

LEO COLEMAN, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

September 2019

Contact Information:

Department of Anthropology
Hunter College
695 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10065

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Research Areas

Political & Legal Anthropology; Technology & Infrastructure; Law & Personhood; Urbanism;
Modernism and the History of Anthropological Theory; India, British Empire, Scotland.

Academic Employment

Current Appointments

- Associate Professor of Anthropology
Hunter College, City University of New York (2015–present)
& the Graduate Center, CUNY (2019-present)

Previous Positions

The Ohio State University, Department of Comparative Studies

- Associate Professor of Science Studies (2014-2015)
- Assistant Professor of Science Studies (2008-2014)

Visiting Position

Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Hunter College (2014-2015, on leave from OSU)

Education

Ph.D., Anthropology, Princeton University (2008)

MA (Honours) [BA-equivalent], 1st Class, Anthropology & Art History, University of St Andrews (2002)

External Research Grants and Fellowships

2011–12 Vanderbilt University, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities,
William S. Vaughn Visiting Fellowship

2005–06 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Individual Research Grant, “Power Privatization in Delhi”

Institutional Research Support

2016 PSC-CUNY Research Grant, “Building a Constitutional Culture in Scotland”

2013 The Ohio State University, 2-year Faculty Grant for research in Scotland

2012 The Ohio State University, Mershon Center, Faculty Research Grant,
“Scottish Independence, In-Migration, and Political Belonging in Europe”

2007–08 Princeton University Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Pre-Doctoral Fellow

2007 Princeton University Institute for International and Regional Studies,
Dissertation Writing Grant (declined)

Honors and Awards

2011 Comparative Studies Faculty Teaching Award (departmental), Ohio State University

2003 Malcolm S. Forbes Merit Scholar, Princeton University

- 2002 Miller Prize for Outstanding Graduate In Arts, 2nd Place, University of St Andrews
 2002 Departmental Prize in Social Anthropology, University of St Andrews
 2002 O. Elfrida Saunders Prize for Excellence in Art History, University of St Andrews

Publications

Monograph

2017. *A Moral Technology: Electrification as Political Ritual in New Delhi*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
 [South Asian Edition] 2017. *Electrification as Political Ritual in New Delhi: A Moral Technology*. Delhi: Speaking Tiger Books.
 Reviewed in *American Anthropologist*, *Technology and Culture*, and *South Asia*

Edited Book

- Leo Coleman, ed. 2011. *Food: Ethnographic Encounters*. New York: Berg.

Special Issue

- Co-editor with Jessamyn Abel, Forthcoming. "Imaging Infrastructure" theme issue of *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 6(2) (Fall 2020).

Journal Articles [peer-reviewed]

2018. Building Scotland, Building Solidarity: A Scottish Architect's Knowledge of Nation. *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 60(4): 873-906.
 2017. "Functionalists Write II": Weird Empathy in Malinowski's Trobriand Ethnographies. *Anthropological Quarterly* 90(4): 973-1002.
 2016. Inside and Outside the House: A Narrative of Mobility and Becoming in Delhi. Special issue on "Migrant Narratives," edited by Susan Coutin and Erica Vogel, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. 45(6): 692-715
 2014. Infrastructure and Interpretation: Meters, Dams, and State Imagination in Scotland and India. *American Ethnologist* 41(3): 457-472.
 2014. Corporate Identity in *Citizens United*: Legal Fictions and Anthropological Theory. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, 37(2): 308-329.
 2012. Consequences of *Citizens United*: Notes on Citizenship and Corporate Personhood. Special Issue on "Appropriation" edited by Erin Fitz-Henry. *Intergraph: Journal of Dialogical Anthropology* (3)2: www.intergraph-journal.net.
 2009. Being Alone Together: From Solidarity to Solitude in Urban Anthropology. *Anthropological Quarterly* 82/3: 755-778.

Chapters in Edited Books

- Forthcoming. Afterword: People Thinking Energetically. In *Ethnographies of Power: Citizenship, Governmentality and Violence along the Energy Grid*, Tristan Loloum, Nathalie Ortar, and Simone Abram, eds. New York: Berghahn Books.
 2019. Widened Reason and Deepened Optimism: Electricity and Morality in Durkheim's Anthropology and Our Own. In *Electrifying Anthropology: Exploring Electrical Practices and Infrastructures*, Simone Abram, Britt Ross Winthereik, and Thomas Yarrow, eds., pp. 43-63. New York: Bloomsbury.
 2015. Power and Ignorance in British India: The Native Fetish of the Crown. In *Regimes of Ignorance*. Roy Dille and Thomas Kirsch, eds. Pp. 159-187. New York: Berghahn.
 2015. The Imagining Life: Reflections on Imagination in Political Anthropology. In *Reflections on Imagination: Human Capacity and Ethnographic Method*. Mark Harris and Nigel Rapport, eds. Pp. 195-214. Burlington, VT: Ashgate.

