

## KATHLEEN M. MILLAR

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY  
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
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### EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Anthropology, Brown University, May 2011

M.A., Anthropology, Brown University, May 2006

B.A., Theology and Spanish, Anthropology minor, University of Notre Dame, *summa cum laude*, May 2002

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, September 2014-present

Associate Member of the School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, September 2014-present

Limited Term Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, September 2013-August 2014

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, September 2012-August 2013

Lecturing Fellow, Thompson Writing Program, Duke University, July 2011-August 2012

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Economic anthropology, labour studies, environmental politics, political economy, subjectivity, urban poverty, Brazilian society, Latin America, social theory, ethnographic writing

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### **Book:**

2018 *Reclaiming the Discarded: Life and Labor on Rio's Garbage Dump*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

### **Edited journal issue:**

2015 E. P. Thompson and the Anthropology of Twenty-First-Century Capitalism, special issue of *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology* 73.

### **Peer-reviewed journal articles:**

2017 Toward a Critical Politics of Precarity. *Sociology Compass* 11(6): e12483.

2015 Introduction. Reading Twenty-First-Century Capitalism through the Lens of E. P. Thompson. *Focaal-Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology* 73: 3-11.

2015 The Tempo of Wageless Work: E. P. Thompson's Time-Sense at the Edges of Rio de Janeiro. *Focaal-Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology* 73: 28-40.

2014 The Precarious Present: Wageless Labor and Disrupted Life in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. *Cultural Anthropology* 29(1): 32-53.

2010 Reconsidering Routes to Membership in the Anthropological Community" (with Rebecca Prahl, Christine Reiser, and Christy DeLair), *Michigan Discussions in Anthropology* 18(1): 148-173.

2008 Making Trash into Treasure: Struggles for Autonomy on a Brazilian Garbage Dump," *Anthropology of Work Review* 29(2): 25-34.

### **Chapters in edited volumes:**

2012 Trash Ties: Urban Politics, Economic Crisis and Rio de Janeiro's Garbage Dump. In *Economies of Recycling: The Global Transformation of Materials, Values and Social Relations*. Catherine Alexander and Joshua Reno, eds. Pp. 164-184. London: Zed Books.

2012 War. In *A Companion to Moral Anthropology*. Didier Fassin, ed. Pp. 482-499. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell (with Catherine Lutz).

2010 Cooperation in the Informal Economy: The Case of Recyclers at a Brazilian Garbage Dump. In, *Cooperation in Economy and Society*. Robert C. Marshall, ed. Society for Economic Anthropology Vol. 28. Pp. 175-194. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press.

2008 The Informal Economy: Condition and Critique of Advanced Capitalism. In, *Underground Economy: Issues and Approaches*. Asha B. Joshi, ed. Pp. 55-74. Hyderabad, India: Icfai University Press.

### **Book reviews and other publications:**

2016 Living with Insecurity in a Brazilian Favela: Urban Violence and Daily Life by R. Ben Penglase. *American Anthropologist* 118(2): 446.

2016 Author interview, Cultural Anthropology's Curated Collection on Precarity, [http://www.culanth.org/curated\\_collections](http://www.culanth.org/curated_collections).

2012 The Transformation that *Waste Land* Missed. *Anthropology News* 53(8): 52-53.

2007 Dying to be Men: Youth, Masculinity and Social Exclusion by Gary Barker. *Men and Masculinities* 9(3): 399-401.

## **IN PREPARATION**

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“Working Carnival, Playing the Everyday”

“Garbage as Racialization”

## **RESEARCH GRANTS**

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### **Extramural:**

2008-2009 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship

2005-2008 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

### **Intramural:**

2016 SSHRC Small Research Grant for project “From Poverty to Pawnshops: Debt and Brazil’s Emergent Middle-Class,” 2016-2018

2016 University Publications Fund

2012 Duke University Thompson Writing Program Research Grant

2005 Tinker Field Research Grant, Center for Latin American Studies, Brown University,

2005 Brown University Summer Research Grant

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND HONOURS**

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2011 The Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize, Pembroke Center for Research and Teaching on Women, Brown University

