

RACHEL CLAIRE NEWCOMB

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Anthropology
Rollins College
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Education

2004 Ph.D, Anthropology, Princeton University
2000 M.A., Anthropology, Princeton University
1997 M.A., The Writing Seminars, Johns Hopkins University
1995 B.A. with Honors in History, Davidson College

Research Interests

North Africa and the Middle East, gender, reproduction and social class, Islam, Sufism, urban and transnational anthropology, globalization, modernity, public anthropology.

Teaching Appointments

2004-present Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Rollins College Department of Anthropology. Winter Park, Florida.
2000 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Anthropology. Princeton University. Professor: Dr. Lawrence Rosen.
2000 Research Assistant, Princeton University. Professor: Dr. Abdellah Hammoudi.
1997-98 Reginald S. Tickner Writer-in-Residence and Teacher of Creative Writing. Gilman School of Baltimore.
1996-97 Teaching Assistant, Writing Seminars Department, Johns Hopkins University. Taught two sections of Introduction to Fiction and Poetry.

Publications

Books:

2008 *Women of Fes: Ambiguities of Urban Life in Morocco*. University of Pennsylvania Press.

Peer-reviewed articles:

2009 "Failures of Solidarity: Nongovernmental Organizations and Moroccan Women's Activism." In *Women and Activism in the Middle East and North Africa*, ed. Zayn Kassam. Forthcoming, Greenwood Press.
2007 "From the 'Unseen' to the Visible: Transformations in Women's Kinship Practices Among the Urban Middle Class in Fes, Morocco." *Anthropology in the Middle East*, Berghan Press.

Vol. 2(1): Spring 2007.

- 2006 "Gendering the City, Gendering the Nation: Contesting Urban Space in Fes, Morocco." *City and Society*, Vol. 18(2). December 2006.
- 2005 "Gifts." *Anthropology and Humanism*. Vol 30(1). June 2005
- 2005 "Reconceptualizing Urban Space in the Middle East and North Africa." *Anthropology News*: May 2005.
- 2004 "Disorganized Shantytowns, Disorderly Fundamentalists: The 'Other' Sense of Fassi Rumors." *Journal of North African Studies*. Volume 9 No. 4, Winter 2004.

Book Reviews:

- In process Review of *Moroccan Households in the World Economy*, by David Crawford. In *Anthropology of Work Review*
- In process Review of *Where There Is No Midwife: Birth and Loss in Rural India*, by Sarah Pinto. In *Southeast Review of Asian Studies*.
- 2009 Review of *Stolen Honor: Stigmatizing Muslim Men in Berlin*, by Katherine Pratt Ewing. In *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*.
- 2009 Review of *The Maghrib in the New Century: Identity, Religion, and Politics*, eds. Bruce Maddy-Weitzman and Daniel Zisenwine. In *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*. Forthcoming Spring 2009.
- 2008 Review of *The Anthropology of Islam*, by Gabriele Marranci. In *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, 25(4).
- 2008 Review of *Cosmopolitan Desire: Transcultural Dialogues and Antiterrorism in Morocco*, by Stephen William Foster. In *American Ethnologist*, 35(3), Fall 2008.
- 2008 Review of *The Places We Share: Migration, Subjectivity, and Global Mobility*, edited by Susan Ossman. In *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin*. Fall 2008.
- 2008 Review of *Schooling Islam: The Culture and Politics of Modern Muslim Education*. Eds Robert Hefner and Muhammad Qasim Zaman. In *American Anthropologist*, 110 (1), pp. 112-13. Spring 2008.
- 2006 Review of Judith Farquhar's *Appetites: Food and Sex in Postsocialist China* and Pellegrino Artusi's *Science in the Kitchen and the Art of Eating Well*. In *Anthropology News*: May 2006.
- 1999 Review of Homa Hoodfar's *Between Marriage and Market: Intimate Politics and Survival in Cairo*. In *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*. 1999.

Encyclopedia Articles:

- 2006 "Female Space in North Africa." *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, vol. 4, *Education*,

Economics, Mobility and Space, ed. Suad Joseph. Netherlands: E.J. Brill. Winter 2006.

- 2006 "Domestic Space in North Africa." *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, vol. 4, *Education, Economics, Mobility and Space*, ed. Suad Joseph. Netherlands: E.J. Brill. Winter 2006.
- 2004 "Arabs in North Africa." *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities*. Routledge Press, December 2004.
- 2004 "Muslims in Europe." *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities*. Routledge Press, December 2004.
- 2004 "Muslims in America." *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities*. Routledge Press, December 2004.
- 2004 "Shi'a in Sunni Countries." *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities*. Routledge Press, December 2004.
- 2004 "Sunni in Shi'a Countries." *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities*. Routledge Press, December 2004.

Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Poetry:

- 2009 "Everything Must Go." *Blue Mesa Review*. Summer 2009.
- 2008 "Nothing to Declare." *Clackamas Literary Review*. Summer 2008.
- 2007 "Cooking Lessons." *Kennesaw Review*. Winter 2007.
- 2007 "Dissolution." *Painted Bride Quarterly*, Issue 76, Spring 2007.
- 2006 "Honor Thy Mother," Moroccan cuisine essay. *The World Is A Kitchen*, Palo Alto, CA: Travelers' Tales.
- 2005 "Gifts." *Anthropology and Humanism*. Vol 30(1). June 2005.
- 2003 Review of *True Cross* by T.R. Pearson. *Charlotte Observer*. Reviewed October 2003.
- 2002 Review of *The Impressionist* by Hari Kunzru. *Charlotte Observer*. Reviewed August 2002.

Poetry and Fiction published in: *Baltimore City Paper*, *Cumberland Poetry Review*, *The Crucible*, *Interim*, *Poem*, *New Delta Review*, *International Poetry Review*, and others. 1995-2002.

Fellowships and Grants

- 2005-08 Faculty Fellow of Community Engagement, 2005-07. Member of team of core service learning faculty charged with task of creating innovative campus programs to promote service learning across the curriculum.
- 2007-08 Course Development Grant. Received grant to prepare interdisciplinary course on Sufi and Buddhist mysticism.

- 2007 Winter Park Health Foundation Summer Research Award. Received research grant to conduct collaborative fieldwork with student on topic of healthcare and structural violence in the lives of retired African-American migrant farmworkers in Apopka, Florida.
- 2007-08 Young Scholars Collective. Three-semester research grant to participate in collaborative research with student into the issue of migrant farmworker healthcare.
- 2006-07 Florida Campus Compact Life Legacy grant, 2006-07. With Marvin Newman, received \$16,000 grant to connect Rollins students to elder populations in Central Florida through community engagement projects.
- 2006 President's Internationalization Initiative Grant, Rollins College. \$3000 grant to participate in three week internationalization seminar in China.
- 2005 Cornell Research Grant, Rollins College. Summer research grant for fieldwork in Morocco in preparation of book manuscript.
- 2005 Internationalization Grant, Rollins College. To develop interdisciplinary course with political scientist on US-Middle East Foreign Relations and Culture.
- 2001-02 Fulbright Fellowship, Morocco.
- 1998-2003 Full Fellowship, Princeton University.
- 2000 FLAS grant to study Arabic in Fes, Morocco.
- 1999 FLAS and Andrew Mellon grants to study Arabic at Middlebury College.
- 1997 Reginald S. Tickner Writing Fellowship. Writer-in-residence at the Gilman School of Baltimore.
- 1995 Thomas J. Watson Foundation Fellowship. Awarded competitive fellowship to spend a year studying Sufism in Turkey, Egypt, Senegal, and Morocco.

Courses Taught

Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa
 Anthropology of Globalization
 Middle Eastern Cinema
 Cultures and Societies of Islam
 Contemporary Middle East
 Islam in the United States, Islam in Central Florida
 Sufi and Buddhist Mysticism
 United States-Middle East Foreign Relations and Culture Since 1900
 Anthropology, Fiction and Literature
 Cultural Anthropology
 Applied Anthropology
 Anthropology, Fiction and Literature

Awards

- 2008-11 Cornell Distinguished Faculty Award. Received award of three-year reduced teaching load for excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service.
- 2007 Who's Who of American Women, 26th Edition.
- 2005 Intersession Outstanding Course Proposal Award. For outstanding proposal among faculty for January 2006 Intersession class, "Islam in the West: Islam in Central Florida."
- 2004 First place, Society for Humanistic Anthropology. Ethnographic Fiction Contest.
- 2005 Service Learning Awards, Rollins College. For excellence in incorporating service learning into the curriculum.
- 1997 Second place, South Carolina Writer's Workshop State Contest for Fiction & Poetry.
- 1995 Vereen Bell Award for Creative Writing, Davidson College. First place for poetry. Judged by Philip Levine.

- 1994 Vereen Bell Award for Creative Writing. Davidson College. First place for poetry and fiction. Judged by Robert Morgan.
- 1994 Omicron Delta Kappa. Awarded membership in national academic fraternity.

