

What is Anthropology?

- Anthropology concerns itself with humans as complex social beings with a capacity for language, thought, social interaction and culture. The study of anthropology is about understanding the origins and working of these aspects of human life among peoples throughout the world and through time.
- The word *anthropology* comes from the Greek *anthropos* ("human") and *logia* ("study").
- A key aim of anthropology is to understand the common constraints within which human beings operate as well as the differences that are evident between particular societies and cultures
- Anthropology is an inter-disciplinary field with four main subdivisions that range across science, social science, and the humanities:
 - **Sociocultural anthropology** studies the taken-for-granted assumptions about the contemporary social and cultural human experience, no matter where it is found around the world
 - **Archaeology** is the study of human social and cultural behaviour in the past.
 - **Linguistic anthropology** is the study the ways in which language shapes social and cultural life.
 - **Biological anthropology** investigates human physical origins, growth, and development in relation to environmental, genetic, and sociocultural factors.



Anthropology has been taught at Trent since 1964-65, the year the university first offered classes.



Mianzha 2004: terrace system climbing a hillside to the North of MRS 34 (Facing North)



Anthropology is now the fifth largest department at Trent, based on the total number of tenure and tenure track faculty currently in the department.



Why Anthropology?

Anthropology is the only discipline that focuses on all aspects of the human experience. By studying anthropology, students gain insights into how humans relate to other primates, how history has shaped our culture, how diverse the human experience has been, and yet how similar all people are. The study of anthropology necessarily leads to tolerance and understanding of other traditions. It also provides a sophisticated grounding for understanding the complexity of the modern world, both in terms of multi-cultural interaction and in terms of our impact on the natural environment.

Why Anthropology at Trent?

For almost half a century, Trent has had one of the foremost Anthropology Departments in Canada. The Anthropology Department at Trent has always been proportionately larger than departments at other universities. This has allowed us to provide comprehensive coverage of all four sub-disciplines. As detailed below, the faculty is not only large, it is also distinguished.

The Anthropology Department at Trent

Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropologists

Julia Harrison
Sharon Hepburn
Roger Lohmann
Paul Manning
Anne Meneley
Jackie Solway

Biological Anthropologists

Anne Keenleyside
Jocelyn Williams

Archaeologists

James Conolly
Paul Healy
Gyles Iannone
Susan Jamieson
Eugène Morin
Marit Munson
John Topic

Administrative/Technical Support

Cathy Schoel (department secretary)
Kate Dougherty (Lab demonstrator/
Departmental technician/Head TA)

SOCIOCULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGISTS

Julia Harrison (DPhil, Oxford)

Sociocultural Anthropologist

Where I work: Haliburton, Ontario; southern Ontario, generally, Alberta, British Columbia; Hawai'i

My research questions:

- How can the act of being a tourist be understood as a particular cultural practice, not a universal human desire?
- How do recreational practices (such as spending time at the cottage) shape assumptions of national identity, gender, race and class, family and community?
- What do museums symbolize as institutions of civil society?
- Is there such a thing as 'Canadian Anthropology'?

Current Research

Through research I am doing with cottagers in Haliburton, Ontario, I am examining what the assumption made by of them that owning and enjoying a cottage suggests about ideas of national identity, race, class, gender, family and community. I am particularly interested in what role memory plays in making cottage, and travel experiences more broadly, meaningful to those who dedicate significant financial, psychological and emotional energies to them.

"My research on tourists in addition to what anthropologists have written has taken me to material published in cultural geography, sociology, history, cultural studies, literature, and the popular press."



"Considering the enormous popularity of recreational travel, I found that there had been little written on the tourist experience as late as 1990 by anthropologists, or any other social scientists for that matter. I launched a research project aimed understanding the tourist experience more thoroughly, which resulted in my Being A Tourist: Finding Meaning in Pleasure Travel. (2003)."

Sharon Hepburn (PhD Cornell)

Sociocultural Anthropologist

Where I work: Nepal, England, Peterborough**My research questions:**

My research is focused on thinking about what is “western” culture?

I am interested specifically in the following questions:

- Cultures differ but all people die: What is the role of the fact of mortality in human culture(s)? How is mortality variously understood, experienced, and represented?
- How are the senses variously developed and emphasized in culture? How does the way we see the physical world parallel the way we see the social world?
- How do people represent who they are – to themselves and others – through material culture?

Current Research

I am working on a book about the various ways Nepalis interact with tourists in Nepal. The book covers diverse topics such as the production of religious art for the tourist market, the adoption of tourist clothing by Nepalis, and how Nepalis perceive and understand tourists. I present this work within a discussion of the nature of how people “see” the world and the people in it, physically and socially.

I’m also presently working on a project on the travel writing (by westerners) about Nepal, from the 19th Century through to the current civil war. Is it about Nepal, or about western culture?

I ask how “Englishness” (as a kind of western cultural identity) is being questioned and transformed in relation to a citizenry which is increasingly diverse. How is Englishness variously represented through material items such as clothing, government issue such as postal stamps, and religious souvenirs.

My work on death is also new, and focused in Peterborough. In this I ask how people talk about and imagine what mortality is. Are we really “death-denying”?

