

ANTHRO - SPECTIVE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ANTHROPOLOGY MAJORS



PHOTOS BY MARCOS SEGOVIA OF THE PROTESTS IN THE SQUARE LAST SUMMER

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Welcome Students!

BY MIA ROGERS

By the 1960s what was once begun in 1926 as “Negro History week”, a week dedicated to honor Black Americans throughout history, has transpired to the Black History Month we know today. In this very sentiment it is representative of the progress made and the progress still needed to be made in the stride for equality. While we recognize that Black history is not something that should be celebrated only one month of the year but rather all year round, as it should not be separated from history so often taught in curriculum, this edition of Anthro-spective aims to shine a light on Black contributions to the field of anthropology while providing the resources to aid students in understanding, providing support to and uplifting Black voices and work that has often been overlooked throughout history.

COMING UP

EVENTS

2/16 - Undergraduate Anthropology Student Association Meeting

2/17 - Department Town Hall

2/18 - ANTHRO Day!

3/2 - UASA Officer Elections

3/11 - Applied Anthropology Expo

3/16- UASA Town Hall

3/26 - Virginia Festival of the Book: Todné Thomas

Seeking More than Salvation: Religious Communities

REGISTRAR

3/12 - Last day to change to pass/no pass grade option

4/2 - Last day to drop a course with a W

4/3 - First day to request an Incomplete



UASA CALENDAR

SPRING 2021 UNDERGRADUATE ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION EVENTS ZOOM ID 826 0369 2901 TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM (SUBJECT TO CHANGE: FOLLOW @UASAUNT ON FB FOR UPDATES)	19 JANUARY <input type="checkbox"/> BACK TO SCHOOL SOCIAL & SEMESTER OVERVIEW	2 FEBRUARY <input type="checkbox"/> STUDY HALL AND SOCIAL	16 FEBRUARY <input type="checkbox"/> TO BE ANNOUNCED ... STAY TUNED!	2 MARCH <input type="checkbox"/> OFFICER ELECTIONS & STUDY HALL/SOCIAL <small>*TURN IN DUES BY MARCH 5TH*</small>
	16 MARCH <input type="checkbox"/> UASA TOWN HALL <small>*THIS IS A TOWN HALL HOSTED BY UASA - THE STUDENT LIAISON TO ADDRESS GRIEVANCES AND SUGGESTIONS THAT WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT*</small>	30 MARCH <input type="checkbox"/> STUDY HALL AND SOCIAL	13 APRIL <input type="checkbox"/> ANTHRO GRADS CELEBRATION SOCIAL	27 APRIL <input type="checkbox"/> FINALS WEEK STUDY HALL

Are you interested in becoming a UASA officer? Email us at uasa@unt.edu

Are you an Anthropology Major with a story or idea?

Would you like to be a guest columnist?

Would you like your artwork to be featured in the newsletter?

Email ANTH-Ambassador@unt.edu with suggestions and contributions for future content!

Black Contributions to Anthropology

By: Mia Rogers



Vera Mae Green is the first president of the Association of Black Anthropologists. Classified as a social and applied anthropologist, she was one of the first African-American anthropologists to study interethnic relations in Caribbean and 1st to study Dutch Caribbean as a culture area. Her work has been central in exploring the diversity of black families and culture in America and the Caribbean. To learn more about Vera Mae Green visit this link: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vera_Mae_Green

Katherine Dunham was a distinguished dance anthropologist and scholar. Amongst being a dancer, choreographer, creator of the Dunham Technique, author, educator and anthropologist she was also a social activist. She studied dance and ethnography in the Caribbean. Having to choose between dance performance and anthropological research, Dunham chose dance performance but utilized her anthropological studies to become a leader in the field of dance anthropology also known as ethnochoreology. To learn more about Katherine Dunham visit these links: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katherine_Dunham <http://kdcah.org/katherine-dunham-biography/>

John Wesley Gilbert was the first African American archaeologist, first graduate of Paine college, and first African American to earn a master's degree at Brown University. His archaeological work regarding Eretria, creating the first map of the area, and his thesis, 'Demes of Attica', alongside his position as a professor labeled "as a renowned scholar, teacher, community leader, and missionary." However, his achievements were quickly overshadowed by the increasing academic accomplishments of his white counterparts. To learn more about John Wesley Gilbert click these links: <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/john-wesley-gilbert-1863-1923/> <https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/news/newsDetails/john-wesley-gilbert-room>

