

Stephen J. Collier

Graduate Program in International Affairs

The New School

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Current Appointment

2015- Associate Professor and Chair, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School

Past Academic Appointments

2013 Guest Professor, Department of Human Geography, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main

2011- Associate Professor, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School

2003-2011 Assistant Professor, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School

2002-2003 Visiting Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University

2001-2002 Post-Doctoral Fellow, Harriman Institute, Columbia University

2001 Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley

Education

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, Department of Anthropology, 2001

M.A. University of California, Berkeley, Department of Anthropology, 1996

B.A. University of California, Santa Cruz, Department of Anthropology, 1994

Publications

Books

Post-Soviet Social: Neoliberalism, Social Modernity, Biopolitics. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011

Biosecurity Interventions: Global Health and Security in Question.
Edited with Andrew Lakoff. New York: Columbia University Press, 2008

Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics, and Ethics as Anthropological Problems.
Edited with Aihwa Ong. Malden, Mass: Blackwell, 2005.

Journal Articles

“Vital Systems Security: Reflexive Biopolitics and the Government of Emergency” (with Andrew Lakoff). *Theory, Culture, and Society*, 2014.

“Neoliberalism and Natural Disaster: Insurance As Political Technology of Catastrophe.” *Journal of Cultural Economy*. 2014.

“Neoliberalism As Big Leviathan, Or...?” *Social Anthropology* 20, 1, 2012.

“Topologies of Power: Foucault’s Study of Political Government beyond ‘Governmentality.’” *Theory, Culture, and Society* 26, 6, 2009, pp. 1-31.

- Reprinted in Portuguese: “Topologias de poder: a análise de Foucault sobre o governo político para além da ‘governamentalidade.’” *Revista Brasileira de Ciência Política* 5, January-July, 2011, pp. 245-284.

“Enacting Catastrophe: Preparedness, Insurance, Budgetary Rationalization.” *Economy and Society* 37, 2, 2008, pp. 224-250.

“‘Vakuutuskelvottomasta riskistä’ uusiin turvallisuuden sommitelmiin” (“From ‘Uninsurable Risk’ to New Security Assemblages”). *Tiede & Edistys* 33, 1, 2008.

“Distributed Preparedness: Notes on the Genealogy of ‘Homeland Security.’” With Andrew Lakoff. *Environment and Planning D: Space and Society* 26, 1, 2008, pp. 7-28.

“Beyond the Deficit Model: Reflections on the Georgian Case.” With Lucan Way. *Post Soviet Affairs* 20 (July/September), 2004.

“Ethics and the Anthropology of Modern Reason.” With Andrew Lakoff. *Anthropological Theory* 4(4) 2004.

“Biosecurity: Proposal for an Anthropology of the Contemporary” With Andrew Lakoff and Paul Rabinow. *Anthropology Today* 20(5) October 2004.

- Reprinted in French: “La Biosécurité Vers une Anthropologie du Contemporain,” *Raisons Politiques* 32, November 2008, p. 59-76.

Interviews

“Assemblages and the Conduct of Inquiry: Interview with Stephen Collier,” in Michele Acuto and Simon Curtis, eds., *Assemblage Thinking and International Theory*, Palgrave Press, 2014.

“Post-Soviet Social: Neoliberalism, Social Modernity, Biopolitics,” Interview conducted by Sean Guillory on the New Books Network: New Books on Russia and Eurasia, June 2012. (<http://newbooksinrussianstudies.com/2012/06/20/stephen->

[collier-post-soviet-social-neoliberalism-social-modernity-biopolitics-princeton-up-2011/](http://theoryculturesociety.blogspot.com/2011/03/interview-with-stephen-j-collier-on.html))

“Foucault, Assemblages, and Topology.” Interview conducted by Simon Dawes. *Theory, Culture, and Society* blog. March 23, 2011. (<http://theoryculturesociety.blogspot.com/2011/03/interview-with-stephen-j-collier-on.html>)

Reviews and Short Articles

“Introduction: Systemic Risk.” With Andrew Lakoff. *Limn 1: Systemic Risk* (<http://limn.it/system-vulnerability-and-the-problem-of-national-survival>).

