, several colleagues are developing long-term projects through the Program for Community-Engaged Scholarship, the VizE Lab is expanding its innovative data visualization work within the department and across campus, and we are preparing to launch a timely initiative on “AI in Service of Humanity” next year.

We have benefited immensely from a robust and always well-attended series of department lectures and “unscripted” events, as well as from engagement with the visiting scholars who have joined our community over the past year as part of our efforts to decenter and internationalize knowledge production. They have been instrumental in diversifying our conversations about decolonial-anticolonial critique (see interviews with Munira Khayyat from Lebanon and Carlos Fausto from Brazil).

We are also very pleased to report that our multi-pronged approach to faculty growth (aligned with University priorities and strategic interdisciplinary partnerships) has yielded significant results over the past year. Together with the Efron Center for the Study of America, we recently recruited the field-defining scholar J. Kēhaulani Kauanui, who was named the Eric and Wendy Schmidt Professor of Indigenous Studies Chair. In addition, two notable new assistant professors will be joining the department: Amelia Frank-Vitale, appointed jointly with the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, and Jamie Wong, appointed jointly with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. We look forward to welcoming them to our community!

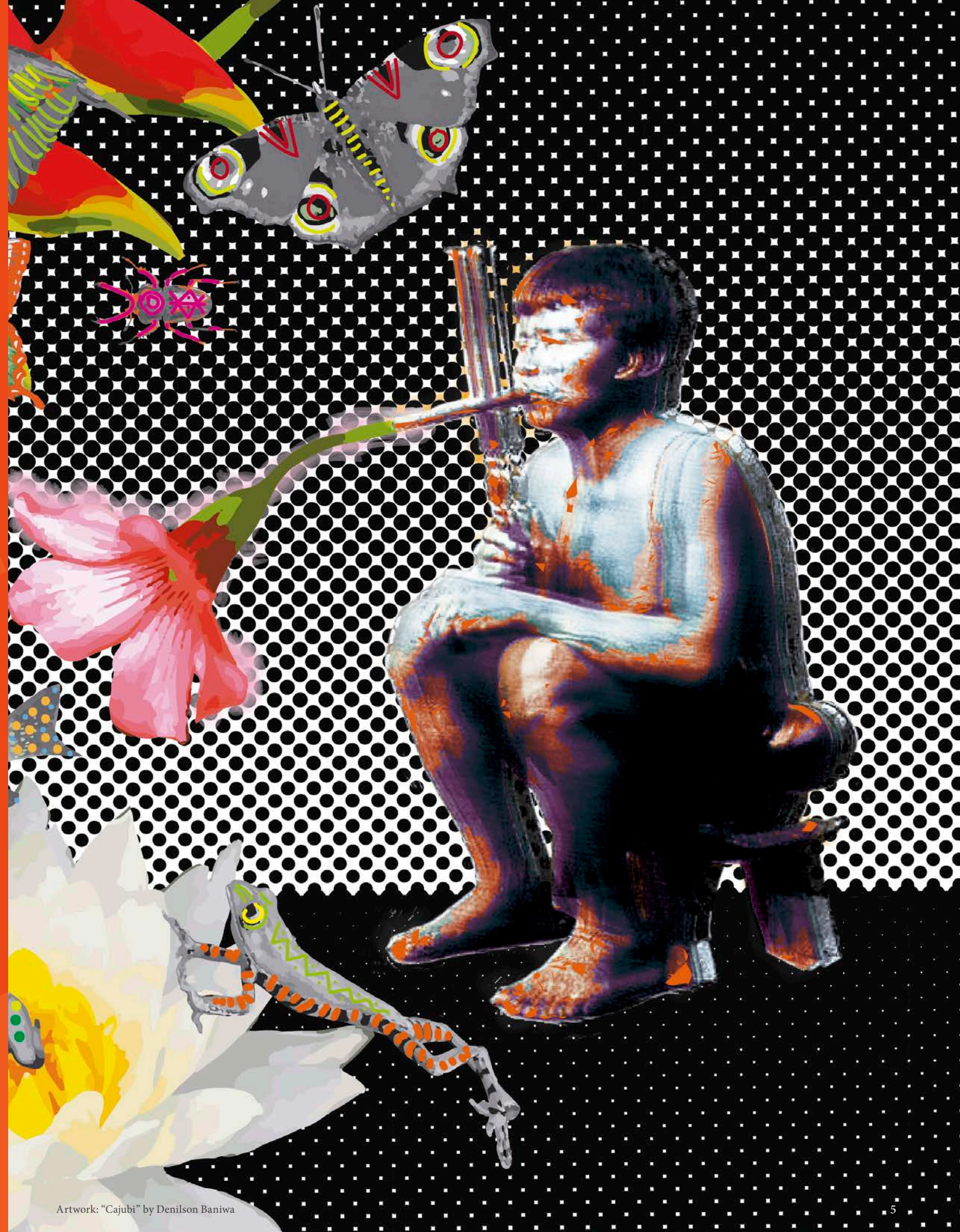
Please take a moment to explore this academic report (so brilliantly designed by Lula Rocha) to get a sense of the dynamic fabric of the department and to learn about our colleagues and students and their current and fascinating work. In studies and publications, courses and academic events, theses and dissertations, you will find puzzling social realities, often sobering and on the edge, and how we are reckoning with them, as well as how anthropology, with its many cross-pollinations, finds seeds of repair in people’s “hospitable” storytelling.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'João Biehl'.

**João Biehl**  
Susan Dod Brown Professor and Chair of Anthropology

# Faculty News

*Since its beginnings in the mid-1960s, Anthropology has been at the forefront of efforts to make Princeton more inclusive and its social science curricula more people-centered and self-reflexive. The critical connection between theory and socially engaged practice remains a hallmark of our faculty's research as we address today's intertwined sociopolitical, environmental, and technological challenges. Experimenting with multimodal inquiry and recovering insurgent histories, we push the boundaries of social theory, ethical reasoning, and data visualization. We embrace community-engaged research and science communication, and strive for transformative teaching.*



Artwork: "Cajubi" by Denilson Baniwa

# Faculty News



Biehl recently published the book *Arc of Interference: Medical Anthropologies for Worlds on Edge* with Vincanne Adams (Duke University Press).

## João Biehl

**B**iehl is the Susan Dod Professor and Chair of Anthropology and director of the Brazil LAB at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. He specializes in medical and political anthropology, social studies of science and technology, global and planetary health, ethnography of public policy, settler colonialism and insurgency, literary anthropology, Brazil and Amazonia. He recently published the book *Arc of Interference: Medical Anthropologies for Worlds on Edge* with Vincanne Adams (Duke University Press). Biehl also published his keynote address for the Brazilian Anthropology of Health Conference, “Arc of Interference: Decolonizing Global Health and Prospecting Horizons.” The updated edition of Biehl’s award-winning book *Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment* was translated into simplified Chinese and published by the Shanghai Sanhui Culture and Press. Biehl is co-editor of the acclaimed book series “Critical Global Health” at Duke University Press. Last year, he was appointed a commissioner of The Lancet-London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Commission on “The Emotional Determinants of Health.” Biehl is co-PI of the project “Conservation Frontiers: Engaging Indigenous Ecologies of Knowledges” (with a grant from the Office of the Dean of Research) and, together with professors Agustín Fuentes and Marina Hirota, was recently awarded a major grant from the High Meadows Environmental Institute for the “Indigenizing Biodiversity Conservation” project. Biehl continues to oversee the project “Illuminating and Revitalizing the History of Indigenous Scholarship and Activism at Princeton” together with Jeffrey Himpele and Ikaika Ramones and with support from the Provost’s Office. In addition to being a faculty associate with several Princeton departments and programs, Biehl serves on the executive committees of the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies and the Program in Latin American Studies. This past year, he has served on Princeton’s Faculty Committee on Appointments and Advancements. Biehl is completing an edited book with Federico Neiburg, *House-ing: On Habitability and Livingness in Critical Times*, and working on the monograph *The Spirit of Nature and Love of Kin: Traces of My Ancestral War*.

## FACULTY



## Elizabeth A. Davis

In 2023-24, Davis resumed her ethnographic project on death and burial practices in Greece and continued to work on *Immortal*, a documentary film about the public life of human remains in Cyprus.

Her second book, *Artifactual: Forensic and Documentary Knowing*, addressing public secrecy and knowledge-making in Cyprus, was published in August 2023 by Duke University Press, and her chapter on conspiracy attunement appeared in the 2024 volume *Conspiracy/Theory* (Duke University Press), edited by Joseph Masco and Lisa Wedeen. She continued serving on the executive board of the Modern Greek Studies Association and gave invited lectures at the University of Chicago, Loyola Marymount University, and the University of Barcelona. At Princeton, she served as director of graduate studies in anthropology; taught the first half of the graduate proseminar as well as the undergraduate methods course; and co-taught with Luke Forrester Johnson the seminar “The Paranormal and the Supernatural,” offered through the Collaborative Teaching Initiative. She was re-appointed vice-chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and continued serving on the executive committee of IHUM. She was awarded a 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education grant to develop an undergraduate course on the anthropology of death, to be offered for the first time in spring 2025.



## Julia Elyachar

Elyachar specializes in the fields of economic anthropology, social theory, political economy, Middle East studies and embodiment.

Among her publications this last year are a Turkish translation of a revised version of her first book, *Markets of Dispossession*, by Alpha Publishing; an article titled “Relational Finance: Ottoman Debt, Financialization, and the Problem of the Semi-Civilized” in the *Journal of Cultural Economy*; and an essay in a special section on the work of AbdouMaliq Simone and Neferti X. Tadiar in the journal *Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* (CSSAAME). Elyachar continued in her roles as co-editor of the journal *Cultural Anthropology*, a member of the editorial collective of *Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* (CSSAAME), and a member of the board of the Society of Cultural Anthropology. Her forthcoming book, *On the Semi-Civilized: Channels of Mobility and Finance through Cairo and Beyond*, will be published by Duke University Press in 2024.

## FACULTY



## Agustín Fuentes

Finishing his fourth year at Princeton, Professor Agustín Fuentes continues his biocultural weaving of research, teaching and public scholarship.

This year he taught the 120+ student introduction to anthropology course, a graduate seminar in multispecies anthropology, and human evolution. He continues to co-direct a 15-country, 150+ researcher project on the relations between long-tailed macaque monkeys and humans across Southeast Asia. He is also focusing on ongoing projects on sex biology and the human experience and concepts, cognition and cultural dynamics. In addition to finishing a book manuscript this year, Fuentes published articles and book chapters on racist citational practices in the development of race corrections in medical algorithms; the harmful impact of the global primate trade; the dynamics of human evolution; and the need to rethink and expand the role of ethics, equity and community engagement in the study of human biology, among others. He is also one of three co-editors of a new book from Cambridge University Press, *Environmental Violence in the Earth System and the Human Niche*. He continues his public-facing work with essays and videos for *Science*, *American Scientist* and *Big Think*, as well as appearances on numerous podcasts and other media outlets.



## Hanna Garth

Garth is a sociocultural and medical anthropologist specializing in the anthropology of food. During 2023-24, she published a chapter in *Beyond the Kitchen Table: Black Women and Global Food Systems* and a chapter in *Language and Social Justice: A Global Perspective*.

While on sabbatical, Garth has continued working on her book manuscript on the food justice movement in Los Angeles, under contract with University of California Press. With grant funding from UCHRSS and the Center for Health and Wellbeing, she has been researching food insecure households in South Central Los Angeles. She continues to work on her project on fish and seafood in the Caribbean, as well as the Heirloom Gardens Oral History Project in collaboration with Spelman College and Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance. Garth has delivered several invited lectures on and off campus, including a keynote lecture at Cornell University and the Annual Margaret Mead Lecture at Fordham University. Garth has been working on revising her ANT 311: “Food, Culture & Society” course, including expanding the community-engaged component with ProCES, supported by the 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education.

## FACULTY



## Ryo Morimoto

Morimoto’s research explores human-nuclear relations. In 2023-24, he published two articles: “Tying Knots of En” in the *Asia Pacific Journal: Japan Focus* and “Radioactive Mosquito Bites” in *Public Culture*.

He also gave over fifteen talks about his book, *Nuclear Ghost*, published in April 2023. *Nuclear Ghost* is a finalist for the Rachel Carson Prize from the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S). Now his research is expanding into the field of robotics. Morimoto will conduct fieldwork during 2024-25, exploring the U.S.-Japan collaboration to develop robots to decommission the damaged reactors in coastal Fukushima. This project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a part of the project, Morimoto developed and taught a new course on robotics (ANT325 /MAE 347/ SPI 384: “Robots in Human Ecology”) with Alexander Glaser from the mechanical and aerospace engineering department and SPIA. In the course, STEM and non-STEM students collaboratively explored diverse on-campus use cases of Boston Dynamics’ quadruped robot, Spot. The 250th Anniversary Fund and the Class of 1972 Teaching Initiative funded the course. In the summer of 2024, Morimoto will travel to Hiroshima with the Nuclear Princeton team to initiate a Magic Grants-funded Princeton-Hiroshima dialogue on the history of nuclear science and technology and peace education.



## Serguei Alex Oushakine

Oushakine is a socio-cultural anthropologist working in the fields of media, visual and material cultures, postcoloniality and postsocialism, and literary and social theory.

In 2024, he prepared for publication a collection of his articles called *Dynamizing Things: Essays on Objects, Relations, and People*, which is coming out with the book series “Historical Materialism” (at Brill). He also published a two-volume collection of primary sources on early Soviet avant-garde (*The Formal Method: An Anthology of Russian Modernism*). His article “‘How They Do It in America’: Cultural Arbitrage in Soviet Russia” came out in the volume *Red Migration: Transnational Mobility and Leftist Culture after 1917*, edited by Bradley Gorski and Philip Gleissner (University of Toronto Press). In February 2024, the volume *The Pedagogy of Images: Depicting Communism for Children* (University of Toronto Press, 2021), co-edited by Oushakine with Marina Balina, received the Best Edited Scholarly Volume Award from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Languages (the main professional association of Slavic literary scholars). In May 2024, Oushakine was awarded by the Princeton Humanities Council a three-year-long grant for conducting a series of annual workshops on Soviet modernism. In 2023-24, Oushakine was a member of the hiring committees in the Department of Anthropology and the Department of History. For 2023-25, he is a faculty fellow at the Princeton Society of Fellows. In 2024, Oushakine was appointed for a four-year term as the director of Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at PIIRS.

## FACULTY



## Laurence Ralph

Ralph's work explores how police abuse, mass incarceration and the drug trade make injury and premature death seem natural for people of color.

In 2023-24, Ralph taught two undergraduate courses: "Disability, Disease, and the Body" and "Gangsters and Troublesome Populations." Ralph's third book, *Sito: An American Teenager and the City that Failed Him*, was published in February 2024. Opinion pieces based on the book's core themes, excerpts and reviews were published in various media outlets, including *TIME*, *The New York Times*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Literary Hub*, and *Kirkus Reviews*. This year, Ralph served as editor-in-chief of *Current Anthropology*, an advisory board member of the Wenner Gren Foundation, an executive committee member of the Humanities Council and the Program in Journalism, a member of the Priorities Committee, an elected representative of the Council of the Princeton University Community, and a member of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Policy. Ralph is currently working on his fourth single-authored book, *Black Cargo: Police Violence and Black Survival in America*. The book aims to reveal the historical roots and modern dynamics of police violence in America.



## Ikaika Ramones

This academic year Ramones published two new articles: "Endurance of Difference: Insights from Contemporary Native Hawaiian Media" in *Visual Anthropology Review* and "Creation stories: Carrying our elders of Indigenous media" in *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.

Ramones specializes in Indigeneity, political economy, critical theory and media. He also co-published a dialogue, "Indigenous Media: Protocols, Circulation and the Politics of Accountability," in *Visual Anthropology Review* and has a forthcoming article in a special issue of *American Quarterly*, "Insurgent Indigeneity: A New Threshold of Indigenous Politics." Ramones received a grant from the Princeton 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education to expand and redesign his popular course, "Critical Native American and Indigenous Studies." He also began a two-year appointment on the Wenner-Gren Foundation's grant reviewer panel. After joining the executive committee at the Efron Center for the Study of America, he was on the selection committee for the Mellon Sawyer Indigenous Studies Postdoctoral Fellow. In addition to serving on the department's Invited Lectures Committee, he also joined the Indigenous Language Initiative at the Office of the Dean of the College. Ramones has also worked on a departmental initiative with Firestone Special Collections, recovering the archives of late Princeton professor and Native anthropologist Alfonso Ortiz. Finally, he completed his book manuscript, *Red Dirt: An Anthropological Manual for Indigenous Liberation*.

## FACULTY



## Carolyn Rouse

Rouse continues to be fascinated by structural racism, inequality and, in general, people's commitment to bad ideas. Topical areas that Rouse works on include, race, political economy, health, design and visual anthropology.

Over the past two years, Rouse has been part of a team working to build humanistic design studies at Princeton through the Keller Center for Entrepreneurship. She is also the president-elect/vice president of the American Anthropological Association and the director of the School of Criticism and Theory, a summer program at Cornell University. Rouse is finishing a book and film associated with her work studying declining white life expectancies in rural California. She is also finishing a film that addresses the causes of storm water flooding in New Jersey as traceable to human design and politics. This film project is being done through the Ethnographic Data Visualization Lab (VizE Lab) that she started in 2016. Her partners for this project include the director of the VizE Lab, Jeffrey Himpele; the lab's data visualization expert, Ivan Melchor; and The Watershed Institute.



## Beth Semel

Semel draws from linguistic and medical anthropology, surveillance studies and feminist science and technology studies to examine the development and use of language-oriented artificial intelligence (AI) for mental healthcare applications in the U.S.

She recently served as a subject matter expert for an Access Now report on the dangers of emerging biometric technologies. She is wrapping up her term as a member of the 2023-24 Lecture Committee, during which she organized and moderated "Our AI Futures: Critical Humanistic Perspectives," a November 2023 panel conversation between Dr. Alondra Nelson and Dr. Alex Hanna. In March, she gave an invited seminar, "'Everything is a Signal': Precision Metaphors in American Digital Psychiatry," at the newly established Princeton Precision Health (PPH) initiative. She will soon embark on a sabbatical to complete her book manuscript, tentatively entitled *Speech, Signal, Symptom: Machine Listening and the Limits of Technosolutionism in American Mental Healthcare*. She is also co-editing a volume under contract with De Gruyter's "Sociology of Language" series that explores how racialized and language-minoritized communities are impacted by, and respond to, AI-enabled educational technologies.

## FACULTY



### Jerry Zee

Zee is a cultural anthropologist who works on questions of environment, technology and geopolitics. His work focuses on how environmental processes and planetary crisis intersect with political tensions across the Pacific Rim.

In the past academic year, he has been on a research sabbatical in Canada, Taiwan and the United States, conducting ethnographic research for a forthcoming book project on how geophysical phenomena disrupt narratives of a “New Cold War.” In the past year, new articles have been published toward this project in *Environmental Humanities* and *English Language Notes*. His book *Continent in Dust* also received honorable mention for the Ludwik Fleck Prize, awarded by the Society for the Social Studies of Science.



## VISITING FACULTY



### Fadi A. Bardawil

Bardawil is associate professor of contemporary Arab cultures in the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University and a visiting associate professor of anthropology at Princeton.

Throughout 2023-24, Bardawil continued his engagement with the question of rethinking how Arab diasporic thinkers, particularly Edward Said and Talal Asad, conceptualized the relation between imperial knowledge and colonial power. Two essays came out of these research forays: “The Conversation: Listening and Eavesdropping across Generations,” published in *World Records Journal*, and “Talal Asad: Anthropologist of Empire,” published in *POLAR Online*. Bardawil was invited to present this new work at the Boas Seminar in Anthropology at Columbia University and at the Center for Philosophy and Critical Thought at Goldsmiths, where he spoke about the conceptualization of Palestinian existence and experience in Edward Said’s early works. Bardawil’s commitment to public-facing scholarship resulted in an essay on teaching and researching the humanities by Arab scholars at home and in the diaspora, published in the *Arab Region Chapter of the World Humanities Report*. He taught a new graduate/undergraduate seminar on the question of war, which emphasized interdisciplinary (historical, theoretical, ethnographical) works and multiscalar approaches to shed light on our increasingly interconnected, yet fragmented, world. Last but not least, Bardawil continued his years-long engagement, in different capacities, with the Arab Council for Social Sciences, based in Beirut, Lebanon.

### Carlos Fausto

Fausto is a Princeton Institute of International and Regional Studies (PIIRS) Global Scholar, affiliated with the Brazil Lab and a visiting lecturer of anthropology.

His main affiliation is as a professor at the National Museum, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. During this academic year, he taught “Anthropology of Art” for Princeton graduate students. He has conducted research with Indigenous peoples in Amazonia since 1988, focusing on subjects such as art, ritual, memory, shamanism and warfare. During this academic year, he published *Ardis da Arte: Imagem, Agência e Ritual na Amazônia* in Brazil and *Le Jaguar Apprivoisé: Essais d’Ethnologie Amazonienne* in France. He co-curated the exhibition “Under the Skin of History,” on the Indigenous artist Denilson Baniwa, at the Princeton University Art Museum. With Thiago da Costa Oliveira, he co-directed the short film “Right of Replay” for the same exhibition.





## VISITING FACULTY



## Munira Khayyat

In 2023-24, Khayyat began a new role as clinical associate professor of anthropology at NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD), moving from the American University in Cairo where she had taught since 2013.

In the fall she taught an NYUAD undergraduate colloquium on war. In the spring, she took leave from NYUAD to be the Global South fellow at Princeton, where she taught the half-term course “Landscapes of War, Resistance and Repair.” Khayyat spent the rest of the spring semester traveling widely for talks on her book, *A Landscape of War: Ecologies of Resistance and Survival in South Lebanon*, published by University of California Press in November 2022. Humboldt University in Berlin, University of Köln, Georgetown Qatar, SOAS, NYU, Johns Hopkins University, Cornell, University of Minnesota, Berkeley, Rutgers University, Vanderbilt University and Renmin University in Beijing are some of the places she was invited to speak this academic year. Khayyat will be at NYU New York for the coming two years teaching in the anthropology department there. She will continue work on her two book projects: *War from the South*, a public-facing book drawing on her work on war, and *Heart of Black Gold*, on the intimate lifeworlds of oil in Aramco, Saudi Arabia.



## Kevon Rhiney

Rhiney is the 2023-24 Barron Visiting Professor in the Environment and the Humanities, a visiting professor in the High Meadows Environmental Institute, and an affiliated faculty in the Department of Anthropology and the Department of African American Studies.

During the year, Rhiney taught two new courses: “Neoliberal Natures” and “Climate Coloniality, Race and Justice.” He organized two successful symposia on green extractivism and abolition ecologies (fall 2023) and climate change loss and damage financing (spring 2024), and he gave invited lectures related to his ongoing work on post-hurricane reconstruction politics in the Caribbean at Princeton, SUNY ESF and the University of Arizona. Rhiney is a co-editor for the forthcoming *Routledge Handbook of Caribbean Studies* and co-edited a special issue on “Liberalism’s Limits on Climate Justice” in the peer-reviewed journal *Climate and Development*. Rhiney will spend the summer conducting follow-up fieldwork in the Caribbean as part of his ongoing research on post-hurricane recovery struggles and island postcolonial imaginaries.

## ASSOCIATED FACULTY



## Amy Borovoy

**Professor of East Asian Studies**

Borovoy’s work explores how societies provide social care and public health through affective labor and social welfare, focusing on modern Japan.

Her current manuscript project, *In Search of Social Solidarity: The American Study of Modernity Through Postwar Japan*, analyzes five canonical texts in the U.S. postwar social science of Japan and how authors carved space for imagining different pathways to modernity by exploring familism, nation-ness, anti-free-market policies and civil religion. Recently, Borovoy published “The Burdens of Self-Restraint: Social Measures and the Containment of Covid-19 in Japan” in *Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus*. With a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, Borovoy has also been studying the kidney transplantation program at a large public hospital in Japan, exploring life extension and renal replacement therapy as a medical, technological, social and ethical practice. She presented “Biological Subject-Making in the Quest for a Longer Life” at the Columbia University Modern Japan Seminar in November 2023. At Princeton, she is a faculty affiliate with the Global Japan Lab, the Center for Health and Wellbeing, the Global Health Program and the University Center for Human Values. She sits on the Bioethics Committee of the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick.



## Aisha M. Beliso-De Jesús

**Olden Street Professor of American Studies; Chair, Efron Center for the Study of America; Co-Director of Center on Transnational Policing**

Beliso-De Jesús specializes in policing and militarization, Afro-Latiné studies and anthropology of religion.

This past academic year, she published two academic journal articles: “Religion In the Closet: Hetero-Secularisms and Police-Practitioners of African Diaspora Religions” (2023) in the *Journal of Africana Religions*, and a co-authored essay, “White Supremacy and The Making of Anthropology” (2023) in *The Annual Review of Anthropology*. A cultural and social anthropologist, Beliso-De Jesús has conducted ethnographic research with Santería practitioners in Cuba and the United States and with police officers and communities of color affected by police violence in the United States. Her recent monograph, *Excited Delirium: Race, Police Violence and the Invention of a Disease* (Duke University Press, 2024), examines the medicalization of police violence. Additionally, her co-edited volume, *The Anthropology of White Supremacy: A Reader* (Princeton University Press, 2025), brings together global anthropologists to analyze and dismantle structures of white supremacy. Beliso-De Jesús serves as chair of the Efron Center for the Study of America at Princeton. She was just awarded a Humanities Council Magic Grant, and with its support, this summer she will produce a short documentary based on her book on excited delirium syndrome. She is finishing another book, *Zombie Patrol: Policing Afro-Latiné Religions*, which examines the policing of immigrant religions and issues of animal rights, constitutional freedoms, and religious slaughter.

## EMERITUS



## Carol Greenhouse

Carol J. Greenhouse continues her work on the ethnography of law, particularly in relation to federal power in the United States.

Recent publications include “After Dobbs: Reflections on Political and Legal Anthropology,” in *Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR)*, 2023), which is based on her keynote at the joint meeting of AES/APLA in Princeton; “Corruption Against Humanity,” in *Corruption and Illiberal Politics in the Trump Era*, edited by Donna M. Goldstein and Kristen Drybread and published by Routledge (2023); and “Social Control Through Law: Critical Afterlives,” in *Oxford Handbook of Law and Anthropology*, edited by Marie-Claire Foblets, Mark Goodale, Maria Sapignoli and Olaf Zenker and published by Oxford University Press (2022). Greenhouse recently joined the editorial committee of the American Philosophical Society Press.



## Larry Rosen

During last academic year, Larry Rosen published the books *The Rights of Groups: Understanding Community in the Eyes of the Law* (NYU Press, 2024) and *Sūq: Clifford Geertz on the Market* (HAU Books, 2023).

He also published three new articles: “My Culture Made Me Do It: Expert Testimony and the Anthropologist’s Dilemma” (*Current Anthropology* 2024); “Ibn Khaldūn et l’individu dans l’histoire” (in Houari Touati, ed., *Ibn Khaldun et les sciences humaines*, 2024); and “Validating Historical Interpretations: An Approach from Cultural Anthropology” (*History and Theory*, 2024). He recently completed a book entitled *Tribes: Challenging the Stereotype, Shifting the Paradigm* and is at work on a book about Ibn Khaldun for the Berghahn series on ancestors in anthropology. Rosen is now living in Castine, Maine, where he has taught through the Acadia Senior College.



## LECTURERS



## Andrea L. DiGiorgio

Princeton Writing Program

DiGiorgio is a biological anthropologist whose work lies in the spaces where humans and wildlife interact.

Her specializations are primate nutritional ecology in the wild and in captivity; primate and human health, including the costs of motherhood and impacts of increasingly prevalent fires and droughts; and conservation social media. Her recent publications include “Effects of captions on viewers’ perceptions of images depicting human-primate interaction,” published in *Conservation Biology*, and “Famished Frugivores or Choosy Consumers: A generalist frugivore (wild Bornean orangutans) leaves available fruit for non-fruit foods,” published in *International Journal of Primatology*. She has also submitted final proofs for the chapter “Seasonality in Food Availability and Energy Intake” for the forthcoming book *Primate Diet and Nutrition* (University of Chicago Press). DiGiorgio’s research has also been featured in *The Conversation* article “Wildlife selfies harm animals — even when scientists share images with warnings in the captions.” This year, DiGiorgio received a seed grant from Princeton Language and Intelligence (PLI), with which she will use large language models to investigate the impacts of social media on wildlife conservation. She was also an invited speaker at the PLI Symposium. DiGiorgio was awarded funding from the University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences for her work examining the costs of motherhood in wild baboons and the importance of affiliative behavior in tempering these costs. She was recognized this year by the Princeton Council on Science and Technology. In the anthropology department, she teaches the course “Behavioral Biology of Women” and will be teaching “Human Evolution” over the next year.



## Akil F. Fletcher

Fletcher is a Cotsen Postdoctoral Fellow in the Society of Fellows and a lecturer in the Council of the Humanities and Anthropology.

He has multiple written pieces under review, including an article on Black representation in *Final Fantasy XIV* and a book chapter on Black death and gaming. He continues to work on his book project, tentatively titled “Playing in Color: How Black Gamers Build Worlds,” which explores how Black gamers build social worlds in gaming spaces. In his first year at Princeton, Fletcher introduced two new courses, “Gaming Blackness: An Anthropology of Race and Games” and “Digital Anthropology: Methods to Explore Virtual Worlds,” to Princeton’s course catalog. The first course, “Gaming Blackness,” received high praise and a perfect evaluation score. Fletcher received funding from the Council on Science and Technology’s Annual Call for Proposals and the David A. Gardner ’69 Magic Grant from the Humanities Council to buy new laptops and offer the course again in fall 2024, with the incorporation of a trip to Tokyo, Japan. The Department of Anthropology and the Office of International Programs provided additional funding toward this initiative. In addition, Fletcher gave multiple lectures and talks across various universities and video game industry events. These included lectures presented at Georgetown University, the Game Developers Conference, and Princeton itself, as he talked about the impact of Japanese media on Black communities in conjunction with Princeton’s Global Japan Lab.

## LECTURERS



## Jacob Geuder

Geuder joined the anthropology department as a lecturer in spring 2024. During this time, he taught the “Anthropology of Law” course to introduce students to the critical contributions of anthropologists to legal studies, with a focus on human rights.

His second course, “Just Housing? Racial Capitalism and the Right to the City,” initiated the Princeton-Trenton collaboration by the anthropology department. With the support of ProCES, the course co-created the first iteration of a long-term project on housing justice in Trenton in partnership with April de Simone. The project was presented at a public event with over forty guests in Trenton. Geuder also presented this research on racialized financialization of housing at the “Race and the City” conference in Zurich. Simultaneously, Geuder continued collaborating with the Princeton University Library on the “Urban Video Archives” project, which preserves audiovisual documentation of protests and police violence in Brazil. This digital archiving project will be presented at the Radical Film Network Meeting in Madrid.



## Thalia Gigerenzer

Thalia Gigerenzer’s research focuses on atmospheres, emotions, gender, urban space, poetics and conviviality in contemporary South Asia.

She works with audio and visual methods in her work. During the last academic year, Gigerenzer worked on completing her book manuscript, *A Sense of Radiance*, which focuses on the explorations of young Muslim women in Delhi at a time of great political insecurity for India’s Muslim population. She also worked on several multimedia projects, including an audio ethnography of the intersection between music and community in the small town of Galax, Virginia. Gigerenzer also presented her work at several conferences, including the American Anthropological Association and the European Anthropological Association. She also began working on her second project, *Breathing Space: Creativity and Play in a Toxic Environment*, which looks at how pollution is reshaping the social lives of children in low-income areas of Delhi, India. In addition to “Medical Anthropology,” Gigerenzer taught a brand-new course called “Love: Anthropological Explorations.”

## LECTURERS



## Onur Günay

After several years as an instructor in the department, Onur Günay became director of undergraduate studies last year, overseeing about 100 majors and advising them on courses and research.

Günay is working on his book *Therapeutic Governance: Violence, Masculinity, and Piety in Kurdish Istanbul*, which explores the intertwined dynamics of ethno-racial violence, statecraft, and gendered religious governance in Turkey. He examines Turkey’s long-running “war on terror” against the Kurdish insurgency and the more recent war on drugs, highlighting how these conflicts target Kurdish migrant workers and frame them as security threats. Günay is currently working with historian Cemal Kafadar and ethnomusicologist Mustafa Avcı on a documentary about the environmental history and founding myths of Istanbul. Günay leads the department’s Junior Arc team and teaches three highly acclaimed courses: “Histories of Anthropological Theory,” “Violence,” and “Masculinities.” He is also a sought-after independent work advisor.



## Clayton Goodgame

Goodgame is an anthropologist of religion, political economy and the Middle East. His current project is on the Eastern Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem, one of the oldest churches in the world and one of the largest landowners in Palestine/Israel.

In the past year, the project has resulted in two publications: “A Lineage in Land: The Transmission of Palestinian Christianity,” in the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, and “The Convent Camp: Sacred Places in Palestinian Refugee History,” in the *Journal of Refugee Studies*. Clayton is currently finishing a book manuscript for the project called *The Orthodox Line* and is organizing a special issue of *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* on the political economy of Middle Eastern churches. This spring, he taught a new undergraduate course in the department called “The Afterlives of Religion,” designed to re-imagine the anthropology of religion by pairing the study of established traditions with emerging ones in humanist societies, ET cultures and immortalist associations.

## LECTURERS



## Jeffrey Himpele

Himpele specializes in Indigenous media and politics in Andean Bolivia as well as sound and commodification in the U.S. He directs the department's VizE Lab and makes documentary films and data visualizations.

In fall 2023, he released *Shame on You!*, the animated documentary he produced and directed on the indignities and distress felt by defendants caught up in debt collection lawsuits. Himpele's film has circulated through well over a dozen international film festivals and is picking up awards, including "Best Animation" at the Chicago Independent Film Festival. A physical exhibition of Himpele's visualizations of racial disparities in student loan debt, "The Problem of Colored Lines," made in the style of W.E.B. Du Bois' own data visualizations, opened in the Social Science Library (Wallace Hall). Himpele also oversaw construction of the department's 50th anniversary website and produced its data visualizations with Ivan Melchor. He re-edited his 2023 "sonic essay," *Ever Open*, by adding striking historical images to audio interviews recalling the department's formation in 1970 and its turbulent early years. He is collaborating with João Biehl in recovering Princeton's role in the early development of Native American studies. Himpele is overseeing the compilation of archival materials from former Anthropology Professor Alfonso Ortiz (Tewa), recording interviews and designing a website, visualizations and a film around those materials.



## Sebastián Ramírez Hernández

Ramírez Hernández specializes in collaborative and engaged anthropology. He has done extensive research in Colombia with people differently affected by the war in the country, thinking about what injury and repair look like in the aftermath of conflict.

