

MAY 2021

METHODS4ALL NEWSLETTER

Newsletter for the NSF Cultural Anthropology Methods Program and Community of Practice



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WELCOME FROM OUR DIRECTORS

By Amber Wutich, H. Russell Bernard & Alissa Ruth

Welcome to our first NSF Cultural Anthropology Methods Program (CAMP) Community of Practice newsletter.

Our goal is to build a scholarly community to support methods research and learning in anthropology. In this newsletter, we share updates about our research findings, upcoming events, and member milestones. We are also excited to share the launch of our new website: methods4all.org. We invite you to get involved as members of our Community of Practice <https://methods4all.org/community-of-practice/>.

We are proud to introduce the [2021 Methods Fellows](#), 20 nationally-selected Ph.D. students selected who will participate in 3 weeks of intensive methods training and mentorship led by our [40 NSF CAMP faculty](#).

Applications will open again for the 2022 CAMP session in November 2021, and you can learn more by visiting <https://methods4all.org/camp/>



Acknowledgment: Images were provided by the Anthro Illustrated project (<https://anthroillustrated.com>). We thank the Anthro Illustrated team for these resources.

INVESTIGATION OF METHODS IN CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY: OUR 2019 SURVEY FINDINGS



This study surveyed cultural, medical, environmental, applied, and linguistic anthropologists to understand their training in, teaching of, and opinions about 170 research methods used in anthropology. The survey was sent to 21,344 members of the American Anthropology Association (AAA) in June 2019. We got back 1,354 completed surveys, and 140 participants provided a syllabus from a methods course they teach.



The survey was run by H. Russell Bernard, Amber Wutich, Alissa Ruth, and the NSF Cultural Anthropology Methods Program Community of Practice.

METHOD TRENDS

Most Taught

1. Participant Observation
2. Semi-Structured Interviewing
3. Unstructured Interviewing
4. Single-sited Ethnography
5. Individual Informed Consent

Most Unknown

1. Ethnoecological Importance Value (EIV) Index
2. Talanoa
3. Impact Chain Analysis
4. Property Fitting (PROFIT)
5. Corpus Linguistics

Least Taught

1. Talanoa
2. Ethnoecological Importance Value (EIV)
3. Phylogenetic modeling
4. Property Fitting (PROFIT)
5. Structural Equation Modeling

Most Wanted

1. Social Autopsy Interviewing
2. Talanoa
3. Residual Agreement Analysis
4. Property Fitting (PROFIT)
5. Visualization Centered Interviewing

INSIGHTS FROM OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

2 short-answer questions were on the survey

1. What do you see as the most cutting-edge method in cultural anthropology?

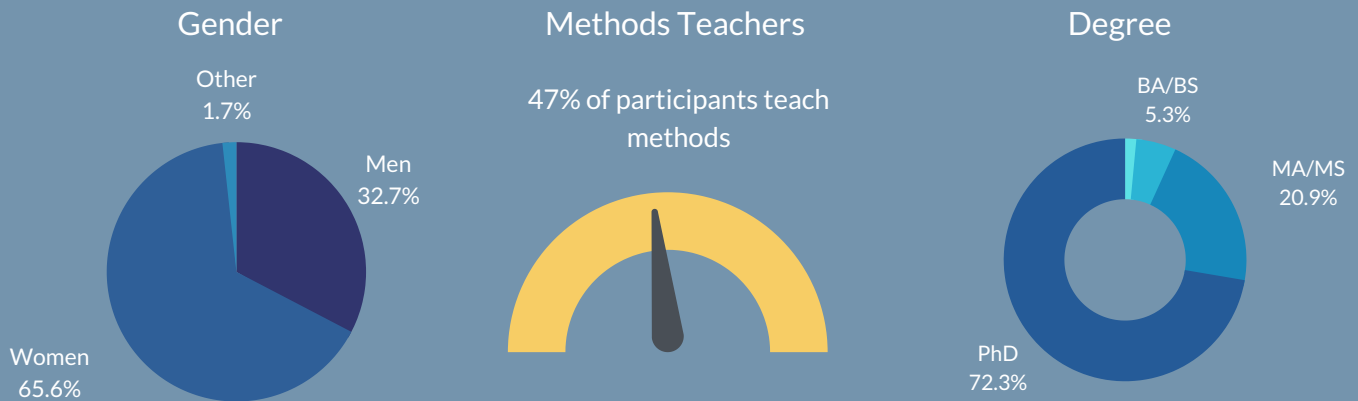
<i>Applied activist anthropology</i>	<i>Digital ethnographies</i>
<i>Decolonizing methods</i>	<i>Big data and data mining</i>
<i>Environmental and multi-species work</i>	
<i>Indigenous methodologies</i>	<i>Mixed methods</i>
<i>Participatory action research</i>	<i>Network analysis</i>
<i>Social media analysis</i>	<i>Participant observation</i>