“System Vulnerability and the Problem of National Survival.” With Andrew Lakoff. *Limn 1: Systemic Risk* (<http://limn.it/system-vulnerability-and-the-problem-of-national-survival>).

“Reassembling the Social: An Introduction to Actor-Network Theory” (review). *Contemporary Sociology* 38(1), 2009.

“Notes on the Anthropology of Neoliberalism.” With Lisa Hoffman and Monca DeHart. *Anthropology News*. September 2006.

“Global Assemblages.” In *Problematizing Global Knowledge. Theory, Culture, and Society* 23(2-3), 2006, pp. 399-401.

“Oikos/Anthropos: Technology, Rationality, Infrastructure.” With Aihwa Ong. *Current Anthropology*, Summer 2003.

Book Chapters

“Pipes and Wires.” With Nino Kemoklidze. In Nigel Thrift, Adam Tickell, Steve Woolgar, and William H. Rupp, eds. *Globalization in Practice*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

“Health, Security, and New Biological Threats: Reconfigurations of Expertise.” With Andrew Lakoff. In Chloe Bird, Peter Conrad, Allan Fremont, and Stefan Timmeman, eds., *Handbook of Medical Sociology*, 6th edition. Vanderbilt University Press, 2010.

“Infrastructure and Event.” With Andrew Lakoff. In Bruce Braun and Sarah Whatmore, eds., *The Stuff of Politics: Technoscience, Democracy, and Public Life*, University of Minnesota Press, 2009.

“How Infrastructure Became a Security Problem.” With Andrew Lakoff. In Myriam Dunn and Kristian Soby Kristensen, eds., *The Politics of Securing the Homeland: Critical Infrastructure, Risk and Securitisation*. Routledge, 2008.

“Distributed Preparedness: Security, Space-Making, and Citizenship in the United States” With Andrew Lakoff. In Deborah Cowen and Emily Gilbert, eds. *War, Citizenship, and Territory*, Routledge, 2007.

“Budgets and Bio-politics.” In *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics, and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Edited with Aihwa Ong. Malden, Mass: Blackwell, 2005.

“On Regimes of Living” With Andrew Lakoff. In *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics, and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Edited with Aihwa Ong. Malden, Mass: Blackwell, 2005.

“Pipes.” In *Patterned Ground*, edited by Steve Pile, Nigel Thrift, et al., Reaktion Press, 2004.

Working Papers and Other Publications

“The Political Ontology of Catastrophe: Inventing the Vulnerable Society, 1953-1958.” GPIA Working Paper 2011-09, The New School, New York.

“On Vital Systems Security.” With Andrew Lakoff. GPIA Working Paper 2009-01, The New School, New York.

“What is a Laboratory in the Human Sciences” (with Andrew Lakoff and Paul Rabinow). Berkeley, California: Anthropology of the Contemporary Research Collaboratory (www.anthropos-lab.net), 2006.

“The Spatial Forms and Social Norms of ‘Actually Existing Neoliberalism’: Toward a Substantive Analytics.” GPIA Working Paper.

“Local Welfare Regimes, Fiscal Crisis, and Institutional Change in Post-Socialist Georgia.” Working Paper, National Council for East European and Eurasian Research, December 2003.

Professional Papers and Presentations

“Second Thoughts on the Death of the Social: Neoliberalism as Critique.” Presented at a workshop on the Neoliberal Social. Department of Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University, Montreal, February 3, 2014.

“Fieldwork as technique for generating what kind of surprise? Thoughts on Post-Soviet Social in light of “Fieldwork/Research” Presented at workshop on Anthropology beyond Ethnos, University of California, Irvine, Department of Anthropology, December 6, 2013.

