

ASHLEY MEREDITH :: APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGIST

CONTACT Ashley Meredith
meredith.ashley@gmail.com



- OBJECTIVE** As an applied anthropologist trained in Spanish, Hawaiian, and Estonian Languages, Spanish, Latin American, Hawaiian, and Estonian cultures, Linguistics, and Anthropology, I examine how communities perceive themselves and how they are represented in cultural imagery to solve contemporary problems in heritage tourism and cultural resource management. I incorporate community-based learning in partnership with community organizations whenever possible.
- LANGUAGES** English (native), Spanish (fluent), other Romance languages (intermediate), Hawaiian (beginner), Estonian (beginner); others upon request.
- FIELDWORK/ RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** **Co-Principal Investigator**, Master's thesis fieldwork: "Native and non-Native Hawaiian Imaging and Imaginings of Hawaiianness: A Case Study from Hawai'i Island Residents." This research explored residents' perceptions of Hawaiianness as represented through imagery in the public environment. Advisors: Dr. David Koester (PI), Dr. Jane Kathryn Managan, Dr. David Fazzino, and Dr. Kerrie Ann Shannon. IRB Protocol #08-84. Fieldwork conducted in Hilo, Hawai'i from December 2008-February 2009.
- Graduate Research Assistant** in Community Development project: "Food Security and Sustainable Development in Fairbanks North Star Borough." Advisor: David Fazzino. Conducted interviews with participants in Fairbanks Native Association and Fairbanks Soup Kitchen regarding their migration to/from Fairbanks, food access, and perceptions of healthy eating. Managed students and necessary equipment to conduct fieldwork in a timely manner as well as conducting interviews in the field. Fieldwork conducted November 2008-May 2009.
- Graduate Research Assistant** in Cultural Resource Management project: "Ahtna Texts" (NSF Grant #0553831). Principal Investigator: Dr. Siri Tuttle, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Updated the Alaska Native Language Center's archives to preserve Ahtna cultural resources by converting paper and tape resources to digital formats; consulted with James Kari and his personal collection. Collaborated with Ahtna community members and compiled Ahtna language resources (digital, audio, and paper) and aided in design for interactive HTML for CD-ROM for indigenous Ahtna people and endangered Ahtna language. Fall 2006-Spring 2008.
- Graduate Research Assistant** in Cultural Resource Management project: "Gwich'in Language Pedagogy Tools" (NSF Grant #BCS-0504190). PI: Kathy Sikorski, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Collaborated with colleagues and Gwich'in community to develop and promote web-based language tools and increase accessibility for local and remote Gwich'in language learners. Surveyed Yukon Flats and Arctic Village school districts to ensure implementation of tools. Attended and presented at relevant conferences. October. 2006-July 2007.
- Community Outreach Intern** for Pan-STARRS (Panoramic Survey Telescope & Rapid Response System) and the University of Hawai'i, Hilo. Project: "Negotiating meaning: Pan-STARRS, the local community, and the telescope for Mauna Kea." Cultural mediation assistant between Group 70 and local residents. Represented Native Hawaiian residents' insight regarding the protection of cultural resources, community empowerment, and construction of a new telescope on Mauna Kea, a sacred site in Hawaiian culture on Hawai'i Island. Spring 2006.
- Independent fieldwork project**: "Hawaiian Loanwords and Pidgin Semantics." Advisor: Dr. Suzanne Romaine. Conducted interviews with speakers of the Pidgin Language to determine semantic changes for loanwords. Summer 2005.
- Extensive travel (2002-2010)**. **Latin America**: Belize, Grand Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Mexico; **North America**: Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Canada; **Pacific**: Australia, Hawaiian Islands; **Europe**: Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Spain (including Canary and Balearic Islands), United Kingdom.

ASHLEY MEREDITH :: APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGIST

TEACHING EXPERIENCE **Guest teacher**, Ülenürme Gümnasium, Ülenürme, Estonia. Presented on the theme of “Breaking Stereotypes.” Created and developed lessons about culture in the United States. January 2010.

Research/Teaching Assistant. Provided supplemental lectures for “Political Anthropology” course, including research methods and fieldwork decorum, for Dr. David Fazzino. Performed Project Manager responsibilities for class project on Food Security project and Sustainable Development in Fairbanks North Star Borough Spring 2009.

Teaching Assistant. “Native Cultures of Alaska.” Dr. Michael Koskey. Assisted in teaching and analyzing cross-cultural connections among native peoples in Alaska. Duties included grading, conducting class, and developing and delivering lectures on indigenous issues related to nations and cultural resources. Fall 2008.

