

Joshua Shapero**Anthropology****2024****Educational History**

PhD. May 5, 2017, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Anthropology, “Speaking Places: Language, Mind and Environment in the Ancash Highlands (Peru),” Advisor: Bruce Mannheim

Graduate Certificate, 2014, Environmental Justice, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts, May 2006, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, Writing Seminars & East Asian Studies.

Employment History Part I

Assistant Professor, Fall 2019-Present, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Employment History Part II

Adjunct lecturer, College of William and Mary, September 2018 – April 2019, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, September 2017-August 2018, University of Michigan' Humanities Collaboratory, “From Africa to Patagonia: Voices of Displacement,” Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Graduate Student Research Assistant, May 2017-June 2017, University of Michigan' Humanities Collaboratory, “From Africa to Patagonia: Voices of Displacement,” Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Graduate Student Instructor, May 2016 – July 2016, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Graduate Research assistant, October 2011 – May 2012, Professor Susan Gelman, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Graduate Student Instructor, September 2010 – April 2012, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Professional Recognition and Honors

WeRI SuRF 2022 Program, 2022, University of New Mexico

Snead-Wertheim Endowed Lectureship, 2020-21, University of New Mexico.

Nomination for ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, 2018 Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

Louise Williams Distinguished Dissertation Award, 2017, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

Marshall Weinberg Dissertation Fellowship, 2016, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship, 2015, University of Michigan

Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2012, National Science Foundation

Wenner-Gren Foundation International Research Award, 2012, Wenner-Gren Foundation

Individual Fellowship, 2011, University of Michigan International Institute

Linguistic Institute Fellowship, 2011, Linguistic Society of America

Foreign Language Area Studies Summer Fellowship (Quechua), 2010 & 2011, University of Michigan

Regents' Fellowship, 2009, University of Michigan

Research, Teaching and Service Interests

My research departs from the observation that in this unprecedented moment in history—marked by growing self-consciousness of humans' own agency in impending ecological crisis and mass extinctions—the relationship between language and environment is not something scholars of culture, psychology or language can afford to disregard. While anthropologists, psychologists and linguists disagree on the fundamental nature of language—e.g., whether it is a cognitive universal or an emergent property of social interaction—most agree it is central to human life everywhere on earth. Furthermore, there is a growing consensus that linguistic, cultural, and biological diversity are all imperiled by the intertwined forces of global capitalism and climate change. In this context, rather than investigating the nature of language, I ask how nature and language come into variable relations of influence.

In teaching, I guide students to develop an understanding of human life by thinking across biology, society, language, and cognition. This approach challenges students to cross these disciplinary boundaries in their understandings of concepts such as value, grammar, environment, and power. My training in four-field anthropology, Latin American studies, linguistics, cognitive psychology, and environmental justice gives me a strong foundation for leading courses on anthropological and linguistic theory and intellectual history, and for bringing these insights to the study of broad sociological questions like environmental conflict, race and human diversity, and expressive culture, as well as the study of Latin American cultures, languages and histories, and especially those of the Andean region. I teach courses including introductory and upper-level core anthropology courses, the second graduate theory seminar, the undergraduate topics courses “Environmental Conflict,” and a graduate seminar, “Language and Environment.” I will continue to develop courses on topics including “Anthropology & Psychology,” “Anthropology of the Nonhuman,” and “Andean Culture, Language, and History.”

At the University of New Mexico, I have had the opportunity to serve on colloquium committee in the Department of Anthropology, admissions coordinator for Socio-Cultural and Linguistic Anthropology (SCALA), committee member for the Snead-Wertheim prize, and at the Latin American & Iberian Institute (LAI) to help develop the Quechua language program. I have also served outside UNM with Quechua scholars, educators, and activists in Peru.