“Two Forms of Vulnerability.” Keynote addresses presented at the CRESC Annual Conference, London School of Economics, September 4-6, 2013.

"Infrastructure and Reflexive Modernization." Presented at the conference "Thinking Infrastructure after the Material Turn: Connectivities, Topology, Collectivity", University of Hamburg, May 17-18, 2013.

"Neoliberalism and Natural Disaster: Insurance and the Government of Urban Vulnerability." Department of Human Geography, Goethe University of Frankfurt, May 15, 2013.

"Biopolitics and the Security of Vital Systems." Workshop on "Life under Capital." Center for the Humanities. University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 27, 2012.

"Neoliberalism and Natural Disaster: Risk and Security in the Post-World War II United States." Keynote presentation at the conference "Economization of Uncertainty." University of Helsinki, June 16-17, 2011.

"Neoliberalism and Natural Disaster." Paper presented at the Biopower Today conference. University of Zurich. June 9-11, 2011

"The Political Ontology of Emergency: Inventing the Vulnerable Society, 1953-1958." Paper presented at a workshop on "Governing Emergencies." Durham University, UK, December 2010.

"On Vital Systems Security" Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Philadelphia, December 2009.

"Styles of Reasoning about Security: System Vulnerability, Preparedness, and Emergency Response." Panel Presentation. 4S Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C., October 2009.

"Neoliberalism and Public Value." Brown Bag Seminar. Milano School of Management and Urban Policy. The New School. New York. October 2009.

"Post Soviet Social." Graduate Program in International Affairs. Faculty Work in Progress Seminar. October 2009.

"Vital Systems Security." Keynote Address for the conference "Scales of Security." University of Helsinki, June 2008.

"Buchanan's Fiscal Contractarianism." Panel Presentation. Society for Cultural Anthropology Annual Meeting, Long Beach, California, May 2008.

"Vital Systems Security." Yale University Anthropology Colloquium. New Haven, November 2007.

"Neoliberalism and Public Value: The Travels of James M. Buchanan's Fiscal Contractarianism." American Association of Geographers Annual Meetings. San Francisco. April 20, 2007.

“On the Uninsurable Event.” Invited Lecture. Department of Sociology. University of Helsinki, December 2006.

“Infrastructure and Reflexive Modernization.” Invited Lecture. University of Helsinki Collegium. December 2006.

“What is a Collaboratory in the Human Sciences?” Panel Presentation, American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, San Jose, California, November 2006.

“How Infrastructure Became a Security Problem.” Paper presented at the workshop on Critical Infrastructure Protection, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, October 2006.

“On Vital Systems Security.” Faculty Seminar. Program in International Affairs. The New School. March 2006.

“What is an Anthropological Laboratory?” Center for Ethnography, University of California, Irvine. Irvine, California, February 2006.

“Norms and Social Modernity: Liberal, Socialist, Neoliberal.” Annual Meetings of the Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. Salt Lake City, Utah, November 2005.

“The Soviet *Khozyaistvo* after Socialism: Economic Anthropology and the Anthropology of Neoliberalism.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for the Anthropology of North America, Merida, Mexico, May 2005.

“Post-Soviet, Post Social?” Faculty seminar series, The European University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, April 2005.

“The Social Norms and Spatial Forms of ‘Actually Existing Neoliberalism.’” Paper presented at the New York University Urban Studies Seminar, February 2005.

“Social Welfare after Socialism” (with Lucan Way). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Meetings, August 2004.

“Neoliberalism and Substantive Transformation in Post-Soviet Russia.” Paper presented to the U.C. Davis Center for History, Society, and Culture, May 2003.

“Neoliberalism and Substantive Transformation in Post-Soviet Russia.” The Slavic Center, Columbia University, March 2003.

“Bare Life after Socialism.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 2002.

“Social Change, Development, and ‘Transition’ in Post-Soviet Russia.” Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Michigan, September 2002.

