

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
SEMESTER REPORT  
FALL 2017



# Faculty + Staff

## FACULTY

Anya Bernstein\*  
Associate Professor

Theodore C. Bestor  
Professor

David Carrasco  
Professor

Lucien Castaing-Taylor  
Professor

Steve Caton  
Professor

Jean Comaroff  
Professor

John Comaroff  
Professor

Peter Der Manuelian  
Professor

Paul Farmer  
Professor

William L. Fash  
Professor

Rowan Flad  
Professor

Byron Good  
Professor

Susan Greenhalgh\*  
Professor

Nicholas Harkness  
Associate Professor

Michael Herzfeld  
Professor

Ieva Jusionyte  
Assistant Professor

Arthur Kleinman  
Professor

Matthew Liebmann  
Professor

Richard H. Meadow  
Senior Lecturer

George Paul Meiu\*  
Assistant Professor

Michael Puett  
Professor

Jeffrey Quilter  
Senior Lecturer

Laurence Ralph\*  
Professor

Mary Steedly  
Professor

Ajantha Subramanian  
Professor

Christian Tryon  
Associate Professor

Jason Ur  
Professor

Gary Urton  
Professor

\*On leave Fall 2017

## VISITING FACULTY

Philip Kao  
Lecturer

Bilal Malik  
Lecturer

Stephen Kingsley Scott  
Lecturer

Kaya Williams  
Lecturer

## EMERITUS FACULTY

Ofer Bar-Yosef

Sally Falk Moore

C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky

James Watson

Nur Yalman

## STAFF

Robert Ackert  
Lab Manager

Judith Butler-Vincent  
Staff Assistant

Andrew Cepeda  
Staff Assistant

Angeline Della Fera  
Communications  
Coordinator

Marianne Fritz  
Graduate Program  
Administrator

Ernst Karel  
Lab Manager

Monica Munson  
Director of Administration

Cris Paul  
Staff Assistant

Monique Rivera  
Undergraduate Program  
Coordinator

Gilmore Tamny  
Administrative  
Coordinator

Linda Thomas  
Faculty Assistant

# Chair's Letter



*Gary Urton, Chair*

Dear Friends of the Harvard Department of Anthropology:

On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of the Department of Anthropology, I extend to one and all season's greetings and wishes for a Happy New Year!

The department had a fine and busy Fall semester, with major advances and accomplishments in all areas of the life of the department. Most notably, we celebrated several signal developments in securing, promoting, and seeking new department faculty members.

In terms of promotions, we are extremely pleased to report that our colleague Matthew Liebmann was promoted to full professor with tenure this semester! Matt's research focuses on the archaeology of the Southwest U.S., with a specialization in the contact period and the historic-era Pueblos of New Mexico. Matt's tenure and promotion ensures for the department not only the future research accomplishments of this extraordinary archaeologist of the southwest U.S., but also the exceptional teaching and advising commitments of a fellow who was named one of Harvard Crimson's 15 "Professors of the Year," in 2016.

We were also extremely pleased at the promotion to associate professor of Anya Bernstein, the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences (in a joint appointment with the Committee on Degrees in Social Studies). Anya is an anthropologist and documentary filmmaker, whose recent work has focused on the changing geopolitical imaginaries of mobile religious communities across Eurasia. In addition, our archaeology colleague, Christian Tryon, was promoted and named John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences. Christian studies the archaeological, evolutionary, environmental and geological contexts of early *Homo sapiens*.

A notable addition to the department staff was the appointment of Dr. Philip Kao as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies and Head Tutor, Social Anthropology. Philip received his B.A. in Economics from the University of Chicago (1999), his MSc in Social Anthropology and Development from the London School of Economics (2005), and his PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland (2014). Philip comes to us directly from a position as Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh.

On the teaching side of things, we were joined for the 2017-2018 academic year by Dr. Kaya Williams, who was appointed as a College Fellow in Social Anthropology. Kaya, who earned her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, in 2017, studies anthropologies of the U.S., criminal justice, race, law and affect, among other topics.

The department is deeply engaged this year in searches for two new faculty members. In Archaeology, we are currently conducting a search for a specialist in Archaeological Sciences at the Assistant Professor level. The search got off to an excellent start with a large number of applications in what will be a new position in this burgeoning field of archaeological research. In Social Anthropology, we are searching for a new junior-level position in Thai Studies. This new line came to the

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## CHAIR'S LETTER CONTINUED

department following the long and ultimately successful efforts of faculty members Michael Herzfeld and Arthur Kleinman to establish a position in this important area of research and teaching. We look forward to success in these two searches and to welcoming two new faculty members to the department next year.

