

## GRAHAM M. JONES

MIT Anthropology  
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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2021-present | Professor of Anthropology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology                         |
| 2017-2021    | Associate Professor Anthropology (with tenure), Massachusetts Institute of Technology    |
| 2016         | Visiting Researcher, Department of Anthropology, Boston University                       |
| 2013-2017    | Associate Professor Anthropology (without tenure), Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| 2012-2015    | Lister Brothers Development Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology             |
| 2010-2013    | Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology                 |
| 2007-2010    | Lecturer, Anthropology and Humanistic Studies, Princeton University                      |
| 2006-2007    | Instructor, Anthropology, The New School                                                 |

### EDUCATION

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|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2024      | M.F.A., Writing for Young People, Lesley University                   |
| 2007-2010 | Postdoc, Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, Princeton University |
| 2007      | Ph.D., Anthropology, New York University                              |
| 2004-2005 | Visiting student, École Normale Supérieure, Paris                     |
| 2003      | Visiting student, École Normale Supérieure, Paris (spring)            |
| 2002      | M.A., French Studies (with distinction), New York University          |
| 1998      | B.A., General Literature (Phi Beta Kappa), Reed College               |
| 1996      | Visiting student, Howard University (spring)                          |

### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

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| 2024      | SHASS+ Connectivity Grant, MIT Human Insight Collaborative     |
| 2024      | CAST Visiting Artist Fellowship (sponsoring Jeanette Andrews)  |
| 2024      | CAST Lightning Grant (sponsoring Rose Salane)                  |
| 2023      | MIT Generative AI Impact Award (with Arvind Satyanarayan)      |
| 2023      | MITx Express Exploration Grant                                 |
| 2023      | CAST Cross Disciplinary Class Development Grant, MIT           |
| 2023-2025 | MLK Visiting Fellow Award (sponsoring Christine Taylor-Butler) |
| 2022      | Work of the Future Seed Fund Grant, MIT                        |
| 2022      | Bose Research Grant, MIT (with Arvind Satyanarayan)            |
| 2021      | Fang Fund grant for interdisciplinary computing research       |
| 2021      | Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising     |
| 2020      | Teaching with Digital Technology Award, MIT                    |
| 2019      | MacVicar Faculty Fellow, MIT                                   |

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| 2018       | CAST Cross Disciplinary Class Development Grant, MIT                                                                              |
| 2015       | Mellon Foundation, New Directions Fellowship                                                                                      |
| 2014       | D'Arbeloff Fund for course development, MIT                                                                                       |
| 2013       | National Science Foundation, "MOOCs and the Ethnography of Media Socialization" (award # BCS-1258640)                             |
| 2013       | Alumni Class Funds Fellowship for course development, MIT                                                                         |
| 2013       | Harold E. Edgerton Faculty Achievement Award, MIT                                                                                 |
| 2012       | Levitan Award for Excellence in Teaching, MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences                                     |
| 2012       | Alumni Class Funds Fellowship, MIT                                                                                                |
| 2010-2011  | Research grant, Massachusetts Institute of Technology – Singapore University of Technology and Design International Design Center |
| 2009       | Research grant, Gardner Magic Project, Princeton University                                                                       |
| 2009       | Research grant, University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University                      |
| 2008       | Research grant, Gardner Magic Project, Princeton University                                                                       |
| 2008       | Research grant, University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University                      |
| 2008       | Travel grant, Hellenistic Studies, Princeton University                                                                           |
| 2007-2010  | Haarlow-Cotsen Fellowship, Princeton University Society of Fellows                                                                |
| 2006-2007  | Ford Foundation Dissertation Diversity Fellowship                                                                                 |
| 2006-2007  | Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, GSAS, New York University                                                                         |
| 2006       | Research grant, Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, France                                                                 |
| 2004-2005  | International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council                                                   |
| 2004-2005  | Fulbright Graduate Student Research Fellowship, France                                                                            |
| 2002       | French Studies Master's Essay Award, New York University                                                                          |
| 2000-2006  | MacCracken Fellowship, New York University                                                                                        |
| 2000-2006  | Julia Lenobel Opportunity Fellowship, New York University                                                                         |
| 2000-2006  | French Studies Fellowship, New York University                                                                                    |
| 1995, 1997 | Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship, Reed College                                                                          |

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Picture Books

Jones, Graham. Forthcoming, 2027. *How We Do*. New York: Neal Porter Books/Holiday House.

### Scholarly Books

Jones, Graham M. 2017. *Magic's Reason: An Anthropology of Analogy*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- Honorable Mention, Laurence Wylie Prize in French Cultural Studies
- Chinese translation forthcoming, 2026.

