

Dr. Catherine E. Bolten

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Positions

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Peace Studies, 2009-present
Concurrent Assistant Professor of Africana Studies, 2010-present
Faculty Fellow: Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, 2009-present
Poverty Studies Program, 2011-present

University of Makeni, Makeni, Sierra Leone

Visiting Lecturer in Development Studies, 2010 and 2012
Courses: Research Methods in Development Studies; Professional Communications

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Graduate Student Instructor, 2002-2004
Courses: Global Change I, Global Change II, Global Interdependence
Graduate Student Research Assistant, 2002
Ruthven Museum, Ethnographic and Ethnobotanical collections

Education

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology (Ethnology), April 25, 2008
Masters of Arts in Anthropology, 2003

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England

MPhil in Social Anthropology, concentration in Development Anthropology, October 2000

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Biology, June 1998
Concentrations in Environmental Studies, African and Middle Eastern Studies
Magna Cum Laude, Departmental honors in Anthropology and Environmental Studies

Publications

Book

2012 *I Did It To Save My Life: Love and Survival in Sierra Leone* Berkeley: University of California Press. Series in Public Anthropology number 24

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2015 “A Great Scholar is an Overeducated Person: Education and Practices of Uncertainty in Sierra Leone” *Journal of Anthropological Research* 71(1): 23-47

2014 “The Memories They Want. Autobiography in the Chaos of Sierra Leone” (Le choix de leur souvenirs. Autobiographies dans le chaos de la Sierra Leone) in the special issue “Temps biographiques et discontinuités politiques” *Ethnologie Française* 44(3): 431-439

2014 “Social Networks, Resources, and the International NGO in Post-War Sierra Leone” *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review* 4(1): 33-59

2014 “Sobel Rumors and Tribal Truths: Narrative and Politics in Sierra Leone, 1994” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 56(1): 187-214

2012 ““We have been sensitized”: ex-combatants, marginalization, and youth in post-war Sierra Leone” *American Anthropologist* 114(3): 494-506

2009 “Rethinking Burgeoning Political Consciousness: Student Activists, the Class of ’99 and Political Intent in Sierra Leone” *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 47(3): 349-369

2009 “The Agricultural Impasse: Creating “Normal” Post-War Development in Sierra Leone” *The Journal of Political Ecology* 16: 70-86

Book Chapters and Essays

2015 “Amartya Sen” and “Sierra Leone”. *The Encyclopedia of World Poverty* Pp. 1387-1389 and Pp. 1403-1404 New York: SAGE Publications

2014 “Articulating the Invisible: Ebola Beyond Witchcraft” in “Hotspots” *Cultural Anthropology* <http://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/596-articulating-the-invisible-ebola-beyond-witchcraft-in-sierra-leone> October 7, 2014

2013 “Poisoned Patronage: Appropriating aid and pulling down “big men” in northern Sierra Leone” in Smith, J. and E. Verdeja, eds. *Globalization, Social Movements, and Peacebuilding* Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, Series on Peace and Conflict Resolution. Pp. 159-186

2012 “The only way to produce food is to cooperate and reconcile? A case study of failures of cooperative agriculture in post-war Sierra Leone” in Ozerdem, A. and R. Roberts, eds. *Challenging Post-Conflict Environments: Sustainable Agriculture* London: Ashgate. Series: Global Security in a Changing World. Pp. 237-248

Invited Book Reviews

(forthcoming) review of Shepler, S. *Childhood Deployed: Remaking Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone* in *The Journal of Peace and Justice Studies*

2014 review of Moore, A. *Peacebuilding in Practice: Local Experience in Two Bosnian Towns* in *PoLAR* 37(2): 428-30 (on-line only) <http://www.polaronline.org/book-reviews/>

2013 review of Gottlieb, A. and P. Graham *Braided Worlds* in *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, New Series 19: 883-884

2013 “The Limits of Love and Loss” review of Jackson, M. *Life Within Limits: Well-being in a World of Want* in *Current Anthropology* 54(3): 393-394