2011 Eric R. Wolf Prize for graduate student paper, Finalist, Society for the Anthropology of Work

2010-2011 Brown University Dissertation Fellowship

2008 Fellow, Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences Initiative, Brown University, 2008

- 2007 Visiting Scholar, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa
- 2004-2005 Joukowsky Presidential Fellowship, Brown University
- 2002 Valedictorian Candidate, University of Notre Dame

## **INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2017 “Plastic Economy: Beyond the Informal in Urban Brazil,” Inclusive Economies/Anthropology of Economy Seminar, London School of Economics, June 5, 2017.
- 2017 “Garbage as Racialization,” Putting Dirt in its Place: The Contemporary Politics of Waste Conference, Cambridge University, June 2-3, 2017.
- 2014 “Reconsidering the Category of Labor,” Pembroke Seminar Round Table, Brown University, March 14, 2014.
- 2013 “Life Well Spent: On the Experience of Being Broke in the Periphery of Rio de Janeiro,” Ohio University, December 2, 2013.
- 2012 “The Paradox of Precarity: Risk, Desire and Brazil’s Labouring Poor,” Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, September 25, 2012.
- 2012 “Sanitizing the City: The State in the Margins of Rio de Janeiro,” Workshop on Intimate Ethnographies of the Brazilian State, Cornell University, April 27-28, 2012.
- 2011 “I Come and Go, Come and Go: Itinerant Workers and Precarious Lives on Rio’s Garbage Dump,” The Brazil Seminar, Columbia University, October 21, 2011.
- 2011 Q & A discussion following screening of *Waste Land*, directed by Lucy Walker. Upstate Films, Rhinebeck and Woodstock, NY, March 11-12, 2011.
- 2009 “O dinheiro que vem da rampa é maldiçoado,” Department of Anthropology, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil, May 2009.
- 2007 “New Terrains of Class Politics: Reflections on the Organizing of Informal Recyclers in Brazil and South Africa,” Centre for Civil Society, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa, August 2007.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2017 Conference paper, “A Return to Labor in the Anthropology of Latin America,” American Anthropological Association Meetings, Washington, D.C.

- 2016 Conference paper, "Plastic Economy: A Critique of Informality in Brazil," American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis.
- 2016 Conference paper, "The Afterlife of Rio's Dump: Trajectories of Labor in Brazil's Marvelous City," Latin American Studies Association Congress, New York.
- 2015 Co-organizer of panel, "The Unexamined Everyday," American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver.
- 2015 Conference paper, "Working Carnival, Playing the Everyday," American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver.
- 2014 Conference Paper, "Dead Bodies and Addicted Lives: Metaphors of Money when Earnings Disappear," American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 Conference Paper, "Scrap Labor: Contesting 'Proper' Work in a World of Waste," Society for Cultural Anthropology meetings, Detroit.
- 2014 Discussant for panel, "Labor in Specie?: Realizing Multiple Lives of Work," Society for Cultural Anthropology meetings, Detroit.
- 2013 Panel Organizer and chair, "Anthropology's Engagement with the Work of E. P. Thompson," American Anthropological Association meetings, Chicago.
- 2013 Conference Paper, "The Tempo of Precarity: E. P. Thompson's Time-Sense at the Edges of Rio de Janeiro," American Anthropological Association meetings, Chicago.
- 2013 Conference Paper, "Quando o lixo acaba: o trabalho dos catadores depois do fechamento do lixão no Brasil," VII Congresso Latino-Americano de Estudos de Trabalho, São Paulo.
- 2012 Panel organizer and chair, "Precarious Labor and Precarious Life," American Anthropological Association meetings, San Francisco.
- 2012 Conference Paper, "When Wageless Work Disappears: Negotiating Precarity in Urban Brazil," American Anthropological Association meetings, San Francisco.
- 2012 Conference Paper, "Refuse and Revolution: The Alternative Life Projects of Informal Recyclers," and chair of session on "Economic Strategies in the Face of Marginalization," Society for Applied Anthropology meetings, Baltimore.
- 2011 Discussant for panel "Ethnographies of Empathy," American Anthropological Association meetings, Montreal.
- 2010 Conference Paper, "I Come and Go, Come and Go: The Circulation of Workers in Rio de Janeiro's Urban Periphery," American Anthropological Association meeting, New Orleans, November.