Jones, Graham M. 2011. *Trade of the Tricks: Inside the Magician's Craft*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

### Refereed Articles

- Jones, Graham**, Shai Satran, and Arvind Satyanarayan. 2025. "Toward Cultural Interpretability: A Linguistic Anthropological Framework for Describing and Evaluating Large Language Models (LLMs)." *Big Data & Society* 12(1): 1-13.
- Wong, Jamie, Crystal Lee, Vesper Keyi Long, Di Wu, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2021. "'Let's Go, Baby Forklift!': Fandom Governance and the Political Power of Cuteness in China." *Social Media + Society* 7(2): 1-18.
- Lee, Crystal, Tanya Yang, Gabrielle Inchoco, **Graham M. Jones**, and Arvind Satyanarayan. 2021. Viral Visualizations: How Coronavirus Skeptics Use Orthodox Data Practices to Promote Unorthodox Science Online. With In CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '21), May 8–13, 2021, Yokohama, Japan.
- Honorable Mention for Best Paper
- Jones, Graham M. 2019. "New Magic as an Artification Movement: From Speech Event to Change Process." *Cultural Sociology* 13(3): 321-337.
- Jones, Graham M. 2018. "Indigenous Illusionism and the Global Magic System." *Early Popular Visual Culture* 16(2): 146-156.
- Jones, Graham M.**, Beth M. Semel and Audrey Le. 2015. "'There's No Rules. It's Hackathon.': Negotiating Commitment in a Context of Volatile Sociality." With *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 25(3): 322-345.
- Jones, Graham M. 2014. "[Secrecy.](#)" *Annual Review of Anthropology* 43: 53-69.
- Jones, Graham M. 2012 "Magic with a Message: The Poetics of Christian Conjuring." *Cultural Anthropology* 27(2): 193-214.
- Jones, Graham M. 2011. "Virtuoses ambivalents: Notions de l'adresse chez les magiciens évangéliques." *Ateliers d'anthropologie* 35. <http://ateliers.revues.org/8848>
- Jones, Graham M. 2010. "Modern Magic and the War on Miracles in French Colonial Culture." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 52(1): 66-99.
- Jury commendation, 2010 Malcolm Bowie prize in French Studies
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Bambi B. Schieffelin. 2009. "Enquoting Voices, Accomplishing Talk: Uses of *Be* + *Like* in Instant Messaging." *Language & Communication* 29(1): 77-113.
- Reprinted in *Anthropological Linguistics*. Vol. 5. Bambi Schieffelin and Paul Garrett, eds. New York: Routledge, 2010. Pp. 77-120.
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Bambi B. Schieffelin. 2009. "Talking Text and Talking Back: 'My BFF Jill' from Boob Tube to YouTube." *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication* 14(4): 1050-1079.
- Reprinted in *A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communications: Essential Readings*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Leila Monahan, Jane Goodman, and Jennifer Robinson, eds. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2012. Pp. 199-219.
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Lauren Shweder. 2003. "The Performance of Illusion and Illusionary Performatives: Learning the Language of Theatrical Magic." *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 13(1): 51-70.

## Chapters in Edited Volumes

- Graham M. Jones**, Jisoo Hong, and Maya Návar. *Forthcoming*. “Linguistic Analysis: Lessons from Researching the ‘Strength of Weak Evidence’ among Online UFO Investigators.” In *Practicing Digital Ethnography*. Devin Proctor, ed. London: Routledge.
- Yilia Qu, Vesper Long, Jamie Wong, and **Graham M. Jones**. *Forthcoming*. “I Need a New Name: Confessions of A Chinese Fangirl.” In *To Be Named: The Cultural Politics of Naming*. Gwyneira Isaac, Stanislaw Kordasiewicz, Tomasz Wicherkiewicz, Jesse Amelsvoort, and Sylvia Ngo, eds. London: Routledge.
- Jones, Graham M. 2022. “‘Hey, but That’s Not Respectful!’: Civil Discourse and Liberal Education in Pluralistic France.” In *Rethinking Politeness with Henri Bergson*. Alessandro Duranti, ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. Pp. 83-96.
- Jones, Graham M. 2021. “Categorize, Recategorize, Repeat.” In *Experimenting with Ethnography: A Companion to Analysis*. Andrea Ballesterio and Brit Ross Winthereik, eds. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. Pp. 151-162.
- Johnson, Amy, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2021. “Language, the Internet, and Digital Communication.” In *The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. J. M. Stanlaw, ed. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Jones, Graham M. 2020. “Purity’s Perils: The Trials of an Anti-Mediumistic Medium.” In *The Medium on Trial: Testing and Contesting Trance and other Media Techniques*. Daniel C. Barber and Ehler Voss, eds. Berlin: De Gruyter Oldenbourg.
- Jones, Graham M. 2018. “Deep Fakes.” *Fake: Annual Debate of Anthropological Keywords, volume 1*. Chicago: HAU Books. Pp. 15-30.
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Bambi B. Schieffelin. 2016. “The Ethnography of Inscriptive Speech.” *eFieldnotes: Makings of Anthropology in a Digital World*. Roger Sanjek and Susan W. Tratner, eds. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. Pp. 210-228.
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Loïc Marquet. 2015. “How to Become a Magician in Paris.” With. *World of Work*. Ilana Gershon, ed. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. Pp. 44-57.
- Jones, Graham M. 2014. “Reported Speech as an Authentication Tactic in Computer-Mediated Communication.” *Indexing Authenticity: Sociolinguistic Perspectives*. Véronique Lacoste, Jakob Leimgruber, and Thiemo Breyer, eds. Berlin: De Gruyter. Pp. 188-208.
- Jones, Graham M. 2013. “Slower than the Eye: Time, Artifice, and Concealment’s Revelations.” *Jamie Isenstein: Will Return*. Stephanie Snyder, ed. Portland, OR: Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery. Pp. 57-79.
- Jones, Graham M. 2012. “L’art au miroir de la magie.” In *La fabrique de l’art*. Nathalie Heinich and Roberta Shapiro, eds. Paris: Editions EHESS. Pp. 113-131.
- Jones, Graham M.**, and Bambi B. Schieffelin, and Rachel E. Smith. 2011 “When Friends Who Talk Together Stalk Together: Online Gossip as Metacommunication.” *Digital Discourse: Language in the New Media*. Crispin

