

Laura-Zoë Humphreys
Curriculum Vitae

Communication Department
Tulane University
219 Newcomb Hall
1229 Broadway Street
New Orleans, LA, 70118

Education

- August 2012 Joint Ph.D., Cinema and Media Studies and Anthropology
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Dissertation: *Revolutions Within: Criticism and Ambivalence in Post-Soviet Cuban Cinema*
Advisors: Tom Gunning, William Mazzarella, Lauren Berlant, Stephan Palmié, and Michael Silverstein
- 2004 M.A. Anthropology
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Thesis: *Critical Cuban Cinema and the Creation of the Utopian Socialist Public Sphere: Art in the Wake of Revolution*
Readers: William Mazzarella and Elizabeth Povinelli
- 2000 B.A. Joint Honours, Anthropology and Women's Studies
McGill University, Montréal, PQ

Academic Appointments

- 2017-present Assistant Professor, Communication Department, Tulane University
- 2014-2017 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba
- 2012-2014 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Diaspora Studies, Johns Hopkins University
- 2009-2012 MAPH preceptor, University of Chicago
M.A. Program in the Humanities, Division of the Humanities

Areas of Research Interest

Media and the Public Sphere
Media Piracy
Digital Media
Censorship
Post/Socialism

Cuban and Latin American Cinema

Areas of Teaching Competence

Critical Social Theory
Semiotics and Genre Theory
Gender Studies and Queer Theory
Ethnographic Methods

Fellowships and Awards

- 2007-2008 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2006-2007, 2004 Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FQRSC)
Doctoral Award in Social Sciences
- 2004-2006 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Doctoral
Award in Social Sciences
- 2001-2005 Century Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2001 Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FQRSC), Master's
Award in Studies of Arts and Literatures (declined)
- 1995-1999 Hugh Brock Entrance Scholarship, McGill University
Dean's Honour List, McGill University

Books

Under contract with Duke University Press

Fidel Between the Lines: Ambivalence and Paranoia in Late Socialist Cuban Cinema.

Articles

Accepted for publication

“Utopia in a Package? Digital Media Piracy and the Politics of Entertainment in Cuba,” Invited
article for special issue on media archaeology in *Boundary 2*.

2017 “Paranoid Readings and Ambivalent Allegories in Cuban Cinema,” *Social Text* 132 35.3:
17-40.

2017 “Utopia in a Package? Digital Media Piracy and the Politics of Entertainment in Cuba,”
Hot Spots, *Cultural Anthropology*. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/1090-utopia-in-a-package-digital-media-piracy-and-the-politics-of-entertainment-in-cuba>

- 2012 “Symptomologies of the State: Cuba’s ‘Email War’ and the Paranoid Public Sphere.” *Digital Cultures and the Politics of Emotion: Feelings, Affect and Technological Change*. Editors, A. Kuntsman and A. Karatzogianni. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

Reviews

- 2015 Book Review: Winnie Won Win Wong, *Van Gogh on Demand: China and the Readymade*, SSRC Book Exchange
<http://www.ssrc.org/pages/van-gogh-on-demand-idrf-book/exchange/>
- 2010 Film Review: *the illusion* by Susana Barriga, *E-misférica* 7, no. 1.
<http://hemisphericinstitute.org/hemi/en/e-misferica-71/laura-zoehumphreys->

Invited Presentations

- December 2016 “Symptomologies of the State: Digital Media, Censorship, and Politics in Late Socialist Cuba,” presentation in Seminar on Media Ecologies at the Global Emergent Media Lab, Concordia University, Montreal.
- February 2016 “Utopia in a Package: Digital Media Piracy and the Politics of Entertainment in Cuba,” presentation at the Global Emergent Media Lab, Concordia University, Montreal.
- October 2015 “Visual Analysis and Post-Soviet Cuban Cinema,” Department of Anthropology, Columbia University, New York.
- September 2012 “Cuban Intellectuals and the Marketing of National Allegory,” Department of Performance Studies, University of Maryland, College Park.
- November 2011 “Secret Texts: Socialist Allegory in Contemporary Cuban Cinema,” Society of Linguistic Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, Montreal.

Select Presentations

- May 2017 Disputing Distribution: Media Piracy and Modernity in Late Socialist Cuba. “Distribution Matters: Media Circulation in Civic Life and Popular Culture.” International Communications Association Pre-Conference, San Diego.
- March 2016 “Utopia in a Package: Digital Media Piracy and the Politics of Entertainment in Cuba,” Tropical Exposures: Photography, Film, and Visual Culture in a Caribbean Frame, Tulane University, New Orleans.
- September 2015 “Faith Without Fidel in Late Socialist Cuban Cinema,” The Affect Conference: Aesthetics, Memory, and Ethics, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

