

ANNA OFFIT

SMU Dedman School of Law
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

SMU Dedman School of Law
Assistant Professor of Law 2019-

SMU Department of Anthropology
Assistant Professor of Anthropology (by courtesy) 2019-

New York University School of Law
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Civil Jury Project 2018-2019

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Anthropology, Ph.D., 2018
Dissertation: *Making the Case for Jurors: An Ethnographic Study of U.S. Prosecutors*

Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 2012
Honors: *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics* (Editor-in-Chief, 2011-2012)
St. Thomas More Award, Global Teaching Fellow, CALI Award
(received twice for best exam), Pro Bono Pledge Honoree, Student
Advocacy Award, Dean's List (2010-2011)

University of Cambridge, Social Anthropological Analysis, M.Phil. 2009
Thesis: *Expertise, Common Sense, and the Production of Evidence: An Analysis of the Grand Jury System*

Princeton University, Anthropology, A.B., 2008, *summa cum laude*
Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, Francis
Biddle Sophomore English Prize, Grace May Tilton Prize in Fine
Arts, Environmental Studies Senior Thesis Prize

PUBLICATIONS

Law Journal Articles

Benevolent Exclusion, __ WASH L. REV. (forthcoming 2021).

Regulating Attorney Discrimination: The Development and Potential of Amended ABA Model Rule 8.4(g), __FORDHAM L. REV. (forthcoming 2021) (Invited Article as part of the Stein Colloquium on The Judicial Role in Professional Regulation at Fordham Law School).

Race Conscious Jury Selection, 82 OHIO ST. L.J. 1 (forthcoming 2021).

Utfordringer ved komparative juryundersøkelser: Tilfellet Norge, TIDSSKRIFT FOR STRAFFERETT (2019). [The Challenges of Comparative Jury Research: The Norwegian Case, Journal of Criminal Justice]

- Posted to *Juries* Blog, Edited by Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Professor of Law at the University of Dayton School of Law: <https://juries.typepad.com/juries/jury-law-review-articles/>

Prosecuting in the Shadow of the Jury, 113 NW. U. L. REV. (2019).

- Reviewed by Rebecca Roiphe, “Are Make Believe Juries as Good for Prosecutors as Real Ones?” in *Legal Profession Jotwell*, May 14, 2019, <https://legalpro.jotwell.com/are-make-believe-juries-as-good-for-prosecutors-as-real-ones/>

Strengthening the Civil Jury (with Richard L. Jolly), 31 CAL. LIT. 3 (2018).

Peer Review: Navigating Uncertainty in the United States Jury System, 6 U.C. IRVINE L. REV. 169 (2016).

The Conscience and Culture of Prosecution: An Introduction, 25 GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS 4 (2012).

Ethical Guidance for a Grand Jury, 24 GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS 761 (2011).

Peer-reviewed Publications

The Jury is Out: An Ethnographic Study of Lay Participation in the Norwegian Legal System, POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY REVIEW, VOL. 1, ISSUE 2, (NOVEMBER 2018).

Critical Review Essay: Giving Life to the Death Penalty, POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY REVIEW (2018).

Trial Processes in INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ANTHROPOLOGY (2018).

With Jurors in Mind: An Ethnographic Study of Prosecutors’ Narratives, LAW, CULTURE, AND THE HUMANITIES JOURNAL (2017).

Book Chapters

Dismissing the Jury: Mixed Courts and Lay Participation in Norway, JURIES, LAY JUDGES, AND MIXED COURTS: A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE, (Shari Diamond, Valerie Hans, Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic, Nancy Marder, eds.) Cambridge University Press (Forthcoming 2020).

Storied Justice: The Narrative Strategies of U.S. Federal Prosecutors, in THE EMERALD HANDBOOK OF NARRATIVE CRIMINOLOGY (Fleetwood, Presser, Sandberg and Ugelvik eds.) (2019).

