



**UFR ANTHROPOLOGIE
SOCIOLOGIE
SCIENCE POLITIQUE**



**Joint-Master Degree CREOLE - Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes
Intensive Program**

**Anthropology in the plural
Lyon, June 16th-20th, 2025**

Université Lumière Lyon 2 - Campus Berges du Rhône
(Entrance : 5 rue Chevreul, 69007 Lyon)
&
Tiers-POP'
(Entrance : 10 Montée des Carmélites, 69001 Lyon)

Consortium:

Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain); National University of Ireland Maynooth (Ireland); University Adam-Mickiewicz of Poznan (Poland); University of Bern (Switzerland); University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); University of Vienna (Austria); University Lumière-Lyon 2 (France)

Students: Please prepare a presentation of your Master research (15 minutes). This presentation will include the construction of a research question and object of study, a brief State of the art, methods, and some first results (or hypothesis). Weaving the general topic of the Intensive Program into your presentation will be a plus, but should not impinge on your enterprise of laying out your research.

Teaching Staff: your Input lectures should address more specifically the general topic, drawing (or not) on your research.

Students and Staff: Please send the title and an abstract (200 to 300 words) of your presentation by May 15th at the latest to :

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General topic: Anthropology in the plural

(Social and Cultural) Anthropology, as a discipline and as a practice is far from being monolithic. Beyond the multiplicity of the fields and sub-fields addressed by anthropologists today, several wide theoretical paradigms and currents of thoughts have been created, adopted, transformed, and sometimes discarded all together throughout the centuries, such as evolutionism, functionalism, structuralism, etc. Theoretical 'turns' have also marked our discipline, and consequently our ways to practice ethnography, to think and to write anthropology: critical turn, constructivist turn, mobility turn, sensorial turn, ontological turn and so on. While the rise (and sometimes, the fall) of different theoretical frames strongly

impacted our analytical work, they also participated to the expansion and diversification of our ways to practice fieldwork, to teach anthropology and to valorise its results.

Alongside long-term immersion and participant observation, photography (Morton 2005, 2009) and film (Chio 2023), qualitative interviews have joined the anthropologists' 'tool box' quite early in the history of the discipline. In addition, the past decades have seen the enlargement of our methods with several new means and activities, which have been used to practice, teach, experiment anthropology and sometimes also to valorise the research results. Some of them are issued from cross-disciplinary endeavours. For instance, when the anthropology of the senses has cross path with human geography, sensory cartographies have entered the realm of anthropological inquiry, hence also participating to a better involvement of our 'informants' in the process of research itself (Lassiter 2005). Sensory walking is also one of the fructuous processes more and more adopted by anthropologists (Muršič 2019). Another example in line can be the sonic ethnography which has largely benefited from the meeting between visual anthropology and acoustics studies (Cubero 2019). Such processes (maps, walks, soundscapes) can be seen, to some extent, as anthropological experiments aiming at the re-discovery of a multisensorial perception and experience of the everyday life. They can also be precious tools to teach anthropology, alongside less known technics such as the Image theatre (Strauss 2017, McLachlin 2019) or less formalised experimentations (Gibert 2023). Design anthropology is yet another way for anthropology to reinvent itself with a strong aim to adopt a user centered perspective (Gunn, Otto, Smith 2013).

Such methods participate to a better involvement of our interlocutors in the research process itself. They can also be a mean to weave together very different modes of narratives without hierarchizing them (Pavy et Houdart, 2024).

Ways to valorise anthropological results and create outputs are numerous. Besides the more classical scientific articles and books, one can find film, photography, podcasts (AAA Podcast Library¹, Givre 2023), drawings (Mazzella di Bosco 2024), cartoons or graphic novels (Theodossopoulos 2022), animation movie, performing arts, and so on. Such outputs can be created after the research itself or participate to its progress. This is particularly the case in research-creation and working with artists (Rikou and Yalouri 2018). Such endeavours have expended lately as stimulating ways to further both the research process and its valorisation. Last but not least, anthropology often aims at reaching out of the academic world and to participate more actively to the so-called "civil society". Such connections are not new, however. While Applied anthropology has been constitutive to the shaping of anthropology as a discipline², a wide range of intervention and participatory technics have developed over the years, which involve a strong contribution of research's participants into the inquiry process: action anthropology, collaborative anthropology, participatory research, co-construction, and so on (Lassiter 2005).

Cited bibliography:

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¹ AAA Podcast Library <https://americananthro.org/news-advocacy/podcast-library/>

² See the website of the Society for Applied Anthropology-SfAA <https://appliedanthro.org/about/>

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