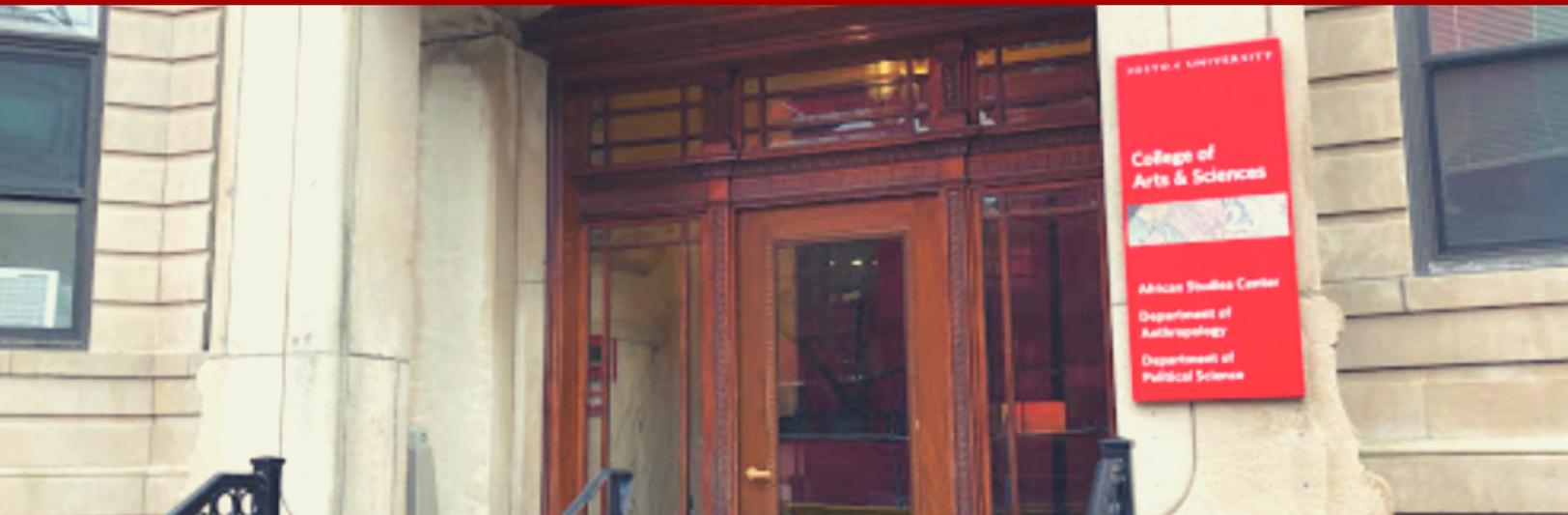


BU Anthropology News

The official newsletter of the Boston University Department of Anthropology



NEWS AND EVENTS

Happy Holiday Break!

We have had an exciting semester back on campus! We used our giving day funds from last year for department social events such as the end of the semester "Burritos on the Charles Dept Picnic" and the beginning of the semester "Dept Welcome Picnic on the Charles." The funds were also used to make improvements to the graduate student offices and add to the Graduate Assistance Travel/Conference Fund. Additionally, some giving day funds went toward department talks and events like the Emerging Scholars Program on "Addressing Systemic Racism in Health and Medicine" and the 2021 NEEP Conference. Lastly, we earmarked funds for both Anthropology in the Works club events/support and the upcoming Annual Barth Lecture Series.

Keep reading to learn more about what our students, faculty, and alumni have been up to this semester. Check out the end of the newsletter for contact information and how to stay updated on what BU Anthropology is doing.