Essays and Other Writing

The Cultural Logic of Legal Collaboration: Enduring Lessons from Hopewell (Invited Essay to honor Legal Anthropologist Carol Greenhouse), in THE POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY REVIEW, (2020), *Available here:* <https://polarjournal.org/2020/07/07/the-cultural-logic-of-legal-collaboration-enduring-lessons-from-hopewell/>

Quoted in *The Importance of Jury Duty*, PEOPLE NEWSPAPERS, September 7, 2020, *Available here:* <https://www.parkcitiespeople.com/2020/09/07/the-importance-of-jury-duty/>
Technology Can't Replace In-Person Jury Trials, but It May Help During a Pandemic (Op Ed) INSIDE SOURCES, June 12, 2020, *Available here:* <https://perma.cc/4874-Z5VW>

- This Op Ed was reprinted in over 30 local papers with a total circulation of over 600,000.

Quoted in *In a test case, Collin County jury renders verdict on Zoom for the first time; too risky for a full trial?* THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, May 22, 2020. *Available here:* <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/courts/2020/05/22/in-a-test-case-collin-county-jury-meets-on-zoom-for-the-first-time-but-some-lawyers-say-its-too-risky-for-real-trial/>

It's time to build a pandemic-proof, juror-friendly trial (Op Ed), The Hill, May 15, 2020, *Available here:* <https://perma.cc/U3M3-WR24>

Guyger trial demonstrates power of juries. Here's how we can make them even stronger (Op Ed), FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, October 4, 2019.

Review: Steven Brill on the History of Arbitration Clauses, 3 JURY MATTERS 6 (2018).

Book Review: The Humanities and Public Life. By Peter Brooks (ed.) with Hilary Jewett., 48 LAW & SOC'Y REV. 991 (2014).

Injustice Behind Closed Doors: Civil Juries and the #MeToo Movement, 3 JURY MATTERS 3 (2018).

The Long Shadow of the Civil Jury Trial, 3 JURY MATTERS 2 (2018).

REPORT ON SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION IN PRISONS AND JAILS, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC. (2012) (Contributing Law Clerk).

Letter to the Editor: The Jury's Duty When the Law Is Unfair, *New York Times*, (December 22, 2011).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Legal Practice

Department of Justice, Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs
Law Clerk, 2010-2012

United States Attorney's Office
Summer Intern, 2010

Teaching

Evidence, Lecture Course
SMU Dedman School of Law, Spring 2020

Criminal Law, 1L Lecture Course
SMU Dedman School of Law, Fall 2019

Criminal Jury Reform, Edited Writing Seminar
SMU Dedman School of Law, Fall 2019

Clues, Evidence, Detection: Law's Stories
Assistant Instructor for Peter Brooks, Princeton University, 2014-2015

Women's Bodies, Women's Lives
Assistant Instructor for Alma Gottlieb, Princeton University, 2013-2014

Terrorism and Abduction: Law in a Global Context
Global Teaching Fellow for Julie Ross, Georgetown Law, 2011-2012

Criminal Law
Clinical Instructor, Bell Multicultural High School, Washington, D.C., 2010-2011

Death Penalty and Extradition
Global Teaching Fellow for Peter Tague, Georgetown Law, 2010-2011

Peer-Reviewer

Law & Society Review, Law & Society Association
2019-Present

Legal Ethics (journal), Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham
2019-Present

Oñati Socio-Legal Series, International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain,
2018—Present

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Sam Taylor Grant Recipient, Sam Taylor Fellowship Fund of the Division of Higher Education
2019-2020

Law & Social Sciences Program Dissertation Research Grant, National Science Foundation,
2015-2018

Dissertation Summer Research Grant, Princeton Institute for International and Regional
Studies, Princeton University, 2017

Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship, University Center for Human Values,
Princeton University, 2016-2017

Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, (declined), Princeton University, 2016-2017

Dissertation Summer Research Grant, Princeton Institute for International and Regional
Studies, Princeton University, 2016

Travel Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation, European Association of Social Anthropologists, 2016

U.S. Fulbright Research/Study Grant (Norway), U.S.-Norway Fulbright Foundation, 2015-2016

Lois Roth Award, Lois Roth Endowment, 2015-2016

Arthur J. Liman Fellowship, Princeton's Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University
(declined), 2012-2013

William A. Dippel '50 Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University, 2012

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

(Invited Author and Colloquium Participant), Fordham Law School, New York, NY October 9,
2020.

