

*Indicates readings to be discussed in a session.

Other readings are general preparation for the session

Notes on points of particular interest to the lesson are indicated in brackets

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Week 1 ORIENTATION TO THE FIELD SITE

ORIENTATION

Lesson #1 NMNH Orientation, Walkabout, and Program Overview (Bell and Reuss)

Lesson #2c NMNH Introduction (Bell & Greene)

*2018 SIMA NSF Proposal Narrative

[Rationale for material culture and museum based research within cultural Anthropology; types of research questions; goals for the training program]

* Gosden, Chris and Frances Larson

2007 What is a Museum? *In* Knowing Things: Exploring the Collections at the Pitt Rivers Museum 1884-1945. Pp. 3-13. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

[Consider collections as the material residue of particular sets of social relationships]

* Greene, Candace S.

1992 Documentation, Attribution and the Ideal Type. *In* Art and Artifacts: Essays in Material Culture and Museum Studies, In Honor of Jane Powell Dwyer, Harold David Juli, ed. Research Papers in Anthropology Number 5. Pp. 9-18. Providence: Brown University.

[focus on assumptions about culture that inform ideas of ‘documentation’ or ‘attribution’]

*Hedlund, Ann

2015 Beyond Beauty: Exploring the Ethnoaesthetics of Navajo Weaving, *American Indian Art Magazine*, vol. 40, No. 3, Summer 2015, Pp 44-59

[A wonderful enumeration of the many methods that have been used to study Navajo textiles. Make a list of all the methods mentioned in this overview article.]

Sturtevant, William

1966 Ethnological Collections and Curatorial Records. *Museum News* 44(7): 16-19.

[Focus on issues of documentation, which remain the same in spite of being computerized]

* Thomas, Nicholas

2010 The Museum as Method. *Museum Anthropology* 33(1): 6-10.

[Consider alternatives of moving from questions to objects, or from objects to questions]

Methods from My Research (Bell)

Bell, Joshua A.

2014 "The Veracity of Form: Transforming Knowledges and their Forms in the Purari Delta of Papua New Guinea." In: *Museum as Process: Translating Local and Global Knowledges*. Raymond Silverman (ed), pp. 105-122. London: Routledge.

[Orienting piece to my fieldwork in Papua New Guinea with a particular focus on the role of objects and media]

2015. "Bird Specimen, Papua New Guinea." In *Trophies, Relics and Curios? Missionary Heritage from Africa and the Pacific*. Karen Jacobs, Chantal Knowles and Chris Wingfield (eds). Pp. 57-62. Sidestone Press. [Example of tracing an object's collecting history]

Bell, J.A. and H. Geismar

2009 Materialising Oceania: New ethnographies of things in Melanesia and Polynesia. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 20 (1): 3-27.

[Theoretical positioning of objects through a discussion of theory in the Pacific]

Methods from My Research (Greene)

Greene, Candace S.

1996 Structure and Meaning in Cheyenne Ledger Art. In *Plains Indian Drawings 1865-1935: Pages from a Visual History*. Janet Berlo, ed. Pp. 26-33. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., in Association with The American Federation of Arts and the Drawing Center.

[Think about methodology in a quantitative study]

2009 One Hundred Summers: A Kiowa Calendar Record. University of Nebraska Press. (selections)

[Think about methodology in a qualitative study combining work with community members and work in museum and archival sources]

2015 The Use of Plant Fibers in Plains Indian Embroidery, *American Indian Art Magazine* vol. 40 (2): 58-71.

[Preliminary study – for discussion about methods to move research forward]

Lesson #3 NMNH EMu Orientation (Green and Reuss)

No readings

Lesson #4a Collections Resources: Artifacts (Bell and staff)

* Anthropology Department Guide to Collections Records, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History.

[Read this one carefully; keep it for continual reference]

*Review of Anthropology Collections home page at:

<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/research/anthropology/collections-and-archives-access>

[Critical before any museum visit!]

Jones, Reba

1998 Handling. *In* The New Museum Registration Methods. 4th edition. Rebecca A. Buck and Jean Allman Gilmore, eds. Pp. 45-48. Washington, DC: American Association of Museums.

