

# AMY COOPER

Saint Louis University  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
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## POSITIONS HELD

2015-present Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Saint Louis University  
2017-2018 Research Associate in Anthropology, Bowdoin College  
2012-2015 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Muhlenberg College  
2010-2012 Lecturer, The University of Chicago

## EDUCATION

2012 Ph.D., The University of Chicago, Department of Comparative Human Development  
Dissertation: *Vital Politics: Medicine and Citizenship in Venezuela*

2006 M.A., The University of Chicago, Department of Comparative Human Development  
Thesis: *La Lucha Diaria: Routinized Crisis and Everyday Anxieties in Cuba's Special Period*

2002 M.A., The University of Chicago, Social Sciences  
Thesis: *Mental Illness Stigma and Care Seeking*

1998 B.S., Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, *cum laude*.  
Concentration in Culture and Politics

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

The anthropology of medicine, global and public health, mental health, psychiatry, pharmaceutical use, the body, homelessness, aging; citizenship and political activism; Urban Latin America and the Caribbean.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Cooper, Amy. (2019). *State of Health: Pleasure and Politics in Venezuelan Health Care under Chávez*. Berkeley: University of California Press.  
<https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520299290/state-of-health>

Cooper, Amy and Lisa McGee (2017). "At Such a Good School, Everybody Needs it": Contested Meanings of Prescription Stimulant Use in College Academics. *Ethos* 45 (3): 289-313.

Cooper, Amy. (2017). Moving medicine “Inside the neighborhood”: The political symbolism of place in Venezuelan public health. Special Issue, “Therapeutic Landscapes,” *Medicine Anthropology Theory* 4 (1): 20-45.

Cooper, Amy (2015). The Doctor’s Political Body: Doctor-Patient Interactions and Political Belonging in Venezuelan Neighborhood Clinics. *American Ethnologist* 42:459-474.

Cooper, Amy (2015). What does health activism mean in Venezuela’s public health system? Understanding community health work in political and cultural context. Special issue, “Community health workers and social change,” *Annals of Anthropological Practice* 39:58-72.

Cooper, Amy, Robert Samet, and Naomi Schiller (2015). Protests and Polarization in Venezuela After Chávez: Introduction; Life After Hugo Chávez. Field Sites - Hot Spots. *Cultural Anthropology* Online.

Cooper, Amy (2015). Time Seizures and the Self: Institutional Temporalities and Self Preservation among Homeless Women. *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry* 39:162-185.

Luchins, Daniel, Amy Cooper, Patricia Hanrahan, and Ken Rasinski (2004). Psychiatrists’ Attitudes Toward Involuntary Hospitalization. *Psychiatric Services* 55:1058-1060.

Cooper, Amy and Patrick Corrigan (2004). Mental Illness and Dangerousness: Fact or Misperception, and Implications for Stigma. In *On the Stigma of Mental Illness: Practical Strategies for Research and Social Change*. Corrigan, P.W., Ed. pp. 165-179. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Cooper, Amy, Patrick Corrigan, and Amy Watson (2003). Mental Illness Stigma and Care Seeking. *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease* 191:339-341.

## **EDITED COLLECTIONS**

Cooper, Amy, Robert Samet, and Naomi Schiller, Eds. (2015). *Protests and Polarization in Venezuela After Chávez*. Field Sites – Hot Spots. *Cultural Anthropology* Online.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

Cooper, Amy (2010). Becoming a community person: Stories of motivation and transformation in *Barrio Adentro’s* volunteer health committees [Spanish]. In *De la Participación en Salud a la Construcción de Poder Popular: Experiencias para el Debate*. Eds. Miguel Malo and Johanna Levy. Maracay, Venezuela: Instituto de Altos Estudios Dr. Arnoldo Gabaldón, 99-111.