Scholarly Achievements

Articles Published in Refereed Journals

- 2020 Szpiech, Ryan, Shapero, Joshua, Coetzee, Andries W., García-Amaya, Lorenzo, Alberto, Paulina, Langland, Victoria, Johandes, Ellie and Henriksen, Nicholas. "Afrikaans in Patagonia: Language shift and cultural integration in a rural immigrant community" *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, vol. 2020, no. 266, 2020, pp. 33-54. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ijsl-2020-2110>
- 2019 Shapero, Joshua. "Possessive Places: Spatial Routines and Glacier Oracles in Peru's Cordillera Blanca." *Ethnos* 84(4): 614-641. DOI: [10.1080/00141844.2017.1383501](https://doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2017.1383501)
- 2017 Shapero, Joshua. "Does Environmental Experience Shape Spatial Cognition?" *Cognitive Science* 41(5): 1274–1298. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.12458>

Articles Appearing in Chapters in Edited Volumes

- 2024 Shapero, Joshua. "Language and the Andean Environment." [Chapter invited for *Guide to Languages of the Southern Andes. Oxford Guides to the World's Languages. Oxford University Press*. Revisions accepted, April 9, 2021; volume submitted to publisher June 2022, scheduled for publication in 2024]
- 2015 Shapero, Joshua. "El Pinkuyllu y la María Angola: sonido, socialidad y espacio en Los Ríos Profundos." In B. Brabec de Mori, M. Garcia und M. Lewy, Eds., *Los mundos audibles*. Berlin: Gebr. Mann Verlag. Pp. 241-253.
- 2014 Shapero, Joshua. "Gestures in Native South America: Ancash Quechua." In C. Müller, J. Bressemer, A. Cienki, E. Fricke, S.H. Ladewig, D. McNeill & S. Tesselndorf, Eds., *Body – Language – Communication: An International Handbook on Multimodality in Human Interaction. Volume 2. Handbooks of Linguistics and Communication Science*. Berlin, New York: Mouton De Gruyter. Pp. 1193-1206
- 2014 Shapero, Joshua. "Paisajes Callados: el idioma quechua y el estudio del medio ambiente andino." *Revista Argumentos*. Instituto de Estudios Peruanos. Pp 47-54.

Works in Progress

In preparation

- Shapero, Joshua. "The Ground beneath our Words: Speaking and Living with Places in Peru's Cordillera Blanca Mountains." [Will submit by Fall 2024]
- Shapero, Joshua. "Speaking in Ashes: Embodied Space in Divination and Grammar." [Will submit to *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* by mid-2025]
- Shapero, Joshua. "Geopersonhood: The common grounds of territorial identity and place-persons." [Will submit to *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* by mid-2025.]

Invited or Refereed Abstracts and/or Presentations at Professional Meetings

“Letters to the King and Broken Pots: Epistemologies of History in the Andes.” XII NOLAN CONFERENCE – II FIEALC FORUM, “Latin America and the Nordics - Relations, Reflections, Prospects. University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark. May 21-23, 2024.

Round-table co-organized. “(Where) Does the Experiment Belong In Anthropology?” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, 2022. Seattle, WA. 2:00pm, November 11, 2022.

Panel organized. “Talking on the Road: Language and Environment from the Perspective of Bodies in Motion.” Discussant: Prof. Courtney Handman. 2020 Spring Conference of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Boulder, CO. Presented virtually on April 8, 2022 [original dates September 24-26, 2020, postponed due to COVID]

““The Mountain Will Tell You How to Go”: Wayfaring and Communicative Habitus in the Andes.” 2020 Spring Conference of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Boulder, CO, Presented virtually on April 8, 2022 [original dates September 24-26, 2020, postponed due to COVID]

Panel organized: “Anthropologies of Ground.” Discussant: Prof. Guillermo Salas Carreño. Chair: Prof. Erik Mueggler. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2019, Vancouver, B.C., 12:00 Noon, November 20, 2019.

“Personhood Inhumed: Frames of Reference, territorial identities, and place-persons.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2019, Vancouver, B.C. November 20, 2019.

“That place way over here: Landscape, embodiment, and the grounds of demonstrative reference in Ancash Quechua verbal interaction.” Linguistics Brown Bag, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. February 20, 2019.

“The Ground Beneath Our Words: Landscape, embodiment, and language in the Cordillera Blanca mountains of Peru.” Anthropology Brown Bag, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. October 24, 2018.

Panel organized: “Beyond the Human, Beyond the Subfield: Integrating Linguistic and Environmental Anthropology.” Discussant: Prof. Paul Kockelman. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2017, Washington, D.C., 6:30pm, November 30, 2017.

“Speaking from the Body Environmental: Ancash Quechua Orientation and Demonstrative Reference.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2016, Washington, D.C. November 30, 2017.

“Who Can Hear the Mountain? Quotidian Ritual and the Politics of Divination in the Cordillera Blanca (Peru).” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2016, Minneapolis. November, 2016.