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Roger Lohmann (PhD Wisconsin)

Sociocultural Anthropologist

Where I work: Papua New Guinea

My research questions:

- Why do humans believe in the supernatural/religion?
- Are behaviours, languages and cultural objects shaped by imagined, even idealized, visions of the world?
- Who are the Asabano people in central Papua New Guinea?
- How does human biology and evolution contribute to the cognitive apparatus with which we imagine, perceive, and express culture?
- How do linguistic categories and experiences of the imagination influence one another?
- How can we recognize products of the imagination expressed in material culture more accurately, so that archaeological questions about their antiquity and spread can be answered?

Current Research

In 2005 I commenced work on a new, multi-year program of research documenting how the Asabano model and experience imagining with the mind and perceiving with the senses. Methods include interviewing people on their views of imagination and perception; analyzing spirit encounter narratives; recording elements of the Asaba language related to experience; and studying material culture as creatively planned, perceived and used.

“My work links schema theory (which shows how mental representations of reality are both influenced by and shape perceptions) with the study of the range of conscious states (like dream, trance, and alert) to show how experiences people understand to be supernatural can occur, and appear to provide evidence for religious beliefs.”

“I have produced the only ethnographic description of the Asabano people of Papua New Guinea.”



“As a psychological anthropologist, I use findings of psychology and cognitive science to inform my anthropological studies. In a more historical vein, I have used colonial documents in conjunction with extensively researched oral history to document the history of the Asabano from the decades before contact with the West in the 1960s, through their reaction to colonialism including religious conversion, until the present as citizens of independent Papua New Guinea.”

Paul Manning (PhD University of Chicago)

Linguistic Anthropologist

Where I work: Former Soviet Republic of Georgia; Wales

My research questions:

- How did the urbanized gentry in the Republic of Georgia emerge first as a tsarist, and later socialist, intelligentsia?
- I seek to understand Georgian 'drinking cultures' (focussing on vodka, wine, soft drinks and beer), particularly as they are expressed through language and popular ritual. (I am preparing this work as a manuscript that would introduce key concepts of linguistic anthropology, particularly in Introductory Anthropology courses).
- How has the standardization of the Welsh language naturalized ideas of 'Celticity'? How did the Welsh language become known as the 'language of the rocks', and how did it engage at a political level the class and ethnic hierarchies which separated the Welsh and the English?

"My work has strong historical dimensions, along with an active commitment to fieldwork, in areas of language ideology, political and print culture, and other non-aural media."

Current Research

I am currently preparing two book manuscripts:

- One is on Georgian 'drinking cultures'
- The other, based on an examination of local newspapers beginning in the mid-19th century, explores how the cultivation of a particular Georgian elite identity first developed in the Tsarist period, continued in the socialist period, and is now expressed in the post-1989 Georgian state. It will be titled *Aristocracy of the Soul*.

Anne Meneley (PhD NYU)

Sociocultural Anthropologist

Where I work: Yemen, Tuscany, Umbria, Palestinian Occupied Territories, Toronto.

My research questions:

In my research I have explored the following questions:

- What are the politics of hospitality and social exchange among wealthy elites, particularly in Middle Eastern countries?
- How do certain foods and ideas about them circulate in global economies?
- How do consumer movements shape the marketing of food as 'good'?
- What economic and political factors shape academic practice in the university?

Current Research

I am interested in understanding olive oil as a commodity; as a 'good' fat; and as a political statement. My next project will focus on the global circulation of fair trade, extra virgin olive oil from the Palestinian Occupied Territories and its role in various peace initiatives in the region.

"When I teach my food courses, I draw on all sorts of sources, including culinary history, and contemporary food activism."

Jackie Solway (PhD Toronto) (cross appointed with IDST)

Sociocultural Anthropologist

Where I work: Southern Africa, Botswana in particular

My research questions:

How is trust established between a state and its citizens? What are the mundane, everyday practices that either foster or discourage citizens' confidence in their state?

- What are the continuities between 'traditional' political systems and the modern world? Do any continuities between these two contribute to or inhibit modern democracy?
- How are ethnic identities constructed and under what conditions do they become politicized?
- How have rural livelihoods transformed as a consequence of changes in trade and production regimes at the local, state and international levels? What are some of the political consequences of these transformations?

Current Research

My new project analyses historical and contemporary dynamics in the livestock industry in Botswana, especially as the industry is increasingly constrained and affected by changing international trade arrangements, consumer preferences, and market competition. The manner in which the state managed the livestock industry fostered class compromise within the country and promoted a sense of citizen inclusion in the industry's benefits. Current transformations in production and marketing are altering established patterns. Thus the livestock industry serves as barometer of changing political and economic relations at the local, state and global levels. At its broadest level, my work in Botswana, a relatively successful African democracy, strives to counter pervasive 'Afro-pessimism', by endeavouring to reveal conditions that both promote and undermine the institutionalization of democratic practice.

