

Curriculum Vitae

E. Gabriella Coleman
New York University
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication
239 Greene Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10003
212-992-7696
biella@nyu.edu

Education

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Ph.D., Socio-cultural Anthropology, August 2005
M.A., Socio-cultural Anthropology, August 1999

Dissertation title: "The Social Construction of Freedom in Free and Open Source Software: Hackers Ethics, and the Liberal Tradition."

Research location and period: San Francisco, CA and the Netherlands
Funding: SSRC and NSF. August 2001-May 2003

Columbia University, New York, NY
B.A., Religious Studies, May 1996

St. John's School, San Juan, PR
High School, May 1991

Academic Positions

Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Science
Faculty fellowship. Princeton, NJ, September 2010-June 2011 [forthcoming]

Assistant Professor, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication
New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, NY, NY
September 2007-current

Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow, Program in Science, Technology & Society
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
September 2006-September 2008 (held for one year)

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Cultural Analysis
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
July 2005-July 2006 (Center Theme for 2005-2006, Intellectual Property)

Academic Awards & Honors

Gabriel Carras Research Award. NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Awarded for "Code is Speech: Legal Tinkering, Expertise, and Protest among Free and Open Source Software Developers." *Cultural Anthropology*. April 2009

Sol Tax Dissertation Prize, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago
Awarded for the dissertation that combines highest intellectual merit with relevance to Anthropology and action. June 2006

Julien Mezey Dissertation Award, Association for the Study of Law, Culture and Humanities
Awarded for the dissertation that most promises to enrich and advance interdisciplinary scholarship at the intersection of law, culture, and the humanities. March 2006

Frederick K. Starr Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago
Lectureship awarded to four advanced Ph.D. students per year to teach an undergraduate course of their own design. January 2005.

Roy D. Albert Prize, University of Chicago
Best master's thesis in Anthropology. *The Politics of Survival and Prestige: Hacker Identity and the Global Production of an Operating System*. June 2000

Grants and Fellowships

National Science Foundation, Program in Science, Technology, and Society (with Christina Dunbar-Hester)
Funding for "Geek Feminisms: Activism, Technical Practice, and Gender Bending." [forthcoming 2011-2012]

Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Science
Faculty fellowship. Princeton, NJ, September 2010-June 2011

Humanities Initiative/NYU, Technologies of Mediation
Co-applicant (with Ben Kafka NYU MCC, and Clifford Siskin/Robert Young NYU English). Funding to hold seminars and workshops on mediation, technology, and the Enlightenment. NY, NY, September 2009-September 2012

Institute for Public Knowledge/NYU, Technics of Liberalism
Co-applicant (with Ben Kafka NYU MCC). Funding to hold a year-long series of seminars to read texts in liberal thought and their critique with junior faculty members at NYU and invited participants. NY, NY. September 2008-September 2009

Brazil Ford Foundation Educational Grant, Visiting Scholar
Funding to visit the Programa de Pos Graduação em Antropologia Social da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul. Porto Alegre, Brazil and present my work on Free Software, Intellectual Property, and the Liberal Tradition. June 2008

Summer Institute for Junior Scholars, Law and Society Association
The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. July 2006

Charlotte Newcombe Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Foundation
Dissertation writing fellowship for the study of ethical and religious values. September 2003-September 2004

Dissertation Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation
Dissertation research grant from the program in Societal Dimensions of Engineering, Science and Technology. September 2002- May2003

Fieldwork Grant, Social Science Research Council
Dissertation research grant for the study of nonprofits and philanthropy. September 2001- September 2002

Graduate Studies Fellowship, National Science Foundation
Three year fellowship for graduate studies. July 1998-June 2001

Summer Travel Grant, University of Chicago
Travel funded by the Center for Latin American Studies for research in the Dominican Republic. July 1998

Summer Travel Grant, University of Chicago
Travel funded by the Race, Politics, and Culture Center for research in Guyana, South America. July 1999

Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago
Four year unendowed university fellowship. Held October 1997- June 1998

Publications

Coding Freedom: The Pleasures and Ethics of Hacking. Book manuscript under contract with Princeton University Press (under a Creative Commons license)

Revoluções Silenciosas: o Irônico Surgimento do Software Livre e de Código Aberto e a Constituição de uma Consciência Legal Hacker. In Fachel Leal Ondina (Org.) "Estudos de Propriedade Intelectual". Porto Alegre: Editora Tomo, Forthcoming, July 2010

Ethnography of Digital Media. *Annual Review of Anthropology*. Forthcoming, Fall 2010.

Hacking In-Person: The Ritual Character of Conferences and the Distillation of a Life-World. *Anthropological Quarterly*. 83(1): 99-124

Code is Speech: Legal Tinkering, Expertise, and Protest among Free and Open Source Software Developers. *Cultural Anthropology*. 24(3): 420-454

Hacker Practice: Moral Genres and the Cultural Articulation of Liberalism (with Alex Golub). *Anthropological Theory*. 8(3):255-277. September 2008 [First author]

The Politics of Rationality: Psychiatric Survivor's Challenge to Psychiatry. In *Tactical Biopolitics*. Kavita Phillip and Beatriz de Costa (editors). Cambridge: MIT Press, July 2008

Los Temps d'Indymedia. *Multitudes*. (21): 41-48, May 2005

NGO's in the Developing World. In *The Politics of Open Source Adoption*. Joe Karaganis and Robert Latham (eds.). Report commissioned by the Social Science Research Council: 60-67, May 2005

The Political Agnosticism of Free and Open Source Software and the Inadvertent Politics of Contrast. *Anthropology Quarterly*. 77(03): 507-519, Summer 2004

Iconic Tactics: How Free Became Open and Everything Else Under the Sun (with Benjamin Hill). *M/C a Journal of Media and Culture*, July 2004 [Co-author]
[http://journal.media-culture.org.au/0406/02_Coleman-Hill.php]

The (copylefted) Source Code for the Ethical Production of Information Freedom in *The Sarai Reader 03: Shaping Technologies*. New Delhi: Sarai, The New Media Initiative: 297-302, 2003

High-Tech Guilds in the Era of Global Capital. *The Journal for the Anthropology of Work*. XXII (1): 28-32, Spring 2001

Book Reviews

Hacking (Tim Jordan). Book Review. *Journal of Communication*. 59(4): 19-22, 2010

Copy, Rip, Burn: The Politics of Copyleft and Open Source. (David Berry). Book Review. *Times Higher Education*. February 12, 2009
<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=405344&c=2>

Code: Collaborative Ownership and the Digital Economy. (Rishab Aiyer Ghosh, ed.) Book Review. *The Information Society*. (23)2, 2007

Artifacts: An Archeologist's Year in Silicon Valley (Christine Finn). Book Review. *Technology and Culture*. 44: 196-197, 2003

Scholarly Interests & Dissertation Research

Science, technology, and medicine; computer hackers and free software; the cultural life of liberalism (free speech, intellectual property law, tolerance, self-determination etc.); hacker history/culture; politics of digital media; user generated medical knowledge and patient activism (psychiatric survivors, lyme disease); poetics of politics

Field & Historical Research

The Politics of Liberal Tolerance and Aversion: Hacking, Internet Culture, and Scientology
Archival Research, University of Alberta November 2006-July 2007.
Internet Research, January 2007-current

The Politics of Lyme Disease: Patient Advocacy and the Diminishing Agency of the Bacteria.
May 2007-current

Psychiatric Survivors and the Politics of Liberal Self-determination and Rationality
May 2005-current

Independent Media Centers: New Media, Grass-roots Activism, and the Politics of Software
Virtual Online Research, March 2004-May 2005

Dissertation Research on Free and Open Source Software Hackers
San Francisco and Silicon Valley, January 2001-May 2003.
The Netherlands, October 2002
Additionally traveled to various Hacker conferences (Defcon, Debconf, HOPE, Codecon) held in cities across North America.

