

KEDRON THOMAS

Department of Anthropology
One Brookings Drive, Campus Box 1114
Washington University
St. Louis, MO 63130
kthomas24@wustl.edu
(314) 935-4229

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2012 - **Washington University in St. Louis**
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology
- 2010 **Webster University** (St. Louis, MO)
Adjunct Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences
- 2009 **Universidad del Valle de Guatemala** (Guatemala City)
Visiting Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology

EDUCATION

- Harvard University**
- 2012 PhD, Anthropology
2007 AM, Anthropology
- Vanderbilt University**
- 2001 BA, Political Science

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2011-12 American Bar Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship (declined)
2010-11 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
2008-09 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
2008 Eric R. Wolf Prize, Society for the Anthropology of Work
2008 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University
2007-08 Graduate Student Affiliate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2013-14 International Center for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability Grant
2010 Hemenway Summer Research Grant, Harvard Department of Anthropology
2010 Tinker Field Research Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
2009-10 Graduate Society Term-Time Merit Fellowship, Harvard University
2008 Summer Research Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
2007 Pre-Dissertation Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

- 2007 Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellowship (Kaqchikel Maya)
 2007 Summer Research Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
 2006 Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellowship (Kaqchikel Maya)
 2006 Summer Research Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies

BOOKS

- 2016 Kedron Thomas. Regulating Style: Intellectual Property Law and the Business of Fashion in Guatemala. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- 2011 Kevin Lewis O’Neill and Kedron Thomas, eds. Securing the City: Neoliberalism, Space, and Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

SPECIAL JOURNAL ISSUES

- 2015 Cristiana Panella and Kedron Thomas, eds. Illegality and the Production of Value. Critique of Anthropology 35(1).
- 2013 Rebecca Galemba and Kedron Thomas, eds. Illegal Anthropology. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review 36(2).

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2015 Ethics, Evaluation, and Economies of Value Amidst Illegal Practices. Critique of Anthropology 35(1):3-12. (with Cristiana Panella)
- 2015 Economic Regulation and the Value of Concealment in Highland Guatemala. Critique of Anthropology 35(1):13-29.
- 2014 Corporations and Community in Highland Guatemala. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review 37(2):231-245.
- 2013 Illegal Anthropology: An Introduction. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review 36(2):211-215. (first author, with Rebecca Galemba)
- 2013 Brand “Piracy” and Postcolonial Statecraft in Guatemala. Cultural Anthropology 28(1):144-160.
- 2012 Intellectual Property Law and the Ethics of Imitation in Guatemala. Anthropological Quarterly 85(3):785-814.
- 2010 After Cultural Competency: Research Practice and Moral Experience in the Study of Brand Pirates and Tobacco Farmers. Qualitative Research 10(6):679-697. (with Peter Benson)
- Reprinted in:* Thomas, Gary, ed. (2013) Case Study Methods in Education. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