- Thurlow and Kristine Mrozeck, eds. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 26-47.
- Jones, Graham M. 2008. "The Family Romance of Modern Magic: Contesting Robert-Houdin's Cultural Legacy." *Performing Magic on the Western Stage from the Eighteenth Century to the Present*. Francesca Coppa, Lawrence Hass, and James Peck, eds. New York: Palgrave. Pp. 33-60.
- Jones, Graham M. 2006. "Laboring under Illusionism: Notes from the Study of French Magic." *Dispatches From the Field: Neophyte Ethnographers in a Changing World*. Andrew Gardner and David Hoffman, eds. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press. Pp. 167-178.

### Edited Collections

- Jones, Graham M., ed. 2014. "Anthropology in and of MOOCs." Special section of *American Anthropologist* 116(4): 829-838.
- Stoichita, Victor A., Emmanuel Grimaud, and **Graham M. Jones**, eds. 2011. "Virtuosités ou les sublimes aventures de la technique." *Ateliers d'anthropologie* 35. <http://ateliers.revues.org/8763>.

### Book Reviews

- Jones, Graham M. 2025. Review of *Magic's Translations: Reality Politics in Colonial Indonesia* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2025) by Margaret J. Wiener. *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*
- Jones, Graham M. 2016. Review of *Conjuring Science: A History of Scientific Entertainment and Stage Magic in Modern France* by Sofie Lachapelle (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015). *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 11(2): 278-281.
- Jones, Graham M. 2014. Review of *The Brotherhood of Freemason Sisters: Gender, Secrecy, and Fraternity in Italian Masonic Lodges* by Lilith Mahmud (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2014). *American Anthropologist* 116(4): 879-880.
- Jones, Graham M. 2012. Review of *Rites of the Republic: Citizens' Theatre and the Politics of Culture in Southern France* by Mark Ingram (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011). *American Anthropologist* 114(2): 164-165.
- Jones, Graham M. 2012. Review of *In the Land of Invented Languages* by Arika Okrent (New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2010). *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. 22(2): 251-252.
- Jones, Graham M. 2005. Review of *The Body Impolitic: Artisans and Artifice in the Global Hierarchy of Value* by Michael Herzfeld (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004). *Ethnologie Française* (2): 357-358.

### Other Publications

- Jones, Graham M. *Forthcoming*, 2025. "Magic as Repair." W86th.
- Satyanarayan, Arvind, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2024. "[Intelligence as Agency: Evaluating the Capacity of Generative AI to Empower or Constrain Human Action](#)." An MIT Exploration of Generative AI, March.

- Jones, Graham M.**, Shai Satran, and Raluca Creangă. 2023. "The Magic of Conversational Automata." *Anthropology News*, July.
- Riskin, Seth, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2022. "Triangulating Technology and Magic through Artistic Research." *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 17(2): 183-189.
- Jamie Wong, Crystal Lee, Vesper Keyi Long, Di Wu, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2022. "Let's Go Baby Forklift: Fandom Governance in China within the Covid-19 Crisis." In *Critical Meme Reader II*. Chloë Arkenbout and Laurence Scherz, eds. Amsterdam: Institute of Network Cultures. Pp. 76-87.
- Jones, Graham M. 2020. "[Masks as Transformation](#)." MIT News.
- Jones, Graham M. 2019. "Theoretical Rubber, Empirical Pavement." *Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft* 14(3): 448-455.
- Jones, Graham M. 2019. "Abduction as Abduction." *The Immanent Frame: Secularism, Religion, and the Public Sphere*, April 5.  
<https://tif.ssrc.org/2019/04/05/abduction-as-abduction/>
- Jones, Graham M. 2019. "[Secularism's Enchantments and Disenchantments: A Reply to Goto-Jones and Zhang](#)." *The Immanent Frame: Secularism, Religion, and the Public Sphere*, March 15.
- Jones, Graham M. 2018. "[Remote Sensing: Alireza Doostdar, Graham M. Jones, Larisa Jasarevic, Alaina Lemon, and Andrew Shryock discuss new approaches to occult and magical things](#)." *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, June 22.
- Jones, Graham M. 2017. "Magic, An Appreciation." *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 7 (3): 399-407.
- Jones, Graham M. 2016. Comment on "For Whom the Ontology Turns" by Tom Boellstorff. *Current Anthropology* 57(4): 399-400.
- Jones, Graham M. 2015. "[Tricks, Politics, and the 'Magic Negro'](#)." *The Enemy* 2(1).
- Jones, Graham M. 2014. "Introduction: MOOCs as Media World." *American Anthropologist* 116(4): 829-830.
- Jones, Graham M. 2011. "Working Theories of Mind in Play and Games." *Journal of Finnish Anthropology* 36(4): 44-46.
- Jones, Graham M.** and Bambi B. Schieffelin. 2011. "Netzsprache." *Lexikon zur Globalisierung*. F. Kreff, E-M. Knoll, and A. Gingrich, eds. Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag. Pp. 294-295.
- Stoichita, Victor A., Emmanuel Grimaud, and **Graham M. Jones**. 2011. "De la technique comme contorsion." With *Ateliers d'anthropologie* 35.  
<http://ateliers.revues.org/8838>.
- Jones, Graham M. 2008. [Magic \(Editorial\)](#). *P-ROK: Princeton Report on Knowledge* 3(2).
- Jones, Graham M. 2005. "A Diplomacy of Dreams: Jean Rouch and Decolonization." *American Anthropologist* 107(1): 118-120
- Jones, Graham M. 2003. "Le trésor caché du Quartier Indien: Esquisse ethnographique d'une centralité minoritaire parisienne." *Revue européenne des migrations internationales* 19(1): 233-243.