Flynn and Hull-Walski

2001 Merging Traditional Indigenous Curation Methods with Modern Museum Standards of Care. *Museum Anthropology* 25(1):31-40.

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Department of Anthropology Object Handling Procedures

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Department of Anthropology Statement on Potential Hazards (Inherent and Acquired) Associated with Collection Objects

Lesson #4b Object Database Orientation (Reuss/Pickering/Krakker)

No readings

Lesson #5 Collections Resources: Archives (Bell and NAA staff)

* Review of NAA public online database, available at:

- <https://sova.si.edu/>

<http://collections.si.edu/search/index.htm> (this is the general search page)

http://collections.si.edu/search/results.htm?q=&gfq=CSILP_2&fq=data_source:%22National+Anthropological+Archives%22 (this selects for NAA collections only – under “catalog record source”)

*NAA visitor information:

- <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/research/anthropology/collections-and-archives-access>

* Lindsay, John A., Gina Rappaport, and Betty A. Lindsay.

2009 Pribilof Islands, Alaska, Guide to Photographs and Illustrations. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS ORR 20, August 2009. Seattle, WA: NOAA Oceans and Coast Office of Response and Restoration.
[Considerations of photos as historical primary sources]

Parezo, Nancy J.

1996 The Formation of Anthropological Archival Records. In *Learning from Things. Method and Theory of Material Culture Studies*, edited by W. David Kingery, pp.145-172. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press.
[Provides understanding of the materials in anthropological archival collections]

* Redman, Samuel J.

2013 Historical Research in Archives: A Practical Guide. American Historical Association.
[Read chapters 2-3 for an introduction to archival research]

Lesson #6 Collection Notes and Work Plans (Greene)

Sanjek, Roger

1990 A Vocabulary for Fieldnotes. In *Fieldnotes: The Makings of Anthropology*. Roger Sanjek, ed. Pp.92-121. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Lesson #7 What's Your Data? (Munson)

*Banning, E. B.

2000 "What are data?" In *The Archaeologist's Laboratory: The Analysis of Archaeological Data*, pp.7-8. New York: Kluwer Academic.
[Read pp.7-8 only; think about your collection and consider what you want to measure and why]

Lesson #8 Models and Assumptions (Munson)

*Munson, Marit K.

2011 *The Archaeology of Art in the American Southwest*. Chap.1 and 2, pp. 1-42. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press.
[How considering something "art" versus "artifact" raises different questions]

*Wisker, Gina.

2008 *The Postgraduate Research Handbook*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. Ch. 5 (Research Questions & Hypotheses, pp. 48-64) & 7 (Conceptual Frameworks, pp. 78-85)
[Especially section on operationalizing a concept]

Lesson #9 Learning from Photographs (Bell)

Bell, J.A.

2009 For Scientific Purposes a Stand Camera is Essential: Salvaging Photographic Histories in Papua. *In* Photography, Anthropology and History: Expanding the Frame, 143-170. Morton, C. and Edwards, E. (eds). Ashgate.
[Example of the type of histories contained and not contained in photographs]

Edwards, Elizabeth

2012 Objects of Affect: Photography Beyond the Image. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 41:221-234.
[Important theoretical piece that touches on many key aspects of working with images]

Pinney, Christopher

1992 The Parallel Histories of Anthropology and Photography. *In* Anthropology and Photography 1860-1920. Elizabeth Edwards, ed. Pp 74-95. New Haven: Yale University Press.
[Background for those interested in how photography and anthropology are connected]

Lesson #10 Photographing Objects (Cain)

Van Allen, Adrian

2015 Photo Workshop: Visual note-taking in the Collections
Manuscript Pdf.

Week 2 VISUAL COMPETENCY: LEARNING TO LOOK

Lesson #11 Close Looking: (Bell & Greene)

Part 1: In the Classroom

*Banks, Marcus

2001 Reading Pictures. *In* Visual Methods in Social Research. Pp. 1-12. Los Angeles and London: Sage Publications.
[Think how to apply his analysis of a postcard to museum objects]

Caple, Chris

2006 Investigating Objects: Theories and Approaches. *In* Objects: Reluctant Witnesses to the Past. Pp. 1-43. London and New York: Routledge.
[Consider what technical analyses can reveal]

*Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan

1890 The Science of Deduction. *In* Sign of Four.
[Not just for fun – we'll discuss this one]

Part 2: In the Collections

[learning to look practicum]

Lesson #12 Unpacking Cosmologies: Thinking Through Micronesia Collections in the Museum & Beyond (Nuku)

Viola, Herman J. and Carolyn Margolis (eds)

1985 *Magnificent Voyagers, The U.S. Exploring Expedition, 1838-42* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1985) [browse exhibition catalogue]

Nuku, Maia

2018 “Unpacking cosmologies: frigate bird and turtle shell headdresses in Nauru. In Nicholas Thomas and Alison Clark (eds.), *Pacific Presences: Oceanic Art in European Museums*, volume II, (Leiden: Sidestone Press, 2018) Chapter 4, pp. 51-63.

<https://www.sidestone.com/books/pacific-presences-vol-2> [available online]

Adams, Julie

2018 ‘Chapter 1: Introduction.’ In Julie Adams, Polly Bence and Alison Clark (eds.), *Fighting Fibers: Kiribati Armour and Museum Collections* (Leiden: Sidestone Press, 2018) pp.

19-33. <https://www.sidestone.com/books/fighting-fibres> [available online]

Lesson #13 Chaîne opératoire (Bell)

Martinón-Torres, Marcos

2002 “‘Chaîne opératoire.’ The concept and its applications within the study of technology,” *Gallaecia* 21: 29-43.

[Good introduction to chaîne opératoire; use this as a way to think about the method and how it might be applied to your own objects of study]

Coupaye, Ludovic

2009 “Ways of Enchanting: Chaînes Opératoires and Yam Cultivation in Nyamikum Village, Maprik, Papua New Guinea” *Journal of Material Culture* 14(4): 433–458.

[Further discussion of the method within an ethnographic frame]

Munn, N. D.

1977 “The spatiotemporal transformations of Gawa canoes.” *Journal de la Société des Océanistes* 33:39 – 51

[Semiotic and structural analysis of a canoe that usefully points out from the object into the world]

Lesson #14 Genomics and Ancient DNA in Museum Anthropology (Kistler)

No readings

Lesson #15 Tiki: Marquesan Art and Iconography (Nuku)

Govor, Elena and Nicholas Thomas
2019 *Tiki: Marquesan Art and Krusenstern Expedition* (Leiden: Sidestone Press: 2019).
<https://www.sidestone.com/books/tiki> [available online]

Gell, Alfred
1998 *Art and Agency*, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1998 [References to Marquesan art and tattooing])

Kjellgren, Eric
2005 *Adorning the World: Art of the Marquesan Islands*. (New York: Metropolitan Museum Publications, 2005). [Browse exhibition catalogue]

Week 3 HOW COLLECTIONS ARE SHAPED: DATA CRITIQUE

Lesson #16 Anthropology Collections for a Changing Planet (Rick)

Morrison, Scott A. et al.
2017 “Equipping the 22nd-Century Historical Ecologist.” In *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, August 2017, Vol. 32, No. 8, pp. 578-588

Sholts, Sabrina B., Bell, J.A., Rick, T.
2016 “Ecco Homo: Science and Society Need Anthropological Collections.” In *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, August 2016, Vol. 31, No. 8, pp. 580-583

Lesson #17 Thirty-Five Years After Te Maori: Walking Backwards Into The Future (Nuku)

McCarthy, Conal
1990 ‘Emblems of Identity, 1980-1990.’ In *Exhibiting Maori: A History of Colonial Cultures of Display*, pp. 135-143.

Thomas, Nicholas and Alison Clark
‘Epilogue’ in Nicholas Thomas and Alison Clark (eds.), *Pacific Presences: Oceanic Art in European Museums* (eds.), volume II, pp. 409-423.
<https://www.sidestone.com/books/pacific-presences-vol-2> [available online]

Mead, Hirini Moko
1986 *Magnificent Te Maori* (Auckland: Heinemann Publishers, 1986)
[Browse catalogue and review of exhibition as it toured]

Lesson #18 Thinking Through Collection Histories (Brown)

Brown, A.K.

2001 'Revealing histories: a cross-cultural reading of the Franklin Motor Expedition to Canada.' In A. Shelton (ed), *Collectors: Expressions of Self and Other*. Pp. 23-40. London: Horniman Museum in association with the Museu Antropologia Coimbra

Brown, A.K.