- 2009 Structural Adjustment, Spatial Imaginaries, and “Piracy” in Guatemala’s Apparel Industry. Anthropology of Work Review 30(1):1-10. Winner, Eric R. Wolf Prize.
- 2008 Resocializing Suffering: Neoliberalism, Accusation, and the Sociopolitical Context of Guatemala’s New Violence. Latin American Perspectives 35(5):38-58. (with Peter Benson and Edward F. Fischer)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2017 Intellectual Property Law in Comparative Perspective: The Case of Trademark “Piracy” in Guatemala. In Comparative Law and Anthropology. James Nafziger, ed. Camberley, UK: Edward Elgar (in press).
- 2011 Spaces of Structural Adjustment in Guatemala’s Apparel Industry. In Securing the City: Neoliberalism, Space, and Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala. Kevin Lewis O’Neill and Kedron Thomas, eds. Pp. 147-164. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- 2011 Securing the City: An Introduction. In Securing the City: Neoliberalism, Space, and Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala. Kevin Lewis O’Neill and Kedron Thomas, eds. Pp. 1-24. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. (first author, with Kevin Lewis O’Neill and Thomas Offit)
- 2011 Guatemala’s New Violence as Structural Violence: Notes from the Highlands. In Securing the City: Neoliberalism, Space, and Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala. Pp. 127-146. Kevin Lewis O’Neill and Kedron Thomas, eds. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. (second author, with Peter Benson and Edward F. Fischer)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2011 Consecuencias Imprevistas. In Nim Chuwäch K’iyirisanem: Tajin Runuk’ik’ Ruk’aslem ri Chwa’q Kab’ij pan Iximulew, Más que Desarrollo: Memorias de la Primera Conferencia Bienal sobre Desarrollo y Acción Comunitaria. Peter Rohloff, Anne Kramer Díaz, and Juan Ajsivinac Sian, eds. Bethel, VT: Editorial Wuqu’ Kawoq.
- Translated into Kaqchikel Maya and also printed as: Taq K’ayewal Man Ech’ob’on Ta.* In Nim Chuwäch K’iyirisanem: Tajin Runuk’ik’ Ruk’aslem ri Chwa’q Kab’ij pan Iximulew, Más que Desarrollo: Memorias de la Primera Conferencia Bienal sobre Desarrollo y Acción Comunitaria. Peter Rohloff, Anne Kramer Díaz, and Juan Ajsivinac Sian, eds. Bethel, VT: Editorial Wuqu’ Kawoq.

ESSAYS AND COMMENTARIES

- 2010 Securing the City: The Politics and Business of Postwar Security. ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America 10(1):46-48. (first author, with Kevin Lewis O’Neill)

- 2008 Dangers of Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala: Gangs, Electoral Politics, and Structural Violence. ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America 7(2):39-41. (first author, with Peter Benson)
- 2007 Hurricane Stan and Social Suffering in Guatemala: The Social Course of Natural Disaster. ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America 6(2):48-51.
- 2007 Comments on "The 1976 Earthquake in Guatemala" (photo essay). ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America 6(2):8-9.
- 2006 Maya Entrepreneurs and the Global Textile Trade. Special Issue: Anthropologists on Class. Anthropology News 47(8):13-14.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2015 "Material Culture and Authenticity: Fake Branded Fashion in Europe," by Magdalena Craciun. American Anthropologist 117(1):185-186.
- 2011 "Violent Democracies in Latin America," by Enrique Desmond Arias and Daniel M. Goldstein, eds. Anthropological Quarterly 84(1):287-292.
- 2009 "Assembling Women: The Feminization of Global Manufacturing," by Teri Caraway. Anthropology of Work Review 30(1):19-20.
- 2007 "Seeing Indians: A Study of Race, Nation, and Power in El Salvador," by Virginia Q. Tilley. Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology 12(1):293-295.
- 2006 "Power, Community, and the State: The Political Anthropology of Organization in Mexico," by Monique Nuijten. Culture and Agriculture 28(2):133-134.
- 2006 "Crude Chronicles: Indigenous Politics, Multinational Oil, and Neoliberalism in Ecuador," by Suzana M. Sawyer. Journal of Latin American Anthropology 11(1):238-240.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- 2016 Fiscal Accounting and Moral Accountability in Guatemala's Knock-off Economy. Anthropology of Institutions Conference, Washington University in St. Louis, April 8-9.
- 2015 "Ask for Your Receipt!": Fiscal and Moral Accountability in Guatemala's Knock-off Economy. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2015 Recursivity and the Copy. Anthropologies of Institutions Conference, University of Amsterdam, June 4-5.