"As an anthropologist, conducting long-term local rural and urban research, I can illuminate not only the state level processes that contribute to and mark democracy's development (such as open elections, effective institutions, and bureaucratic transparency) but I can also elucidate the local dynamics of democratic citizenship such as participation in civic life, identification with and trust in the state, local organizing, power dynamics, decision making processes and the relations between the local and the state. In particular, I can understand and draw attention to the routine, mundane and daily practices that contribute to or impede democratic practice."



"Much of the work on the state and democracy in Africa highlights failure, corruption and fiscal insolvency. By studying Botswana, considered by many to be Africa's success story, I can not only counter the pervasive attitude of 'Afro-pessimism' but also investigate and reveal conditions that enabled relatively effective forms of governance to take root."

BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGISTS

Anne Keenleyside (PhD McMaster University)

Biological Anthropologist

Where I work: Black Sea coast of Bulgaria; Tunisia

My research questions:

- What does the macroscopic, microscopic, and chemical analysis of human skeletal remains tell us about the health and diet of populations in Classical Antiquity?
- How does the data derived from human skeletal remains compare with information on health and diet obtained from archaeological evidence and ancient literary texts?
- What were the biological and behavioural adaptations of Greek and Roman populations, and was there interregional variability in these adaptations?

Current Research

I use stable isotope analysis to reconstruct diet I explore variations in diet with respect to age, sex, and social status. I am working on a project involving the excavation and analysis of a Roman cemetery from the site of Leptiminus (2nd-4th centuries AD) on the Mediterranean coast of Tunisia. This research focuses specifically on diet and integrates stable isotopic and palaeopathological data with archaeological evidence in the form of faunal remains and food residues recovered from ceramic vessels excavated from the site.



I am currently investigating the health and diet of the Greek colonial population of Apollonia Pontica (5th-2nd centuries B.C.), on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, through the analysis of skeletal remains excavated from the site.

Jocelyn Williams (PhD University of Calgary)

Biological Anthropologist

Where I work: South America (Peru) and Mesoamerica

My research questions:

- How does what we eat relate to social factors such as gender, social class, and political organization?
- What is the relationship between nutrition and health in past populations? Are we able to ‘get at’ this in the archaeological record?
- How have breastfeeding and weaning practices changed over time? Do they relate to larger social issues such as political organization and social class?
- How well does archaeological evidence for diet align with chemical evidence of diet?

Current Research

I continue to work on the Puruchuco-Huaquerones Cemetery Project in Lima, Peru, expanding the isotopic analyses of the thousands of individuals buried at this cemetery. My recent work is focussing on refining interpretations about population movement and seasonal use of the environment using hydrogen and sulfur isotopes in hair (in addition to carbon and nitrogen). Future work will incorporate oxygen isotope analysis, to investigate the geographical origins of this cemetery population. I will also be a co-investigator on a SSHRC grant this fall on another project in the Acari Valley in Southern Peru. In addition to basic osteological analyses at this site, I will also be investigating diet (using stable carbon and nitrogen isotopes) and also the origins (using oxygen isotopes) of the sacrifice victims located at this site.

“The chemical approaches (specifically stable isotope analysis) I use to directly quantify diet in ancient populations by analyzing the ratio of certain elements (carbon, nitrogen, sulphur, oxygen and strontium) in both soft (hair, nail, skin, muscle) and hard (bone and tooth) tissues has only been used in anthropology since the 1970’s. As such it is still a developing field and we are constantly testing the limits and potential of this application. Furthermore chemical analysis of tissues is rare in South America, and no studies exist that test how diet changed with the Spanish invasion or with the Inca conquest. The chemical analysis of multiple tissues from mummified individuals is very rare and only a handful of researchers, working on much smaller samples than I have access to, have attempted this type of research.”

“I combine data from chemical analysis with data from a variety of sources including: archaeology (artefacts, grave offerings, style of grave, ceramics, environmental reconstructions and site layout); osteology (forensic identification of age, sex, height, trauma, disease, dental health, occupation-related changes to the skeleton); ethnohistory (documents written around the period of the Spanish invasion that detail the culture around this time period); human biology and medicine (information about health, diet, height in modern South American populations); and cultural anthropology (research on the transmission of culture, how people’s food choices is about their culture, power relationships and the influence of the state).

ANTHROPOLOGICAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

James Conolly PhD London (Canada Research Chair, Archaeology)
Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Southwest Asia (Syria, Turkey), Europe (Greece, the UK), and Canada.

My research questions:

- Why and how did agriculture begin, and why has it become the modal subsistence practice of the majority of humanity?
- What is the relative importance of demographic, cultural and environmental factors on subsistence change?
- How can computational methods assist the work of archaeology?

Current Research

As an archaeologist interested in human palaeoecology, I am currently engaged in projects concerned with the origins, spread and evolution of early agriculture in Southwest Asia and Europe, large-scale population movement, and Mediterranean island colonization and abandonment sequences. I am currently co-directing a project on a remote island in Greece, which is recovering data about the way the human-environment relationship has evolved over the past seven thousand years.

"I work in 5,000 to 10,000 year time slices which makes my work distinctive. At local scales (e.g., the island on which I work) my work provides the local community with tangible evidence of their distant past and provides support for sustainable heritage-based tourism; at larger scales my work contributes to increasing public interest in human-environmental relationships, particularly the ways in which humans have previously responded and adapted to such things as environmental change."