Teaching Assistant for three courses, “Research Design & Professional Development,” “PhD Seminar,” and “Anthropological Background for Resilience Adaptation.” Dr. Kerrie Ann Shannon. Gained experience with the preparation and management of documents for eReserves and Blackboard at the Instructor level. Fall 2008.

English conversationalist for international students in the English as a Second Language program at Hawai‘i Community College. Met regularly with international students from Japan, Jordan, and China to practice using the English language. Hilo, Hawai‘i. Spring 2006.

Spanish Language Tutor for 100, 200, and 300 level Spanish language and literature courses. Mercer University Academic Writing Center. Directed students in their acquisition of Spanish languages. 2004-2005.

ESL Volunteer Teacher at Agnes Barden Elementary School and Kairo’s Peace House in Macon, Georgia for recent Latin American immigrants. Assisted in developing transition education program for students with Spanish as their first language. 2003-2005.

EDUCATION **M.A. Anthropology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, 2010**
-Thesis title: Imaging and Imaginings of Hawaiianess in the Contemporary Hawaiian Islands. Supervisor: Dr. David Koester.
-Study abroad student at University of Tartu, Estonian Language Center

B.A. Linguistics, University of Hawai‘i, Hilo, 2006
-Specialized in Hawaiian language and culture

B.A. Spanish Languages & Literatures, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia, 2005
-Business Administration and Photography Minors
-Study abroad to Australia (2003) at Bond University for International Business and Spanish
-Study abroad to Spain (2004) at Center for Cross-Cultural Study for Spanish Language and culture.

PUBLICATIONS *Forthcoming.* Ashley Meredith and David Fazzino. “Imaging and Imaginings of Hawaiian Identity: Cultural Sustainability on the Island of Hawai‘i”. The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability. Volume 6. Peer reviewed.

EDITORIAL POSITIONS *Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability.* Associate Editor. 2010.

ASHLEY MEREDITH :: APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGIST

- UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**
2007. Founder and organizer of the “Language & You” lecture series. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Developed a lecture series on campus to educate students on how language can empower or marginalize people.
- Spring 2006. Culture and Stargazing volunteer: Taught the general public about the Hawaiian culture, also how Mauna Kea relates to the Hawaiian culture. Informed visitors about Hawaiian star names, mo'olelo (stories), and different Hawaiian sites on Mauna Kea. Assisted the public with the VIS telescopes, pointed out bright stars and constellations, tell stories of Hawaiian and Greek/Roman mythology, inform the public of the hazards of high altitude, and update the public about current events on Mauna Kea.
- 2004-2005. Ambassador for the Center for Cross-Cultural Study at Mercer University. Recruited students for study abroad in Spain and Argentina.
- President for Spanish Organization at Mercer University. Recruited students, organized cultural awareness events, and managed peers for successful Mercer University inaugural Hispanic Heritage Month.
- 2004 August. Translator, Spanish-English. Birch Elementary School, Fayette County, Georgia, United States.
2003. Co-founder of the Young Democrats Association chapter at Mercer University. Created a forum to discuss current politics and represented political interests of Mercer University students.
2001. Co-founder of Mercer University’s Linux User’s Group (MULUG). Assembled an organization devoted to an alternative operating systems and collaborated with students interested in Windows-Linux communication.
- SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS**
- 2006-2009. Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant, University of Alaska, Fairbanks.
- 2001-2005. Mercer University Division I Collegiate Cross-Country Running Scholarship.
- 2001-2005. Mercer University Academic Scholarship, All-Academic (3.0+) and Presidential scholastic awards.
- 2001-2005. Georgia Baptist Heritage Grant.
- 2001-2003. Georgia HOPE Scholarship.
2001. Ronnie Godwin Running Scholarship.
- 1999-2001. Dedicated Runner Award.
- CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**
- 2010**
- Tourism Imagery, Perceptions of Hawaiianness, and Identity Negotiation on Hawai‘i Island.” Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Meeting, theme: “Contested Economies: Global Tourism and Cultural Heritage.” April 8-10, Tampa, Florida.
- “Imaging and Imaginings of Hawaiian Identity: Cultural Sustainability on the Island of Hawai‘i”. 6th International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability, Cuenca, Ecuador. 5-7 January, 2010.
- 2007**
- “Gwich’in Pedagogy Tools Website” (with Kathy Sikorski). Athabaskan Language Conference, Tsaille, Arizona. June 22-24.
- “Gwich’in Pedagogy Tools” (with Kathy Sikorski). Yukon Flats High School, Fort Yukon, Alaska. March 9.