Mark Hanna Watkins, an Afro-American linguist and anthropologist, is one of the first known Black Americans to receive a PhD in anthropology. He was one of the founding fathers of anthropology and linguistics. Conducting fieldwork in both the Americas and Africa, Watkins was one of the first American to write a grammar of an African language, anthropologist to participate in the creation of an African studies program in the U.S., and often times the first black member of many professional organizations. To learn more about Mark Hanna Watkins visit these links: <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/248819> <https://www.linguisticsociety.org/content/month-linguistics-history-tribute-mark-hanna-watkins>

Zora Neale Hurston, a student of Franz Boas, pursued a bachelors in anthropology at Barnard college. After earning her bachelors, Hurston spent two years pursuing graduate studies at Columbia university, proceeding to conduct field studies in folklore among African Americans in the South. Hurston became a part of North Carolina College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University)'s faculty in Durham as well as a place on the staff of the Library of Congress. Her written work was little remembered by the general public, however, until a resurgence of appreciation in the late 20th century. Her famous book "Their Eyes Were Watching God" along with several others are frequently taught in English classes today. To learn more about Zora Neale Hurston visit these links: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Zora-Neale-Hurston> <https://www.zoranealehurston.com/about/>

SUGGESTED READINGS & ORGANIZATIONS

A collaborative effort by the Department of Anthropology

Organizations:

[Association of Black Anthropologists](#)

[UNT Multicultural center](#)

[UNT Black Student Union](#)

[UNT Progressive Black Student Organization](#)

Black Business in Denton:

[Culture Cookies](#)

<https://culture-cookies.square.site/?fbclid=IwAR17jcuNr5I2YngL1XrYAyzM-v-qbC6U3ugRzhlH2-lyat6GZcsyZrUYtV0>

[Denton Fitness Center](#)

<https://www.dentonfitnesscenter.com/>

[Trendsetters Beauty Supply](#)

<https://trendsettersbeauty.com/>

Suggestions by Dr. Andrew Nelson, Dr. Beverly Davenport, and Professor Melissa Nelson:

George Yancy, Dr. Elisha Oliver, et al., *Our Black Sons Matter* (2016)

John Jackson, *Real Black: Adventures in Racial Sincerity* (2005)

Deborah Thomas, *Modern Blackness* (2004), *Political Life in the Wake of Plantation* (2019)

Lee Baker, *From Savage to Negro: Anthropology and the Construction of Race, 1896-1954* (1998); *Anthropology and the Racial Politics of Culture* (2010)

St Clair Drake, *Black Metropolis* (1945), *Black Folk Here and There* (volumes I and II) (1987, 1990)

Zora Neale Hurston, *Tell My Horse: Voodoo and Life in Haiti and Jamaica* (1938)

WEB Du Bois, *Souls of Black Folk* (1903)

Faye Harrison, editor of *Decolonizing Anthropology* (1991)

Dána-Ain Davis, *Reproductive Injustice* (2019)

Kamari Clarke, *Affective Justice* (2019)

Todne Thomas, *Kincraft: the Making of Black Evangelical Sociality* (2021)

Leith Mullings, *On Our Own Terms: Race, Class, and Gender in the Lives of African American Women* (1997)

Katherine Dunham, *Island Possessed* (1969)

Lynn Boles, *Sister Jamaica* (1996), *We Paid our Dues* (1996)

Gwendolyn Mikell, *African Feminisms* (1997)

Carolyn Martin Shaw, *Colonial Inscriptions* (1995)

France Winddance Twin, *Racism in a Racial Democracy* (1998)

Irma McClaurin, *Women of Belize* (1996)

Ira Harrison, Deborah Johnson-Simon, and Erica Lorraine Williams, eds. *The Second Generation of African American Pioneers* (2018)

Ira Harrison and Faye Harrison, eds. *African-American Pioneers in Anthropology* (1998)

Cedric Robinson, *Black Marxism* (1983)

The Miseducation of the Negro by Carter G. Woodson (1933)

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston (1937)



Photos by Marcos Segovia
of the protests in the square last summer

LIAISON'S COLUMN

BY ANTHONY DEFREECE

Hi everyone,

This is your student liaison Anthony DeFreece. Some of y'all might have seen the email in your classes but, for those who have not, I am doing research with Dr. Wren in an effort to understand how minorities view and understand archaeology. The idea for the research was inspired by an assignment I did on the African Burial Ground National Monument in New York and the various protests that occurred last summer. Archaeology, as a subdiscipline of Anthropology, is heavily intertwined with culture and identity. Whether talking in terms of artifacts, structures, or burial grounds, all can have great significance to various groups in this country. Unfortunately, Archaeology is marred by the same wrongdoing Anthropology perpetrated in its early days and some of these issues continue to today. On an international level artifacts were, and continue to be, stolen from their original locations and displayed in Western museums without the consent of the locals. On the national scale, there are many cases of places and artifacts with historical value to minorities being destroyed to make way for development.