2012 review of Hoffman, D. *The War Machines: Young Men and Violence in Sierra Leone and Liberia* in *Anthropos* 107(2): 626-627

2011 review of Chrétien, J. and R. Banégas eds. *The Recurring Great Lakes Crisis: Identity, Violence and Power* in *International Dialogue* 1: 43-47

2009 review of Sheridan, M. and C. Nyamweru eds. *African Sacred Groves: Ecological Dynamics and Social Change* in *Journal of Religion in Africa* 39(1): 121-122

Other publications

2006 “Chinese Tractor in Makeni” and “Public Transport in Sierra Leone.” Photographic credits in Cutter, Charles H. *Africa 2006* Harpers Ferry, WV: Stryker-Post Publications Pp. 72-73

Bolten, C., Murphy, K, Quiroga, J. and J. Parfrey 2001 “Seattle Forecast: Tear Gas Clouds and Chronic Health Problems” Special Report. Physicians for Social Responsibility, Los Angeles Chapter <http://www.psrla.org/gashealth.htm>

1998 *Healing Knowledge and Cultural Practice in a Modern Tswana Village* Tom Hardie Memorial Monographs Series No. 25 Williamstown: Williams College Center for Environmental Studies

Work in Progress

(in review) “I will vote what is in my heart: Sierra Leone’s 2012 elections and the pliability of “normative” democracy”

(co-editing with Susan Shepler) Producing Ebola: Creating Knowledge In and About an Epidemic. Special Issue for *Anthropological Quarterly*

(in review) “Ebola Through a Glass Darkly: Ways of knowing the state and each other” for the special issue “Producing Ebola: Creating Knowledge In and About an Epidemic” *Anthropological Quarterly*

(revising) “The Best Interests of the Child: Work, Education, and Child Rights in Northern Sierra Leone”

(writing) *Our Slice of the Cake: Serious Youth in Sierra Leone* book manuscript

Grants

Office of Research, University of Notre Dame, March 2015. Principal Investigator, Faculty

Research Support Program Initiation Grant, \$7980
Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, February 2012
Principal Investigator, Faculty Research Grant, \$10,000
Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, December, 2009.
Principal Investigator, Faculty Pilot Research Grant, \$10,800
Ford Family Program for Human Development and Solidarity, University Of Notre Dame,
December, 2009. Principal Investigator, Faculty Pilot Research Grant, \$6,000
Center for African-American and African Studies African Initiatives Grant, University of
Michigan, 2003. Principal Investigator, Pilot funds for research in Sierra Leone, \$5,000

Scholarships and Fellowships

Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, September 2007
Rackham Humanities Fellowship, University of Michigan, January 2007
United States Institute of Peace Jennings Randolph Dissertation Scholar, 2005-2006
IIE Fulbright, recipient for Sierra Leone, 2004; extended March 2005
Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Fellowship, alternate, 2004 (declined)
NSEP David Boren Graduate Fellowship, 2004
College of LS & A Regents Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2001
National Science Foundation, Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention, 1999

Distinctions and Awards

Undergraduate Mentoring Award, Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University
of Notre Dame, 2013
University of California Press, Series in Public Anthropology inaugural manuscript proposal
competition winner, November 2008
Finalist, *Eric Wolf Prize for Best Article in Political Ecology*, Society for Political Ecology,
April 2008
James Orton Award in Anthropology, Williams College, 1998
Tom Hardie Memorial Award in Environmental Studies, Williams College, 1998

Invited Lectures and Workshops

Are We Anthropologists or are We Emergency Responders? Transforming Scholarship into
Humanitarian Practice in the Ebola Epidemic. Executive Plenary Session Organizer and Chair,
American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings. Denver, CO. November 2015

Dignity in the Doing: Personhood, Agency, and Child Rights in Sierra Leone. Second
International Conference on Human Dignity and Human Development. Kellogg Institute for
International Studies. University of Notre Dame. October 22-24, 2015

The Ebola Roundtable: Anthropological Engagements with the Crisis. Sponsored by the African
Studies Association Board of Directors. African Studies Association Annual Meetings.
Indianapolis, IN. November 21, 2014