Ramírez Hernández recently published *Madres Terra* in collaboration with photographer Carlos Saavedra and the activist network MAFAPO. *Madres Terra* combines ethnography with photography to tell the stories civilians who were kidnapped and killed by the Colombian army and then disguised as guerrilla fighters in order to swell the government's accounting of the war. Ramírez Hernández has two forthcoming essays: "Home Under Threat" will be part of the edited volume *House-ing*, and "The Bind of Repair: Welfare and The Troublesome Subjectivity of Colombia's War Victims" will be part of *Subjectivities at Latin America's Urban Margins*. This past year, Ramírez has helped to advise Junior Independent Works and co-taught "The Ethnographer's Craft," "Psychological Anthropology," and "Medical Anthropology." As of June 2024, he is the director of Service Focus, a program in Princeton's Pace Center for Civic Engagement that connects students with faculty and community partners to think about the role of service in their Princeton career and beyond.

## LECTURERS



## Aniruddhan Vasudevan

Aniruddhan Vasudevan joined the anthropology department as a full-time lecturer in AY 23-24, after a three-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Princeton Society of Fellows.

Vasudevan's essay on the pragmatics and politics of wonder in the lives of thirunagai transfeminine devotees of goddess Angalamman in southern India has been published in *Wonder in South Asia*, edited by Tulasi Srinivas (SUNY Press, 2023). His forthcoming publications include an article on language and the interactional negotiation of gender for a special issue on queering masculinities. Vasudevan continues his literary translation work as a member of a team translating *Kamba Ramayanam*, a 12th-century Tamil epic in verse, for Penguin Random House. His current focus is on his book manuscript, an intimate ethnography of devotion and ethical improvisation with a group of thirunagai transgender women in Chennai, India. In fall 2023, Vasudevan taught the ANT 300 junior seminar and offered one of his popular electives, "Queer Becomings." As a member of the Anthropology Junior Arc team, Vasudevan worked toward streamlining the Junior Independent Work advising and mentoring process. In spring 2024, Vasudevan taught "Emotions: On the Makings of Moral and Political Life" and "Language, Expressivity, and Power."



# Postdoctoral Fellows & Research Associates

*Our department serves as a creative hub for a very talented group of over a dozen postdoctoral fellows and research associates. Some have PhDs in anthropology, and others work in adjacent fields such as social history, religious studies, social studies of science and technology, environmental humanities and multispecies studies. This group has become an integral part of our intellectual life, and we have supported their scholarly and pedagogical activities.*



## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



### Ullis Espinoza

Espinoza is an anthropologist whose work centers on the dynamic ways that concepts and the values created around them are understood across different communities and are highly responsive to the cultural history in which those concepts were established.

To this end, he uses a biocultural anthropological perspective that integrates anthropology, cognitive science and experimental philosophy to offer insights into 1) the conceptualization of knowledge ownership and changing community dynamics by Achuar and Shuar communities in southeastern Ecuador, and 2) evaluating the constructs that govern the creation and dissemination of science, in particular by highlighting how scientific inquiry is shaped by shared norms, practices and values within academic communities. During this academic year, Espinoza published the following articles: “Follow the citations: Tracing pathways of ‘race as biology’ assumptions in medical algorithms in eGFR and spirometry” in *Social Science & Medicine* and “Cultural and contextual variation in first mover norms of ownership: evidence from an Achuar community” in *Evolution and Human Behavior*. Additionally, Espinoza organized and participated in the following workshops: “The Photoethnographer’s Eye: The Praxis of Ethnographic Still Image Making” at the conference of the American Anthropology Association and “Deconstructing the ‘Race as Biology’ Paradigm: The Role of Citations in Shaping Scientific Narratives and Practices” at the American Association of Biological Anthropologists.



### Malene Friis Hansen

Hansen spent her second year as a postdoctoral fellow finding new ways to merge her background in biology with an integrative approach to anthropology.

Being a primatologist working in human-primate interfaces, this is crucial to her applied conservation work through the Long-Tailed Macaque Project, where she is the head of science and research. Hansen is working to develop a new research area termed “Cultural Biology” (inspired by Japanese scholar Kinji Imanishi’s work), in which she hopes to create her own research group in the future. She also continues her research on the human-other primate co-construction of culture and is starting to investigate the ways concepts of primate culture have changed over time. During this past year, she has published five peer-reviewed articles, including one in *Science Advances*, and she currently has three manuscripts under review, all in collaboration with many different scientists from around the world. Hansen has co-coordinated the Multispecies Salon, which culminated in a workshop at IAS, and over the summer she co-coordinated and conducted several sessions and presentations at the International Primatological Society Conference in Malaysia. She is a co-author of the recently published IUCN SSC PSG SHPI recommendations for responsible primate-watching in her capacity as a member of the IUCN SSC PSG Section for human-primate interactions.

## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



### Nathan Jessee

High Meadows Environmental Institute

Jessee is an environmental fellow at the High Meadows Environmental Institute who specializes in environmental and climate justice, community-based participatory research, disaster and development-forced displacement and resettlement, and climate adaptation.

He is a first author on the new book *People or Property: Legal Contradictions, Climate Resettlement, and the View from Shifting Ground* (Springer Nature and Palgrave Macmillan, 2024), and his work has previously appeared in the *Journal of Political Ecology*, *Human Organization*, and *Practicing Anthropology*. Currently, Jessee is working on his new book, *RESETTLEMENT: Mobility, Development, and Justice on Louisiana’s Coastal Frontier*, which provides an ethnographic account of the first community resettlement in the United States to be allocated federal funding in response to climate change, examining what experiences of community leaders and state administrators reveal about planning, mobility, development, culture and struggles for justice in an era of change. The book approaches climate change not only as a geophysical condition but also as a development discourse, asking increasingly urgent empirical questions: What is the relationship between mobility and development? How do prevailing narratives of climate change and migration shape planning processes? Whose lifeways, knowledge and notions of settlement are sustained or disrupted by public investment in climate adaptation?



### Ryan Juskus

High Meadows Environmental Institute

Juskus is a postdoctoral research associate at the High Meadows Environmental Institute and an affiliated scholar with the Department of Anthropology who specializes in the intersection of religion, ethics and environmental justice in the Americas.

He published “Transforming Sacrifice Zones into Sacred Zones: A Christological Vision and Practice of Environmental Justice” in the peer-reviewed *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*. Juskus is currently revising two articles that have been accepted for publication: “Slow Violence or Slow Sacrifice? Theorizing Religion and Environmental Justice” in the *Journal of Religion and Violence* and “The Other Carbon Theology: Steam Demonology, Resource Curses, and a Devil Who Puts Coal in the Ground” in the journal *Religions*. He also wrote two new chapters for his book manuscript entitled *Restoring Eden in Sacrifice Zones*. Juskus began fieldwork in Panama and Peru as part of a new research project on the lived religion and ethics of environmental defenders on the front lines of the climate crisis in Latin America. Finally, he was offered the position of assistant professor of the practice at the University of Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns, which he will begin next academic year.

## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



### Ellen Kladky

Kladky came to Princeton in August as a postdoctoral research associate working on the “Concepts in Dynamic Assemblage” project.

Her scholarship focuses on household debt, social class and race in the United States. This year, she has made progress on a book manuscript, *I Owe My Soul: The New Economy of Class and Whiteness in Appalachia*, submitted a handbook chapter on adult language socialization and political economy, and completed a report on credit unions’ use of alternative data in loan underwriting, forthcoming with the Filene Research Institute. In addition to several conference presentations, she has taken two research trips to Northern California, where she is beginning comparative research on whiteness and economic change. In September, she began as book review editor for *Journal for the Anthropology of North America*. In March, Kladky accepted a position as assistant professor of anthropology at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. The position will begin in summer 2025, allowing her to complete a second postdoctoral year at Princeton.



### Nathaniel Otjen

High Meadows Environmental Institute

Otjen is an environmental humanist who works on multispecies justice, narrative theory and the energy humanities. In 2023-24, he published a peer-reviewed article in *Animal Studies Journal* and a co-authored essay on multispecies grief and wildfires.

He also organized a special issue, with Danielle Celermajer of the University of Sydney, on “Multispecies Justice and Narrative,” which will appear in the fall 2024 issue of *the minnesota review*. He has three forthcoming publications, including a peer-reviewed article in the journal *Environmental Humanities* and two book chapters in edited collections on college pedagogy. As part of his involvement with Princeton’s Blue Lab, he co-created an audio documentary called *Mining for the Climate*, which looks at the injustices of critical mineral extraction. The audio documentary was named one of “Eight Environmental Podcasts to Follow in 2024” by *Edge Effects*. He gave nine invited talks at Princeton University, Stanford University, Lafayette College and the University of Oregon. His essay “Habituated Knowledges: The Entanglements of Science, Species, and Selfhood” won the 2023 Schachterle Essay Prize from the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts. Beginning in September 2024, he will take up a tenure-track position as assistant professor of sustainability and environmental studies at Ramapo College.

## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



### Christian J. Rivera

High Meadows Environmental Institute

Rivera is an environmental teaching fellow in the High Meadows Environmental Institute. His current research integrates approaches in anthropology and conservation biology to understand issues of wildlife utilization and conservation in human-dominated environments, notably in the urbanizing Amazon and New York City.

Among other publications, this year he published an article in the *Journal for Nature Conservation*, co-authored with Agustín Fuentes, on the cultural roles of primates in the urbanizing Peruvian Amazon. He will build on this research in summer 2024 and will travel with three undergraduate research assistants to Peru to study the relationship between human-animal encounters, tourism and conservation in the Iquitos urban system. At Princeton he developed new courses on interdisciplinary conservation science. In fall 2023 he taught FRS 109: “The Wildlife Trade,” and in fall 2024 he will teach ENV/ANT/EEB 307: “Systems Approaches to Conservation.” Rivera has been actively involved in mentoring undergraduate students and was awarded the Exemplar Mentor Award by Princeton’s McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning in May 2024. He was also invited to serve as associate editor of *Human Dimensions of Wildlife* and visiting scientist at the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History.



### Rodrigo Simon de Moraes

Brazil LAB / High Meadows Environmental Institute

A Brazilian journalist, literary critic and environmental humanities scholar, Simon de Moraes’ academic research explores human-nonhuman interaction and the reworking of ideas in out-of-the-way literatures.

He is particularly drawn to the writings of historically marginalized intellectuals and is deeply committed to disseminating the creative works of Indigenous, Afro-Indigenous and Afro-Brazilian artists. After conducting fieldwork in several regions of Brazil in summer 2024, Simon de Moraes will continue working on his book project, tentatively titled *Letters to a (Future) President*, which draws on a rare collection of letters and notes, never before studied, that ordinary citizens sent to President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva during his first presidential campaign in 1989. He is also editing *In Search of Who Got Lost*, a collection of unpublished short stories by Ricardo Guilherme Dicke, an early ecologically attuned writer raised in the Brazilian backlands. Additionally, he continues to conduct research on his project on resistances to Amazonian dystopias, focusing on the trajectory of the Brazilian Afro-Indigenous author Verenilde Pereira and her groundbreaking decolonial framework.

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



### Arbel Griner

Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

With an M.A. in sociology and anthropology and a Ph.D. in social medicine, Griner conducts health-related research and teaching that unfolds in conversation with three broad themes: science production and its entanglements with diagnostic and therapeutic processes in contemporary psychology; gender equity and health; and the making and unmaking of health crises.

In 2023-24, Griner contributed a chapter on oxytocin to the edited volume *Hormonal Theory: A Cascading Glossary* (Bloomsbury, 2024). In collaboration with an interdisciplinary team working with health emergencies and women's health in Brazil, Griner also published "Gender inequity and COVID-19 vaccination policies for pregnant women in the Americas," which was awarded the GLIDE (Global Infectious Disease Ethics Collaborative) Wellcome Open Research Gateway Best Paper Prize in July 2023. Currently, Griner is working on two projects: scrutinizing mental health diagnostic patterns in the global arena and assessing the temporality of epidemics and what comes after their declared end. She is co-editing a book of interviews with filmmakers collected in the 2010s, when her research focused on Brazilian documentary cinema. In 2023, and in relation to documentary cinema, Griner published a chapter titled "Memória das Ciências Sociais no Brasil e a Criação do Núcleo de Audiovisual e Documentário" (FGV).



### Miqueias H. Mugge

Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

Mugge is academic research manager at the Brazil LAB at Princeton University. As a social historian, he studies the political economy of war, inequality, slavery and empire-building in nineteenth-century Latin America.

In 2023-24, Mugge co-edited a volume with Marcelo Santos Matheus on the presence of enslaved laborers from the Bight of Benim (Africa) in southern Brazil. He also co-authored a book chapter with Paulo Moreira on how German settlers (illegally) accessed the transatlantic slave trade markets in the mid-1800s. Mugge has also participated in conferences in Brazil and in the United States and was the co-curator of the exhibition "Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History," launched at the Princeton University Art Museum (Art@Bainbridge) in April 2024. Also in the spring, Mugge taught the freshman seminar "Planet Amazonia," which was sponsored by the 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education. He is currently completing two book manuscripts on war, immigration and state-making in the Brazilian borderlands. Mugge looks forward to conducting archival research in Portugal and Brazil in the summer of 2024.





# New Faculty Hires

Departmental Search Officer:  
Professor Laurence Ralph



## Professor J. Kēhaulani Kauanui joins the Department of Anthropology and the Efron Center for the Study of America

**K**auanui comes to Princeton from Wesleyan University, where she has taught since 2000, most recently as a full professor in American studies and affiliate faculty in anthropology. She served as director of Wesleyan's Center for the Americas from 2017 to 2019 and was the founding director of the school's Indigenous Studies Research Network. She was an inaugural council member of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association.

Kauanui has published two pathbreaking monographs, "Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Indigeneity and Sovereignty" and "Paradoxes of Hawaiian Sovereignty: Land, Sex, and the Colonial Politics of State Nationalism," and she is working on a third, "A Question of Decolonization: Hawaiian Indigeneity and the Dilemma of Feminism."

Kauanui has edited six books or collections and co-edits a book series called "Critical Indigeneities" for the University of North Carolina Press. She recently guest-edited a special issue of *Anarchist Developments in Cultural Studies*, "The Politics of Indigeneity, Anarchist Praxis, and Decolonization." She serves on the editorial boards of the journals *AGITATE!*, *American Indian Quarterly*, and *Hūlili: Multidisciplinary Research on Hawaiian Well-Being*, and has co- and guest-edited special issues of journals such as *Pacific Studies*, *The Contemporary Pacific*, and *Cultural Anthropology*. A leading public intellectual, she has published articles in *The Guardian UK*, *Mississippi Review*, *The Honolulu Weekly*, *The Honolulu Advertiser*, *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, and *Hawaii Island Journal*.

She recently received the American Indian History Lifetime Achievement Award from the Western History Association. Among her many other honors, she is an elected member of the American Antiquarian Society, and the American Studies Association and Organization of American Historians have both appointed her to their distinguished speakers programs. She was a Fulbright scholar in New Zealand in 1994-95.

*Professor Kauanui is a groundbreaking scholar who specializes in Indigenous Studies and is joining the University as the Eric and Wendy Schmidt Professor of Indigenous Studies.*



Kauanui has received research fellowships from the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History, the National Science Foundation and the Rockefeller Archives Center, among others. She earned a Ph.D. from the University of California-Santa Cruz and a B.A. from the University of California-Berkeley.

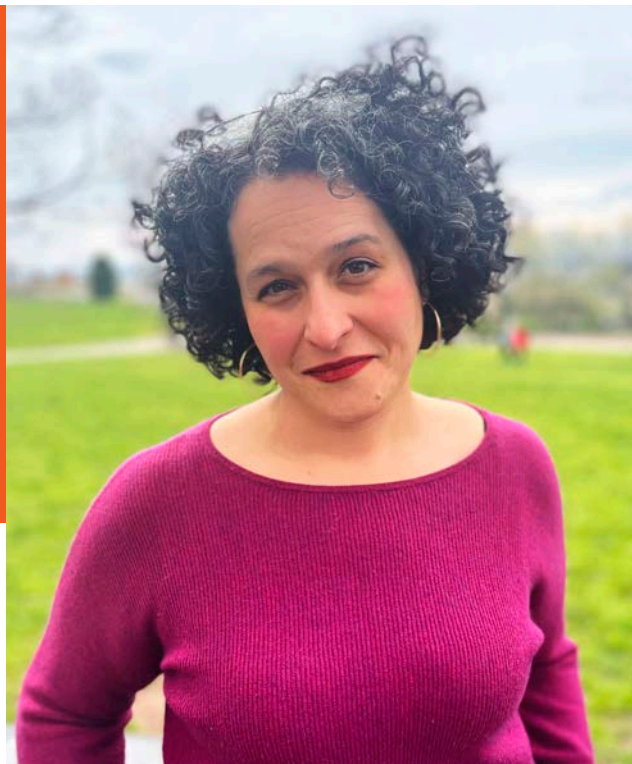
In Professor Kauanui's words, "I'm excited to be part of both the renowned anthropology department and the new Efron Center with its focus on cutting edge interdisciplinary scholarship — and especially thrilled as part of a campus-wide initiative to build Native American and Indigenous studies. It is a great honor to join the faculty at Princeton."

We eagerly look forward to engaging with Dr. J. Kēhaulani Kauanui and learning from her timely and powerful work in the years to come.



## Dr. Amelia Frank-Vitale joins the Department of Anthropology and the School of Public and International Affairs

*Frank-Vitale is an anthropologist and publicly engaged scholar working on migration and mobility and the ever-expanding U.S. border control and deportation and asylum regime (with extensive ethnographic fieldwork in Honduras, Mexico, and the U.S.).*



**D**r. Frank-Vitale has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology and in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA).

After receiving a B.A. in anthropology from Yale University (2005) and an M.A. in ethics, peace, and global affairs from American University (2011), Frank-Vitale earned her Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan in 2021 (with a Graduate Certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies). She was a very successful postdoctoral research associate and lecturer in Princeton's Program in Latin American Studies (PLAS) during 2021-23 and is currently term assistant professor in the Program in Human Rights at Barnard College.

Frank-Vitale already has a robust publication record and a substantial impact in public scholarship. Her much anticipated first book project — *Leave If You Can: An Ethnography of Deportation in an Age of Border Externalization* — is an intellectually substantive update to studies of deportation and migration in the Americas. The monograph, and much of her current work, centers on the lived experience of young Central Americans post-deportation. Linking violence, marginalization and regimes of mobility control from the U.S. to Honduras, Frank-Vitale demonstrates the consequence of the intensification of U.S.-led migration enforcement across the region, illustrating how deportation has changed from being an experience mainly of exile to one of circulation. Frank-Vitale's work extends beyond migration to include the analyses of the roles of gangs and cartels and the radical challenges embedded in the shift from invisibility to hypervisibility of migrant caravans.

As both an innovative thinker in Central American migration, culture and politics, and U.S. immigration and border policy and a stellar instructor, Frank-Vitale is poised to make lasting contributions across the policy, scholarly and broader Princeton communities.

## Welcoming Anthropologist Dr. Jamie Wong to Princeton

*Dr. Wong works at the interface of science and technology studies, political and economic anthropology, and China studies.*

**D**r. Jamie Wong has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, in conjunction with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS). Wong will be joining our community in fall 2025, after completing her postdoctoral fellowship at the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies.

Wong received her Ph.D. in History, Anthropology, Science, Technology, and Society (HASTS) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2023. Wong earned an M.St. in musicology (with distinction) and a MPhil in social anthropology (with distinction) from Oxford University. She received a B.A. in music (first class honors) from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Dr. Wong creatively combines state-of-the-art social theory, a rigorous and ethical commitment to ethnographic research, and in-depth regional knowledge of China with all too rare humanistic and comparative sensibility in her groundbreaking study of the relationship between computational technologies and governance in China (against the backdrop of emerging global systems of technology and finance) and the implications of internet culture and digital economy for Chinese society and civil discourse. She is currently completing her first book, *The Weight of Scale: Venture Capitalism, Big Data, and Contemporary Chinese Governance*.



# Celebrating Professor Rena Lederman

*Anthropologist Rena Lederman transitioned to emerita status on July 1, 2024, after four decades of deeply generative scholarly work and intense pedagogical dedication to Princeton University.*



# Celebrating Professor Rena Lederman



*Lederman's pioneering research has advanced the field of anthropology and enriched the academic environment for colleagues and students alike.*

**A**nthropologist Rena Lederman transitioned to emerita status on July 1, 2024, after four decades of deeply generative scholarly work and intense pedagogical dedication to Princeton University. During her career in the Department of Anthropology, Lederman has developed a powerful body of work on gender, exchange and agency, as well as the anthropology of expertise and ethics.

She has played many pivotal roles across campus, including serving on the executive committee for the Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies (formerly the Program in Women's Studies) from its inception in 1982 through the 2000s. For sixteen years, she served on Princeton's Institutional Review Board, where she participated in the reconfiguration of ethics review procedures. She served on faculty committees of the Graduate School and was named a faculty fellow in the Princeton Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts.

Within the department, Lederman held the position of director of undergraduate studies for seven years and was a committed and visionary director of graduate studies for nine years. Soon after her arrival in 1981, she became devoted to creating enduring structures for the doctoral program and the undergraduate major for the relatively new department.

Lederman began her career as a student of Melanesian exchange practices, gender meanings, and historical discourse. She was drawn to the Highlands region of Papua New Guinea for its assertively decentralized, participatory political culture. Her book *What Gifts Engender: Social Relations and Politics in Mendi, Highland Papua New Guinea* (1986) is a landmark monograph on Mendi personal gift exchange practices within and among sexes in relation to the wider dynamics of politics, social cycles, and events in Mendi society. The book has been a touchstone for social scientists working well beyond Papua New Guinea who grapple with questions of history and how social structures change. Further, in her theoretical writing, Lederman has centered ethnographic scholarship on Papua New Guinea and Oceania for its long-standing value as a critical resource for unmaking Euro-American assumptions about sociality and the boundedness of culture — an argument she demonstrated in her seminal essay “Globalization and the Future of Culture Areas”



*Her legacy at Princeton is one of passionate scholarship, transformative mentorship, committed service, and a tireless pursuit of knowledge.*

for the *Annual Review of Anthropology* and a series of papers on the concept of region in anthropological theory. Throughout her career, Lederman has been a vocal participant in networks of researchers working in Oceania and has mentored dozens of graduate students and junior scholars along the way.

A native New Yorker, Lederman received her B.A. in anthropology from Barnard College and her Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University. At Princeton, she holds the distinction of being the first tenured female faculty member in the Department of Anthropology. She was an instructor and assistant professor from 1981 to 1989 and associate professor from 1989 to 2009; she has been a full professor since 2009.

Lederman has taught a rich array of courses on ethics, gender, politics, economics, history, methods, and disciplinary practices, always using relativizing comparison to understand anthropology's particular strengths and vulnerabilities within the academy. While anthropological concepts have been increasingly recognized outside academia, Lederman has unwaveringly reminded new generations of scholars how radical — and even liberatory — sociocultural anthropology's style of field research can be for relinquishing “controlled conditions” in favor of learning from the people who host them. She has inspired the anthropological imagination and sharpened the critical thinking of the many undergraduate and graduate students who have worked with her. Lederman is renowned for her elaborate syllabi, which are structured around questions and annotations that perform the fundamentally anthropological task of rendering the familiar strange. She is beloved among students for her dedication to fairness and her humane, empathetic approach to teaching and mentoring.

Starting in the early 2000s, Lederman's comparative understanding of disciplinary knowledge practices proved critical to her intervention in national and international policy on regulatory

ethics. As a critical insider on Princeton's Institutional Review Board, she collaborated with colleagues in the American Anthropological Association in 2011 and 2016 to produce two rounds of responses to far-reaching changes in federal regulations for the protection of human subjects proposed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Much of her career during and since that time has been spent researching the relation of policy discourse to the panic prompted by regulatory “hypervigilance” that appeared to threaten ethnographic research disproportionately in the United States and Canada, and then the United Kingdom and European Union.

Once fully retired, Lederman plans to turn her full attention to writing projects central to her broader scholarship on disciplinary knowledge. Her forthcoming book, *Ethical Constitution of Disciplinary Knowledges*, undertakes a comparative analysis of the methodological cultures within these disciplines. By identifying the connections between the use of deceptive techniques and the pursuit of objectivity — a cornerstone for the credibility and replicability of social and behavioral sciences — her analysis illuminates the complex relationship between these seemingly paradoxical elements.

In *Sources in Our S/cites*, another manuscript in progress that is inspired by instances where anthropologists inadvertently crossed disciplinary boundaries, Lederman examines the conventional metaphors used to describe historiographic and ethnographic sources. Together, these works make unique contributions to ongoing discourse on the ethics of research methodologies and the landscapes of interdisciplinary scholarship.

Lederman's pioneering research has advanced the field of anthropology and enriched the academic environment for colleagues and students alike. Her legacy at Princeton is one of passionate scholarship, transformative mentorship, committed service, and a tireless pursuit of knowledge.

# Faculty Awards, Honors & Appointments

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*We are proud to be one of the most diverse and inclusive departments at the University and among our peer institutions. Our faculty are known for leading interdisciplinary collaborations and for their scholarly depth and high-intensity research activity across the board, as measured by landmark publications, as well as grants, awards, and other national and international recognition, including leadership roles in professional organizations.*

Carolyn Rouse is the new president-elect of the American Anthropological Association (AAA).



# Faculty Awards, Honors & Appointments

## João Biehl

- Received a Biodiversity Research Challenge Fund from HMEI
- Appointed to the Lancet Commission on the Emotional Determinants of Health
- Awarded a Histories Fund grant from the Office of the Provost for “Illuminating and Revitalizing Indigenous Scholarship and Activism at Princeton”

## Elizabeth A. Davis

- Vice-chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- Awarded a 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education grant
- Promoted to full professor of Anthropology

## Julia Elyachar

- Co-editor of the journal *Cultural Anthropology*
- Member of the editorial collective of Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East (CSSAAME)
- Member of the board of the Society of Cultural Anthropology
- Appointed as associated faculty member with Near Eastern Studies

## Agustín Fuentes

- Awarded the Inaugural Communication & Outreach Award from the American Association of Physical Anthropologists
- Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Named to the American Association for the Advancement of Science Nominations and Leadership Development Committee
- Named to the Board of Trustees of Princeton University Press
- Received the American Anthropological Association President’s Award
- Received a Biodiversity Research Challenge Fund from HMEI
- Concepts in Dynamic Assemblages, funded by the John Templeton Foundation

## Hanna Garth

- Awarded Princeton Alliance for Collaborative Research and Innovation grant for the Heirloom Gardens Oral History Project



## Ryo Morimoto

- Received the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) award
- Received a Magic Grant for Innovation from the Humanities Council
- Named the Richard Stockton Bicentennial Preceptorship, the Ferris Thompson Foundation (2022-25)

## Serguei Oushakine

- Won an award from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages for the book *Pedagogy of Images: Depicting Communism for Children*
- Received a grant from the Humanities Council for the project “SovMode: Reconsidering Modernity and Socialism”
- Appointed the director of Russia, East European and Eurasian Studies at PIIRS

## Carolyn Rouse

- President-elect of the American Anthropological Association (AAA)
- Appointed director of the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University

## Laurence Ralph

- Appointed the William D. Zabel '58 Professor of Human Rights
- Editor-in-chief of *Current Anthropology*
- Advisory board member of the Wenner Gren Foundation
- Executive committee member of the Humanities Council and the Program in Journalism
- Elected to the Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Jointly appointed with the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

## Ikaika Ramones

- Awarded a 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education grant
- Appointed to the Wenner-Gren Foundation’s grant reviewer panel
- Awarded a Histories Fund grant from the Office of the Provost for “Illuminating and Revitalizing Indigenous Scholarship and Activism at Princeton”

## Jerry Zee

- Received an honorable mention from the Ludwik Fleck Prize Committee for the book *Continent in Dust: Experiments in a Chinese Weather System*.



# Carolyn Rouse

*Carolyn Rouse is the new president-elect of the American Anthropological Association (AAA).*

In November this year, Princeton's Ritter Professor of Anthropology, Carolyn Rouse, will become the next president-elect of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) — the flagship organization of scholars and practitioners in the field of anthropology.

With work tackling questions of race and inequality in numerous fields, from medical anthropology to religion and design, Rouse has amassed experience not just as a scholar, but an institutional leader. From 2016-22, Rouse was chair of Princeton's Department of Anthropology, and from 2021-2023 she has served as president of the American Ethnological Society, the oldest professional anthropological association in the United States.

*Princeton Ph.D. candidate Aaron Su sat down with Rouse to discuss her accomplishment, as well as her reflections on the future of the AAA and the discipline of anthropology.*

**AS: First of all, congratulations on this remarkable accomplishment! I wanted to start off by asking, how do you see your transition from leading a department (as former chair of Anthropology at Princeton) to directing a discipline?**

CR: I think it's very important to have run a department before I undertook this new role, because you get to understand how institutions think. You also see the need to communicate to various stakeholders about the value of anthropology—because it's incredibly valuable. For example, I am proud that in recent years our department has continued seeing steady increases in our number of majors. Princeton University has a growing number of first-generation or low-income students who might not have been exposed to anthropology, and we have designed tracks — from medical anthropology to legal anthropology — that are attuned to various needs, such as making our degrees a stepping stone to a fruitful career in medicine or law. This enduring question of making anthropology legible, to students and institutions, is something I have appreciated — from my days as a graduate student studying visual anthropology at the University of Southern California with Tim Asch, to our current VizE Lab, which experiments with ways of representing ethnographic data. As Arturo Escobar says, we need designs for the pluriverse, and I want to bring this to bear on the AAA's future as well.



**AS: I appreciate your noting that anthropology has constantly had to adapt to changing circumstances as we theorize the world around us. I am curious, then: how have you seen the role of the AAA transform from when you were a graduate student until now?**

CR: Entering anthropology, there was definitely a more hierarchical ethos at the AAA — with star anthropologists, as well as certain literatures and theories you had to be fluent in. For example, as a junior scholar, I was in conversation with African American studies and critical race theory in my work, which wasn't one of those theoretical centers within anthropology. I had to navigate my work through hegemonic centers of knowledge production, the cutting edge of the discipline, as well as my own concerns and priorities. I am excited that part of the discourse about decolonizing the discipline is actually about disrupting some of these "little hegemonies," so that different expertises and theories can thrive. There's also more of a push towards a publicly oriented ethnography or anthropology — urging us to be in conversation with other kinds of people beyond just our discipline.

**AS: How do you see the AAA mediating between the many different groups united under anthropology's banner: undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and non-academic anthropologists?**

CR: Since I am not the president-elect until November, I have only begun to start having conversations with our wonderful team. But to give an example of an idea I have in the works: I have proposed rethinking individual memberships for undergraduates and graduate students, instead shifting responsibility for student memberships to university departments. There

are so many undergraduates and graduate students who would love to get involved but don't have the resources or institutional commitments to do so, and it would be great for departments to chip in, supplemented with perhaps a sliding-scale approach based on the institution's resources. As anthropologists, we are keen to brainstorm the limits of individual-centered approaches, and we can extend that practice to our own organizations to become more supportive of our students. As the program chair in 2012 for the San Francisco AAA meeting, I also noted that the AAA is not primarily for senior scholars, who often already have ample opportunities for travel and networking. It is for younger scholars, often from underfunded institutions, where the AAA can serve as a central conference to go to, once a year, in order to take advantage of resources in anthropology. I think it's a place to bring people into the profession in a really robust way.

Finally, the AAA has already voted to approve many great ideas, but after they become institutionalized, they kind of just sit there. There's some institutional accretion — inactive ideas that have been voted in for many good reasons — that we can pull on and reactivate. There are many small changes that we can make to rethink the entire structure of the AAA — for example, how interest groups might be mobilized as three-year working groups within the association. We could give interest working groups more space to present, collaborate, and publish together. We can think about how structures and processes work together to create a dynamic and developing organization. Fifty years ago, an anthropologist might have thought that their knowledge production was the final word about a culture or society, and that was it. Let's own the fact that our knowledge production now is not the final word and bring anthropology into a continually changing present.



# Recent Books, Book Series Editing & Journal Editorship

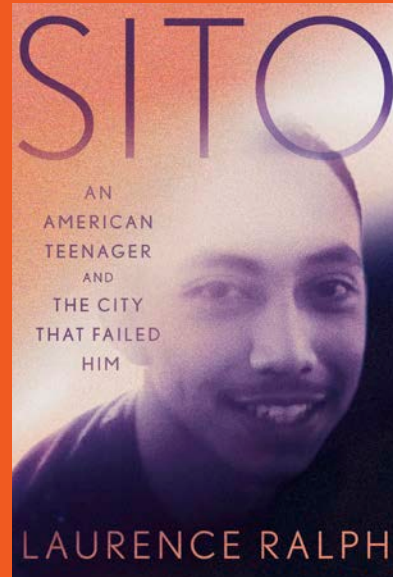
*Our faculty bring diverse experiences and backgrounds to research and teaching on pressing contemporary issues such as health inequity and food justice, systemic racism and policing, authoritarianism and democratic insecurity, settler colonialism and human rights, toxic contamination and climate emergency, multispecies relations, research ethics, and the human-machine frontier of artificial intelligence. The majority of our faculty are award-winning authors, and we are known for our creative ethnographic storytelling and theorizing and for editing top-tier journals and book series.*



Artwork: "Cajubi" by Denilson Baniwa



# Recent Books

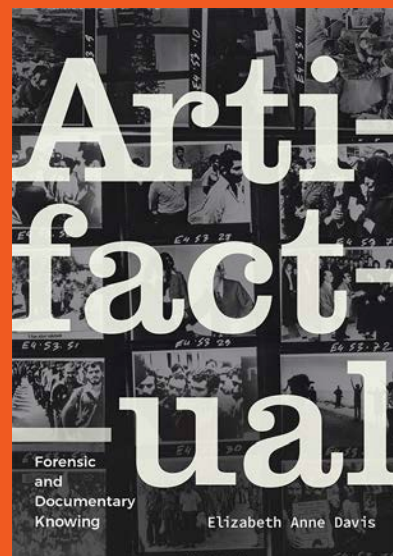


## SITO: An American Teenager and the City That Failed Him

Laurence Ralph

Grand Central Publishing, 2024

A riveting and heart-wrenching story of violence, grief and the American justice system exploring the systemic issues that perpetuate gang participation in one of the wealthiest cities in the country, through the experience of one teenager. Written from Ralph's perspective as both a person enmeshed in Sito's family and as an Ivy League professor and expert on the entanglement of class and violence, *SITO* is an intimate story with a message about the lived experience of urban danger, and about anger, fear, grief, vengeance, and ultimately grace.



## Artifactual: Forensic and Documentary Knowing

Elizabeth Anne Davis

Duke University Press, 2023

In *Artifactual*, Elizabeth Anne Davis explores how Cypriot researchers, scientists, activists and artists process and reckon with civil and state violence that led to the enduring division of the island, using forensic and documentary materials to retell and recontextualize conflicts between and within the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities. Davis follows forensic archaeologists and anthropologists who attempt to locate, identify and return to relatives the remains of Cypriots killed in those conflicts. She turns to filmmakers who use archival photographs and footage to come to terms with political violence and its legacies. In both forensic science and documentary filmmaking, the dynamics of secrecy and revelation shape how material remains such as bones and archival images are given meaning. Throughout, Davis demonstrates how Cypriots navigate the tension between an ethics of knowledge, which valorizes truth as a prerequisite for recovery and reconciliation, and the politics of knowledge, which renders evidence as irremediably partial and perpetually falsifiable.