Religious Healing in the Caribbean

Guyana, South America, July 1995 & June-August 1999.
Dominican Republic, July-August 1999.

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU

"Impacts of Technology," "Introduction to Human Culture and Communication," Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Fall 2009.
"Topics in Digital Media," Spring 2008. "The Culture and Politics of Computer Hacking," Fall 2008, Spring 2010.
"The Politics of Digital Media," Spring 2009, Spring 2010. "Technology, the Body, and Society," Spring 2009.
"Dissertation Proposal Writing," Fall 2009

Frederick K. Starr Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

Designed and taught a course for undergraduate students: "Hackers: The Ethics and Politics of Information Freedom and Privacy." Winter 2005

College Instructor, Graham School, University of Chicago

Designed and taught two summer intensive university seminar courses to college and advanced high school students: "Hacker Culture and History" and "Introduction to Medical Anthropology."
Summer 2001

Invited Paper Presentations, Lectures, & Workshops

The Ethics of Peer Production. Plenary talk at the 2010 Future of News and Civic Media Conference. MIT. Cambridge, MA, June 2010

Old & New Net Wars Over Free Speech, Freedom & Secrecy; or How to Understand the Hacker & Lulz Battle against the Church of Scientology. Talk presented at: the *Radars and Fences Conferences*. New York University, NY, NY, March 2008; the *Communications Colloquium*, Columbia University. NY, NY, November 2008; *Information Society Project*, Yale University. New Haven, CT, December 2008; *Department of Communications*, Drexel University. Philadelphia, Penn, February 2009; *Institute for Public Knowledge*, New York University. NY, NY March 2009; *Science and Technology Studies Department*, Cornell University. Ithaca, NY, October 2009; *Faculty of Law*, Victoria University of Wellington. Wellington, New Zealand, January 2010; *Interactive Telecommunications Program*, NYU. NY, NY March 2010; *Digital Religion: Transforming Knowledge and Practice Conference*. NYU's Center for Religion and Media. New York, New York, March 2010

Cabals, Crisis, and Conflict. Keynote talk at the Developing the Virtual Society: Conflict in Adoption of Collaborative Networks Conference. University of Hull. Hull, England, March 2010

These are the Best of Times and these are the Worst of Times: F/OSS and the Global Politics of Intellectual Property Law. Keynote talk at the Linux.conf.au Conference. Wellington, New Zealand, January 2010

Roundtable on Technology and Democracy. Moderator. Communication Colloquium. Columbia University. New York, NY, November 2009

fsck Purity: Lessons about the Politics and Pleasures of Free Software. Talk given at The Internet as Factory and Playground Conference. New School. New York, NY, November 2009

Upgrade! NY: Free as in What? Panel debate on what constitutes freedom and openness among F/OSS developers. Upgrade NY Open Source Series. Eyebeam, NY, NY, October 2009

Anthropological Musings on the Politics of F/OSS. Pre-circulated essay for the Free Culture Research Workshop. Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard Law School. Cambridge, MA, October 2009

Variants of Hacking. Inaugural Talk for the Digital Humanities Study Group at the CUNY Graduate Center. NY, NY, October 2009

The Politics and Poetics of DeCSS. Featured Talk at the Open Video Conference. New York University. NY, NY, June 2009

Silent Revolutions: The Ironic Rise of Free and Open Source Software and the Making of a Hacker Legal Consciousness. Workshop presentation at the Yale, Harvard, MIT Cyberscholars Meeting. Yale Law School. New Haven, CT, March 2009

Institute of Network Culture "Wintercamp." On-site coordinator and plenary presentation on "Scaling in

Networks." Institute of Network Cultures. Amsterdam, Netherlands, March 2-8th 2009