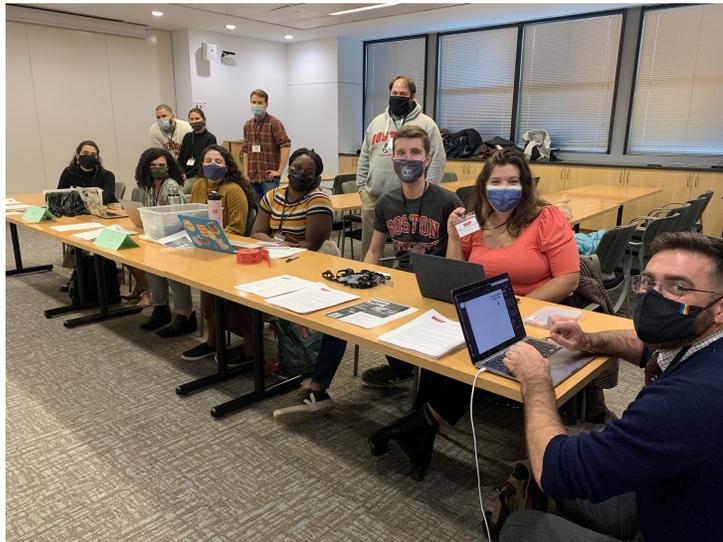
PAST EVENTS

- *2021 NEEP Conference: Nov. 5 & 6*
- *Lunch Talks: Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, & Nov. 12*
- *Emerging Scholars Program "Addressing Systemic Racism in Health and Medicine": Nov. 11 & 12*

NORTHEASTERN EVOLUTIONARY PRIMATEOLOGISTS (NEEP) CONFERENCE

November 5-6

On November 5-6, the Department of Anthropology at Boston University was proud to host 150 primatologists at the 7th Annual Northeastern Evolutionary Primatology (NEEP) Conference. The conference was organized by department faculty members Eva Garrett, Christopher Schmitt and Cheryl Knott with grateful assistance from BU graduate students, undergraduates and staff.





2021

NOVEMBER 5, 2021-
NOVEMBER 6, 2021

LIFE SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING BUILDING
24 CUMMINGTON MALL
BOSTON, MA 02215

Keynote Speaker

DR. MARTIN SURBECK



Register HERE:



SCHEDULE:

On-site registration:
Room 103 (directly across the foyer from the entrance)

All talks:
Room B01 (down the central staircase in the foyer)

Opening reception and lunch:
Room B03 (down the central staircase)

Poster session:
Building foyer

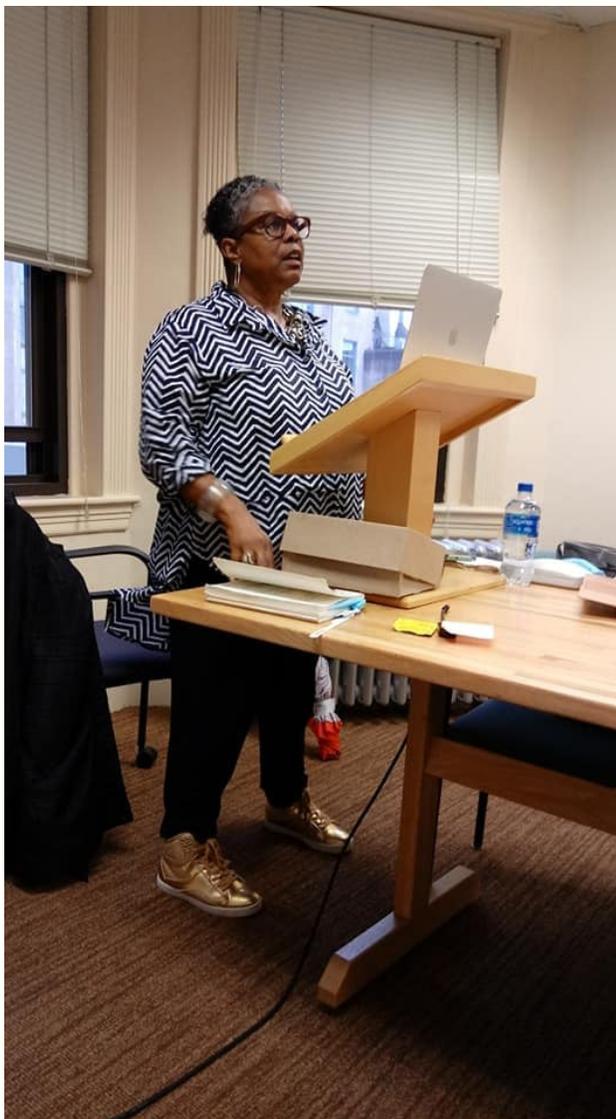


EMERGING SCHOLARS

November 11-12

Also in November, we held an exciting Emerging Scholars event titled "Addressing Systemic Racism in Health & Medicine."