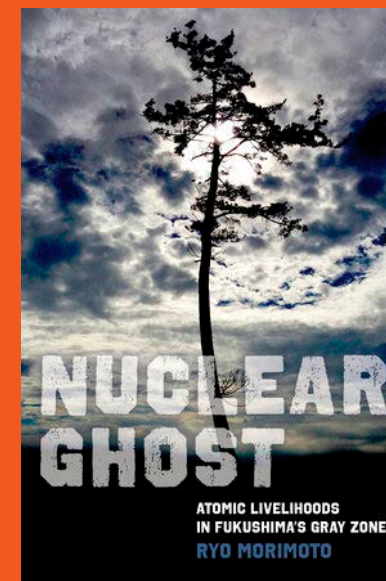


## Arc of Interference: Medical Anthropology for Worlds on Edge

João Biehl & Vincanne Adams

Duke University Press, 2023

The radically humanistic essays in *Arc of Interference* refigure our sense of the real, the ethical and the political in the face of mounting social and planetary upheavals. Creatively assembled around Arthur Kleinman's medical anthropological arc and eschewing hegemonic modes of intervention, the essays advance the notion of a care-ful ethnographic praxis of interference. To interfere is to dislodge ideals of naturalness, blast enduring binaries (human/nonhuman, self/other, us/them), and redirect technocratic agendas while summoning relational knowledge and the will to create community. The book's multiple ethnographic arcs of interference provide a vital conceptual toolkit for today's world and a badly needed moral perch from which to peer toward just horizons.

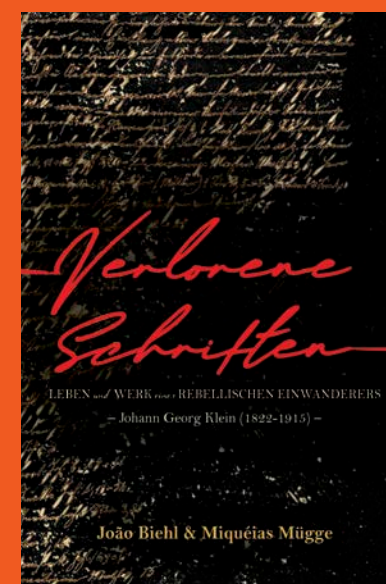


## Nuclear Ghost: Atomic Livelihoods in Fukushima's Gray Zone

Ryo Morimoto

University of California Press, 2023

"There is a nuclear ghost in Minamisōma." This is how one resident describes a mysterious experience following the 2011 nuclear fallout in coastal Fukushima. Investigating the nuclear ghost among the graying population, Ryo Morimoto encounters radiation's shapeshifting effects. What happens if state authorities, scientific experts and the public disagree about the extent and nature of the harm caused by the accident? In one of the first in-depth ethnographic accounts of coastal Fukushima written in English, *Nuclear Ghost* tells the stories of a diverse group of residents who aspire to live and die well in their now irradiated homes. Their determination to recover their land, cultures and histories for future generations provides a compelling case study for reimagining relationality and accountability in the ever-atomizing world.



## Lost Writings: Life and Work of an Insurgent Immigrant

João Biehl & Miqueias Mügge

Oikos, 2022 (Portuguese and German editions)

Based on meticulous research in never-before-studied domestic and community records and official archives in Brazil and Germany, *Escritos Perdidos/Verloren Schriften* tells the story of the emigrant lay-theologian Johann Georg Klein (1822-1915) and the mysterious book he brought along during his mid-19th-century transatlantic journey. Klein would be framed by the police as the intellectual mastermind behind the Mucker (meaning "false saints") movement, which ended in a massacre in 1874 — the first major messianic uprising in postcolonial country. In *Lost Writings*, we witness the on-the-ground effects of the major 19th-century migrations to the New World and the marks that European revolutions and the rise of imperialism and ideas of German racial superiority would leave on Brazilian soil.

## Recent Books

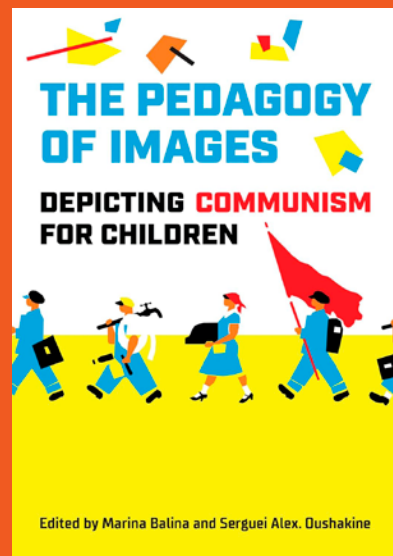


### Continent in Dust: Experiments in a Chinese Weather System

**Jerry C. Zee**

University of California Press, 2022

In China, the weather has changed. Decades of reform have been shadowed by a changing meteorological normal: seasonal dust storms and spectacular episodes of air pollution have reworked physical and political relations between land and air in China and downwind. *Continent in Dust* offers an anthropology of strange weather, focusing on intersections among statecraft, landscape, atmosphere and society. Traveling from state engineering programs that attempt to choreograph the movement of mobile dunes in the interior, to newly reconfigured bodies and airspaces in Beijing, and beyond, this book explores contemporary China as a weather system in the making: what would it mean to understand “the rise of China” literally, as the country itself rises into the air?



### The Pedagogy of Images: Depicting Communism for Children

**Maria Balina & Serguei A. Oushakine**

University of Toronto Press, 2021

In the 1920s, with the end of the revolution, the Soviet government began investing resources and energy into creating a new type of book for the first generation of young Soviet readers. In a sense, these early books for children were the ABCs of Soviet modernity; creatively illustrated and intricately designed, they were manuals and primers that helped the young reader enter the field of politics through literature. Children's books provided the basic vocabulary and grammar for understanding new, post-revolutionary realities, but they also taught young readers how to perceive modern events and communist practices.

## Book Series Editing



### Critical Global Health

Duke University Press

**Vincanne Adams & João Biehl**

The Critical Global Health book series unsettles dominant health determinants and care frameworks by exploring ethnographic approaches in the face of mounting socio-medical, technological, and planetary upheavals. From the reckoning of racial justice and colonial harm to the perilous predicaments of climate change and chemical saturation, this series breaks open biomedical thinking and tackles uneasy concerns with technocratic agendas and the place of the human while summoning relational knowledge, insurgency and demands for repair as necessary projects for attending to health as a global good. Creatively drawing from medical, environmental and political anthropology, science studies and the public humanities, Critical Global Health provides a vital conceptual toolkit for our worlds on edge.



*Our community gathered at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Toronto to celebrate Biehl and Adams' book series at the Duke UP booth.*

## Book Series Editing



### Writing Matters!

Duke University Press

**Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Monica Huerta,  
Erica Rand & Jerry Zee**

Writing Matters! seeks to expand the tone, reach, claims, and attitudes of conceptual critical writing. It is grounded in queer, women of color, autotheory, feminist and fictocritical traditions and poetics that lead with voice, texture, density, rhythm and atmosphere. Writing Matters! is antiformalistic about what constitutes experimentation and world-making. Series projects may experiment with form (the word, the sentence, the book). They may use intensified description, attention to mood and detail, narrative creativity and archival inventiveness to draw people into transformative practices not only of writing but of thinking about the event of encounter with objects, problems and scenes. It is a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and rigorously undisciplined series that creates a staging context for multiple generative registers of engagement.



### Black Food Justice

The University of North Carolina Press

**Ashanté Reese & Hanna Garth**

The Black Food Justice series publishes new scholarship at the intersection of Black studies and critical food studies. While books may address any aspect of producing, distributing or consuming food, the series features scholarship that explores how Blackness can be theorized and understood through the study of food and/or how the meaning of food itself is challenged and transformed when analyzed through theoretical frameworks grounded in Black thought and liberation. As ethnographers of everyday life who have been working as both food justice scholars and activists in the U.S. and beyond for over a decade each, the series editors shaped this series with the intention to name, define and create future visions for Black food justice scholarship that can have material implications for protecting, nourishing and cherishing Black life.



### Critical Indigeneities

The University of North Carolina Press

**J. Kēhaulani Kauanui (Kanaka Maoli) &  
Jean M. O'Brien (White Earth Ojibwe)**

Critical Indigeneities publishes pathbreaking scholarly books that center Indigeneity as a category of critical analysis, understand Indigenous sovereignty as ongoing and historically grounded, and attend to diverse forms of Indigenous cultural and political agency and expression. The series builds on the conceptual rigor, methodological innovation and deep relevance that characterize the best work in the field of critical Indigenous studies.

## Journal Editorships

### Julia Elyachar

Editorial Collective, *Cultural Anthropology*

*Cultural Anthropology* is the peer-reviewed journal of the Society for Cultural Anthropology, a section of the American Anthropological Association. Established in 1986, the journal publishes four issues per year and is widely abstracted and indexed. *Cultural Anthropology* publishes ethnographic writing informed by a wide array of theoretical perspectives, innovative in form and content, and focused on both traditional and emerging topics. It also welcomes essays concerned with ethnographic methods and research design in historical perspective, and with ways cultural analysis can address broader public audiences and interests.

Managing Editor of Cultural Anthropology, Kate Herman.

### Laurence Ralph

Editor-in-Chief, *Current Anthropology*

Established more than sixty years ago, *Current Anthropology* is the leading broad-based journal in the field. It seeks to publish the best theoretical and empirical research across all subfields of the discipline, ranging from the origins of the human species to the interpretation of the complexities of modern life.



### Aisha M. Beliso-De Jesús

Editor-in-Chief, *Transforming Anthropology*

*Transforming Anthropology* is the flagship journal of the Association of Black Anthropologists. We seek to advance scholarship across the four fields of anthropology and beyond. *Transforming Anthropology* seeks contributions that reflect the dynamic, transnational and contested conditions of social worlds — work that pushes the boundaries of discipline and genre. *Transforming Anthropology* interrogates the contemporary and historical construction of social inequities based on race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, nationality and other invidious distinctions. We remain committed to publishing material that generates dialogues among communities of scholars, activists, artists and the people with whom they work. *Transforming Anthropology* is published semiannually. We invite the submission of research articles for peer review, as well as short commentaries, research reports, review essays, interviews and content using innovative formats. Submissions from advanced graduate students are especially welcome.

# Interviews

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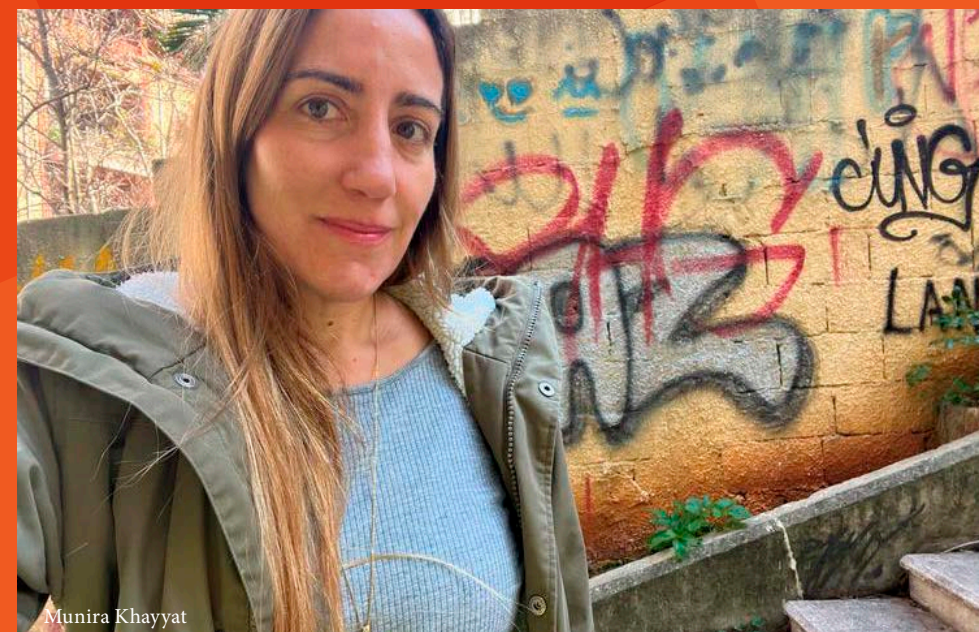
*New assistant professor of anthropology Ikaika Ramones and visiting fellows Munira Khayyat and Carlos Fausto talk about striving for Indigenization, new ways of reassembling the human and non-human worlds, and resistant ecologies.*



Ikaika Ramones



Carlos Fausto



Munira Khayyat

# Striving For Indigenization

## Ikaika Ramones

Travis Chai Andrade '24 Interviews Anthropology's New Assistant Professor Ikaika Ramones



**TCA: What brought you to anthropology and how did you decide to pursue an academic career?**

IR: Coming from Hawai'i to Massachusetts for undergraduate studies was a truly major transition for me, especially being a first-generation student. I was an anthropology major at Harvard all the way from undergrad to my Ph.D. at NYU. Early on in college, I was exposed to the unique anthropological way of thinking and knowing the world. It was a class on social relations taught by the brilliant and inspiring Nicholas Harkness. The course really gave me the critical concepts and methodological tools, like ethnography, to try to make sense of the vast varieties of human experience. I got to "think differently" from other courses I had taken, as it was rooted in people's actual experiences: it was both people-centered and robust in its comparative capacity. It allowed me to see things that otherwise went overlooked. I saw anthropology as a way to make sense of and change our conditions. In a way, anthropology gave me the space to think and support our community's dreams and aspirations. I think it was Lakota anthropologist Beatrice Medicine who quoted Tewa anthropologist Ed Dozier in saying that many Native anthropologists "went into anthropology as a means of helping their people."

Yes, we have to interpret the world in various ways, but "the point is to change it." That's the way I see my practice of anthropology. It all comes down to kuleana (relational responsibilities, obligations). I used to teach a place-based Hawaiian culture program during the summer breaks through undergrad and graduate school, and it was always the highlight of my year. The

community work and teaching are really important to me. As a Native Hawaiian and as an anthropologist, I have a particular place in the lāhui (a people, nation, gathering), and it's my responsibility to do my part with the skills, training and education that I have.

**TCA: For your Ph.D. dissertation, you studied the work of Native Hawaiians at the grassroots and larger institutional levels, and you are now working on your book manuscript. Can you share a little about your ethnographic work and main findings?**

IR: Our people [Native Hawaiians] have experienced an incredible flowering of language revitalization, political activism, the revival of traditional knowledge and practices, and a wide reclamation our lifeways into the 21st century. I really wanted to know: what's the political economic basis for how we reproduce ourselves as a vibrant Indigenous people? Where does funding and institutional support come from, and how does it afford and constrain different formations of Indigeneity?

I worked with grassroots groups that lead this massive revival effort on the ground, everything from traditional agriculture to political education, from traditional healing to land restoration. I also researched large elite Native Hawaiian organizations that provide funding, support and attempt to coordinate Native Hawaiian thriving on a large scale.

What I came away with, and what I talk about in my book manuscript, are perspectives and aspects of Indigeneity that are not

*"Coming from Hawai'i to Massachusetts for undergraduate studies was a truly major transition for me, especially being a first-generation student."*



commonly centered in existing scholarship. Overall, I show how Indigeneity, or Hawaiian-ness itself, is internally contested in the practices of its reproduction. I use a strong autoethnographic voice, and since I come from a working-class family, class analysis figures very prominently to provide a fundamentally different theorization of Indigeneity. I argue for a more dialectical approach to Indigeneity, then providing a class analysis of how we Hawaiians reproduce ourselves as a people. I also write about where the funding for Hawaiian revival comes from, as well as the different economic modes that interact on the ground: grassroots rearticulations of our traditional modes with that of capitalism. I then show how actors navigated these very different economic modes, value systems, and ways of being in the world. Finally, I discuss the contestations of "Hawaiian culture," attending to how it can politicize or depoliticize.

In a way, I experimentally wrote it as sort of a field manual, providing uniquely anthropological insights that might be useful for actors on the ground. My book title has changed a lot, but I'm gravitating towards *Red Dirt: An Anthropological Manual for Indigenous Liberation*.





*“Our society is reckoning with the fact that Indigenous peoples are often overlooked even in conventional forums and discussions of diversity.”*

**TCA: Last year, you took part in the department’s Indigenizing Academia lecture series, which ultimately led to your current role here. How do you see this initiative and the department contributing to the burgeoning presence of Indigenous studies on campus? Why is it important to engage in such work, especially in the field of anthropology, and what is your vision for the future of Indigenous studies at Princeton? How is your own work and scholarship contributing to this?**

IR: Our society is reckoning with the fact that Indigenous peoples are often overlooked even in conventional forums and discussions of diversity. In many statistics, we’re not even counted, or we’re asterisked as a statistically insignificant blip. The academy is striving for Indigenization, and the department here is really walking the talk of taking concrete steps to empower and include Indigenous perspectives and voices in material ways that matter. By hiring Native faculty and hosting Native speakers, supporting Native students, and learning from Indigenous knowledges and practices, the department is substantially grappling with Indigenization. For example, in early November, citizens of the Delaware Nation spoke very openly about what mattered to them and we were gathered, faculty and students, to listen. It was the right thing to do, to engage with the people whose land Princeton is on.

All of this goes hand in hand with the genealogy of the department’s and University’s history. Professor Alfonso Ortiz was a Native anthropologist right here and organized the first convocation of Native scholars at Princeton in 1970. Many mark that event as the beginning of Native American studies as a contemporary discipline. The Alfonso Ortiz archives live here, and it really tells a story of robust Indigenous activism, scholarship, advocacy and pedagogy. The department is taking this history as a major resource to help build Indigenous studies in a way that holds the University accountable to its past, crossroads, and

creative potentials. My own work asks tough questions about what we really mean by Indigenizing, by rethinking what we think we know or don’t ask. The department creates the space for that nuance to not only emerge, but to be put into practice, be it in the in the classroom or in interdisciplinary research initiatives. I’ve been so impressed with the intentionality that the department as a whole puts into honoring the sovereignty of Indigenous knowledge, knowledge production and producers.

I see a bright future for Native American and Indigenous studies at Princeton. It’s a real model of how to do things in a robust, ethical and honest way because of this genealogical and interdisciplinary and public-facing approach. There are many different ways you can build Indigenous studies... and I believe that Princeton is on track to creating something truly unique that can enhance academic and teaching excellence. As a Native Hawaiian, our genealogical stories are of the utmost importance: they tell us where we’re coming from, where we’re going, our place in the world, but most importantly, they tell us about our responsibilities and relations as we do those things. So that’s why I think this genealogical approach of looking to the history of the department feels right to me.

**TCA: As you begin to settle into your position here and prepare for next semester, what classes do you plan to teach next semester and why do you think these are important topics for students to study? Looking beyond next semester, what courses do you hope to teach or develop in the future, and how do you see yourself contributing to the undergraduate curriculum, the department, and the Princeton community more broadly?**

IR: The undergraduate course I’ll be teaching next semester is a critical introduction to Native American and Indigenous studies. One major point for me is that Indigeneity is relevant to



many fields and research interests. Oftentimes people think it’s this confined, specialized area, but it’s incredibly important to so many fields of inquiry, from climate to economics, from law to life sciences. If you think about it — Indigenous peoples and our knowledge — that’s thousands of years of research and development, but at the same time, we can’t repeat extraction and colonial ownership over that knowledge. Native American and Indigenous studies gets to the heart of larger questions pressing our society and our planet. In this course, we’ll be looking genealogically at how Native American and Indigenous studies came together and some of its key conceptual and methodological tenets. I want to draw on anthropologist Alfonso Ortiz’s archives here at Princeton to gauge how he combined advocacy with really rigorous anthropological scholarship and student support. I’m also teaching a graduate seminar on anticolonial/decolonial theory and practice, which is really learning from people on the ground who engage in visions for a better future for their communities and environments: theory derived from the practice of trying to rethink the political and create positive social change.

Looking beyond next semester, I’m really passionate about community-led research and working with networks of Native communities and scholars. In the future, I hope to teach on community organizing from an anthropological perspective, because a lot of my work is on social movements and institutions. I’m also excited to teach on media, labor, education, political economy and ethnographic theorizing. Ultimately, I want to think of how we learn and how we’re taught in our Indigenous communities at home, and bring that approach here, because there’s such a deep respect for practice and knowledge both there and here. You know the saying, “ma ka hana ka ike,” or, “in the work, there is knowledge.” I want to bring that approach to knowledge and people in all that I teach here.

*“Looking beyond next semester, I’m really passionate about community-led research, and working with networks of Native communities and scholars.”*



# The Anthropology of Art Today

## Carlos Fausto

Nicolás Díaz Letelier, G2, Interviews  
Carlos Fausto (Anthropology Visiting  
Professor & PIIRS Global Scholar)



**NDL:** Carlos, welcome back! Having you here during the Spring of 2024 marks your fourth year at Princeton, as both a Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS) Global Scholar and a Visiting Professor at the Department of Anthropology. How does it feel to be back?

CF: It feels really good! It's about returning to a place where I feel comfortable and, at the same time, always challenged intellectually. I come from a different theoretical and even practical tradition. Our "crafts" are similar, but not identical. For me, this is tremendously stimulating.

**NDL:** During these years, you have taught three undergraduate classes at Princeton: "Amazonia, The Last Frontier: History, Culture, and Power" in 2021, along with Miqueias Mugge; "Insurgent Indigenous Art" in 2022, with postdoctoral fellow Maria Luisa Lucas; and "Planet Amazonia: Engaging Indigenous Ecologies of Knowledge" in 2023, also with Miqueias. This time, you'll be teaching a graduate seminar titled "The Anthropology of Art Today." First, what led you to return to the intersection of art and anthropology, and second, what do you believe is the relevance of considering this interface during graduate training in anthropology today?

CF: My book *Art Effects* was published in 2020, but I finished writing it two years earlier. So, in a sense, my main investment in the "Anthropology of Art" has already been made. I've moved on, turning to other themes, including some dear to Brazil LAB's research lines, such as practices of forest making in the Amazon and the role of Indigenous knowledge in the current scenario of

climate change. In another sense, though, I didn't abandon the subject. I've just become more interested in exploring contemporary Indigenous arts, which had already been the subject of the course I taught with Maria Luísa Lucas. But more important, my collaboration with the Brazil LAB began in 2019, when we organized a seminar on Amazonian Poetics, to which we invited the Indigenous artists Denilson Baniwa and the late Jaider Esbell. I feel now that we are opening a solo exhibition of Baniwa's work at the Princeton Art Museum (Art@Bainbridge), of which I am a co-curator, we have come full circle. So, there was nothing more natural than teaching a course on the "Anthropology of Art" at this time and including a session on emergent (and insurgent) Indigenous arts.

As for the second part of your question, you're highlighting the interface between arts and anthropology rather than the "Anthropology of Art" in itself. The latter refers to anthropological theories about art, whereas the former refers to the vast and uncertain field of potential interbreeding between these crafts. I myself have explored this field on some occasions in regards to photography, filmmaking and, less consistently, music. While doing documentary films together with Indigenous people, I knew that my practice was informed and inflected by my anthropological education. But I also knew that I was making cinema and not an ethnography. Or rather, I was also doing ethnography by other means, and these means implied other relationships, other voices, other sounds and other bodies. The end result emerged from this myriad of relations and sensory qualities convoked and mobilized during the process of filmmaking. Is it art, is it anthropology? Does it matter?

*"The films I produced or directed with the Kuikuro and Parakanã peoples allowed me to gain access to other dimensions of their lives."*



**NDL:** Besides your role as an ethnographer and scholar, you are also a photographer and filmmaker. Concerning the former, for example, in 2013 you exhibited the collection "Nus et vêtus comme il faut" at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, a photographic series stemming from your collaborative work among the Kuikuro of the Upper Xingu, in Brazilian Amazonia. And regarding the latter, you co-produced and co-directed the 2012 documentary "As Hiper Mulheres [The Hyperwomen]" in collaboration with Kuikuro artists. How has your ethnographic and academic practice informed your artistic work, and conversely, how has your artistic work pushed you to see your scholarly practice in a new light?

CF: The films I produced or directed with the Kuikuro and Parakanã peoples allowed me to gain access to other dimensions of their lives, and also to develop a certain phenomenological sensitivity that I lacked as a more structuralist-oriented researcher. On the other hand, I am above all an anthropologist, and the way we script our films and how we edit them is informed by the process of anthropological research. Not surprisingly, one of our closest Kuikuro collaborators, Yamaluí, who has worked as a researcher with us since the early 2000s, has just written a biography of his grandfather based on his own research. The book will be published this year by one of the leading publishing houses in Brazil.



*“I am above all an anthropologist, and the way we script our films and how we edit them is informed by the process of anthropological research.”*

As for photography, it already looks different to me. The camera is a tool of instantaneous capture. You point and shoot, capturing an image in, say, 1/125s. There’s no great dialogue between capturer and captured, as there is with a video camera. The short time of photography is distinct to the extended time of filming, in which a bodily and verbal dialogue can be established. That’s why I haven’t developed collaborative projects in photography. Of course, they are possible, and I do have a student who conducts a photographic project with the Yanomami. In my case, however, all my Kuikuro friends and I do is to reciprocally capture each other’s images (with mobile phones, photography is everywhere). The capturing nature of photography poses certain problems down the line. Let me give you an example: I’m preparing a book with photographs I’ve taken over the last 35 years of research in the Amazon. Can I just make a collection of captures? How can I emphasize the relationality of these experiences? How can I reflexively conceive and convey my “place of focus” (my standpoint, my positionality)?

**NDL: In *Art Effects* (2020), your last published book in English, you juxtapose back and forth a certain canonical tradition of Christian art with an Amazonian one, in which their theorizations and problematizations illuminate each other in order to bring forth the conceptual landscapes that sustain them. By means of both technical and conceptual junctures, you examine what have been historically key representational issues, such as resemblance and likeness, and their creational symmetry in tensions like the one mediating anthropomorphism and transformation. With this journey in mind, what do you think ethnography in general, and anthropology in particular, can add to the study of artistic experience and expression, and to the conversation that adjacent disciplines like art history or aesthetics are pushing forward?**

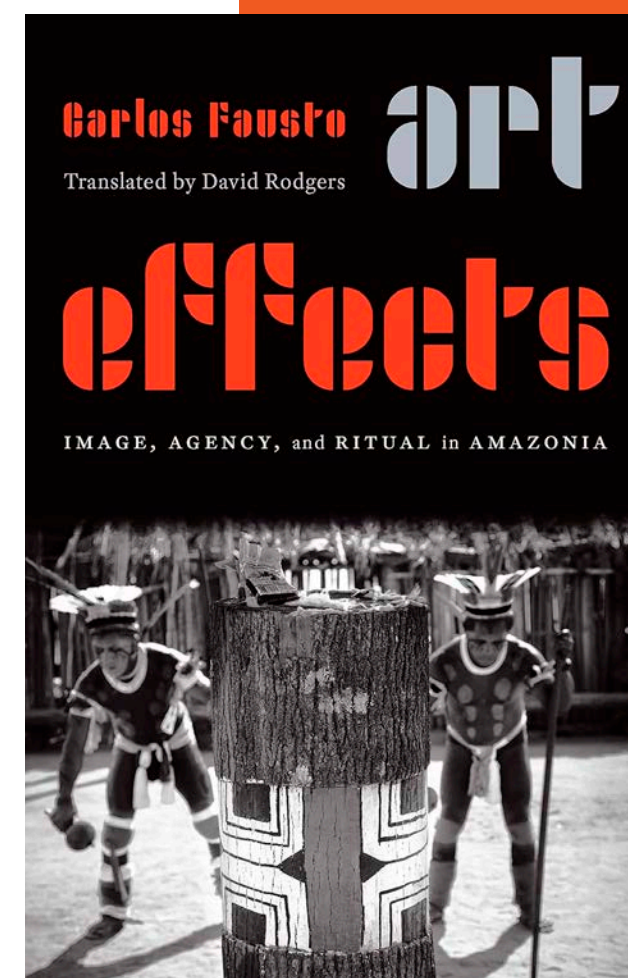
CF: I think we have a substantive contribution to make to art history and aesthetics. First of all, we must endeavor to provincialize Western art, including Christian art before the era of art.



Its obsession with iconism, naturalism and verisimilitude are characteristic of a specific civilization, forged in the encounter between Jewish and Greek traditions. The image regime of this civilization, with its obsessions, anxieties and tensions, cannot be taken as universal, nor can it be projected in any simple way to non-Western arts. So, we can help to refresh and widen the scope of art history. Secondly, anthropology is an art of minority and subalternity. What we do best is to explore the fractures of the lived world, finding vitality in the fringes and margins of the system. We can certainly help traffic this vitality into the field of art and art history.

**NDL: What does the intertwining of art and anthropology offer in terms of intervening, and hopefully also complicating, disrupting and sabotaging, the pressing political issues of a world that is actively shrinking?**

CF: I’d say that expanding the world today implies both fragmenting it and creating new “gluing” mechanisms. Let’s take Denilson Baniwa’s artistic practices as an example. He fragments a universal art narrative, undermines colonial imaginaries and gives new meanings to a hegemonic national history. At the same time, he offers a healing process in which new relations can flourish. It’s a bit like a collage, in which fragments are brought together and glued, producing something new and expansive. I guess anthropology can also do this job of fragmenting and gluing at the same time. The postmodern gesture of fracturing no longer seems sufficient; today, we need new ways of reassembling the human and non-human world.





# Landscapes of War, Resistance and Repair

Munira Khayyat

Alexander Foster, G2, Interviews  
Munira Khayyat (Anthropology  
Global South Visiting Scholar)



**AF: Munira, your appointment to the position of Anthropology's Global South Visiting Scholar marks a return to Princeton for you, following a previous appointment to the Institute of Advanced Studies between 2018 and 2019. How does it feel to be returning to Princeton?**

MK: It feels like magic! Princeton was a pivotal space in my life and my career ... after years of toiling in deeply fraught worlds (I began my first job in Cairo in August 2013 on the terrible day the counter-revolution began in earnest, and my first years on the tenure track were shaped by the darkness of these years — this was good work, needed work, but also shattering work). Princeton is where I was finally able to take some time out to focus on my scholarship and writing, and it is where my first book finally came together. I was vitalized and inspired by the intellectual community at the Institute for Advanced Study and the Princeton anthropology department; I was also healed and nurtured by the peaceful setting: the quiet, the woods, the deer, the fields. My time at Princeton was a magical moment out of place and time for me, and I feel that wave wash over me whenever I return. I also visited the anthropology department in the spring of 2022 as part of an exchange program between the American University in Cairo, where I taught for 10 years, and Princeton. During that short stay, I gave a talk at the department introducing my first book, which was coming out later that year. It was the perfect setting for my first book talk! A magical return...

**AF: Here at Princeton, you will be teaching a course on "Landscapes of War, Resistance and Repair." What do you hope students get out of it and what questions do you want students to engage with most?**

MK: War is a burning issue of our time. I grew up in war and I work on war and my understanding of war seeks to bring war "home" in theory. That is to say, I approach war as a lived environment and a lifeworld, which is what it is for many people on this planet, mainly in the Global South. My understanding of war is different from the ways in which war has been largely grasped in theory, as an exotic and "savage" exception to the normative worlds of "peace" in the Global North. My work carries the burning flame of my first teacher, Michel-Rolph Trouillot: to banish what he calls the "savage slot" in anthropological theory and practice. In this short seminar, which is very topical to our current moment, I hope to entice students to think of war differently and to understand that war, far from being a violent and strange aberration, is in fact constitutive of our globalized world. As anthropologists, we are enabled by the methods of ethnography, with creative and conceptual tools gleaned from both the arts and the sciences, to bring unfamiliar worlds into the grasp of experience and analysis. But my hope is that we don't stop there: my hope is that the startling truths we presence in anthropology shape political ruptures to mainstream complacency beyond academe. By "unsavaging" war, I hope to nurture a deeper understanding — and a more effective outrage — at war, which thrives with colonialism, capitalism, racism, patriarchy, the nation-state and empire — the enduring structures of

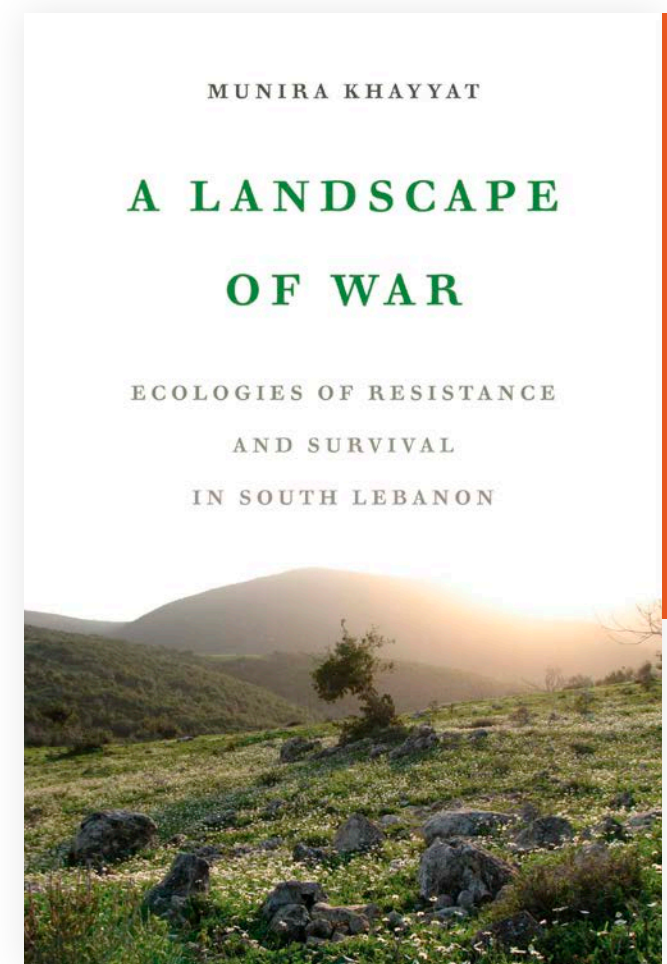
*"Princeton is where I was finally able to take some time out to focus on my scholarship and writing, and it is where my first book finally came together."*



violence that make our wretched world. I would like students to consider war as a space of life and through this exploration to consider how "our" comfortable worlds connect and overlap with these "elsewheres." In so doing — un-savaging anthropology and war — I would love students to ask sharp questions about knowledge, politics and location, and out of these questions to grow brilliant projects. I also insist on the artful crafts of writing and creative presentation as essential to the process and practice of anthropology, and in this course we will be exploring this through ethnography, literature, poetry and film.

