

OCTOBER, 2023

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



NEW TRADITIONS: ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Good afternoon JHU Anthropology undergraduates, graduates, faculty, & affiliates! New this year, the Anthropology department will be sending out newsletters throughout the semester to keep everyone up to date about school-wide & department specific events. We hope to use the newsletter to foster a greater sense of visibility, communication, & community.

In this edition, you will find information regarding academic & department calendars, Anthropology specific speaker & department events, & interviews featuring the new cohort of graduate students & new staff.

Newsletter Highlights

INTRODUCTION: NEW

TRADITIONS

WELCOME BACK

PARTY

ACADEMIC & DEPARTMENT

CALENDARS

NEW GRAD STUDENT &

FACULTY INTERVIEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS &

REMINDERS

If you are interested in submitting events, accomplishments, pictures, or interviewing for the newsletter, please reach out to the Anthropology Department Academic Assistant, Andrea, at avillic1@jhu.edu or the Admin Assistant, Jenny Clarke at jennyclarke@jhu.edu.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: WELCOME BACK PARTY!



JHU ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

JHU SCHOOL- WIDE ACADEMIC CALENDARS & INFORMATION

The office of the University Registrar has a helpful website where you can find University & school specific academic deadlines for each semester. To access this website at any time, go to:

<https://registrar.jhu.edu/academic-calendar/2023-2024/>

Or scan the QR code:



Some important dates to keep in mind for the remainder of the semester:

- Fall Break: **October 18-19**
- Fall Recess: **November 20-24**
- Last day of classes for KSAS students: **December 8**
- Reading period: **December 11-12th**
- Exam days: **December 13-21st**

JHU ANTHROPOLOGY
Fall 2023 Colloquium Series
Mergenthaler 426
4-5:30PM
Reception to follow

September 26 Danilyn Rutherford, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Proprioceptive Sociality	November 7 Kareem Rabie, University of Illinois at Chicago Co-sponsored by the Program in Racism, Immigration, and Citizenship, JHU Shifting Priorities, and how Private Development is Transforming Aid, Governance, and Daily Life in the West Bank
October 10 Book Symposium: Jewish Primitivism, by Sam Spinner (MLL, JHU) Clara Han (JHU), Andrew Brandel (University of Chicago), Talia Katz, Naveeda Khan, and Sam Spinner (JHU)	November 8 Dan Galpern, Climate Protection and Restoration Initiative Climate Change and the Rule of Law
October 17 Jana Kopelent-Rehak, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, JHU We live in the Water: Changing Climate and Socioecology on Smith Island	November 28 Kwame Edwin Otu, Georgetown University The Salvage Slot: Technologies and the Ecologies of the After-afterlife in Neoliberal Ghana
October 31 Svea Closser, Bloomberg School of Public Health, JHU Can Critical Medical Anthropology Create Change in Global Public Health? Reflections from the Belly of the Beast	December 5 Department of Anthropology Methods Workshop December 12 Marios Falaris, Johns Hopkins University <i>Akh dam: Mood within a Moment</i>

Hybrid Event: <https://zoom.us/j/92699946481>

JHU ANTHROPOLOGY
GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING
WORKSHOP WITH
Dr. Danilyn Rutherford



President of the Wenner-Gren Foundation for
Anthropological Research

Wenner-Gren Foundation
supporting anthropology worldwide

26 10:30am-12:30pm
September Room 439

JHU Anthropology Department
Fall 2023 Colloquium Series

**JEWISH
PRIMITIVISM**
SAMUEL J. SPINNER

In discussion with **Clara Han** (JHU), **Andrew Brandel**
(University of Chicago), **Talia Katz** (JHU), &
Naveeda Khan (JHU)

Mergenthaler 426
October 10th, 2023
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Hybrid event: <https://zoom.us/j/92699946481>

Please contact Jenny Clarke for the introduction of the book at jennyclarke@jhu.edu

Anthropology- Specific Calendar Events

Each semester, the Anthropology department hosts a semester long colloquium series featuring speakers from JHU & other universities. Above, you can find the colloquium poster for Fall 2023 with all of the remaining dates & talks.

Attached are also some past posters for these speaker events. To stay up-to-date on these speaker series, please visit our events page at:

<https://anthropology.jhu.edu/events/>

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: OMOTAYO ADEKUNLE ADENUGBA



In one sentence, please describe your research or areas of interest:

Climate change and sustainability in the Ogoni community.

Where are you joining us from? What do you miss most about home?

I flew 41 hours from Nigeria so I'm very new to Baltimore and the United States generally. It was a really tiring experience for the first week in Baltimore as an international student. One thing that has really helped is that there is a center for African studies and being able to meet people who have introduced me to some African communities and African Markets. I think one thing I really miss from home is that in Nigeria, we have more of this community-like thing that is kind of different from the individual. My neighbors here, we haven't even seen each other and we've been staying together for like 3 months!

What have you liked most about Baltimore?

The Egyptian cinema! It's like Egypt in America, the architecture and everything makes you feel like you're in Egypt. It's a regular movie theater but the architecture and paintings are Egyptian. I've been there like 4 times now.