Toward the end of the Fall semester, 2017, the department launched a new digital resource for teaching and pedagogical training in the discipline. This new resource, known as AnthroWrites, has been in development over the last year and is a disciplinarily focused version of the more general, university-wide digital resource, HarvardWrites. Modeled after but innovating on the latter, the department website includes text and videos highlighting department faculty and undergraduate concentrators discussing theory and practice in reading, writing and analyzing anthropological texts. AnthroWrites will serve as an important resource for both undergraduates taking courses in the department as well as for graduate students serving as teaching fellows in those courses. The development of AnthroWrites was funded by a grant from the Dean of Harvard College and is the product of the efforts of former Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Ramyar Rossoukh, as well as numerous students, staff and faculty.

The Office of Undergraduate Studies, under the direction of Ms. Monique Rivera, initiated a new program this year to attract concentrators, dubbed "Breakfast at Tozzer." Students were invited over several mornings to come to the Atrium of the Tozzer Anthropology Building to share breakfast and conversation with department faculty members. The program was a great success, with many conversations lasting well past the allotted time!

And finally, on the topic of commensality (!), the department chair hosted a faculty dinner at the Harvard Faculty Club at the end of the Fall semester, 2017. The faculty enjoyed an excellent dinner, along with wine and lively conversation. Each of the assembled faculty members was asked in turn to outline briefly a central issue or problem in his/her research, an assignment which stimulated much discussion and sharing of ideas and experiences. The result was a highly informative and lively discussion – a true 'symposium!'

On that note, I end this letter and wish all of our friends and colleagues a healthy, happy and peaceful 2018!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Urton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Gary Urton, Chair

# Student Achievements



SAMANTHA HAWKINS

**Samantha Hawkins** received a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for her research project entitled “Violent Death and the Social Regulation of Memory in Baltimore”.

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### ALICE HUANG

**Alice Huang** ‘18 had two articles published recently on *Vice Magazine*’s global website entitled 1.) “Why Birth Control Remains Just Out of Reach for Most Indonesian Women” and 2.) “Hypnosis Hysteria: We Get to the Bottom of Indonesia’s Mind-Control Robberies”. Huang is currently producing a documentary on debt collecting industry in Jakarta with *Vice*.

### MANNY MEDRANO

**Manny Medrano** ‘19 is publishing a paper in the journal *Ethnohistory* in January 2018 about the set of 17th century khipus he successfully decoded during his freshman year. Medrano is first author on the paper, a rare accomplishment for an undergraduate student.

## GRADUATE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

### MATTHEW MAGNANI

**Matthew Magnani** published three papers: “Photogrammetry and Stereophotogrammetry” in the journal *SAS Encyclopedia of Archaeological Sciences*; “Archaeological Ethnography of an Indigenous Movement: Revitalization and Production in a Skolt Sami Community” in the *Journal of Social Archaeology*; and “Three-Dimensional, Community-Based Heritage Management of Indigenous Museum Collections: Archaeological Ethnography, Revitalization and Repatriation at the Sámi Museum Siida” in the *Journal of Cultural Heritage*.

### RACHEL THOMPSON

**Rachel Thompson** has three recent publications: “An Island Enclave Wedged Into The Woods,” in *Reverse Hallucinations, Vol. 3 Intercalations: a Paginated Exhibition*; “Labyrinth of Linkages: The Essay Film as Fieldwork,” in *Between Matter and Method: Encounters in Anthropology and Art*; and “A Dutch Garuda to Save Jakarta? Excavating the NCICD Master Plan’s Socio-Environmental Conditions of Possibility,” in *Jakarta: Claiming Spaces and Rights in the City*.

# Faculty News



Anya Bernstein



Theodore Bestor



David Carrasco



Peter Der Manuelian

## ANYA BERNSTEIN

Anya Bernstein was appointed John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences in August 2017. She is a 2017-2018 Luce/ACLS Fellows in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs for her project and is currently in residence at Columbia University's Center for Religion, Culture and Public Life.

## THEODORE BESTOR

Theodore Bestor received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, from the Japanese Government in November 2017. The Order of the Rising Sun is one of Japan's highest distinctions. He also received the inaugural Senior Scholar award from the Society of Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology (SUNTA) section of the American Anthropological Association.

## DAVÍD CARRASCO

The inaugural lecture of the Eduardo Matos Moctezuma Lecture Series, an initiative by David Carrasco, kicked off in October 2017 with a presentation by pre-eminent Mexican archaeologist Eduardo Matos Moctezuma. The five-year series celebrates the 40-year collaboration between Carrasco and Moctezuma.