The event included a public roundtable of seven scholars and a lunch talk given by Dana-Ain Davis, Professor of Urban Studies and Anthropology and director of the Center for the Study of Women and Society at the Graduate Center at Queens College.



Boston University Arts and Sciences Department of Anthropology

SYSTEMIC RACISM IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE: AN EMERGING SCHOLARS PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE

DR. DANA-AIN DAVIS
Professor of Anthropology, Queens College and CUNY Graduate Center
CHAIR AND MODERATOR

DR. NATALI VALDEZ
Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, Wellesley College
MODERATOR

DR. CHELSEY CARTER
Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton University
PANELIST
"Medical Gaslighting" in ALS Care: Black Patients' Quest to be Heard, Seen and Understood

MS. YESMAR OYARZUN
PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Rice University
PANELIST
On Anti-Black Devices and Dermatological Perception

MS. CLAUDIA MORALES
PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, UMass Amherst
PANELIST
Disability, Debilitation, and Migration: the Emergence of Networks of Care

MR. FABIÁN FERNÁNDEZ
MD Candidate UCSF, PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Berkeley
PANELIST
Policing Care - Safety and the Administration of Racialized Affects in a U.S. Emergency Department

DR. DIANA BURNETT
ACLS Fellow, Kairos Center for Religion, Rights, and Social Justice
PANELIST
Spiritualizing Racial Health Inequalities: The Conversation between Pathology and Theology

ZOOM WEBINAR
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12TH FROM 4:00 - 5:30PM
<https://bu01st01ml.zoom.us/j/691n9r7e01ster?pwd=VZM0LSR3OQZEF0PDM0B00M>

SUPPORTING PROGRAMS

- CAS Dean's Office
- CAS Office of Associate Dean for Diversity & Inclusion
- CAS Department of Sociology
- CAS Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
- CAS African American Studies
- BU MS Medical Anthropology and Cross Cultural Practice

BU Boston University Diversity & Inclusion



NEW COURSES

Spring 2022

Spring 2022 Course:
CAS AN 563/IR 563 Public Religion and Politics Across Cultures

Prof Robert Hefner
 T/R 12:30-1:45

This course examines the role of religion, religious movements, and secularism in modern politics, citizenship, and public life. Readings and discussion focus on the implications of the global religious resurgence for democracy, multicultural tolerance, and gender equality, both in Western liberal democracies and the global south.

Prerequisite: Junior, Senior or Graduate standing or consent of instructor

This course is hubbed for Global Citizenship & Intercultural Literacy, and Social Inquiry II.

AN 563/IR 563 Public Religion & Politics Across Cultures: Professor Robert Hefner

AN 585 **ADVANCED READINGS IN AFRICAN ETHNOGRAPHY**

"Still We Rise"
 Arnie Smith's 2018 mural facing Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Boulevard at Alberta Commons Natural Grocers, 5905 N.E. MLK Blvd Portland, OR

Close readings of new and recent ethnographic work that explore the dynamic relationship between systems of power, culture, struggle, and creativity within Africa and through the African Diaspora. Strong emphasis is given on brooding trans-Atlantic circulations of knowledge and performance repertoires as well as the long-term structural legacies of slave raiding, enslavement, and liberation struggles.

Readings include work by Achille Mbembe, Diana Fuss, John Jacobson, Rosalind Shaw, Kamasi Maxine Clarke, Leah Mullings, Whitney DePless, and Deborah Thomas.