Check out the Egyptian movie theater at:



NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED: OMOTAYO ADEKUNLE ADENUGBA

Is there any advice or words of wisdom you'd like to share with the department?

Within my few days, one thing I've really learned is that growth is not perfection, it's something you do a step at a time. Coming into grad school has really shown me that because I've actually met a lot of people that are way more experienced than me. For the first week I felt really intimidated but like I've kind of tried to just come to the understanding that they passed through a similar process. I understand I'm just building myself. People should try to understand growth and build themselves up to it if they feel like there are things they're not doing yet.

If anyone wants a Nigerian dish, they can reach out to me!

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: SASHA KRAMER



In one sentence, please describe your research or areas of interest.

My research is on cultures of mourning in America, but more specifically it's looking at the green burial movement in the U.S which is a movement that is trying to make burial and memorial practices here more environmentally friendly.

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED: SASHA KRAMER

What is the reason you chose to go into and stay in anthropology?

My undergrad degree was in Environmental Studies & I had taken a course in something called *Political Ecology*. Political Ecology is within a realm of anthropology and I was introduced to the work of Paige West. After undergrad, I pursued an interest in Journalism but I had always had in the back of my mind to pursue a degree in anthropology. But I also wanted to have work that was more place-based and consisted over a long period of time. So I did a masters in anthropology at San Francisco State before coming here since my undergrad wasn't in anthropology.

Outside of work/school what are some of your interests and hobbies?

I like to go hiking with my dog, that's a big one. I like exploring, I do pilates, and writing. Writing is a hobby for me but that's also work, so....I also sing by myself!



Sasha's dog, Roo

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

AJA LANS



In one sentence, please describe your research or areas of interest.

Integrating black feminist theory with bio-archeology.

Do you currently work cross functionally with any other departments at JHU?

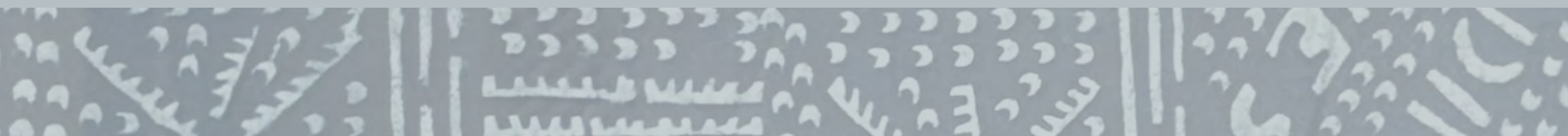
Yes, I work with Anthropology and the Center for Africana Studies.

What initially drew you to Hopkins?

When I was applying to jobs, this job specifically was through the Center for Africana Studies. If I was going to keep doing the work that I do, which is a lot of times very stressful and emotional, I can't be in a department where I am constantly explaining things black people already know to my colleagues. So I was like, if I'm going to keep doing this, then I at least want to be in a department and university where I'm not doing that with my colleagues. This department in particular has a lot of activist anthropologists & really informed folks. & being part of the Center for Africana studies meant I was not just a diversity hire.

Is there anything you would like to share with the rest of the Anthropology Department?

My dogs are my children, they are all I care about. I work so that my dogs can have a good life so tell your dog I said hi. & send food recs my way!





Aja's two dogs, Lolita & Tank

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JULIA ALVES DE COSTA



In one sentence, please describe your research or areas of interest.

My main interest is to understand the overlap of climate change effects and how people who are affected by it are dealing with it.

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED: JULIA ALVES DE COSTA

Where are you joining us from? What do you miss most about home?

I'm Brazilian so I came from Brazil to do my PhD. I lived my whole life in Rio & I moved to Baltimore in August. It's not necessarily home itself that I miss but definitely it sometimes can be a challenge communicating in a second language so I would say that I miss speaking Portuguese. But I would say that people here are very kind and it's a very multicultural, diverse city.

What are you most looking forward to for the rest of the year?

To be honest, I'm looking forward to the change in seasons. I'm very curious to know how Baltimore is. I think I will have more time to get to know the city during winter break when I don't have class anymore or assignments.

And definitely trying to find ways to relax and organize my schedule better. I think sometimes it's very easy for PhD students to have a really extreme workload but getting your PhD needs to be enjoyable because it's a big part of our lives.

**Special thanks to all of the graduate students & faculty who
participated in the interviews.**

UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

November Department Gathering

When:

**Friday,
November 10th**

Where:

Mudd Cafe

Time:

4-5:30pm



Anthropology Lunch Hours

WHEN: Every Wednesday from 1-2pm

WHAT: No stress hang out, cookies & drinks provided

Presenting at the AAAs

If you are presenting at the AAAs, please post in the relevant channel in Teams. Naveeda is in the process of making a flyer titled "JHU at AAA".

Anthropology Goings On Board

If you have ideas of what you would like to see on the new board, please reach out to Naveeda at nkhan5@jhu.edu.

A reminder to people to please send in the labels for their photographs to Jenny @ jennyclarke@jhu.edu