

Shannon Kathleen May

P.O. Box 15276-00509
Nairobi, Kenya
+254 733 93 5019

232 Kroeber Hall, #3710
Berkeley, CA 94720
shannon.k.may@gmail.com
smay@post.harvard.edu

education

University of California, Berkeley
Anthropology, Ph.D. Candidate
Degree expected May 2009

University of California, Berkeley
2004, Masters in Anthropology

Harvard University
2000, Magna Cum Laude A.B. in Social Studies. Certificate in Chinese.

fellowships and research awards

- 2006 Ted Bestor Prize, Society for East Asian Anthropology, American Anthropological Association
Awarded to the best graduate research paper of the year.
- 2004- Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation
One of twelve awarded nationally in Cultural Anthropology, this three-year award supports work pursuant to completing the Ph.D.
- 2004, 2003 Summer Foreign Language Areas Studies Fellowship, US Department of Education
Completed advanced Mandarin Chinese coursework at the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies at Qinghua University, Beijing, China (2004), and the School for Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK (2003).
- 2004, 2003 Joseph R. Levenson Chinese Studies Award, UC Berkeley
Awarded annually to the pre-doctoral student who demonstrates the greatest promise in Chinese Studies.
- 2003 Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley
Worked with legal scholars and historians at the University of London to trace the development of legal precedent and case histories of the “cult law” as well as legal arguments on land distribution. (Due to the SARS-induced Department of Education’s prohibition on travel to China in 2003, this work replaced planned primary research in Beijing on legal practice.)
- 2002- Regents Intern Fellowship, UC Berkeley
Awarded four-year fellowship given to outstanding entering Ph.D. students in humanities and social science departments.
- 1998-1999 Harvard-Yenching Fellow, Harvard University and Beijing University
Concentrated on cinema as a site of national identity formation in modern China. Conducted primary research on 6th Generation filmmakers, focusing on the economic changes and semiotic contrasts between the 5th and 6th Generation films, and the national and political imaginary posited in each work.
- 1998 James Woods Fellow, Social Studies Department, Harvard University
Researched public spaces, avant-garde art, and marginalized populations in Beijing, including female child-workers, prostitutes, and transvestites.
- 1997 Harvard College Research Program

Researched the influence of Sigmund Freud's socio-cultural position and family relationships on the development of his psychoanalytic theories and religious histories through archival work in both Cambridge, MA and at the Freud Museum, London, UK.

conferences

- Nov 2008 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Presidential Session, San Francisco, CA
Panel: Pulse of the Planet—Human Rights, Environment and Social Justice in the 21st Century; Co-chairs: Barbara Rose Johnston and Gregory Button
Paper: Right to Development? Carbon, Consumption, and Rural Urbanization in China
- Feb 2008 Social Science Research Council, Dubai School of Government, Dubai UAE: “Inter-Asian Connections”
Workshop: Urban Experiments & the Art of Being Global; Ananya Roy and Aihwa Ong
Paper: “Biopolitics in an Age of Global Warming”
- Dec 2007 Berkeley China Institute, Luce Foundation, Berkeley CA: China Environment Forum
Paper: “How Much Arable Land Is There Out There?”
- Nov 2007 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
Paper: Global Perspective and Ecological Development: the case of Huangbaiyu
- Jul 2006 Society for East Asian Anthropology Annual Meetings, Hong Kong
Paper: The Work of Development: National Agendas, Corporate Interest, and Farmers’ Livelihoods in Huangbaiyu, China
- Jan 2006 Second International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability, Hanoi and Ha Long Bay, Vietnam
Paper: National Agendas, Corporate Interests and the Circular Economy: A Sustainable Development Case in Rural China
- Nov 2004 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Society for East Asian Anthropology Section, San Francisco, CA
Paper: Rethinking Citizenship from the Chinese Countryside
- Feb 2004 10th Annual SOYUZ Postsocialist Conference, Reed College, Portland, OR: Memory and the Present in Postsocialist Cultures
Paper: “Revisionary Time: Narrating the Present in Contemporary Chinese Cinema”
- Jul 2003 International Institute for Sociology World Congress, Beijing, China: “Social Change in the Age of Globalization” –*cancelled due to SARS*
Paper: “On the Bodies of the Revolutionary State: Nationalism and Transnationalism in Dialogue”
- Nov 2003 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
Panel: Alternative Practices and the Construction of the Political, Co-Chair
Paper: “Violent Targets: Rethinking Sovereignty, Power and Agency from the Streets of Beijing’s Embassy District, May 1999”
- Mar 2003 Center for Chinese Studies Annual Symposium, UC Berkeley: “The Question of Violence”
Paper: “Violent Targets: Rethinking Sovereignty, Power and Agency from the Streets of Beijing’s Embassy District, May 1999”
- Apr 2002 Program in the Human Sciences Annual Conference, The George Washington University: “Understanding Subjectivity in Culture: Psychoanalysis and Ethnography”
Paper: “Seducing the Father: Mental Illness, Homosexuality & Power in Zhang Yuan’s *East Palace West Palace*”

publications

- “Ecological Crisis and Eco-Villages in China” *Counterpunch.com* 21-23 November 2008 (Weekend Edition)
- “Ecological Citizenship and a Plan for Sustainable Development” *City*, 12:2 (Summer 2008), 237-244
- “Hope and Hazard in Rural China” *Far Eastern Economic Review* May 2008. 51-55