The Tension between Corporate Sociality and Individual Liberalism in Debian. Paper presentation at the Copyright's Counterparts Workshop. Queens College, Kingston, Canada, August 2008

Silent Revolutions: The Ironic Rise of Free and Open Source Software and the Making of a Hacker Legal Consciousness. Public lecture at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil and paper presentation at the Grupo de Pesquisa em Políticas Públicas para o Acesso à Informação, University of São Paulo Brazil, June 2008

Social Networks and the Public Sphere. Round table presentation and discussion at the Social Media and the Commodification of Community Workshop. University of Haifa, Faculty of Law. Haifa, Israel, May 2008

The View from Computer Hacking: (New) Media Technologies and the (Older) Ethics of Liberalism. Paper presentation at the New Trends of Socio-information in East Asia Conference. University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, November 2007

The Ideology of Medical Progress as a Problem of Political Success. Paper presentation at the pre-conference workshop for Eugenics and Sterilization in Alberta 35 Years Later. University of Alberta. Edmonton, Canada, April 2007

At the Center and Margins of the Liberal Tradition: How Hacker Political Protest Led to the Stabilization of Free Speech Principles. Workshop presentation at the Law and Science Workshop Series hosted by the Program in Law, Jurisprudence, and Social Thought. Amherst College, Amherst, MA, February 2007

The Poetics of Hacking: Humor and Liberal Selfhood. Lecture at the annual free software Debian developer conference. Oaxtepec, Mexico, May 2006

Codes of Value: Hacker Pragmatics, Poetics, and Selfhood. Presentation on a pre-circulated paper. Con/texts of Invention: A Working Conference of the Society for Critical Exchange. Case Western University, Cleveland, OH, April 2006

On the Centers and Margins of Liberalism: How Hackers Challenge Trends in Intellectual Property Law Through the Rearticulation of Free Speech Principles. Lecture in the Engaged Anthropology Lecture Series, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ and the Program in Science and Technology Studies, University of Alberta. Edmonton, Canada, March 2006

Silent Revolutions: How F/OSS Came to Challenge Neoliberal Trends in Intellectual Property Law. Presentation on a pre-circulated paper. Globalizing Informatics. University of Indiana, Bloomington, Indiana, March 2006

Three Ethical Moments in Debian: Enculturation, Legal Pedagogy, and Crisis. Presentation on a pre-circulated paper. Information Society Project Speaker Series. Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, November 2005

The Social Construction of Freedom in Free and Open Source Software: Hackers, Ethics, and the Liberal Tradition. Lecture in the Franz Boas Seminar Series. Columbia University, NY, NY, November 2005

Psychiatric Survivors and the Performance of Rationality. Paper presentation. BioArt and Public Sphere Conference. UC Irvine, Irvine. CA, October 2005

NGO Adoption of Free and Open Source Software. Lecture at What the Hack. Bostel, Netherlands, July 2005

The Political Ecology of Media Activism and Computer Hacking. Lecture at the Institute for Social Ecology as part of their summer intensive course, "Theoretical Inquiries in the Age of Globalization." Institute for Social Ecology, Plainfield, Vermont, August 2004

Ethical Volunteerism and Debian. Lecture at Debconf4, the annual free software Debian developer conference. Porto Alegre, Brazil, May 2004.

Ethics and Politics of Information Technology. Participant in a two day anthropology workshop on new information technologies. Rice University, Houston, Texas, May 2004

Every Rope Ghat Two Ends: The Caribbean Meeting Grounds of Internet Relay Chat. Paper presentation at the Digital Genres Initiative. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 2003

Paper Presentations

Trolling! Lightning Talk at The New Everyday Unconference. Visual Culture Working Group. New York University.

New York, NY

Battle Star Galactica: Hacker Battles on the Internet and the Limits of Liberal Tolerance.