"I work with and respond to ideas from geographers, botanists and evolutionary ecologists."

Paul Healy (PhD Harvard)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Central America (Belize, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Panama) and the Caribbean (Antigua, Trinidad).

My research questions:

Particularly in relation to Mesoamerica and Mayan archaeology I am interested in

- How, why, and when did ancient people make the transition from egalitarian to hierarchical, stratified societies?
- How, why, and when did settled life and farming cultures emerge?
- What was the role of religion (or economics, politics, warfare) in the rise of complex societies in antiquity?
- Why do complex societies (states) appear to pass through cycles of “rise and fall”?

Current Research

Currently, my research focus is on three different regions of the Americas: Mesoamerica (Belize), Lower Central America (Honduras & Nicaragua), and the Caribbean (Trinidad and Antigua). More specifically, I continue with detailed analysis of Preclassic Maya (ca. 1200 BC-AD 250) remains from the sites of Cahal Pech and Pacbitun, both located in the Belize River Valley. Some of these remains are at Trent. At the same time, I am working on analysis of archaeological remains from several sites in NE Honduras (Selin, Rio Claro) and SW Nicaragua (Santa Isabel, San Cristobal), also at Trent, and the Manzanilla site in Trinidad and Royal's site in Antigua. The studies vary from place to place, but include examination of landscape and settlement; technology, trade, and economics; subsistence and animal exploitation; ritual and ceremonialism; and socio-political evolution (especially the rise of complex societies and chiefdoms).

“I have conducted over 30 years of archaeological investigations in the Maya lowlands (Belize) including excavations at many Maya archaeological sites (Cahal Pech, Caledonia, Caracol, Mountain Cow, Moho Cay, and Pacbitun) in Belize. I have created many practical opportunities for “hands-on” field and laboratory research training in archaeology for dozens of Trent undergraduate and graduate students.”



“I rely on chemists and physicists for dating of wood and geological samples, and isotope analysis of bones; biologists for assistance with faunal (animal bone) analysis; botanists for analysis of ancient plant remains; soils experts for insights to sediments; geologists for perspectives on cave formations; geographers for insights to land formations; linguists and epigraphers for analysis of early Maya hieroglyphic texts. I also recently worked with geologists at SGS-Lakefield (formerly Lakefield Research, Inc.), a pre-eminent, multinational mining corporation located down River Road. They had analytical equipment (and geological expertise) we did not have at the university, but which was very useful to me as an archaeologist (helping to provide precise identification of stone artifacts, helping me to locate sources for these, which in turn provides insights to prehistoric trade routes).”

Gyles Iannone (PhD London)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Belize, Central America.**My research questions:**

My research focuses on three broad areas:

- the factors leading to the rise of social complexity and inequality
- the processes that led to the emergence of state level societies
- the reasons behind the “collapse” of some states.

Current Research

I am currently investigating how the rise and fall of the royal court at the ancient Maya centre of Minanha affected the diverse stakeholders comprising the greater Minanha community during the 8th and 9th centuries A.D.

I am currently working on the following manuscripts:

Pouring Some Water on The Drought Hypothesis

This paper begins by outlining the characteristics of the infamous “Maya collapse.” It then critically evaluates the “drought hypothesis,” which is currently the most popular explanation for what has long been termed the Maya “collapse.”

Inter-Regional Studies: Collapse of State-Level Societies

This encyclopaedia chapter addresses the questions: Why did many early states “collapse” so dramatically after centuries of apparent success? What are the characteristics of collapse? Are these episodes of collapse unique, or are there patterns to be found within the various sequences of decline? Why did some states collapse, whereas others avoided a similar demise?

Most of my current research asks the following questions:

- *what are the characteristics of the “collapse” of a state?*
- *why did some early states collapse, whereas others did not?*
- *what are the key causes of a collapse?;*
- *what are the characteristics of the communities that survive a collapse;*
- *what can we learn from the collapse of early states that might help us head off a contemporary collapse?*

Susan Jamieson (PhD Washington State)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Ontario/North American Northeast

My research questions:

In my research I am interested in outlining the nature and consequences of social interactions in southern Ontario's past as can be determined from archaeological remains, especially stone tools. I begin with the following questions:

- Where did the raw material from which this object is made come from (local, regional, long distance)?
- Was the object made locally, either in whole or in part, or was it imported?
- How old is the object?
- What are the inferred social and historical contexts of this sort of object relative to locus where I am working, to larger southern Ontario contexts, and to contexts farther afield?
- What is the meaning of this object in the past and in the present?
- How can this knowledge be applied in a practical sense?

"My research is used to help resolve an Indigenous land claim and to assist First Peoples with regaining their heritage, with heritage management, and with the construction and legitimization of contemporary identities."