"From the Pathology of Certainty to the Ecology of Ignorance." The Harriman Institute, Columbia University, April 2002.

"Toward a Technical Criticism." Rice University Department of Anthropology Colloquium, March 2002.

"Neo-Liberalism, Budgetary Rationality, and 'The Human.'" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 2001.

"The Intransigence of Things: 'City-Building,' 'Transition,' and the Problem of the Future." The Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, February 2001.

"Alternative Concepts and Plausible Alternatives: Studying Post-Soviet Transformation in Monoindustrial Towns." The Berkeley Program in Soviet and Post-Soviet Studies, December 2000.

"What Distinguishes Anthropological Knowledge when everyone is Producing *Logoi* about *Anthropos*?" The Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 2000.

"*Sotsialisticheskie Goroda, Post-Sovetskie Vremena: Razmyshleniia o Gradostroitel'stve.*" ("Socialist Cities, Post-Soviet Times: Reflections on City-Building"). The Moscow School for Social and Economic Sciences, June 2000.

"Maintaining Social Institutions after Socialism" (co-authored with Lucan Way). The World Bank, unpublished working paper, July 1999.

Professional Activities

Peer reviewer for *American Ethnologist*; *Antipode*; *Biosocieties*; *Environment and Planning A*; *Environment and Planning D*; *Comparative Studies in Society and History*; *Cultural Anthropology*; *Current Anthropology*; *Geoforum*; *History of the Human Sciences*; *International Political Sociology*; *Journal of Human Development*; *Political Geography*; *Slavic Review*; *Theory, Culture, and Society*; *Urban Geography*; *World Politics*; Columbia University Press; Duke University Press; University of Pennsylvania Press; Princeton University Press; Routledge; UCL Press.

Grant Reviewer for the National Science Foundation (U.S.); Vienna Science and Technology Fund.

Panel Discussant, American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, San Francisco, California, November 2006.

Panel Discussant, Society for Cultural Anthropology Annual Meetings, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 2006.

Invited Discussant in the Conference “Working in China: Ethnographies of Class, Gender, and Inequality,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, June 2004.

Discussant in the Lecture Series “Ethnography of the State,” on the paper “How to Deal with the Russian State,” Nancy Ries, Princeton University, April 2003.

Co-organizer (with Aihwa Ong), SSRC workshop, “Oikos/Anthropos: Rationality, Technology, Infrastructure,” Prague, April 26-27, 2002 (<http://anthropology.berkeley.edu/workshop.html>).

Co-organizer (with Andrew Lakoff), panel on “Technologies of the Human,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Fall 2001.

Co-organizer (with Andrew Lakoff), panel on “Object and Method in Contemporary Anthropology,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Fall 2000.

Consultant, The World Bank (IBRD), Social Development Department, 1998-1999 (full time in Washington, D.C., February-December 1998; in Russia, January-February 1999; October 1999; March 2000).

Research Assistant, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Science and Technology Studies, Spring 1994.

Awards and Honors

National Science Foundation grant (with Andrew Lakoff), “The Government of Catastrophe”, 2010

Faculty Development Fund grant, The New School (with Natasha Gill), 2005

National Science Foundation grant (with Andrew Lakoff and Paul Rabinow), “The Global Biopolitics of Security,” 2004

Sloan Foundation grant for SSRC workshop on “Oikos and Anthropos: Rationality, Technology, Ethics,” NYU-Prague Center, April 26-27, 2002.

National Council for Eurasian and Eastern European Research grant (with Lucan Way) for research on welfare state transformation in post-socialist Eurasia, 2000

Post-doctoral Fellowship (accepted) from Harriman Institute, Columbia University, 2001-02.

Post-doctoral Fellowships (declined) from Davis Center, Harvard University, and from Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars (for the 2001-02 academic year).

Berkeley Program in Post-Soviet Studies, Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 2001.

Berkeley Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 1999-2001.

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 1995-97.