2014. A View from Anthropology: Anomie and Urban Solitude. In *The Handbook to Solitude: Psychological Perspectives on Social Isolation, Social Withdrawal, and Being Alone*. Robert Coplan and Julie Bowker, eds. Pp. 483-498. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.
2011. Introduction and Guide for Further Reading. In *Food: Ethnographic Encounters*. L. Coleman, ed. Pp. 1-16, 151-160. New York: Berg.
2011. Transnational India: Diaspora and Migration in the Anthropology of South Asia. In *A Companion to the Anthropology of India*. I. Clark-Decès, ed. Pp. 445-463. Malden, MA: Blackwell.
2009. The Obligation to Receive: The Countertransference, The Fieldworker, Protestants and Proselytization in North India. In *Being There: Fieldwork Experience and the Making of Truth*, J. Borneman and A. Hammoudi, eds. Pp. 113-150. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Book Reviews, Essays, and Other Publications

2019. Review of *Climate Without Nature: A Critical Anthropology of the Anthropocene* by Andrew Bauer and Mona Bhan. *American Anthropologist* 121(2): 526-27.
2018. New Release Book Review Essay, *The Mana of Mass Society* by William Mazzarella. *Anthropological Quarterly* 91(2): 799-810.
2017. Beauty's Knowledge: Hawthorne's Moral Fable "Rappaccini's Daughter." *Somatosphere: Science, Medicine, Anthropology*, 8 September: <http://somatosphere.net/2017/09/beautys-knowledge.html>.
2017. Material as Opposed to What? Three Recent Ethnographies of Welfare, Biological Labor, and Human Dignity. *Somatosphere: Science, Medicine, Anthropology*, 20 January: <http://somatosphere.net/2017/01/material-as-opposed-to-what-three-recent-ethnographies-of-welfare-biological-labor-and-human-dignity.html> [4,800 words].
2016. Why to Read Winnicott after the US Election, and How. *Somatosphere: Science, Medicine, Anthropology*, 18 November: <http://somatosphere.net/2016/11/why-to-read-winnicott-after-the-us-election-and-how.html> [1,600 words].
2014. Identity and Incorporation in *Citizens United* and *Hobby Lobby* [research note]. *Anthropology News Online*, 05 November, <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2014/11/05/identity-and-incorporation-in-citizens-united-and-hobby-lobby/>
2014. The Relevance of Personhood in *Citizens United* and *Hobby Lobby* [companion essay to "Corporate Identity in Citizens United"]. *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review Online*, 27 October, <http://www.polaronline.org/spillover/theory-and-law/essay-coleman/>
2014. *The Institutions of Meaning: A Defense of Anthropological Holism*, by Vincent Descombes [Book Review]. *Somatosphere: Medicine, Culture, Anthropology*, 18 August: <http://somatosphere.net/2014/08/descombes-the-institutions-of-meaning.html> [4,300 words].
2012. An Accounting for Taste [review of Paul S. Allen, *The Omnivorous Mind*]. *The Wall Street Journal*, May 21: A13.
2012. New Release Review Essay [review of Paul Rabinow, *The Accompaniment: Assembling the Contemporary*]. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 85(1): 283-292.
2012. Universes of Kinship [review of Maurice Godelier, *The Metamorphoses of Kinship*, transl. Nora Scott]. *Somatosphere: Medicine, Culture, Anthropology*, 20 January, <http://somatosphere.net/2012/01/universes-of-kinship.html>.
2010. From Honey to Ashes: The Intellectual Journeys of Lévi-Strauss [review of Patrick Wilcken, *Claude Lévi-Strauss: The Poet in the Laboratory*]. *Somatosphere: Medicine, Culture, Anthropology*, 01 September, <http://www.somatosphere.net/2010/09/from-honey-to-ashes-intellectual.html>.
2009. Conflicted Doctors [review of Jacob Copeman, *Veins of Devotion: Blood Donation and Religious Experience in India*]. *Somatosphere: Medicine, Culture, Anthropology*, 10 January, <http://www.somatosphere.net/2009/01/conflicted-doctors-review-of-copeman.html>.