**AF: Your first book-length text — *A Landscape of War: Ecologies of Resistance and Survival in South Lebanon* — focused on war as "a structure that is generative of life worlds" (13). For those yet to read your text, would you be able to give them an understanding of what the text is about and what you seek to do in focusing on war as the object of study?**

MK: War from the North is most often thought of as a space of death — an unlivable place — but in my book I bring war to light as another vibrant-if-wretched lifeworld of the Anthropocene alongside other unlivable worlds such as the plantation, the reservation, sites of extraction and contamination, the violent state, migrant and refugee camps, slums. Northern understandings of war have been largely shaped by imperial distance, and thus work on war is too often dominated by the narratives, tropes and concerns of imperial actors and stakeholders. If we consider war, we most often consider the experience of imperial (U.S.) armies, or humanitarian outfits and development agencies. War becomes a violent event captured within the scope of trauma and crisis and always measured by the yardstick of "civilized" and "peaceful" worlds. Much work on war seeks to address panicked questions about how these worlds of war can even exist and they chart the distance/difference between "war" and "peace," North



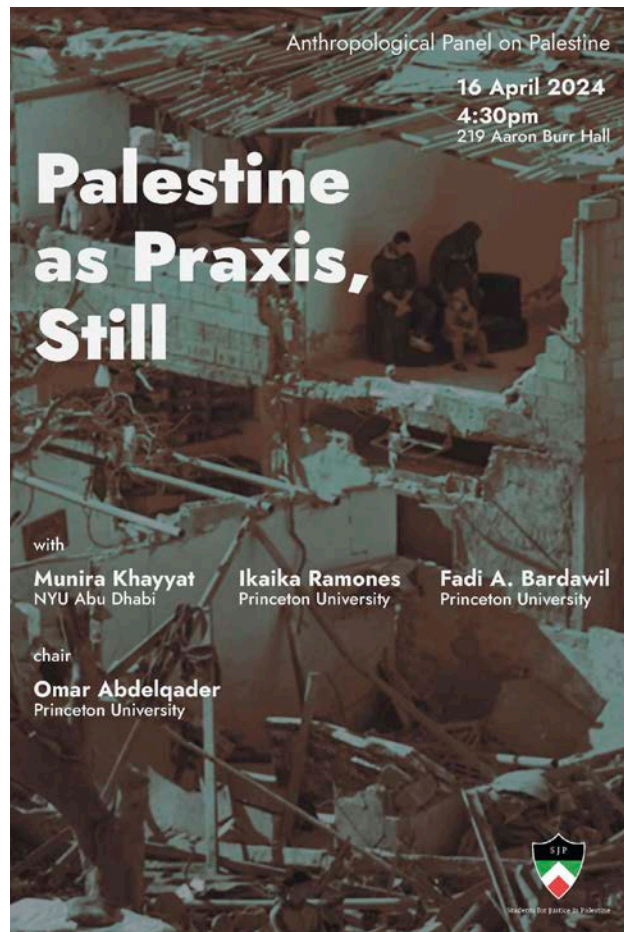
*“Resistance is the most common way that people understand their striving for life in the battlefields of South Lebanon (but also beyond).”*



and South, civilized and savage. But to those who inhabit war over lifetimes and generations, war and peace are not useful categories — no one is interested in showcasing their own exotic natures! Like many struggling to make lives in unlivable worlds across the globe, the end of the world is nothing new! Instead, inhabitants of war are concerned with the same pursuits many of us in “peaceful” worlds are: living a decent life, making a living, caring for hearth and home, pursuing projects and dreams. When we center ordinary activities in our understandings of war, war’s dramatic violence settles into a larger picture and we come to see these life-making practices as ongoing creative resistances to the necropolitics of war — and other destructive structures and processes of the Anthropocene.

**AF:** A key concept that you develop in this text is that of resistant ecologies. How did you develop this idea and what is the work you hope this concept can do in the field of anthropology?

**MK:** Resistance is the most common way that people understand their striving for life in the battlefields of South Lebanon (but also beyond). Resistance is also largely dominated by military action and political ideologies generated by the group that has been most successful at military resistance in South Lebanon — namely Hezbollah, also known as the Resistance (al-Muqawama). In honoring the resistance of all of those who live in this borderland and battlefield — who may and may not be connected to those who also fight — I sought to reclaim resistance as an ethnographic term with salience to my field and to reclaim it from obsolescence in social theory. I also wrested resistance back from monopolization by dominant political ideologies and



military valences in South Lebanon. The phrase “resistant ecologies” is both literal and metaphorical. Literal in the sense that it references the ecologies — the multispecies networks of care that by design persist across seasons of devastation in South Lebanon, such as tobacco farming and goat herding. Metaphorical because these resistant ecologies grow in all kinds of unlivable worlds — they are the meshworks of connection and care that nurture being through all kinds of rupture — not just war. I insist on resistance as a defiant and intentional attitude to neglectful, extractive, exploitative and deadly systems such as capitalism, industry, the nation-state and war. Resistance centers the agency of actors in such worlds. Survival is never a passive act.

**AF:** For those students considering a career in anthropology, what would be your advice to them? What lessons do you wish you had learned earlier in your career?

**MK:** My advice is the advice I was given by Trouillot in our first conversation when I had just started graduate school at the University of Chicago in September 2001. Trouillot asked me: what is your burning question? And he said: that burning question will guide you. And it has! In keeping alive the legacy of Trouillot, such a brilliant human and thinker who left us too soon, I always tell my students to hold onto their burning question. It has served me well.



# Celebrating Carol Zanca

*“Throughout her years in the department, Carol was far more than an effective manager. She was a mentor to all of the graduate students, a tireless advocate for anthropology, and a cherished colleague to all. No tribute can equal the praise she deserves: we can only call her friendship a genuine blessing.”*

— Lawrence Rosen

*William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Anthropology, Emeritus*

*“Over the decades, you have mothered the willing, anticipated needs, braced us with your own wisdom, and helped all of us navigate the complexities of Princeton with an unfailing compass.”*

— Carol Greenhouse

*Arthur W. Marks '19 Professor of Anthropology, Emerita*



# Celebrating Carol Zanca

*After nearly four decades of distinguished service to Princeton University and amazing leadership to the department, our beloved Carol Zanca retired in October 2023.*



**F**aculty, alumni, current students and administrators from across campus gathered on October 24th to celebrate Carol Zanca's life and work. We all raised a heartfelt toast to Carol for her largesse and wisdom and for expanding our capacities, individually and collectively, to creatively meet the demands of the day.

Carol hails from New York City. She earned her B.A. in organizational management from Cabrini University and received a Master's in Higher Education from New York University. After working in the School of Public and International Affairs, Carol joined the anthropology department in 1988. She has been a visionary and extremely dedicated leader of the department, as well as a much-loved manager of our graduate program for many years. A legendary manager, Carol received the distinguished President's Achievement Award in 2001, in recognition for her exceptional dedication, outstanding contributions and exemplary service.

We salute Carol with deep gratitude and love. We wish her all the best for the years to come!



# Celebrating Mo Lin Yee

*“Mo Lin Yee’s unparalleled dedication, meticulous attention to detail, and genuine care for each student’s unique journey have made her a true cornerstone of our department.”*

— Onur Günay

*Director of Undergraduate Studies*



*After twenty years of extraordinary dedication, commitment to excellence, and utmost care, our legendary director of undergraduate studies Mo Lin Yee '75 has retired in the fall of 2023.*

**M**o Lin holds a B.A. in psychology from Princeton University, an M.Ed. from Teachers College, Columbia University, and an MBA from the University of California-Berkeley. Mo Lin came to Anthropology from the Graduate Alumni Office, where she served as administrative assistant to the director.

Mo Lin’s intense listening and hands-on approach, along with her tireless work ethic, made her an indispensable partner in ensuring the success and well-being of our students. She consistently went above and beyond the call of duty, attending student performances and events and always finding innovative solutions to students’ challenges both inside and outside the academic environment.

This deep concern for students and the flourishing of our program earned Mo Lin the 2012 Presidential Achievement Award. The award recognizes support and administrative staff members with five or more years of service whose dedication, excellent work, and special efforts have contributed significantly to the success of their departments and the University.

We celebrated Mo Lin Yee’s life and work at Class Day 2023 and bid her farewell last September as she moved to Honolulu, Hawaii.



# Princeton Anthropology at the AAA Annual Meeting

*Several generations of Princeton anthropologists attended the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Toronto, Canada, November 15-19. We hosted a lively reception to reconnect with alumni, honor our beloved Carol Zanca, and celebrate new books by our faculty.*



# Princeton Anthropology celebrated at the AAA Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada

*Our current faculty and students, as well as alumni, participated in keynote presentations, book celebrations, panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, and social events.*



**M**ultiple generations of Princeton anthropologists attended the annual conference organized under the theme of “Transitions”. Our current faculty and students, as well as alumni, participated in keynote presentations, book celebrations, panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, and social events. The department also hosted a lively and well-attended reception to honor the life and work of our beloved Carol Zanca, who retired this fall after four decades of service to the department and the University. During the reception we also celebrated our faculty’s newest publications: Elizabeth Anne Davis’ *Artifactual: Forensic and Documentary Knowing*; Ryo Morimoto’s *Nuclear Ghost: Atomic Livelihoods in Fukushima’s Gray Zone*; and João Biehl’s *Arc of Interference: Medical Anthropology for Worlds on Edge*.



# Graduate News

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*A great strength of anthropology at Princeton is the excellence and passion of our graduate students. Our graduate cohort has grown in recent years, bringing a rich diversity of experience to the cross-pollination of intellectual traditions and much excitement to our scholarly and pedagogical activities.*





# Graduate News



## Omar Abdelqader

Abdelqader specializes in Palestine, Indigenous and settler colonial studies, political subjectivity, surveillance, media and cultural production and urbanism.

His research focuses on the possibilities for Palestinians within the lands occupied in 1948 to form a collective consciousness in the shadow of an interplay between discursive and physical domination by investigating the built and epistemic spheres. He is interested in the ways subjectivities, political and otherwise, are negotiated and constituted in both quotidian and strategic exchanges and desires for recognition. In the past academic year, Abdelqader served on the committee of graduate students for Princeton's Department of Anthropology. He also co-organized and chaired a panel titled "Palestine as Praxis, Still," on the calamity in Gaza, and worked with Insaniyyat: Society of Palestinian Anthropologists. In support of summer research, Abdelqader received funding from both PIIRS and NES for his current work on Palestinian media. He will present his work on the entanglement of liberal urban anthropology and settler colonialism at the upcoming Annual Waqf Yaffa Conference in July.



## Mai Alkhamissi

Alkhamissi works on themes relating to diaspora, exile, migration, revolt and social change. Aside from her dissertation research, she also works in collaboration with computer scientists to detect biases and parse out cultural trends in large language models such as ChatGPT.

Her dissertation project examines waves of Egyptians who left Egypt over the course of three generations due to political reasons. She studies the conceptual difference between exiles and immigrants, proposing a feminist understanding of the experiences of mobility and displacement and examining the intellectual history of Arabic terms relating to the experience, such as ghorba and manfa. Over the past year, she wrote a paper with Dr. Mona Diab, Mohamed Nokrashy and Badr Alkhamissi. It is currently under review for publication and will be presented at the International Conference for Computational Social Science this summer. She will start an internship at the Language and Technology Institute at Carnegie Mellon University this May.



## Vinicius Cardoso Reis

Cardoso Reis' work resides in the overlap of medical, political and legal anthropology, specifically focusing on pandemics, repair and memory in Brazil.

His pre-dissertation project follows the struggle of Brazilians victimized by Covid-19, who have been seeking justice for state violence during the pandemic. In 2023-24, he presented preliminary reflections from this project at two conferences: the ISA Latin America and the Caribbean Region (ISA-LAC) Conference (Bogotá, September 2023) and the XVII Congress of the Brazilian Studies Association (San Diego, April 2024). He was also an organizer and discussant at the event "Gender-Based Political Violence and Why We Need to Talk About It," co-hosted by the Brazil LAB and the Department of Anthropology. Furthermore, Cardoso Reis has served as a peer reviewer for the *Health and Human Rights Journal* (Harvard/Drexel) and *Vibrant* (UFF, Brazil).

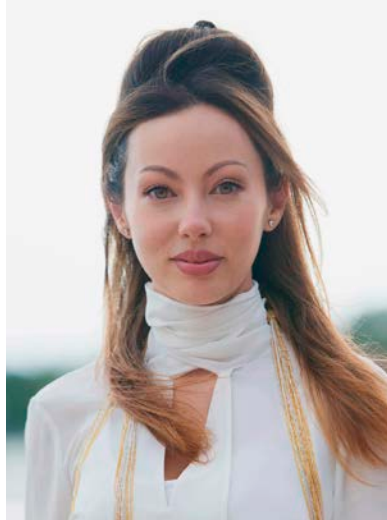


## Rymberley Chu

This academic year, Chu initiated her general examinations, specializing in the anthropological topics of human-animal relations and personhood.

Reflecting on her voluntary capacity as a social scientist for a conservationist organization, Chu published a peer-reviewed essay for *Anthropology Now* and a blog for the *American Ethnologist* on citational readings for environmental justice praxis. In the fall, Chu coordinated an IHUM reading group entitled "Relationality, Animals, and the Environment" and co-organized a guest speaker workshop featuring Drexel University Professor Alberto Morales. She taught as a preceptor for ANT201 ("Introduction to Anthropology") and presented a guest lecture on the politics of citizen science. In the spring, Chu worked as a scientific communications administrator for XPRIZE through the GRADFUTURES Social Impact Fellowship. This summer, Chu will present a conference paper and organize a panel on multispecies research methodologies at EASA2024 in Barcelona, Spain.





## Tae Cimarosti

This past year, Cimarosti completed her second-year coursework requirements for the graduate program and began working on her general examinations, focusing on the anthropology of disaster and transdisciplinary reflections on the experience, manipulation and representation of spacetime.

During the first semester, she taught as an assistant instructor for the course “Catastrophes across Cultures: The Anthropology of Disaster,” and she looks forward to continuing to teach this summer as a PIIRS Global Seminar course assistant in Japan and as an assistant instructor for the undergraduate-directed project “Nuclear Princeton” in its collaboration with the University of Tokyo and Hiroshima University. Cimarosti received summer funding from PIIRS, EAS, and the anthropology department to continue her research project in Arahama, Japan, that she started in 2019. Reflections from her last fieldwork of July and August 2023 were presented at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Toronto through her paper “10,000 Lights: Negotiating Distances in Post-Tsunami Arahama” and at the Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and McGill University Workshop “Image, Sound and Performance as Ways of Knowing” through her paper “Visions of Erosion and Accretion in Post-Tsunami Arahama.” Beyond Princeton, Cimarosti collaborated with Professor Adriana Petryna on the Italian translation of her “Horizon Work: At the Edges of Knowledge in an Age of Runaway Climate Change,” and worked as a member of the board of directors and photographer on the release of two new albums for Red Hook Records: BlankFor.ms: Jason Moran and Marcus Gilmore’s “Refract” and Wadada Leo Smith and Amina Claudine Myers’ “Central Park’s Mosaics of Reservoir, Lake, Paths and Gardens.”



## Max Cohen

Cohen is a scholar of economic and political anthropology, political economy, science and technology studies and American studies.

In 2023-24, he continued writing his dissertation, “Subgoliath: Venture Capital and the Hunt for Baby Unicorns at the Technological Frontier.” Based on his ethnographic research in the U.S. startup and venture capital world, Cohen presented four papers in separate forums. He gave a talk, “When Capitalists Critique Capitalism: Ethnographic Reflections on Opportunity, Autonomy, and Epistemology in Silicon Valley,” to the anthropology department and presented a paper at the American Ethnological Society/ Association for Political and Legal Anthropology conference in Pittsburgh. He also presented on his research and its political implications to fellow 2023-24 awardees of Princeton’s Prize Fellowship in the Social Sciences. Finally, Cohen gave a guest presentation on his research and on ethnographic methods in a Johns Hopkins undergraduate course, “Automating Care: Digital technology and the future of medicine.”



## Noah Collins

Collins (Cherokee Nation/White Mountain Apache Tribe) is a geneticist and bioethicist specializing in adaptive traits of pharmacogenomic potential found within global Indigenous populations.

His dissertation research follows the processes, actors and ideologies of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders enacting and participating in culturally based Indigenous methodologies to perform genomic biomedical research. Noah recently published in *Genome Research* regarding benefit-sharing and ethical genetics collaboration he previously engaged in in Madagascar. He is active in the AAA’s, AABA’s and NHGRI ELSI programs, as well as consortiums of Indigenous geneticists such as SING. He is a co-founder of the Native American and Indigenous Biological Anthropologists committee, a member of the Native American Task Force for the AAA, and a co-founder of the Native Graduate Students of Princeton student organization. He has consulted on a range of projects around Indigenous scientific perspectives, from endangered species conservation genetics to topics such as climate change and nation building.



## Daisy Couture

Couture works across medical anthropology and feminist science and technology studies (STS) with a particular focus on psychiatry, neuroscience and contested illnesses.

Her dissertation project centers on functional neurological disorder — the phenomenon in which someone is seriously ill (seizures, paralysis, complex pain) and yet, upon medical investigation, no pathophysiological cause can be found — in order to explore how experiences of suffering and recovery are refracted by the contemporary medical and cultural ascendance of neuroscientific knowledge in the Global North. In 2023-24, she presented a paper and participated in a roundtable at AAA and will also be presenting at 4S and EASA this summer. Additionally, she worked as a research assistant for both João Biehl, conducting literature reviews, and Molly Crockett, with whom she designed and helped support a new undergraduate STS course focused on experimental psychology and the concept of human nature.





## Ipsita Dey

Dey's research is at the intersection of Pacific Island studies, Indigeneity studies, South Asian diaspora studies, environmental studies, and ethnographic ethics.

Her interdisciplinary work explores how Indo-Fijians articulate connections to land and country through agricultural practice, claiming a complex mode of diasporic nativity in response to resurgent Fijian Indigenous ethno-nationalist politics. In 2023-24, Dey organized a roundtable ("Aesthetics of Place: Investigating Colonialist, Capitalist, and Apocalyptic Fantasies of 'Nature'"), organized a panel ("Island-ing and Archipelagic Thinking: Ethnographic Reflections on Island Field-sites"), and presented a paper ("Sandy Soils and Earthly Discontents: Agro-Forestry Initiatives in Coastal Communities in Fiji") at the 2023 American Anthropological Association annual meetings. Dey defended her dissertation, titled "Home on the Fijian Farmscape: Agricultural Attachments to Land and Place," on May 6, 2024. She will join the University of Washington-Seattle as an assistant professor in the Department of Comparative History of Ideas in fall 2024.



## Nicolás Díaz Letelier

Díaz Letelier works at the intersection of moral and political anthropology, affect theory and gender studies, focusing on the affective and ethical dimensions of violence, on the one hand, and the moral and political governance of it, on the other.

His dissertation project centers on the heterochronic lives of former intelligence agents, military officers, and civil collaborators of the repressive apparatus during the Chilean dictatorship (1973-1990). In 2023-24, Díaz Letelier signed a book contract to publish in Spanish the manuscript of his previous work in Rapa Nui, tentatively titled *The Moral Composition of Punishment: An Ethnography of the Carceral Condition in Rapa Nui*. Additionally, he continues to serve as editorial assistant for *Cultural Anthropology*, the flagship journal of the Society for Cultural Anthropology.



## Runnie Exuma

Exuma's research work concerns questions around Blackness; gender; the body and the senses; migration and movement; theories of the image; corporeal histories/geographies of racial slavery, debt, and forced labor; and aesthetics and performance.

Her dissertation project currently investigates the category of the Black (captive) maternal and the shifting economies of enmeshment and concealment underwriting it within the spaces of the northern Mediterranean. Experimenting around material, motion and form, her research explores Black femmes' compositional movements, their corporeal and formal refusals, and their "unpayable debts." During the 2023-24 academic year, Exuma performed as a principal cast member in numerous staged theatrical productions and projects in New York City and the LCA at Princeton, including multiple staged readings; a choreopoem and week-long exhibition installation at Princeton's Co-Lab; two musical plays; and several immersive theater performances. With winter funding from Princeton's Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS), she completed a two-year ongoing project in Rio de Janeiro and Salvador, Bahia, in January, documenting Black Brazilian women's infra-political resistance against anti-Black, state-sanctioned terror and forced displacement. Supported by GSS, NES, and PIIRS, she will be conducting preliminary fieldwork between France and Italy, studying Arabic and Italian, and researching visual art and performance in Dakar, Senegal, this summer.



## Lloyd Farley

Farley is working at the nexus of agrarian and religious studies with fieldwork geographically situated in the Moroccan southwest.

Farley's dissertation research focuses on how commercial cactus (*Opuntia* spp.) farmers cope with and conceptualize environmental change. This work hopes to show how these activities constitute an emergent Moroccan environmental ethic that is imbued with an awareness of opaque spiritual and ecological processes. Before coming to Princeton, Farley completed a Fulbright Research Fellowship in Morocco where he spent a year conducting research in the cities of Agadir and Sidi Ifni. Split between urban Agadir and the rural province surrounding Sidi Ifni, Farley conducted ethnographic research with collaborators in the national agronomic research center, NGOs and rural farming communities. Farley hopes to expand on this preliminary fieldwork experience in the coming months and years.



## Luke Forrester Johnson

Forrester Johnson works on race, sexuality, fantasy, Enlightenment and disenchantment in France.

His dissertation is an ethnography of two key groups: white French people who exclusively date Black people and white Parisian practitioners of “Primitive Expression,” a dance therapy that draws from so-called “primitive” cultures to reconnect secular Europeans with purportedly “universal” rhythmic, ecstatic rites. He is a research editor for *EuropeNow*. This spring, Forrester Johnson co-instructed ANT 320: “The Paranormal and the Supernatural” with Professor Elizabeth Davis, marking the department’s first course to be part of Princeton’s Collaborative Teaching Initiative.



## Alexander Foster

Foster’s areas of specialization include environmental anthropology (with a focus on conservation and extraction), political anthropology and the Anthropocene.

His dissertation aims to focus on how claims made on landscape categorization are enacted by networks of action groups as a form of resistance against lithium mining projects in northwest Argentina. This past year he headed up an IHUM reading group titled “Thalassography,” assisted Ikaika Ramones in teaching Critical Native American and Indigenous Studies, and conducted preliminary fieldwork in Argentina.



## Wei Gan

Wei Gan’s ongoing research examines the intersection of racial capitalism and the Asian American experience through analytical frameworks drawn from economic and political anthropology.

Her dissertation, “Funding Asian America: Philanthroactivism, Racial Empowerment, and the Price of Justice,” focuses on the ways in which discourses and practices of philanthropy inform notions of and facilitate efforts toward racial justice for Asian Americans, particularly in settings of nonprofit and community organizing. In the past year, Gan has shared portions of her work at academic conferences, including the 2023 annual meeting of the Society for Economic Anthropology in Evanston and the American Anthropological Association in Toronto.



## Amadeus Harte

Harte specializes in medical, psychological and neuro anthropology. She researches psychedelic clinical trials for mental health disorders in order to understand the relationship between sociocultural environments and efficacy.

Her fieldwork is based in London, where she works on trials for depression and addiction with ketamine, psilocybin and 5-MeO-DMT. She attended the Horizons conference in May and participated in the New School’s Psychedelic Humanities Lab in 2023-24. At Princeton, she was a teaching assistant for Molly Crockett for “Unlocking the Science of Human Nature,” a critical interdisciplinary course that questions the assumptions in experimental psychology.



## Hazal Hürman

Hürman’s main areas of specialization include childhood studies, the anthropology of law and punishment, and (de)colonization in Turkey’s Kurdistan and the Middle East more broadly.

Her dissertation, “Ethnography at the Children’s Table: Criminalized Childhoods and Political Anxieties in Turkey,” foregrounds children’s experiences to understand ethno-racial sensibilities and political anxieties as they are reconfigured under Turkey’s increasingly authoritarian regime. During the 2023-24 academic year, Hürman presented various aspects of her research at the Annual Meeting of the National Women’s Studies Association in Baltimore; Johns Hopkins University’s Program in Racism, Immigration, and Citizenship; and the Politics of Stigmatization and Human Insecurities Workshop at Northwestern University. In addition to continuing to pursue her ethnographic dissertation research in Antep, Turkey, Hürman is currently working on a participatory documentary film project in collaboration with her young interlocutors. The film, “AllAtOnce: Children of Antep Narrate the February 6th,” chronicles children’s experiences during and in the aftermath of the 2023 Turkey, Kurdistan and Syria earthquakes and was recently awarded the Art, Design, and Research Grant of Bayetav Foundation, Turkey.





## Cate Morley

Morley is a fifth-year doctoral candidate in anthropology and interdisciplinary humanities (IHUM).

Her dissertation will be informed by ongoing ethnographic research alongside forensic anthropologists and civilian activists working to recover and identify the remains of Mexico's desaparecidos. In a parallel project, she is examining the forensic investigation of, and public controversy surrounding, a mass grave discovered on the site of an institution that incarcerated unmarried mothers and their children in Ireland. Across her two field sites, she explores the way survivors and relatives of those disappeared profess distrust in both the word of the church and the word of the law while appealing to notions of divine and democratic justice. She is presently authoring a chapter contribution to an edited volume, placing the government investigation of Ireland's incarceration of unmarried mothers in a global context. She will deliver a paper as part of a panel on death rituals under duress at the 18th Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists in July.



## Moad Musbahi

Musbahi has completed all his coursework requirements and the first of his general examinations, titled "The Injured Voice, on Wounded-Kinship."

He was also accepted into the joint Ph.D. in interdisciplinary humanities. In addition to completing the advanced French language requirement, he started learning Turkish and will be spending part of the summer in Boğaziçi University's intensive training program. He presented at a conference hosted by Princeton's Program in African Studies on performance practices between Mali and Algeria and finalized a paper for publication, "Movement, Mortgages and Obligation across the Mediterranean." In April, he presented at a gathering of scholars and artists on the theme of "Maghreb Visual Cultures" in Algiers. He is a member of the Princeton Laptop Orchestra (PLOrk), an experimental sound ensemble where, during the fall and spring, he produced and performed two new compositions collaboratively developed by the group. Beyond Princeton, Musbahi presented new artwork at MoMA, New York; the 2nd Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale; Rhizome Gallery, Algiers; and Art Jameel, Jeddah.



## Yanping Ni

Ni is in her third year of the doctoral program, specializing in economic anthropology, environmental anthropology, materialisms, global and transnational dynamics and anthropology of China.

She will conduct the fieldwork for her dissertation, tentatively titled "When the Market is Shuffling Cards: New Human and Fibrous Players in the Chinese Textile Economy," a project supported by the Mr. and Mrs. Yan Huo \*94 \*95 Graduate Fellowship. During the 2023-24 academic year, Ni presented her research at the 27th annual Harvard East Asia Society Conference, the 25th annual CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Association conference (CUBASGA), and the "Disrepair and Repair" Conference at Duke Kunshan University, which she also helped organize. In addition, Ni served as the translator for the book *Chinese Espresso*, authored by Grazia Ting Deng. The translation is forthcoming from the Science and Technology of China Press.



## Nikhil Pandhi

Pandhi is an interdisciplinary cultural anthropologist with a range of theoretical-ethnographic commitments spanning Black studies, critical race studies, critical caste and Dalit studies, queer-feminist studies, anticolonial/postcolonial studies, literature, translation, biomedicine, global health, art, affect and embodiment.

Deeply committed to theory-making from the Global South, Pandhi's current dissertation project broadly considers the aesthetic, epistemological and experiential assemblages of caste, race and sexuality in India, with the aim of evolving new ways of thinking and writing about the body-of-color and its fraught global geohistories. In the past year, Pandhi contributed a journal article to *Anthropology and Medicine*, contributed a book chapter to the *Routledge Handbook of Anthropology and Global Health*, and secured a book contract to publish "Love in the Time of Caste," a series of finely translated ethnographic short stories (Hindi-English) that he gathered and translated during his doctoral fieldwork with Dalit feminist creatives in India. As of fall 2024, Pandhi will be moving to Dartmouth College, where he has been awarded a prestigious three-year interdisciplinary postdoctoral fellowship and lectureship at the Society of Fellows.



## Lucas Prates

Prates' research interests include environmental anthropology, legal and political anthropology and the anthropology of Amazonia.

His dissertation project, titled "Profiting from the Rainforest: Exploitation and Conservation among Amazonia's Settler Elites," examines how the mindsets of large-scale settler-farmers have been evolving in the Brazilian Amazonia. In September 2023, Prates returned to Princeton after a year of fieldwork. He became a member of the Prize Fellowship in the Social Sciences, where he refined his research project in collaboration with other policy-oriented scholars. He also presented his work in various academic forums during 2023-24, including at the Brazilian Studies Association Conference, the MinasMundo Colloquium and the IHUM Salon. Additionally, Prates assisted Didier Fassin with the instruction of ANT 504A ("Discourses on Punishment"), served on the prize committee for undergraduate senior theses, and served as a peer reviewer for the *Health and Human Rights Journal*. In April, Prates presented his post-fieldwork talk to the anthropology department.



## Michelle Rodriguez

Rodriguez's third year at Princeton was marked by academic achievement and professional growth.

She successfully completed her general examinations, which explored anthropological theories of reproduction and embodiment within both political and biocultural frameworks. In addition to her exams, Rodriguez presented her pre-fieldwork talk to the department in spring of 2024. Alongside her studies, Rodriguez worked on refining her teaching skills as an assistant instructor for ANT 201: "Introduction to Anthropology." Her role as an editorial assistant at *Transforming Anthropology* took her to the 2023 AAA conference in Toronto, funded by the Association of Black Anthropologists. Now, with funding from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Rodriguez prepares to immerse herself in her dissertation research, exploring the de-medicalized practices of a collective of Black midwives, known as The Art of Mothering, in the region of Oakland, California.



## Darius Sadighi

Sadighi is an anthropologist of science and technology in Asia focusing on climate change, agriculture, development, NGOs and Fourth Industrial Revolution frameworks in Vietnam's Mekong Delta.

His dissertation project, tentatively titled "A Solutionist Machine: The Ecology of Projects in Vietnam's Mekong Delta," is about solutionist frameworks in climate change adaptation in the Mekong Delta that bring together smallholder farmers, government officials, researchers, international businesses, financial institutions and NGOs. This year, he has participated in many climate change adaptation conferences in Can Tho, Vietnam, including the conference "Academic Forum: Towards Integrated Climate Change Resilience in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta-A Roadmap," hosted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Embassy of Denmark and the Dragon-Mekong Institute. He is participating in climate change and STS conferences at Fulbright University in Ho Chi Minh City and at Harvard in the coming months.



## Aderayo Sanusi

Sanusi's main areas of specialization are political and legal anthropology, anthropology and business, environmental anthropology/humanities, and science and technology studies.

Her dissertation explores how Nigerian agricultural entrepreneurs create and use science and technologies to reclaim their economic sovereignty.





## Alexandra Sastrawati

Sastrawati, based in Singapore, is nearing completion of her dissertation fieldwork, which delves into the intersections of public health, creative arts, political marginality and urban life.

A recipient of the National University of Singapore (NUS) Development Grant, she concurrently serves as a Young NUS Fellow at the Department of Sociology & Anthropology. Her engagements include delivering talks at the (E)motion in our Changing Worlds conference at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Storying Otherwise roundtable, an invited session of the Society for Humanistic Anthropology at the AAA/CASCA annual meeting. She showcased her work “Dwells and Descends,” an ethnography of museums and injury, through photography and poetry at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Leveraging ethnographic experiments and artistic collaborations across Asia and Europe, Sastrawati continues to glean insights from her diverse interlocutors. With intramural awards, she has engaged with scholars at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan, and is slated to present her ongoing research, “Ethnographic Canvases: Unveiling Multimodal Promises in Singaporean Art Therapeutics,” at the European Association of Social Anthropologists’ biennial conference in Barcelona. Awarded the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2024-25, she will be in residence. Meanwhile, in Singapore, she remains actively involved in scholarly pursuits at NUS, volunteering at Transient Workers Count Too, and deepening connections with a broad range of Singapore-based communities spanning mental health advocates, health care employees, migrant workers, NGO staff, queer activists, creatives and art administrators.



## Alisa Sopova

This academic year, Sopova completed her general examination on the anthropology of war and the intersection of materiality studies and affect studies. In the spring, she presented her fieldwork proposal titled “The Smell of Russian Tanks: Materiality, Affect, and the Ordinary in Wartime Ukraine.”

She received the Wenner-Gren Dissertation Research Fellowship to support this project. Sopova presented her research at the Invisible University for Ukraine Winter School at Central European University and was invited as a guest lecturer to courses at UCL Anthropology and Harvard Extension School. Her collaborative photo project, “5K from the Frontline,” based on preliminary fieldwork in Ukraine, was exhibited at Harvard University and the Verdun Memorial. It was also featured at the Sydney Writer’s Festival.



## Aaron Su

Su is working in medical and environmental anthropology, the anthropology of technology and design, and critical ethnic and Indigenous studies.

His dissertation, tentatively titled “Asserting Indigenous ‘Self-Sufficiency’: Inclusive Design and its Limits in a Precarious Taiwan,” investigates the rise of participatory design as a government strategy to innovate new medical and agricultural technologies with Indigenous communities in Taiwan. It critically assesses how “design thinking” shifts responsibility for historical inequalities back onto Amis communities in the process of collaboration. He co-authored an article in *American Anthropologist* on public anthropology and presented at conferences including the AAA, the Association for Asian Studies, Penn EnviroLab, and Johns Hopkins University. Su is helping organize the North American Taiwan Studies Association Annual Conference and, having returned from the field, is writing his dissertation.



## Junbin Tan

Working on aging, religion, media, temporality and politics, Tan’s research examines the ways in which the older adults of Kinmen, Taiwan, create political futures on Kinmen and in the politically charged Taiwan Strait through historical legends, ritual improvisations, and their documentation in media.

He was a graduate research fellow and media fellow at the Center for Culture, Society and Religion (CCSR) and a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Research Group, “Aging in a Time of Mobility,” in spring 2024. His book chapters, “Unsettling Contact: The Collapse of Emotional Distance at a COVID-19 Medical Frontline” and “Witnessing Amidst Distancing: Structural Vulnerabilities and the Researcher’s Gaze in Pandemic Times,” were published in *Reconfiguring Global Societies* (University of Toronto Press). He produced a video, “Can religious communities go virtual?” and a Spotify podcast interview, “How should we think about death?” He presented his work at Bielefeld University and in workshops at Max Planck and CCSR.





## Nikita Taniparti

Taniparti's research interests include economic anthropology, the anthropology of development and public policy, and future imaginaries relating to energy and infrastructure.

Drawing on her decade of experience as an economist, her dissertation project aims to ask questions about how Namibians are witnessing rapid socioeconomic changes as a result of massive inflows of capital investment in energy and extraction. She asks how these changes might shape Namibians' conceptions of nationality, belonging and hope. During the 2023-24 academic year, Taniparti completed first-year course requirements and participated in the Society for Economic Anthropology's reading group on energy. She also joined the graduate fellows team at Princeton's Writing Center. She will spend the summer in Namibia conducting fieldwork supported by the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies.



## Ayluonne Tereszkiwicz

Tereszkiwicz specializes in environmental and historical anthropology. The core of her work traces encounter(s) and disjuncture(s) between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's remediation strategies in southeastern North Carolina and local initiatives for historical restoration and heritage-keeping.

Her dissertation, "Remediating the Plantation, In Perpetuity: Superfund Legacies and Gullah Geechee Heritage in Southeastern North Carolina," examines regional understandings — and local iterations and disavowals — of harm and repair both as tangible acts and as ethical frameworks for interpreting remediation and restoration as teleological processes. She joins interlocutors in foregoing the binary itself. As part of her research, Tereszkiwicz apprentices at a local land trust operating at the center of these themes, as well as a state historic site. In September, Tereszkiwicz was awarded a Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. This spring, she presented at a graduate conference hosted by Johns Hopkins' Department of Anthropology. She also supports the Heirloom Gardens Oral History Project.