“Speaking in Ashes: The Semiotics of Communication with Nonhuman Persons.” Eighteenth Annual Michicagoan Conference: Technologies of Semiosis. University of Chicago. May 7, 2016.

“The Taming of Qitsqay Hirka: Wild Mountains, Visiting Saints, and Convergent Histories.” The Andes: Now and Then. Ann Arbor, Michigan. April 16, 2016

“Thinking with the *Hallqa*: Spatial Frames of Reference in Ancash Quechua.” REELA [European Network for the Study of Andean Languages]. Leiden, Netherlands. September 6, 2015.

“Programa Lideres Jovenes Quechuas [Young Quechua Leaders Program].” Regional Academy of Ancash Quechua. Leader of workshop on “Interculturalidad y Derechos de Pueblos Indígenas (Interculturalism and Indigenous Rights),” at Huaripampa, Perú. July 2014.

“Speaking Places: Spatial Language and Environmental Practice among Ancash Quechua Speakers.” Mesa Redonda sobre la Arqueología, Antropología, y Historia de Ancash [Round Table on the Archaeology, Anthropology, and History of Ancash]. Milan, Italy. April 18, 2014.

“Quechua: Historia, Idioma, y Escritura [Quechua History, Language, and Writing].” Huaripampa, Peru. Leader of workshop. October-November 2013.

“Mesa Temática: Sociedad y Cultura [Thematic Panel: Society and Culture].” Foro Internacional, Glaciares: retos de la investigación al servicio de la sociedad en el marco del cambio climático [Interational Forum, Glaciers: the challenge of research at the service of society in the context of climate change]. Huaraz, Peru. July 1, 2013.

“Diversidad y Estandarización en Idiomas Quechuas.” Native Languages Day 2013: Quechua in Modern Times, Ministry of Culture. Huaraz, Peru. May 27, 2013.

“Atypical Spaces: Orientation in Ancash Quechua Interaction and Storytelling.” 54th International Congress of Americanists 2012, Vienna, Austria. July 16, 2012.

“Talking Space in Ancash Quechua: Grounding Diversity in Practice and Landscape.” Latin American Studies Association 30th Annual Congress 2012, San Francisco. May 25, 2012

““When the Earth Quaked, the Witches Rejoiced”: The Logic of Space in Ancash Quechua Verbal Art and Conversation.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2011, Montreal. November 19, 2011.

“When the Earth Moved, the Witches Rejoiced: The Conceptual Unity of Spatial and Social meaning in an Ancash Quechua Myth.” Thirteenth Annual Michicagoan Conference: the Trouble with Doubles. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. May 6, 2011.

“The Language in Space and the Space in Language: Interpretation and Materiality.” Entanglement in Archaeology: Exploring Relationships between People, Environments, Objects, and Ideologies. Stanford University. April 16, 2011.

“Tune that Name: Affordances in Spatial Language and Cognition.” Is Boas Dead? Old Roots and New Branches. University of Michigan. March 12, 2011.

“Yawar Mayu, Taki Mayu: Representations of Music in the Andes” Michigan Interdisciplinary Music Society Conference. University of Michigan. February 6, 2010.

Research

Research Funding

Project Title: The Ground Beneath Our Words: Speaking and Living with Places in Peru's Cordillera Blanca Mountains.

Principal investigator(s), as listed on title page: Joshua Shapero

Funding Organization: Wenner-Gren Foundation

August 22, 2023 – August 21, 2024, \$40,000.00

Project Title: Space in Language, Cognition, and Sociality among Central Quechua Speakers

Principal investigator(s), as listed on title page: Joshua Shapero, Bruce Mannheim

Funding organization: National Science Foundation

August 15, 2012 – January 31, 2015. \$13,293.00

Project Title: Speaking Places: The Grammar of Space and the Sociality of Place among Central Quechua Speakers

Principal investigator(s), as listed on title page: Joshua Shapero

Funding organization: Wenner-Gren Foundation

August 1, 2012 – September 1, 2013. \$19,632.00

Teaching

Doctoral Committee Membership

Valerio Di Fonzo; Ethnology; dissertation proposal approved Fall 2020; “Examining the Practices of Ecotheology: A Study of Catholic Environmental Ethics in the Peruvian Amazon.”

Laura Steele; Archaeology; dissertation proposal approved Fall 2020; “Ripples of Imperialism: Understanding Foodways, Community and Identity on the Margins of Empire.”