2. What methods most urgently need to be taught in cultural anthropology?

<i>Ethics and bias</i>	<i>Decolonizing/feminist methods</i>
<i>Ethnographic methods</i>	<i>Research design</i>
<i>Medical, applied, environmental</i>	<i>Mixed methods</i>
<i>Participatory action research</i>	<i>Participant observation</i>
<i>Indigenous/collaborative methods</i>	
<i>Rapid ethnographic assessment</i>	<i>Basic statistics</i>
<i>Statistics and quantitative methods</i>	<i>Interviewing</i>

INVESTIGATION OF METHODS IN CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY: OUR 2019 SURVEY FINDINGS

DEMOGRAPHICS



FOLLOW-UP SURVEY



In December 2019, we sent an open-ended survey to 602 of the original 1,354 participants who consented to follow-up. A total of 202 respondents answered 7 questions:

- What methods did you learn when you were a student that were really helpful? Why were they helpful?
- What methods do you wish you had learned now that you are a professional? Can you tell us any stories or situations that help explain why you'd have liked to know that?
- When you hire a new cultural anthropologist, or imagining that you did, what methods do you think are essential for them to know and why?
- We've heard that students of cultural anthropology do not need to learn multiple regression or advanced statistics. What do you think of that?
- We've heard that students of cultural anthropology need to learn talanoa and other community based participatory methods. What do you think of that?
- We've heard it's hard to get people to teach methods. Is that true in your experience? If so/not, why?
- Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about learning and teaching research methods?

What methods did you learn as a student that were useful?

Ethnographic interviewing
Social network analysis
Participant observation
Statistical methods
Ethnographic field methods
Interviewing techniques
I never had explicit methods training

What methods do you wish you had learned?

Statistical and quantitative methods
Data management
Social network analysis
Text analysis
Survey construction
Interviewing techniques
GIS
Modeling

What methods are important for hiring a cultural anthropologist?

...understanding of quantitative methods and quantitative design...
Interviewing
Ethnographic methods
Participant observation
Mixed methods
Coding

NSF CAMP INFORMATION

[HTTPS://METHODS4ALL.ORG/CAMP/](https://methods4all.org/camp/)

WHAT IS CAMP?

The US National Science Foundation has a long history—going back to the 1950s—of supporting methods training in cultural anthropology. In the relaunch of NSF's 30-year summer program, the NSF Cultural Anthropology Methods program (CAMP) provides advanced methods training for Ph.D. students, with three main goals:

- **Goal 1: Train Ph.D. students in research methods, research design, and proposal writing**
- **Goal 2: Create a community of practice for teaching research methods to anthropologists**
- **Goal 3: Produce research-based findings on effective practices for methods teaching**

ADVISORY BOARD

To advise and guide our leadership and teaching faculty, we convened an Advisory Board from a range of Ph.D. programs in anthropology across the United States, based on their contributions as anthropological methodologists.

Our first annual meeting of the Advisory Board was on April 30th, 2021, where Board members provided invaluable feedback and discussion of teaching faculty, modules and course creation, and CAMP design. This feedback will inform the development of the camp curriculum in Year 1, and its refinement in Years 2-3.

A full list of our advisory board members can be found on our website at <https://methods4all.org/advisory-board-2/>

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

We are building a community of practice to support methods scholarship in cultural anthropology. A major goal of our Community of Practice is to create an inclusive, big tent for all teachers of methods in anthropology, as well as practitioners and researchers.

Our work aims to nurture a community in which new ideas and junior scholars can flourish. It also helps scholars work across long-standing divides within cultural anthropology, by building more innovative, integrative, and collaborative methods practices. All are invited to participate in our Community activities, including online conferences and workshops, collaborative research, and our listserv and newsletter. For more information and to sign up, visit <https://methods4all.org/community-of-practice/>

A list of our current members can be found at <https://methods4all.org/community-of-practice/members/>

You can also keep up with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Methods are for everyone!

NSF CAMP FACULTY

Based on a 2019 survey of AAA members, and in consultation with colleagues from anthropology programs across the US, the three-week curriculum for NSF CAMP is designed to meet the learning needs of contemporary Ph.D. students. Together, our 40 distinguished faculty draw on cutting-edge research to update and expand the anthropology methods toolkit.