- “The Work of Development: National Agendas, Local Income and Knotted Knowledge in Huangbaiyu” *Anthropology News*, 48:9 (December 2007), 60-61.
- “Seeing What Is To Be Forgotten: The Photography, Video, and Performance Art of Han Bing” *Yishu* 6:2 (Summer/June 2007), 100-105.
- “A Sino-US Sustainability Sham” *Far Eastern Economic Review* April 2007, 57-60.
- “Power and Trauma in Chinese Film: Experiences of Zhang Yuan and the Sixth Generation” *Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society* 8:1 (Spring 2003), 156-160.
- “Beyond the Bronze Age: Chinese Contemporary Art and the International Market,” *That’s Shanghai* (China Intercontinental Press) October 2002, 30-31.
- “Changing States: China’s Sixth Generation Filmmakers,” *The Harvard Advocate* Summer 2000.
- “Anson Chan’s Hong Kong,” *Apple Daily* (Hong Kong) 18 October 1999, B4.
- “MOMA2000,” *The Harvard Advocate* Fall 1999.
- “Cui Jian in New York: Fresh Flesh Rock and Roll,” *Chinano.com* September 1999.
- “Resurrection: A Peony Blooms in New York,” *Chinano.com* August 1999.
- “Come the Revolution?: A Look into Contemporary China,” *The Harvard Advocate* Spring 1999.

teaching experience

university

- Fall 2007-
Spring 2008 Independent Research and Thesis Composition, Environmental Sciences 196. Shelly Cole and Peter Oboyski, Instructors. Graduate Student Instructor. Lectured on composition and writing, methods of social science analysis to class of 44. Primary responsibility for 11 students senior theses, advising research in areas such as energy use per food mile, testing economic search theory in store food pricing, GIS mapping techniques for correlating land use and mangrove decline, and social connectivity as a factor in *schistosomiasis* infection rates.
- 2003-2004 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Department of Anthropology and UC Berkeley
- Fall 2003 History of Anthropological Thought Anthropology 114. Liu Xin , Nelson Graburn, Professors. Graduate Student Instructor. Taught 68 students in 4 sections. Developed lesson plans, additional reading schedules, and conducted writing module in preparation for final papers.
- Spring 2003 Citizenship in Question. Anthropology 144. Aihwa Ong, Professor. Reader. Lectured 88-student class twice; designed and graded mid-term and final.

secondary

- 1995-1997 Harvard Program for International Education
Taught international economics and government one day per week, preparing lesson plans and interactive assignments. Taught one academic year at Snowden International School, an inner-city public high school in Boston, MA, and one academic year at Malden Catholic High School, a private all-boys parochial school in Malden, MA.

primary

- 2005-2006 Huangbaiyu Primary School, Liaoning, China; Benxi No. 3 Secondary School, Nanfen, Liaoning, China; Nanfen District Schools
Primary English teacher for third, fifth, and sixth grade classes of Huangbaiyu Primary School, teaching each class two to three days per week. Taught English class as special instructor at Benxi No. 3 Secondary School once a month. Also taught master classes for the Nanfen District Schools, attended by all other English instructors in the district, and video-taped for distribution.

professional and academic organizations

- 2002- Member, American Anthropological Association

2002- Anthropology Graduate Organization for Research and Action, UC Berkeley
Co-Chair, 2002-2004

2002- Member, Kroeber Anthropological Society, UC Berkeley

professional experience

2008- Director, and Co-Founder, Bridge International Academies, Nairobi, Kenya
Developed new educational venture to provide critical instructional, management, and financial services for schools serving poor communities in the developing world.

2003- Editorial Consultant, Berkeley, CA
Content editing and copyediting for published academic essays and manuscripts. Clients have included University of California, Berkeley faculty and Blackwell publishers.

2001 Lagardere Active North America, New York, NY
Business Development Manager. Spearheaded brand management and media-platform expansion of 18 leading magazine titles, including *Elle*, *Car and Driver*, *Woman's Day*, and *Premiere*. Member of launch team for *ElleGirl*. Primary focus on Internet and television development.

1999 Claydon Gescher Associates, Beijing, China
Research Consultant. Tracked popular culture and education trends for management consulting firm. Interviewed Internet, e-commerce, advertising, music, television and film industry leaders. Particular attention to development and use of public urban space, connections between internet and education, and the effect of changing government economic directives on law and society.

1998-1999 Xiandai Zhongbo Youxian Dianshi Tai, Beijing, China
Independent Advisor. Worked with leading television/film production company on script development, distribution channels, and domestic/foreign market potential.

1998-1999 CNN, Beijing, China
Production Assistant. Conducted street interviews, researched story leads regarding 20th Anniversary of Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms. Performed voice-overs and generated storyboards.