Current Research

- a critique of attributions of presumed linguistic affiliations to archaeological cultures by archaeologists working in Ontario;

Based on material from a site on the north shore of Stony Lake, I am preparing the following papers:

- a discussion of sacred built and manufactured remains including a humanly constructed pond (likely dating ca. 2,000 years old); miniature projectile points (5,000 - 6,000 years old), and engraved stone (ca. 3,000 years old)
- analysis and description of a steatite vessel to determine if it was imported from the mid-Atlantic region or was a locally made piece
- a re-analysis of a collection of shell artifacts from the Royal Ontario Museum which were collected during the late 19th and early 20th centuries from Neutral Iroquoian sites and have not yet had any coherent study.

Eugène Morin (PhD University of Michigan)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Western Europe (more particularly France), Eastern North America

My research questions:

Most of my current research focuses on the following questions:

- How can we explain human behavioural change during the Pleistocene?
- How do the Neandertals relate to other human populations, including modern humans?
- What are the factors that lead to the diffusion of agriculture in aboriginal eastern North America?

Current Research

My current research assesses human behavioural complexity during the Late Pleistocene (particularly the period between 45,000-30,000 years ago), with a special focus on the subsistence strategies and ecology of the Neandertals and early modern humans. I have also recently published on nutritional aspects affecting human consumption of animal resources, methods of faunal analysis, and on the interpretation of site formation processes.

“My research contributes to refine our understanding of how humans impact and are impacted by climatic change. It also provides new perspectives on how people selected, and still select, food resources.”



“Explaining the “deep” past cannot be achieved alone. As a result, I work closely with scholars from vastly different, yet complementary, horizons, such as biological anthropologists, evolutionary biologists, nutritionists, light stable isotope analysts, nuclear physicists, and sedimentologists.”

Marit Munson (PhD New Mexico)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: The US Southwest, especially New Mexico

My research questions:

- Who produced art in the ancient Southwest? How does art reflect the lives, thoughts, and concerns of the individuals who made and used it?
- What is the relationship between art and gender?
- What does art do? How do people use art to show their identities, reflect religious beliefs, or demonstrate their power?
- In what ways are the physical properties of art materials, such as colour, important in different cultures?
- How have museums and markets promoted ancient, historic, and contemporary Native art in the Southwest?

Current Research

- My current field research looks at rock art (petroglyphs) and ritual practice in the 12th-14th century Pueblos of northern New Mexico. The project centers on how religious leaders helped unite diverse populations into large, peaceful villages following a period of turmoil and conflict.
- My current work with the history of Native art in the Southwest focuses on an artist and archaeologist Kenneth Chapman, who was instrumental in creating a fine art market for Pueblo pottery in the early 20th century. I am especially interested in Chapman's relationships with Pueblo potters and painters in the 1910s.
- I recently began writing a book on art and archaeology in the Southwest; it will introduce graduate students and scholars to the theories and methods that are useful in studying ancient artwork.



"I bring together subjects – art and archaeology – that often are kept quite separate. Studies of ancient objects tend to focus either on the aesthetics of a piece as art (as in when pottery is displayed in an art museum) or on the information of an artifact (as when archaeologists study pot sherds to try to figure out who traded with whom). My work combines methods and theories from archaeology and other parts of anthropology with art history, material culture studies, and history."

John Topic (PhD Harvard)

Anthropological Archaeologist

Where I work: Andean region of South America

My research questions:

My intellectual curiosity begins with the question: What happened in the past? Then, within the context of my research focus I seek to understand:

- What is the nature of prehistoric Andean society?
- How were monuments constructed?
- What functions do monumental buildings serve?
- To what extent is coercion, as opposed to cooperation, involved in the development and continuance of early Andean states?
- How is religion integrated into the political and economic organizations of Andean societies?

Current Research

My current project is the study of an Andean oracle, Catequil. We want to determine when sites associated with the oracle were first occupied; and we are examining historical changes in the cult. We are also looking at the infrastructure supporting the oracle by examining sites housing a service population and pilgrims.

The following are some of the publications I am working on:

- An article that argues that the cosmology that is made explicit by oracles like Catequil is both sacred and secular. Inca kings were not legitimized by oracles; rather, both kings and priests used oracles to understand the world and influence outcomes.
- Another discusses warfare on the north coast of Peru from about 3500 BC until the Inca conquest of the area in about AD 1470.
- A third article is on the settlement patterns in the Huamachuco area of the northern highlands of Peru
- A fourth article is for a comprehensive, multivolume, guide to ethnohistoric sources for the visual arts. My contribution, with Eric Deeds, discusses the “relación de los primeros agustinos”, a document dating to 1561.
- The article I am just now finishing is on the domestic economy of Chan Chan, a city on the north coast of Peru.
- The editing of the proceedings of a conference which brought together scholars from Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina. It was sponsored by the Institute of Andean Research.



“My research is primarily in archaeology, but it also draws frequently on ethnohistory and ethnography.

“There is an academic value to my work, but there is also value returned to the community. I have helped put together museums for two towns, trained tourist guides, and given lots of radio, television, and newspaper interviews in Peru. I regularly give talks at the local orphanage, to school children, and university students in Peru. I have been honoured by the city of Huamachuco for my contributions to developing an understanding of their history and prehistory. A gallery in the Huamachuco museum is named after my wife and I (also a Peruvian archaeologist). A book on the folklore of Huamachuco was dedicated to us and we recently received the highest civic award the city can give.”