## Caryn Tin Powe Hoo

Tin Powe Hoo's research is situated at the nexus of international development, cultural geography and political ecology.

She examines how island vulnerability is discursively and materially produced through representations of Mauritius in international development and other popular media. Additionally, Tin Powe Hoo considers how Mauricians come to know and understand their vulnerability to the effects of climate change and articulate alternative climate futures.



## Christopher Zraunig

His research engages with aging and idea(l)s of the good later life, desires for queer kinship, appeals to state recognition and refusals thereof, the relation between homonationalism and domestication of queerness, and queer possibilities beyond dominant LGBTIQ+ rights discourses.

He spent the fall of 2023 conducting ethnographic fieldwork in Berlin and New York City, investigating the effectiveness and productiveness of diversification efforts in geriatric and gerontic spaces. In the spring 2024 semester, he assisted Elizabeth Davis and Sebastián Ramírez Hernández in teaching ANT 301: "The Ethnographer's Craft." Over the summer, Christopher will be conducting follow-up fieldwork and present findings at the EASA (European Association for Social Anthropology) Biennial Conference. For 2024-25, he has been awarded the Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship from the University Center for Human Values.





# Graduate Honors

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*Anthropology graduate students are very successful in external grant competitions and in publishing their early work; they are recognized through awards both at Princeton and in the broader professional field.*



# Graduate Honors



## Ipsita Dey \*24

has received an assistant professorship at the University of Washington. Her dissertation explores how Indo-Fijians operationalize narratives of plantation labor and contemporary farmwork to produce a non-settler local identity that reconfigures relations between diaspora, Indigeneity, and nationalism.

## Hazal Hürman

received the Harold W. Dodds Honorific Fellowship from Princeton's Graduate School. Hazal's dissertation foregrounds children's experiences to understand ethno-racial sensibilities and political anxieties as they are reconfigured under Turkey's increasingly authoritarian regime.

## JahAsia Jacobs

received a Wenner-Gren Foundation Research Grant for her fieldwork in Georgia, U.S. Her dissertation lies at the nexus of plantation worlds and peasant studies in anthropology, exploring the property and labor relations of Black farmers working on family land and seeking U.S. Department of Agriculture farm loans to develop their operations.

## Kamal Kariem \*24

has received a Postdoctoral Fellowship with William College's Department of Anthropology and Sociology. His dissertation, "Believing Conservation: Altering Land Relations, Hunting, and Indigeneity on the Bikin River," investigates a conflict around nature conservation and the Bikin National Park in Krasnyi Yar, a small taiga village in Primorskii krai within the Russian Federation.

## Navjit Kaur

received a Dissertation Writing Grant with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. Her dissertation project foregrounds the gendered Muslim subject to ask: how do Muslim women inhabit, contest and navigate these uncertain futures of financial empowerment and national belonging where existential and economic futures intertwine?



## Moad Musbahi

received a Graduate Fellowship with the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in the Humanities. Musbahi works on "continuity" and how it can be claimed and constituted across the region of North and Sub-Saharan Africa. Focusing on the performative moment of articulation and its acoustic dimension, he is interested in investigating the different methodologies employed to demand economic privilege and political participation contrary to the nation-state.

## Yanping Ni

has been awarded the Mr. and Mrs. Yan Huo \*94\*95 Graduate Fellowship from the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. This fellowship is awarded to qualified Princeton Ph.D. students who are conducting fieldwork outside the United States, especially in or related to China.

## Nikhil Pandhi

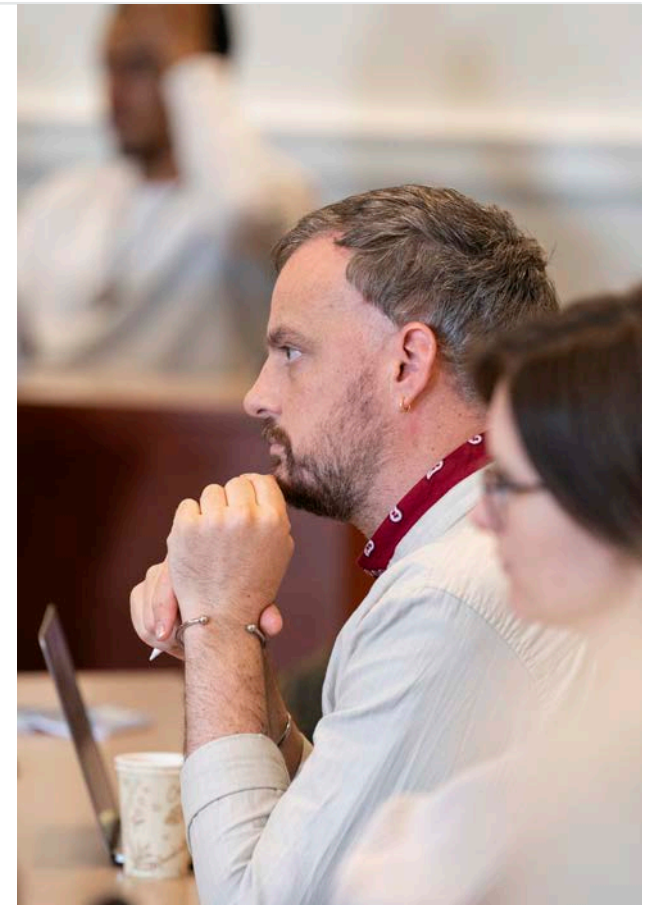
has received a three-year Postdoctoral Fellowship with the Dartmouth Society of Fellows. Pandhi is currently finishing his doctoral dissertation, "Dying of Casteism," which puts ethnography, Hindi Dalit literature, and anticolonial caste studies in dialogue with Black and race studies to investigate the affective, embodied and aesthetic lives of caste violence in India.

## Michelle Rodriguez

received a Wenner-Gren Foundation Research Grant for her fieldwork in Oakland, California. Rodriguez's study will ethnographically explore the de-medicalized practices of a collective of Black midwives known as The Art of Mothering.

## Jagat Sohail \*23

received a four-year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Max Planck Institute in Germany. His dissertation is based on three years of ethnographic field research he conducted between 2017 and 2022 with groups of asylum seekers that arrived in Berlin in 2015. It traces the complex and contradictory afterlives of German Willkommenskultur (Welcome Culture), examining the way it became a certain turning point for German society, Berlin and Sohail's interlocutors.





### Alexandra Sastrawati

received a Dissertation Writing Grant with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. Her doctoral research spotlights global mental health, comparative urban marginality and, on a granular level, queer artists' migrants' and laypeople's recognizable and ephemeral forms of artmaking and care. In addition to ethnography and quantitative social science methods, she works with archives and visual materials spanning the Netherlands, Britain, Japan and Singapore.

### Alisa Sopova

received a Wenner-Gren Foundation Research Grant for her fieldwork in Kyiv, Ukraine. During this year-long fieldwork based in the Ukrainian capital, she will study everyday life under the constraints of war and the role that material objects and environments play in it.

### Aaron Su

received the Dean's Completion Fellowship, which will be followed by an appointment as a postgraduate research associate with the Graduate School. Through 21 months of ethnographic fieldwork in Taiwan, Su's dissertation examines how Amis Indigenous communities insist that systemic issues like economic inequalities, lack of health resources, and severed land relations well exceed the scope of inclusive design practices.

### Junbin Tan

received the Dean's Completion Fellowship, which will be followed by an appointment as a postgraduate research associate with the Graduate School. Through ethnographic research on Kinmen from 2020 to 2023, Tan examines the ways by which calendric temple festivals, domestic rituals, and the documentation of these traditions are practices through which one generation of Kinmenese—born in the 1960s and 1970s—articulate their visions for Kinmen and the Taiwan Strait.



### Nikita Taniparti

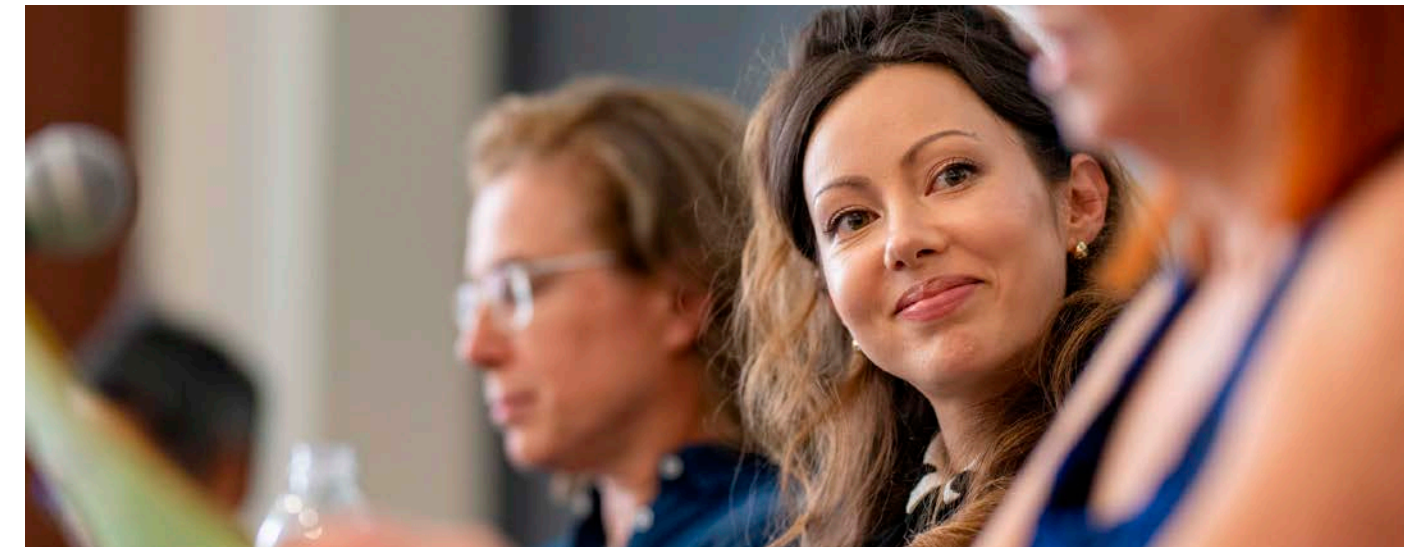
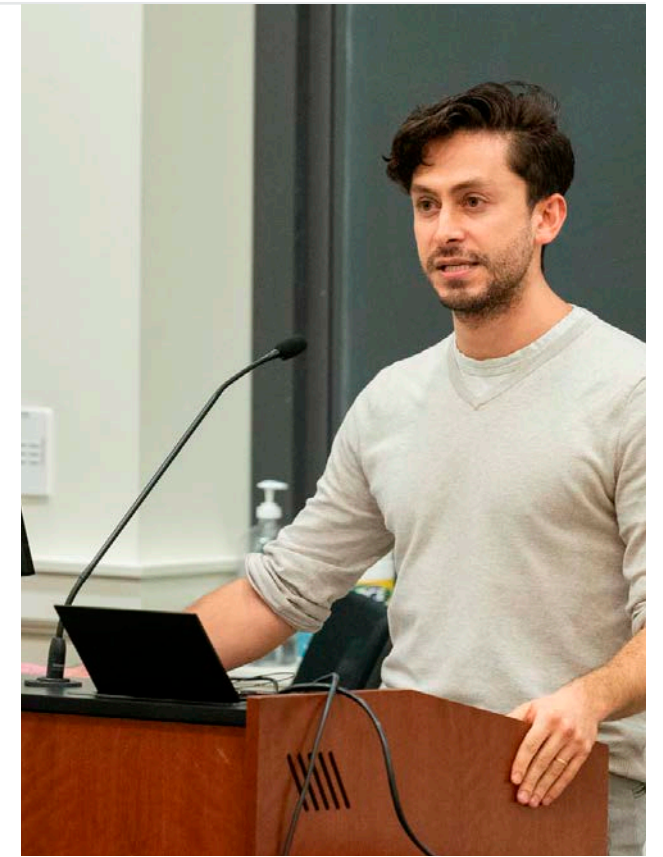
a second-year anthropology graduate student, has been appointed to the newly formed Graduate Student Committee on the Graduate School for academic year 2024-25. The Princeton faculty voted April 1 to accept the proposal of the Graduate School to add graduate students to each of its four governing subcommittees. The four subcommittees of the Faculty Committee on the Graduate School are responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on academic policies, curriculum, fellowships and student life and discipline. Previously, all subcommittee members were Princeton faculty.

### Ayluonne Tereszkievicz

received a Wenner-Gren Foundation Research Grant for her fieldwork in North Carolina. Her research concerns the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its remediations of historically Black towns along North Carolina's sea coast. Through investigating localized understandings — and iterations — of harm and repair, Ayluonne will interrogate conceptual, material, and embodied relationships between the EPA's remediation procedures (i.e., Superfund and Brownfield cleanups) and local practices for historical restoration and heritage-keeping.

### Christopher Zraunig

was awarded the Laurence S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship with the University Center for Human Values. This award recognizes post-graduate students enrolled at Princeton University with distinguished academic records and dissertation research centrally involved in the critical study of human values. His dissertation explores the effectiveness and productiveness of diversification efforts in geriatric and gerontic spaces in Berlin, Germany.



# Graduate Activities

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*Over the past year, our graduate students have been active in community-building events. They also participated in professionalization workshops to enhance their skills and prepare them for diverse career opportunities.*



# Ridgeview Conservancy Tour



*The Conservancy aims to conserve and steward vulnerable tracts of forests and wetlands on the environmentally sensitive Princeton Ridge.*

**O**n October 6th, Anthropology graduate students took a tour with Patricia Shanley, co-director of the Ridgeview Conservancy, and a group of Princeton High School volunteers through the Princeton Ridgeview Woods. The Conservancy aims to conserve and steward vulnerable tracts of forests and wetlands on the environmentally sensitive Princeton Ridge. On our hike, we learned about the ecology and records of these lands tied to Indigenous, African American, postcolonial, and literary histories.



*“We restore connections to nature by educating youth and the public to respect, protect, and steward wild resources. We design trails and programs to inspire observation, action, and fun in forests, fields and streams.”*

## Ridgeview Conservancy's mission statement:

“We restore connections to nature by educating youth and the public to respect, protect, and steward wild resources. We design trails and programs to inspire observation, action, and fun in forests, fields and streams.

We conserve vulnerable forests and wetlands and cultural-historical sites. Forests and wetlands hold crucial value to prevent flooding, mitigate impacts of climate change and serve as critical habitat for wildlife. Local landscapes are also home to forgotten indigenous, agricultural, African American and literary history which merit preservation and collective remembrance.

We promote equitable access to nature for underserved communities. Forests hold profound benefits for human health and wellbeing. Sharing these resources equitably requires safeguarding linkage properties to create walkways and bikeways from the downtown to forested areas. Preferential programming for underserved groups supports all citizens to experience and enjoy the wonders of nature.”



# GradFUTURES



*GradFUTURES empowers graduate scholars to succeed in graduate school and create futures that are fully their own.*

The Department of Anthropology welcomed James Van Wyck on March 1st for a lively discussion with our graduate students and administrators on the Graduate School's professionalization programs available through GradFUTURES. As the assistant dean for professional development for the humanities and social sciences, Van Wyck oversees initiatives aimed at enriching the graduate experience, including the strategic management of graduate student professional development programs, the oversight of strategic communications, and the leadership of the GradFUTURES Fellows program.

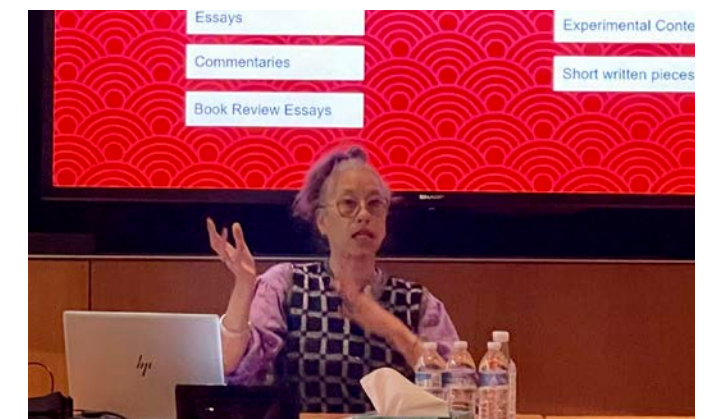
GradFUTURES empowers graduate scholars to succeed in graduate school and create futures that are fully their own. The programs are strategically designed to complement the Graduate School's holistic support of graduate students, helping them explore, thrive and find a sense of belonging while at Princeton.



# Skills Workshops



Anthropology's Director of Graduate Studies Elizabeth Davis organized a series of four skills workshops aimed at providing professionalization opportunities for Anthropology's graduate students. This series featured departmental faculty as well as external anthropologists who lead sessions surrounding syllabus design, writing grant proposals, communicating public and academic research, and journal publishing.



## Anthropology goes to *Appropriate* play in NYC



**A**nthropology graduate students, faculty and staff traveled to New York City on February 2nd to see the extraordinary play *Appropriate* at the Hayes Theater. Written by the award-winning playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins '06, *Appropriate* is a darkly comic drama addressing the dysfunctional Lafayette family as they return to a decaying plantation mansion in Arkansas to battle over their recently deceased father's inheritance. The play is directed by Lila Neugebauer and stars Sarah Paulson and Elle Fanning.



# New Graduate Students

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*We are delighted to welcome seven outstanding new graduate students to our vibrant intellectual community. In recent years, our yield rates have been consistently high, and the fact that our graduate program attracts exceptional young scholars from around the world and from diverse backgrounds is further evidence of its strength and reputation.*





# New Graduate Students Fall 2024



## Hunter Akridge

Akridge (Emory B.A.) is interested in the reproduction and remaking of the cultural politics of care.

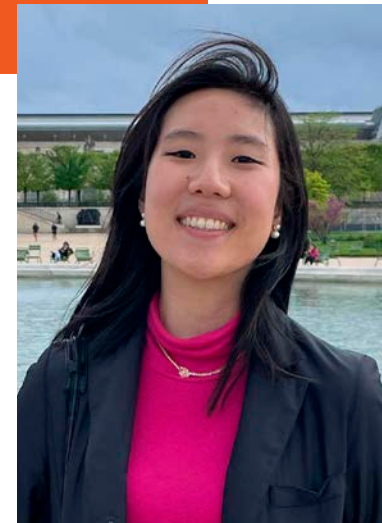
He has worked on several movement-aligned research projects, especially while at the Tech Solidarity Lab at Carnegie Mellon University. His work has partnered with several unions — including in the hospitality, childcare and transit sectors. Through these projects he has explored how digital technologies and AI-driven automation are remaking the future of work. In his dissertation work he will research the ways more liberatory labor futures are imagined, built and organized.



## Anakwa Dwamena

Dwamena (Georgetown B.A.) will undertake a comparative study of herbalists in northern Ghana and northeast Brazil. Specifically, this research will examine how identities, kinship networks and relationships to the natural world — a medium to the spiritual one — are transforming as both the built and natural environments change faster than ever before.

He is interested in conceptions and rituals of healing and what draws people together to collectively restore themselves, their communities or wider societies to health. How do they draw from the past? And by what means are new ideas generated, tested and incorporated into the order of things? Dwamena's research is at the intersection of belief, healing, ritual making, herbal practice, human-environment relationships, Indigenous archiving and visual anthropology.



## Anne Lheem

Lheem (University of Cambridge MPhil; Harvard College A.B.) is interested in questions of selfhood-making, social belonging, bio-/body politics and nation building through the usage of body modification practices, particularly within the South Korean and broader East Asian context.

Lheem plans to study how the development of modern day medical-aesthetic technologies such as plastic surgery are altering South Korean women's understandings of their own personhoods, as well as how conceptualizations of the "ideal" or "deserving" South Korean woman, person and citizen is being shaped — and continually re-shaped/re-imagined — by these technologies. Lheem is interested in how these aesthetic discourses of the body and self are adopted at the level of the state for the aims of nation building and national identity (re)formation, as well as in questions around race, transnationalism, gender and health that arise in the study of these issues.



## Jose Angel Santana Guerra

Santana Guerra (University of California, Davis A.B.; Butte College A.A.) is interested in examining gentrification's semiotics of life- and death-making in Sacramento, California.

They think through ways that urban design is constituted by a material and temporal politics where segregationist histories are present while working-class Black and Latinx existence is being eliminated. They ask, how does segregation as a wavering presence haunt the bricks and literatures that make the city? How do white pasts infringe on Black and Latinx future-making? Additionally, Santana Guerra considers how race-making exceeds the human subject by examining how processes of racialization affect ecologies, objects, places and temporalities. Their work is invested in attempting to know the city's future otherwise. As such, they will work alongside poets, activists, architects and city planners. Santana Guerra situates their work at the intersections of science and technology studies, ethnic studies, urban studies and critical theory.



## Jamie Methven

Methven (NYU M.A.; Cornell B.A.) will continue to study the economic, “rational” permutations of selfhood, intimacy, affect and care that have arisen alongside the proliferation of personal mobile technologies, algorithmically governed digital platforms, and ubiquitous sociobehavioral data collection and analysis.

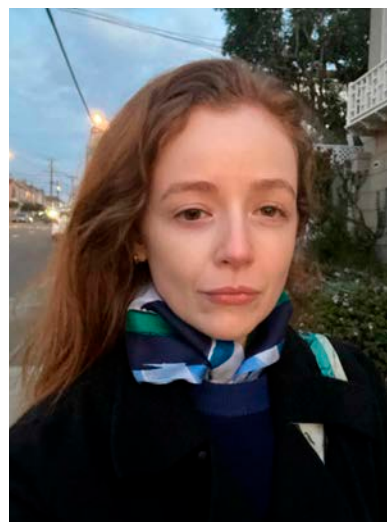
Methven is particularly interested in tracing the long afterlife of the rational actor and producing a genealogy of the ensuing belief that the world of sexuality takes the form of a natural market that can be manipulated, played with and analyzed with financial tools and technologies. Questions about the intimate life of prediction, debt, risk, investment and choice are central to Methven’s research, as are questions about the role the new behavioral sciences play in constituting everyday life.



## Bailey Miller

Miller (Columbia M.A.; SOAS MSc; Vassar B.A.) is eager to continue her research about labor, ecology and the built environment in Middle Eastern cities.

She plans to trace the social life of concrete in Beirut, with special attention to Syrian workers on construction sites. Miller’s work analyzes how concrete’s intersection with displaced workers relates to broader patterns of dispossession and the distribution of urban precarity.



## Orla O’Sullivan

O’Sullivan (University of Cambridge MPhil; Reed College B.A.) will study the role and risks of digital technology in Latin American migration.

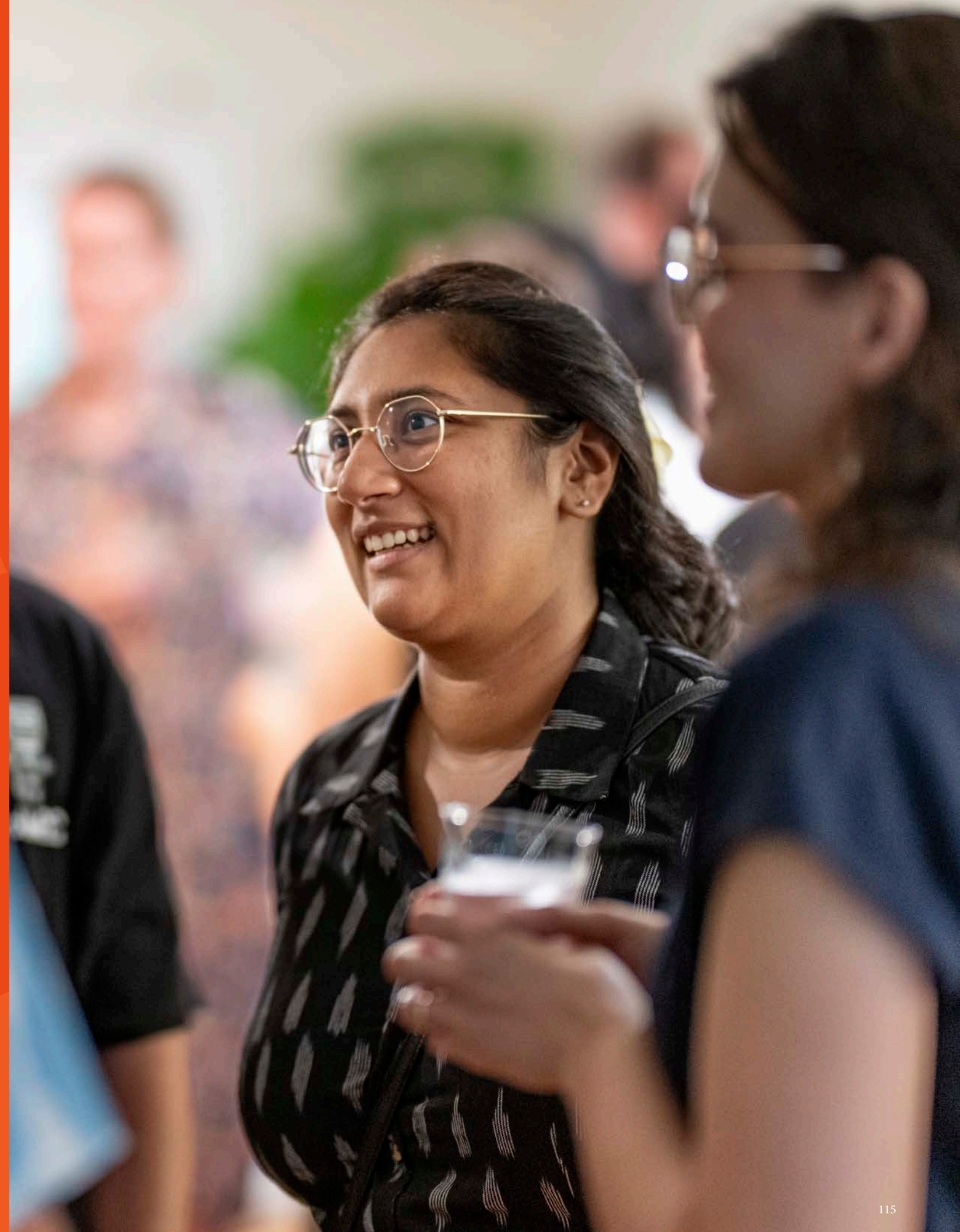
O’Sullivan is interested in the networks and narratives that emerge from extreme poverty, structural violence and technological imperialism. She is also interested in investigating the political economy shaping regional digital development, from the mining of minerals to the mining of data, and its impact on human mobility. Fundamentally, O’Sullivan is captivated by people’s stories and by the many cultures and geographies of the internet.



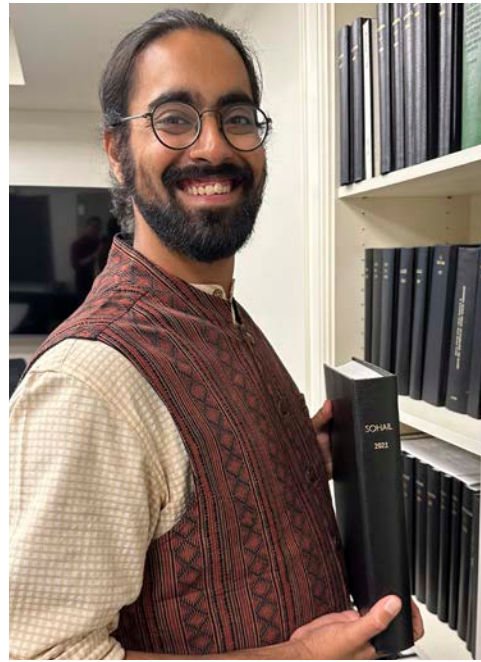
# Ph.D. Dissertations

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*Warm congratulations to Jagal  
Sohail, Ipsita Dey, and Kamel  
Kariem on the successful  
completion of their dissertations!*



# Ph.D. Dissertations



## Jagat Sohail

### Afterlives of Welcome: Encounter, Contact, and Refugee Incorporation in Berlin

September 27, 2023

Committee: John Borneman, Serguei Oushakine (Dissertation Advisers)  
Elizabeth Davis, Farhan Samanani (King's College London) (Examiners)

In the fall of 2015, Germany captured the global imagination with its unexpected welcome of asylum seekers in the aftermath of the Syrian refugee crisis. Yet this atmosphere soon evaporated, leaving in its place a divided German body politic that outlined new ethnic and religious tensions between newcomers and locals in almost every aspect of public life. This dissertation is based on three years of ethnographic field research Sohail conducted between 2017 and 2022 with groups of asylum seekers that arrived in Berlin in 2015. It traces the complex and contradictory afterlives of German Willkommenskultur (Welcome Culture), examining the way it became a certain turning point for German society, Berlin, and Sohail's interlocutors.



## Ipsita Dey

### Home on the Fijian Farmscape: Agricultural Attachments to Land and Place

May 6, 2024

Committee: Agustín Fuentes, Jerry Zee (Dissertation Advisers)  
Jonathan Gold (REL), Mythri Jegathesan (Santa Clara University) (Examiners)

This dissertation explores how Indo-Fijians operationalize narratives of plantation labor and contemporary farmwork to produce a non-settler local identity that reconfigures relations between diaspora, Indigeneity, and nationalism. Through multiple government coups and violent anti-Indian rhetoric, Indigenous politics in Fiji has repeatedly attempted to render Indo-Fijians, whose ancestors arrived en masse to Fiji as indentured laborers to work on sugarcane plantations, alien to lands they consider home. Drawing from ethnographic research among farmers in the Sigatoka Valley, Dey demonstrates how Indo-Fijians imagine farm practices as simultaneous projects in nation building, heritage/traditional knowledge preservation, and environmental protection.



## Kamal Kariem

### Believing Conservation: Altering Land Relations, Hunting, and Indigeneity on the Bikin River

June 20, 2024

Committee: Julia Elyachar, Serguei Oushakine (Dissertation Advisers)  
Agustín Fuentes, Bruce Grant (New York University) (Examiners)

This dissertation investigates a conflict around nature conservation and the Bikin National Park in Krasnyi Yar, a small taiga village in Primorskiy krai within the Russian Federation. Founded in 2015, the Bikin National Park officially protects both nature and traditional Indigenous ways of life, especially Udege ways of life as the largest Indigenous population in the village and in the region. While this conflict is often framed as between those who help nature conservation efforts and those who are antagonistic to them, it has much deeper implications because there are Udege on both sides of it. Within this conflict, the Udege who are for the Bikin National Park are understood as being for conservation, while those Udege who are against the Bikin National Park are understood as being against conservation.

# Graduate Alumni Placement

*Over 150 doctoral dissertations have been completed since the inception of our highly impactful graduate program. Our graduate alumni have pursued successful careers in teaching, research, or nonacademic careers in the United States and worldwide.*



# Graduate Alumni Placement

## 2019-24



### Ipsita Dey \*24

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Washington

### Kamal Kariem \*24

- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Williams University

### Thalia Gigerenzer \*23

- Lecturer on Anthropology, Princeton University

### Sarah-Jane Roulen \*23

- Policy Advisor, College voor de Rechten van de Mens, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Ministry of International Law, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Assistant Professor, Haverford University

### Sofia Pinedo-Padoch \*23

- Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute, Germany
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Max Planck Institute, Germany

### Jesse Rumsey-Merlan \*23

- Ministry, Australian Government, Canberra

### Elizabeth Saldaña \*23

- Project Manager, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, Providence, RI

### Fatima Siwaju \*23

- Assistant Professor of African American and African Studies at the University of Virginia
- Postdoctoral Diversity Fellowship, School of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences, MIT (declined)

### Jagat Sohail \*23

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Max Planck Institute, Germany

### Tyler Adkins \*22

- Lecturer in Anthropology, Mellon Teaching Fellow, Harriman Institute, Columbia University
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, The Harriman Institute, Columbia University

### Hannah Bradley \*22

- Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Virginia, Artic Studies
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton University

### Elizabeth Durham \*22

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Fellow, Society of Fellows, University of Michigan
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan Society of Fellows

### Brandon Hunter-Pazzara \*22

- Technical Specialist, Social and Behavioral Science, Democracy International
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Uppsala University

### Karolina Koziol \*22

- Independent Scholar

### Lindsay Ofrias \*22

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, McGill University

### Alexandra Middleton \*21

- Assistant Professor, University of Copenhagen
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship, European Union
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Lund University, Sweden

### Shinjung Nam \*21

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea

### Kessie Alexandre \*20

- Assistant Professor, University of Washington
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University

### Quincy Amoah \*20

- Assistant Professor, Franklin and Marshall College
- Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows, Rutgers University
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard University Society of Fellows

### Grace Carey \*20

- Program Officer, Michigan Municipal League Foundation
- Qualitative Research Fellowship, American Studies, Princeton University

### Vinicius de Aguiar Furuie \*20

- Assistant Professor, University of Toronto
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Environmental Institute, Harvard University

### Emma Patten \*20

- Social Studies Instructor, Oakwood School
- Instructor, Truckee Meadows Community College

### Shreya Subramani \*20

- Assistant Professor of Law & Society, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

### Nicole Berger \*19

- Global Lecturer, New York University, Paris

### Benjamin Fogarty Valenzuela \*19

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Leiden University
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago

### Kelly McKowen \*19

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University
- Lecturer, International Summer School, University of Oslo

### Heath Pearson \*19

- Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology and Justice & Peace Studies, Georgetown University
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Michigan University Society of Fellows

### Igor Rubinov \*19

- Project Lead, Public Equity Group
- Co-founder, Dovetail Labs



# Academic Events

*We are committed to fostering a rich and dynamic intellectual life in the department, helping our faculty and students engage in cutting-edge scholarship, expand their networks, and enhance their creative drive.*



# Lecture Series Fall 2023

## Lectures Committee:

Assistant Professors Beth Semel & Ikaika Ramones



Lecture Series Fall 2023  
219 Aaron Burr Hall

SEP 14 | 4:30 PM

### Nuclear Ghost | Atomic Livelihoods in Fukushima's Gray Zone

**Ryo Morimoto** | Princeton University

Book Celebration and Discussion with **Adriana Petryna** (UPenn), **Anne McClintock** (Princeton), and **Tae Cimarosti** (Princeton)

SEP 21 | 4:30 PM

### Proprioceptive Sociality

**Danilyn Rutherford**

President of the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research

Discussant: **Laurence Ralph** (Princeton)

OCT 12 | 4:30 PM

### Hawaiian Decolonization and the Enduring Question of Feminism

**J. Kēhaulani Kauanui** | Wesleyan University

Organized with the Efron Center for the Study of America

NOV 2 | 4:30 PM

### Our AI Futures | Critical Humanistic Perspectives

**Alondra Nelson** | Harold F. Linder Professor, Institute for Advanced Study

**Alex Hanna** | Director of Research at the Distributed AI Research Institute (DAIR)

In conversation with **Beth Semel** (Princeton)

Organized with the University Center for Human Values and the Humanities Council

NOV 28 | 4:30 PM

### Artifactual: Forensic and Documentary Knowing

**Elizabeth Davis** | Princeton University

Book Celebration and Discussion with **Zoë Crossland** (Columbia), **Zeynep Gürsel** (Rutgers), and **Karen Emmerich** (Princeton)



Visit our website. All lectures are free and open to the public.



