



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI BENI CULTURALI

## SCALA Anthro Brown Bag Seminar Series – Spring Semester 2024 DBC, UNIBO

Sala Conferenze (3rd floor), DBC, Via degli Ariani 1, Ravenna  
&  
Online (on Zoom)

**1) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET)**

***Human potato relatedness and affective attunement across species in the Peruvian Highlands***

Olivia Angé, Laboratoire d'anthropologie des mondes contemporains, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

**2) Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET) (speaker online, audience in person & online)**

***What does care take? Saving and sequestering in an age of mass extinction.***

Liana Chua (Tunku Abdul Rahman University Associate Professor in Malay World Studies, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge) with the [GLO](#) and [POKOK](#) project teams.

**3) Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET)**

***On border beings***

Carolina Kobelinsky, Laboratoire d'ethnologie et de sociologie comparative, Paris Nanterre-CNRS.

**4) Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 11:00-13:00 (CET) – Please note earlier start!**

***Reviving anti-imperialist nodes of solidarity on a global scale***

Walaa Alqaisiya, Università Ca' Foscari & Columbia University + Matteo Capasso, Università Ca' Foscari & Columbia University.

**5) Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET) (in person only)**

\*I-Contact student-led seminar special! \*

***Roundtable: 'What Future for Gender, Queer & Postcolonial Studies in Today's Worlds? The View from Emerging Young Scholars'***

with Agar Shehata Moussa Omar, Nour Raji Saleh Shehadeh and Maria Pia Tenerello.

**6) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET)**

***"What are we to do?": Opening potentialities and creating possibilities in contemporary Albania***

Nataša Gregorič Bon, Institute of Anthropological and Spatial Studies, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU).

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DBC, UNIBO

Full programme

*(with Zoom registration link for those connecting online)*

1) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET)

**‘Human potato relatedness and affective attunement across species in the Peruvian Highlands’**

**Olivia Angé**, Professor of Anthropology, Laboratoire d’anthropologie des mondes contemporains, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

**Abstract:** Highland people in the Cuzco region of Peru eat so much potato that they are aware of their body as being made of this tuber. Not an ingredient to be passively absorbed, potatoes are related to humans in a reversible genealogy whereby they are both mother and child to their grower. Observing how this relation is enacted in practices highlights mutual nurturing as a key interaction that creates kinship. Nurturing entails the circulation of *kusisqa*, a Quechua notion of joy which complexifies an established conceptualization of affect as pre-reflexive reaction. Imbued with emotionality and self-reflexivity, potatoes’ contentment is a core concern for cultivators. A focus on affective attunement between humans and plant crops through labour and ingestion offers new perspectives on the substance of kinship and interspecies mutuality of being.

**Short bio:** **Olivia Angé** (she/her) is Professor of anthropology at the Université Libre de Bruxelles and Principal Investigator of the ERC Starting Grant [SeedsValues](#). She specializes in the study of agriculture, value creation, and relatedness in the Andes. Since 2014, she has been doing research on potato cultivation in Peru. She has also conducted extensive fieldwork on barter fairs in the Argentinean cordillera. She is the author of *Barter and Social Regeneration in the Argentinean Andes* (Berghahn 2022, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn.), and co-author of *Ecological Nostalgias* (Berghahn 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> edn.).

**Zoom registration link:**

<https://unibo.zoom.us/join/91234567890>

2) Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET)

## What does care take? Saving and sequestering in an age of mass extinction

**Liana Chua** (Tunku Abdul Rahman University Associate Professor in Malay World Studies, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge) with the [GLO](#) and [POKOK](#) project teams

**Abstract:** What does it take to care about and for (non)human others at a time of sustained environmental crisis? What does it mean to be a care-taker? And what do programmes and practices of care take – as in demand, claim, or extract? I explore these questions by drawing on my colleagues’ and my recent multi-sited research on the global nexus of orangutan conservation – a sprawling multispecies field teeming with concerns over who/what cares for orangutans, and how. Taking a critical relational view of how multiple forms and registers of cross-species care play out – particularly in the fraught frontier zones of rural Borneo – I foreground the continued importance of careful(l) ethnographic engagement in nuancing and ‘unsettling’ (Murphy 2015) hierarchies of care in both conservation and academia.

**Short bio:** **Liana Chua** (she/her) is a social anthropologist with long-term research interests in ethnic politics, Christianity, development, environmental transformations and more-than-human landscapes in Borneo. She currently works on the social, political and aesthetic dimensions of the global nexus of orangutan conservation in the age of ‘the Anthropocene’, notably through the *Global Lives of the Orangutan* project (ERC 2018-23). Her publications include *The Christianity of Culture: Conversion, Ethnic Citizenship, and the Matter of Religion in Malaysian Borneo* (2012) and several co-edited collections, including *Who are “We”? Reimagining Alterity and Affinity in Anthropology* (with Nayanika Mathur, 2018), and “Witnessing : Truths, Technologies, Transformations” (with Omri Grinberg, *Cambridge Journal of Anthropology*, 2021).

### Zoom registration link:

<https://unibo.zoom.us/join/9zaL6PQZfv0>





**5) Friday 17th May 2024, 12:00-13:00 (CET) (in person only)**

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**Roundtable: ‘What Future for Gender, Queer & Postcolonial Studies in Today’s Worlds? The View from Emerging Young Scholars’, with Agar Shehata Moussa Omar, Nour Raji Saleh Shehadeh and Maria Pia Tenerello.**

**Chair: Amanda Quach** (I-Contact, DBC, University of Bologna and Founder & President of T’ôchi Bellezza)

Roundtable papers, followed by Q&A:

**Agar Shehata Moussa Omar** (she/her) (I-Contact, DBC, University of Bologna): ‘A Feminist and Postcolonial Critique of Female Genital Cutting: Deconstructing Western Narratives, Empowering Marginalized Voices, and Decolonizing Feminist Discourse’

**Nour Raji Saleh Shehadeh** (she/her) (I-Contact, DBC, University of Bologna): ‘Examining Colonial Feminism in Israel/Palestine Puzzle: Unmasking the Phenomenon of Purplewashing’

**Maria Pia Tenerello** (she/her) (I-Contact, DBC, University of Bologna): ‘Digital Backlash: Disinformation Campaigns and Queer Activism Online in Italy’

*After the seminar we will have a picnic lunch at the park to celebrate the end of the academic year and say goodbye to friends who recently graduated! Bring food, drinks, blankets, and musical instruments!*