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## SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

### Invited Talks

- 2025 “Toward a Phenomenology of Mystification: The Case from Generative AI” (virtual). Department of Anthropology, UCSD, May 5.
- 2025 “It’s Storytime! Children’s Picturebooks and Familial Practices of Techno-scientific Literacy.” STS Circle, Harvard University, April 21.
- 2024 “What Is a Variable?” William O. Beeman Memorial Lecture, Department of Anthropology, University of Minnesota, September 24.
- 2023 “Evidential Sociabilities: The Poetics of Secondhand Knowledge in US and Chinese Social Media.” Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, February 17.
- 2022 “Evidential Language in the Social Production of Open-source Intelligence on #UFOTwitter.” Anthropology Department, Ethnography and Social Theory Colloquium, Yale University, September 19.
- 2022 “Visible and Visual Participation in Chinese Digital Culture.” With Jamie Wong. Visual, Material and Museum Anthropology Seminar, Oxford University, May 27.
- 2022 “Qualities and Quantities of Evidence.” Roman Jakobson Symposium, Anthropology Department, Harvard University, April 29.
- 2022 “‘Melon-Eating Masses’: Consumer-Citizens, Internet Gossip, and the Politics of Scale in China.” With Jamie Wong. Anthropology Department, University of Chicago, March 28.
- 2022 Reviewer Meets Reviewed: A conversation about *Magic’s Reason* with Dr. Katie Swancutt. Royal Anthropological Institute and the British Museum, January 20.
- 2021 “Multiple Magics, Multiple Modernities.” Decolonizing Magic. Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life, Columbia University, October 26.
- 2021 “Varieties of Quasi- and Para-Religious Experience: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Innovations in Civic Piety during COVID-19.” Presidential Panel: “Marginal Ethics,” Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biennial Meeting, May 14.
- 2019 Workshop panelist, “A ‘Category of Exclusion’? *Magic as Religious, Ethnographic, and Colonialist Construct*.” Harvard University, December 13.
- 2019 “Co-Constructing Embodiment in Avant-Garde Québécois Circus.” Princeton University. February 28.
- 2018 “Indigenous Illusionism and the Global Magic System.” Department of Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center. November 2.
- 2018 “Co-Constructing Embodiment in Avant-Garde Québécois Circus.” Department of Anthropology, New York University. November 1.
- 2018 “Ethnography and Historiography in French Studies.” Institute of French Studies, New York University, November 1.
- 2018 “The Future of Magics’ Past.” The Futures of Magic. Centre for Ethnographic Theory, SOAS & The Open University, London, UK. June 29.
- 2018 “Toward a Unified Field Theory of Magic.” Carleton University (Ottawa, ON). May 30.
- 2018 “Magic’s Reason: An Anthropology of Analogy.” Department of Anthropology, UC Irvine. May 10.
- 2018 “Magic’s Reason: An Anthropology of Analogy.” Department of Anthropology, UC Santa Cruz. May 9.