Paper presentation at the American Anthropological Association Meetings (National Conference). San Francisco, CA, November, 2008

From Psychiatric Survivors to the Icarus Project and the Importance of a Radical Politics of (Shifting) Continuity.

Paper presentation at the Cultural Studies Association Meetings (National Conference) New York, NY, May 2008

The Hacker Conference Examined: How the Modern Day Conference Acts as the Ritual Underside of Virtual Publics.

Paper presentation at the American Anthropological Association Meetings (National Conference) Washington D.C., November 2007

Battle Star Galactica: Hacker Battles on the Internet and the Limits of Liberal Tolerance.

Paper presentation at the Association of American Law Schools (National Conference). Washington D.C., January, 2007

Psychiatric Survivors and the Survival of a Radical Politics of Freedom.

Paper presentation at the 4S Conference (International Conference). Vancouver, Canada, November 2006

Crisis, Ethics, and Trust in Virtuality.

Paper presentation at the American Anthropological Association Meetings (National Conference). Washington D.C., November 2005

Realizing Freedom: The Culture of Liberalism and Hacker Ethical Practice.

Paper presentation at the 4S Conference (International Conference). Paris, France, August 2004

An Army of Amateur Legal Scholars: How Free and Open Source Software Developers Have Come to Habituate an Ethos for Expressive Rights.

Paper presentation at the 4S Conference (International Conference). Paris, France, August 2004

The Re-localization of Intellectual Property Rights and the Rise of Expressive Rights among Free and Open Source Software Hackers.

Paper presentation at the Law and Society Conference (International Conference). Chicago, IL, April 2004

The Political Agnosticism of Free Software and the Politics of Contrast.

Paper presentation at the American Anthropological Association Meetings (National Association). Chicago, IL, November 2003

The (copylefted) Source Code for the Ethical Production of Information Freedom.

Paper presentation at the 4S Conference (International Conference). Milwaukee, WI, November 2001

High-Tech Guilds in the Era of Global Capital.

Paper Presentation at the American Anthropological Association meeting as part of an invited session: *Work as Mission: Silicon Valley and Beyond* (National Conference). San Francisco, CA, November 2000

The Reconceptualization of Class, Ethnicity, and Race through Kali Mai Healing Practices.

Paper presentation at the Central States American Anthropological Society Meetings (National Conference). Chicago, IL, April 1998

Podcast/Radio Interviews

Digital Book Piracy on CBC Spark

<http://www.cbc.ca/spark/2009/11/spark-93-november-29-december-1-2009/>

The Quest for Free Culture (with Elizabeth Stark) on Radio Berkman

<http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/mediaberkman/2009/10/29/radio-berkman-135/>

Mad Movement Strategies on Madness Radio

<http://www.madnessradio.net/madness-radio-mad-movement-strategies-gabriella-coleman>

Professional Activities & Service

Board Member, Students for Free Culture Faculty Advisory Board

May 2010-present

Program Committee, Free Culture Research Conference

May 2010

Advisory Member, *International Collaborative Dictionary of Communication* (ICDC)

Online resource of key concepts in the field of Communications. Hosted by SSRC
October 2009-present

Scientific Committee, *Critical Studies in Peer Production* (journal)
November 2009-present

Collective Member, *Social Text Journal*
June 2009-present

Web Committee Member, *Social Text Journal*
June 2009-present

Co-organizer Global Cafe, Institute for Public Knowledge, NYU (with Michael Ralph, SCA, NYU)
Lunch time lectures with NYU faculty members. June 2009-present

Program Committee Member
The Politics of Open Source Conference, hosted by the Journal of Information Technology & Politics,
the Politics. University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Massachusetts, April 2010

Manuscript Reviewer
Ethnos, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Science Studies*, *Human Organization*, and *Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS)*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Social Text*, *Cultural Anthropology*

Contested Illnesses: Ambivalence and Advocacy in the Age of Technology, Co-organizer with
Chloe Silverman (Penn State) and Alex Choby (UCSF/Berkeley). Panel at the 45 Annual Meetings.
Vancouver, Canada. October 2006