Presentations, Workshops, and Invited Talks

2019. Kula Ring and International Order: Malinowski's Notion of Order, Mauss's Order of Gifts, Conference on "Sciences of the International," Swiss Graduate Institute, Geneva, Nov 6.
2019. Ambedkar's Constitutional Morality: Towards an Anthropology of Legal Form, Yale University Department of Anthropology/South Asian Studies, Oct. 28.
2018. Equality: An Anthropology of Legal Form. Columbia University "Culture/Power/Boundaries" Seminar, December 10.
2018. Co-organizer (with Jessamyn Abel) & Workshop Leader. Asian Studies Summer Institute on "Infrastructure." Pennsylvania State University, June 10-16.
2017. Against the Invisibility of Infrastructures. CUNY Graduate Center Anthropology Colloquium, March 10.
2016. Magical Words and Political Speech. Plenary Address at *CUNY Language, Society & Culture Conference*, Borough of Manhattan Community College, May 20.
2014. Imperial Trust: Colonial Citizenship and the Constitution of Political Desire. Workshop on "Affinities, Affiliations, and Affects: Queer Theory in South Asia and its Diaspora," Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, March 7.
2012. High Walls and Mobile Affects: Gating, Desire, and Danger in Neoliberal Delhi. Global Fusions Conference on International Media Studies. Athens, Ohio, October 27.
2012. Ignorance and Government in British India: The Native Fetish of the Crown. Invited seminar paper for "Regimes of Ignorance," University of Konstanz, Germany, August 2.
2012. Noir Urbanism: Privatization and Political Imaginations in New Delhi. Program in Asian Studies, Vanderbilt University, March 30.
2011. Imagination and Solidarity: Key Concepts in Political Anthropology. Invited seminar paper for "The Imagination: A Universal Process of Knowledge?" St Andrews Centre for Cosmopolitan Studies, University of St Andrews, Sept 22.

Interviews/Other Media

- Cultures of Energy Podcast, "A Moral Technology," discussion with Cymene Howe & Dominic Boyer. July, 2018. <http://culturesofenergy.com/134-leo-coleman/>
- New Books Network Podcast, "A Moral Technology," discussion with Madhuri Karak. January, 2018. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/leo-coleman-a-moral-technology-electrification-as-political-ritual-in-new-delhi-cornell-up-2017/>

Recent Conference Papers & Participation (full list available upon request)

2019. Opening Remarks, "Interrogating Infrastructures: Interdisciplinary Conversations," Seminar at Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 17.
2019. Malinowski, Isabelle Clark-Decès, and the Anthropology of Law. Clark-Decès Memorial Conference, Princeton University, March 29.
2018. Panel Chair and Co-organizer (with Leilah Vevaina), "The Uses of the Trust: Law, Property, and Collective Purposes." American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 16.
2018. Roundtable Participant, "What's Law Got to Do With it?" American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 17.
2018. Technology's Constitution: Electricity Grids and State Boundaries in Scotland after 1943. Society for the History of Technology, St Louis, MO, October 12.
2017. Personification, Trust, and Corporate Life in British Constitutional Politics, 1904/2017. On panel "Prospects for a Critical Anthropology of Corporations." American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, December 1.

Professional Service & Editorial Experience

- 2019– Book Reviews Editor, *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2015– Editorial Board, *Political And Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2015–2018 Editorial Collaborative, *Somatosphere: Medicine, Culture, Anthropology*
- 2013–2015 Communications editor and *ex-officio* Board Member, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
- 2010 Peer Reviewer for *Journal of Energy History / Revue d'histoire l'énergie,,*
 –present *American Anthropologist, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Society, Cultural Anthropology, South Asia, Ethnos, Anthropological Quarterly, American Ethnologist, Political and Legal Anthropology Review*
- 2012
 –present Manuscript Reviewer for Duke University Press, Berghahn Books, Stanford University Press, and Berg Press
- 2004–2008 Co-Founder and Contributing Editor, *The Princeton Report on Knowledge*

Selected University Service

Department of Anthropology, Hunter College

- 2018-Pres Director of Graduate Studies
- 2015-2018 Undergraduate Advisor
- 2018-Pres Curriculum Committee

The Ohio State University

- 2010–14 Faculty Oversight Committee for South Asian Studies
- 2012–14 Center for Historical Studies, Program Committee
- 2014 Humanities Institute Committee on Data Analytics
- 2013 Comparative Studies Ad-Hoc Committee for Science Studies Curriculum
- 2010–13 Comparative Studies Graduate Admissions & Graduate Studies Committee

Teaching & Advising***Postdoctoral Supervision (CUNY)***

Philippe Messier, postdoctoral scholar in residence at CUNY Graduate Center, 2018-2020.

Doctoral Committees (CUNY)

In progress, Committee Member:

Nandini Ramachandran, Zehra Hussain, Merritt Corrigan, Jason Gerdes

Doctoral Committees (OSU)

Completed, Chair:

D. Lyness (2014) "Chasing the Object of US Homeless Policy: Mobility and Migration in the Urban American West"

Completed, Committee Member:

Z. Fazlioglu Akin (2017). "Cultural Policy in E.U.-Turkey Relations" (Arts Admin Ph.D.)

O. Nir (2014): "Nutshells and Infinite Space: Globalization and Totality"

J. Kurz (2014): "The Figure of the Refugee"

A. Kumbier (2009): "Ephemeral Material: Developing a Critical Archival Practice"