- 2018 "Language, Protest, and Resistance." Montserrat College of Art, Beverly Massachusetts. February 28.
- 2017 "Magic's Reason: Powers of Illusion in the French Colonial Imagination." Global France Seminar, MIT. December 7.
- 2016 "Creativity and Intercorporeality in an Interdisciplinary Circus Production." Montreal Working Group on Circus, Concordia University. October 28.
- 2016 "Interactional Acrobatics/Acrobatic Interactionalism" (plenary address). 22nd Annual Conference on Language, Interaction, and Social Organization. University of California, Los Angeles. April 21-23, 2016.
- 2016 "Situating Creativity in Embodied Encounters" (workshop). 22nd Annual Conference on Language, Interaction, and Social Organization. University of California, Los Angeles. April 21-23, 2016.
- 2015 "Imitation and Individuation: From Toddler Talk to Internet Memes." The Give and Take of Everyday Life: Conversations in Language and Culture in Honor of Bambi B. Schieffelin. Anthropology, New York University, October 10.
- 2015 "From Tricks to Truth? Magic as Religious Metaphor." Lerner Distinguished Lecture, Religious Studies, New York University, October 8.
- 2015 "Gesture, Affect, and Distributed Cognition." Visibility, Embodiment, and Empathy: Explorations of Human Intersubjectivity. Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard University, March 27-28.
- 2014 "Intimacy, Publicity, and Disciplinarity in Massive Open Online Courses." Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, February 19.
- 2014 "Intimacy, Publicity, and Disciplinarity in Massive Open Online Courses." Department of Anthropology, Rice University, February 18.
- 2013 "Reported Speech as an Authentication Tactic in Computer-Mediated Communication." Semiotics Workshop, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago. March 21.
- 2012 "Magical Metaphors in Political Satire." Exploring Expertise: Uncertainty, Knowledge, and Trust in Democracies conference, Lichtenberg-Kolleg Institute for Advanced Study, University of Göttingen, Germany. June 15.
- 2012 "Structures of Identity Talk in an Online Magicians' Forum." Department of Anthropology, University of California, Irvine. May 31.
- 2012 "Designing Deception in the Magician's Craft." Design and Computation Group Lecture Series, Department of Architecture, MIT. March 9.
- 2012 "Debating Ethnic and Professional Identity in an Online Magicians' Forum." Department of Communication and Culture, Indiana University, Bloomington. February 3.
- 2011 "Authentic Impersonation: Reported Speech in Computer-Mediated Talk." Indexing Authenticity: Perspectives from Linguistics and Anthropology conference, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, Germany. November 26.
- 2011 "Working Theories of Mind in Play and Games." Anthropological Theory of Mind conference. Stanford University Humanities Center. September 17.
- 2010 "But Where Can the Magic Be Hiding?" Hypothetical Reported Speech in the Training of Entertainment Magicians." Department of Anthropology, Temple University. March 3.



- 2010 “‘But Where Can the Magic Be Hiding?’ Hypothetical Reported Speech in the Training of Entertainment Magicians.” Center for Language and Interaction, University of California, Los Angeles. February 17.
- 2008 “Amazing Secrets Revealed! Magic Tricks as Intellectual Property.” Copyright’s Counterparts: Alternative Economies of Creativity in Theory and Practice conference. Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, Canada. August 7.
- 2008 “Regimes of Enchantment: Magic, Knowledge, and Power in Colonial Algeria.” Center for Historical Analysis, Rutgers University. April 29.

### **Papers, Presentations, and Workshops**

- 2025 “Hey, What about Mini-humans?” Adventures in the Moral Imagination, Society of Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference, Chicago, IL, May 29.
- 2024 Panelist, Scrutinizing Signs roundtable. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Tampa, November 21.
- 2024 Fox, A.R\*, Morgenstern, M\*, Jones, G., Satyanarayan, A. Information Visualization and the Construction of Social Meaning. *Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomics Society*. NYC, NY. November 23.
- 2023 Executive Roundtable panelist, “Beyond Transition: Linguistic Anthropology as Transformative Praxis.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, November 16.
- 2022 “Evidential Language in the Social Production of Undisciplinary Knowledge,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, November 11.
- 2022 Panelist, Filing Culture: The Management of Anthropological Materials roundtable. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, November 10.
- 2022 Wong, J., Qu, Y., Long, V., Jones, G. “‘Melon-Eating Masses’: Consumer-Citizens and Public Internet Discourse in China.” Paper presented at AoIR 2022: The 23rd Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers. Dublin, Ireland: AoIR. November 4.
- 2021 “Signs of Creativity in Avant-garde Québécois Circus,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 18.
- 2021 Discussant, “After Reality: Ethnography and the Pursuit of the Real.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 17.
- 2019 “Civic Discourse, Language Socialization, and Liberal Education,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, November 21.
- 2019 Discussant, “Making the Occult Public,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, November 23.
- 2018 Discussant, “Conjuring Resource Worlds,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, November 15.
- 2017 Discussant, “Inter/faces: Semiotic Approaches to the Materiality of Computer-Mediated Communication,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 29.
- 2017 Discussant, “The Poetics of Denial: Knowledge-Making and Expertise in a ‘Post-Fact, Era.’” Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, Boston MA, August 30.

