

## Nicholas Barron

PhD Candidate  
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### EDUCATION

- 2015-Present **University of New Mexico** (Albuquerque, NM)  
*Doctor of Philosophy* (In Progress)  
Dissertation: *Applying Anthropology, Assembling Indigenous Community: The Coproduction of Applied Anthropology and the Pascua Yaqui Indian Tribe in Southern Arizona, 1932-2016*  
Committee: David Dinwoodie, Les Field (Chair), and Lindsay Smith
- 2013-2015 **University of New Mexico** (Albuquerque, NM)  
*Masters of Arts*, Anthropology  
MA Paper: "Twilight Zones of Knowledge Production: Anthropology and the Indian Claims Commission"  
MA Paper Advisor: Erin Debenport
- 2010-2012 **University of California, Santa Cruz** (Santa Cruz, CA)  
*Bachelors of Arts*, Anthropology (History Minor)  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Senior Thesis: "Fractured Sight: Viewing Bureaucratic Documents as Classification Systems and Semiotic Performances of State Power and Knowledge in Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century California"
- 2008-2010 **West Valley College** (Saratoga, CA)  
*General Education*

### RESEARCH

- 2015-Present *Applying Anthropology, Assembling Indigenous Community: The Coproduction of Applied Anthropology and the Pascua Yaqui Indian Tribe in Southern Arizona, 1932-2016*

This project traces the co-construction of a sub-discipline and an Indigenous community in Southern Arizona. Beginning in the 1930s and ending in the present, I analytically document the relationship between applied anthropologists and the Pascua Yaqui Indians of Tucson through archival documents and oral histories to explore the ways in which anthropologists, anthropological representations, and Indigenous elites have mediated the institutionalization of applied anthropology and the politicization of the Pascua Yaqui in relation to the shifting imperial and colonial formations of the U.S. Southwest. To crack open this history of coproduction, I focus on select critical cases in which anthropological-Pascua Yaqui engagements significantly shaped the (re)formation and futures of both entities. This includes the arrival of ethnographers from the University of Chicago in Southern Arizona Yaqui barrios (in the early 1930s); the development of what would become the Pascua Pueblo Yaqui Reservation (in the 1960s); the collaborative writing and revising of Edward Spicer's posthumously published

study of the Pascua Yaqui (from 1940 until the late 1980s); the 89<sup>th</sup> Wenner-Gren International Symposium on Yaqui Ritual and Performance; the construction and use of the Edward and Rosamond Spicer Archive at the Arizona State Museum (from the mid-1980s to the present); and the formulation and circulation of Edward Spicer's theoretical conception of the Pascua Yaqui as an "enduring peoples" (from 1939 to the present).

2013-2015 "Twilight Zones of Knowledge Production: Anthropology and the Indian Claims Commission"

During the 1950s in California, the U.S. Indian Claims Commission (ICC) became an arena where anthropological "expert" witnesses were formally charged with determining whether or not Native claimants "exclusively" used and occupied the land prior to Euro-American conquest. Using archival materials, I show how the efficacy of "expert" testimonies was in part predicated on the ability of the "expert" to enunciate the dominant national imaginaries that naturalized U.S. authority over its indigenous population. Ironically, in their attempt to secure resources for their clients, experts working *for Indians*, namely Alfred Kroeber, produced narratives that affirmed the subnational ideologies propping up the state's paternalistic power. Even more perplexing, experts working *for the state*, particularly Julian Steward, contested subnational narrations. This paradoxical outcome, in which activist intentions were made to service existing structures of power, suggests that anthropological knowledge production is a powerful but often ambiguous and contradictory endeavor that exists within webs of structure and agency.

2010-2012 "Fractured Sight: Viewing Bureaucratic Documents as Classification Systems and Semiotic Performances of State Power and Knowledge in Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century California"

This project identified and analyzed the obscured classification systems and performances of state power and knowledge that are bound up in bureaucratic documentation. By contextualizing and dissecting an early 20<sup>th</sup> century census report from the Sacramento Agency of the Office of Indian Affairs, I traced the manner in which indigenous peoples are classified in a way that renders certain groups "unknown" to the state. Using material-semiotic theory, I showed how this process of sorting natives is accompanied by performances that mask bureaucratic authorship and power-knowledge gaps. For indigenous groups like the Ohlone Costanoan Esselen of California, the results of such classifications and performances reverberate throughout the present in the form of the Federal Acknowledgment Process.

## AWARDS

2017 Student-Conference Award Program Travel Grant, University of New Mexico  
 2017 Institute for Critical Social Inquiry Summer Fellow, The New School for Social Research  
 2017 Philips Fund for Native American Research, American Philosophical Society

- 2017 Archaeological Society of New Mexico Scholarship  
 2017 Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowship  
 2016 New Mexico Research Grant (General Priority), University of New Mexico  
 2016 Professional Development Grant, University of New Mexico  
 2016 Research Fellow, Edward H. and Rosamond R. Spicer Foundation  
 2015 Edward H. and Rosamond B. Spicer Foundation Travel Grant, Edward H. and Rosamond B. Spicer Foundation  
 2015 Student-Conference Award Program, University of New Mexico  
 2015 Research Development Grant, University of New Mexico  
 2015 Basehart-Award, Department of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico  
 2015 Randy Martin Prize for Best Student Paper, Cultural Studies Association  
 2015 Student Research Grant, Graduate Program and Student Association at the University of New Mexico  
 2014 Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Summer Institute Fellowship  
 2014 Graduate Student Paper Honorable Mention, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, Austin, Texas  
 2013 Binford Fellowship, University of New Mexico  
 2012 Chancellor's Award, University of California, Santa Cruz  
 2012 Dean's Award, University of California, Santa Cruz  
 2012 James A. Dolkas Research Grant, Art and History Museum of Santa Cruz  
 2011 Ryan J. Hueman Endowed Scholarship, Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Cruz  
 2010 Merit Scholarship, University of California, Santa Cruz

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2016 "[Presentism Revisited](#)." Bronislaw 1(1).  
 2014 "[Agency, Ideology, and the Federal Acknowledgement Process](#)." *Nexus: The Canadian Student Journal of Anthropology* 22(1): 32-43.