Funding our Research

Anthropology faculty have been awarded over \$2,600,000 in research monies in the last seven years. These awards have come from national and international sources, as well as various internal sources. Some of these include:

- Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Canada)
- Trent University Archaeological Research Centre
- Frost Centre for Canadian and Indigenous Studies(Trent)
- Symons Trust Fund (Trent)
- Academic Innovation Fund (Trent)
- Internal Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Trent)
- Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK)
- Institute for Aegean Prehistory (UK)
- British Academy (UK)
- Arts and Humanities Research Board (UK)
- Ford Foundation (US)
- National Geographic Society (US)
- American Council of Learned Societies
- Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Research work done by faculty in Trent's Anthropology Department is notable for being:

- ***innovative in its research approach;***
- ***relevant and important to local communities;***
- ***groundbreaking;***
- ***contributing new thinking to 'old debates'***

Trent Anthropologists beyond Trent

Anthropology Professor John Topic noted “I think that Anthropology students don’t often realize that many of the faculty teaching them, often in quite small groups, are major figures in the field.” A glance at what Anthropology faculty have done demonstrates the truth of this statement.

Trent Anthropology faculty hold (or have held) senior positions in professional associations, on editorial boards, have been invited as key note speakers to a wide range of national and international conferences; have been invited to participate in international symposia; to be external examiners on PhD theses at national and international institutions; to act as reviewers of Departments and programmes of Anthropology nationally and internationally. Others have served in senior administrative positions at Trent. Others have been honoured by the communities with whom they have worked in acknowledgement of their contribution to local cultural heritage preservation and development.

The following list is indicative of the national and international profile of Trent Anthropology faculty:

- Member of the Executive Board of the Institute of Andean Research,
- President of the Canadian Anthropology Society
- Board of the American Ethnology Society
- Editor of *Reviews in Anthropology*
- Associate editor for reviews of *Latin American Antiquity*
- Members of Editorial Boards: *Critique of Anthropology, Language and Communication, Latin American Antiquity*
- Editor *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*
- Dean of Graduate Studies (Trent)
- Editor of monograph series for Broadview Press
- Invited lecturers and visiting professors at the London School of Economics, Notre Dame University, the Amerind Foundation (Arizona), the School of American Research; Dumbarton Oaks, the Sainsbury Research Center; York University; Simon Fraser University, University of California, Berkeley
- Adjunct faculty in the Interdisciplinary Andean Studies Program at Universidad Católica (Lima).
- Program Coordinator for the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania

Anthropology at Trent: An interdisciplinary discipline

By its very nature the research of anthropologists is interdisciplinary. As such Trent provides a very comfortable home for the work of Anthropology faculty as they draw on the connections and intellectual strengths of a wide number of fields in their teaching and research.

Teaching Anthropology at Trent

- *We graduate between 40 and 60 majors and joint-majors every year.*
- *In 2006 and 2007 the Symons Medal for the highest achievement in an Honours degree at Trent was won by an Anthropology student.*

Anthropology undergraduates from Trent have gone in every direction imaginable. A review of our alumni includes everything from university academics, consulting archaeologists, teachers, social workers, NGO employees, public servants, marketing managers, museum curators, museum conservators, urban planners, cross-cultural management consultants, nurses, doctors, and union leaders to name just a few.

In the academic world, our students have gone on to study and teach at universities around the globe including University of Chicago, Oxford, Stanford, Concordia, University of Toronto, York, University of Western Ontario, University of Calgary, University of British Columbia, London School of Economics, McGill, Guelph, Simon Fraser University and Yale University.

The Anthropology Department at Trent regularly offers two archaeological field schools in the summer term: one in Belize and another in Ontario. The Ontario field school has been running at Trent on a regular basis since the early 1970s; the field school in Belize has been offered since 1979. As such, these were some of the first field-based programmes offered to Trent students. They continue to be very popular, consistently drawing students from a wide range of other Canadian and American universities.

What Trent Anthropology faculty say of their teaching:

"We all draw heavily on our first hand field-based 'locally-based' research in our course content and seminar discussions."

"I want to engage my students in the classrooms that they see that any aspect of life can be examined through the lens of anthropology. As they do that, I want them to begin to question the assumptions of what they assume is 'the right way' to do something."

"Because classes tend to be smaller and because we usually do some of our tutorials, there are greater possibilities for discussions inside and outside of class. Students feel they have a greater role and can explore issues that either confuse or interest them. I find in my discussions with faculty at other universities, that, in general, teaching at Trent is more rewarding."

"There is a dynamic and engaged relationship between teaching and research. They feed off of and into one another."

"The small class sizes at Trent in Oshawa allows many courses, even at the second and third year levels, to be taught as seminars to the great benefit of both students and faculty. Our courses meet only once per week for three hours, which has the advantage that a variety of different learning activities can be juxtaposed for a richer learning experience. For example, my courses often include multiple components on any one day, including lecture, tutorial, a film followed by discussion, and student book review presentations."