- March 2015 “Criticism as Complicity or the Impossibility of Independent Cuban Cinema,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Montréal.
- December 2014 “Criticism as Complicity: Repressive Tolerance and Political Paranoia in Late Socialist Cuba,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington.
- April 2014 “Cuban Cinema and the Politics of Interpretation,” American Ethnological Society Spring Conference with Society for Visual Anthropology, Boston.
- November 2013 “The Undead Future of Socialism,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- April 2013 “The Frankfurt School Visits Cuba: From Criticism to Repressive Tolerance,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Toronto.
- March 2013 “Ambivalent Allegories: The Politics of Meaning in Films by Cuban Youth,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- November 2012 “Loving the Imperfect Nation: National Passion in Post-Soviet Cuba,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- March 2012 “Love Plots and the Displacement of Politics in Post-Soviet Cuban Cinema,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Boston.
- March 2011 “Symptomologies of the State,” Cuba Futures: Past and Present, CUNY Bildner Center, New York.
- March 2011 “Fantasies of Autonomy and Veiled Censorship,” Cultural Studies Association Annual Meeting, Columbia College, Chicago.
- March 2011 “Paranoia and the Digital in Recent Cuban Cinema,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- November 2010 “The Bureaucrat vs. the New Man: Mobilizing Socialist Ideology Against the State in Cuban Bureaucrat Comedies,” AAA Annual Meeting, New Orleans. Also presented June 2010 at Performing Publics Conference, York University and the Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto.
- June 2010 “Freedom of Expression as Propaganda in Recent Digital Cuban Cinema,” Affective Fabrics of Digital Cultures: Feelings, Technologies, Politics, University of Manchester, Manchester, England.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Winter 2015/Fall 2016 Media and the Public Sphere
Advanced Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Winter 2016 Digital Media: Democracy and Control
Advanced Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Fall 2009-2011 Foundations of Interpretive Theory, M.A. Lecture Course, Preceptor
Master of Arts Program in the Humanities, University of Chicago

- Conducted weekly seminar/discussion group during core course introduction to classic social and humanities theory.
- Advised students in choosing courses and designing their program.

Winter/Spring 2009-2011 M.A. Thesis Writing Workshop, Preceptor
Master of Arts Program in the Humanities, University of Chicago

Undergraduate Teaching Experience

Fall 2017 Cross-Cultural Analysis: Global Media Cultures
Intermediate Undergraduate Seminar
Communication Department,

Winter 2015/2017 Art, Symbols, Culture: The Anthropology of Art and Media
Intermediate Undergraduate Seminar
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Fall 2014/2015/Winter 2017 Cultural Anthropology
Introductory Lecture Course, Instructor
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Winter 2017 Cultural Anthropology
Designed and Instructed Distance Education Course
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Fall 2014/2016 Culture and the Individual: Media, Mediation, and Subjectivity
Intermediate Undergraduate Seminar, Instructor
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Fall 2013 Digital Media, Democracy, and Control
Senior Undergraduate Seminar
Department of Anthropology and Program in Film and Media Studies
Johns Hopkins University

Spring 2013/2014 Cuban Intellectuals, Cinema, and the State
Intermediate Undergraduate Seminar

Department of Anthropology, Program in Film and Media Studies, and Program in Latin American Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Fall 2012 Media, Culture, and Publics
Intermediate Undergraduate Seminar
Department of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University

Winter 2007 Theories of Sex and Gender
Undergraduate/Graduate Seminar, Course Assistant
Center for Gender Studies, University of Chicago
Supervisors: Professor Lauren Berlant and Doctor Jennifer Spruill

Winter 2007 History of International Cinema, Silent Era
Undergraduate/Graduate Lecture Course, Course Assistant
Department of Cinema and Media Studies, University of Chicago
Supervisor: Professor Yuri Tsivian

Pedagogical Training

2009 Seminar on Course Design
Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Chicago

2004 Social Sciences Core Course Internship Program, University of Chicago

Professional Development and Services

August 2017 Manuscript Peer Review, *Discourse*

2015-2016 Member of the Executive Committee
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

November 2016 Manuscript Peer Review, *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*

March 2016 Panel Co-Organizer and Chair
Rethinking Cuban Media for the Twenty-First Century
Tropical Exposures: Photography, Film, and Visual Culture in a Caribbean Frame, Tulane University, New Orleans.

2014-2015 Member of the Communications Committee
Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

March 2015 Panel Co-Organizer
Experimental Media in Latin America
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Montréal.

December 2014 Manuscript Peer Review, *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*

- December 2014 Panel Organizer and Chair
Revolution, Critique, Democracy
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- July 2014 Manuscript Peer Review, *Social Dynamics*
- Winter 2014 Organizer for Film Series with Visiting Cuban Filmmakers
“New Cuban Diasporas: Filmmaking Across Borders”
Center for Advanced Media Studies
Johns Hopkins University
- November 2013 Panel Co-Organizer and Chair
Resurrections
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
- November 2012 Panel Organizer
Love, Belonging, and Fluid Borders
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco
- March 2012 Panel Organizer
Politics and Latin American Cinema After Utopia
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Boston
- 2010-2011 Organizer for Film Series with Visiting Cuban Filmmakers
“The State and the Digital: Cuban Filmmakers Speak About National Film
Production in the Digital Era”
Center for Latin American Studies, Film Studies Center and the Department of
Cinema and Media Studies, University of Chicago Arts Council, Franke Institute
University of Chicago
- March 2011 Panel Organizer
Between Personal and Political: Museums, Film, and Theatre
Cuba Futures Past and Present
CUNY Graduate Center New York, NY
- March 2011 Panel Organizer
Media Citizenship and the Digital in Late/Post Socialism
Society for Cinema and Media Studies
New Orleans, LA
- October 2009 Manuscript Peer Reviewer, ASA online
Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth.
- 2006-2007 Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology
Supervisor: Professor Jessica Cattelino

2004 Member, Social Sciences Collegiate Division Internship Program, University of
Chicago

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association
Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Languages

Spanish: advanced speaking and reading, intermediate writing
French: advanced speaking and reading, intermediate writing