

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP
PRELIMINARY SPRING 2011 WORKSHOP AGENDA (REVISED 5/9/11)**

GLOBAL INDIGENOUS POLITICS

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**Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA
Wednesday June 1-5, 2011**

This is the first of two workshops designed to help students prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the first workshop are 1) to map the research field with respect to contributing disciplines, methods, sources, and area knowledge; and 2) to help prepare fellows for their pre-dissertation summer research. (The goal of the second workshop will be to focus on the mechanics and methods of writing a dissertation proposal). The two goals stand in close relation to each other: through a sustained and structured discussion of student proposals and their component parts, we hope to contribute to the mapping of the research field itself.

The field of Global Indigenous Politics, and our workshop participants bring together approaches from Anthropology, Communications, Geography, History, Information Studies, Native Studies, and Political Science. Geographically, our workshop brings together projects from South, Central, and North America (U.S. and Canada), India, and New Zealand. Thematically, our interests include legal questions of land tenure, violence, recognition, and justice; economic questions of Indigenous livelihoods and relations to markets; the cultural politics of art, radio, theater, and music; extractive projects and Indigenous rights; and the politics of knowledge, education, and information exchange. Methodologically, we will be sharing approaches that include historical and archival work, ethnographic fieldwork, and quantitative and digital data collection and analysis. Linking all of our projects are concerns with the politics and ethics of academic research itself, and the particular ways in which academic research and Indigenous self-determination struggles articulate in theory and practice.

Workshop Readings and Resources

Research Field resources, including a preliminary bibliography will be placed on the relevant Google Sites website: <https://sites.google.com/site/globalindigenouspolitics/home>

Workshop Assignments: Three Assignments

1. **Revised Mini-Proposal. Due May 15, 2011 on the DPDF Google site:** The first assignment is to submit a two-page (single-spaced) revised version of your proposal to the group. This two-page mini proposal should contain all the components of a proper dissertation proposal and should be easily understood by people across academic fields.

Please include the following elements: an introductory paragraph that draws the reader in to your work and explains the relevance or need for this project; a set of preliminary research questions and perhaps an even-more-preliminary set of hypotheses or working answers for each question; a short list of the data and sources you think would be necessary to research and answer each question; and, finally, an outline of the methods that you will use to access and analyze the data.

You should read the revised proposals submitted by the other fellows in order to familiarize yourself with the group's body of work. In addition, we would like each of you to read (at least) two proposals in greater depth so that you will come to the workshop prepared to discuss those two proposals during the group sessions. We have assigned the proposals we would like you to focus on:

Hekia Bodwitch: Read Czarina Thelen and Christine Willie
Claudia Chavez: Read Diego Cortes and Nishita Trisal
Diego Cortes: Read Nishita Trisal and Pankuree Dube
Javier Crespan: Read Paula Dias and James Jenkins
Paula Dias: Read James Jenkins and Lauren Sweetman
Pankhuree Dube: Read Javier Crespan and Paula Dias
Marisa Duarte: Read Claudia Chavez and Diego Cortes
James Jenkins: Read Lauren Sweetman and Hekia Bodwitch
Lauren Sweetman: Read Hekia Bodwitch and Czarina Thelen
Czarina Thelen: Read Christine Willie and Marisa Duarte
Nishita Trisal: Read Pankhuree Dube and Javier Crespan
Christine Willie: Read Marisa Duarte and Claudia Chavez

2. **Descriptive bibliography (1 page) Due May 20 on the DPDF Google site.** *Briefly* (2-3 sentences each) discuss three or four scholarly articles or books that have particularly influenced your research. In your annotation, describe the particular concept(s), method(s), or strategies that the work has contributed to your thinking and research. Please select at least one source from the Global Indigenous Politics field bibliography, available on the field Google site.
3. **Critical film review (1-2 pages). Due May 25 on the DPDF Google site.** Provide a brief interpretive analysis of Hernando De Soto's on-line documentary "The Mystery of Capital among the Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon." The documentary will be available on the Global Indigenous Politics site (or at http://www.ild.org.pe/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=62&Itemid=264&lang=en.) This essay is a rather informal "think-piece," but you might consider the following questions as you react to the documentary: What do you make of De Soto's argument and methods? What reactions do you have to the representations of Indigenous peoples, capitalism, and culture in the film? As an intellectual and political product, how does it compare to some of the sources you listed in your own bibliography (assignment two above)?