- 2016 "The Use of Computers in Anthropology." Panelist, Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology, and Computing Executive Roundtable. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN.
- 2016 Discussant, "William A. Douglass Prize As Evidence Of New Directions In Europeanist Anthropology." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN.
- 2016 Chair, "Fake: The First Annual Debate of Anthropological Keywords (ADAK)." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN.
- 2015 "Decredentialing Credentials: MOOCs, Hackathons and the Case for Amateurism." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. November 19.
- 2015 Discussant, "Consolations of Concealment." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. November 19.
- 2014 "MOOCs as Media-Work: Socialization and Ideology." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. December 5.
- 2014 Discussant, "On Things Immaterial: Data, Users, and Participation in Digital Technologies." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. December 7.
- 2014 "Secrecy's Secret." American Ethnological Society Spring Meeting, Boston. April 10-12.
- 2013 Anthropology in and of the Age of MOOCs (Roundtable panelist). American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago. November 22.
- 2012 "Structures of Identity Talk In An Online Magicians' Forum." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 14-18.
- 2012 Discussant, "Crossing Boundaries through Digital Communication: Ethnography of Cyberconnectivity." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 14-18.
- 2012 Panelist, "Being There/Being Them: Ethnography Beyond Single Organizations." Professional Development Workshop, Academy of Management Annual Meeting, Boston, August 3-7.
- 2011 "Embodying Craftiness in the Trade of the Tricks." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC. November 18.
- 2011 Panelist, Hybrid Cultures and Languages. Microsoft Research New England, Cambridge, MA. November 10.
- 2011 "Mediating Reflexivity." With Bambi Schieffelin. Georgetown University Roundtable on Language and Linguistics (GURT). Washington, DC. March 11.
- 2010 "Conjuring the Supernatural." Society for Cultural Anthropology Bi-Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM. May 7.
- 2008 "Trick or Truth? Managing the Meaning of Illusion in Christian Magic." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. November 23.
- 2008 "JKBNR (Just Kidding But Not Really): Texting into Talk." With Bambi Schieffelin. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. November 20.

- 2008 "The State of Enchantment: Entertainment Magic and Cultural Policy in Contemporary France." Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Princeton University. October 16.
- 2008 "Regimes of Enchantment: Magic, Knowledge, and Power on the Colonial Frontier." Magic: Frontiers and Boundaries. Societas Magica, University of Waterloo, ON, Canada. June 14.
- 2008 "Virtuosity as Virtue and Vice in American Gospel Magic." Virtuosit , ou les sublimes aventures de la technique. Mus e du Quai Branly, Paris, France. January 11.
- 2007 "Deceptive Knowledge: Illusionism and Cultural Epistemology." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. November 28-December 1.
- 2006 "Amazing Secrets Revealed!" American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA. November 15-19.
- 2006 "From Shaman to Showman: Anthropological Approaches to Magical Practices." Performing Magic: Theory and Practice (Conference). Muhlenberg College. September 15.
- 2005 "Des donn es confidentielles: R flexion   partir d'une s ance de magie." Praxis Atelier d'ethnographie, Department of Anthropology, Universit  de Paris X, Nanterre, France. April 22.
- 2004 "Cartesian Conjuring? Making Magic Meaningful in France." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, December 15-19.
- 2004 "La co-production de la r alit  dans la magie de pr s." Regards crois s franco-am ricains sur la soci t  fran aise,  cole Normale Sup rieure, Paris, France. November 18.
- 2004 "'Si  a sent la technique, c'est pas magique': Representations of Technicality in the World of Conjuring." Special Effects and Anthropology conference, University of Oxford, UK. November 5-6.
- 2003 "Of Flashing and Tipping: Two Forms of Exposure in a Secretive Art." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. August 16.
- 2001 "Jean Rouch at the Crossroads of Decolonization." Equinoxes: Exil(s), Marge(s), Identit (s). Department of French Studies, Brown University. April 7.
- 1998 "Space and Subjectivity in the Modern Novel." Representing Place, Department of English, Northern Arizona University. November 5-7.

### **Panels and Conferences Organized**

- 2025 "Making Language Visible" (Workshop), co-organized with  l onore Rimbault and Keith Murphy. Society of Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference, Chicago, IL, May 31.
- 2023 [Aesthetics of Evidence Workshop](#). Cambridge, May 18.
- 2020 "Wondering in the Face of Uncertainty: A Conversation with Bambi Schieffelin and Steven Feld." Society for Linguistic Anthropology Annual Conference. [cancelled due to Covid]
- 2019 New England Linguistic Anthropology Retreat. Dedham MA, June 10-11.
- 2019 Semiotic Sensitivities Linguistic Anthropology Workshop. MIT, April 27.

- 2013 Anthropology in and of the Age of MOOCs. Roundtable organizer and chair. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago. November 22.
- 2011 The Craft in Craftiness. Panel co-organized with Gabriella Coleman. Society of Cultural Anthropology Invited Session. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC. November 18.
- 2008 Virtuosit , ou les sublimes aventures de la technique. Conference co-organized with Victor A. Stoichita and Emmanuel Grimaud. Mus e du Quai Branly, Paris, France. January 10-11.

### **Presentations to Non-academic Audiences**

- 2024 "Why We Need Magic." Catalyst Conversations, MIT, December 11.
- 2014 "Cultural Perspectives on Play." Making Time for Play, MIT Museum, December 12.
- 2012 "The Social Science of Illusion." The Science of Illusion. Cambridge Science Festival. MIT Museum, April 25.
- 2012 "Magical Economies." Experience Economies 6: Innovate or Die. The Cloud Factory, Boston, February 18.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Courses Taught**