## **REVIEWS**

Cooper, Amy (2014). *God’s Laboratory: Assisted Reproduction in the Andes*. By Elizabeth Roberts (Berkeley: University of California Press). *Somatosphere*.

Cooper, Amy (2012). *Revolutionary Medicine: Health and the Body in Post-Socialist Cuba* by P. Sean Brotherton (Durham: Duke University Press). *Somatosphere*.

Cooper, Amy (2006). *Love, Sorron, and Rage: Destitute Women in a Manhattan Residence*. By Alisse Waterston (Philadelphia: Temple University Press). *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 20:261-262.

## EXTERNAL AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2010 Irmgard Coninx Foundation Essay Competition, Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality
- 2009 National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA) Student Paper Prize (1<sup>st</sup> runner up)
- 2008 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Program, U.S. Department of Education (\$47,376)
- 2007 Fulbright-IEE U.S. Student Program, U.S. Department of State (\$24,000, declined)
- 2007 Society for Applied Anthropology Spicer Award (\$500)
- 2004 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (Honorable Mention)
- 1994 Houston Endowment Jones Scholar Program (\$10,000)

## UNIVERSITY AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018 Mentoring for Mission in Teaching Program, Saint Louis University (\$500)
- 2018 Stolle Award, Saint Louis University (\$2500)
- 2018 Mellon Faculty Development Award, Saint Louis University (\$2500)
- 2017 Mellon Faculty Development Award, Saint Louis University (\$2500)
- 2016 Innovative Teaching Fellowship, Reinert Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning, Saint Louis University (one-semester course release and instructional design training to redesign Global Mental Health in the Learning Studio)
- 2014 Small Group Grant, Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College (\$980)
- 2014 Center for Ethics Course Development Grant, Civility and Disobedience, Muhlenberg College (\$500)
- 2014 Faculty Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College (\$4,000)
- 2014 Multicultural Center Course Development Grant, Mapping Intersections of Power, Muhlenberg College (\$500)
- 2013 Course Development Grant (Anthropological Ethnography), Muhlenberg College (\$3,000)
- 2013 Faculty Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College (\$4,000)
- 2013 Multicultural Center Course Development Grant, Intersections and Alliances, Muhlenberg College (\$500)
- 2011 Bernice Neugarten Lectureship Prize, University of Chicago (\$5,000, declined)
- 2010 Gianinno Dissertation Writing Fellowship, University of Chicago (\$15,000)
- 2010 Martín Baró Lectureship Prize, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago (\$5,000)
- 2010 Doolittle-Harrison Award, University of Chicago (\$500)
- 2006 Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Chicago (\$2,000)
- 2006 Center for Latin American Studies Field Research Grant, University of Chicago (\$1,100)
- 2006 Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Graduate Research and Travel Grant, University of Chicago (\$2,500)
- 2006 Doolittle-Harrison Award, University of Chicago (\$500)
- 2004 Department of Human Development Field Research Grant, University of Chicago (\$500)
- 2004 Center for Latin American Studies Tinker Research Grant, University of Chicago (\$1,100)