## PETER DER MANUELIAN

Peter Der Manuelian received several grants during Fall 2017: 1.) a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities for his project "Digital Giza", an immersive website exploring the history, culture, and archaeology of the Giza plateau; 2.) a grant from the Dean's Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship for his project "Educational Telepresence: The Virtual "Classroom"; 3.) a grant from the Committee for the Provostial Fund for the Arts and Humanities for his proposal entitled "The Jebel Barkal Stela of Thutmose I"; and 4.) a grant from the Committee for the Anne and Jim Rothenberg Fund for Humanities Research to support "Research in 3D: The Harvard Semitic Museum's Egyptian Collection project". Finally, the Harvard Semitic Museum, where Der Manuelian acts as Director, received a grant from the Mass Cultural Council to assist with renovations to its third-floor Mesopotamian gallery. The renovated gallery reopened with an exhibition entitled "From Stone to Silicone: Recasting Mesopotamian Monuments" in December 2017.



#### ROWAN FLAD

Rowan Flad's recent publications include: 1.) Andrew Womack, Yitzchak Jaffe, Lingyu Hung, Zhou Jing, Wang Hui, Li Shuicheng, Pochan Chen, Rowan Flad, "Mapping Qijiaping: New work on the type site of the Qijia Culture" in the *Journal of Field Archaeology*; 2.) Jianping Zhang, Houyuan Lu, Peter Weiming Jia, Rowan Flad, Naiqin Wu, and Alison Betts, "Cultivation strategies at the ancient Luanzaganzi settlement on the easternmost Eurasian steppe during the Late Bronze Age"; and 3.) Rowan Flad, "Urbanism as Technology in Ancient China" in *Archaeological Research in Asia*. He also gave several talks in Fall 2017, including: 1.) an invited talk entitled "Technology and Culture Change Along the Early Silk Roads" at the Denver Art Museum in December 2017 and 2.) a talk entitled "Investigating Technological Changes Along the Proto Silk Road in Northwest China" at the University of Albany in October 2017.

#### NICHOLAS HARKNESS

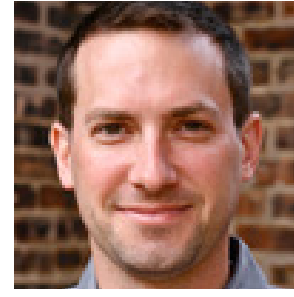
Nicholas Harkness has one recent publication: "Glossolia and Cacophony in South Korea: Cultural Semiosis at the Limits of Language". *American Ethnologist* in *American Ethnologist*. He also chaired the SBS Distinguished Lecture in the Social Sciences in September 2017.

#### MICHAEL HERZFELD

Brown University held a conference in honor of Michael Herzfeld entitled *Crypto-Colonialism and the Global South* in October 2017. He gave a talk called "Greece Between Imperial Rivals: The Crypto-Colonial Chimera". He also took part in a conference on food and heritage in Paris, where he gave the keynote address entitled "Manger les traces du «matri-moine» matériel: repenser le ménagement conceptuel de la cuisine" in November 2017. Additionally, he conducted a seminar entitled "Serendipity and Sociality: Conversations with Michael Herzfeld" at the Max Planck Institute in Goettingen, Germany in November 2017. Finally, Herzfeld published an article on anthropological realism in *Anthropological Theory*.



Rowan Flad



Nicholas Harkness



Michael Herzfeld



Ieva Jusionyte



Matthew Liebmann



George Paul Meiu

#### IEVA JUSIONYTE

Ieva Jusionyte received funding through the Dean's Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship Award for her project "Firepower: Social Biography of Guns and Political Economy of Violence in Mexico" in Fall 2017. She was also awarded an Academic Writing Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center, Italy, for a 1-month-long residency in 2018. Finally, Jusionyte has one recent publication: "The Wall and the Wash: Security, Infrastructure, and Rescue on the U.S.-Mexico Border." in *Anthropology Today*.

#### MATTHEW LIEBMANN

Matt Liebmann was awarded tenure and promoted to full Professor of Anthropology in December 2017. He will also serve as Director of the Archaeology Program in Spring 2018. Liebmann gave invited talks at Brown University (Department of Anthropology) and Wellesley College (Art History Department) in Fall 2017. He also published an article in *American Antiquity* entitled "From Landscapes of Meaning to Landscapes of Signification in the American Southwest" that lays out a semiotic argument for Jemez Pueblo's land claim on the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Finally, he

published a chapter entitled "At the Mouth of the Wolf: The Archaeology of 17th Century Franciscans in the Jemez Valley of New Mexico" in an edited volume, *Franciscans and American Indians in Pan-Borderlands Perspective: Adaptation, Negotiation, and Resistance*.

