



THE EMIC



Sociology | Anthropology | Carleton College

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This coming winter term, Professor Jay Levi will be leading Carleton students on the bi-annual SoAn study abroad trip, "El Mundo Maya: Socio-Cultural Field Research Seminar in Guatemala and Chiapas".

SOAN TRIVIA



In 1898 Max Weber suffered a nervous breakdown that cut his university career short just as it was beginning to blossom. Unable to concentrate on his work, he took a prolonged sabbatical to travel until 1905. When he returned, he was reinvigorated and quickly completed his essays on methods and the protestant ethic. What country did Weber travel to in 1904 that is thought to have re-ignited his studies? (Parkin, 1982: 13-14)

Answer found on page 3

The Emic is published each term by Carleton's Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

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If you have questions, comments, or things you would like to submit for future editions of the Emic, please contact Mary at mdrew@carleton.edu.

STUDYING IN SPAIN

SHAYNA GLEASON

I am currently in Granada--which I highly recommend for any student who wants to study abroad in Spain. It has 1000+ year-old architecture, beautiful hiking trails right nearby, all the culture of a big city. It also has a large university and thus a substantial young-adult population. Granada is home to the Alhambra, the last stronghold of the Muslim empire that dominated Spain a thousand years ago. Granada is also remarkably cheap, as far as European cities go...and tapas come free with any drink here.

This place brims over with surprising delights--for example, a few weeks ago my roommate and I stumbled upon a series of three secret rooftop-terrace concerts at night, and we followed the group from place to place listening to local rock groups, Mediterranean folk music, etc. Just a few days ago, I went hiking with friends and had a beautiful moment... as we walked along a dirt road, this picturesque, elderly Spanish couple drove by on their tractor, and without a word, as they passed, the woman tossed us a vine of fresh grapes.

There is so much unexpected beauty to be discovered here.

This is only my second time out of the US, and my first time in Europe. I'm close with my family and feel very deeply rooted in my hometown, so at times I'm prone to keen homesickness. But before I left, my mother said something to me that helps me feel more grounded each day that I'm here. She asked me to go see her world for her. She's never seen Spain, and almost certainly never will, so in a vague sense, I'm doing this on her behalf. It helps me to imagine that the people I love are looking out at the world through my eyes, living these enchanted adventures with me.

I hope anyone remotely interested in Granada will feel free to contact me!

SoAn Majors Abroad This Fall

Shayna Gleason '17—Spain

Lydia Chu '17—Germany

Charles Linneman '17—Tanzania

Ingrid Hofeldt '17—India

Ankita Verma '17—Spain

Laura Levitt '17—Mexico

Connor Rechtzigel '17—Indonesia

Answer: During his travel, Weber's destinations were mainly in southern Europe and Italy in particular. However, in 1904 he made his one trip to the United States where he was enthralled by the pace and tumult of life in the big cities and by the strange democratic customs of the natives (Parkin. 1982: 14).

BECOMING AN APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGIST

CAROL TROSSET '81



I took anthropology to fill a distribution requirement that I thought didn't interest me much. I found questions and an analytical thought process that were fascinating and completely new to me. I declared a soc/anthro major. Wanting to try doing fieldwork, I received a Watson Fellowship and spent a year studying cultural identity in Welsh-speaking Wales. I then completed my PhD at the University of Texas at Austin; this included a second year in the field. While teaching in a sequence of leave-replacement positions, I turned my dissertation into a book and published it as Welshness Performed: Welsh Concepts of Person and Society (1993, University of Arizona Press).

While at Beloit College, I began teaching ethnographic research methods as a project-based course in which students worked as a team to study some aspect of the college. I continued this practice at Grinnell College, which initially hired me for one semester to do interview-based research on why so many people found it difficult to discuss diversity issues. Later that same year, I became Grinnell's

Director of Institutional Research. In June 2015, having also done similar work at Hampshire and Bennington Colleges, I came (back) to Carleton.

As an applied anthropologist working in institutional research, I study small communities. Some projects, such as a study I did of student and faculty views of the advising relationship, involve typical anthropological skills like interviewing and qualitative analysis. Others depend on statistical analysis; for example, I have used grid-group theory to examine multi-college student survey data and identify differences in institutional cultures. Sometimes, as in a study I did with a colleague on student end-of-course evaluations, it's most effective to combine quantitative and qualitative methods in the same research project. Since many institutional researchers have a purely quantitative background, I've also found a niche teaching professional workshops on qualitative analytical methods.

Applied researchers study things that other people want to know, rather than pursuing a topic simply because they themselves find it interesting. In my experience, applied research frequently has the wider audience, which includes the many people (often in college administration) who might use my findings. I look forward to learning what kinds of things Carleton will want to know about itself.

A PSA From Your SDAs

Join us in welcoming the two new SOAN Student Departmental Advisors Annie Sinner and Dan Bollinger. They took time out of their busy schedules to answers some questions about the major.

Why did you become a SOAN major?

Annie

I chose SOAN as my major because I love that what we talk about in classes is always relevant, or can be made relevant, to our lived realities. Since I'm interested in direct service work, I'm so grateful that my SOAN knowledge gives me the vocabulary and confidence to discuss inequalities and how they are produced and maintained on systemic and institutional levels.

Dan

I became a SOAN major for several reasons. I switched from Biology junior year because I was really missing thinking about the huge societal and structural questions that sociology and anthropology address. So I became a SOAN major because it stimulated me intellectually in a way that I haven't really found in other disciplines. I really enjoy wrestling with those questions about humanity and human nature. I also really appreciate the applicability of what the disciplines address in terms of the larger social issues that we are dealing with today. In the words of Jay Levi, "Anthropology (and Sociology) familiarizes the exotic, and exoticizes the familiar." It provides a self-reflective lens that I have really come to admire and depend on.