The Cosmology of Care: Ebola in Northern Sierra Leone. The Ebola Forum, part of the series “Zoonosis and Society”. Rutgers University, New Jersey. November 14, 2014

Emergency workshop on anthropological engagements with the Ebola Crisis. Sponsored by the American Anthropological Association. George Washington University, Washington DC. November 6-7, 2014

The Memories We Want: Mnemonic Community and Rebel Occupation in Sierra Leone. Lecture as part of the symposium “Violence, Memory, and Social Recovery” at the University of Rochester, New York. October 18, 2013

The System is Not Fragile: Youth and Social Politics in Urban Sierra Leone. Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, lecture series, University of Notre Dame. March 5, 2013

Fieldwork in Conflict-Affected Communities: Ethics and Methods. Invited lecture and mentoring sessions for the Social Science Research Council’s African Peacebuilding Network inaugural grantee workshop. Nairobi, Kenya, January 23-26, 2013

“Worth having”: illuminating loyalty and morality through the lens of patronage and war. Lecture given at the Kenan Institute of Ethics, Duke University, September 26, 2011

The Legitimacy of Occupation: Development Inside a War Zone. Lecture given at Williams College, October 22, 2008; November 11, 2010

Anthropological Inquiry in the Aftermath of War. Lecture given at Williams College, April 4, 2008

Conference Papers and Posters

Food From the Forest, Food From the Farm: Ethnographic Explorations of the Zoonotic Interface in Central Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, Denver, CO. November 20, 2015

Halloran, A., C. Cloutier, **C. Bolten**, S.S. Monde, and P.B. Sesay. Chimpanzees (*P.t. verus*) change the landscape of a forest fragment by dispersing cultivars raided from a local village. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, St. Louis, MO, March 25-28, 2015

The “ethno” in Ethnoprimateology: Ethnography and the Tonkolili Chimpanzee Project. Presentation at the South Florida Primatology Meetings, Boca Raton, FL. February 6-7, 2015

“This is our law!” Child rights in discourse and practice in Sierra Leonean schools. Paper presented at the African Studies Association meetings, Indianapolis, November 22, 2014

Ensuring peace “looks just like the war”: Election Laws and Occupation Memories in Northern Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings, Chicago, November 22, 2013

A Great Scholar is an Overeducated Person: Credentialing, Critiquing, and Performing in Sierra Leonean Schools. Paper presented at the conference “Learning In and Out of School: Education Across the Globe” University of Notre Dame, May 22-23, 2012

Teaching to the test and performing the will to succeed in Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, Montreal, November 16, 2011

“We have been sensitized”: Silencing dissent and suspending forgiveness in northern Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, New Orleans, November 20, 2010

Poisoned Patronage: Appropriating Aid and Pulling Down Big Men in Post-War Sierra Leone. Paper presented at workshop on Social Movements, Globalization and Peacebuilding. University of Notre Dame, October 19-21, 2009

Costly Signaling, or, A moral economy of dress: “bluff culture,” partner hunting and youth in northern Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the conference “Dress and Youth Popular Culture” Northwestern University, March 13-14, 2009

“Someone must hold my hand and teach me to stand as a man”: Economic disability and social regression among ex-combatants in northern Sierra Leone. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, San Francisco, November 21, 2008

Consulting Positions

United Nations World Food Programme

May-August 2001, Rome, Italy (fieldwork in Swaziland and Lesotho)

Conducted a survey of national school feeding programs in Swaziland and Lesotho. Facilitated research on the phase-out of WFP programs in Swaziland. Organized hiring and screening of new consultants. Edited media video release for School Feeding Unit.

Physicians for Social Responsibility

November, 2000 to May, 2001, Los Angeles, CA

Researched and wrote report on the effects of chemical crowd control weapons on protestors at WTO protests in Seattle, 1999. Researched and compiled environmental and community practices of aerospace corporations operating in Southern California.