#### GEORGE PAUL MEIU

George Paul Meiu published a book entitled *Ethno-erotic Economies: Sexuality, Money, and Belonging in Kenya* in 2017. He also completed 6 months of ethnographic fieldwork in Kenya on a new book project, tentatively entitled *Rescuing Sex: Intimacy and the Rehabilitation of Citizenship in Kenya* in Fall 2017. Meiu gave a lecture entitled "Sexuality, Citizenship, and the Ethnographic Imagination" at the Kenya Medical Research Institute, Mtwapa, Kenya. Finally, he presented two papers in Fall 2017: 1.) a paper entitled "Rescuing Men? Life Course, Masculine Respectability, and the Governance of Vitality in Kenya" at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association and 2.) a paper entitled "Diapers and the Dialectics of Citizenship: Sexuality-Rescue Politics in Kenya" at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.



**JEFFREY QUILTER**

Jeffrey Quilter gave a talk entitled “Tales of the Moche Kings and Queens: Elite Burials from the North Coast of Peru” at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology in September 2017.

**CHRISTIAN TRYON**

Christian Tryon was appointed John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences in August 2017. Tryon was awarded a grant through the National Science Foundation’s Archaeometry Program for his project entitled “Improved dating of archaeological materials with coordinated stable isotope studies”. This grant is to develop the use of U-series dating on ostrich eggshell fragments in concert with other dating methods and paleoenvironmental proxies for application to sites across Africa and Eurasia.

**JASON UR**

Jason Ur spent August and September 2017 conducting an archaeological field survey in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. He was interviewed about his archaeological research in the Kurdish areas of Iraq, Turkey and Syria, including the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey (EPAS) by the Kurdistan-based Rudaw News Agency in 2017.

**GARY URTON**

Gary Urton was honored with an ‘honoris causa’ ceremony in July 2017, where he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the National University of Trujillo. In May 2017, Gary and Eduardo Neves, from the University of São Paulo were awarded a grant from the Lemann Brazil Research Fund at Harvard for research and a field school.



Jeffrey Quilter



Christian Tryon



Jason Ur



Gary Urton

# Fall Lectures + Events

## SEPTEMBER

Anthropology Day

speakers included: Nicholas Carter, Michael Herzfeld, Ieva Jusionyte, Jeffrey Quilter, Aylin Yildirim Tschöepe, Sadie Weber; with undergraduate panel: Amanda Flores '18 and Caroline Rakus-Wojciechowski '18

"Everyday Ethics and the Possibility of Critique"

a talk by Webb Keane, University of Michigan

"Experimenting in Somalia: The New Security Empire"

a talk by Catherine Besteman, Colby College

"Cultural Transmission and Lithic Technology in Middle Stone Age Eastern Africa"

a talk by Kathryn Ranhorn, Harvard University

## OCTOBER

"The Mountain's Slant: Gold Mining and Making Politics in Marmato, Colombia"

a talk by Elizabeth Ferry, Brandeis University

"An Archaeology of Food Choice during the Columbian Exchange in Banda, Ghana"

a talk by Amanda Logan, Northwestern University

Prospective Concentrator & Faculty Breakfast

Meet-and-Greet Anthropology faculty

"The Will to Security: Populism, the Press, and the Politics of Crime"

a talk by Robert Samet, Union College

"The Border Wall: Life and Injury on the Front Lines"

a talk by Ieva Jusionyte, Harvard University

"Modern Science and the Pre-Disciplinary Development of Indian Colonial Anthropology"

a talk by Chris Fuller, London School of Economics

Nightmare on Divinity Avenue

Trick-or-Treat/Meet-and-Greet Anthropology faculty and students

"Jomon Food Diversity, Climate Change and Long-term Sustainability: Lessons from Prehistoric Japan"

a talk by Junko Habu, University of California, Berkeley

"The Survival State: Mathematical Models, Political Depression, and the Sense of History in Putin's Russia"

a talk by Adam Leeds, Columbia University

## NOVEMBER

"Posting While Palestinian: Colonialism & the Internet in Israel and the West Bank"

a talk by Amahl Bishara, Tufts University

"Fort Center's Iconographic Bestiary: Notes from a Reanalysis of the Site's Wood Assemblage"

a talk by Margaret Spivey, Harvard University

"Ungovernable Life: The Making and Unmaking of Healthcare in Iraq"

a talk by Omar Dewachi, American University of Beirut

"Drawing Back the Dust: Goldsmiths and the Ethos of Relatedness in Bangkok"