Knowing this and that archaeology is a predominantly white field, I do believe adding diversity can help bring fresh perspectives and help to prevent the destruction of places of historic and cultural significance. The research I am doing with Dr. Wren involves participants taking a survey to understand their knowledge of, attitude towards, and practice of archaeology. Our hope is that the responses will allow us to find ways to encourage minority students to go down the path of becoming archaeologists. On a personal note, I do believe that Anthropology as a discipline has an important role to play in healing this country. For me, this means using archaeology to connect and educate communities about the history of this country. With a true understanding of our past, one that acknowledges the diversity in this country and teaches along intersectional lines, we can address the problems of the past that we struggle with today and find ways to move forward together as a nation.



PROFESSOR PROFILE: DR. KIMBERLY WREN

Hello everyone,

My name is Kimberly Wren and I am an Adjunct Instructor here in the Department of Anthropology. This is my first teaching position at the college level and it has been an amazing two years, going on three. Prior to joining the faculty here, I worked in primary and secondary education as a special needs substitute teacher and many varied positions in anthropology involving ArcGIS, museum management, museum curation, and cemetery restoration. I also worked as an archaeologist for the Program for Belize Archaeological Program through the University of Texas at Austin and for the Archaeological Research Laboratory (ARL) at University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

I completed both my MA and PhD at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where I focused on forensic anthropology, bioarchaeology, health disparities, and African Diaspora archaeology. I am currently working on two projects with two undergraduate students in the department, one as a McNair Mentor and the other as an advisor. The former project explores preference among indigenous groups in the Southwest pre-contact using motif design and design style as indicators of group and individual preference, respectively. The latter project focuses on minority involvement in archaeology at the undergraduate level.

My interests and research is rooted in critical theory. I employ this theory to expose the origins and facets of structural inequality, ideologies of bigotry, and white hegemony in order to trace their mutability and create a dialogue between past and present experiences. I also use this theory to problematize identities and the status quo. I incorporate this theory in many courses I teach, including:

- ANTH 3120 Indigenous Cultures of the Southwest
- ANTH 3130 African American Anthropology
- ANTH 4701 Human Rights Anthropology

I love meeting new people and I am here to help if I can.

If you have questions concerning anthropology or you just want to chat,

email me at: kimberly.wren@unt.edu.

Suggestions by Dr. Wren:

Black artist I'm stalking now:

Jean-Michel Basquiat is an amazing artist from New York

Black archaeologists to highlight:

John Wesley Gilbert

Black authors in anthropology:

Anna Agbe-Davies, Maria Franklin, Cheryl LaRoche, Michael Blakey, Akinwumi Ogundiran, Toyin Falola, Warren PerryTheresa, Singleton Terry (Terrance) Weik, Leith Mullings, Kehinde Andrews, Sybil Dione

Rosado

Other Prominent Black Authors:

Dr. Cornel West, Dr. Angela Davis

Classics Authors:

Paul Laurence Dunbar, Langston Hughes ("The Ways of White folk"), W.E.B. Dubois, Marcus Garvey



UNT Department of Anthropology Town Hall

By: Heather Cullen

Do you have changes you'd like to see at UNT, in the department, or the relationship between the two? Come out to the Spring 2021 Town Hall on Wednesday, February 17th in order to have your voice heard. This event takes place each semester and its efforts are to include student input on how the department is running, as well changes we can implement and conversations we can have on a smaller level for the good of UNT as a whole. This event is an open dialogue between Anthropology organizations, undergraduates, faculty, and those in the department's leadership positions in order to curate ideas for how our contributions to the campus climate can improve not only our small niche but also work to reimagine the more nuanced politics of UNT. If you have absolutely any input on revisions or the things you would like to see us continue doing, please don't hesitate to come out!



ANTHRO-SPECTIVE

staff

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Resident Columnist: Anthony DeFreece

Contributors: Dr. Kimberly Wren, Dr. Andrew Nelson, Dr. Beverly Davenport, Marcos Segovia

Faculty Advisor: Professor Nelson

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SPRING 2021

UNDERGRADUATE TOWN HALL

**An Open Forum For Conversation
about Equity & Diversity**



WEDNESDAY, 2/17 AT 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting ID: 896 6733 4509

Zoom passcode: 973727