2010 'Mokisins, 'Cloaks' and 'a belt of a peculiar fabrik': Recovering the history of the Thomas Whyte collection of North American clothing, formerly in the Grierson Museum, Thornhill' *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History Society*, vol. 83, pp. 131-149.

Marsh, D.E.

2016 'Trace Ethnography, Affect, and Institutional Ecologies in the Distributed Records of a Plaster Model'. *Museum Anthropology*, 39 (2): 111–29 [If you have time]

Lesson #19 Research Funding (Jeffrey Mantz, NSF)

No readings.

Lesson #20 Looking at Accessions and Collections (Bell)

O'Hanlon, Michael

2000 Introduction. *In* *Hunting the Gatherers: Ethnographic Collectors, Agents and Agency in Melanesia, 1870s-1930s*. M. O'Hanlon and R.L. Welsch, eds. [Provides a useful typology for collecting practices]

Hasinof, E. and Bell, J.A.

2015 "Introduction: The Anthropology of Expeditions." *In* *The Anthropology of Expeditions: Travel, Visualities, Afterlives*. Bell, J.A. and E. Hasinof (eds), pp. 1-38. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. [further contextualization of collecting process]

Bell, Joshua A.

2017 "A Bundle of Relations: Collections, Collecting and Communities." *Annual Review of Anthropology* 46: 1-24.

Lesson #21 From Mammoth to Miniature: On the Importance of Scale (Brown)

Davy, J.W.

2018 'Miniature dissonance and the museum space: reconsidering communication through miniaturisation', *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 24:9, 969-83

Foxhall, L.

2014 'Introduction: Miniaturization.' *World Archaeology* 47 (1): 1–5

Herle, Anita

- 1998 'The life-histories of objects: collections of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to the Torres Strait'. In A. Herle and S. Rouse (eds). Cambridge and the Torres Strait: Centenary Essays on the 1898 Anthropological Expedition. Pp. 77-105. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Week 4 NEXT STEPS: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Lesson #22 Contemporary Collecting: the Challenges of Collecting for the Future (Brown)

Bonshek, E.

- 2010 'Collecting relations in Melanesia: making a contemporary collection in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea.' *Journal of Museum Ethnography* 23: 7-20.

Knowles, C.

- 2003 'Commissioning art: objects, ethnography and contemporary collecting' *Journal of Museum Ethnography*, 15: 57-66

Wali, A.

- 2014 'Collecting contemporary urban culture: an emerging framework for the Field Museum.' *Museum Anthropology*, 37: 66-74

Lesson #23 Ethics (Bell & Brown)

Be familiar with:

American Anthropology Association Code of Ethics

<https://www.americananthro.org/LearnAndTeach/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=22869&navItemNumber=652>

American Alliance of Museums

<https://www.aam-us.org/programs/ethics-standards-and-professional-practices/code-of-ethics-for-museums/>

Lesson #24 Why Objects Matter to Source Communities (Brown & Bell)

Silverman, Raymond

- 2015 Introduction: Museum as Process. In: *Museum as Process: Translating Local and Global Knowledges*. Raymond Silverman (ed), pp. 1-18. London: Routledge.
[read for Silverman's discussion of collaboration, translation and what he terms 'slow museology']

Brown, Alison, and Laura Peers

- 2013 The Blackfoot Shirts Project: 'Our Ancestors Have Come to Visit' in Coombes and Phillips (eds), *The International Handbooks of Museum Studies: Volume II: Transformations*. International Handbooks of Museum Studies, Wiley-Blackwell.

[good discussion of a project working with communities around a objects]

Bell, Joshua, Kim Christen, and Mark Turin

2013 Introduction: After the Return.” *Museum Anthropology Review* 7 (1-2):1-21.

<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/mar/article/view/3184/4571>

[Discussion of the issues involved in digital collaboration with communities and museums]

RUNNING THROUGHOUT PROGRAM

Individual data collection, based on weekly plans

Research visits to other area collections by appointment

Individual advising on research project

Individual time in collections with faculty

Informal small group gatherings for discussion on various topics, organized by faculty or by students