- 2014 Maker Culture. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 3-7.
- 2014 Values. Anthropologies of Institutions Conference, L'ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, May 22-23.
- 2014 Transnational Violence in Guatemala as Structural Violence. "Transnational Violence in Guatemala," hosted by Free University Berlin, Germany, February 6-7.
- 2013 Workforce Feminization and the Gendering of "Sustainability" in Global Apparel and Footwear Manufacturing. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 20-24.
- 2013 Is There a Social Contract in Guatemala? Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Washington, DC, May 29-June 1.
- 2013 The Incorporation of Green Citizenship. Anthropologies of Institutions Conference, Washington University in St. Louis, April 13-14.
- 2012 Appropriating and Being Appropriate: Design Practice, Sociality, and Creativity in Highland Guatemala's Fashion Industry. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18.
- 2012 The Ethics of Informal Enterprise: Security, the State, and Indigenous Citizenship in Post-Conflict Guatemala. "Norms in the Margins and Margins of the Norm: The Social Construction of Illegality," hosted by the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Free University Brussels, and Catholic University of Leuven. Belgium, October 25-27.
- 2012 Transnational Piracy in Guatemala's Apparel Market. Latin American Studies Association International Congress, San Francisco, CA, May 23-26.
- 2011 Criminality and the Forensics of Blame in Postwar Guatemala. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, November 16-20.
- 2010 Piracy and Postwar Statecraft in Highland Guatemala. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 17-21.
- 2010 Charity is the Crisis: Local Assessments of International Aid. Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Toronto, Ontario, October 6-9.
- 2009 Grunge and Green Urban Citizenship. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, December 2-6.
- 2009 Consecuencias Imprevistas: El Impacto Local del Desarrollo Internacional. Más Que Desarrollo conference sponsored by Wuqu' Kawoq, Santiago Sacatepéquez, Guatemala, October 23-25.

- 2009 La Educación Bilingüe en las Áreas Urbanas: Desafíos y Oportunidades. XIII Congreso de Estudios Mayas, Universidad Rafael Landívar (Guatemala), August 5-7.
- 2008 Maya Entrepreneurs in the Neoliberal Economy: Notes from Guatemala's Apparel Industry. Guatemala Scholars Network Conference, Vanderbilt University, October 11-12.
- 2008 Dangers of Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala: Gangs, Electoral Politics, and Structural Violence. Third Conference on Order, Conflict and Violence, Yale University, April 18-19.
- 2008 Piracy, Originality, and Indigeneity: Maya Entrepreneurs in Guatemala's Apparel Industry. Humanities Forum Graduate Student Conference, University of Pennsylvania, February 28-29.
- 2007 Brand Piracy and Maya Identity: CAFTA-DR's Impact on Guatemala's Informal Apparel Sector. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 28-December 2.
- 2006 Enterprise and Urban Connections: Apparel Producers in Highland Guatemala. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 15-19.

PANEL ORGANIZER, CHAIR, OR DISCUSSANT

- 2014 Sprawling Cities, Whither Citizens? Novel Forms of Political Engagement in Latin America. Discussant at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 3-7.
- 2013 Guatemala's Social Contract? Contemporary Politics and the Legacy of the Peace Accords. Co-organizer at the Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Washington, DC, May 29-June 1.
- 2012 What Piracy Teaches Us about States, Markets, and International Law. Chair at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 14-18.
- 2012 The Ethics of Illegality. Organizer and chair at "Norms in the Margins and Margins of the Norm: The Social Construction of Illegality," hosted by the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Free University Brussels, and Catholic University of Leuven. Belgium, October 25-27.
- 2011 Illegal Anthropology and Anthropologists. Co-organizer at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, November 16-20.
- 2010 The Struggle for Human Rights in Postwar Guatemala. Discussant at the Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Toronto, Ontario, October 6-9.

- 2010 Charity as Crisis Response in Guatemala. Co-organizer at the Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Toronto, Ontario, October 6-9.
- 2007 CAFTA-DR: Informal Economies and Neoliberal Governance. Organizer at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 28-December 2.
- 2007 How to do Things with Bodies: Studies in Corporeal Signification. Discussant and chair at Bodily Proof, Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, Harvard University Humanities Center, April 6-7.
- 2006 Guatemala City and Country: A Question of Space. Co-organizer and chair at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 15-19.

