

CHARLES A. MCDONALD

Anthropology Department
New School for Social Research
6 East 16th Street, 9th Floor | New York, NY 10003
mcdoc390@newschool.edu | +1 917.854.6196

EDUCATION

- 2018 (expected) Ph.D., Anthropology and Historical Studies, New School for Social Research (NSSR)
Return to Sepharad: Jewish Revivalism and the Pragmatics of Inclusion in Spain
Chair: Ann Laura Stoler
Committee: Miriam Ticktin, Jonathan Boyarin, Thomas A. Abercrombie
- 2012 M.A., Anthropology, New School for Social Research (NSSR)
- 2008 M.A., Liberal Studies (American Studies), City University of New York (CUNY)
- 2005 B.A., Cultural Studies, *cum laude*, CUNY Baccalaureate Program

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2017 Research Associate, Social Science Research, Theory & Practice Fellowship,
Eugene Lang College, New School University
- 2017-18 Teaching Fellow, Anthropology, Eugene Lang College, New School University
- 2016 Visiting Researcher, Anthropology, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Research Institute on Migration, Ethnicity, and Social Development (IMEDES)
- 2016 Visiting Researcher, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)
Institute for Language, Literature, and Anthropology (ILLA)
- 2015 Visiting Researcher, Anthropology, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Anthropology and History of the Construction of Social and Political Identities
- 2013-15 Teaching Fellow, First Year Writing, Eugene Lang College, New School University

EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2017-19 Posen Fellowship, Posen Society of Fellows
- 2017 Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Council for European Studies (*declined*)
- 2017 Maurice Amado Foundation Travel Grant, Association for Jewish Studies
- 2017 Travel Grant, American Academy for Jewish Research
- 2016 Summer Fellowship, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies (*declined*)
- 2015-16 Mellon-IDRF, Social Science Research Council

- 2015-16 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation
- 2015 Lapidus Summer Fellowship, Center for Jewish History
- 2007-8 Language and Culture Teaching Fellowship, Spanish Ministry of Education

INTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2017-18 Heckscher Fellowship, New School for Social Research
- 2016-17 Holocaust Memorial Dissertation Fellowship, New School for Social Research
- 2012-15 Melamid/Donnelley Prize Fellowship, New School for Social Research
- 2005-7 Graduate Counseling Assistantship, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2005 Alumni Fund Graduate Scholarship, CUNY Baccalaureate Program

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Race and religion; subjectivity; historical anthropology; Jews and Judaism; materiality and aesthetics; liberalism and multiculturalism; queer studies; experimental ethnography; Spain; Europe; U.S.

PUBLICATIONS

In Preparation

“Rancor: An Affective History of Jewish Citizenship in Spain”
for submission to *Comparative Studies in Society and History* Spring 2018

“Return to Sepharad: A Conceptual Cartography of Modern Jewish Spain”
for *Jewish Revival(s) Inside Out: Remaking Jewishness in a Post-Secular Age*
(Daniel Monterescu and Rachel Werczberger, eds.)

“The Nature and Culture of Jewishness in Democratic Spain”
for submission to *Cultural Anthropology* Spring 2018

“Queer Scenes of Exposure in Jewish Spain: The Kipa, the Octopus, the Gin Tonic”
for submission to *GLQ* Fall 2018

“Pedagogies of Progress: Liberal Judaism, Conversion, and Subjectivity”
for submission to *American Ethnologist* Fall 2018

- 2016 "[Refusal as Ethnographic Concept: An Interview with Carole McGranahan, Elisa Sobó, and Erica Weiss.](#)" Dialogues, *Cultural Anthropology* website, August 31, 2016.

- 2015 [Review of *Recovering Jewish Spain: Politics, Historiography and the Institutionalization of the Jewish Past in Spain \(1845–1935\)*](#). Michal Rose Friedman. *Dissertation Reviews*.

- 2014 [Article Supplemental page to “Genetic Diaspora: Producing Knowledge of Genes and Jews in Rural South Africa,” Noah Tamarkin.](#) *Cultural Anthropology* online, August 2014.
- 2013 [Article Supplemental page to "Rethinking Public Anthropology Through Epistemic Politics and Theoretical Practice," Michal Osterweil.](#) *Cultural Anthropology* online, October 2013.
- ND *In the Shadow of Fountain Valley: Economic Transformation and the Production of History on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands*, MA thesis, CUNY Graduate Center. 2008.

