

Silvia Sanchez Tappan

Doctoral Candidate, Graduate Teaching Assistant

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August 2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology (expected 2021)

The University of Kansas, Lawrence KS

- *Dissertation research*: “An Ethnography of the Division of Labor in Guatemala City’s Construction Labor Market”.
- *Committee*: Brent Metz (chair), Melissa Birch, David Smith, Jane Gibson, and Joane Nagel

Master in Cultural Anthropology (2016)

The University of Kansas, Lawrence KS

- *M.A. thesis*: “Failing to Address Structural Causes of Food Scarcity: The Politics of Development Funding, Competition, and Corruption in the Ch’orti’ Maya Area”
- *Committee*: Brent Metz (chair), Allan Hansen, and Melissa Birch

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology & Sociology, *Summa Cum Laude* (2012)

Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala City

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Research (August 2016 – present)

Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas

- *Preliminary field-based research conducted*: (1) Exploratory fieldwork for two months in Guatemala City in the summer of 2017, and (2) pre-dissertation fieldwork in Guatemala City for eight months in the fall of 2018 and spring of 2019.
- *Methods used*: Observation, archival research, unstructured interviews, statistical analysis, and discourse analysis.

Masters’ Research (August 2014 – June 2016)

Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas

- *Field-based research conducted*: Ethnographic fieldwork in Chiquimula, Jocotán, Camotán, and Esquipulas (eastern Guatemala) for two months in the summer of 2015.
- *Methods used*: Direct observation, snowball sampling, in-depth interviews, and thematic analysis.

Research Assistant (January 2013 – July 2014)

Research Center for Equity and Governance in Healthcare Systems [CEGSS]

- *Responsibilities*: Developed focus group protocol, conducted training workshops with moderators, and carried out thematic analysis for a study on discrimination in healthcare facilities. Conducted interviews and surveys, wrote ethnographic fieldnotes, and coded data using Atlas Ti for study on community leaders’ empowerment processes. Moderated focus groups for study on the relevance of global health goals. Designed manual for conducting community health research and coordinated training workshops for applied project on community health ethnography. Managed interview transcriptions for multiple research projects.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas

- *Varieties of Human Experience* (sixteen-week course on campus): Currently teaching discussion sections, assisting with assignment preparation and exam questions, and grading.
- *Culture and Health* (sixteen-week course on campus): Taught discussion sections, prepared assignments and exam questions, and graded final papers in the spring and fall of 2017.
- *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (sixteen-week course on campus): Taught discussion sections, prepared assignments and exam questions, graded final papers, and prepared a lecture in the fall of 2014, spring and fall of 2015, spring and fall of 2016, and spring of 2018.
- *Multidisciplinary Field School in Partnership with the Ch'orti' Maya* (two-week field course in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala): Planned visits to development projects, coordinated course logistics with the professor, students, and local officials, provided guidance to students on their final projects, and helped organize a cultural fair in the winter of 2017 and the fall 2019.

Blackboard Course Designer & Online Instructor

Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas

- *Culture and Health* (eight-week online course): Designed and built course content and assignments, including class lessons, reading worksheets, discussion prompts, ethnographic project, multiple-choice tests and exam essays. Taught the online class through Blackboard in the summer of 2018, spring of 2019, and summer of 2019.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- 2016 Cerón, Alejandro; Ana Lorena Ruano; **Silvia Sánchez**; Aiken S. Chew; Diego Díaz; & Alison Hernández (2016) Abuse and discrimination towards indigenous people in public health care facilities: experiences from rural Guatemala. *International Journal for Equity in Health* 15:77.
- 2014 Ruano, Ana Lorena, **Silvia Sánchez**; Fernando José Jeréz; & Walter Flores (2014) Making the Post-MDG Global Health Goals Relevant for Highly Inequitable Societies: Findings from a Consultation with Marginalized Populations in Guatemala. *International Journal for Equity in Health* 13(57):1-8.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Professional conferences

- 2015 *Exploring the Impact of Development Networking Processes in the Ch'orti' Maya Area*
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver CO
- 2015 *Proliferación de Intervenciones para el Desarrollo en la Región Ch'orti'*
Guatemalan Scholars Network Conference, Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala
- 2015 *Understanding Political Empowerment: Experiences of Community Leaders in Guatemala*
Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh PA

University colloquia and symposiums

- 2017 *Navigating the Global Development Industry: Experiences of NGO Workers in Guatemala*
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies' Graduate Research Symposium, KU
- 2016 *Sustainable Development in Rural Guatemala*
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies' Merienda Speaker Series, KU

HONORS, GRANTS & AWARDS

Research funding

- 2019 *Dissertation Fieldwork Grant*
Wenner-Gren Foundation
- 2018 *Charles Stansifer Fellowship*
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, The University of Kansas
- 2017 *Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Scholarship*
Center of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, The University of Kansas
- 2017 *Summer Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant*
Office of International Programs, The University of Kansas
- 2015 *Tinker Travel Award*
Center of Latin American And Caribbean Studies, University of Kansas

Conference travel and academic support

- 2018 *Graduate Student Writing Incentive Award*
Research Excellence Initiative, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, The University of Kansas
- 2017 *Carrol D. Clark Award*
Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas
- 2017 *Doctoral Research Fellowship*
Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas
- 2015 *Carrol D. Clark Award*
Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas

Service and teaching awards

- 2019 *F. Allan Hanson Graduate Teaching Assistant Award*
Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas
- 2017 *F. Allan Hanson Graduate Teaching Assistant Award*
Department of Anthropology, The University of Kansas
- 2017 *Graduate Research Consultant Professional Development Scholarship*
Center for Undergraduate Research, The University of Kansas

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

Relevant coursework

- *Area studies: Latin America*
Indigenous Traditions in Latin America (Fall 2016)
Latin American Society (Fall 2015)
Indigenous Development in Latin America (Fall 2014)
- *Field-based methods: Ethnography / Qualitative research*
Discourse Analysis (Fall 2017)
Responsible Research and Scholarship in Anthropology (Spring 2017)
Doing Ethnography (Spring 2015)

Languages

- *Spanish: Native proficiency*
Raised in a Spanish-speaking home
- *English: Near native proficiency*
Attended schools in which the principal language of instruction was English
- *Maya Kaqchikel: Beginner fluency*
Attended Oxlajuj Aj Kaqchikel course in the summer of 2010
Enrolled in Kaqchikel course at The University of Kansas

Further Training

- *Qualitative Data Analysis*
Proficient in thematic analysis software: MAXQDA, AtlasTi, NVivo
Proficient in discourse analysis software: Voyant, Netvizz
- *Quantitative Data Analysis*
12-hour course on Statistical Foundations supported by SPSS (2011) by FLACSO-Guatemala
12-hour course on Statistical Analysis for Social Sciences (2009) at Universidad del Valle
- *Teaching English as a Second Language*
120-hour Teachers Training Course (2007) by Instituto Guatemalteco Americano

REFERENCES

Dr. Brent E. Metz

Department of Anthropology
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Dr. David Smith

Department of Sociology
The University of Kansas
emerald@ku.edu

Dr. Melissa Birch

School of Business
The University of Kansas
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Dr. Jane Gibson

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