What are your top interests in SOAN?

Annie

Inequalities (and reproduction of inequalities), particularly related to class, race, and education. I'm also interested in conflict theory (resistance in particular) and life course theory.

Dan

I have various interests within sociology and anthropology. My persistent interests, however, have been in immigration and global migration issues, as well as different conceptions of health and how issues in health have been, and continue to be addressed. I have various other interests and I'd be happy to discuss them, so come talk to me about it!

conceptions of health and how issues in health have been, and continue to be addressed. I have various other interests and I'd be happy to discuss them, so come talk to me about it!

What advice would you give to students interested in SOAN?

Annie

SOAN courses are wonderful because they teach you how to question basically everything about the world around you---which can be frustrating but also incredibly empowering! This makes them not only academically, but oftentimes, personally challenging; class discussions and readings will make you reevaluate your social position and thus require that you consider different perspectives. Be willing to push yourself!

Our professors genuinely care about their students, invest in your learning, and want to get to know you! I have found that professors who I thought were intimidating in class were extremely supportive during office hours and responsive to my needs as a student. Just because you are usually quiet in class discussions doesn't mean that your professors don't notice or don't value what you bring to class--GET TO KNOW SOAN PROFS, they are lovely!

Dan

Do the readings!! They really help with your understanding in classes, and they make discussions way way more fulfilling. Also, make full use of professor's office hours! They all really like talking to you and answering any questions you may have. Finally, if you have any doubts about what you may do with a SOAN degree, it's actually one of those majors that provides you with the option of doing pretty much ANYTHING you want. So, don't let that turn you off. Take classes you're really interested in, and come with an open mind and ready to learn. That's all I got.



Feel free to contact
Annie or Dan with any
SOAN questions!



Faculty Updates

Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg

- Webs of Care across the Mothering Career: Care by and for Cameroonian Migrant Mothers and their Children in Germany." In *Care on the Move: Anthropological Perspectives on Work, Kinship and the Life Course*, edited by Erdmute Alber and Heike Drotbohm. London: Palgrave (in press).
- "Forging Belonging through Children in the Berlin Cameroonian Diaspora." In *African Journeys to Europe: Affective Circuits and the Pursuit of Social Regeneration*, edited by Jennifer Cole and Christian Groes-Green. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (forthcoming).
- Presented this summer On the Non-Circulation of Children: Migrants' Infrequent Fostering Arrangements between Germany and Cameroon. To be presented at the Council on European Studies International Conference of Europeanists, Paris, July 8-10. Session co-organizer (with Cati Coe): Governance and Affective Circuits of Care in African and Asian Migrations to Europe.
- "Race and the Politics of Immigration in Germany" Paper to be presented at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, co-sponsored by the Center for German and European Studies and African-American and African Studies Department, December 9, 2015.

Jay Levi

- Along with his former student Elizabeth Durham '12, currently a graduate student in anthropology at Oxford, had his chapter "Indigeneity and Global Citizenship" recently published in the book *Indigenous Education: Language, Culture and Identity* edited by W. J. Jacob, S. Y. Cheng, and M. K. Porter, Dordrecht:Springer 2015.

Annette Nierobisz

- Presented "The Flexible Worker and other Fantastical Myths of the 'New' Economy." at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.

Liz Raleigh

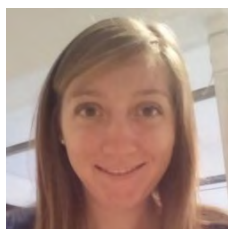
- Presented a paper on the racialization of transnational Asian Adoptees at the Immigrant America Conference: New Immigration Histories from 1965-2015, an interdisciplinary conference marking the 50th anniversary of the 1965 Immigration Act.

Alumni News



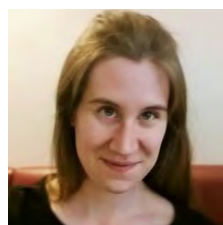
Liz Lewis '02

I live in Austin, Texas with my husband and our three-year-old son, and I'm in the final stages of completing a PhD in Anthropology at the University of Texas. My research focuses on the rare and undiagnosed disability community in the U.S., and I'm especially interested in the impact of social media on disability today. I love having an applied side to my work and I've started giving various talks on disability topics to non-academic audiences, which I love. I also launched one of the only anthropology of disability blogs, DisabilityFieldnotes.com. Check it out and feel free to drop me a line if you'd like to chat about Austin (which I love!), applied anthropology, academia, or anything else!



Sarah Prather '11

After doing the Peace Corps in Indonesia from 2012-2014 and a year of Americorps service from 2014-2015 with "I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County, I moved back to Surabaya, Indonesia in July 2015 to teach middle and high school at a small, private local Christian school for at least a year or two!



**Elizabeth (Izzy)
Durham '12**

I'm currently finishing up my MPhil in anthropology at the University of Oxford, with an expected completion date of July 2015. I was delighted to be recently awarded a Clarendon Scholarship to obtain a DPhil in anthropology at Oxford, but while I'm not keen on leaving England, I've decided instead to pursue my PhD at Princeton University. Assuming I don't fail my MPhil, I'll begin my doctoral studies in September 2015.

I also recently got engaged to James Kerson (also Carleton '12). We'd like to have a summer or fall 2016 wedding, but our planning so far has mostly focused on what kind of cake we're going to serve.