MIT, Anthropology, Assistant/Associate/Full Professor

- Introduction to Anthropology (SP12, SP13, SP14, SP15, F17, SP19, SP22)
- The Meaning of Life (SP17, SP19, SP20, SP23, SP24, SP26)
- Magic, Science, and Religion (F17, F21, F25)
- Teaching and Learning: Cross-Cultural Perspectives (SP14, FA14, SP17)
- Fun and Games: Cross-Cultural Perspectives (SP11, FA11, FA19, SP23)
- Drawing Human Experience (FA23, SP25, S26)
- Language and Technology (FA10, FA11, FA13)
- Paranormal Machines: Technologies of Enchantment (FA19)
- Ethnography and Fieldwork (SP24)
- Ethnographic Methods (SP11, SP12, SP15, FA20, FA22, SP25)

Princeton University, Anthropology and Humanistic Studies, Lecturer

- Initiation, Apprenticeship, and Education (SP09)
- Interdisciplinary Approaches to Western Culture, Antiquity to the Modern Era (instructor and coordinator, 2007-2008, 2008-2009)

The New School, Department of Social Sciences, Instructor

- Linguistic Anthropology (SU06, FA06)
- From Shaman to Showman: Cultural Approaches to Magical Practices (SP07)

New York University, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant

- Human Society and Culture, Professor Jeff Himpele (FA02, FA03)
- Anthropology of Language, Professor Patrick Eisenlohr (SP04)
- Conversation in Everyday Life, Professor Bambi Schieffelin (SP06)

### **PhD Students (Primary Advisor)**

- Gwendolyn Wallace. 2030 (anticipated), HASTS, MIT.
- Jamie Wong. 2023, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “The Politics of Scale and Scaling in Contemporary Chinese Governance and Venture Capitalism.”
- Crystal Lee. 2022, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Collaborative Sensing: Social Analysis and the Technical Development of Tactile Information Systems.”
- Beth Semel. 2019, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Speech, Signal, Symptom: Designing Voice Analysis Technologies for Mental Health Applications in the United States.”
- Amy Johnson. 2017, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Twitter and the Body Parodic: Global Acts of Re-creation and Recreation.”
- Shreeharsh Kelkar. 2016, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Platformizing Higher Education: Computer Science and the Making of MOOC Infrastructures.”

### **PhD Students (Committee Member)**

- Vesper Long, 2029 (anticipated), Anthropology, New York University.
- Lou Lennad, 2028 (anticipated), Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School.
- Zach La Rock, 2026 (anticipated), HASTS, MIT.
- Rustam Kahn, 2026 (anticipated), HASTS, MIT.
- Raha Peyravi, 2026 (anticipated), HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Decentering Economic Expertise: An Ethnography of Blockchain Entrepreneurship.”
- Di Wu. 2024, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Autonomy Work: Life and Labor of Disabled Persons in China’s AI Data Programs.”
- Tim Loh. 2024, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: Entanglements of Language, Religion, and Disability: The Politics of Assistive Technologies for Deaf People in Jordan.”
- Steven Gonzalez. 2023, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Cloud Ecologies: An Environmental Ethnography of Data Centers.”
- Erik Stayton. 2020, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Humanizing Autonomous Futures: Engineers, Social Scientists, and Their Strategies to Realize Robotic Cars.”
- Dalila Ozier. 2020, Anthropology, UCLA. Dissertation: “Trick: Believing, Deceiving, and the Participatory Performance of Power in Los Angeles Stage Magic.”
- Manvir Singh. 2020, Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University. Dissertation: “The Foundations of Shamanism and Witchcraft.”
- Audrey Le. 2017, Anthropology, Teachers College, Columbia University. Dissertation: “Digital Labor and Participation at Industry Hackathons.”
- Mitali Thakor. 2016, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Algorithmic Detectives Against Child Trafficking: Data, Entrapment, and the New Global Policing Network.”
- Saul Schwartz. 2015, Anthropology, Princeton. Dissertation: “The Afterlives of Language: Chiwere Preservation as a Revitalization Movement.”

- Lisa Messeri. 2011, HASTS, MIT. Dissertation: “Placing Outer Space: An Earthly Ethnography of Other Worlds.”

### **Postdoctoral Scholars Supervised**

- Michelle Morgenstern, Linguistic Anthropology Postdoctoral Fellow, MIT Anthropology, 2023-2026
- Beth Semel, Linguistic Anthropology Postdoctoral Fellow, MIT Anthropology, 2019-2021
- Michele Friedner, National Science Foundation Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellow, MIT Anthropology, 2011-2013

### **MS and BS Thesis Students**

- Kejian Yan, 2026, MS, Committee on Regional Studies East Asia.
- Casey Hong, 2022, MS, Technology and Public Policy, MIT. Thesis (advisor): “A Thesis, Allegedly.”
- Lauren Platt, 2022, BS, Mechanical Engineering, MIT. Thesis (advisor): “Design of a Mechanically Divinatory I Ching Split-Flap Display Device.”
- Riley Ledezma, 2014, B.S. Music and Theater Art, MIT. Thesis (co-advisor): “The New Sincerity of Street Magic”
- Alicia Singham-Goodwin. 2014. B.S., Women’s and Gender Studies, MIT. Thesis (advisor): “Media Literacy for Pornography.”
- Lindsey Ly. 2008. B.A., Anthropology, The New School. Thesis (advisor): “‘Help! I Want to Speak My Language’: The Meetup Community, Heritage Language Learners and Vietnamese as a Language of Redemption and Return.”