a talk by Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University

"Government of Time: Israeli Policy of Shmitah of the Land and the Palestinian Citizens' Agriculture"

a talk by Natalia Gutkowski, Harvard University

"Exploring Processes of Racialization in Nineteenth Century Nantucket, Massachusetts"

a talk by Nedra Lee, University of Massachusetts, Boston

# Fall Course Offerings

*Anthro 98a: Junior Tutorial in Archaeology*  
Philip Kao

*Anthro 99a: Senior Tutorial in Archaeology*  
Philip Kao

*Anthro 1010: The Fundamentals of Archaeological Methods & Reasoning*  
Matthew Liebmann

*Anthro 1040: Origins of the Food We Eat*  
Richard Meadow

*Anthro 1095: Urban Revolutions*  
Jason Ur and Jeffrey Quilter

*Anthro 1210: Archaeology of Ancient China*  
Rowan Flad

*Anthro 1400: Quests for Wisdom: Religious, Moral and Aesthetic Experiences in the Art of Living*  
Arthur Kleinman, Michael Puett, David Carrasco and Stephanie Paulsell

*Anthro 1450: Water, Infrastructure, and Meaning*  
Steven Caton and Jason Ur

*Anthro 1610: Ethnographic Research Methods*  
Kaya Williams

*Anthro 1661/ HSEMR-LE 75: (Mis)Understanding Islam Today*  
Bilal Malik

*Anthro 1683: The City Jail: Race and Incarceration in the United States*  
Kaya Williams

*Anthro 1742: Housing and Heritage: Conflicts over Urban Space*  
Michael Herzfeld

*Anthro 1761/ VES 176W: The Cinema of Frederick Wiseman I: Towards a Visual Anthropology of Institutions and Power*  
Lucian Castaing-Taylor

*Anthro 2010ar: Materials in Ancient Societies: Ceramics*  
Richard Meadow

*Anthro 2026: Foundation Stones: Archaeological and Evolutionary Approaches to Lithic Technology*  
Christian Tryon

*Anthro 2059/ History 2059: Deep History (Graduate Seminar in Undergraduate Education)*  
Matthew Liebmann and Daniel Smail

*Anthro 2070a: Archaeological Method and Theory*  
Rowan Flad

*Anthro 2250b: Proseminar in Archaeology II*  
Gary Urton

*Anthro 2626/ AAAS 262 : Political Economy*  
Jean Comaroff and John Comaroff

*Anthro 2635: Image/Media/Publics*  
Mary Steedly

*Anthro 2646: Infrastructure and its Imaginaries*  
Stephen Scott

*Anthro 2650a: History and Theory of Social Anthropology: Proseminar I*  
Steven Caton and Ieva Jusionyte

*Anthro 2704: Linguistic Pragmatics and Cultural Analysis in Anthropology*  
Nicholas Harkness

*Anthro 2748: The History and Future of Psychological Anthropology*  
Byron Good, Alasdair Donald, and Robert LeVine

*Anthro 2751: Biocapital: Ethnographies of Knowledge and Value*  
Stephen Scott

*Anthro 2812: Space and Power*  
Ajantha Subramanian

*Anthro 2920: Probing the Polity: Alternatives to the State*  
Michael Herzfeld

*Anthro 3200: Dissertation Writing Workshop*  
Mary Steedly

*FRSEMR 44J: Clash of Titans, Seats of Empire: the Aztecs, Toltecs, and Race of Giants in Ancient Mexico*  
William Fash

*FRSEMR 70E: Discovering Cultures and the Sea: Navigation, Exploration, Conquest, and Trade*  
Ted Bestor

*FRSEMR 70N: Finding Your Inner Neanderthal*  
Christian Tryon

*AAAS 209a: Africa Rising? New African Encounters*  
Jean Comaroff and John Comaroff

*CULTBLF 58: Case Studies in Medical Humanities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Experience of Illness*  
Arthur Kleinman, David Shumway Jones, and Karen Thornber

*CULTBLF 62: Language and Culture*  
Nicholas Harkness

*SOCWORLD 25: Case Studies in Global Health: Biosocial Perspectives*  
Arthur Kleinman, Anne Becker, Paul Farmer, and Salmaan Keshavjee

*SOCWORLD 30: Moctezuma's Mexico: Then and Now*  
David Carrasco and William Fash

*SOCWORLD 51: Politics of Nature*  
Ajantha Subramanian

*Egyptian AA: The Language of the Pharaohs: Introduction to Egyptian Hieroglyphs I*  
Peter Der Manuelian





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