- 2010 Conference Paper, “Catadores, Depositistas, Bandidos e Assistentes Sociais: Uma Análise da Organização do Trabalho de Catadores no Rio de Janeiro,” Latin American Studies Association meeting, Toronto.
- 2009 Conference Paper, “Conceptualizing Class and Social Exclusion with respect to the Informal Economy: An ethnographic Study of *Catadores* in Rio de Janeiro,” Latin American Studies Association meeting, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2008 Conference Paper, “Competition and Cooperation in the Informal Economy: Reflections on the Social Practices of Waste Reclaimers in Brazil and South Africa,” Society for Economic Anthropology, Cincinnati.
- 2008 Conference Paper, “Reciclando a Vida: Struggles for Social and Environmental Justice on a Garbage Dump in Rio de Janeiro” Brazilian Studies Association annual meeting, New Orleans.
- 2007 Co-organizer and chair of double-session, “Illicit and Informal Entrepreneurs: Fighting for a Place in the Neoliberal Economic Order,” American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington, D.C.
- 2007 Conference Paper, “From Jardim das Flores to the World: Theorizing Community in the Informal Sector,” American Ethnological Society Annual Meeting, Toronto.
- 2007 Conference Paper, “Are Universities Gated Communities?,” Intellectuals and the Academy in Public Life Conference, Brown University.
- 2007 Conference Paper, “Rethinking Labor Today,” Center for Latin American Studies Graduate Student Conference, Brown University.
- 2007 Conference Paper, “Informal Economies as Economies of Risk,” Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Meeting, Greensboro, NC.
- 2005 Co-organizer of panel “Movements of Empire,” Paper: “New Movements New Spaces: Political Mobilization in the Age of Empire, American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington, D.C.
- 2005 Conference Paper, “Talking Trash: Discourse and Crime at a Brazilian Garbage Dump,” New England Center for Latin American Studies Annual Meeting, Bowdoin College.

## **TEACHING**

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### **Courses taught at Simon Fraser University:**

The Body in Brazil (Selected Regional Areas, SA 365), Fall 2017

Work in the Crisis Economy (SA 360), Spring 2017, Spring 2014

Theories of Latin American Development (IS 435/815 & SA 460/815 ), Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2015, Spring 2013

Contemporary Ethnography (SA 301), Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015,

Classical Sociological Thought (SA 350), Fall 2016 Spring 2015

The Practice of Anthropology (SA 402), Fall 2015

Qualitative Methodology (SA 856), Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2012

Social Movements (SA 321), Spring 2014

Environment and Society (SA 371) Fall 2013

**Courses taught at other universities:**

Writing Poverty: Ethnography and the Politics of Representation, Duke University, Fall 2011, Spring 2012

**Directed readings courses at Simon Fraser University:**

SA 871 Readings on Precarity and Labour Migration, Graduate Level, Fall 2016

IS 490 Honours Seminar, Undergraduate Level, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

SA 853 Readings in the Sociology of Citizenship, Graduate Level, Summer 2015

SA 871 Readings in Economic Anthropology, Graduate Level, Spring 2015

SA 497 Directed Readings in Sociology, Undergraduate Level, Spring 2015

**Pedagogical training:**

Teaching for Change Workshop with George Lakey, Simon Fraser University, September 2013

Postdoctoral Seminar in Teaching Academic Writing, Duke University, August 1-18, 2011

Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University, completion of three year-long pedagogical training programs, Teaching Certificate I (2008), II (2010), III (2010)

**Guest lectures:**

“Meet th Author, Q & A discussion via Skype, for the course Political Anthropogy, Wellesley College, (Prof. Susan Ellison), Fall 2015, Fall 2016

