

# Christian S. Hammons

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## Education

2010 PhD Anthropology, University of Southern California  
1998 MFA Film Production, University of Southern California, Cinematic Arts  
1995 MA Anthropology (Culture and Media), New York University  
1992 BA *summa cum laude* Anthropology, University of Colorado, Boulder

## Teaching Appointments

2015-present Instructor, Anthropology & Critical Media Practices, University of Colorado-Boulder  
2013-2015 Instructor, Anthropology, University of Colorado-Boulder  
Spring 2013 Lecturer, Anthropology, Pomona College  
2012-2013 Lecturer, Anthropology, University of Southern California  
2011-2012 Postdoctoral Fellow, Anthropology, University of Southern California  
1999-2013 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Los Angeles Valley College  
2007-2010 Instructor, Anthropology, Pasadena City College

## Courses Taught

CU-Boulder: Exploring Culture and Gender through Film  
Ethnography of Southeast Asia  
The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft  
Visual Anthropology and Ethnographic Film  
Documentary Production Workshops  
Documentary Lab Seminar  
MFA Thesis Seminar I  
Concepts and Practices of Contemporary Media  
Global Seminar: Cultural Transformations in Indonesia  
Being Human: The Anthropology of Dystopia  
Exploring Global Cultural Diversity: Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft  
Documentary Media History

Pomona: Applied Anthropology  
The Anthropology of Nonstate Societies

USC: Exploring Culture through Film  
Culture, Medicine, and Politics  
Ethnographic Field Methods and Practicum  
Seminar in Ethnographic Film

LAVC: Human Ways of Life: Cultural Anthropology  
Human Evolution  
Language and Culture  
The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft

## Advising

Spring 2018 Will Lammons, Anthropology, independent study in advanced documentary production  
Spring 2018 Chu May Paing, Linguistics, independent study in introductory documentary production  
2017-present Sophie DeWitt, Critical Media Practices, MFA thesis committee

Spring 2017	Will Lammons, Anthropology, independent study in visual anthropology
2016-present	Rebecca Zinner, Critical Media Practices, MFA thesis committee
2016-2017	Ramey Newell, Critical Media Practices, MFA thesis committee
2016-2017	Cassidy Reeves, honors thesis committee, <i>summa cum laude</i>
2014-present	Ben Joffe, Anthropology, dissertation committee member

## Publications

Forthcoming	"Review of <i>Being and Becoming: Embodiment and Experience among the Orang Rimba of Sumatra</i> ." <i>Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute</i> .
Forthcoming	"Review of <i>The Empty Seashell: Witchcraft and Doubt on an Indonesian Island</i> ." <i>American Ethnologist</i> .
2016	"Indigenous Religion, Christianity, and the State: Mobility and Nomadic Metaphysics in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Special issue on Communal Peace and Conflict in Indonesia: Navigating Inter-Religious Boundaries, edited by Lene Pedersen. <i>The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology</i> 17(5): 399-418.
2016	"Review of <i>Gringo Trails</i> ." <i>General Anthropology</i> 23(1): 14-15.
2015	<i>Exploring Culture and Gender through Film</i> . San Diego: Cognella Academic Publishing.
2015	"Review of <i>The Entangled State: Sorcery, State Control, and Violence in Indonesia</i> ." <i>American Ethnologist</i> 42(2): 376-377.
2015	"Shamanism, Tourism, and Secrecy: Revelation and Concealment in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Special issue on Primitivist Tourism, edited by Rupert Stasch. <i>Ethnos</i> 80(4): 548-657.
2015	"In Animate: A Multispecies Ethnography." In <i>Ethnographic Terminalia 2014: The Bureau of Memories: Archives and Ephemera</i> , edited by Ethnographic Terminalia Collective. Arlington, VA: American Anthropological Association.
2014	"Beheaded: An Anthropology." <i>Anthropology News</i> 55(9): e31-e75.
2013	"Introducing an Occasional Series on the Anthropology of Religion and Film." <i>Anthropology News</i> 54(12): e36-e62.
2013	"Animism and the Art of Not Being Governed in Sumatra." <i>Anthropology News</i> 54(8): e44-e65.
2013	"Review of <i>Jathilan: Trance and Possession in Java</i> ." <i>American Anthropologist</i> 115(3): 509-510.
2012	"Review of <i>Please Don't Beat Me, Sir!</i> " <i>General Anthropology</i> 19(2): 15.
2010	<i>Sakaliou: Reciprocity, Mimesis, and the Cultural Economy of Tradition in Siberut, Mentawai Islands, Indonesia</i> . Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Southern California.