(Invited Presenter), ITT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Faculty Workshop Series, October 6, 2020.

(Invited Author and Roundtable Participant), University of Alabama School of Law, August 10,
2020.

(Invited Panelist), Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center's "Systemic Barriers to Social Change and
Civic Participation," moderated by Jeff Kahn, organized by Kenitra Brown and Erika Fadel. July
29th, 2020.

(Invited Panelist), SMU Law Flash Class, "Policing and Protest in America," June 4, 2020.

(Organizer), Roundtable on Legal Anthropology Methodology, Law and Society Association,
Denver, CO, Spring 2020

(Invited Panelist), The Abolition of Norway's Jury System and Its Aftermath, Law and Society Association, Denver, CO, Spring 2020

(Invited Author; Corresponding Panel Postponed Due to COVID-19), Roundtable in Honor of Legal Anthropologist Carol Greenhouse, American Ethnological Society and Association for Political and Legal Anthropology, Austin, TX Spring 2020

(Organizer), Book Panel: *Radical Enfranchisement in the Jury Room and Public Life*, Association of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Quinnipiac University School of Law, North Haven, CT, Spring 2020

(Invited keynote speaker, annual James Otis Lecture), "Reviving the American Jury," American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) National Foundation, The Center for American and International Law, Plano, TX, 2019

"Race-Conscious Jury Selection," (Panelist) CrimFest, Brooklyn Law School, New York, NY, 2019

(Invited participant) Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY, 2019

(Invited panelist) Law and Anthropology Roundtable, Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., 2019

(Invited lecture) "The Language of U.S. Jury Exclusion," Speaker Series on Linguistics and Law, Northeastern University, Boston, 2019

"Reasonable Doubt: An Ethnographic Study of Lay Participation in Norway," Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, 2018

"Prosecutorial Ethics and Imagined Jurors," Association of Law, Culture, and the Humanities Annual Conference, Stanford University Law School, 2017 (Finalist in Political and Legal Anthropology Graduate Student Paper Prize competition)

"Ethnographies of Corruption," (Chair) American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2017

"Narrative Constructions of Legal Ethics," (Chair) Association of Law, Culture, and the Humanities Annual Meeting, Stanford Law School, 2017

"Prosecution in the Shadow of the Jury," Georgetown University Law Center Fellows Colloquium, Washington, D.C., 2017

"Dismantling Alternative Facts: Prosecuting Public Corruption in an American Courtroom," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2017

"Narrating Public Corruption," Narrative Criminology Symposium, University of Oslo, 2017

"Prosecution in the Shadow of the Jury," Criminal Justice Workshop, New York Law School, 2017

“Democratizing Justice: The Vital Role of Jurors in the Age of the Vanishing Trial,” Princeton Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 2017

(Invited lecture) “Lay Participation in Legal Systems: The Cases of Norway and the United States,” Institute Talk, Department of Public and International Law, University of Oslo, 2016

(Invited lecture) “The Jury is Out: An Ethnographic Study of Lay Participation in Norway,” U.S.-Norway Fulbright Foundation Seminar, University of Oslo, 2016

“Narrative Constructions of Legal Evidence,” (Chair) American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN 2016

“Participant Observation with Federal Prosecutors,” Post-fieldwork Presentation, Department of Anthropology, Princeton University, 2016

“An Ethnographic Study of Federal Prosecutors’ Stories,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2016

“Norwegian Lawyers’ Evidentiary Practices during Jury Trials,” European Association of Social Anthropologists Biennial Meeting, University of Milano-Bicocca, 2016

“An Ethnographic Study of Lay Participation in the Norwegian Legal System,” Narrative Criminology Seminar, University of Oslo, 2016

(Invited lecture) “Jury Selection in American Courts: Current Issues,” Workshop for judges, prosecutors and researchers, University of Tromsø Law Faculty, 2015

(Invited lecture) “Comparative Jury Research,” Regional Public Prosecution Office in Oslo, Norway, 2015