“Meet the Author,” Q & A discussion via Skype, for the course Political Anthropology, Princeton University (Prof. Susan Ellison), Fall 2013, Fall 2014

“Meet the Author” Q & A discussion via Skype, for the course Globalization, University of Denver, (Prof. Rebecca Galemba), Spring 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2016

“The Politics of Precarious Labour in Urban Brazil, for the course Urban Communities and Cultures, Simon Fraser University, (Prof. Cristina Moretti), Spring 2013

“Meet the Author” Q & A discussion via Skype, for the course Environmental Anthropology, St. Olaf College, (Prof. Susi Keefe), Fall 2012

“*Waste Land: Behind the Scenes*,” for the course Contemporary Documentary Films, Duke University (Profs. Erin Espelie, Stan Abe, and Tom Rankin), Spring 2012

“The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil,” for the course Culture and Health, Brown University, (Prof. Sherine Hamdy), Fall 2010

“Informal Recycling in Latin America,” for the course Latin American Politics, Brown University, (Prof. Richard Snyder), Spring 2010

“The Catholic Worker Movement,” for the course Anthropology and Utopia, Brown University, (Prof. Nicholas Townsend), Fall 2009

“Behind the Scenes: Anthropological Fieldwork as Process,” for the course Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Brown University, (Prof. Daniel Smith), Spring 2008

“Working in the Shadows: A Different Kind of Story,” for the course War and Society, Brown University, (Prof. Catherine Lutz), Spring 2007

## **GRADUATE SUPERVISION**

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### **Senior Supervisor:**

Andrea Steigerwald (MA Anthropology), 2016-present

Anna Maslouskaya (MA Anthropology), 2016-present

Scott Garoupa (MA Anthropology), Completed 2017

Sarah Mitchell (MA Sociology), Completed 2016

### **Committee Member:**

Jenny Shaw (PhD Anthropology), 2015-present

Efe Gurcan (PhD Sociology), 2014-present



Brianna Dines (MA Anthropology), 2014-present

Jared Blustein (MA Sociology), Completed 2017

Tom Allen (MA Latin American Studies), Completed 2014

Andrew Dubecky (MA Anthropology), Completed 2013

Elizabeth Stoiaken (MA Latin American Studies), Completed 2013

### **External Examiner**

Bicram Rijal (PhD Anthropology), Prospectus Defence, 2015

Rachel Elfenbein (PhD Sociology), PhD Thesis Defence, 2015

Jenny Shaw (PhD Anthropology), Qualifying Exams and Prospectus Defence, 2014

Angela Deanna Fasciani (MA Latin American Studies), MA Thesis Defence, 2014

Willow Allen (PhD Education), PhD Comprehensive Exams, 2013

## **UNDERGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

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### **Senior supervisor:**

Nicolas Tellez-Espana, Honours Thesis in International Studies, Summer 2016-present

### **External examiner:**

Sahand Farivar, Honours Thesis in Sociology, Spring 2014

## **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

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### **Simon Fraser University**

Tenure and Promotion Committee, School for International Studies, May 2016-present

Graduate Program Committee, Dpt. of Sociology and Anthropology, May 2016-present

Tenure and Promotion Committee, Dpt. of Sociology and Anthropology, May 2015-April 2016

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Dpt. of Sociology and Anthropology, May 2014-April 2015

Appointments Committee, Dpt. of Sociology and Anthropology, May 2014-April 2015

Graduate Program Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Sept. 2013- April 2014

### **Duke University**

Course Curriculum Committee, Thompson Writing Program, 2011-2012

Editorial board member, *Deliberations: A Journal of First-Year Writing at Duke University*, 2012

Co-organizer of undergraduate conference, "Critical Ink," Duke University, 2011-2012

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE**

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Reviewer for *American Ethnologist*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, *Antipode*, *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *Journal of Material Culture*, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, *Economic Anthropology*, *Anthropology of Work Review*, *African Review of Economics and Finance*, The National Science Foundation.

Member of the American Anthropological Association, Society for Cultural Anthropology, American Ethnological Society, Society for Economic Anthropology, Society for the Anthropology of Work, Latin American Studies Association