

PEOPLE IN CONTEXT: ANTHROPOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS IN A 'POST TRUTH' WORLD



Durham University 20th – 22nd April 2017

Some say we are living in a 'post-truth' world, punctuated by the 'shocks' of Brexit and Donald Trump's election, heated debates over the 'migrant crisis', climate change, and vaccines, where expertise is ignored and 'objective fact' surrenders to emotion and belief. If so, what might 'post-truth' mean for anthropology? We believe it urges us to reconsider how anthropology examines people in both a socio-cultural and evolutionary context; to reflect on the evidence underpinning such ideas, and the purposes of the knowledge we generate. In light of the multi-disciplinary nature of Durham Anthropology, and the spirit of our 70/50 Anniversary celebrations, we invite **undergraduate and postgraduate students from all sub-disciplines of anthropology** to reflect on their work in this 'post-truth' world. In doing so we hope to examine the purpose, place and possible roles of anthropological knowledge and of anthropologists within it, and seek a wider exploration of the notions of 'truth' and 'expertise'. By combining the diverse approaches anthropologists' use, we seek to construct a method of speaking more clearly to one another, and in doing, speak more clearly to the wider world.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR PAPERS, POSTERS AND AUDIO/VISUAL MEDIA

We welcome proposals that emerge from (but not limited to), the following themes:

We especially welcome submissions that speak across anthropological sub-disciplines.

Submit proposals with your name, institution, email address, title and abstract (300 words max) to raidurham2017@gmail.com

Submission deadline 06/03/17
Acceptance notification 20/03/17
Registration deadline 01/04/17
Registration fee £10

- Reflections on anthropology's role(s) in the world
- Examinations of knowledge and expertise
- Considerations of conspiracy, rumour and 'truthlessness'
- Evolutionary understandings of human behaviour
- Rethinking modes of anthropological dissemination and engagement (e.g. collaborative research)
- Knowledge and 'truth' in human/non-human cognition
- Opportunities/obstacles for intervention and activism
- Patient interaction with/rejection of medical knowledge(s) and practices
- Critical perspectives on human rights, social/environmental (in)justice, resource extraction, food security/sovereignty, health, and ill-being

Paper based on on-going research (e.g. dissertations and theses). Please state if you would like to be considered for either a 7 or a 15-minute slot.

Poster about your current or proposed research. To be displayed throughout the event, with a social session dedicated to presentations.

A/V media to be exhibited in a format that will be announced closer to the conference. Submit a trailer or taster with your abstract.