(Invited lecture) “Ethnographic Jury Research,” *The Art of Jury Selection*, New York Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Course, 2015

(Invited lecture) “Federal Jury Selection,” New York Bar Association Litigation Committee, 2015

“Studies of Prosecution,” (Chair, Discussant) Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2015

“Uncertainty in the United States Jury System,” Workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, 2015

“When Certainty Enters the Story: Managing Narrative Logic in a Child Abuse Prosecution, Part II,” Graduate Seminar, Princeton Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 2015

“When Certainty Enters the Story: Managing Narrative Logic in a Child Abuse Prosecution, Part I,” Association of Law, Culture, and the Humanities Annual Meeting, Georgetown University Law Center, 2015

(Invited discussant), *Ethics*, Engaged Anthropology Workshop, Department of Anthropology, Princeton University, 2014

(Invited lecture) “Federal Jury Selection Practices,” Continuing Legal Education Course for a United States Attorney’s Office, 2014

“The Interplay of Place and Justice in Federal Jury Selection,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2014

“Opening Statements: Toward an Ethnographic Study of Legal Narrative,” Workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, 2014

“The Vital Role of Imagined Jurors in the Age of the Vanishing Trial,” Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2014

“Prosecuting Narratives: The Ethics of Opening Statements,” Princeton-Rutgers Criminal Justice Working Group, Princeton University, 2014

“The Peremptory Challenge: Jury Selection and Everyday Evaluation,” American Ethnological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2014

(Invited presentation) “Peer Review: Managing Uncertainty in the United States Jury System,” Doctoral Scholarship Conference, Yale Law School, 2013

“The Real Place of Imagined Jurors,” Workshop, Georgetown University Law Center, 2013

“Contested Agency in a Legal Movement,” Association of Law, Culture and the Humanities Annual Meeting, University of London, Birkbeck, UK, 2013

“Peer Review: Jury Selection in a Densely Populated City,” Princeton-Temple-Penn Graduate Conference, University of Pennsylvania, 2013

SELECTED SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY

Ethics Task Force of the Mayor of Dallas, Member

2020-Present

SMU Faculty Senate, Executive Committee Member; COVID Childcare Working Group Member; Law School Representative

2019-Present

SMU Law Inn of Court (Section 1, Callejo) Faculty Adviser

2020-Present

Endowed Lectures and Faculty Forum Committee, Member

2020-Present

SMU Dedman School of Law, Honor Council, Alternate Member
2019-Present

SMU Dedman School of Law, Teaching Committee Member
2019-2020

SMU Faculty Senate, Invited Member of Speech Subcommittee
2019-Present

American Society of Comparative Law, SMU Law Director & Editor Designee
2019-Present

CrimFest, Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Seminar Subgroups, Member
2019-Present

Academic Adviser, Civil Jury Project
2019-Present

Princeton University Alumni Interviewer
2018-Present

Ethnography, Law & Society Collaborative Research Network, Law & Society Association
Panel Organizing Committee Co-Chair, List Manager, 2016-present

Institutional Review Board, The Rockefeller University
Community Member, 2018-2019

Georgetown Law Scholar
Member, 2012-2019

Student Health Plan Advisory Council, Princeton University
Member, 2014-2018

International Research Collaborative, “Ethnographies of Legal Transformation”
Coordinator, 2016-2017 (NSF-funded)

University of Oslo, School of Law
Visiting Researcher, 2015-2016

Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University
Seminar Coordinator, Graduate Student Seminar, 2013-2014

Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Thesis Workshop
Coordinator, Whitman College, Princeton University, 2013-2014

Whitman Residential College, Princeton University

Residential Graduate Student, 2013-2014

University Student Life Committee, Princeton University

Graduate Student Chair, 2012-2013

Department of Anthropology Faculty Committee, Princeton University

Graduate Student Liaison, 2012-2013

Georgetown University Institutional Review Board

Volunteer and Law Student Extern, 2011-2012

Society for Anthropological Studies, Cambridge University

Co-President, 2009

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York (2013), New Jersey (2013)