## Creative Works

In progress	<i>Sophia, Her Dad, and the Frozen Dead Guy</i> (feature film). Writer/Producer/Director. A Deranged Penguin production. In development.
In progress	<i>Danger in the Forest</i> (documentary feature). Writer/Producer/Director, with Eric Coombs Esmail. A Deranged Penguin production. In preproduction.
In progress	<i>Rumor</i> (short film). Writer/Producer/Director, with Eric Coombs Esmail. A Deranged Penguin production. In preproduction.
In progress	<i>Turtle Bites Tail</i> (ethnographic film). Producer/Director. In postproduction.
In progress	<i>Omo Sebu</i> (documentary feature). Producer/Director. In postproduction.
In progress	<i>Mentawai Found</i> (essay film). Producer/Director. In postproduction.
2018	<i>Messengers</i> (documentary short). Writer/Producer/Director, with Eric Coombs Esmail. A Deranged Penguin production. Winner, Impact Docs Award.
2018	<i>Lemonade</i> (short film). Writer/Producer/Director. A Deranged Penguin production. Screened at: Marina del Rey Film Festival, Lone Star Film Festival, Malibu International Film Festival, Golden State Film Festival.
2016	<i>Tripod, or "Nobody's Talking about That, Margaret": A Performance Ethnography</i> (multimedia performance). Writer, Producer, Director, with Jennifer Cool. Performed at: American

- Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2016;  
University of Colorado-Boulder, April 2017.
- 2016 *MHA Collaborative Film Project* (participatory media). Facilitator, with Jen Shannon. Five workshops held on the Ft. Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, July-August 2016.
- 2015 *Carousel* (sensory ethnography), Producer/Director. Screened at: Visible Evidence XVI, Bozeman, Montana, August 2016.
- 2014 *In Animate: A Multispecies Ethnography* (multimedia, video/film and sculpture). Installed at: Ethnographic Terminalia 2014: The Bureau of Memories: Archives and Ephemera, Hierarchy Gallery, Washington DC, December 2014.
- 2000 *Making the Band* (reality television series). Story Editor, ABC.
- 2000 *Jimmy Button* (feature film). Screenwriter, with Scott Feeley.
- 2000 *Rocker* (feature film). Screenwriter, with Gerald Casale, Alibi Entertainment.
- 1999 *Suicide, The Comedy* (feature film). Production Consultant, Alibi Entertainment.
- 1997 *Mr. October* (short film). Producer.
- 1995 *Year of the Gourd* (short film). Producer/Director.
- 1995 *NOVA: Terror in the Minefields* (documentary series episode). Film Researcher, PBS.
- 1995 *Eating Central Park* (documentary short). Producer/Director.

### Professional Media Experience

- 2000 Story Editor, Bunim-Murray Productions
- 1999 Story Analyst, International Creative Management
- 1998 Story Analyst, Disney Channel
- 1998 Production Consultant, Alibi Entertainment
- 1996-1997 Development Assistant, Cruise-Wagner Productions
- 1995 Film Researcher, NOVA/PBS

### Invited Presentations

- 2017 "Walking and Waiting." Paper presented on the panel "Fieldwork: What We Do When We're Doing Ethnography" at the workshop "Ethnography: Not Just Another Qualitative Method," organized by Carole McGranahan, University of Colorado-Boulder, April 2017.
- 2016 "Turtle Bites Tail: Mobility and Resilience in the Mentawai Islands, Indonesia." Paper presented at the Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder, September 2016.
- 2016 "Tripod, or 'Nobody's Talking about That, Margaret: A Performance Ethnography." Paper presented at the Society for Cultural Anthropology Biennial Meeting, Ithaca, New York, May 2016.
- 2016 "Turtle Bites Tail: Apps, Board Games, and Other Alternatives to Writing Ethnography." Paper presented in the Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado-Boulder, April 2016.
- 2014 "Tiananmen Retrospective: Reflections on Violence, Power, and Protest in China and Beyond." Panel in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square protest, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder, April 2013.
- 2014 "Representation and Performance: Anthropology and Critical Geography." Discussant on the panel Representation and Performance, Critical Geography Conference, University of Colorado-Boulder, February 2014.
- 2013 "What's at Stake? A Discussion of Transparency, Authenticity, Application, Theory, and Accessibility in Public Anthropology." Roundtable organized by Sarah Ono and Samantha Solimeo, American Anthropological Association annual conference, Chicago, November 2013.
- 2013 "Animism and the Art of Not Being Governed in Sumatra." Paper presented at the biannual conference of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Pasadena, April 2013.
- 2012 "Indigenous Religion and Cultural Identity in the Era of Regional Autonomy: A Case Study from Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at Communal Peace and Conflict in Indonesia:

- Navigating Inter-religious Boundaries, panel organized by Lene Pedersen, American Anthropological Association annual conference, San Francisco, November 2012.
- 2012 "Ethnofictions: A Case Study in Public Ethnography from Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at the Public Ethnography Conference, Victoria, British Columbia, June 2012.
- 2012 "On the Use of Visual Media in Public Anthropology: A Case Study from the Mentawai Islands, Indonesia." Paper presented at the Institute for Multimedia Literacy, University of Southern California, April 2012.
- 2012 "Shamanism, Tourism, and Secrecy: Revelation and Concealment in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at the Southeast Asian Studies Institute, University of California, Los Angeles, March 2012.
- 2011 "Shamanism, Tourism, and Secrecy: Revelation and Concealment in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at Primitivist Encounters Today: New Ethnography of Indigenous Tourism," panel organized by Rupert Stasch, American Anthropological Association annual conference, Montreal, November 2011.
- 2011 "Shamanism, Tourism, and Secrecy: Revelation and Concealment in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at Religion on the Move: Tourism and the Religious Imagination, Center for Religion and Civic Culture, University of Southern California, October 2011.
- 2011 "Reflections on the Snake Messenger: Perspectivism in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at the NEH Summer Institute "The Dynamics of Cultural Unity and Diversity in Southeast Asia," East-West Center/University of Hawaii, Manoa, July 2011.
- 2011 "Happiness, Headhunting, and Perspectivism: Mimetic Conflict in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at the biannual conference of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Santa Fe, April 2011.
- 2011 "Secrets of the Shaman: Tourism, Photography, and Sorcery in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at California State University, Stanislaus, March 2011.
- 2011 "Shamanism, Tourism, and Secrecy: Revelation and Concealment in Siberut, Western Indonesia." Paper presented at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference, Honolulu, March 2011.

### Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

- 2018 Center for Humanities and the Arts, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2017 Course development grant, UISFL/Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2017 Dean's grant, College of Media, Communication and Information, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2016 Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2015 President's Fund for the Humanities, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2015 Dean's Fund for Excellence, University of Colorado-Boulder
- 2012 Fulbright Senior Scholar Grant, American Indonesian Exchange Foundation, Council for International Exchange of Scholars
- 2011 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, The Dynamics of Cultural Unity and Diversity in Southeast Asia, East-West Center/University of Hawaii, Manoa
- 2009 Advanced Doctoral Research Award, Center for Religion and Civic Culture, University of Southern California
- 2005 Tsunami Response Project, University of Southern California
- 2005 Urban-Global Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 2004 Fulbright Fellowship, American-Indonesian Exchange Foundation, Institute of International Education
- 2003 David L. Boren Graduate International Fellowship, National Security Education Program, Academy for Educational Development
- 2002 Award for Excellence in Teaching, Center for Excellence in Teaching, University of Southern California
- 2002 Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship, Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian and Malay, Universitas Sam Ratulangi, Manado, Sulawesi, Indonesia

2001 Foreign Language Area Studies Scholarship, Southeast Asian Summer Studies Institute, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
 2000-2001 Haynes Fellowship, University of Southern California  
 1992-1993 Kreiser Fellowship in Ethnographic Film, New York University

**Professional Service**

2018-present Associate Director, Center for Documentary and Ethnographic Media, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2017 Reviewer, *Anthropology: Asking Questions about Human Origins, Diversity, and Culture*, Oxford University Press  
 2016-present Advisory Board, Center for Documentary and Ethnographic Media, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016-present Steering Committee, UISFL Southeast Asian Studies Curriculum, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016-2018 Chair, Speaker and Events Committee, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016 Geertz Prize Selection Committee, Society for the Anthropology of Religion  
 2016 Reviewer, *Mirror for Humanity: A Concise Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, McGraw-Hill Education  
 2016 Inclusive Excellence Committee, Anthropology Department, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2015-2018 Graduate Committee, Department of Critical Media Practices, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2015-2017 Founding Editor, *Mimesis: The Journal of Documentary and Ethnographic Media*  
 2015-2016 Speaker and Events Committee, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2014-2018 Executive Committee, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2013-present Faculty Associate, Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2013-2017 Contributing Editor, *Anthropology News*  
 2013-2017 Editor, *Anthropology News*, Society for the Anthropology of Religion  
 2013-2015 Curriculum Committee, Anthropology, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2013-2015 Faculty Associate, Department of Critical Media Practices, College of Media, Communication, and Information, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2013-2014 Faculty Advisor, Ethnographic Media Collective, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2011-2013 Visual Anthropology Program Committee, Anthropology, University of Southern California

**Events Organized**

2017 Leif Jonsson, "Asian Borderlands," Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2017 Catherine Allerton and Abdul Malik Mujahid, "Displaced and Stateless People in Asia," Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016 Trinh T. Minh-ha and MTL Collective, Center for Documentary and Ethnographic Media, University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016 Joshua Oppenheimer, "*The Look of Silence*: Q&A with Joshua Oppenheimer," University of Colorado-Boulder  
 2016 Ernst Karel and Helen Mirra "Sound Ethnography: Selected Works by Ernst Karel, Helen Mirra, and the Sensory Ethnography Lab," University of Colorado-Boulder

**Consulting**

Summer 2006 Project Manager, USC Tsunami Response Project, Aceh and Nias, Indonesia  
 Summer 2005 Project Manager, USC Tsunami Response Project, Aceh and Nias, Indonesia  
 2004 Director, Siberut Indigenous Media Project, Mentawai Islands, Indonesia  
 2003 Field Consultant, UNESCO Education Program, Siberut Man and Biosphere Reserve, Indonesia

**Memberships**

2011-present American Anthropological Association  
2011-present Society for Cultural Anthropology  
2011-present Society for Visual Anthropology  
2011-present Society for the Anthropology of Religion  
2011-present American Academy of Religion  
2011-present Association for Asian Studies

**Website**

<https://www.christianhammons.com/>