2004 University Fellowship, University of Chicago (\$18,000)

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 Life and Health in Venezuela under Chávez. Washington University in St. Louis Department of Anthropology, Ethnographic Theory Workshop, April 1.
- 2018 “Expanding Time”: Prescription stimulants and neoliberal temporalities. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, November 14.
- 2017 “At such a good school, everybody needs it”: Contested meanings of prescription stimulant use in college academics. Framing (Dis)Orders Conference, Washington University in Saint Louis Department of Anthropology, April 28.
- 2016 The Politics of Pleasure in Public Health Care: Socialized Medicine in Venezuela. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, November 18.
- 2016 In Excess of Medicine: Pleasure, Public Health, and Citizenship in Venezuela. Saint Louis University Ethnographic Workshop, St. Louis, MO, February 24.
- 2014 Inside the Neighborhood: The Political symbolism of place in Venezuelan public health. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 6.
- 2013 Spatiality, politics, and belonging in Venezuelan state health care. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 21.
- 2013 Activism within the activist state: Community health workers and state medicine in Caracas, Venezuela. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Washington, D.C., May 30.
- 2013 Conflicts over care in Venezuelan neighborhood clinics: Lessons for a changing medical landscape in the U.S. American Ethnological Society/Association for Political and Legal Anthropology Joint Meeting, Chicago, April 13.
- 2012 Enacting Utopias of Health in Caracas. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 18.
- 2012 An “excess” of medicine: Care, satisfaction, and citizenship in Venezuelan public health. Society for Medical Anthropology/Society for Applied Anthropology Biannual Meeting, March 28.
- 2011 Caring for *los indigentes*: The limits of public health and citizenship in Venezuela. Medicine, Body, and Practice Workshop, University of Chicago, December 7.
- 2011 Paradoxes of Inclusion: State health care and spatial violence among Venezuela’s *indigentes*. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, November 17.
- 2011 Bodies in motion: Grandparents Clubs and the biopolitics of aging in Venezuela. Clinical Ethnography Workshop, University of Chicago, January 4.
- 2010 Participation for the *Pueblo*: Community Participation and Popular Empowerment in Venezuela’s *Barrio Adentro* Health Program. Irmgard Coninx Stiftung Roundtables on Transnationality: Health Politics in an Interconnected World, Berlin, Germany, December 3.
- 2010 Bodies in motion: ‘Grandparents’ Clubs’ and the new politics of aging in Venezuela. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, November 19.
- 2010 Making the *hombre nuevo*: New moralities of medicine and personhood in Venezuela. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Toronto, Canada, October 9.

- 2010 Humanitarian politics and the doctor's 'caring body' in Venezuela's *Barrio Adentro* medical mission. Medicine, Body, and Practice Workshop, University of Chicago, April 14.
- 2010 Training 20,000 saints: The doctor's spatiotemporal body, experiences of care, and soteriological ideals in Venezuela's new public health mission. Everyday Matters: Embodied Life and Experience Conference, University of Chicago, April 10.
- 2007 State Health Care and Subjectivity in Venezuela. Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Tampa, Florida, March 30.
- 2006 *Barrio Adentro*: Transnational Healthcare and '21<sup>st</sup> Century Socialism' in Venezuela. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, California, November 18.
- 2005 *La Lucha Diaria*: Routinized Crisis and Everyday Anxieties in Cuba's Special Period. Department of Comparative Human Development Student Conference, University of Chicago.
- 2005 The preservation of self in everyday life: Temporality and personhood among homeless women in Uptown, Chicago. The Social Context of Psychosis Conference, University of Chicago.

### CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2013 And/Or/Both/Neither: Social Movements between Civil Society and the Activist State. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Washington, D.C., May 30.
- 2012 Revisiting *The Magical State* with The Future in Question: In Memory of Fernando Coronil. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 18.
- 2012 Rethinking the Boundaries of Care, Intimacy, and Health (double session). The Society for Medical Anthropology Biannual Meeting, Baltimore, March 27-31.
- 2010 Medicine and Moral Worlds: Crises of Health and Morality in Latin America. Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress, Toronto, October 9.

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Ethnographic research on experiences of ADHD and stimulant medication use among young adults, Brunswick, ME (5 months).
- 2014 Collaborative ethnographic research on experiences of ADHD stimulant medication use among young adults, Allentown, PA. (4 months)
- 2008 Dissertation field research for *Vital Politics: Remaking health and citizenship in Venezuela*, Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (13 months)
- 2006 Dissertation field research for *Vital Politics: Remaking health and citizenship in Venezuela*, Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (2 months)
- 2006 Research Assistant, *When God Talks Back*, Professor Tanya Luhrmann, University of Chicago (9 months)
- 2004 Ethnographer, *Uptown Project*, NIH-funded collaborative research on the lives of homeless woman with mental illness (PI: Tanya Luhrmann), Chicago, Illinois (18 months)
- 2005 Clinical Psychology Extern, Psychiatry Clinic, Stroger/Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois (3 months)
- 2002 Executive Director and Researcher, Center for Public Mental Health Services Research, Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago Hospital (3 years)