Campus Service

- 2008 Director of Internationalization Grants, International Studies Center. Currently overseeing committee that evaluates grants for internationalization projects.
- 2005-08 International Studies Center Committee. Working on initiatives to internationalize campus.
- 2006-08 Finance and Services Committee. Rollins College.
- 2008 Cornell Scholars Competition, Lecturer. Chosen to give chief lecture to students competing for Rollins' top academic scholarships.
- 2006-07 Budget and Planning Committee.
- 2006 Focus on Pedagogy Program. Selected for excellence in teaching to share pedagogical methods with new faculty at Rollins.
- 2005-08 Community Engagement Faculty Fellow. Awarded to assist other faculty in incorporating service learning into campus curriculum.
- 2005-07 Faculty Advisor, *Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance*
- 2005-08 Faculty Advisor, *Rollins Bellydance Club* (2005-present).
- 2005-07 Cornell Scholars Competition, 2005. Served as holistic grader of student essays for scholarship competition.
- 2005-06 Leadership Advisory Committee
- 2004-06 Student Affairs Advisory Committee
- 2004 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 2004-05. Ran Disney Marathon (26.2 miles) and raised \$2400 in support of leukemia and lymphoma research, in honor of IT colleague who later died of leukemia.
- 2004 Department Liaison, IT Master Planning Committee.

Conferences and Presentations

- “Mediating Mobilities: Politics, Culture, and Space in the Middle East.” Panel Discussant at the annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA: November 19-23.
- “Anthropology and Activism in Central Florida: Productive Collaboration with Non-Profits. Chaired panel and gave paper at annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association. Washington DC, November 27, 2007.
- National Conference, 2007, Educators for Community Engagement. Conference. California State University, Monterey Bay. June 7-9, 2007.
- “Transformative Knowledge: Student Fieldwork, Public Anthropology, and Community Engagement.” Gave paper and chaired panel on Public Anthropology at the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meetings. Tampa, Florida. April 31, 2007
- “Failures of Solidarity, Failures of the Nation State: Women’s NGOs in Fes, Morocco. Paper presentation for *Another World is Necessary: Justice, Sustainable Development, and Solidarity*, sponsored by Center for Global Justice. San Miguel de Allende, Mexico: July 19-26 2006.

“Outside Civil Society: Women’s NGOs and the Moroccan Nation-State.” Paper presentation at annual meetings of the *American Anthropological Association* as part of panel, “Citizens and Believers: Negotiating Citizenship and Religious Identity in the Modern State.” Washington, DC: November 2005.

“Gender, Identity and Social Space in Fes, Morocco.” Conference Presentation. *American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies*. Orlando, FL, April 2-4, 2005.

Community Presentations

“Sufism: The Opposite of Fundamentalism.” Presentation at Mayflower Retirement Community, May 2008.

“Sufism: The Opposite of Fundamentalism.” Presentation at Unitarian Universalist Society, April 2008.

“Islam and Women.” Presentation at Unitarian Universalist Society, December 2007.

“Understanding Islam.” *Sensational Seniors* at St. Andrew’s Methodist Church, Winter Park, Florida. May 2007.

“Turning Memories into Stories.” Presentation at *The Women’s Forum*, sponsored by Jewish Family Services. February 14, 2007.

“Islam and Women.” *Hadassah*, Jewish women’s association. Talk. November 7, 2006.

“Beyond the Veil.” *Mayflower Retirement Community*. Talk. September 5, 2006.

“Islam.” *Winter Park United Methodist Church*. Talk. Feb. 26, 2005.

“Beyond the Veil: Understanding the Realities of Muslim Women’s Lives.” Talk. Family Weekend, October 2005. Gave presentation to Rollins families for Parents’ Weekend.

Fiction Reading & Workshop. *Reginald Tickner Fellows Reunion*, May 2005. Invited to give a fiction reading and a workshop on multicultural writing at the Gilman School of Baltimore for an event honoring past holders of the Reginald Tickner Writer-in-Residence position at the Gilman School, Baltimore, MD.

Professional Memberships

Current or past member in *American Anthropological Association*, *Middle East Studies Association*, *American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies*, *Society for Applied Anthropology*.

Languages

Moroccan Arabic (Fluent)
Modern Standard Arabic (Proficient)
French (Proficient)
Spanish (reading knowledge)

Miscellaneous

2007-08 Fiction Editor & Editorial Review Board. *Spec: A Rollins College Journal of Literature &*

Criticism.

- 2007-08 Peer Review Board. *City and Society*.
2007-08 Peer Review Board. *Anthropology in the Middle East*.
2004-05 Peer Review Board. *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*.
2006-08 Grant Proposal Reviewer. University of Ohio, Athens.