INVITED LECTURES

- 2015 The Future of Fashion: Labor, Ethics, and the New Material Culture. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis, November 11.
- 2015 "Ask for Your Receipt!": Fiscal and Moral Accountability in Guatemala's Knock-off Economy. Ethnographic Theory Workshop, Washington University in St. Louis, February 10.
- 2014 What's Trending? Fashion's Current Makeover. St. Louis Fashion Fund's Midwest Fashion Conference, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, Washington University in St. Louis, October 18.
- 2014 The Sustainable Fashion Project. International Center for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability, Washington University in St. Louis, April 5.
- 2013 Intellectual Property Law and the Politics of Blame in Postwar Guatemala. Saint Louis University School of Law, March 7.
- 2013 Intellectual Property and the Production of Fashion in Highland Guatemala. Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, February 4.
- 2012 Piracy and New Intellectual Property Debates in Latin America. Center for Latin American Research and Documentation, University of Amsterdam, November 2.
- 2012 Fashion, Branding, and Imitation: The Clothing Industry in Guatemala. Department of Cultural Anthropology, University of Leiden, November 1.
- 2011 Brand Piracy and the Rule of Law in Post-Conflict Guatemala. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis, April 7.

- 2010 Traveling to Guatemala: Anthropological Perspectives on Tourism and Representation. Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Webster University, April 16.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2012 - **Washington University in St. Louis**
 Anthropology of Clothing and Fashion
 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
 Law and Culture
- 2010 **Webster University, St. Louis, MO**
 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- 2009 **Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala City**
Antropología Jurídica [Legal Anthropology]

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

- n.d. Carolyn Barnes, Horseracing and the Changing Status of Trainers in Kentucky
- n.d. Lauren Marr, Islamic Business Networks in Northern Italy
- n.d. Natalia Guzmán Solano, Women's Visibility in Anti-Mining Activism in Peru
- n.d. Ashley Wilson, "Come We Stay" Marriage in a Nairobi Slum
- n.d. Oguz Olyanak, Men and Mobility in the Turkish Diaspora
- n.d. Elyse Singer, Catholic Women and Legalized Abortion in Mexico
- 2015 Rebecca Hodges, Transformation of Sympathies: Gendered Mediation of Jordanian Education Reform for a Knowledge Economy
- 2014 Doc Billingsley, "So That All Shall Know": Memory Activism and Epistemic Authority in Guatemala

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS ADVISING

- 2016 Caroline Buhse, Women, Incarceration, and the War on Drugs: Exploring Systematic Structures of Power, Control, and Marginalization in the US and Mexico
- 2014 Sarah Raker, Things Are Not in Order: Authenticity, Spiritual Kinship, and Identity Formation in the Underground Countercultural Movement of Czechoslovakia in the 1970s
- 2014 Mallika Tamboli, Signifying Normative Aging for Indians in the Diaspora: A Case Study of ShantiNiketan Retirement Facility
- 2014 Meghna Nandi, Translating Women's Rights Ideology and Domestic Violence Social Services across Cultures: The Implementation of "Men for a Life without Violence" in Chile
- 2013 Angie Juarbe, (Traditional) Gender Constructs in Chile: Perpetuation by the Church and the State and Sociological Effects

- 2013 Katherine Sullivan, *Crafting Identities: Indigenous Artisans and the Politics of the Handicraft Industry*
- 2008 Nina Vizcarrando, *Agricultural Export Production in Highland Guatemala*
- 2008 Denise Delaney, *Marginalization, Violence, and the State: Urban *Desplazados* in Colombia*
- 2008 Maggie Klein, *Reading with Your Whole Heart: The Social Life of Dating Self-Help Books*

SUPERVISED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

- 2014-16 Alex Novelli, Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellow
- 2013-15 Chelsea Bhajan, Merle Kling Undergraduate Fellow
- 2013-15 Daniel Kennedy, Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellow
- 2013-14 Rebecca Savitt, Sustainable Fashion Project
- 2013-14 Sydney Joyner, Sustainable Fashion Project
- 2013-14 Pamela Rivera, Sustainable Fashion Project
- 2013-14 June Jennings, Sustainable Fashion Project
- 2012 Samantha Mercadante, Maya Textile Project, St. Louis Art Museum
- 2012 Sarah Raker, Maya Textile Project, St. Louis Art Museum

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

July-Aug. 2015

San Francisco, CA, and Portland, OR, fieldwork

Ethnographic research with designers, government regulators, retailers, and manufacturers on sustainability and social responsibility in the US fashion industry.

