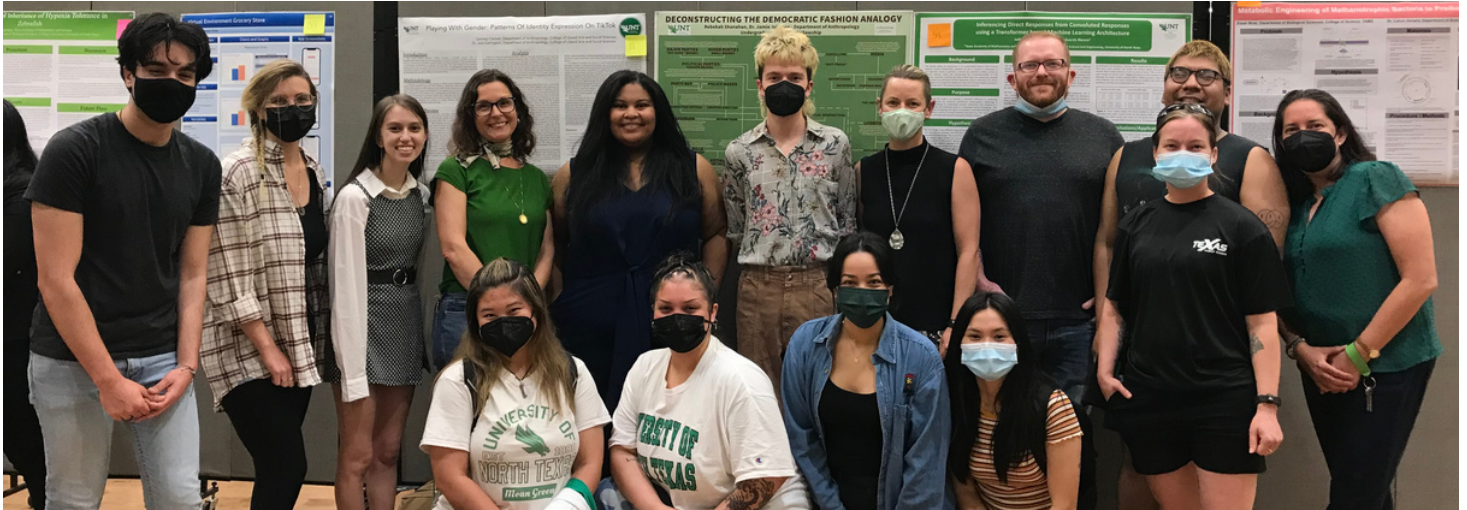


# ANTHRO-SPECTIVE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Anthropology Majors



## FAREWELL

BY: TAM DO

As we draw near the end of the 2021-2022 school year, we're so proud of our upcoming graduates! We are thrilled to announce our incoming faculty members and new leaders that will be joining us this approaching academic year. The Department of Anthropology wants to remind all of our majors that you have the potential to become leaders and an inspiration to those around you. The knowledge and dedication you have accumulated will surely take you to many places in life. We wish everyone a fun and safe summer!

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Congratulations Grads!

Guest Columnist

New Faculty Members

Golden Eagle

New Student Leaders

Communitas

Spring 2022 Recap



# CONGRATULATIONS SPRING 2022 GRADS!!!



Zachary  
Cannon

Heather  
Cullen

Tam  
Do

Isabelle  
Garcia

Gavin  
Holland

Shannon  
Keiningham

Ryan  
Lorber

Jessica  
Ortega  
Lujano

Nia-Jordan  
Paredes

John  
Sewell

Rebekah  
Tessa  
Shanahan

Emma  
Suleiman



Jadyn  
Trahan

Chanel  
Wilson

# GUEST COLUMNIST

## ETHNOGRAPHY IN THE INFORMATION WAR: UKRAINIAN RESISTANCE THROUGH STORY

BY: JACOB GRAHAM

*“Time for a family reunion. The other car is parked between a dried wood and an abandoned gas station. Four generations reunite in a place at the end of the world. It’s an unusual situation but it’s not the time to dust off old and present tensions. Now you are a family that is fleeing war. Forget about everything else and take a family selfie in the most unlikely place in the world.” (Wanner, 2022)*

Ethnography is a powerful tool. It can be used to un-other the socially othered and further cultural understandings of people. More recently, it is being used to combat propaganda and disinformation, and help inform the world of the rapidly developing situations in Ukraine. Using ethnography, anthropologists have a unique capability to assist in these efforts to combat the propagandized disinformation.