"Gwich'in Pedagogy Tools" (with Kathy Sikorski). Arctic Village teleconference with Circle High School. March 13.

"Gwich'in Pedagogy Tools" (with Kathy Sikorski). Arctic Village High School, Arctic Village, Alaska. March 12.

Gwich'in Pedagogy Tools (with Kathy Sikorski, Sabine Siekmann). Bicultural Multicultural Education/Equality Conference, Anchorage, Alaska. January 23-31.

INVITED/GUEST
LECTURES

2009

"Socio-visual Sustainability in Hawai'i." Guest lecturer with Kathy Las for "Language" lecture in ANTH100-Introduction to Anthropology for Dr. David Fazzino, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 23 March.

"Semiotics of a Sovereign Hawaiian Nation: Identity, Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Colonialism." Delivered as complement to anthropology course titled "Political Anthropology" for Dr. David Fazzino, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 18 February.

2008

"What does it mean to be a *nation*?" Delivered as complement to anthropology course titled "Native Cultures of Alaska" for Dr. Michael Koskey. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. 5 November.

"Understanding Language: Pidgins, Creoles, Hawai'i, and Linguistics." Delivered as complement to anthropology course titled "Individual, Society, and Culture" for Dr. David Fazzino, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 27 October.

"The Eyak, Language Policy/Planning, and Linguistic Human Rights." For Dr. Michael Koskey, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 22 September.

"What does it mean to be *indigenous*?" Delivered as complement to anthropology course titled "Native Cultures of Alaska" for Dr. Michael Koskey, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 12 September.

"Gender Identity in a Text-only Environment." Delivered as a supplement to anthropology course titled "Fundamentals of Social/Cultural Anthropology" for Dr. David Fazzino, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 21 March, 2008.

"Negotiating Meaning Between Pan-STARRS & the Local Community on the Big Island, Hawai'i." Delivered with Kathy Las as a supplement to anthropology course titled "100X Individual, Society and Culture" for Dr. David Fazzino, University of Alaska Fairbanks. 9 February, 2008.

2007

"Semantics in Genocide" on the topic of "Language & You: How language has been used marginalize and empower people." Presented with Dr. Henry Delcore (visiting professor from California State University, Fresno). March 22.

2002

"Windows & Linux Communication." Cal Linux User's Group (CallUG), University of California, Berkeley. Berkeley, California. February.

ASHLEY MEREDITH :: APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGIST

- PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS** "Ethics-Institutional Review Board." Discussant: Bridget Stockdale. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. 19 November, 2008.
- Alaska Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). Discussant: Anne Sudkamp. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. 8 October, 2008.
- Center for Research Services: Office of Research Integrity. Discussant: Andrew Parkerson-Gray. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. 1 October, 2008.
- PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP** American Anthropological Association
Save Darfur, activist
Society for Applied Anthropology
Society for Economic Anthropology
Easter Island Foundation
LinguistList
- CERTIFICATIONS** CITI Certification for Ethical Research (2008-2010)
PADI Certified Open Water Scuba Diver (2005-present)
- NON-ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENT** -Volunteer rock wall certifier at University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Recreation Facility. 2007-2009.
-University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Intramural Lacrosse Captain 2006-2008
-Hawaiian Canoeing, 2006
-Mercer University, Division I Collegiate Cross Country Running, 2001-2005
-Big Brother, Big Sister volunteer. Seville, Spain. 2004.
- TECHNOLOGY/ SKILLS** Dreamweaver, Blackboard, Photoshop C3, Microsoft Office Products, iWork, Open Office.org Products, Windows, Linux and Mac platforms/browsers, ability to learn software and technology easily; Statistics (descriptive and inferential); learn languages easily; Pacific and North America fieldwork experience; Research skills: bibliographic skills; data identification, analysis, presentation.
- HOBBIES** Cross Country Skiing and Running, Cycling, Ice climbing, Lacrosse, Learning Languages, Photography, Racquetball, Rock Climbing, Snowboarding, Surfing, Scuba diving, Traveling
- HIRING EXPERIENCE** 2004. Search for Latin Americanist for Mercer University Spanish Department. Interviewed and evaluated potential professors with other Spanish majors and professors.
2007, 2008. Participated in two searches for the one-year Visiting Professor position in Cultural Anthropology for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Anthropology Department
- REFERENCES** Available upon request.