### **Undergraduate Research Supervision**

- Yilia Qu, Chinese fandom UROP, SP21, SP22, SU22
- Vesper Long, Chinese fandom UROP, SU20, FA20, SP22, SU22
- Maya Návar, language and technology MSRP fellow, SU21
- Emma Chabane, language and technology UROP, SP21
- Gaby Inchoco, language and technology UROP, SU20
- Zhirui Xiong, braille internationalization UROP, SU20
- Ella Matticks, ethnography of indie tarot UROP, SU19
- Alexander McCullumsmith, virtual ethnography UROP, SU15, FA15
- Mason Glidden, ethnography of open-source software UROP, IAP14
- Jenny Wu, ethnography of edX UROP, FA13
- Sheila Xu, ethnography online education for Deaf students UROP, SP13

### **SERVICE**

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#### **Professional Service**

- 2023 New Directions Book Prize Committee, Society of Linguistic Anthropology  
 2012 Executive Programming Committee, 111<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting

### Grant Reviewer

- NSF Dissertation Grants in Cultural Anthropology panelist (6 times)
- NSF Senior Grants in Cultural Anthropology (Occasional)

### Article and Manuscript Reviewer

*AI & Society* (1); *American Anthropologist* (7); *American Ethnologist* (5); *Anthropologica* (2); *Anthropological Theory* (1); *Anthropology Today* (1); *Anthropologie et Sociétés* (1); *Big Data & Society* (3); Bloomsbury (1); *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Anthropology* (1); *Cambridge Journal of Anthropology* (1); *Circus Arts Life and Science* (1); *Communications of the ACM* (2); *Comparative Studies in Society and History* (2); *Cultural Anthropology* (3); *Current Anthropology* (2); De Gruyter Mouton (1); *Ethnos* (1); HAU (9); *History and Anthropology* (1); *International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law* (1); *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication* (2); *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* (2); *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (2); *Journal of Urban Technology* (1); *Language@Internet* (1); *Language in Society* (2); *Magic, Witchcraft & Religion* (1); MIT Press (1); *Modernism/Modernity* (1); Mouton de Gruyter (1); Publications Scientifiques du MNHN (1); Oxford University Press (3); *New Media & Society* (1); *Qualitative Sociology* (1); *Revista de Comunicação e Linguagem* (1); Routledge (3); *Semiotic Review* (1); *Signs and Society* (1); *Social Anthropology* (1); *Social Media & Society* (4); University of California Press (1); University of Chicago Press (4); *Visual Studies* (1)

### Editorial Committees and Scientific Advisory Boards

- 2025-present *Comparative Studies in Society and History*  
 2024-present Cambridge University Press “Elements in Magic” series  
 2022-present Society for Ethnographic Theory  
 2021-2026 *Annual Review of Anthropology*  
 2021-present *Circus Arts Life and Science*  
 2021-present Global Council for Anthropological Linguistics  
 2020-present *Magic, Ritual & Witchcraft*  
 2020-present *MIT Case Studies in Social and Ethical Responsibilities of Computing*  
 2018-present *HAU Journal of Ethnographic Theory*  
 2011-present *Ateliers d’Anthropologie*

### University Service

- 2025- SHASS Educational Liason  
 2025 Anthropology representative, HASTS Program Seminar  
 2024-2025 HASTS Admissions Committee

|           |                                                |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|
| 2023-2026 | Faculty Complaint Review Panel                 |
| 2023-2024 | SERC Action Committee                          |
| 2023-2024 | HASTS Colloquium Committee                     |
| 2023      | Compton Prize Committee                        |
| 2023      | MacVicar Advisory Committee                    |
| 2023      | Bose Review Committee                          |
| 2023      | Townes Lecture Committee                       |
| 2023      | SERC Essay Award Committee                     |
| 2023-2024 | Anthropology Undergraduate Officer             |
| 2022-2024 | Anthropology Curriculum Committee              |
| 2022-2023 | Anthropology Concentration Advisor             |
| 2022-     | Religious Studies Concentration Advisor        |
| 2021      | SHASS Dean Search Committee                    |
| 2020-2022 | HASTS Director of Graduate Studies             |
| 2020      | Thunder Committee                              |
| 2018-2021 | MIT Museum Collections Committee               |
| 2018-2021 | Institute Committee on Student Life            |
| 2018-2020 | Digital Humanities Steering Committee          |
| 2018-2019 | Freshman advisor                               |
| 2017-2019 | Anthropology Curriculum Committee              |
| 2014-2015 | SHASS Education Advisory Committee             |
| 2014-2015 | Anthropology concentration advisor             |
| 2013-2014 | SHASS Faculty Diversity Committee member       |
| 2013-2015 | Freshman advisor                               |
| 2011-2015 | Religious Studies concentration advisor, SHASS |
| 2011-2013 | De Florez Humor Fund Committee member          |

### **Memberships**

- Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators
- American Anthropological Association
- Society for Cultural Anthropology
- Society of Linguistic Anthropology
- Association of Black Anthropologists
- Society for Cultural Anthropology