Through troll factories, bots, and the intentional spread of disinformation, Russia has been a leader of countries engaging in actions to control the flow of information and thereby influence the thoughts and beliefs of people both domestic and abroad. Russia has successfully sought to taint information spaces, most noticeably social media and other internet spaces. These actions have been labeled as an “information war,” defined by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as an “operation conducted to gain an information advantage over the opponent” (NATO). This disinformation campaign is usually credited to be ongoing since the Russian annexation of Crimea in 2014. Today on social media, their disinformation is abound. It is spread by Russian trolls and bots aimed to influence or dilute foreign perspectives of the most recent invasion. With the most recent incursion into Ukraine, the Russian campaigns to dirty information have been heightened.

Perhaps more than most others, the Russo-Ukrainian war is being fought on social media and the ground. The Ukrainian President is giving messages through social media addressed to both the Ukrainian and international audiences, pleading for assistance and affirming the steeling of the Ukrainian defense. Meanwhile, the official Ukrainian government Twitter account is spreading memes about the war and openly trolling Russia while spreading Ukrainian propaganda. Both sides of the war clearly feel that controlling the international narrative is of the utmost importance. Thus, the Russian disinformation campaign is even more critical as the invader and invaded fight for their global framing to be the most represented over social media.

But people are not letting Russia's disinformation campaigns go unchallenged. Intentional or not, the simple act of sharing their experiences over social media and other platforms is resisting Russia's propagandized accounts of events disseminated through their disinformation campaigns. That is where anthropologists, more specifically ethnographers, step in. Through ethnography, many people in Ukraine have been documenting and recounting their situations and their stories. The simple act of voicing their side of the story actively combats and undoes many of the colorings of events that the oppressing invaders are doing through their troll accounts and bots spreading misinformation. Groups like the Society for Cultural Anthropology have begun sharing short ethnographies of people in Ukraine, conveying their experiences in a country being actively invaded, like the excerpt previously quoted.

Much thought has been put into how modern anthropologists rectify and answer for their past actions in aiding and abetting colonial powers. Thus, for anthropologists, combatting imperialism as it happens today is an essential step to answering for their past. In modern times, where war is fought through social media and the internet is considered by combatants to be an active battleground akin to the actual territory being fought over, ethnography is a humble yet potent tool to share the stories of the unheard. Too often in geopolitics and war are the states represented, while the people feeling the brunt of the violence are left unconsidered and unheard. Anthropology has a unique position in giving a voice to the voiceless of war through cultural understanding and tools like ethnography.



Are you an Anthropology Major with a story or idea?  
Would you like to be guest columnist?  
Would you like your artwork to be featured in the newsletter?  
[Email ANTH-Ambassadoreunt.edu](mailto:ANTH-Ambassadoreunt.edu) with suggestions and contributions for future content!



# ***Congratulations To Our Newest Faculty Members***

BEGINNING FALL 2022!

**THE ANTHROPOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT IS  
EXCITED TO  
ANNOUNCE OUR TWO  
NEWEST FACULTY  
MEMBERS!**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
DR. KARINE NARAHARA



LECTURER/ADVISOR  
MELISSA NELSON



*Congratulations To Mia Rogers For The  
Golden Eagle!!!*



**DEAN BROWN  
&  
MIA ROGERS**

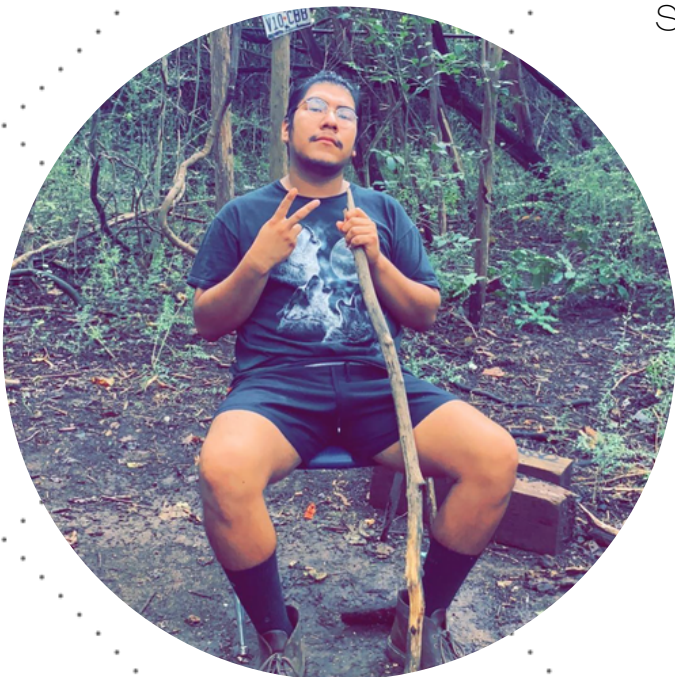
WELCOME OUR NEW  
LIAISON AND CLASS AMBASSADORS

2022-2023



**Paola Vazquez**

Student & Faculty Liaison  
She/Her



**Huriel Perez**

CLASS Ambassador  
He/They



**Lucille Gradillas**

CLASS Ambassador  
Any

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# SPRING 2022 RECAP