Our faculty represent a diverse range of expertise and teaching interests, including research design, sample design, indigenous methods, decolonizing methods, participatory methods, linguistic methods, cross-cultural methods, qualitative data analysis, relational analysis, ecological methods, medical and psychological methods, biocultural methods, and ethical research.

A full faculty list can be found on our website at <https://methods4all.org/people/>, and more information on teaching philosophy and modules can be found at <https://methods4all.org/camp/curriculum/>

2021 CAMP APPLICANTS

For the 2021 CAMP year, we named 20 Methods Fellows from among 220 applicants.

Applicants came from 86 universities representing a variety of PhD programs and disciplines, including ecology, religious studies, and internet and digital studies.

More information on the selected 2021 CAMP Fellows can be found at this link: <https://methods4all.org/2021-camp-fellows/>

All anthropology students enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the U.S. are invited to apply to NSF CAMP. Students must be enrolled in a U.S. university, but they are not required to be U.S. citizens. Preference will be given to students who (1) demonstrate that their dissertation will contribute to anthropology, (2) have a clearly stated research question or problem, (3) have a clear need for the methods instruction provided at CAMP. Students may come as novices in anthropological methods or may already have advanced methods skills, but all should be able to explain how participating in NSF CAMP will help them grow as researchers, practitioners, or teachers. Students may be enrolled in interdisciplinary programs, but they must clearly explain how their research advances anthropology. There are 20 slots available in the NSF CAMP program each year. To learn more about CAMP and access our 2022 application when it is released, visit <https://methods4all.org/camp/>.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE NEWS

AWARDS

- Dr. Ashanté Reese: [2020 Margaret Mead Award](#)
- Dr. Savannah Shange: [2020 Gregory Bateson Book Prize](#)
- Dr. Thurka Sangaramoorthy: [2020 AAA New Directions Prize](#)
- Drs. Alexandra Brewis and Amber Wutich: [Carol Ember Book Award](#)
- Dr. Raymond Hames: [Elected to the National Academy of Sciences \(Anthropology section\) April 2020](#)
- Dr. Carol Ember: [Book prize named in her honor by the Society for Anthropological Sciences](#)

NEW POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

- Dr. James Holland Jones: [Appointed Director of a new program at the Stanford Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences \(CASBS\) called "Human-Nature-Machine Partnerships."](#)
- Dr. Emily Mendenhall: [Founding Editor of the new journal Social Science & Medicine-Mental Health](#)
- Dr. John (Juan) Luque: [Elected Secretary of the American Association for Cancer Education \(2020-2021\).](#)
- Dr. Thurka Sangaramoorthy: [Appointed Co-Chair, Members Programmatic Advisory and Advocacy Committee, American Anthropological Association; Elected, Executive Board, Society for Medical Anthropology; Appointed, Editorial Board, American Anthropologist; Appointed, Associate Editor, Public Health Reports](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

NEW METHODS BOOKS

- [Systematic Methods for Analyzing Culture: A Practical Guide.](#) Dengah II F.H.J., Snodgrass J.G., Polzer E., and Nixon W.C., Routledge.
- [Sangaramoorthy, T., & Kroeger, K. A. \(2020\). Rapid Ethnographic Assessments: A Practical Approach and Toolkit for Collaborative Community Research.](#) Routledge.

NEW COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE PAPERS

- Beresford, M., Jones, J. L., Bausch, J. C., Williams, C. F., Wutich, A., Porter, S., Quimby, B., Eaton, W.E., & Brasier, K. J. (2020). [Third-Party Effects in Stakeholder Interviews.](#) International Journal of Qualitative Methods, 19
- Hardin, J.: Forthcoming paper, August 2021, Cultural Anthropology, ["Life before Vegetables: Nutrition, Cash and Subjunctive Health in Samoa."](#)
- Roy, S., Dickey, S., Wang, H.L., Washington, A, Polo, R, Gwede, CK, and Luque, JS. [Systematic Review of Interventions to Increase Stool Blood Colorectal Cancer Screening in African Americans.](#) J Community Health. 2021 Feb;46(1):232-244.
- Luque, J.,S., Okere, A.N., Reyes-Ortiz, C.A., Williams, P.M. [Mixed methods study of the potential therapeutic benefits from medical cannabis for patients in Florida.](#) Complement Ther Med. 2021 Jan 15;57
- Matthew, O.O., Monaghan, P.F., Luque, J.S. [The Novel Coronavirus and Undocumented Farmworkers in the United States.](#) New Solut. 2021 Jan
- Wutich, A. Rosinger, J. Stoler, W. Jepson, A. Brewis. (2020) Measuring Human Water Needs. American Journal of Human Biology. 32(1): e23350.