INVITED TALKS

- 2016 “When Is Return? Conversion, Citizenship, and the Pragmatics of Jewish Inclusion in Contemporary Spain,” Invited lecture for series, *Jews, Muslims, and the Struggle for Religious “Identity” in Modern Mediterranean Societies*, Boston University, November 14, 2016. Respondent: Marcy Brink-Danan (Hebrew University).
- 2016 “Conversión judía y subjetividad en la España contemporánea,” Invited lecture for Anthropology Department, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, April 25, 2016.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2014 Co-organizer, *Political Concepts: A Lexicon in Formation* (with Ann Stoler, Jay Bernstein, and Todd Kesselman), New School for Social Research. April 18-19, 2014.
- 2012 Co-organizer, *Rethinking Inheritance*, Department of Anthropology, New School for Social Research. April 27-28, 2012.

CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED (REVIEWED)

- 2017 Co-organizer, “The Long Exposure: Latency, Visibility, and Method,” (with Joshua Z. Weiss, UC-Davis; and Katheryn Detwiler, NSSR) Panel at *American Ethnological Society Meeting*, Stanford University, April 1, 2017.
- 2016 Co-organizer, “Toward an Anthropology of Return,” (with Mikaela Rogozen-Soltar, University of Nevada-Reno) Panel at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2016.
- 2014 Organizer, “Troubling Resurrections: The Politics of Time and Materiality in Spain,” Panel at the Council for European Studies Annual Conference, *Resurrections*, March 14-16, 2014.
- 2012 Organizer, “Heritage and the Imperial Imagination,” Panel at *Rethinking Inheritance*, Department of Anthropology Annual Conference, New School for Social Research. April 28, 2012.

CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED (REVIEWED)

- 2017 “Rancor and Nostalgia: An Affective History of the Return to Sepharad,” Paper presented on panel, “Spain’s Recent Law of Sephardic Return: Refractions of Memory in Modernity” at *Association for Jewish Studies Meeting*, Washington, D.C., December 17-19. Discussant: Michal Rose Friedman (Carnegie Mellon University).
- 2017 “Generation and Obligation: Spain, the Sephardic Diaspora, and the Making of 1992,” Paper presented at *Posen Society of Fellows Workshop*, August 17, UC-Berkeley. Discussants: David Biale (UC-Davis); Naomi Seidman (Graduate Theological Union).
- 2017 “Jewish Revivalism in Contemporary Spain,” Paper presented at *SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship Workshop*, June 10, Philadelphia, PA. Discussants: Courtney Handman (UT-Austin); Christopher Tozzi (Howard).
- 2017 “Queer Scenes of Exposure in Jewish Spain,” Paper presented on panel, “The Long Exposure: Latency, Visibility, and Method” at *American Ethnological Society Meeting*, Stanford University, April 1, 2017. Discussant: Carole McGranahan (University of Colorado-Boulder).
- 2017 “Race and Kinship in Modern Jewish Spain,” Paper presented on panel, “Diversity and its Discontents: Historical Others, Their Past and Future in Contemporary Iberia” at *Association of Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies Meeting*, New York, NY, March 17, 2017. Discussant: Joshua Goode (Claremont Graduate University).
- 2017 “Jewish Relations: Race, Kinship, and the Return to Sepharad,” Paper presented on panel, “Troubling the Kin: Race, Kinship and Affect in Psychological Anthropology” at *Society for Psychological Anthropology Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, March 9, 2017. Discussant: Jennifer Cole (Chicago).
- 2016 “Return As Ethnographic Object: Notes from the Ends of Europe,” Paper presented on panel, “Toward an Anthropology of Return” at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2016. Discussant: Jonathan Shannon (CUNY Graduate Center).
- 2015 “Return to Sefarad: Towards a History of the Jewish Present in Spain,” Paper presented at *Association of Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies Meeting*, Johns Hopkins University, March 22, 2015. Discussant: Joshua Goode (Claremont Graduate University).
- 2014 “Spain As Crisis: Periodization and Failure from the Black Legend to the Global Recession,” Paper presented at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, Washington, D.C., December 4, 2014. Discussants: Susana Narotzky (U Barcelona), Neni Panourgia (New School).
- 2014 “No Longer Nostalgia: Jewish Spain and The Future of the Inheritable Past in Europe,” Paper presented at the Council for European Studies Annual Conference, *Resurrections*, March 14-16, 2014. Discussant: Melissa Caldwell (UC-Santa Cruz).