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

Though much of our discussion will be collective and take the form of seminar discussions, we will take advantage of program breaks to have brief “one on one” meetings between workshop directors and participants. These meetings are meant to provide feedback to fellows on their projects and preliminary research design. A detailed schedule of these meetings will be distributed during our first meeting.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY JUNE 1

6-9PM Reception

THURSDAY JUNE 2

Session 1: Introduction

9-10:30 Introduction and Welcome

Guest: Louise Ramirez, Tribal Chairwoman, Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Nation (OCEN)
Welcome and conversation on “Contemporary Issues of the Ohlone Costanoan Indians of the Greater Monterey Bay Area” <http://www.ohlonecostanoanesselenation.org/>

10:30-12 Workshop Goals and Methods

During this part of the morning session, we will share our expectations of each other and also begin our conversation over useful (and not so useful) ways to approach Global Indigenous Politics. To give our discussion an empirical grounding, we will invite participants to share their readings of Hernando De Soto’s short film, “The Mystery of Capital among the Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon.” Though this short film does not provide a complete view of De Soto’s research project, it does provide a useful case for considering important issues of methodological and ethical positioning “in the field.” In sharing our respective evaluations of De Soto’s work, we will pay particular attention to De Soto’s theoretical orientation, his research methods, and the relationships he forged with the “subjects” of his research.

12:00-2:00: Lunch and Individual Meetings (Hekia Bodwitch, James Jenkins, Claudia Chavez, Javier Crespan)

Session 2: The State of the Field

2-3:15 The State of the Field

The field directors and DPDF fellows will discuss some contemporary approaches to Global Indigenous Politics from different disciplinary perspectives, with attention to unique and overlapping concerns of question, theory, and method. Our discussion of approaches to the field will take place mainly through an initial discussion of fellows’ proposals, something which will continue throughout the afternoon session and following day. Each fellow will have 5 minutes to summarize her or his proposal, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Fellows who were assigned “close” readings of proposal will be expected to offer the first questions or comments. In your 5 minutes presentation, briefly provide the following information: your research question, field site(s), and the conceptual or theoretical issue to which your proposed research speaks.

We will begin with the proposals of Hekia Bodwitch, Claudia Chavez, Javier Crespan, and Diego Cortes.

3:30-5:30 Questions and Positions

Through additional student presentations and commentaries, this session will continue the workshopping of proposals based on consideration of research questions, conceptual/theoretical

positions, DPDF Fellows will present in this order: Paula Dias, Pankhuree Dube, Marisa Duarte, James Jenkins, Lauren Sweetman, Czarina Thelen, Nishita Trisal, Christine Willie.

FRIDAY JUNE 3

Session 3: Questions of Method
9-12 Methodological Strategies

Discussion of methodological approaches for summer research. Considerations of question and method. Disciplinary and interdisciplinary lines and overlaps. Will include student presentations and commentary in small group discussions.

12:00-2:00: Lunch and Individual Meetings (Czarina Thelen, Pankhuree Dube, Lauren Sweetman, Diego Cortes)

Session 4: Method and Practice
2-5 Guest Speaker

Dr. Les Field, Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

Continuation of discussion of methodologies, with a focus on sources, datasets, archives, and historical and ethnographic approaches. First hour will involve a presentation and discussion with Professor Field. Following this discussion, we will divide into three groups to continue conversation in small groups. Groups are as follows:

- Group One: Hekia Bodwitch, James Jenkins, Claudia Chavez, Javier Crespan
- Group Two: Czarina Thelen, Pankhuree Dube, Lauren Sweetman, Diego Cortes
- Group Three: Nishita Trisal, Marisa Duarte, Christine Willey, Paula Dias

SATURDAY JUNE 4

Session 5: Strategies
9-12 Fieldwork Complexities

Guest Speaker: Dr. María Elena García, Associate Professor, Comparative History of Ideas and International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle

Navigating the ethical and political dimensions of fieldwork. Feasibility, responsibility, accountability, engagement. As with Friday's afternoon session, the first hour will be devoted to a presentation and discussion with Professor García. Following this discussion, we will divide into the same three groups to continue conversation.