### Articles

- 2017 Barron, Nicholas. "Sketches from the 89<sup>th</sup> Wenner-Gren International Symposium." *History of Anthropology Newsletter* [forthcoming].  
 2016 Barron, Nicholas and Janet Steins. "[Archival Developments](#)." *History of Anthropology Newsletter* 40 (1).

### Book Reviews

- 2017 Barron, Nicholas. [Review of \*Indian Detours: Tourism in Native North America\*, by Pieter Hovens and Metter van der Hooft](#). *Social Anthropology/ Anthropologie Sociale* 25(2): 255-256.  
 2017 Barron, Nicholas. [Review of \*Mohawk Interruptus: Political Life across the Borders of Settler States\*](#), by Audra Simpson. *History of Anthropology Newsletter* 41(1).

## CONFERENCE PAPERS (SELECTIONS)

- 2017 Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM  
 Paper: "Assembling New Pascua: Imperial Formations and Anthropological Mediation in Southern Arizona  
 For the Panel, "Trails of Empire: Applied Science and Imperial Formations in the U.S. Southwest"  
 2016 American Society for Ethnohistory, Nashville, TN  
 Paper: "Assembling Place at the Intersections of Imperialism and Anthropology in Southern Arizona"

- For the Panel, “Engaging with Empire: Mapping Cosmopolitan Lives and Visions”
- 2016 The Maintainers: A Conference, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ  
Paper: “Archival Maintenance in the American Southwest: Exploring the Coproduction of Anthropology and Settler Colonialism on the Ground”  
For the Panel, “People and Networks”
- 2015 University of Arizona School of Anthropology Centennial Colloquium, Tucson, AZ  
Paper: “The Spicer Legacy: Commemorating Ground Work Laid for Applied Anthropology and Supporting Modern Day Research and Practice” [presented with Scott Spicer and Guillermo Quiroga]  
For the Panel, “Little Known History of the School of Anthropology”
- 2015 American Society for Ethnohistory, Las Vegas, NV  
Paper: “Uncommon Books, Uncommon Histories: The Making of *People of Pascua*”  
For the Panel, “Ethnohistories in the Making”
- 2015 Cultural Studies Association, Riverside, CA  
Paper: “Recapturing Anthropological Technologies: The Politics of Archives and Language Revitalization amongst Californian Indians”  
For the Panel, “Appropriation and the Archive”
- 2014 Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Summer Institute, Chicago, IL  
Paper: “Ironic Encounters: ‘Expert’ Witnesses and the Indian Claims Commission”
- 2014 Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Austin, TX  
Paper: “Fracture Sight: Viewing State Documents as Systems of Classification”

### PANELS ORGANIZED

- [Forthcoming] American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.  
“New Directions in the History of Anthropology”
- 2017 Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM  
“Trails of Empire: Applied Science and Imperial Formations in the U.S. Southwest”
- 2015 Co-organized the panel, “Ethnohistories in the Making.” At the Annual meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2015 Chair for the panel, “Appropriation and The Archive.” At the Annual meeting for the Cultural Studies Association, Riverside, CA.

### INVITE LECTURES

*University of New Mexico*

- 2016 “A.R. Radcliffe-Brown and the Rise of Structural-Functionalism.” Jennifer Cardinal,  
Department of Anthropology

*University of New Mexico*

- 2013 “The Nobel Savage: Federal Acknowledgment and Systems of Classification.” Dr.  
Ronda Brulotte, Department of Anthropology

### COURSES TAUGHT

- 2017 (fall) History of the Indigenous Peoples of the Southwest  
Department of Native American Studies, Dartmouth College  
Off-campus program at the Institute of American Indian Arts (Santa Fe, NM)
- 2016 (spring) Principles of Cultural Anthropology (Graduate Assistant  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2016 (spring) Cultures of the World (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2015 (fall) Medical Anthropology (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2015 (spring) Cultures of the World (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

- 2014 (fall) Ritual Symbols and Behavior (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2014 (fall) Cultures of the World (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2014 (spring) Introduction to Anthropology (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2013 (fall) Cultures of the World (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2013 (fall) Introduction to Anthropology (Graduate Assistant)  
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- 2015-Present Bibliographies and Clio's Fancy Editor: *The History of Anthropology Newsletter*
- 2015 Manuscript Review: *Nexus: The Canadian Student Journal of Anthropology*
- 2014 Manuscript Review: *Nexus: The Canadian Student Journal of Anthropology*
- 2014-Present Grant Reader: Graduate and Professional Student Union, University of New Mexico

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Anthropology Association
- American Society for Ethnohistory
- Cultural Studies Association