"My teaching of archaeology has, at different times, resulted in unique opportunities for Trent students to go into the field (Honduras, Belize) to participate in archaeological fieldwork, into research laboratories to conduct technical analyses, and into museums and libraries to conduct artifact and archival studies. I have worked to establish diverse "teaching collections" composed of authentic archaeological artifacts, drawn from sites I have investigated in Central America, which enhance and enrich the classroom and lab experience (and which are not found at most other universities). Students have worked with me, literally side by side, on excavations, technical studies, and even as co-authors to scientific conference papers and journal publications. I believe this "hands-on" experience is very beneficial to Trent students (practical experience in addition to the theoretical), and has been partly responsible for the success and excellent international reputation of our program."

"It is important to me that students learn the specific content of the material that I teach; but it is equally important that they develop critical reading skills, learn how to think analytically, and build their confidence abilities in presenting their ideas both in written and oral formats. These are the skills that will serve many of our students long after graduation. "

"In teaching research methods in cultural anthropology, I want students to learn to listen: to listen without judgment, to listen without thinking of what they'll say next, and to listen so that they can ask the next question as a way of making sure they've understood. This is an invaluable skill to practice in the classroom, take to their research projects, and then use wherever they go in life."

Some ideas that engage Trent students in **Archaeology or Biological anthropology** classes:

- Understanding current health issues facing modern populations is greatly aided by an understanding of some of the forces (environmental, cultural, biological) that affected our ancestors.
- Our current biology is a product of our past.
- How are genetic, cultural and physiological differences in populations shaped by political forces?
- What your ancestors ate can affect your potential to suffer from diabetes, heart disease, and obesity.
- Has the composition of human milk has changed over time, if the nutrient requirements of infants have changed with time?
- Why do some states collapse, and others endure throughout time?
- How does the work of an archaeologist shape modern local identities?
- Our curiosity for the past means that archaeology often becomes a part of contemporary identities, politics, and national debates.
- An appreciation of beauty is a fundamental part of being human—but what people find beautiful varies astonishingly across time and space

Some ideas that engage students in **Sociocultural/Linguistic anthropology** classes at Trent:

- Thinking anthropologically is thinking theoretically.
- People everywhere negotiate theory and practice in their daily lives.
- Culture is continually being learned, negotiated, expressed, and changed.
- Cultural relativism is a tool to understand other ideas, beliefs, and understandings, and thus to better comprehend and critique our own.
- Language and culture are based on distinctively human biological capabilities.
- A belief in some form of the supernatural is found in all societies.
- Bodily comportment, gesture, clothing, architecture, ritual, and images are culturally loaded 'signs'.
- There is more to Africa than war, famine, and HIV/AIDS.
- There are no 'free lunches': any social exchange sets up reciprocal responsibilities and obligations.
- Food, and how we understand its value and qualities, is a complex intertwining of social, political, economic, and cultural factors which operate at the local and global level.
- Travelling as tourist is a privilege, not a right.
- Recreational practices such as life at the cottage are an experience shaped by cultural assumptions about family, community, class, gender, race and national identity.
- All social and cultural practices (even drinking alcohol) are rich sites of semiotic meaning.
- Academic and intellectual cultures and ideas are products of particular times and places.
- Our imaginations and intellect are shaped by our sensual perceptions of the world. Given that the senses are culturally shaped, can we then have "objective knowledge"?
- People of all cultures die, but humans have found diverse ways to understand and deal with what is inevitable for all of us.

Stories of our students.....

Often the students who faculty remain in contact with are those who choose to follow academic careers. We have many impressive graduates from Anthropology who have followed this path. Additionally, however, there are many other Anthropology graduates who are doing exciting and important work, drawing in many ways on their training in anthropology. A small sample of our students is listed below.

Jim Aimers, PhD, Specialist in Mesoamerican archaeology, especially Maya art, architecture, and ceramics. Received his PhD from Tulane University and is now a Lecturer at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London (UK). BA Honours and MA from Trent.

Jaime J. Awe, PhD is a distinguished Maya archaeologist who oversees all archaeological research & archaeological sites in Belize. BA Honours and MA from Trent.

Sofia Castillo is now employed by an NGO in Washington DC which works with Latin Americans who suffer violations of their human rights, both at home and in the United States. Her BA Honours from Trent was in Anthropology and International Development Studies. She went on to complete an MA from Stanford.

Julie Cormack, PhD University of Liverpool, is a specialist in Physical Anthropology (Osteology) and Archaeology (Old World). Her research focus is on early human evolution, especially Early-Middle Pleistocene (sub-Saharan Africa, China, Near East). She teaches in a new Anthropology degree program at Mt. Royal College in Calgary. BSc Honours from Trent.

Megan Cotton-Kinch was a top anthropology graduate from the Trent-in-Oshawa program. Megan was able to work as the managing editor of *Reviews in Anthropology* for 2006-2007. She was active and vocal in the university community and administration, respectfully calling attention to the needs of students such as a webpage for Trent in Oshawa and a transit connection between Trent's two campuses. Her Honours thesis on the historical disease

schemas on current perceptions of AIDS in Oshawa, prepared her well for her application to graduate studies. She eventually was offered positions at two universities, one in History, the other in Anthropology, something which speaks to the interdisciplinary strength of her undergraduate degree. BA Honours from Trent.