SPRING 2022
 T/R 9:30 AM-10:45 AM
 PROF. MARK AUSLANDER

AN 585 Advanced Readings in African Ethnography: Professor Mark Auslander

HOW & WHY DOES CULTURE CHANGE?

AN 598 **SPECIAL TOPICS: CULTURAL EVOLUTION**

with Professor Luke Glowacki

Cultural evolution has important implications for understanding human nature. But how and why does culture change? The answers to these questions yield insights into anthropology, psychology, and economics as well as the very nature of our species. We tackle studying cultural evolution through a series of accessible readings and lively class discussion.

COGNITIVE GADGETS
 THE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS
 JOSEPH BENNIG

SPRING 22
 TUES.
 3:30 - 6:15 PM

AN 598 Cultural Evolution Professor Luke Glowacki

Spring 2022

GRS AN 701
THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF MATERIALITY
 T 3:30 - 6:15
 PROF ANDREA BERLIN

In this course we interrogate how anthropologists use material realities, meaning the three-dimensional sense of objects and places as well as the consequences of their effects. Materiality theory elevates physical remains from mere goods to firm evidence that in turn is fundamental to all facets of the discipline, from the auras invoked in aboriginal dreamtime to the sermonic interventions created by trash. Materiality is confrontational. Its physicality demands a decision about how to respond. We will explore facets of materiality theory via case studies, including elemental evidence within human bones, conceptual categorizations of stone tools, power-laden messaging of monumental architecture, and self-embodiment through dress and personal belongings. We will learn how materiality shouldered its way into the anthropological landscape, and how it has inspired new disciplinary practices and new ideas.

GRS AN 701 The Anthropology of Materiality: Professor Andrea Berlin

TR 2-3:15
 SPRING '22

AN 594 *special topics*
the ANTHROPOLOGY OF EMPIRES

Professor Thomas Barfield

This course covers the political, economic, and social structures of empires in Eurasia and North Africa from an anthropological perspective. Examines how they became and remained the world's largest polities for 2500 years only to all vanish in the early 20th century.