*The department maintains a vibrant space for critical debate and intellectual cross-pollination through its Fall and Spring Lecture Series. The series showcases the work of renowned anthropologists in dialogue with Princeton professors. It is also a venue for welcoming alumni back to campus and learning from their scholarship, and for celebrating new books by our faculty.*





# Lecture Series Spring 2024



Lecture Series Spring 2024  
219 Aaron Burr Hall

FEBRUARY 22 | 4:30 PM

## Catastrophe & More-than-Human Worlds

**Yael Navaro \*98** | University of Cambridge

Discussant: **Elizabeth A. Davis** (Princeton)

Co-sponsored with the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies

MARCH 21 | 4:30 PM

## Postcoloniality and Political Futurity

**Natacha Nsabimana** | The University of Chicago

**Gary Wilder** | City University of New York

Discussant: **Ikaika Ramones** (Princeton)

APRIL 4 | 4:30 PM

Clifford Geertz Commemorative Lecture

## When Worlds Meet A Conversation in Contact Zones

**Marisol de la Cadena** | University of California, Davis

Discussant: **Munira Khayyat** (Princeton)

APRIL 18 | 4:30 PM

## Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women Rethinking Human Rights and Tribal Sovereignty

**Shannon Speed (Chickasaw)** | University of California, Los Angeles

Organized with the Efron Center for the Study of America



Open to the public, visit our website.



# The 2024 Clifford Geertz Commemorative Lecture

*Each spring, the department welcomes to campus a transformational scholar working at the intersection of the humanities and social sciences. This year, we were delighted to host Marisol de la Cadena, who presented “When Worlds Meet: A Conversation in Contact Zones.”*

De la Cadena is professor of anthropology at the University of California-Davis, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a winner of the Senior Book Prize from the Association for Feminist Anthropology.



# The 2024 Clifford Geertz Commemorative Lecture

Following Clifford Geertz's passing in 2006, the department has continued to honor Geertz's influential intellectual legacy.



This year, the department was honored to invite Marisol de la Cadena to deliver the 2024 Clifford Geertz Commemorative Lecture. De la Cadena is professor of anthropology at the University of California-Davis, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a winner of the Senior Book Prize from the Association for Feminist Anthropology. Grounded in her pathbreaking work at the contact zone between Science and Technology Studies (STS) and non-STS, de la Cadena's lecture artfully remixed together canonical works in STS by Bruno Latour, drawing primarily from his influential Gaia Lectures, and Davi Kpenawa's *The Falling Sky: Words of a Yanomami Shaman*. Munira Khayyat, Global South Visiting Scholar and associate professor at New York University Abu Dhabi, served as a discussant, opening up an engaging conversation with the audience moderated by Ikaika Ramones.

Previous commemorative lecturers have included Phillip Descola, Marilyn Strathern, Michael D. Jackson, Tania Murray Li, James Scott, Lila Abu-Lugod, and Anna L. Tsing.



Anthropology  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**CLIFFORD  
GEERTZ**  
2024 COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE

**WHEN WORLDS MEET**  
A Conversation in Contact Zones

Keynote:  
**Marisol de la Cadena**  
University of California, Davis

Discussant:  
**Munira Khayyat**  
NYU Abu Dhabi | Princeton University

Thursday, April 4 | 4:30-6:00 pm  
219 Aaron Burr Hall

For more information contact Patty Lieb at [plieb@princeton.edu](mailto:plieb@princeton.edu)

# Indigenizing Academia

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*In keeping with our department's history, we are proud to be a vibrant hub on campus for students and faculty working on a wide range of pressing Indigenous issues, methodologies and scholarship. A significant number of anthropologists are actively involved in the campus-wide Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative, and the department is committed to cultivating innovative collaborations with Indigenous scholars and leaders.*

Chairman Verlon Jose  
Tohono O'odham Nation



# Indigenizing Academia

## Imperial Borders and Sovereign Rights



*These events built on previous programs, such as Anthropology's Indigenizing Academia speaker series, to accelerate momentum toward tangible changes in infrastructure and research for Indigenous Peoples at Princeton.*

**N**ative American Heritage Month is celebrated annually in the United States during the month of November. To bring attention to many of the critical issues facing Native communities across the country, the Native Graduate Students of Princeton (NGSP) partnered with many groups on campus, including Anthropology.

Speakers and events included climate activist and lawyer Tara Houska (Couchiching First Nation), a group of citizens from the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma who spoke about land rights and Princeton's role in displacement, and Chairman Verlon Jose of the Tohono O'odham Nation, who discussed the politics and sovereignty of the U.S.-Mexico border. Their goals were to expand opportunities for Princeton students and faculty to learn about and then engage with ongoing concerns of Indigenous communities, as well as for activists and lawmakers to make connections.

These events built on previous programs, such as Anthropology's Indigenizing Academia speaker series, to accelerate momentum toward tangible changes in infrastructure and research for Indigenous Peoples at Princeton.

PRINCETON NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH EVENTS

**Delaware Nation**  
November 8th - 4:30pm  
Betts Auditorium  
Lenape land reclamation, political perspective, and the role of Princeton

Featuring, from  
**Delaware Nation of Anadarko, OK:**

<p><b>Lauryn French</b> Caddo Nation Childcare Director, Member of LenniLenapexkweyok Collective</p> <p><b>Derek Tippeconnie</b> Behavioral Health Technician, Cultural Anthropology Researcher at Fort Lewis College</p>	<p><b>Nick Logan</b> Lenape Culture and Language Steward</p> <p><b>Trinity Goombi</b> Delaware Nation Citizenship Committee, Co-leader of LenniLenapexkweyok Collective, Lenape Working Group Co-leader of IPD Philly.</p>
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Sponsored by Native Graduate Students of Princeton, Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, Department of Anthropology, Fluid Futures Forum, Access Diversity & Inclusion - Princeton Graduate School, PAIISWG, Effron Center for the Study of America, High Meadows Environmental Institute, Environmental Studies Working Group, Humanities Council

**Anthropology**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Indigenizing Academia

**Imperial Borders and Sovereign Rights**

Monday, November 27 | 4:30 PM  
219 Aaron Burr Hall

**Chairman Verlon Jose**  
(Tohono O'odham Nation)

Discussant:  
**Noah Collins** (Cherokee Nation/White Mountain Apache Tribe) | ANT

The Liechtenstein Institute for Self-Determination invites all to a lunch on Tuesday, 11/28 at 12:00 PM in 019 Bendheim Hall.

Co-sponsored by the Native Graduate Students of Princeton, Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, Access Diversity and Inclusion - Princeton Graduate School, PAIISWG, Effron Center for the Study of America, High Meadows Environmental Institute, funded by Fluid Futures, a Humanities Council Magic Project



# Unscripted Series

*We value collaborative thinking and learning across generations, disciplines, and creative practices. Unscripted is a late-breaking series of conversations with scholars from across campus or visiting Princeton, organized around a work in progress.*



# The Conversation

*Listening and Eavesdropping across Generations*



*“Listening is a demanding task. The ear, musicians say, is like a muscle. It can be trained. Listening after ear training is a practice of heightened sensorial and intellectual acuity.”*

— Fadi Bardawil

Visiting professor Fadi Bardawil (Duke University) was in conversation with Moad Musbahi, G2, in an event titled ‘The Conversation’, which addressed how forms of listening, such as eavesdropping, are encountered during ethnography, and in what ways sonic practices can be best represented through anthropological inquiry. The discussion moved from Edward Said’s “subversive ear” to the boundaries between hearing and listening, to questioning methods that take on sound as a material substance or as a metaphorical framework. In embracing the necessarily leaky sensibility of acoustic investigation, and accepting sound’s spillages, the event touched on wide ranging and relevant topics that generated a rich discussion from across members of the department.



**Anthropology**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**UNSCRIPTED**

**The Conversation**  
Listening and Eavesdropping across Generations

**Fadi A. Bardawil**  
VISITING PROFESSOR | PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Discussant: Moad Musbahi | Princeton University

Monday, October 30, 2023 | 12:30 PM  
216 Aaron Burr Hall  
Lunch available at 12:15

Unscripted is a series of informal conversations with anthropologists visiting Princeton. Guests will pre-circulate a text and engage in open-ended dialogue over lunch with a Princeton anthropologist, along with other interested faculty, postdocs and graduate students.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

# Shame On You!

The Princeton premiere of the new award-winning film by Jeffrey Himpele and Frederik Wherry




Since being launched into the film festival world in September, *Shame On You!* has begun to garner international awards.

Since being launched into the film festival world in September, *Shame On You!* has begun to garner international awards. The film won “Exceptional Merit” at the Documentaries Without Borders International Film Festival, placed as a “Finalist” in the Washington DC International Film Festival, and is an Official Selection at the Spark Animation International Film Festival.

*Shame On You!* was produced and directed by VizE Lab Director Jeffrey Himpele, who edited the award-winning animated short *The Torture Letters* for Laurence Ralph in 2020. After more than a year of directing the work of an investigative journalist, three voice actors, and an animator, Himpele completed editing *Shame On You!* in the VizE Lab in August 2023.

*Shame On You!* is a short, animated documentary that plunges into data visualized by Himpele and colleagues at the Debt Collection Lab, directed by Frederik Wherry (SOC), who is the film’s executive director. In recreating several personal stories from interviews with people trapped in debt collection lawsuits, the film shows that it is because of hidden shame about debt that their stories are untold and 90% of the cases in the data are either unrepresented in courts or unopposed. Enabled by shame as well as fear of the judicial system, predatory debt collection is a billion-dollar industry.





## ~~UNSCRIPTED~~

# Shame on You!

The Princeton premiere of the new award-winning film by


**Jeffrey Himpele**  
PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR, ANTHROPOLOGY

**Frederick Wherry**  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, SOCIOLOGY

Discussants: JahAsia Jacobs (Anthropology) and Marie-Lou Laprise (Sociology)

**AND SPECIAL GUESTS!**

**Wednesday, December 6 | 12:30 PM**  
219 Aaron Burr Hall  
Lunch will be available at 12:15

Watch the trailer here




# Princeton Terra Indígena

An Art Exhibition in Progress



**D**enilson Baniwa, an internationally renowned Indigenous artist from the upper Rio Negro region of the Brazilian Amazon, concluded a powerful ten-day residency at Princeton with an Unscripted event, “Princeton Terra Indígena: An Art Exhibition in Progress,” on September 19, 2023, addressing a packed room in Aaron Burr Hall. Baniwa engaged in a lively conversation about the political and aesthetic dimensions of his work with Jun Nakamura (Princeton University Art Museum), Carlos Fausto (Museu Nacional and Princeton), Miqueias Mugge (PIIRS), and Juliana Dweck (Princeton University Art Museum). João Biehl, chair of Anthropology, helped with translation.



**Anthropology**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**UNSCRIPTED**

**Princeton Terra Indígena**  
An Art Exhibition in Progress

**Denilson Baniwa**  
AMAZONIAN INDIGENOUS ARTIST

In conversation with:  
**Jun Nakamura** | Princeton University Art Museum  
**Carlos Fausto** | Princeton Global Scholar  
**Miqueias Mugge** | Brazil LAB  
**Juliana Dweck** | Princeton University Art Museum  
 Moderated by João Biehl | Department of Anthropology

**Tuesday, September 19, 2023 | 12:30 PM**  
 219 Aaron Burr Hall  
 Lunch available at 12:15

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



# Denilson Baniwa's Visit to Princeton

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*Working in a wide range of media including painting, sculpture and performance, artist Denilson Baniwa grapples with legacies of colonialism in the Americas while highlighting Indigenous survival in the face of it. He often appropriates imagery from historical sources in order to undermine European colonial fantasies and incorporates modern references to assert the presentness of Indigenous experience.*



**PRINCETON**  
**TERRA INDÍGENA**



# Denilson Baniwa's Visit to Princeton



*“Indigenous peoples have the right to response; we want to leave our traces in the archive.”*

— Denilson Baniwa

During his Princeton residency (organized by the Department of Anthropology, PIIRS Brazil LAB, and the Princeton University Art Museum), Baniwa visited Firestone Library's Special Collections to view colonial books, photographs and maps of Brazil and the Amazon; he also looked at Indigenous Amazonian objects, prints by contemporary Indigenous North American artists, and other highlights from the Princeton University Art Museum's collections. The Lewis Center for the Arts provided studio space for Baniwa to work during his stay, where he produced artworks in response to his visit for a spring 2024 exhibition to take place at Art@Bainbridge, co-curated by Jun Nakamura from the Princeton University Art Museum and Carlos Fausto and Miqueias Mugge from PIIRS's Brazil LAB.

Throughout his visit, Baniwa engaged interested audiences from across the University community. He spoke to students at the Lewis Center about his artistic process during an open studio event and met with members of Natives at Princeton to discuss Indigenous connections and dialogue across borders.

Describing the effects of colonialism as an open and infected wound, Baniwa explains his role as an artist as one of revelation — to reveal the harms of colonization through a constant poking and prodding of the wound, digging “under the skin of history” to reveal Indigenous resistance and survival: “Indigenous peoples have the right to response; we want to leave our traces in the archive.”



# Under the Skin of History

*Anthropology and the Brazil LAB collaborate with the Princeton University Art Museum on a groundbreaking art exhibition.*



Installation view of "Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History," 2024. Courtesy of Princeton University Art Museum. Photo: Joseph Hu.

# Denilson Baniwa

## *Under the Skin of History*



*Baniwa sees his art and curatorial work as a form of Indigenous activism, raising up voices that have long been silenced or ignored.*

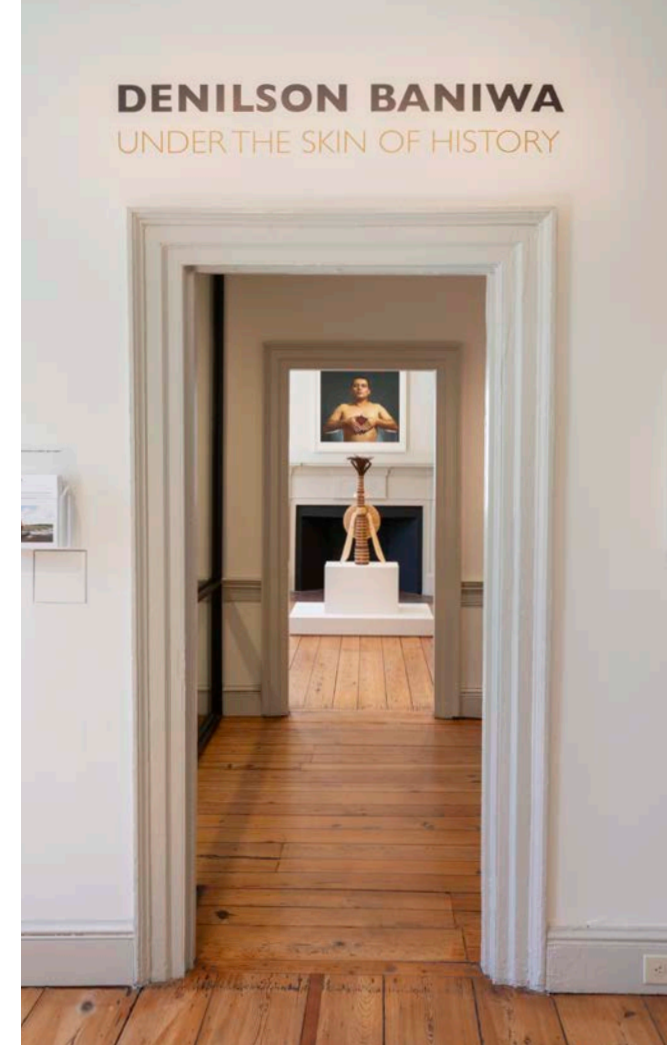
An exhibition of work by the Indigenous Brazilian artist Denilson Baniwa opened at the Princeton University Art Museum's Art@Bainbridge gallery on April 13, 2024. The exhibition features work that engages with themes of Indigenous rights, colonial history and environmental destruction.

“Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History” showcases the breadth of Baniwa’s work, including drawings, photography, sculpture and digital collages that challenge established colonial narratives and foreground Indigenous knowledge and resistance. The exhibition’s title comes from the artist, who has described his process as getting “under the skin of history” to expose the “poorly healed scars” of colonization.

Baniwa — who is from the Baniwa Indigenous people of the Amazon — is one of the most prominent Indigenous Brazilian artists working today. He is co-curator of the 2024 Venice Biennale’s Brazilian Pavilion, renamed the Hähāwpuá Pavilion to use an Indigenous name for Brazil. Baniwa sees his art and curatorial work as a form of Indigenous activism, raising up voices that have long been silenced or ignored.

In his art, Baniwa often recontextualizes and revises historical imagery and archives to highlight Indigenous perspectives. In one series of collages included in the exhibition, he inserts science-fiction aliens and monsters such as Godzilla into images

Installation view of “Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History,” 2024. Courtesy of Princeton University Art Museum. Photo: Joseph Hu.



*Baniwa asserts, “I, as an Indigenous person, demand from the state and the colonizers a right of reply so that there is more than one discourse in this story.”*

pulled from century-old publications on the Amazon, complicating narratives of invasion and environmental threat. “Through provocation and irony,” says co-curator Carlos Fausto, “Denilson proposes a rereading of colonial history, intervening in historical images and documents and imbuing them with new meanings.

The exhibition includes prints from Baniwa’s “Natureza Morta (Dead Nature)” series, which turn satellite images of cleared rainforest areas into crime-scene silhouettes of a shaman and parrot, alluding to the human and animal costs of industrial farming. “Denilson’s work can often seem playful or inviting at first,” co-curator Jun Nakamura notes, “but the more one spends time with it, the more one is made aware of the serious stakes at play, the very real threats — to environment, to culture, to life — that he is confronting in his work.”

Baniwa’s relationship with Princeton University began in 2019, when he was invited to a workshop called “Amazonian Poetics,” and he returned last fall in preparation for this exhibition, when he met with students, studied University collections, and made art in response to the works he viewed. In his “Fera Utopia” series, jungle-themed Playmobil toys restage images sourced from sixteenth-century colonial books and a nineteenth-century Amazonian expedition archive at Princeton University Library, drawing parallels between the exoticizing perspectives of earlier colonizers and children’s toys produced today.





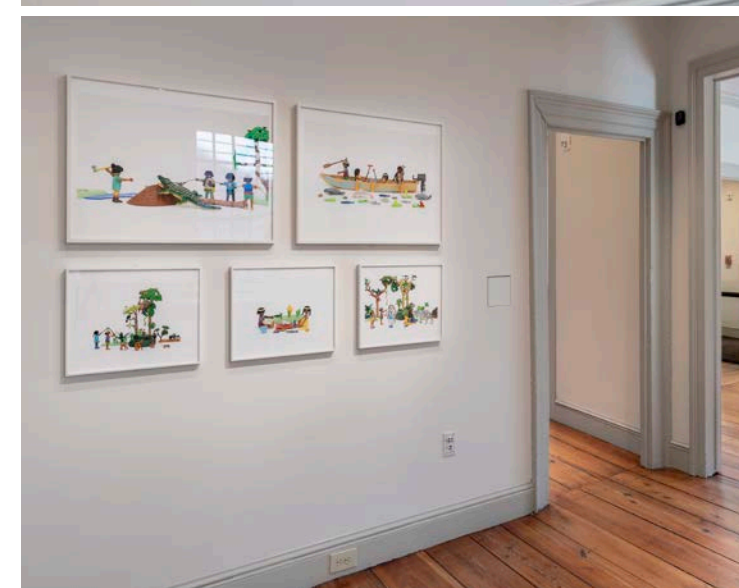
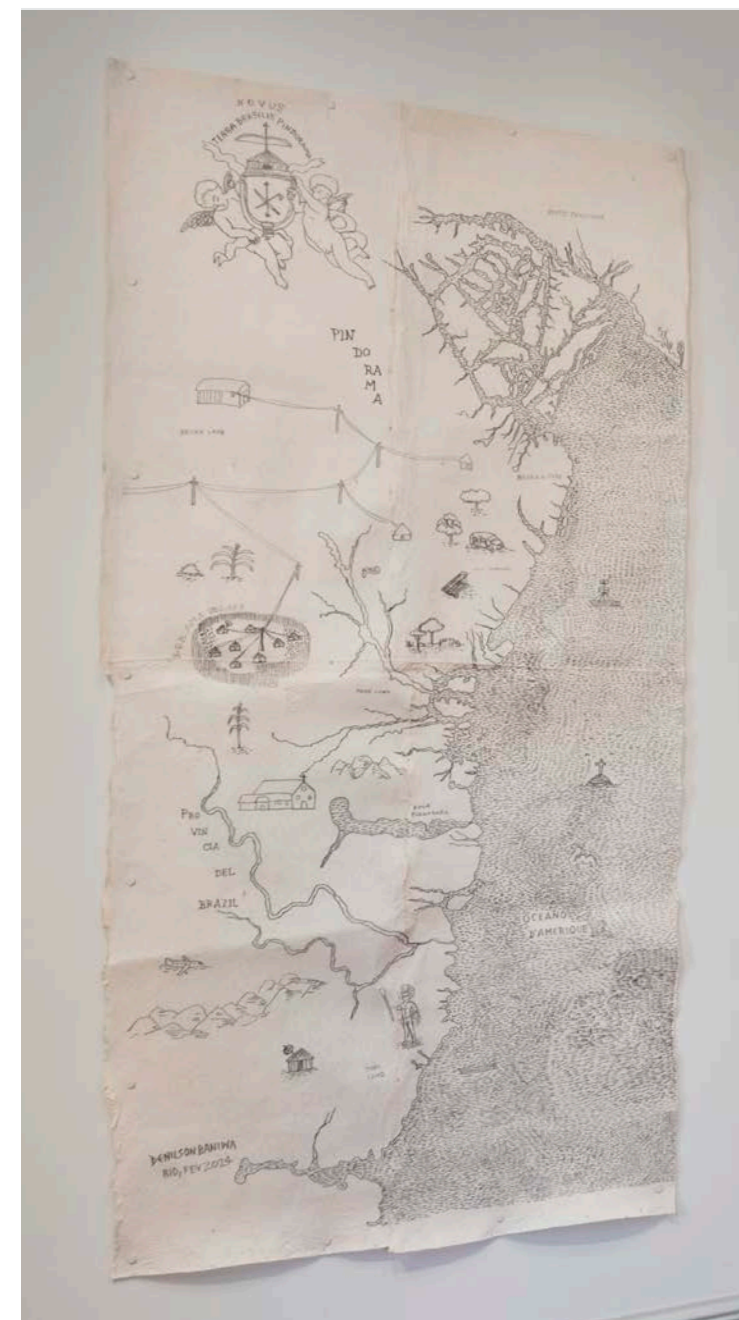
*The exhibition includes prints from Baniwa's "Natureza Morta (Dead Nature)" series, which turn satellite images of cleared rainforest areas into crime-scene silhouettes of a shaman and parrot, alluding to the human and animal costs of industrial farming.*

In two large maps made for the exhibition, aesthetics and imagery inspired by early colonial maps meld with references to contemporary pop culture such as K-dramas. Co-curator Miqueias Mugge explains, "in reframing the Library's collections, Baniwa combats fantasies of conquest, exoticism and erasure embedded in these archives."

During his 2023 residency at Princeton, Baniwa was accompanied by the filmmaker Thiago da Costa Oliveira. Oliveira and Fausto's short documentary, *Right of Reply*, will premiere in the exhibition, offering a glimpse into Baniwa's thinking and process. The title refers to the right — guaranteed under Brazilian law — to defend oneself against public defamation. Baniwa asserts, "I, as an Indigenous person, demand from the state and the colonizers a right of reply so that there is more than one discourse in this story."

"Under the Skin of History" showcases the inquiry and collaboration fostered by a university museum and prompts us to engage Baniwa's important work and to see the University's historical collections with fresh eyes," says James Steward, Nancy A. Nasher-David J. Haemisegger, Class of 1976, Director of the Princeton University Art Museum. "It's important work that finds an important context in the ongoing exploration of some of today's most probing artists we are presenting at Art@Bainbridge."

Installation view of "Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History," 2024. Courtesy of Princeton University Art Museum. Photo: Joseph Hu.



#### Acknowledgments:

**Denilson Baniwa: Under the Skin of History** is co-organized by the Brazil LAB, the Department of Anthropology, and the Princeton University Art Museum; and is co-curated by Jun Nakamura, assistant curator of prints and drawings at the Museum; the Brazil LAB's Carlos Fausto, Princeton Global Scholar; and Miqueias Mugge, associate research scholar. Co-sponsors of the project include the High Meadows Environmental Institute, the University Center for Human Values, the Humanities Council, the Program in Latin American Studies, and the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. Additional supporters include the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, the Department of Art & Archaeology, the Lewis Center for the Arts, and the Efron Center for the Study of America.

#### About Art@Bainbridge

Art@Bainbridge is made possible through the generous support of the Virginia and Bagley Wright, Class of 1946, Program Fund for Modern and Contemporary Art; the Kathleen C. Sherrerd Program Fund for American Art; Joshua R. Slocum, Class of 1998, and Sara Slocum; Rachele Belfer Malkin, Class of 1986, and Anthony E. Malkin; Barbara and Gerald Essig; Gene Locks, Class of 1959, and Sueyun Locks; and Ivy Beth Lewis. Additional support for this exhibition is provided by the Africa World Initiative; the Program in African Studies; the Graduate School—Access, Diversity and Inclusion; the Department of African American Studies; the Princeton African Humanities Colloquium; the Department of Music; and the Program in Linguistics.

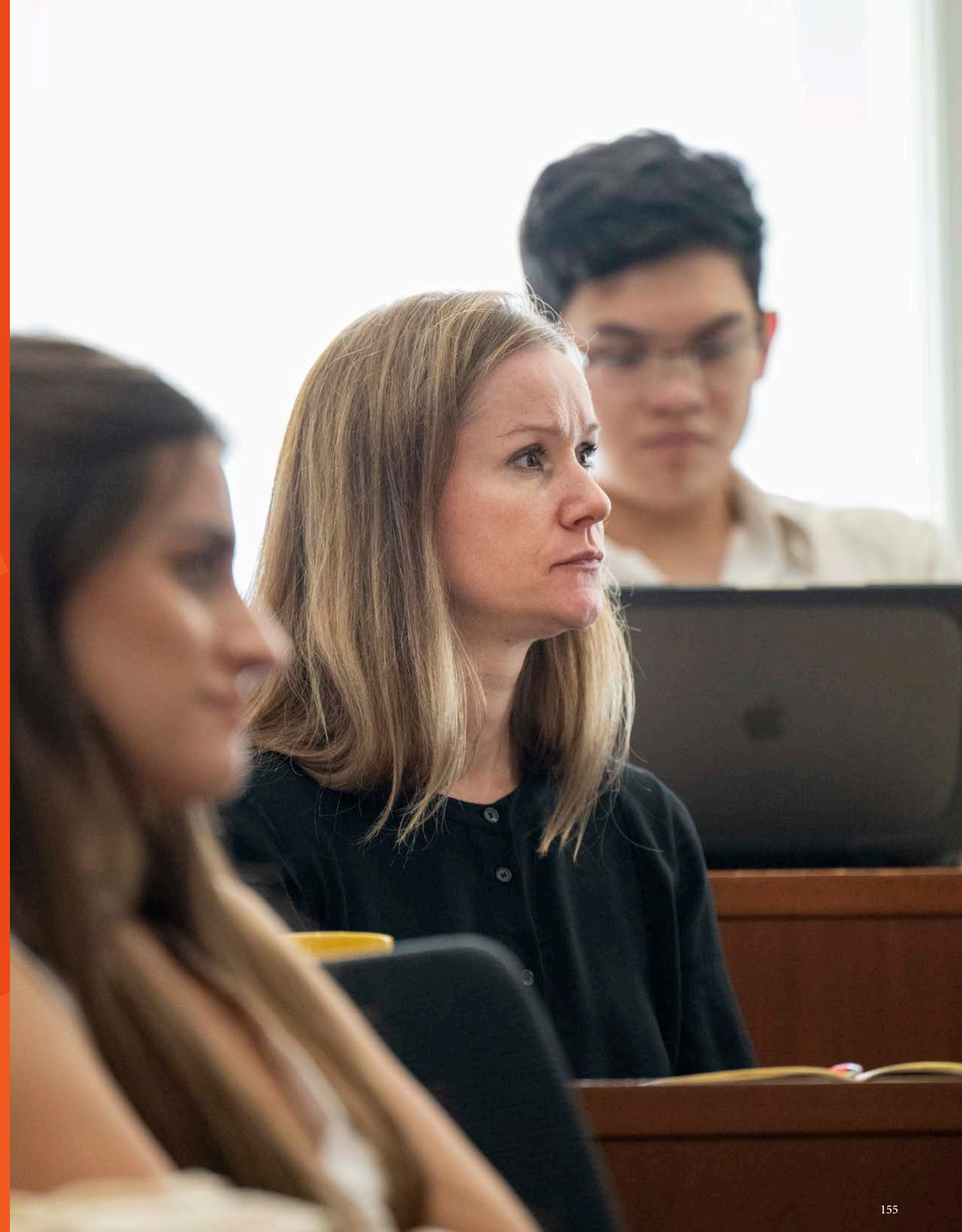
#### About the Princeton University Art Museum

With a collecting history that extends back to 1755, the Princeton University Art Museum is one of the leading university art museums in the country, featuring collections that have grown to include more than 115,000 works of art ranging from ancient to contemporary art and spanning the globe. Committed to advancing Princeton's teaching and research missions, the Art Museum also serves as a gateway to the University for visitors from around the world. The main Museum building is currently closed for the construction of a bold and welcoming new building, slated to open in 2025. Art on Hulfish, a gallery project of the Art Museum located at 11 Hulfish Street, is open daily. Art@Bainbridge, a gallery project at 158 Nassau Street, is open Tuesday through Sunday. Admission to both galleries is free.

# The Multispecies Salon

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*Housed in Anthropology, the Multispecies Salon is a place of interdisciplinary conversation, creativity and imagination.*



# The Multispecies Salon



*Meeting multiple times each semester, the salon gathers students, postdocs and faculty from across the campus, and beyond Princeton.*



**M**eeting multiple times each semester, the salon gathers students, post-docs and faculty from across the campus, and beyond Princeton, for presentations, discussions and symposia on topics of relations, crises and hope between humans and many of the other species that we share the planet with.

In fall 2023 we had Anthropology Ph.D. student Noah Collins co-host the salon, sharing perspectives related to Indigenous knowledge on multispecies relations with a case study from New Zealand. We also enjoyed a presentation and film by Johnny Turnbull on his work with dogs and people in Chernobyl, and hosted Ann Kelly (Princeton IAS and Kings College London) for a conversation on her work on multispecies relations involving mosquitos.

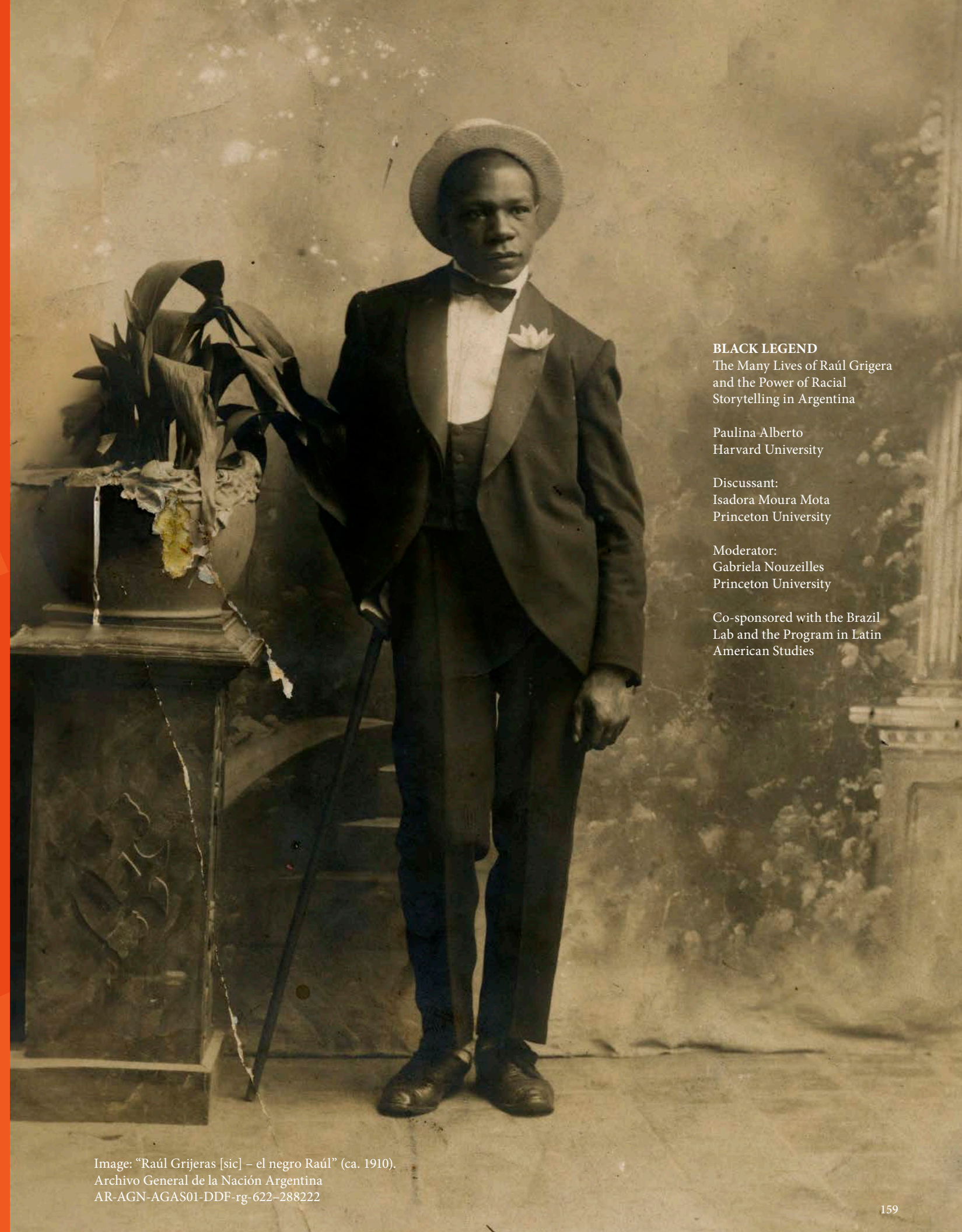
In spring 2024 we opened with a salon centered around current multispecies work by the attendees and then hosted Columba Gonzáles-Duarte (The New School) and her amazing work on the interfaces and dynamics of human-monarch butterfly relations across Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. We closed the term with a workshop co-hosted by the Institute for Advanced Study Platform Group and the Multispecies Salon, entitled "Animal Laboratory Worlds in Transition." Speakers included Ann Kelly (IAS), Asif Ghazanfar (Princeton, Psychology), Brad Bolman (IAS), Lisa Jones-Engel (PETA), Beth Greenhough (Oxford), Agustín Fuentes, (Princeton, Anthropology) and Malene Friis Hansen (Princeton, Anthropology).