Christina Lorenzatto; Ethnology. Reading Course, Spring 2022.

Cameron Zarrabzadeh; Ethnology. Reading Course, Fall 2022.

Master’s Committee Membership

Kate Nielsen; Fall 2021-present

Phillip Salazar; Spring 2020-Spring 2021; MA; Latin American Studies; dissertation proposal approved Fall 2020; “Ixim Metaphysics: The Theologia Indorum and its Categorical Reduction of 16th Century K’iche’an Perspectivism and Metaphysical Renwal.”

Bachelor’s Honors Advisement

Taylor Willes; Spring 2020-Fall 2020; BA; “The Globalization of Ayahuasca Tourism: The Creation of Shared Ritual Space.”

Sarah McLean; Spring 2021; BA; “Health and Language in New Mexico.”

Classroom Teaching

2021; Fall; Environmental Conflict; 340/530; 17 students [remote scheduled format]

2021; Fall; Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; 1140; 81 students [Online MAX format]

2021; Spring; Language & Environment; 530; 10 students [remote scheduled format]

2020; Fall; Principles of Cultural Anthropology; 330; 40 students [remote arranged format]

2020; Spring; Theory in Ethnology II; 547; 6 students

2020; Spring; Environmental Conflict; 340/530; 26 students

2019; Fall; Principles of Cultural Anthropology; 330; 39 students

2019; Spring; Native Peoples of Latin America; 338; 26 students [College of William & Mary]

2018; Fall; Household Archaeology; 470; 13 students [College of William & Mary]

2018; Fall; Archaeology, Indigenous Cultures, & Popular Cinema; 100; 24 students [College of William & Mary]

2016; Spring; Nature vs. Culture? Anthropological Perspectives on Environmental Conflict; 13 students [University of Michigan]

Independent Studies

2020; Fall; Independent study; 497; Taylor Willes; readings on shamanism, tourism, and Shipibo-Conibo of the Peruvian Amazon; writing of BA Honors thesis.

2021; Spring; Independent study; 497; Sarah McLean; readings on medical anthropology and health in New Mexico.

2022; Spring; Reading Course; 598; Christina Lorenzatto; preparation of reading list and annotated bibliography for specials.

2022; Fall; Reading Course; 598; Cameron Zarrabzadeh; preparation of reading list and annotated bibliography for specials.

Service

Peer reviews:

2022; Language and Cognition. Reviewed article on Spanish-English bilingualism and spatial language and cognition.

2020; Cultural Anthropology. Reviewed article on neoliberalism, land invasions, and millenarian myths in the central Peruvian Andes.

2019; Tipiti: Journal for the Society of the Anthropology of Lowland South America. Reviewed article on ontology and semiotics in Yaminahua verbal art.

2019; Cultural Anthropology. Reviewed article on Kallawaya (Bolivia) history and cultural identity.

Departmental, College, and University service:

Quechua program at LAII

2023-present; special service project to develop program, find and provide orientation to new Quechua teacher, help to create curriculum and syllabi, recruiting students, planning future events and courses

Snead-Wertheim Fellowship Committee

2022-23; evaluate applications, coordinate lectures.

Colloquium committee

2019-20; Invited and organized events for Hannah McElgunn, U. Chicago; Prof. John Lucy, U. Chicago; Dr. Paul Ryer, School for Advanced Research [cancelled due to COVID]

2020-2021; collaborated in restructuring colloquium as weekly series including outside speakers as well as UNM Anthropology graduate students; invited talks by Luisa Maffi, Terralingua; Nicholas Q. Emlen, University of Tübingen; and Suzanne Gaskins, Northeastern Illinois University.

2021-2022; helped organize colloquium, arranged talks by Webb Keane, University of Michigan; Barbra Meek, University of Michigan [Cancelled due to COVID]; and Shaylih Muehlmann, University of British Columbia [Cancelled due to COVID].

Ethnology admissions coordinator

2021 and 2022

International service:

2021- current; formed “Asociación Cultural Yachatsinakuy” (Yachatsinakuy Cultural Association) with Ancash Quechua writers, researchers, and educators in Peru in order to support participative research in Ancash on language, culture and environment with peer mentoring, fundraising, and collaboration. Organized ongoing monthly colloquium series for research on language, culture, and environment in Ancash, Peru.