What Sorts of People Should There Be? Past, Present, Future, Team Member.
Interdisciplinary collaborative project at the interface of humanities and the sciences and forces on
human enhancement, normalcy, and variation. Organized by Rob Wilson, Department of Philosophy,
University of Alberta. September 2006

Science, Technology, Society, and the State Workshop, Organizer
University of Chicago graduate student run workshop. October 2004-June 2005

Culture's Open Sources, Co-organizer with Chris Kelty (Rice University)
Panel at the American Anthropological Association Meetings. Chicago, IL, November 2003

Board Member, Online Policy Group
The Online Policy Group is a nonprofit organization dedicated to online policy research, outreach, and
action on issues such as access, privacy, and digital defamation. Board members are responsible for
shaping the mission and vision of organization as well as working closely with one operational
element of the organization. I also represented OPG at various events as well as coordinated interns
and volunteers. December 2001-June 2003

Volunteer Coordinator Intern, Electronic Frontier Foundation
Coordinated and managed the technical volunteer projects at the EFF, a nonprofit organization
founded in 1990 to protect civil liberties related to the Internet and technology. My internship was also a key
component of my ethnographic research in San Francisco. My duties included: proposing projects, finding
volunteers, coordinating collaborative-based projects, arranging project meetings, and creating and updating
webpages for each project. August 2001-December 2002

Work & Other Research Experience

Research Assistant, New Media Center, Northwestern University
Read, reviewed, and coded thousands of newspaper articles for a sociological research project on
media demographics of the 55+ generation. Assisted in the final editing of final research reports.
August 1997-January 1998

Lead Interviewer, New York Psychiatric Institute, Columbia University
Conducted three hour interviews with mothers and children in Westchester County, NY for a public
health study that sought to describe the components of child and adolescent mental health service
use within and across five service systems: juvenile justice, social services, special education,
substance abuse, and mental health. August 1996-May 1997

Crew Member, R/V Heraclitus
Crew member on the R/V Heraclitus, an 82-foot three-masted Chinese junk. Along with seamanship,
rigging, and navigational duties, I participated in a four month coral reef data collection project in the Turneffe
atoll, located 28 miles east off the coast of Belize. May 1991-June 1992

Committee Work

Study Committee, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU

Member, September 2009-May 2010

Undergraduate Committee, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU
Member, September 2009-May 2010

Job Search Committee, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU
Member, September 2009-March 2009

Technical Committee, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU
Chair, September 2007-2009

Technical Committee, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, NYU
Member, December 2007-current

Student Advising

Committee Chair (Current)

Max Salzberg, NYU, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Ruby on Rails." B.A. Thesis.

Committee Member (Current)

Alice Marwick, NYU, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Becoming Elite: Social Status in Web 2.0 Cultures." Ph.D. Proposal

Marissa Kantor Dennis, NYU, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Meaningful Access: The Art of Interpreting Clinical Encounters." Ph.D. Proposal

Committee Chair (Past)

Renee S. Heining, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Digital Defense: Integrating New Media in the Fight Against Street Harassment." B.A. Thesis, 2009

Charlotte Horton, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "The Politics of Graffiti." B.A. Thesis, 2009

Mike Goren, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Assessing Tradeoffs in the New Networked Economy" M.A. Thesis, 2008

Hannah Martin, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "A Doctor-Patient Narrative." B.A. Thesis, 2008

Guy Dickinson, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Hacker Representations in the Media." B.A. Thesis, 2008

Zachary Sehy, NYU, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "Internet Access and Regulation." M.A. Thesis, 2008

Committee Member (past)

Joseph Reagle, NYU, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication. "In Good Faith: the Collaborative Culture of Wikipedia." Ph.D. Thesis, 2008

Benjamin "Mako" Hill, MIT Media Lab. "Parallel Document Management." M.A. Thesis.,2007