- 2014 “When Is Conversion Return? Making a Time and Place for Jewish Spain,” Paper presented at the Council for European Studies Annual Conference, *Resurrections*, March 14-16, 2014. Discussant: Avi Astor (U Autònoma Barcelona).
- 2013 “The Other Within: Jews, Spain, and the Future of the Inheritable Past in Europe,” Paper presented at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, Chicago, November 21, 2013. Discussant: Jaime Palomera (U Barcelona).
- 2013 “When did Jewish History Become Spanish National Heritage? Forging Personhood, Patrimony, and Place in Córdoba’s Jewish Quarter,” Paper presented at *The Past for Sale? New Perspectives on the Economic Entanglements of Cultural Heritage*, University of Massachusetts-Amherst Center for Heritage and Society, May 15-17, 2013.
- 2013 “What Does it Take to Become Jewish? Conversion and the Inheritable Past in Contemporary Spain,” Paper presented at *The Kronstadt Moment—The Road to Damascus: an Interdisciplinary Conference on Conversion and Disenchantment*, Department of Liberal Studies, New School for Social Research, April 26-27, 2013.
- 2012 “Recuperating Sefarad?: Conversion, Heritage, and History in Contemporary Spain,” Paper presented at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, San Francisco, November 14, 2012.

CONFERENCE PANEL CHAIR OR DISCUSSANT

- 2016 Chair, “Toward an Anthropology of Return,” Panel at *American Anthropological Association Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2016.
- 2014 Chair, “Troubling Resurrections: The Politics of Time and Materiality in Spain,” Panel at the Council for European Studies Annual Conference, *Resurrections*, March 14-16, 2014.
- 2012 Chair, “Heritage and the Imperial Imagination,” Panel at *Rethinking Inheritance*, Department of Anthropology Annual Conference, New School for Social Research. April 28, 2012.

TEACHING

Teaching Fellow, Eugene Lang College, The New School
Undergraduate seminars designed and taught:

What Was Europe? Anthropology and History of an Unsettled Present (2017, 2018)

Subject to Change: Varieties of Self-Transformation (2015, 2014)

Reading and Writing the City: Urban Ethnography (2014, 2013)

Teaching Assistant, New School for Social Research
Graduate seminars assisted:

- Critical Foundations of Anthropology*, Abou Farman (2017)
Critical Foundations of Anthropology, Vyjayanthi Rao (2014)
Anthropology, Photography, Visuality, Pamila Gupta (2011)
Diasporic Longings & Belongings in the Indian Ocean, Pamila Gupta (2011)

ADMINISTRATIVE, RESEARCH, AND EDITORIAL POSITIONS

- 2016-17 Academic Advisor, Anthropology, New School for Social Research
2015- Managing Director, [Institute for Critical Social Inquiry \(ICSI\)](#), NSSR
2014-15 Program Coordinator, [Institute for Critical Social Inquiry \(ICSI\)](#), NSSR
2014-15 Research Assistant to Janet Roitman, Anthropology, NSSR
2013-14 Editorial Assistant, [Political Concepts](#)
2013-14 Research Assistant to Vyjayanthi Rao, Anthropology, NSSR
2011-14 Research Assistant to Ann Stoler, Anthropology, NSSR

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE

- 2017 Referee, Social Sciences, Bennington College
2017- Referee, *Anthropological Quarterly*
2017 Juror, Cultural Horizons Prize, Society for Cultural Anthropology
2013- Contributing Editor, *Cultural Anthropology*

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT/INSTITUTION

- 2017 Back from the Field Talk, Anthropology Department, NSSR
2015 Grant Writing Talk, Anthropology Department, NSSR
2013 Representative, Anthropology Faculty Hiring Committee, NSSR
2013-14 Representative, Anthropology Students' Association, NSSR
2013-14 Representative, Dean's Leadership Council, NSSR
2013-14 Representative, Dean's Advisory Council, NSSR
2013-14 Representative, Graduate Faculty Student Senate, NSSR
2013-14 Representative, Anthropology Students Association, NSSR
2006-07 Representative, Doctoral Students Council, CUNY Graduate Center

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association (SCA, AES, SAE, SAR)

Association for Jewish Studies

American Historical Association

Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies (ASPHS)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (fluent), French (intermediate reading)

REFERENCES

Ann Laura Stoler
Willy Brandt Distinguished University Professor of Anthropology and Historical Studies
New School for Social Research
6 East 16th St., 9th Floor, New York, NY 10003
212.229.5757 ext. 3016
stolera@newschool.edu

Jonathan Boyarin
Mann Professor of Modern Jewish Studies and Anthropology
Cornell University
261 McGraw Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853
607.255.6768
jab857@cornell.edu

Miriam Ticktin
Associate Professor of Anthropology
New School for Social Research
6 East 16th St., 9th Floor, New York, NY 10003
212.229.5757 ext. 3016
ticktinm@newschool.edu

Thomas A. Abercrombie
Associate Professor of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place, New York, NY, 10003
212.998.8570
thomas.abercrombie@nyu.edu