- 2004 Ethnographic field research for *La Lucha Diaria: Routinized crisis and Everyday Anxieties in Cuba's Special Period*, Havana, Cuba (2 months)
- 2002 Clinical Interviewer, NIH-funded project *Growing Up with ADHD*, Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago Hospital (12 months)
- 2002 Research Assistant, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago Hospital (9 months)
- 2001 Ethnographer, Erikson Institute, *Reading Circles in ESL Classrooms*, Chicago, IL (12 months)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **AREAS OF TEACHING COMPETENCE**

Introductory and advanced courses in cultural anthropology, medical anthropology, psychiatric anthropology, Latin American studies, social and cultural theory, ethnographic research and writing, qualitative research design; introductory courses in four-field anthropology

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

- SOC 2460: Global Mental Health
- SOC 2200: Cultural Anthropology
- SOC 1200: Introduction to Anthropology (4 fields)
- SOC 2930: Medical Anthropology

Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA

- ANTH 112: Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 205: Anthropological Theory
- ANTH 291: Medicine and Culture
- ANTH 289: Other Worlds: Anthropology Through Science Fiction
- ANTH 313: Anthropological Ethnography
- ANTH 345: Culture, Mental Health, and Psychiatry
- ANTH 341: Health and Healing in Latin America
- ANTH 450: Senior Seminar in Anthropology

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

- Social Sciences 121: Self, Culture, Society I: Social Theories of Capitalism
- Social Sciences 123: Self, Culture, Society III: Social Theories of Self
- Latin American and Caribbean Studies 242: Medicine in Modern Latin America
- Comparative Human Development 298: B.A. Honors Thesis Seminar

### **PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING**

- 2018 Mentoring for Mission in Teaching Program (inaugural cohort), Saint Louis University (1 year)
- 2017 Reinert Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning, Saint Louis University Innovative Teaching Fellowship (1 semester)
- 2015 Dean's Office, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Louis University New Faculty Academy (1 year orientation)
- 2014 Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College

- 2012 Cluster Course Workshop  
Multicultural Center, Muhlenberg College  
Workshop on Addressing Diversity and Difference in the Classroom
- 2012 Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College  
New Faculty Orientation (2 year training and mentorship)
- 2011 The University of Chicago Writing Program  
Pedagogies of Writing Course (1 semester)
- 2010 Center for Teaching and Learning, The University of Chicago  
Seminar on Course Design
- 2007 The University of Chicago (teaching intern/assistant)  
Social Sciences 123 Self, Culture, Society III: Social Theories of Self  
Social Sciences 122 Self, Culture, Society II: Social Theories of Culture
- 2006 The University of Chicago (teaching intern/assistant)  
Social Sciences 121 Self, Culture, Society I: Social Theories of Capitalism
- 2006 The University of Chicago  
Workshop on Teaching in the College

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Varies Manuscript reviewer for *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* (2012-present), *American Ethnologist* (2015-present), *Global Public Health* (2015-present), *Medical Anthropology* (2016-present), *Anthropological Quarterly* (2018-present).
- 2015- Society for Medical Anthropology Mentor
- 2014- Western Hemisphere Reviewer for U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays  
Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program
- 2011- Contributor, *Somatosphere* (Science, Medicine, and Anthropology website)
- 2011 Interviewer, Fulbright-III Scholarship
- 2003-2004 Alumni Interviewer, Georgetown University

