

*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

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant Number 1127060. Download and reuse is encouraged.

Week 1 ORIENTATION TO THE FIELD SITE

ORIENTATION

Lesson #1 NMNH Orientation and Walkabout (Greene and Reuss)

Lesson #2 Program Overview (Greene and Bell)

*2014 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 (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]

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]

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]

Lesson #3 EMu Orientation (Greene and staff)

No readings

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

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

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

*Review of Anthropology Collections home page, available at <http://anthropology.si.edu/cm>
[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 (Greene and Reuss)

No readings

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

* Review of National Anthropological Archives home page, available at <http://anthropology.si.edu/naa/index.htm>

* Review of public version of online database, available at <http://sirris-archives.si.edu>

*NAA documents:

Visitor form

Digital camera use

Photocopy order form

* 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 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 #7 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 #8 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 #9 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 #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: (Greene and Jordan)

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

[small groups learning to look]

Lesson #12 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 #13 Exploring Southern Plains Material Culture (Jordan)

Jordan, Michael

2015 Documenting and Revitalizing Kiowa Knowledge: Material Culture Studies and Community Engagement. *Museum Anthropology Review*. 9(1-2):80-95.
[An example of engaged scholarship that touches on the significance of museum collections to Indigenous communities.]

2012 Striving for Recognition: Ledger Art and the Construction and Maintenance of Social Status during the Reservation Period. *In Multiple Narratives in Plains Indian Ledger Art: The Mark Lansburgh Collection*. Colin Calloway, editor. Pp. 20-33. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.
[Think about the data used to interpret these nineteenth century drawings.]

Jordan, Michael Paul and Daniel C. Swan,

2011 Painting a New Battle Tipi: Public Art, Intellectual Property, and Heritage Construction in a Contemporary Native American Community. *Plains Anthropologist* 56(219):195-213.
[Think about the role of ethnographic research in the study of material culture.]

Lesson #14 Research Funding: Jeffrey Mantz, NSF Guest Speaker (to be confirmed)

No readings.

Week 3 HOW COLLECTIONS ARE SHAPED: DATA CRITIQUE

Lesson #15 Learning to Look More Closely: Identification and Significance of Natural Materials Incorporated into Native North American Objects (Jordan)

Ewers, John C.

1977 Notes on the Weasel in Historic Plains Indian Culture. *Plains Anthropologist* 22(78):253-62

[A reminder that materials are often employed for reasons other than their aesthetic properties.]

Hoskins, Janet

2006 Agency, Biography, and Objects. *In Handbook of Material Culture*. C. Tilley, Webb Keane, Susan Kuchler, Michael Rowlands, and Patricia Spyer, ed. Pp. 74-84. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

[Focus on the discussion of Alfred Gell's work on agency.]

Moore, John H.

1986 The Ornithology of Cheyenne Religionists. *Plains Anthropologist* 31(113):117-192.

[Consider the complexity of Cheyenne ethno-ornithological beliefs. Note the differences between the Cheyenne classificatory system and Western taxonomy.]

Further Reading: On reserve in MSC Library

Gell, Alfred

1998 *Art and Agency: A New Anthropological Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Krech, Shephard

2009 *Spirits of the Air: Birds and American Indians in the South*. Athens: University of Georgia Press.

Chandler, Kaitlyn, Wendi Field Murray, María Nieves Zedeño, Samrat Clements, and Robert James

2017 *The Winged: An Upper Missouri River Ethno-ornithology*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Lesson #16 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.

Bell, Joshua A.

2015 "Bird Specimen, Papua New Guinea." In Jacobs, Karen, Knowles, Chantal and Chris Wingfield. *Trophies, Relics and Curios? Missionary Heritage from Africa and the Pacific*. 57-62. Leiden: Sidestone Press

Lesson #17 Says Who?: Critically Evaluating Interpretations of Nineteenth Century Plains Indian Drawings (Jordan)

Greene, Candace S.

2013 Being Indian at Fort Marion: Revisiting Three Drawings. *American Indian Quarterly*. 37(4):289-316.

[How does one critically evaluate interpretations of material culture? Pay attention to the differences between the way in which members of the Kiowa community read these drawings and the ways in which art historians have interpreted them.]

Lesson #18 Regional Comparison (Jackson)

Kroeber, A.L.

1948 Distributions. In *Anthropology: Race, Language, Culture, Psychology, Prehistory*. Pp. 538-571. New York: Harcourt, Brace, and Company.
[A textbook account of distributions in the anthropological study of culture history.]

Choose one of the following readings based on your topical interest

Jackson, Jason Baird

2000 Signaling the Creator: Indian Football as Ritual Performance Among the Yuchi and their Neighbors. *Southern Folklore*. 57(1):33-64.
[My interests reflected in a consideration of a ritualized game in context and in light of its regional distribution.]

2002 Spirit Medicine: Native American uses of Common Everlasting (*Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium*) in Eastern North America. *Occasional Papers of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History*. 13:1-17.
[My interests reflected in a consideration of a medicinal plant in context and in light of its regional distribution.]

2013 The Story of Colonialism, or Rethinking the Ox-Hide Purchase in Native North America and Beyond. *The Journal of American Folklore*. 126(499): 31-54.

Jackson, Jason Baird and Victoria Lindsey Levine

2002 Singing for Garfish: Music and Woodland Communities in Eastern Oklahoma. *Ethnomusicology*. 46(2): 284-306.
[My interests reflected in a consideration of a music and dance performance form in context and in light of its regional distribution.]

Lesson #19 Objects and Cultural Performance (Jackson)

*Babcock, Barbara

1992 Artifact. In *Folklore, Cultural Performances, and Popular Entertainments: A Communications-centered Handbook*. Richard Bauman, ed. Pp. 204-216. New York: Oxford University Press.
[A folklore-studies friendly, communications-centered introduction to material culture.]

*Bauman, Richard

1992 Performance. In *Folklore, Cultural Performances, and Popular Entertainments: A Communications-centered Handbook*. Pp. 41-49. New York: Oxford University Press.
[A folklore-studies friendly, communications-centered introduction to the concept of performance.]

Week 4 NEXT STEPS: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Lesson #20 Concept Work and Collections (Jackson)

Sturtevant, William C.

1977 Guide to Field Collecting of Ethnographic Specimens. Vol. 503. 2nd edition. Smithsonian Institution Press: Washington DC.
[Skim]

Lesson #21 Ethics (Greene)

No readings

Lesson #22 Why Objects Matter to Source Communities (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.
[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