

AARON M. NEIMAN
Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Doctor of Philosophy, June 2023

Department of Anthropology, Culture and Society Track

- Dissertation: “Therapy Without Therapists: An Ethnographic Study of e-Mental Health in Australia”
- Committee: Professors Duana Fullwiley, Angela Garcia, Sharika Thiranagama, and Natasha Schüll

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
Bachelor of Arts, May 2016

- Cultural/Medical Anthropology; Political Philosophy
- Thesis: “The Politics of Approximation: A Mathematical and Epistemological Critique of the Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium”

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Australia, anthropology of science and medicine, psychiatry, mental illness, human-computer interaction, late 20th century history, capital & psychoanalysis, drugs, pop culture & film.

POSITIONS HELD

June 2024–Present– NIMH Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Mental Health Services Research, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

July 2023-May 2024– Lecturer, Medicine & Society Program, Department of Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis

PUBLICATIONS

“‘What Are We Doing Here?’: On Structural Violence as Immovable Object in Implementation Science” *Implementation Science* (co-authored, in progress).

“The Ethical Mechanic: e-Mental Health and the Disavowal of the Therapeutic Alliance.” *Medicine Anthropology Theory* (prepared for submission November 2024).

“Constant Confession.” *Aeon*. October 14, 2024.

“‘R U OK Mate?’: Mental Health, Public Speech, and Loving the Other.” *Social Text* (R&R Feb 2025).

“Client States: Australia’s Offshore Detainees and the Limits of Therapy.” *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, Volume 37 Issue 2. 2023.

“Automated CBT and the Therapeutic (D)alliance in Australia” *Somatosphere*. “Mapping Algorithmic Assumptions” with commentary from Emily Martin. September 2021.

“Online news media reporting of ketamine as a treatment for depression from 2000 to 2017.” *Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine*, 1-9. July 2021 (co-authored).

“Have Some Mental Health: The Black Summer Bushfires, COVID-19, and the Governance of Psychic Retreat,” with commentary from Adriana Petryna, Anthropology and Environment Society’s *Engagement* blog, May 2020.

“A Pain in the Back.” *The New Inquiry* Volume 65, November 2017.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

February 2025

Bates College Medical Anthropology invited guest lecture, “Is Anyone Okay? Therapy, Confession, and the Strange Case of Mental Health Culture,” Lewiston, Maine (remote).

October 2024

Washington University Psychological & Brain Sciences Clinical Science Seminar, “State Violence and the Limits of Therapy: WhatsApp Crisis Counseling for Refugees in Australia,” St. Louis, Missouri.

November 2023

American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting paper presentation, “‘Everybody Has Mental Health?’: Australia’s Offshore Refugees and Psychic Nonbelonging,” Toronto, Canada.

July 2022

Center for Advanced Internet Studies fellows colloquium, “Therapy without Therapists in the Internet Age: History, Theory, and Political Economy,” Bochum, Germany.

April 2021

Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Conference paper presentation, “The Typing Cure: Interrogating the Therapeutic Alliance in Australia and Online,” presented remotely.

September 2019

Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Conference paper presentation, “The Username of the Father: Predictive Sentencing Algorithms, Race, and the Shame of Law,” New Orleans, Louisiana.

September 2018

Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Conference paper presentation, “Millenarian Metropoles: Science, Empire, and the Production of Novelty in Contemporary Liberalism,” Sydney, Australia.

April 2018

National Human Genome Research Institute Research Training and Career Development Annual Meeting poster presentation, "Providing Care in the After-Math: Clinical Translation of Machine-Learning in Genomic Medicine," UCLA Medical School, Los Angeles, California.

April 2017

National Human Genome Research Institute Research Training and Career Development Annual Meeting featured talk, "The Politics of Approximation: An Epistemological Critique of the Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium," St. Louis, MO.

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Fall 2024/Spring 2025

Informal graduate and undergraduate advising.

Spring 2024

Instructor, *Anthropology and Film*, lecture with 35 undergraduates

Instructor, *Anthropology of Drugs*, lecture with 20 undergraduates

Instructor, *Tech & Health: Minds, Bodies, Societies*, advanced seminar with 10 undergraduate and 2 graduate students

Fall 2023

Instructor, "*I am Not a Robot*": *The Contemporary Politics of Man and Machine*, lecture with 35 undergraduates

Instructor, *Advanced Seminar in Medicine & Society*, upper-level theory class for Medicine & Society-track premed students

Instructor, *Anthropology of Mental Health*, upper-level course on the history and ethnography of mental illness.

Spring 2022

Instructor for original anthropology course, "*I am Not a Robot*": *The Contemporary Politics of Man and Machine*, small seminar with three advanced undergraduates

Fall 2021

Teaching assistant with lectureship and syllabus development responsibilities for Professor Duana Fullwiley's lab course, *Technology and Inequality*

Winter 2018

Teaching assistant for Professor Duana Fullwiley's *Genes and Identity*, instruction included giving lectures and leading discussions for 40 students

Fall 2017

Teaching assistant for Professor Angela Garcia's *Introduction to Medical Anthropology*, instructed two weekly sections of 21 students

FUNDING, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

2022-2023

- Visiting research fellow at Center for Advanced Internet Studies, July-September, Bochum, Germany
- Andrew Mellon Dissertation Writing Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, September-June
- The Anthropology Award for Outstanding Graduate Research and Publication (\$500), Stanford University, June 2023

2021-2022

- Race and Technology Fellow, Stanford Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

2019-2020

- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant #BCS-1917569 (\$9,540)
- Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant #5387093910 (\$19,960)
- Anthropology Department support in recognition of extramural funding success (\$11,448)
- Stanford Community Engagement Grant (\$3,800)
- Stanford History of Science Grant (\$1,000)

2016-2018

- National Institutes of Health predoctoral fellowship, Center for the Integration of Research on Genetics and Ethics at the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics at the Stanford University School of Medicine

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2024

- Mental Health Services T32 Training Seminar, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

2023

- Early Career Faculty Teaching Seminar, Center for Teaching and Learning, Washington University in St. Louis

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025-2026

- Contributing Editor, *CASTAC Platypus* Blog

2025

- Co-convenor, inaugural group model building seminar, Center for Holistic Interdisciplinary Research in Psychedelics (CHIRP), Washington University School of Medicine

2024

- Peer reviewer, *Medical Anthropology*

2023

- Peer reviewer, *American Anthropologist*

FREELANCE WORK

2022-Present

Freelance editor, Four Eyes Editing— editor for academic colleagues working on book monographs, journal articles, dissertation drafts, tenure letters, etc.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

September 2019-November 2020

Dissertation field researcher
Sydney, Australia.

Summer 2018

Guest Researcher
University of New South Wales

Summer 2017

Honorary Researcher
Trinity College Dublin Department of Psychiatry
St. Patrick's University Hospital

Fall 2013-Spring 2016

Research Assistant
Hampshire College
School of Critical Social Inquiry