### **GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2018 Morality on Adderall: Prescription stimulant use in college academics. Bowdoin College Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Research Workshop, April 13.
- 2018 Cultural Contexts of Stimulant Use on College Campuses, SOC 2445: Sociology of Mental Health, taught by Oyman Basaran, Bowdoin College, April 23.
- 2017 Clinical Encounters and Social Inequalities, SOC 2460: Sociology of Medicine, taught by Oyman Basaran, Bowdoin College, November 7.
- 2017 What is Medical Anthropology and How Can it Make me a Better Health Professional?, Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-Health Society) 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Conference, Saint Louis University, March 28.
- 2017 Speech and Body Language in the Clinic, SPAN 4150: Spanish for the Health Professions, taught by Christina Garcia, Saint Louis University, March 21.
- 2016 Marcel Mauss' *The Gift*, SOC 2200: Cultural Anthropology, taught by Bruce O'Neill, Saint Louis University, September 22.

- 2016 Comparative Human Development PhD Alumni Panel, The Department of Comparative Human Development 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend, The University of Chicago, May 14.
- 2016 Gender in Medical Encounters, SOC 1100: Introduction to Sociology, taught by Christopher Prener, Saint Louis University, March 18.
- 2015 Developing Theory from Ethnographic Research, SOC 313: Qualitative Methods, taught by Krista Bywater, Muhlenberg College.
- 2015 Redesigning the Culminating Undergraduate Experience in Sociology and Anthropology, Muhlenberg College, January 28.
- 2014 Ebola: Myth and Realities Panel, Muhlenberg College, October 22.
- 2013 Healthy Aging Across Cultures, Phoebe Institute for Aging Conference, Allentown, PA, October 18.
- 2013 The political significance of doctors in Venezuela: An anthropological approach to understanding medical care, Biology Seminar Series, Muhlenberg College, October 3.
- 2012 Introduction to the Anthropology of Medicine, ATH 112: Cultural Anthropology, taught by William Abruzzi, Muhlenberg College, Spring.
- 2012 Ethnographic Praxis in the Clinic, Faculty/student roundtable, Clinical Ethnography Workshop, University of Chicago, February 21

### **CAMPUS SERVICE**

- 2017 Reviewer, President's Research Fund, Saint Louis University
- 2015 Judge, American Physician Scientists' Association Regional Meeting, Saint Louis University, October 24.
- 2015 Faculty Development and Scholarship Committee, Muhlenberg College
- 2014-2015 College-wide Institutional Review Board (IRB) Committee, Muhlenberg College
- 2014-2015 Advisory Board, Public Health Program, Muhlenberg College
- 2014-2015 Public Health Curriculum Revision Committee, Muhlenberg College
- 2014-2015 Anthropology Faculty Search Committee, Muhlenberg College
- 2014-2015 Public Health Faculty Search Committee, Muhlenberg College
- 2013-2015 IRB Coordinator, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Muhlenberg College
- 2012-2015 Affiliated Faculty, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Muhlenberg College
- 2012-2015 Affiliated Faculty, Public Health, Muhlenberg College
- 2012-2013 Anthropology Curriculum Revision Committee, Muhlenberg College

### **POSITIONS HELD**

- 2016- Founder and Coordinator, Anthropology Film Series, Saint Louis University
- 2013-2015 Faculty Advisor and co-founder, Anthropology Club, Muhlenberg College
- 2010-2012 Undergraduate Preceptor/Advisor, Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago
- 2010-2012 Career Planning Preceptor, Comparative Human Development, Career Advising and Planning Services, University of Chicago
- 2011 Graduate student representative for Tenure Committee, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago
- 2005-2007 Workshop Coordinator, Clinical Ethnography Workshop, University of Chicago
- 2005-2008 Graduate Student Mentor Program, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago



## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Anthropological Association  
Society for Medical Anthropology  
Anthropology of Mental Health Interest Group  
American Ethnological Society  
Society for Cultural Anthropology  
Latin American Studies Association  
Anthropology of Venezuela Working Group

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (advanced proficiency), English (native).