GRANTS

- Dr. Carol R. Ember: Co-PI with Fiona Jordan, NSF Grant: ["Summer Institutes for Cross-Cultural Anthropological Research"](#) (NSF BCS #2020156)
- Dr. Jessica Hardin: PI, NSF Grant: ["Notions of time and medical decision-making"](#) (NSF BCS 2017195)
- Dr. James Holland Jones: PI, NSF Grant: ["RAPID: Coupled Contagion, Behavior-Change, and the Dynamics of Pro- and Anti-Social Behavior During the COVID-19 Pandemic"](#) (NSF BCS #2028160); PI, NSF Grant: ["Predictive Intelligence and Pandemic Preparedness: Policy and Behavioral Obstacles and Supports."](#)
- Dr. Amber Wutich: PI, NSF Grant: ["Coevolution of social and physical infrastructure and improved access to clean water in informal water sharing systems"](#) (NSF GCR # 2021147)

Have an announcement for our next newsletter? Please send the news and any relevant publicity links to our Assistant Director at methods4all@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAININGS

MAY

- **May 24th - May 27th:** University of Massachusetts Amherst Online ISSR Summer Methodology Workshops: Photovoice: Visual Elicitation Meets Participatory Action Research. By Krista Harper and Brittnei Howard. [Details and registration](#)
- **May 28th:** University of Massachusetts Amherst Online ISSR Summer Methodology Workshops: Photovoice Research Design Intensive. By Krista Harper & Brittnei Howard. [Details and registration](#)

JUNE

- **June 2 - June 4th:** Tufts Fletcher School Workshop 1: Designing and Conducting Field Research. [Details and registration](#)
- **June 7 - June 8th:** Tufts Fletcher School Workshop 2: Analyzing Qualitative Data. [Details and registration](#)
- **June 21 - July 16th:** ICPSR Summer Program. [Details and registration](#)
- **June 28 - July 16th:** RECSM Summer Methods School 2021. [Details and registration](#)

JULY

- **July 11 - July 23,** Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis Session One. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 19 - August 13th:** ICPSR Summer Program. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 25 - August 6th:** Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis Session Two. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 28 - July 30th:** GESIS Short Course A: Introduction to Stata for Data Management and Analysis. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 28th - July 30th:** GESIS Short Course B: Using Directed Acyclic Graphs for Causal & Statistical Inference. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 28th - July 30th:** GESIS Short Course C: Pretesting Survey Questions. [Details and registration](#)
- **July 28th - August 20th:** GESIS 10th Summer School in Survey Methodology. [Details and registration](#)
- **July (Date TBD):** Emory Qualitative Research Methods Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **July (Date TBD):** Emory Mentored Qualitative Methods Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **July (Date TBD):** Emory Qualitative Data Analysis Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **July (Date TBD):** Emory Mentored Qualitative Analysis Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)

AUGUST

- **August 8 - August 20:** Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis Session Three. [Details and registration](#)
- **August 9th:** Arizona State University ISSR: Qualitative Data Analysis: The Basics, by Amber Wutich. [Details and registration](#)
- **August 11th:** Arizona State University ISSR: Content Analysis: The Basics, by Amber Wutich. [Details and registration](#)
- **August 13th:** Arizona State University ISSR: Grounded Theory: The Basics, by Amber Wutich. [Details and registration](#)
- **August 13 - August 27:** Università della Svizzera italiana Summer School in Social Science Methods. [Details and registration](#)
- **August 23 - August 27th:** CESS Nuffield Applied Research Methods with Hidden, Marginal and Excluded Populations. [Details and registration](#)
- **August (Date TBD):** Emory Qualitative Research Methods Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **August (Date TBD):** Emory Mentored Qualitative Methods Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **August (Date TBD):** Emory Qualitative Data Analysis Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)
- **August (Date TBD):** Emory Mentored Qualitative Analysis Online Workshop. [Details and registration](#)

ADDITIONAL SUMMER COURSES

- Over 170 courses: Utrecht Summer School 2021. [Details and registration](#)
- 42 courses: ICPSR Short Workshops. [Details and registration](#)
- 60 courses: UMASS Amherst ISSR Workshops. [Details and registration](#)