12:00-2:00 Lunch and Individual Meetings (Nishita Trisal, Marisa Duarte, Christine Willey, Paula Dias)

Session 6: Field to Proposal
2-3:30 From Fieldwork to Proposal

Initial considerations of proposal development. Challenges and pitfalls in proposal development. Considerations for summer fieldwork priorities.

3:30-5 Reassessing the 'State of the Field'

Reconsidering our research in relation to the 'state of the field.'

SUNDAY JUNE 5

9-10 Plenary wrap-up session

Common problematics, summer requirements, homework, communication over the summer.

10:30-12 Looking forward

Plans and goals for the September workshop. Summer activities and assignments for fall. Collective wrap-up. General reflections.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP
FALL 2011 WORKSHOP AGENDA**

Radisson Plaza – Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia

Wednesday, September 14th – Sunday, September 18th

GLOBAL INDIGENOUS POLITICS

Research Director: José Antonio Lucero [jal26@uw.edu]

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This is the second of two annual DPDF workshops designed to help graduate student fellows prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the second workshop are 1) to help fellows synthesize their summer research; and 2) to draft proposals for dissertation funding. The fall workshop focuses on the mechanics and the philosophy of proposal writing. The workshop also aims to challenge fellows to reflect on their summer research in ways that link meaningfully to their research field. In this, the goals of the fall workshop are closely related to the project of mapping a research field that was started during the spring workshop in Monterey.

Fellows will come out of the second workshop with supportive networks, consisting of both mentors and cohorts of new scholars carrying out research in their fields, as well as intellectually mature dissertation proposals.

As in Monterey, our main resource will be each other. Through seminar discussions, small break out groups, and individual meetings with research directors, the workshop will provide constructive commentary that will help refine and revise proposals. The Global Indigenous Politics workshop is also part of a longer-term investment in the professional development of fellows, the expansion of scholarly networks, and the decolonization of scholarly practices. With those ends in mind, we are fortunate to count with the participation of two senior scholars, Professors Les Field (University of New Mexico) and J. Kehaulani Kauanui (Kanaka Maoli, Wesleyan University).

Workshop Readings and Resources

There are a number of excellent resources on proposal writing available on Global Indigenous Politics Google site. You should consult these resources for inspiration and help. They are available at: <https://sites.google.com/site/globalindigenouspolitics/home>

Workshop Assignments

- **[August 15] Due via email list-serv and on DPDF Global Indigenous Politics site:** Fellows are asked to upload a brief (1 page) summer fieldwork progress report.
- **[August 31] Due on DPDF Global Indigenous Politics site:** As we agreed in Monterey, fellows are asked to contribute to the collective field bibliography. While we hope this will be a continuing “work-in-progress,” we ask that fellows contribute at least 2-3 references to this list by the end of August.

- **[September 10] Due via list-serv and on DPDF Global Indigenous Politics site:** Please submit a revised draft of your dissertation proposal. These proposals should be significantly updated and extended from the spring. The proposal should be prepared following the SSRC IDRF template distributed by email over the summer. Your revised proposal should look like (and indeed is) a draft of a complete IDRF proposal, which includes the application form, ten-page dissertation proposal, and two-page bibliography. As you revise your proposal (and prepare your comments on other proposals), keep in mind that SSRC reviewers evaluate proposals in terms of originality, theory, methodology, relevance, and feasibility.
- **[September 15]** Fellows are required to read all 12 proposals carefully. You will be assigned “primary” responsibility as a discussant for one proposal. Discussant assignments and duties are described below.

Wednesday, September 14th

ARRIVAL, Registration packets will be distributed at check in.

7PM - Welcome Reception

Thursday, September 15th

Session 1: Plenary Session – The Dissertation Proposal: Strategies and Funding Sources
(Thursday, 9 AM – 12:00 PM)

- “We Are Back”: Welcome
- “Show me the money”: Dissertation Funder Presentations

Sessions 2-7: Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

With the exception of presentations by our guest speakers, our sessions will focus on student proposals, which have been (roughly) grouped in thematic clusters.