Jan. 2014 **London, UK, fieldwork**

Ethnographic research with designers, government regulators, retailers, and manufacturers on sustainability and social responsibility in the UK fashion industry.

Feb. 2012 **Guatemala, fieldwork**

Ethnographic research on apparel trade, urban security, and import markets.

Dec. 2008 - Dec. 2009

Guatemala, fieldwork

Ethnographic research on apparel trade, indigenous entrepreneurship, and law and security, funded by Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad fellowship.

Oct. 2008 **Portland, Oregon, fieldwork**

Ethnographic research on corporate social responsibility and environmental sustainability in the U.S. apparel industry, including interviews with industry employees and consumers.

June - July 2008

Guatemala, fieldwork

Ethnographic research on apparel trade, including travel to marketing centers and ethnographic interviews with garment producers.

Sept. 2007 - Jan. 2008

Harvard University, research assistant to Kimberly Theidon

Research and writing in political, legal, and medical anthropology, post-conflict reconciliation and development, violence and social suffering, especially in Latin America.

June - Aug. 2007

Guatemala, fieldwork and language study

Pilot study on Guatemalan apparel trade, including ethnographic interviews with garment producers. Ethnographic research on traditional textile production and marketing. Completed apprenticeship in traditional weaving. Completed six-week course in Kaqchikel Maya at Oxlajuj Aj Language and Culture Institute (program of the Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Tulane University).

June - Aug. 2006

Guatemala, fieldwork and language study

Ethnographic research on Guatemalan apparel trade and traditional textile production. Completed six-week course in Kaqchikel Maya at Oxlajuj Aj Language and Culture Institute (program of the Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Tulane University).

Aug. 2004 - Sept. 2005

Wilson County, North Carolina, research assistant

Completed historical and ethnographic study on tobacco farming, farm labor, migration, and citizenship in rural U.S. South. Assisted with interviews, transcriptions, and archival data collection.

June - July 2004

Guatemala, fieldwork

Research in Tecpán Guatemala with Kaqchikel Maya cultural and political activists on local politics and indigenous enterprise.

Aug. 2001 - June 2004

Dibona, Bornstein & Random, Inc. (Boston, MA), advertising account manager

Managed development and execution of marketing strategies for international clients.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2015- Board of Directors, Association of Women Faculty

2015-16 Mellon-Mays Fellowship Selection Committee

- 2013-16 Olin Fellowship for Women Selection Committee
- 2012-16 Faculty Advisor, Culture Club graduate student workshop series, Department of Anthropology
- 2014-15 Coordinator, Department of Anthropology Website Review and Updates
- 2013-15 Committee for Special Majors in the College of Arts & Sciences
- 2013-14 Merle Kling Fellowship Selection Committee
- 2013-14 Rhodes Scholarship Nomination Committee
- 2013-14 Faculty Search Committee, Department of Anthropology
- 2013 Mellon-Mays/Merle Kling Fellowship Program Evaluations Committee
- 2013 Departmental Assessment Committee, Department of Anthropology
- 2012-13 Latino Link, Member of university-wide working group to assess needs and improve resources available to Latino students and students interested in topics related to Latin America
- 2012 Graduate Student Admissions Committee, Department of Anthropology

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2016- Board of Directors, Guatemala Scholars Network
- 2016- Board of Directors, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
- 2015- Early Career Mentorship Committee, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
- 2010 Eric R. Wolf Prize Selection Committee, Society for the Anthropology of Work
- 2008-09 Planning Committee member, Guatemala Scholars Network

Reviewer for the following academic journals:

American Anthropologist

American Ethnologist

City & Society

Crime, Law and Social Change

Cultural Anthropology

European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology

PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review

Sociological Perspectives

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Anthropological Association
Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
Association of Women Faculty, Washington University in St. Louis
Guatemala Scholars Network
Latin American Studies Association
Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
Society for the Anthropology of Work

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (fluent)
Kaqchikel Maya (advanced)
Yucatec Maya (reading)
Italian (reading)