AN 594 The Anthropology of Empires: Professor Thomas Barfield

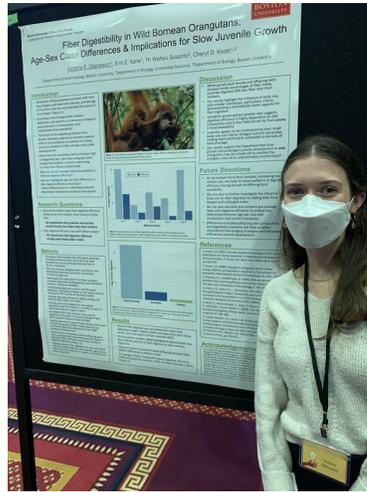


AN 327 Islam in Africa: Professor Fallou Ngum

STUDENT NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

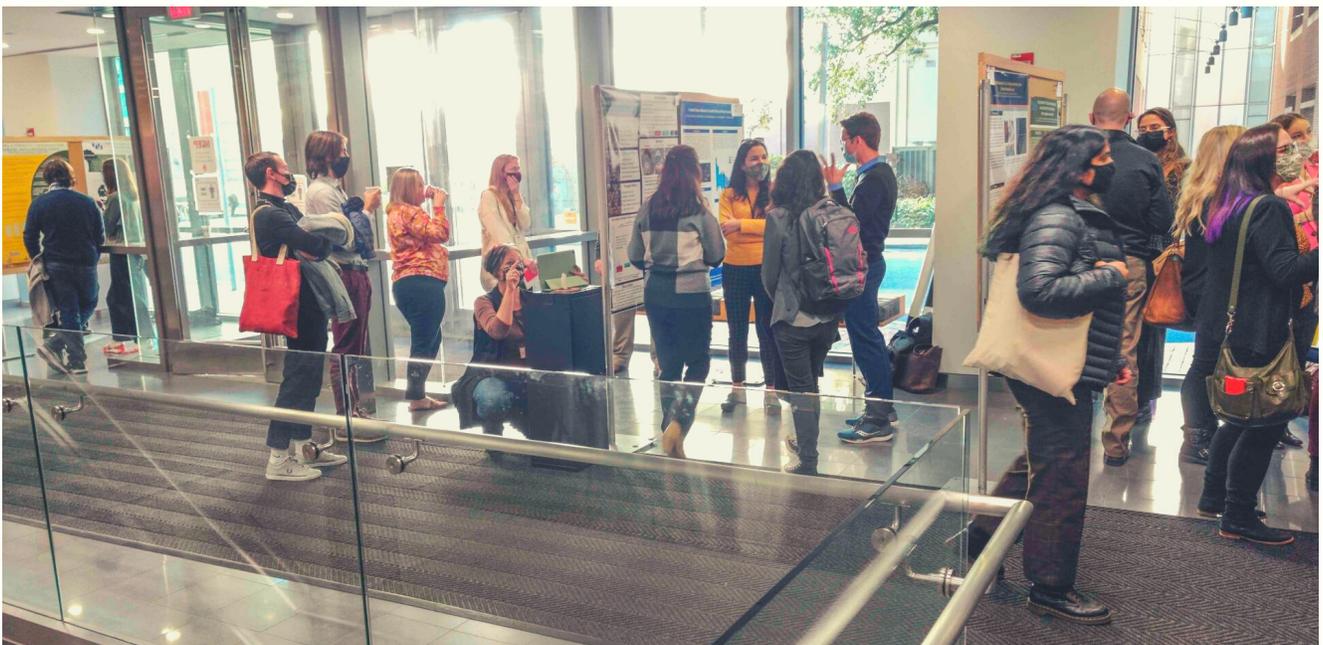
Undergraduate and Graduate Presentations & Defenses

Congratulations to Salwa Tareen, pictured below, who has just successfully defended her prospectus and is now ABD!



Anthropology major Victoria Zdanowicz, pictured on the left, presented her poster on "Fiber Digestibility in Wild Bornean Orangutans: Age-Sex Class Differences & Implications for Slow Juvenile Growth, at Boston University's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Symposium on Friday, Oct 24.

Anthropology major Charlotte Beatty, pictured on the right, presented her UROP Project "Throwing Out Tradition and Creating New Timelines: College Student Attitudes Towards Marriage and Family" at the 24th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

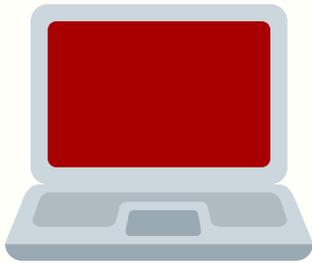


FACULTY & ALUMNI NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications, Presentations & Updates

Congratulations to Prof Christopher Schmitt who has an article in (Anthropology and Biology) Year in Review for American Anthropologist, “Year Without End: Primatology in 2020” that was published online.

Click the computer icon below to read the full article!



Congratulations to BU grad student, Salwa Tareen, who got married this summer!



BU Grad Pritika Sharma successfully presented her paper "Marriage, Romance, and Destiny: Locating Individuals' Desire and Autonomy within Familial Social Structures in India" at the MARRAS (Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies) Conference.

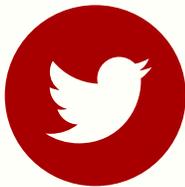


Congratulations to BU alum & adjunct Mentor Mustafa on his new daughter, Faro Mustafa!



Thank you!

Follow us on social media!



More news? Did we fail to include your achievements? Did we get something wrong?
Please let us know and we will be happy to publish in a future newsletter.

Contact:

Nancy J. Smith-Hefner, Professor and Department Chair, smhefner@bu.edu
Veronica Little, Department Administrator, vcittle@bu.edu

Join our mailing list:



If you want to help support the Anthropology Department:



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