

SOUTHERN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CALL FOR SESSIONS &
INDIVIDUAL ABSTRACTS

ETHNOCENTRISM IN ITS MANY GUISES

Courtyard Marriott Carrollton
180 Barnes Avenue
Carrollton, GA 30117

Thursday, March 23 – Saturday, March 25, 2017

Abstracts due February 1 (First Call), 2017

Ethnocentrism at its most extreme is the belief that one's own beliefs and practices are superior to another's, that another group is inferior or substandard to one's own. The **2017 SAS Annual Meeting Keynote Theme** encourages us to consider the challenges of ethnocentrism *in all its many Hydra-headed guises* as it intersects with racism, sexism, xenophobia, religion, politics, education, and more.

Over the last several months we have experienced major social and political shifts in our own country, mostly associated with identity politics, societal stressors, and a longing for an idealized past. For many Americans these changes have been unexpected and unpredictable. Yet anthropologists have long studied change in other societies. In order to explore and connect the research we do all over the globe with the experiences in our own country, this year's **Keynote Theme** encourages us to reflect on the role and impact of ethnocentrism on all cultures, societies, and personhoods.

We encourage submissions from **diverse individuals** (faculty, students, independent scholars, and the interested public) and **from all the anthropological subfields** (social, cultural, and applied anthropologists, archaeologists, biological and physical anthropologists, linguists) and others across the humanities and social sciences.

Organized Sessions – Organizers are responsible for submitting the session title and abstract (of no more than 250 words), keywords, length of session, session member names and roles. Presenters are responsible for submitting their own individual abstracts (up to 150 words), paper title, and keywords.

Individual Paper or Poster – Paper and Poster submissions should begin with paper or poster title, author's name (listed last name first in capital letters, then first name) followed by affiliation. The abstract should consist of no more than 150 words.

Information regarding registration and proposal submission is available at www.southernanthro.org/annual-meeting/.

Program Co-Chairs: Dr. Marjorie Snipes (UWG), Dr. Betty Duggan (UTC, USF), and Dr. Brandon Lundy (KSU).

For further information contact Dr. Marjorie Snipes at msnipes@westga.edu.



The following questions highlight some of the possible approaches to this year's Conference Theme. **The SAS Proceedings volume will be derived from outstanding papers that creatively and effectively address this year's theme.**

In Our Discipline

- What is the role of anthropology and anthropologists in taking a stand against ethnocentrism in our (global) world (yesterday and) today?
- How do anthropologists promote social justice today? What are possible “good practices” of social justice and social change?
- What are our ethical obligations to “practice anthropology” in our everyday, non-professional lives?
- How can we use advocacy as part of our anthropological approach?
- How can we best use public anthropology as a forum to educate our own communities? In what roles might anthropologists best help address community-level concerns?
- How have anthropologists historically handled issues of social justice in their own communities and worldwide?

In Our Fields

- How do each of the anthropological subfields approach and recognize issues of prejudice, discrimination, and structural violence?
- How do other societies/cultures experience *internal* and *external* ethnocentrism?
- How is ethnocentrism perceived and perpetuated cross culturally?
- What are the roles of “hate” and/or “love” as part of the *affective culture* of other societies/cultures?
- Is there a commoditization of ethnocentrism? What is (at) the intersection of social and economic politics?
- What are the symbols of ethnocentrism (racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc.)? How are they formed and how do they function to communicate difference?
- How do we experience conflict? When these experiences are shaped by instances of structural violence and unmet human needs, how do we respond?

In Our Communities

- How do flashes of crisis illuminate structural inequalities in society? How does engagement with intersectionalities expose divisions, interests, and hegemonic practices?
- How and why have long-simmering (barely-below-the-surface and improperly contained) issues of ethnocentrism (racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc.) now broken out into (double-headed) acts of social and physical violence?
- What do acts of social and physical violence reveal about American culture yesterday and today?
- How do members of a group use their own social structures to undermine certain ethnic/racial/socio-economic groups in our society/culture(s)?
- How does social media play a role in the establishment of “negative identities” or ethnocentric policies and ideas?
- In what ways do we replicate the structures that, in turn, alienate us in our own communities/our own homes/our own classrooms?
- How is misinformation used to solidify ethnocentrism?
- How can our various positionalities be called upon to promote dialogues that bridge difference and promote empathy?