Nicole Couture, PhD, is an archaeologist focusing on the Tiwanaku culture of Bolivia. After receiving her undergraduate studies from Trent she studied at the University of Chicago and then was appointed a Canada Research Chair at McGill University. BA Honours from Trent.

Kitty Emery, PhD, specializes in Zooarchaeology and Environmental Archaeology (Mesoamerica). Kitty has worked extensively in Belize and Guatemala and is Curator at Florida Museum of Natural History, and Assistant Professor (Anthropology) at the University of Florida. BSc Honours from Trent

Laura Fulton teaches Anthropology in the International Baccalaureate at Lester Pearson College (a United World College). She continues to direct many of her students to Trent. BA Honours from Trent.

Heather Gill-Robinson, PhD at University of Manitoba is a specialist in forensic anthropology, paleopathology and the archaeology of Iron Age in Europe. Pioneering research with use of CT scans of "bog bodies" of northern Europe (Germany, Denmark, and UK). Assistant Professor in Anthropology at North Dakota State University. BA Honours from Trent.

Gyles Iannone, PhD is a distinguished Maya archaeologist, a Commonwealth Scholar and Director of the annual Trent field school in Belize. MA from Trent.

Ross Jamieson, PhD, is one of the few North American archaeologists focusing on the colonial era in Latin America. His approach combines expertise in both archival research and archaeological excavation to study historic sites in Ecuador. He is on the faculty of Simon Fraser University. BA Honours from Trent

Rachelle Kennedy recently graduated from Trent with an Anthropology degree. She began working with an after school drop-in centre in Peterborough for at-risk youth. After graduation, she created an art program from scratch for "her" kids, including having them help her design and build a new studio space. She ran the program successfully for several years, giving kids a productive outlet for their creative energy.

Cara Krmpotich, came to Trent to study Anthropology. As part of her undergraduate degree she participated in the SSFC linkage in Museum Studies, but found that while working in a museum might be satisfying to a certain extent, she was more interested in the questions of repatriation and the return of collections to Canadian Aboriginal people. She worked as a collections assistant for two summers for the Trent Art Collection, then moved on to do an MA in Anthropology and Museum Studies at UBC. Now a doctoral student at Oxford, Cara is working with Dr Laura Peers, (Curator and Lecturer at the Pitt-Rivers Museum) a Trent graduate. Her research is on the issues of return of human remains from international museum collections to Haida Gwaii.

Cynthia Kwok has recently completed an MA thesis on infant feeding practices at Apollonia, in which she integrated data from the skeletal remains with information provided in the ancient texts. She has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at the University of Calgary to work

with Dr. M. Anne Katzenberg, one of the leading stable isotope experts in the country.

Heather McKillop, PhD and Wm. G. Haag Professor of Archaeology, Louisiana State University, is a distinguished Maya archaeologist; author of 4 recent books; BA Honours and MA from Trent.

Adam Metcalfe is a recent Anthropology graduate who is pursuing a career in police work. He is firmly committed to the value of the study of the anthropology to cross cultural understanding, and wants to see anthropology courses become an integral part of training for those in his chosen field.

Reg Murphy, PhD, is a distinguished Caribbean archaeologist; actively engaged in historic and & prehistoric research; oversees archaeology in a world famous historic park; BA Honours and MA from Trent.

Andrew Nelson, PhD, is an expert on both Homo erectus (Java Man) and more modern human remains from Peru. He is particularly interested in the process of mummification. He is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Western Ontario. B.A. from Trent.

Jason Nesbitt is currently a graduate student at Yale University. His main interest is the early Formative cultures of the Andean area. He focuses on the time when complex social formations were just beginning to appear. MA from Trent.

Fiona Purton, who graduated last year with a BA in Anthropology, has gone on in the education program at Trent. She combines a passion for teaching with a strong sense of social justice and the conviction, rooted in her Anthropology courses, that there is value in exploring and seeking to understand other ways of doing things – in her case, alternative ways to go about educating Canadian children.

Roxane Shaughnessy is Curator of Andean Textiles at the Textile Museum in Toronto. Cloth is rarely preserved in archaeological contexts,

but the desert coast of the Andean area provides ideal conditions for its preservation. The analysis of cloth is one of the most technically complex endeavours in archaeology. MA from Trent.

Anika van der Vink found her way to Trent to study Anthropology, as a mature 25 year old student. Her path had not been straightforward but she quickly found her self-confidence as a student, and thrived in the Trent environment. After several years of teaching English in Japan, she is now doing an interdisciplinary Masters degree in rural planning at the University of Guelph, where her research has taken her to work on development projects in Ghana.

Christine White, PhD and Canada Research Chair, University of Western Ontario is a distinguished Maya osteologist in Bio-archaeology and a leading authority in isotope analysis; BA Honours and MA from Trent.

Lori Wright specializes in Physical Anthropology (isotope analysis, diet; paleopathology) and Archaeology (Mesoamerica). She has worked extensively in Guatemala and Belize (Maya subarea). She is currently Associate Professor of Anthropology at Texas A & M University. BSc Honours from Trent.

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