Professional Memberships

Society for Cultural Anthropology, 2014-present

African Studies Association, 2011-present

Council on Anthropology and Education, 2010-present

American Ethnological Society, 2006-present
Student Anthropology Section, 2003-2007
Association for Africanist Anthropology, 2003-present
American Anthropological Association, 2003-present

Professional Service

Peer reviewer for scholarly journals

African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review
American Anthropologist
Comparative Studies in Society and History (Anthropology and History)
International Journal of African Historical Studies (History and African Studies)
International Perspectives in Psychology (Psychology)
Journal of Conflict Research (Peace/Conflict Studies and Political Science)
Journal of International and Global Studies (interdisciplinary social science)
Journal of Modern African Studies (African Studies)
Journal of Peace Research (Peace Studies and Political Science)
Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
Journal of World-Systems Research (Sociology)
Peace and Change: A Journal of Peace Research
Political and Legal Anthropology Review
Resilience: A Journal of the Environmental Humanities
Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale

Peer reviewer for publishing houses (book proposals and manuscripts, annotated bibliographies)

Routledge
Rowman & Littlefield
Oxford University Press

Reviewer for granting programs

Social Sciences Research Council
Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2014-present
African Peacebuilding Network Research Fellowship, 2012-present
African Peacebuilding Network Post-Doctoral Grant, 2015

Advising

Doctor of Philosophy

Committee Chair, Angela Lederach (Anthropology and Peace Studies) 2014-
Committee Member, Emily de Wet (Anthropology) 2015-
Committee Member, Rieti Gengo (Anthropology and Peace Studies) 2015-

Master of Arts in Peace Studies

Dania Maria Straughan—Race Dialogues in South Bend, 2015-
Christian Cirhigiri—Comparative Youth Movements for Peace, 2015-
Adel Nehmeh—Narrating Manenberg, South Africa 2014-2015
Ying Liang—Dialogue and Peace Processes in South Africa 2014-2015

Hudda Ibrahim—Sustainable Peace in Somaliland 2014-2015
Karin Brown—Human Rights Practice in Northern Uganda, 2010-2011
Chernor Bah—The Role of Youth in Peace Governance in Mindanao, 2010-2011
Jimena Holguin—The Community and Ex-Combatant Reintegration in Colombia, 2010
Rachel Miller—Sustainable Peacebuilding in Gulu, Uganda, 2010

Bachelor of Arts Thesis

Emily Campbell—Girls' Education in the New Rwanda 2015-
Sarah Clarke—Orphan Narratives from Vietnam, 2015-
Yun Jun Kim—Qatar: The “Self-Conscious State”, 2014-2015
Katy Gorentz—Disability in Sierra Leone, 2013-2014
Catherine Reidy—Future Orientations of Youth in Sierra Leone, 2011-2013
Michelle Letourneau—Music Therapy in Mental Hospitals, 2011-2012
Melissa Wrapp—Moral Subjectivity in London Squats, 2011-2012
Hannah Jackson—School Development in Kenya, 2010-2011
Jenna Knapp—Childhood and Orphanhood in Uganda, 2009-2010
Ayslenn Tice—Gender and Identity in Lesotho, 2009-2010

Classes Taught

Children, Youth, and Violence
The Cult of Personality
Ethnographic Methods for Peace Research
Exploring Anthropology through African Writing
Fundamentals of Social and Cultural Anthropology
The Politics of Health and Disease in Africa
Structural Violence

University Service

College of Arts and Letters, College Council member, 2014-
Institutional Review Board, voting member, 2010-2012
Department of Anthropology
Graduate curriculum and admissions committee, 2015-2016
Medical Anthropology faculty search committee, 2011-2012
Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies
Minor in International Development Studies, Faculty Advisory Board, 2013-
International Scholars Program mentor and advisor, 2011-
Africa Working Group, co-chair, 2013-2015
Member, 2010-
Undergraduate Research Grants committee, 2011
Experience the World Grants committee, 2010
Visiting Fellows selection committee, 2009, 2013
Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
Doctoral Advisory committee, 2015-
Undergraduate Advisory committee, 2014-
MA Curriculum committee, 2010-2011
MA Admissions committee, 2011, 2014