- Group 1. The Arts of Indigenous Politics: Czarina, Punky, Lauren
- Group 2. Encountering the State: Hekia, Javier, James
- Group 3. Negotiating Political Economies: Nishita, Paula, Diego
- Group 4. Technologies of Native Histories and Struggles: Christine, Claudia, Marisa

These groups will present their proposals during the same workshop sessions and will also work together during the ‘small group’ breakout sessions each day. Each proposal will have 40 minutes for discussion. This time period will be broken down as follows: 5 minutes for presentation by the author, in which the author will focus on how the proposal has changed since the spring; 5 to 10 minutes of commentary by the lead discussant; 15 minutes open discussion during which the author is relatively silent; and a final 10 minutes of interactive discussion with the author participating and responding to the main questions or concerns posed by the group.

- Note: For the proposal on which will serve as “primary discussant,” we would like you to write an alternative first paragraph for the project. This “alternative beginning” will be presented to the group with your others comments (primary discussants are listed in parentheses in group descriptions below). These “alternative

introductions” are not meant to be substitutions for the original. The purpose of this exercise is to summarize what the discussant thinks are the main points of the proposal and suggest alternative framings. The first paragraph of your proposal is arguably the most important, and we would like both the original (the author’s) and the alternative to be written with an eye towards providing a ‘hook,’ drawing readers in, conveying sufficient information without overwhelming the audience, and posing the problematic as you understand it.

Session 2: Re-visiting the Field(work) of Indigenous Politics (*Thursday, 2PM – 5 PM*)

2:00-3:00 pm: “What I did last summer: The SSRC version.” We will begin this session with brief descriptions of summer (mis?)adventures. We would like to hear the highlights of what folks did over the summer, focusing on one or two “ah-ha” moments (apologies to Oprah) that helped to define the direction of future research.

3:00-5:00pm: Guest Speaker: Professor Les Field. Professor Field will share his experience (and advice) on working and teaching in the field of Indigenous Politics. He will also offer advice on writing successful proposals in this field.

Session 3: (*Friday, 9 AM – 12:30 PM*)

From 9:00 to 11:00 we will have presentations and discussions of the proposals in Group #1: Group 1. The Arts of Indigenous Politics: Czarina (Claudia), Punky (Nishita), Lauren (Hekia)

At 11:15, Tony and Bret will introduce the breakout session on “Questions and Hypotheses,” and then we will break out into small groups for proposal workshopping.

11:30 individual meeting Bret/Tony with Marisa

12:00 individual meeting Bret/Tony with Claudia

Session 4: New Networks of Native and Indigenous Studies (*Friday, 2PM – 5:30 PM*)

2-4pm. Guest Speaker: Professor J. Kehaulani Kauanui will share her experience as a researcher and activist. Professor Kauanui has expanded the platforms for Indigenous politics which include her work as the host of the radio show: *Indigenous Politics: Native New England and Beyond* and as a founding council member of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA).

At 4:15, Bret and Tony will introduce the breakout session on “Literature Reviews,” and then we will break out into small groups for proposal workshopping.

4:30 individual meeting with Christine

5:00 individual meeting with Diego

5:30 individual meeting with Paula

6:00 individual meeting with Nishita

Friday Dinner (7:00): We will eat as a group. Restaurant to be announced. Special guests: Professors Kehaulani Kauanui and María Elena García.

Session 5: *(Saturday, 9 AM – 12:30 PM)*

9-11am. Discussion of Group 2. Encountering the State: Hekia (Lauren), Javier (Paula), James (Christine)

11:15 Bret and Tony will introduce break out session on “methods” and then we will break out into small groups for proposal workshopping.

11:30 Individual meeting with James

12:00 Individual meeting with Javier

Session 6: *(Saturday, 2:00 PM – 5:30PM)*

2-4pm. We will discuss proposal of Group 3. Negotiating Political Economies: Nishita (Punky), Paula (Javier), Diego (Marisa).

At 4:15, Tony and Bret will introduce the breakout session on “Data Collection,” and then we will break out into small groups for proposal workshopping.

4:30 individual meeting with Hekia

5:00 individual meeting with with Czarina

5:30 individual meeting with Punky

6:00 individual meeting with Lauren

Session 7: *(Sunday, 9 AM – 12:30 PM)*

9-11am, we will devote to discussion of the proposals of Group 4. Technologies of Native Histories and Struggles: Christine (James), Claudia (Czarina), Marisa (Diego).

11-12:30 Reflections and New Directions