# Co-sponsored Events

*Anthropology continues to build on creative multidisciplinary collaborations across campus, with over forty co-sponsored events in AY 2023-24.*



**BLACK LEGEND**  
The Many Lives of Raúl Grigera  
and the Power of Racial  
Storytelling in Argentina

Paulina Alberto  
Harvard University

Discussant:  
Isadora Moura Mota  
Princeton University

Moderator:  
Gabriela Nouzeilles  
Princeton University

Co-sponsored with the Brazil  
Lab and the Program in Latin  
American Studies

Image: "Raúl Grijeras [sic] – el negro Raúl" (ca. 1910).  
Archivo General de la Nación Argentina  
AR-AGN-AGAS01-DDF-rg-622-288222

# Co-sponsored Events



## FALL 2023

September 9, 2023

**Our Knowledge is Power: The Cultures of Beauty and Survival in Isle de Jean Charles, LA and Shishmaref, AK**

Co-sponsored with the Arts Council of Princeton

September 13, 2023

**Planetary Governance: Perspectives from Brazil**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

September 22, 2023

**Artist Talk & Film Screening: Preserving Our Place: Our Knowledge is Power**

Co-sponsored with the Arts Council of Princeton

September 26, 2023

**Sensory Life in South India: Counter-Narratives of Islamic Material Culture**

Co-sponsored with the Program in South Asian Studies

October 4, 2023

**An Immense World**

Co-sponsored with the High Meadows Environmental Institute and the Program in Gender and Sexuality

October 6, 2023

**Spain's Perfumed Modernity**

Co-sponsored with the Humanities Council

October 25, 2023

**Hurricane Risksapes, Island Survivalism, and the Post/Colonial Dilemma in the Caribbean**

Co-sponsored with the High Meadows Environmental Institute and the Program in Gender and Sexuality

November 1, 2023

**The Madmen's Revolt: Agency and Insubordination at Brazil's National Hospital for the Insane**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

November 2, 2023

**Killers of the Flower Moon**

Co-sponsored with the Native Graduate Students of Princeton and the Princeton American Indian and Indigenous Studies Working Group

November 8, 2023

**Lenape Land Reclamation, Political Perspective, and the Role of Princeton**

Co-sponsored with the Native Graduate Students of Princeton

November 11, 2023

**Host Hackers for HackPrinceton!**

Co-sponsored with the Department of Engineering

November 15, 2023

**Reconnection, Resistance, and Land Back**

Co-sponsored with the High Meadows Environmental Institute

November 17, 2023

**Spanish and Catalan Nationalism: Smells, Sounds, and Textures of Iberian Modernity**

Co-sponsored with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese

November 30, 2023

**Politics and Information-Digital Technologies: Debating Peril and Promise**

Co-sponsored with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

November 30, 2023

**Pluralizing the Anthropocene**

Co-sponsored with the High Meadows Environmental Institute

December 4, 2023

**Political Imaginaries Unmoored: Beyond the Universal and Particular**

Co-sponsored with the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in the Humanities, Humanities Council

December 6, 2023

**Sex and Gender Complexity in Scientific Research**

Co-sponsored with the Program in Gender and Sexuality

December 6, 2023

**Science and Social Justice Salon: Sex and Gender Complexity**

Co-sponsored with the University Center for Human Values

December 7, 2023

**Plan 75 - Imagining a Dystopian Future in Aging Japan**

Co-sponsored with the Global Japan Lab and the East Asian Studies Program

December 8, 2023

**Neoliberal Natures: Green Extractivism and Abolition Ecologies in the Anthropocene**

Co-sponsored with the High Meadows Environmental Institute and the Department of African American Studies

December 8, 2023

**Smells, Sounds, and Textures of Iberian Modernity**

Co-sponsored with the Humanities Council

## SPRING 2024

February 8, 2024

**Criminal Justice Initiative**

Co-sponsored with the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

February 8, 2024

**Crime and Punishment: Policing, Race, and Injustice**

Co-sponsored with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

February 14, 2024

**Reggae Relations: Black and Indigenous Confluences in Hawai'i**

Co-sponsored with the Efron Center for the Study of America

February 16, 2024

**Self-Fiction: Experience and Truth**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab





**February 27, 2024**

**Art in Brazil Today**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

**March 1, 2024**

**Imaginable Horizons**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

**March 5, 2024**

**Sovereign Materials: Tragedy, Extraction, and the Settler Colonial Mindset**

Co-sponsored with the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in the Humanities at Princeton

**March 22, 2024**

**“Everything is a Signal”: Precision Metaphors in American Digital Psychiatry**

Co-sponsored with Princeton Precision Health

**March 22, 2024**

**Literature and Migration**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

**March 27, 2024**

**Stanley J. Stein Annual Lecture | Paulina L. Alberto on “Black Legend: The Many Lives of Raúl Grigera and the Power of Racial Storytelling in Argentina”**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab and the Program in Latin American Studies

**April 8, 2024**

**The Real Story of Menstruation**

Organized with The Princeton University Press

**April 8, 2024**

**Gender-Based Political Violence**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab

**April 10, 2024**

**Civic, Liberal, and Global Education: Designing a New First-Year Curriculum**

Co-sponsored with The McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning

**April 10, 2024**

**Antikythera: Philosophy of Planetary Computation in the Design Studio (Recent Projects and Provocations)**

Co-sponsored with the Center for Digital Humanities and the Humanities Council

**April 12, 2024**

**Ecstatic Devotions: A Conversation on Indian Ocean World Ritual and Performance**

Co-sponsored by the Center for Collaborative History

**April 12, 2024**

**Prison Capital**

Co-sponsored by The McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, the Department of English and the Prison Teaching Initiative

**April 15, 2024**

**How the U.S. Dollar Became a Popular Currency in Argentina**

Co-sponsored with the Department of Sociology

**April 16, 2024**

**Palestine as Praxis, Still**

Co-sponsored with Students for Justice in Palestine

**April 18, 2024**

**Film Screening: Ex-Shaman**

Co-sponsored with the Brazil Lab and the Princeton University Art Museum

**April 23, 2024**

**Film Screening: “Spaces of Exception”**

Co-sponsored with the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative at Princeton

**April 25, 2024**

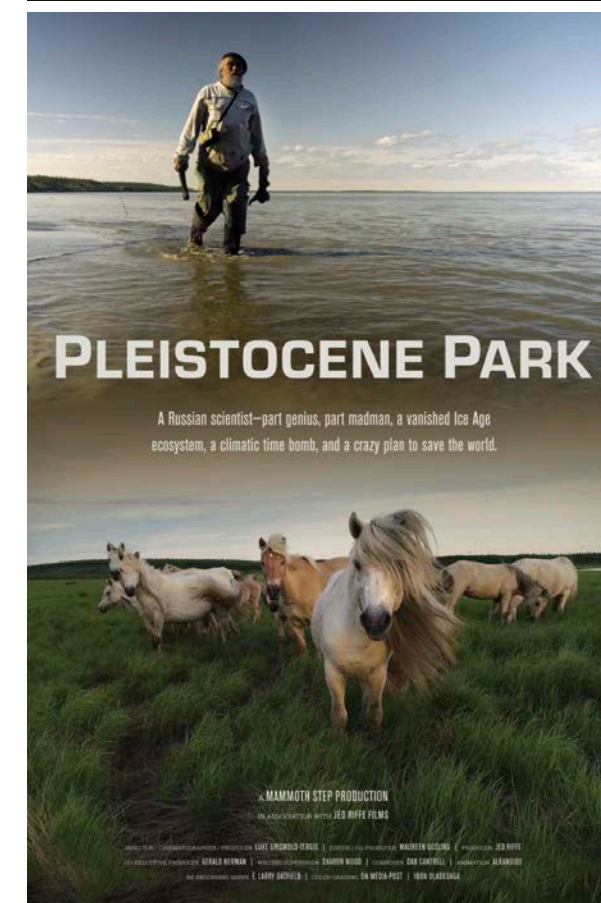
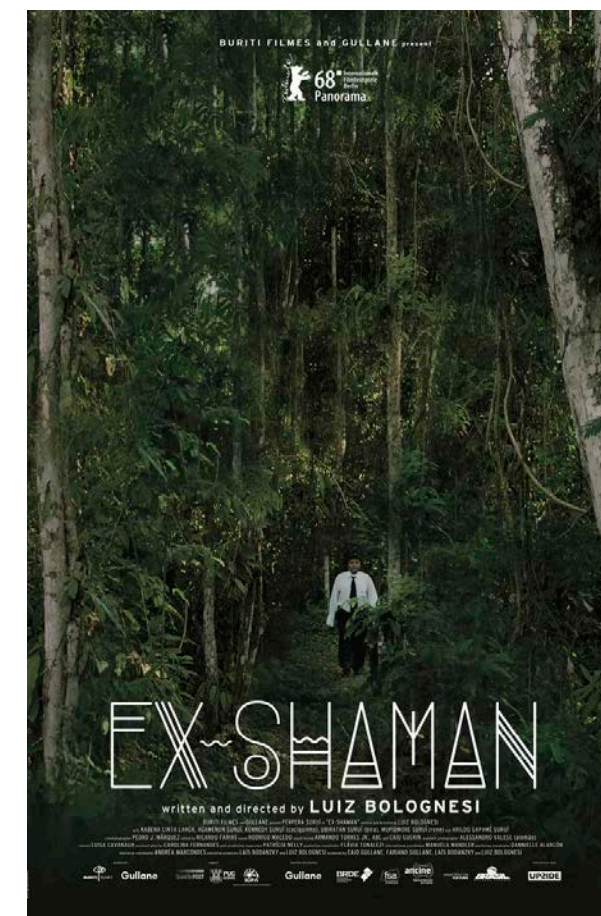
**Film Screening: Pleistocene Park**

Co-sponsored with the Program in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

**May 2, 2023**

**Indigenous Politics: Interrogating Autonomy, Sovereignty and Inclusion**

Co-sponsored with the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies



# VizE Lab

## for Ethnographic Data Visualization

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*The VizE Lab is bringing anthropological methods to bear on innovative data-centered initiatives at Princeton. We are devoted to contextualizing data by using people-centered, field-based ethnography and to developing creative data visualizations to understand the workings and impact of our datafied world.*

Director Jeffrey Himpele



# VizE Lab for Ethnographic Data Visualization

**Director:**  
Jeffrey Himpele

**Data and Research Assistant:**  
Ivan Melchor



Since its inception, the VizE Lab has proven the value of this one-of-a-kind approach through a number of collaborations with other campus units as well as in our own departmental teaching and advising.

The VizE Lab was created by Professor Carolyn Rouse in 2017.

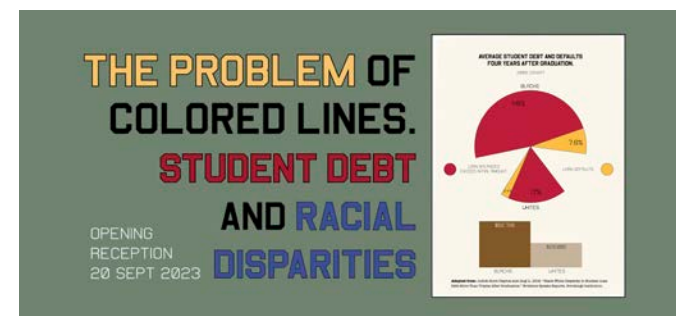
**A**s the campus site for scholars who desire to incorporate a range of visual forms into their ethnographic scholarship, the VizE Lab employs documentary filmmaking and is uniquely pioneering the creative use of interactive data visualization to depict human, more than human and institutional relations that are otherwise unavailable to the senses. The Lab's signature emphasis on reflexive, open-ended, presence-based ethnographic methods and diverse knowledges adds entirely new dimensions to data visualization as practiced in the humanities, engineering and the other social sciences. This year, some of the most impactful projects the Lab produced were completed and put into wide-ranging public circulation.

## Bringing research to life

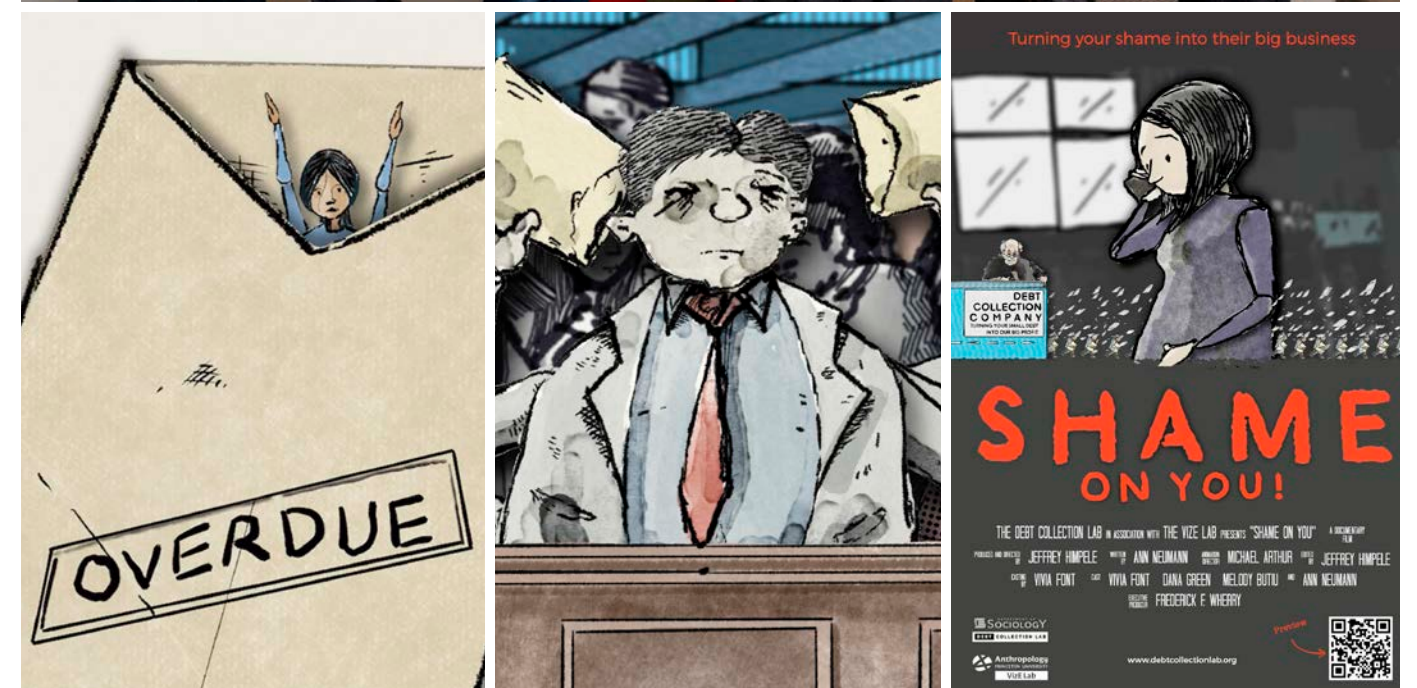
Fall 2023 saw the completion of the Lab's new award-winning film *Shame On You!* and its launch onto the film festival circuit. Directed and edited by VizE Lab Director Jeffrey Himpele, with executive production by Director of the Debt Collection Lab Fred Wherry (SOC), this 12-minute documentary takes viewers inside the nationwide court data on debt collection lawsuits to reveal the personal stories of people caught up in them. Three real life stories, told through a script based on extensive interviews with victims of debt collection lawsuits, are strikingly animated and performed by four compelling voice actresses to reveal how the debt collection industry profits from peoples' shame about debt and fear of the court system.

Between September and June, *Shame On You!* was screened in film festivals spanning 14 cities, from Seattle to Paris. The film has won a number of awards, including "Best Animation" at the Chicago Independent Film Festival. After its festival run is complete, *Shame On You!* will be available to view on the Debt Collection Lab website in fall of 2024.

Continuing on the theme of debt, the VizE Lab hosted the opening of a physical gallery of student loan debt visualizations in September 2023. Lab Director Jeffrey Himpele's exhibition, "The Problem of the Color Line," is a set of ten charts depicting racial disparities in student loan debt, all created in the bold visualization style employed by W.E.B. Du Bois. Curated by Himpele and Fred Wherry (SOC) as part of their ongoing collaborations in the Dignity + Debt Network, the exhibit is continuing in the Social Science Library in Wallace Hall.

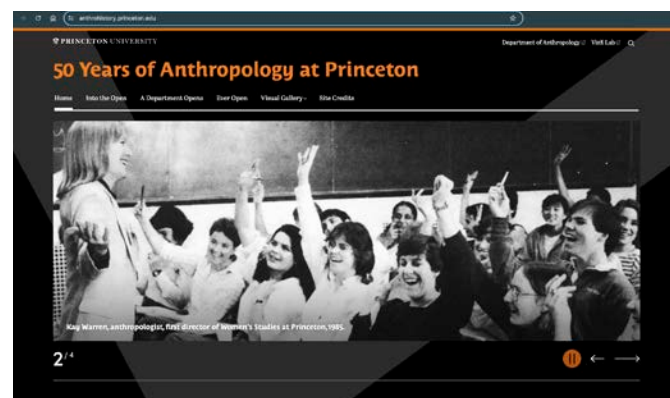


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*The Lab's signature emphasis on reflexive, open-ended, presence-based ethnographic methods and diverse knowledges adds entirely new dimensions to data visualization as practiced in the humanities, engineering and the other social sciences.*

## Documenting the origins of the department



This year saw continued work on the Lab's new website and film project exploring the mostly unknown formation and first decade of the anthropology department's 50-year history. Featuring visualizations by Lab Director Jeffrey Himpele and Data and Research Assistant Ivan Melchor, the website traces the unexpected ups and downs of the years leading up to and following its origin in 1970 and combines historical timelines, archival news images and documents, a number of interactive data visualizations of faculty histories, student theses and dissertations, and decades of readings from undergraduate- and graduate-level syllabuses.

The site also houses a standalone, re-edited version of *Ever Open*, a short film initially presented as "sonic essay" at the department's 2023 reunion event. The film is based on interviews with faculty and students who were present during the department's earliest years and includes a captivating set of historical images from that era. The interviews and images reveal how the earliest faculty and students first encountered the department, including its intense early years of student and faculty political activism. The anthropology department played a leading role in both the conference of Indigenous scholars that launched

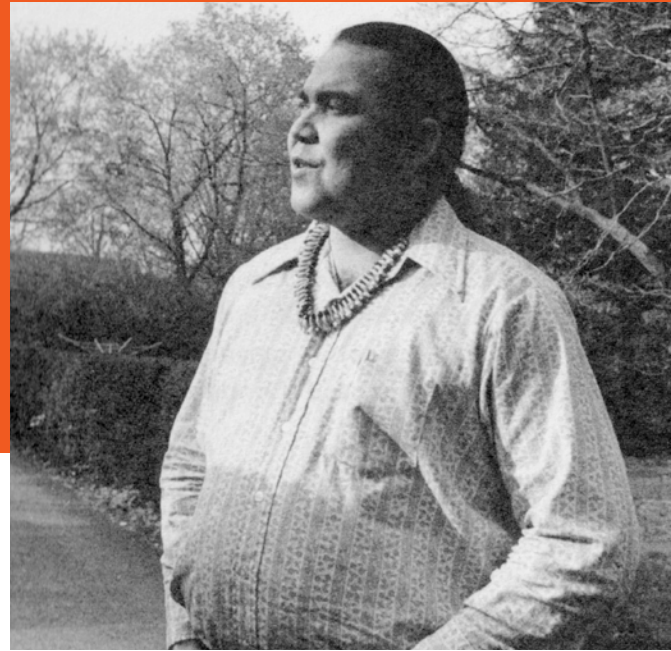
Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative at Princeton and in the emergence of symbolic anthropology as a movement within the discipline. In tracing each of these topics, *Ever Open* reveals the roots of the department's long-standing commitment to ethnography and storytelling, including visual ethnography, which continue to define it. The 50th anniversary website and the film *Ever Open* will be unveiled at an event in early fall 2024.

The VizE Lab is also the home base for the "High-Water Mark" project by Carolyn Rouse. Her documentary project is exposing the contradictions inherent in the social relations, business and residential development and lawn care, and the zoning practices in which stormwater flooding in Princeton and surrounding region is embedded. The project's aim is to use film and data visualizations to expose the absurd social incongruities that produce heavy storm flooding while damming up ways to mitigate damage. Data and Research Assistant Ivan Melchor has been producing in a range of visualizations, many of them counterfactual, and Lola Constantino '23 is shooting, editing and animating the film. It is expected to be completed in the late fall.

The historical legacy uncovered through the department's 50th



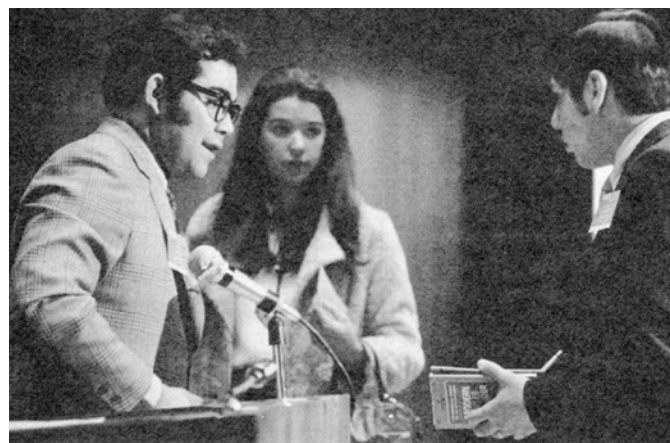
*With support from the Histories Fund of the Office of the Provost, we are illuminating and revitalizing Indigenous scholarship and activism at Princeton.*



Alfonso Ortiz, 1970

## A legacy in Native American studies

Anniversary Project has birthed a new endeavor: “Illuminating and Revitalizing Indigenous Scholarship and Activism at Princeton.” It began with findings that revealed Princeton’s critical role in the early development of Native American studies. In 1970, anthropology professor Alfonso Ortiz (Tewa) hosted the very first national convocation of American Indian scholars, where Native American studies and Indigenous knowledges were first championed. Department Chair João Biehl and VizE Lab Director Jeffrey Himpele, along with assistant professor Ikaika Ramones, are leading a multi-pronged effort to organize, interpret and display Ortiz’s wide-ranging original materials (convocation materials, syllabuses, field notes, photos, and audio recordings), which are currently housed in the Library’s Special Collections.



Alfonso Ortiz led the first Convocation of American Indian Scholars at Princeton University, 1970

With ample support from the Histories Fund of the Office of the Provost, this effort has prioritized the archival materials related to the American Indian Scholars Convocation and Ortiz’s teaching. Remarkably, the first researchers to engage with these materials have been students. In the fall of 2023, VizE Lab Research Assistant and anthropology major Julian Ibarra ’26 was the first to directly engage with the materials; he recorded metadata and collected visual materials related to the 1970 convocation. Ortiz’s materials were also examined and interpreted by students in a new Indigenous studies course (ANT 246) taught by Ikaika Ramones.

A series of interviews has also been initiated, collecting firsthand accounts from Ortiz’s children and Princeton students and staff who interacted with Ortiz. Over the coming year, Biehl, Himpele, and Ramones will maintain the momentum of the project by interviewing more of Ortiz’s peers and students, including Native alumni and the Native Alumni organization, with whom the Lab is collaborating. Research on the archives themselves will resume once the Special Collections Department in Firestone finishes processing them.

Ibarra will continue his research by exploring and writing about Ortiz’s extensive pedagogical materials (syllabuses, student papers, advising, and curricular memos) that he focused on this spring. Himpele will be curating visual materials for exhibition as well as creating rich data visualizations of Ortiz’s intellectual genealogy, focusing on three generations of influential mentoring relations, university contexts, and publications by Native North American scholars.

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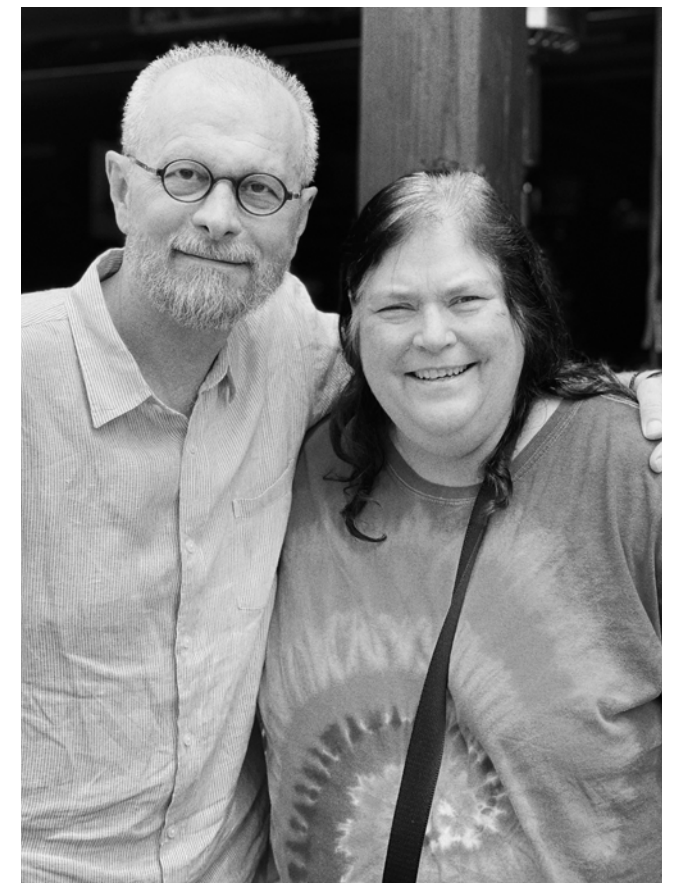


Ikaika Ramones, Princeton trustee Yolandra Gomez '88, and Firestone librarians review the Ortiz archive.

In addition to a prominent website, a film, and articles based on this work, the “Illuminating Indigenous Scholarship and Activism” project will culminate in 2025 with a national event hosted by Princeton in commemoration of the 55th anniversary of the American Indian Scholars Convocation. The cross-campus collaborative event will recover Princeton University’s historical legacy in Native American studies and showcase a number of new projects aimed at advancing the University’s commitments to Native Americans as well as to a range of efforts in Indigenous studies.



Alfonso Ortiz with Indigenous students, 1973



João Biehl interviewing Elena Ortiz in Santa Fe, NM, 2023

# The Center on Transnational Policing

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*Through a complex social scientific research network, CTP brings together faculty and students to understand policing in the U.S. and internationally.*





# The Center on Transnational Policing

**Co-directors:**  
**Laurence Ralph**  
**Aisha Beliso-De Jesús**

**Program Manager & Grant Administrator:**  
**Michiko Tsuneda**



The Princeton group from the “Policing, Public Space, and Democracy” project visits the exhibit in Hiroshima in August 2023. Photo courtesy of Michiko Tsuneda.

*Since the end of the pandemic, the relationship between Princeton and the University of Tokyo has grown more robust.*

The Center on Transnational Policing (CTP), a collaborative research hub led by co-directors Laurence Ralph and Aisha Beliso-De Jesús and promoting understanding of policing in the United States and internationally, began the 2023-24 year from a global perspective with a trip to Japan. The visit was part of the multiyear Princeton-University of Tokyo Strategic Partnership Project called “Policing, Public Space, and Democracy.” This project began in 2019 with a plan for a group of Princeton faculty and students to travel to Japan during the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. However, faced with Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and challenges, the project team reconfigured their plans to examine issues of policing and security more broadly through transnational perspectives.

Since the end of the pandemic, the relationship between Princeton and the University of Tokyo has grown more robust, and in July 2023, project team members from the CTP, the Princeton Urban Imagination Center, and the Efron Center for the Study of America traveled to Tokyo. There they offered lectures at the University of Tokyo, visited the Tokyo Metropolitan Police headquarters and the police academy, and participated in meetings with University of Tokyo faculty and students. At the end of July, select graduate and undergraduate students from Princeton joined the team in Tokyo, and the faculty and students traveled together to Hiroshima for a data visualization exhibit organized by University of Tokyo faculty and students. The gathering was a follow-up to a visit University of Tokyo faculty and students made to Princeton in March 2023, where they presented workshops on data visualization and data physicalization to Princeton students. At the Hiroshima event, those Princeton students then presented research and projects in which they applied the methods and approaches they had learned last March. While in Hiroshima, the Princeton group also visited Itsukushima Island and the Peace Memorial Museum, listened to a talk by an atomic bomb survivor, and explored issues of security and peacebuilding as Hiroshima prepared for the anniversary of the atomic bombing on August 6.

The project team plans to build on the partnership with the University of Tokyo by continuing to teach courses collaboratively and organizing events to showcase projects by students and faculty members.



The Princeton project group with an atomic bomb survivor, Ms. Teruko Yahata, in Hiroshima in August 2023. Photo courtesy of Michiko Tsuneda.

## Collaborating in support of victims of police torture

This past year, as part of the Police Torture and Community Healing Project, CTP affiliates continued to cultivate collaborative relationships with activists at organizations that work with and support survivors of police torture in Chicago, building on the success of community engagement events the project held at the DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center in Chicago earlier in 2023. As part of those ongoing relationships, in November 2023, an event in partnership with the Chicago Torture Justice Memorial Foundation and the Chicago Torture Justice Center brought police torture survivors and their supporters together in Chicago for a screening of the film *The Torture Letters*, based on Laurence Ralph’s (CTP co-director) book of the same title.

Expanding on this project, which is focused on police torture and community healing in Chicago and beyond, Ralph and Chelsey Carter (CTP affiliated scholar, Yale University) are in the process of developing an innovative cross-institutional course in which students will not only learn about issues of policing, social justice and community well-being through coursework but also engage in hands-on projects and meaningful civic engagement by taking part in community events that will bring them together with police torture survivors, activists and residents.

## Law enforcement accountability on the screen

A new endeavor in film comprised part of the CTP’s work this year, as production began on a short documentary film based on CTP co-director Aisha Beliso-De Jesús’ new book, *Excited Delirium*. The film illuminates the origins of the fabricated medical diagnosis “excited delirium syndrome” and its role in the systemic mistreatment of Black and Brown communities by law enforcement. With support from the Humanities Council’s Magic Grant for Innovation, and in collaboration with the award-winning documentary filmmaker and Princeton faculty member Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt from the Lewis Center for the Arts, the project team will complete the documentary in 2024-25.



Anthropology major Alaa Omer '25 presents on a group project at a workshop with University of Tokyo faculty and students in August 2023. Photo courtesy of Michiko Tsuneda.

# AnthroDay

*Held on the third Thursday of February, Anthropology Day is a special time for anthropologists to celebrate our discipline and share it with the world around us.*



*Princeton's AnthroDay was one of nearly 200 events registered with the American Anthropological Association in 2024.*

## Much joy and dumplings from around the world

**O**n February 15, the Department of Anthropology celebrated AnthroDay with dumplings from around the world. Students, faculty, and staff joined together in making this another fantastic Anthropology Day celebration.

Professor and chair João Biehl welcomed all to the event. Assistant professor Ikaika Ramones and Lecturers Onur Günay and Thalia Gigerenzer gave wonderful summaries of their current research work. Ramones shared an excerpt from his book manuscript, talking about his relationship to anthropology and approach to writing ethnography. Gigerenzer shared an anecdote from her ethnographic research about how a recipe can serve as a rich ethnographic data point. Global South Visiting Scholar, Munira Khayyat also spoke to the crowd about her recent book, *A Landscape of War: Ecologies of Resistance and Survival in South Lebanon*.

The crowd enjoyed tasty dumplings, including Gyoza, Shumai, Loukoumades, Samosas, Pierogies, Empanadas, Gnocchi, and many more.



# Featured Courses

*Our exciting major continues to grow exponentially, and in AY 2023-24 our faculty taught nearly 1,000 students enrolled in forty courses, with over 700 students on waiting lists.*



# New Undergraduate Courses



## Head of Curriculum Committee

Agustín Fuentes

## Undergraduate Advisory Board 2023-24

- Travis Chai Andrade '24
- Miral A. Disi '24
- Amaya Dressler '25
- Natalia Eichmann '25
- Venezia Garza '25
- Parker Hill '25
- Tina Karimaghaie '25
- Alison Parish '24
- Autumn Parish '24
- Jose Virgen Ortiz '25

### FALL 2023

**ANT 232 / GSS 232 / HUM 232 / SAS 232**  
**Love: Anthropological Explorations**  
 Thalia Gigerenzer

**ANT 263 / HUM 264**  
**Justice**  
 Sebastián Ramírez Hernández

**ANT 321 / GHP 321**  
**Anthropology of Mental Health**  
 Sebastián Ramírez Hernández

**ANT 437 / AAS 437**  
**Gaming Blackness: The Anthropology of Video Games and Race**  
 Akil Fletcher

**ANT 443 / LAS 433 / ENV 443 / AMS 444**  
**Indigenous Worldlings**  
 Fábio Zuker

**ENV 448 / ANT 448 / AAS 447 / AMS 485**  
**Neoliberal Natures: Society, Justice and Environmental Futures**  
 Kevon Rhiney

### SPRING 2024

**ANT 246 / AMS 246**  
**Critical Native American and Indigenous Studies**  
 Ikaika Ramones

**ANT 256 / HUM 256**  
**Emotions: On the Makings of Moral and Political Life**  
 Aniruddhan Vasudevan

**ANT 318 / SAS 319 / GSS 439**  
**Global Cultures of Dissent**  
 Harini Kumar

**ANT 320 / ECS 353 / HUM 313**  
**The Paranormal and the Supernatural**  
 Elizabeth Davis & Luke Forrester Johnson

**ANT 354 / HUM 373**  
**Digital Anthropology: Methods for Exploring Virtual Worlds**  
 Akil Fletcher

**ANT 430**  
**War**  
 Fadi Bardawil

**SLA 338 / ANT 338 / RES 338**  
**Between Heaven and Hell: Myths and Memories of Siberia**  
 Serguei Oushakine

**ENV 460 / ANT 460 / AAS 460 / AMS 460**  
**Climate Coloniality, Race and Justice**  
 Kevon Rhiney



## Anthroengineering

**ANT 325 / MAE 347 / SPI 384**

**Robots in Human Ecology: A Hands-on Course for Anthropologists, Engineers and Policymakers**

Ryo Morimoto & Alexander Glaser

**S**POT, Anthropology's Boston Dynamics robot, has gone viral in a series of Tiktok videos. Students in the new course "Robots in Human Ecology," taught by anthropologist Ryo Morimoto and engineering and policy scholar Alexander Glaser, collaborated to create videos of SPOT in a variety of scenarios and made two multi-million-view hits featuring SPOT line dancing and performing ballet.

Anthropology's Wasif Sami '25, a student in the course, commented: "A gift of going viral meant eliciting a wide range of comments and replies. As a group, we grappled with how our playful, performative content exists in dialogue with higher-stakes impacts of technology. Navigating our audience reaction taught us to consciously situate our work amidst the many uses of robots, as well as to listen openly to the discordant, plural voices on the internet."

This groundbreaking pedagogical initiative is supported by the Office of the Provost.





## The Practice of Democracy

ANT 228 / URB 228 / REL 218

**Just Housing? Racial Capitalism and the Right to the City**

Jacob Geuder with April De Simone



In this timely, community-engaged course, students drew on historical studies and urban ethnography to understand how redlining and real estate speculation produce landscapes of housing injustice, with a particular focus on Trenton. They paid close attention to how marginalized communities mobilize to combat insecurity and secure their right to housing. The course was developed by urban scholar Jacob Geuder in collaboration with April De Simone, director of The Practice of Democracy, a social impact research and design studio, and supported by ProCES.

On April 24, 2024, students and dozens of community members gathered in Trenton to view and discuss the seminar's collaborative multimedia projects. In his remarks, Pastor Kelvin Baldwin noted, to the agreement of all, "We don't want to be part of the problem. We want to be a part of the solution."



## Queer Becomings: Anthropology in Action

*From Classroom Reading to Influential Storytelling*

Taught by Dr. Aniruddhan Vasudevan in fall 2023, the course *Queer Becomings* (ANT 337 / GSS 279) asked students to consider the questions that queer lifeworlds pose in diverse cultural and socio-political contexts. Part of this process was an introduction to A. Revathi's memoir, *The Truth About Me - A Hijra Life Story*. Revathi, a writer, activist and performer based in Bengaluru, India, is also a transwoman and member of the Thirunangai/Hijra community. Her experiences have informed her life goals to fight tirelessly as a trans activist. Revathi's story resonated with student Grace Fausett '25 so much so that she approached Vasudevan about interviewing Revathi for "Alturi," an influential storytelling project tasked with providing a venue for the unique and inspiring window into the lives of LGBTI people worldwide.



## Graduate Seminars

### FALL 2023

ANT 501

**Proseminar in Anthropology**

Elizabeth Davis

ANT 503A

**We were never alone: Multispecies Worlds**

Agustín Fuentes

ANT 503B

**Anthro-Archives & Ethno-Stories**

Serguei Oushakine

### SPRING 2024

ANT 502

**Proseminar in Anthropology**

João Biehl

ANT 504A

**Discourses on Punishment**

Didier Fassin

ANT 504B

**Anti-Colonial Theory and Practice**

Ikaika Ramones

ANT 522A

**Landscapes of War, Resistance and Repair**

Munira Khayyat

ANT 522B

**The Anthropology of Art Today**

Carlos Fausto

### Graduate Student Committee AY 2023-24

Omar Abdelqader, G1

Daisy Couture, G1

Nicolás Díaz Letelier, G2

Navjit Kaur, G6



# Junior Independent Works

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*The medical, sociocultural, and law, politics and economics tracks have attracted record numbers of students to the anthropology major. Our collaborative and team-based approach to Junior Independent Work is informed by a vision and ethic that is central to our efforts to decolonize anthropological theory and research.*



# Junior Independent Works

Class of 2025



## Chinyere Aguwa

Violence in Obstetric Care: Exploring How Non-biomedical Approaches to Care Can Alleviate Effects of Structural Violence

## Beatriz Alcalá-Ascencion

Unveiling Reproductive Realities: Exploring Agency, Culture, and Inequality in Alternative Birthing Practices

## Kudirat Alowonle

Flowing Through Essence: Navigating the Landscape of Blackness and Gender in Hip Hop Culture

## Emily Appleton

Unraveling the Threads of Humanitarian Response: An Anthropological Examination of Crisis in Haiti

## Mason Armstead

Navigating the Playing Field: Exploring the Intersections of Race, Sex, and Athlete Activism

## Khalil Benjamin

Re-imagining Fact and Fiction: The Implications of Commodifying Black Skin in the Media

## Aleena Brown

Who do we create paradise for? A Study of the Dichotomy of Tourism “Development” as it Pertains to the Caribbean Identity

## Evan Burkert

From the School of Culture and Personality to Affect Theory: Evolving Perspectives on Culture, Personality, and Human Development

## Nasir Cook

From Slave Patrols to the LA Riots: Examining the Direct Relationship Between Race and Policing in the United States of America

## Garen Dafe

Treatment of Mental Illness in China: Traditional Chinese Medicine versus Western Biomedical Approaches and Epistemology

## Jodie De Jesus

Changing the Channel: A Shift in Approaches to the Anthropology of TV

## Fatima Diallo

Challenging Culture: Theorizing the Post-Colonial Psychiatric Subject and Mental Health Discourse in the West African Context

## Miral Disi

Agents of Displacement and Actors of Mobility: The Unfolding and Remaking of Home and Identity

## Emma Dornseif

The War on Terror and the Invasion of Western Gender Stereotypes in the Middle East

## Amaya Dressler

“Scaling” Reproduction: Reproductive Technologies, Hormonal Contraceptives, & the Reproductive Body

## Tara Dsilva

Mothers or Others? Power, Ethics, and Meaning-Making within India’s Commercial Surrogacy Industry

## Natalia Eichmann

Searching for Metaphor: Assembling the Anthropology of Attention

## Grace Fausett

The Psychiatric Institution: Theorizing the Space of Psychotherapeutic Subjectivity

## Rodrigo Galindo

Solidarity as Theorized and Pictured in Latin American Migration Studies

## Brenden Garza

Revolutionary Anthropology: Time, Affect, and Love

## Venezia Garza

Cultural Dimensions of Caregiving: Exploring the Impacts of Identity, Power Dynamics, and Relationality on the Caregiving Experience

## Khamari Hadaway

The Human Microbiome in Cultural Context: Anthropological Perspectives on Biological Knowledge Production

## Kiley Hamou

Evaluating the Integration Between Western Biomedical Practices and Holistic Medicine

## Parker Hill

A Side-Door Window into the Heart of a Place: How Traffic Norms Reveal Our Larger Culture

## Mia James

Food for All? Food Insecurity at the Intersections of Race, Class, Identity, and Geography

## Athena Jamurta

What Makes a (Greek) Nation?

## Tina Karimaghaie

The Multilayered Implications of Cancer: The Disease of Paradoxical Proliferation

## Noelle Youngju Kim

Embedded in the Blockchain: Unlocking the Social Relations behind Cryptocurrency

## Amelia Koblentz

Outside the Room Where It Happens: Bootlegs and the Contemporary Musical Theater Ecosystem

## Katharine McLaughlin

Eco-perceptions: Environmental Networks of Belief, Life, and Action

## Issa Mudashiru

How Two Developing Countries Developed Youyi: The Foundations for a Sino-African and Sino-Sierra Leonean Friendship

## Julia Nees

The Color of Beauty: Race, Standards, and Social Valuation in Contemporary Society

## Jalen Newman

Unveiling the Mental Health Struggles and Resilience of Collegiate and Professional Athletes

## Alaa Omer

The Multi-modal Shift in Academia: Alleviation of Biases, Accessibility, and Preservation Through Technology

## Alexa Pappas

Team Sports: Defying the Global Devastation of Social Injustice

## Emilia Pickerill

Liminal Cases and Relief Spaces: Chronic Pain, Gender, and Agency in Support Groups

## Abigail Poten

Collective Narratives as Constitutive of Technological Disaster

## Lance Reaves-Hicks

Exploring Gender Dynamics in Black Religious Spaces: A Study on Black Manhood and Womanhood within the Black Church

## William Reed

Asian American Masculinity: Contextualizing Construction & Materialization

## Sasha Rivera

“English as a Passport”: An Exploration of the Linguistic Domination of English

## Paige Ryan

Cultures of Productivity at Princeton and Beyond: An Anthropological Analysis

## Wasif Sami

Queer Unbecomings: Ex-gay and De-trans Process and Storytelling

## Emilly Santos

The Favela(do), Vulnerability & Raw Materials for State Making: The Agency of (Non) Physical Dissent in Brazilian Favelas

## Louisa Sarofim

Mindfulness across Cultures: A Case Study Exploration of the Cultural Dimensions of Modes of Perception

## Collin Taylor

Into the Yakuza: Exploring Anthropological Methodologies for Understanding Organized Crime

## Sabien Taylor

Anthropology of Aging (No Title Provided)

## Jose Virgen Ortiz

Silenced Power in the Kitchen: Analyzing Dietary Assimilation, Gender, Agency & Health among Unauthorized Mexican Migrant Women in the U.S.

## Kristen Weil

Understanding the “Value” of Women on Wall Street: Exploring the “Broken Rung” within Corporate America through Anthropological Principles of the Gift Economy, Commodity Exchange, and Reciprocity

## April Yoo

The Diverse Menopause & Aging Experiences in South Korean, Japanese, & Western Culture



# Senior Theses

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*We take great pride in the intellectual trajectories of our students, as evidenced by the methodological and ethical soundness, theoretical depth, creativity and critical real-world implications of their senior theses.*



# Senior Theses

Class of 2024



## Destiny T. Allen

Beyond Mimicry: Black American Street Dancer, Global Commodification, and the Negotiation of Taiwanese Identity through Hip Hop Culture

## Amy Adaeze Aririguzoh

Multigenerational Poisoning: Apprehending Lead Exposure in East Trenton, New Jersey

## Kaila Avent

Seeds and Possibilities: Rethinking Knowledge, Kinship, and Hope amid Climate Crisis

## Solomon Berquist

Top Hats and HashT#gs

## Kaleb Boyd

Imagined Freedom: Understanding the Violence of Structural Vulnerability Among Formerly Incarcerated Black Men

## Harlowe Brumett-Dunn

Unveiling Environmental Warfare: Carbon Capture, Racial Injustice and Artistic Resistance

## Ci'Anee Campbell

An Ethnographic Account of Tourism's Impact on Interpersonal Relationships in Montego Bay, Jamaica

## Travis Kanoa Chai Andrade

There Are No Real Hawaiians

## Aisha F. Chebbi

Inoculating Belief: Tracing Vaccine Hesitancy and Decision-Making in Muslim America

## Kaitlyn Chen

The Meritocracy of Sports as it Pertains to the Division I Collegiate Recruitment Process

## Genrietta Churbanova

Taiwan's Russians: An Ethnographic Exploration of the Island's Russian Diaspora

## Caleb King Coleman

Family is Key: An Exploration of the Social, Cultural, and Economic Impacts of Mass Incarceration & the Systematic Dismantling of the African American Family

## Magdely Michelle Diaz de-Leon

Exploring Community Health Workers: From Inception to Addressing Healthcare Disparities, Medical Mistrust, and Culturally Competent Care

## Carrington F. Elcan

Voices of Empowerment: Unraveling Racial Dynamics in Female Hip Hop Experiences

## Lily Kohl Feinerman

The Sporting Body: Shaping Identity through Athletics, Gender and Food

## Kristen Alexis Fonesca

The Privilege of Reverence in a State of Denial After the Dirty War in Argentina: Murals and Graffiti as Collective Resistance

## Meredith Gallagher

Living in the Dead Zone: Space, Mobility, and the (Non)Integration of Asylum Seekers in Cyprus

## Antea Garo

From the Soul: The Women of Dropull, Lamentation, and Coping with Grief and Loss

## Cherry Wei Ge

Juggling Risks: "At-Risk," Family, and Becoming in Social Circus

## Mei Cecilia Geller

Still Lives: The Racialized Violence of the Uncanny in Realistic Human Mannequins in Natural History Museums

## Macey Lee Mannion

Sports and The Self: Exploring How Athletics Influences Self Perception and Gender Dynamics Among Princeton Student-Athletes

## Clara Jane McNatt

Entre Dos: Reflections on the Tango Embrace

## Kayla E. Memis

Chronically Behind: An Autoethnographic Study of Becoming Invisibly Disabled at Princeton

## Finn Miller

Expanding the Consciousness of Recovery: Reconceptualizing Addiction and Recovery Through Psychedelic Therapy

## Ana Palacios

"Siendo Solidarias Alcanzaremos la Prosperidad." Belonging, Empowerment, and Prosperity in a Colombian Ecovillage

## Alison Renee Parish

Making Universality A Reality: Reimagining Modern Medicine with the Integration of West African Immigrants in Paris, France

## Allison Rose Peart

Lands of Rainbows: Youth Literature and a Call for Holistic Queer Representation in Cork

## Jasmine Minerva Rivers

An Autoethnography of "both/and. . .": Transcending Dichotomy Through Multiraciality and Dance

## Audrey Royall

"An Act of Defiance": Austrian Holocaust Memorialization and Reclamation of Austrian Citizenship Post-Holocaust

## Angel Jose Salcedo

The Rosebush That Grew From Concrete: An Ethnography of Found Family and Queer Kindship in New York City Ballroom Culture

## Autumn Shelton

Take Me Home, Ozark Roads: A Retrospective on Rural Missouri-Arkansas Festival Culture

## David C. Smith

Virtual Animal Organs: Otherkin Bodies and Social Orders in the Virtual World of Online Forums

## Julia Stahlman

What Grows Inside the "White Cube": Contending with New Climate Futures by Queering the Anthropological and Anthropologizing the Queer Inside the Modernist Art Gallery

## Holly Nichols Thompson

The Commodification of Girlhood: Exploring Identity, Power, and Joy Through "Girl" Trends

## Jalen Travis

For a Greater Cause: An Ethnographic Reflection on the Benefits, Shortcomings, and Implications of Princeton University's Service Landscape

## Emery Millard Uhlig

"So This is Who I Was": Re-establishing Identity through Narrative in the Wake of Chronic Hypersomnia

## Kennedy Walls

Plea for Life: An Ethnography of Migrant Health and Militant Humanitarianism Under the Dublin III Regulation

## Peyton Werner

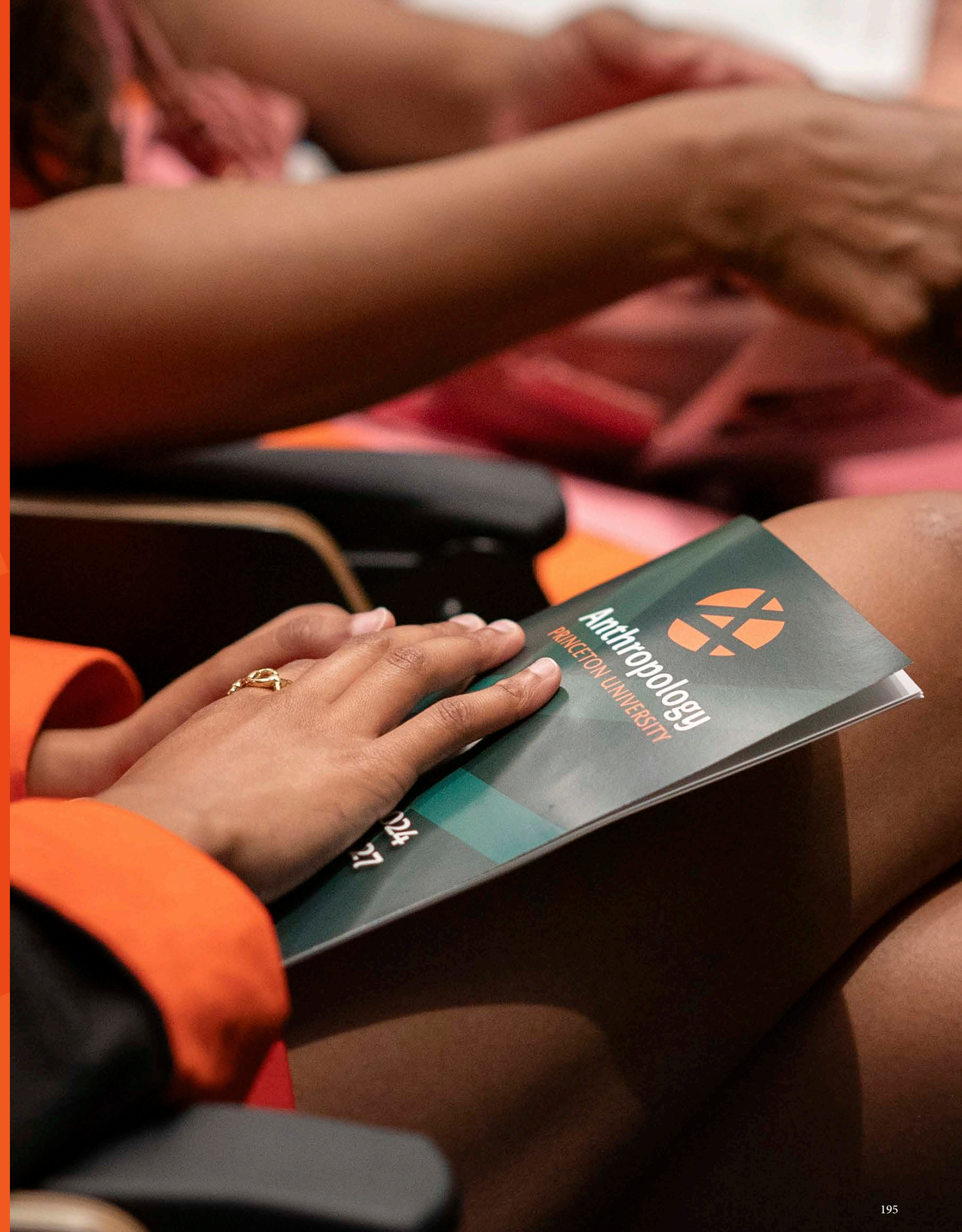
Beyond Performance: An Ethnography on Collegiate Athletes Navigating the Ethical and Psychological Landscapes of Psychotropic Medication



# 2024 Class Day

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*What a long-awaited, hard-earned, and joyous day. Congratulations to the Anthropology Class of 2024 for their diligent, socially meaningful and creative work and for all of their accomplishments!*



# 2024 Class Day

*We couldn't be happier that today's graduates chose Anthropology as their diasporic home and creative launching pad here at Princeton.*



*The Independent Works of our wondrous students demonstrate what higher education should be engaged in today and how to do it ... insisting on ethnographic openness and on accountability to the people and local worlds from which we learn.*

## Best Senior Thesis in Anthropology



### Angel Jose Salcedo (AJ)

**The Rosebush that Grew from Concrete: An Ethnography of Found Family and Queer Kindship in New York City Ballroom Culture**

Advised by Beth Semel

### Kennedy Walls

**Plea for Life: An Ethnography of Migrant Health and Militant Humanitarianism Under the Dublin III Regulation**

Advised by Onur Günay

Co-winner, University Center for Human Values Senior Thesis Prize

Co-winner, Beth N. Rom-Rymer, Class of 1973, Senior Thesis Prize in Global Health and Health Policy



## Honorable Mention for Best Senior Thesis in Anthropology



### Jasmine Minerva Rivers

**An Autoethnography of “both/and..”: Transcending Dichotomy Through Mutiraciality and Dance**

Advised by Agustín Fuentes

Princeton Alumni Corps Project 55 Fellowship

### Alison Renee Parish

**Making Universality A Reality: Reimagining Medicine with the Integration of West African Immigrants in Paris, France**

Advised by Jeffrey Himpele

2024 ReachOut 56-81-06 International Fellowship for Public Service

John H. Pace, Jr. '39 Center for Civic Engagement's 2023 A. James Fischer Jr. '36 Memorial Award



## Best Senior Thesis in Medical Anthropology



### Aisha F. Chebbi

#### Inoculating Belief: Tracing Vaccine Hesitancy and Decision-Making in Muslim America

Advised by Carolyn Rouse

Honorable Mention, Beth N. Rom-Rymer, Class of 1973, Senior Thesis Prize in Global Health and Health Policy

Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Finalist, Female Scholar of the Year



### Antea Garo

#### From the Soul: The Women of Dropull, Lamentation, and Coping with Grief and Loss

Advised by Rena Lederman



## Best Senior Thesis in Law, Politics, Economics



### Harlowe Brumett-Dunn

#### Unveiling Environmental Warfare: Carbon Capture, Racial Injustice and Artistic Resistance

Advised by Onur Günay

Winner, Environmental Studies Book Prize in Environmental Social Sciences from the Department of Environmental Studies

Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellowship



### Genrietta Churbanova

#### Taiwan's Russians: An Ethnographic Exploration of the Island's Russian Diaspora

Advised by Serguei Oushakine



# Best Senior Thesis in Sociocultural Anthropology



## Autumn Shelton

**Take Me Home, Ozark Roads: A Retrospective on Rural Missouri-Arkansas Festival Culture**

Advised by Beth Semel

2024 Alaskan Fellows Program

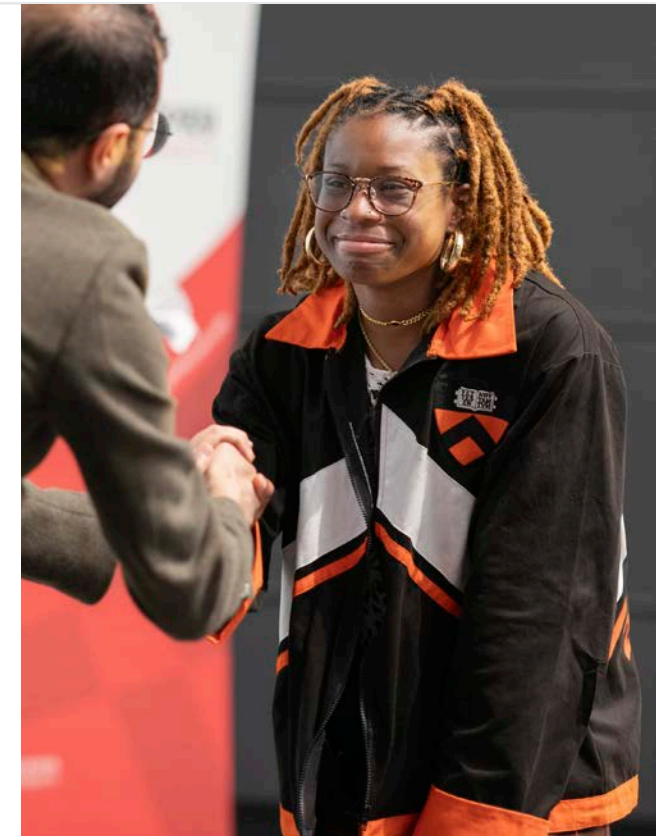
## Meredith Gallagher

**Living in the Dead Zone: Space, Mobility, and the (Non)Integration of Asylum Seekers in Cyprus**

Advised by Serguei Oushakine



# Prize in Community-Engaged Independent Work



## Amy Adaeze Aririguzoh

**Multigenerational Poisoning: Apprehending Lead Exposure in East Trenton, New Jersey**

Advised by Ryo Morimoto

Program in Community Engaged Scholarship's (ProCES) Dean Hank Dobin Prize in Community-Engaged Independent Work

Tania Boster, Director of the Program for Community-Engaged Scholarship



# Department of Anthropology Honors List

## Highest Honors

Aisha F. Chebbi  
Genrietta Churbanova  
Meredith Gallagher  
Antea Garo  
Jasmine Minerva Rivers  
Angel Jose Salcedo  
Autumn Shelton  
Kennedy Walls

## High Honors

Harlowe Brumett-Dunn  
Travis Kanoa Chai Andrade  
Cherry Wei Ge  
Mei Cecilia Geller  
Clara Jane McNatt  
Ana Palacios  
Allison Rose Peart  
Audrey Royall

## Honors

Kaleb Boyd  
Kaitlyn Chen  
Carrington F. Elcan  
Alison Renee Parish  
Julia Stahlman  
Jalen Travis

## Phi Beta Kappa

Genrietta Churbanova  
Meredith Gallagher  
Jasmine Minerva Rivers  
Autumn Shelton

## Princeton University's Class of 2024 Valedictorian

Genrietta Churbanova



## Schwarzman Scholar 2024

Genrietta Churbanova

## High Meadows Fellowship through the Pace Center for Civic Engagement

Raila Avent

## Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship

Aisha Chebbi, Germany  
Meredith Gallagher, Spain  
Ana Palacios, Spain

## 2024 ReachOut 56-81-06 Domestic Fellowship for Public Service

Travis Kanoa Chai Andrade

## André Maman Senior Thesis Prize Winner

Kennedy Walls

## Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

Destiny Allen  
Travis Kanoa Chai Andrade





## Athletic Honors



**Kaitlyn Chen**

2024 C. Otto von Kienbusch Award, presented annually to a Princeton senior woman of high scholastic rank who has demonstrated general proficiency in athletics and the qualities of a true sportswoman.



**Jalen Travis**

2024 Truman Scholarship to attend law school and pursue a career in public service.

The Art Lane '34 Award is presented annually to undergraduate student-athletes in recognition of selfless contribution to sport and society.

## Certificates of Proficiency Class of 2024

### African American Studies

Destiny T. Allen  
Harlowe Brumett-Dunn  
Caleb King Coleman  
Carrington F. Elcan  
Jalen Travis

### Ancient Greece Language & Culture

Solomon Bergquist

### Archeology

Travis Kanoa Chai Andrade  
Audrey Royall  
Autumn Shelton

### Chinese Language & Culture

Genrietta Churbanova

### Dance

Mei Cecilia Geller  
Jasmine Minerva Rivers

### East Asian Studies

Destiny T. Allen

### Entrepreneurship

Julia Stahlman

### Environmental Studies

Kaila Avent  
Harlowe Brumett-Dunn  
Magdely Michelle Diaz de-Leon

### French Language & Culture

Alison Renee Parish  
Kennedy Walls

### Gender and Sexuality Studies

Holly Nichols Thompson

### German Language & Culture

Audrey Royall

### Global Health & Health Policy

Kaleb Boyd  
Aisha F. Chebbi  
Antea Garo  
Kayla E. Memis  
Kennedy Walls

### Judaic Studies

Audrey Royall

### Latin American Studies

Kristen Alexis Fonseca  
Clara Jane McNatt  
Ana Palacios  
Julia Stahlman

### Latino Studies

Kristen Alexis Fonseca

### Near Eastern Studies

Meredith Gallagher

### Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies

Genrietta Churbanova

## With Gratitude

*The department honors Professor Rena Lederman and Lecturer Sebastián Ramírez Hernández for their service and contributions to the Anthropology community.*



### Rena Lederman

Lederman transitioned to emeritus status on July 1, 2024, after four decades of deeply generative scholarship on gender, exchange and ethics and an intense pedagogical commitment to Princeton University.



### Sebastián Ramírez Hernández

Ramírez Hernández has accepted a new position at Princeton as director of Service Focus at the Pace Center for Civic Engagement. This initiative combines service and learning for students during their sophomore year.

*“Ever open, anthropology is your work in worlds that, though imperiled, still hold surprising escapes and are filled with people like you, struggling to care for each other, to make things”*

— João Biehl



*“Keep going, stay well, and keep coming back, enlarging our sense of the possible.”*  
— João Biehl

# Reunions 2024

*Alumni came from near and far to join the department for a celebration of Princeton Anthropology's past, present and exciting future.*



# Reunions 2024 Events



Yet another record-breaking crop of anthropology majors, a new group of faculty joining the department, and two new initiatives illuminating Indigenous scholarship at Princeton and bringing an anthropological edge to the inquiry of artificial intelligence.



## Welcome Back To Anthropology! Reunions 2024

Friday, May 24 | 12:00-1:30 PM  
219 Aaron Burr Hall

With lunch and celebratory cake at the end

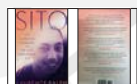
Opening Remarks by Anthropology Professor and Chair João Biehl



**Indigenous Survivance at Princeton and Beyond**  
Assistant Professor Ikaika Ramones



**AI in the service of Humanity?**  
Anthropology and/of Artificial Intelligence  
Assistant Professor Beth Semel



**New Book SITO: An American Teenager and the City that Failed Him**  
Professor Laurence Ralph



**New Film Shame On You!**  
Life on the Debt Collection Assembly Line  
Director of the VizE Lab Jeffrey Himpele

A celebratory toast to Professor Rena Lederman as she advances to emerita status.

Chair and Professor João Biehl opened the 2024 Reunions event by sharing exciting developments in the department: yet another record-breaking crop of anthropology majors, a new group of faculty joining the department, and two new initiatives illuminating Indigenous scholarship at Princeton and bringing an anthropological edge to the inquiry of artificial intelligence.

Professor Laurence Ralph read a compelling passage from his newest book, *SITO: An American Teenager and the City that Failed Him*. His story weaved together the tender complexities of his family's experience with sharp inquiry into the forces that came to bear on Sito, his family, and professor Ralph himself. Professor Beth Semel presented on anthropology and artificial intelligence, using her ethnographic research and theoretical insights to demystify what society popularly conceives of as "artificial intelligence." Professor Ikaika Ramones spoke about the beginnings of Indigenous studies at Princeton, sharing student projects that delved into the rich archive of former Princeton professor and Native anthropologist, Alfonso Ortiz. Jeffrey Himpele, who directs the department's VizE Lab, screened his unforgettable award-winning film, *Shame On You!* The script for this animated documentary was created directly from interviews with victims of debt collection lawsuits, and it reveals how shame about debt enables private debt collectors to prevail in civil courts. The event closed with a toast in celebration of Professor Rena Lederman, who transitioned to emerita status.





# Reunions 2024 Celebration

*We love welcoming our alumni back to Aaron Burr Hall and learning about their journeys and achievements and where they are taking anthropology.*



# Reunions 2024 Celebration

*The event closed with a toast  
in celebration of Professor  
Rena Lederman.*



# Genrietta Churbanova

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*2024 Valedictory Remarks  
by Anthropology Major  
Genrietta Churbanova*





# 2024 Valedictory Remarks by Genrietta Churbanova



Credits: Princeton University, Office of Communications, Matt Raspanti (2024)

*“In my experience, a defining feature of the University is that it encourages us — if not demands us — to ask questions. For questions lie at the heart of learning.”*

**G**ood morning, everyone. It is hard to believe that this day has finally come. I would like to start by acknowledging all of the people who have made this moment possible. Thank you to the faculty, for sharing your expertise, believing in us, and inspiring us. Thank you to the staff for keeping Princeton operational and Princeton students fed. We truly could not be here today without your important work. Thank you to our families and loved ones, who have put their hearts and souls into raising us and supporting us as we have navigated Princeton. I would also like to extend a special thank you to those individuals, whoever they may be, who inspired us to learn.

Throughout my life, I have always incessantly asked questions. Everywhere I went and everything I did, I constantly had a question mark on my lips. Whether I was chatting with family and friends or checking out at the grocery store, there was always something that I wanted to ask. Unsurprisingly, my affinity for asking questions extends to the classroom. In my sixth-grade history class, I asked so many questions that, for the sake of time, my teacher limited me to asking a mere three questions per class. I, of course, got around this restriction by slipping my friends the questions I wanted to ask on pieces of notebook paper.

No such high-stakes note-passing is necessary at Princeton. In my experience, a defining feature of the University is that it encourages us — if not demands us — to ask questions. For questions lie at the heart of learning.

I am well aware that those of us who are graduating today have had vastly different experiences at Princeton. Some of us, myself included, have thoroughly enjoyed our time here and will look back on it fondly for years to come. Others have a more complicated or ambivalent relationship to their time as undergraduates.

We have participated in different student groups, worked different jobs, and traveled to different cities over breaks. Simply put, there is no such thing as a singular, universal “Princeton experience.” For this reason, there is nothing that I can say here today that will accurately reflect each of our times at Princeton or that will be equally meaningful to us all. But I can offer a few words of reflection about something that I do believe has characterized all of our paths through the University, namely, the opportunity to learn.

Learning is a defining feature of our time as undergraduates. This is so self-evident that we sometimes forget to appreciate this fact. Princeton’s busy, dynamic semesters leave little room for reflection on why we are on campus in the first place: to learn.

Commencement gives us an opportunity to celebrate just how much we have learned over the last four years. We have learned about a diverse array of academic disciplines in lectures, seminars, precepts and labs. We have deepened that learning by engaging with our professors and preceptors outside of class. In fact, some of the most important learning that happens at Princeton takes place outside of the classroom. We have learned so much simply by forming friendships, getting to know each other and asking each other questions. These past four years of learning have, of course, equipped us with the knowledge and tools necessary to think critically, participate in intellectual debate and excel in our respective fields of work. Importantly, these past four years of learning have also taught us about ourselves. I hope that each and every one of us leaves Princeton with a new or reinforced sense of our values, priorities and dreams.

My fellow members of the Class of 2024, be proud of what you have learned. But never take it for granted. As Princeton

*“Learning is a defining feature of our time as undergraduates. This is so self-evident that we sometimes forget to appreciate this fact. Princeton’s busy, dynamic semesters leave little room for reflection on why we are on campus in the first place: to learn.”*

students, many of us are very aware that receiving a Princeton education is an incredible privilege. The reality that we are studying at Princeton, however, can make it easy to forget that receiving an education at all is an enormous privilege. As one of the roots of empowerment, education helps us enact positive change in the world, from creating life-saving medical treatment to inspiring anticolonial struggle. It is no surprise that those in power have historically sought to deny education to those they oppress, and that school and university curricula are even now the topic of such intense debate. Education gives us the power to challenge injustice.

Although our time at Princeton has come to an end, what we have learned as undergraduates will always be a part of us. No one can ever take our education away from us. In the coming months and years, many of us will ask ourselves: “How do I pay my Princeton education forward?” My personal answer is to be a lifelong learner and to share the knowledge you gain. Wherever you are and whatever you do, do not stop learning. For when we stop learning, we stagnate. Never forget that those around you always have something to teach you. And, most importantly, always ask tough questions, because systems and institutions that cannot withstand the scrutiny of tough questions must be made better.

With that, Class of 2024, I leave you. Congratulations, and never stop learning!

# Alumni Advisory Council

*The Anthropology Alumni Advisory Council is composed of accomplished alumni who have powerful experiences across multiple career paths, ranging from academia and research to public policy, healthcare and corporate sectors. Their unique perspectives and deep commitment to service greatly enrich the department. Their guidance and support ensures our continued success and growth.*



**Shikha Bajpai '13**

Indi Individuals, Inc.  
Portland, OR



**Kirsten Bruckbauer '02**

Bold Insight  
Evanston, IL



**Frederick Damon \*78**

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA



**Lauren Elcan '17**

Frist Cressey Venture  
Nashville, TN



**Stephen Jackson \*03**

United Nations  
Nairobi, Kenya



**Amy B. Porter '05**

Boston Children's Hospital  
Gates Mills, OH



**Steven Porter '04**

University Hospitals, riskLD  
Gates Mills, OH



**Elisabeth Powell '14**

Jones Knowles Ritchie  
Atlanta, GA



**Aaron Willis \*93**

Social Studies School Service  
Los Angeles, CA

# Credits

## 2023-24 Administration

Chair .....	<b>João Biehl</b>
Director of Graduate Studies .....	<b>Elizabeth A. Davis</b>
Director of Undergraduate Studies .....	<b>Onur Günay</b>
Manager, Finance and Administration .....	<b>Joseph D. Capizzi, Jr.</b>
Undergraduate Program Manager .....	<b>Kelly Lake</b>
Graduate Program Administrator and Assistant to the Chair .....	<b>Ryan Noll</b>
Communications and Events Manager .....	<b>Patricia Lieb</b>
Technical Support Specialist .....	<b>Jeremiah LaMontagne</b>

## Academic Report Team

Graphic Design .....	<b>Lula Rocha</b>
Editorial Manager .....	<b>Patricia Lieb</b>
Content Editors .....	<b>João Biehl and Joseph D. Capizzi, Jr.</b>
Copy Editor .....	<b>Kendra Juskus</b>
Photo credits .....	<b>Fotobuddy Photography</b>

*In the Nation's Service and  
the Service of Humanity.*

This report is available in PDF format at  
[anthropology.princeton.edu](http://anthropology.princeton.edu)



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### Street Address

116 Aaron Burr Hall Princeton, NJ 08544

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