
Slavery, emancipations and legacies



Slavery, emancipations and legacies

- How do contemporary and historical forms of enslavement shape political, economic, social and cultural life along lines of race, caste, gender and class?



Slavery, emancipations and legacies

- Despite longstanding national and international legislation on abolition and emancipation, enslavement and unfree labour have ongoing histories and legacies.
- This module examines enslaved and unfree persons, processes of emancipation, and legacies of slavery from crosscultural perspectives.

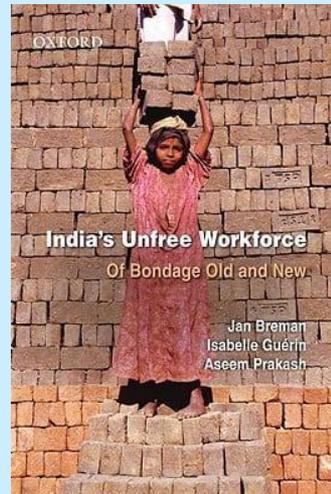
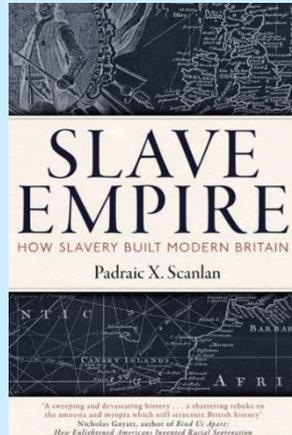
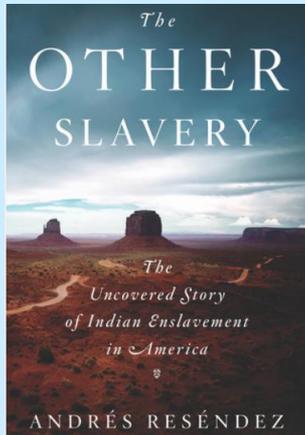


Topics

The module addresses historical formations of enslavement as well as their transformations into the contemporary era.

The module explores intersections of enslavement with:

genocide, colonialism, (forced) migration and global capitalism;



RUMOUR AND MYTH IN THE LABOUR CAMPS OF QATAR

December 2012 · *Anthropology Today* 28(6)

DOI: [10.1111/j.1467-8322.2012.00914.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-8322.2012.00914.x)

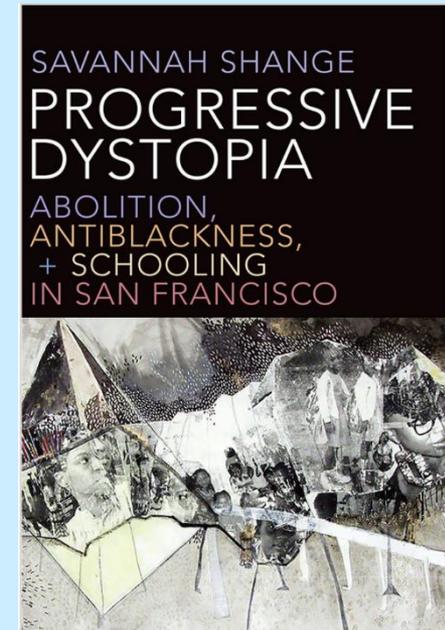
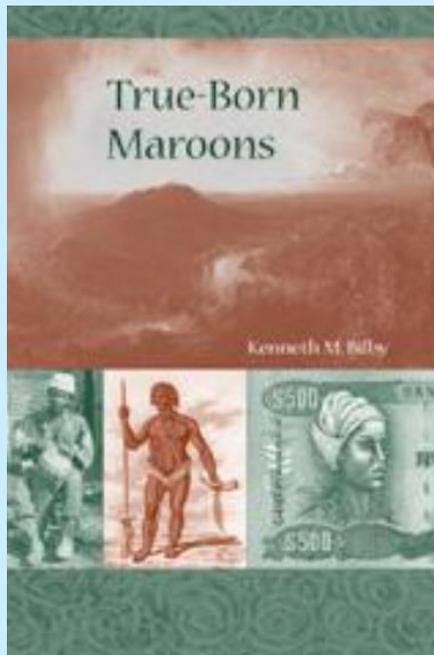
Authors:



Andrew Gardner
University of Puget Sound

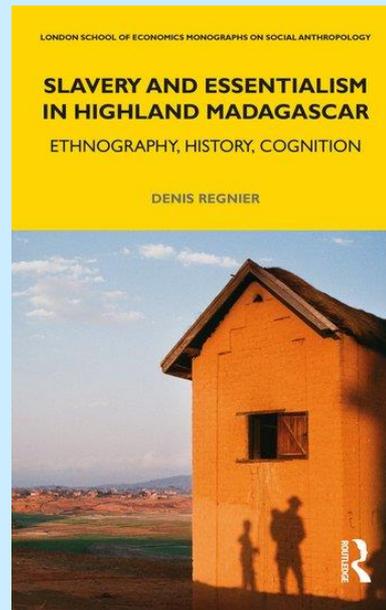
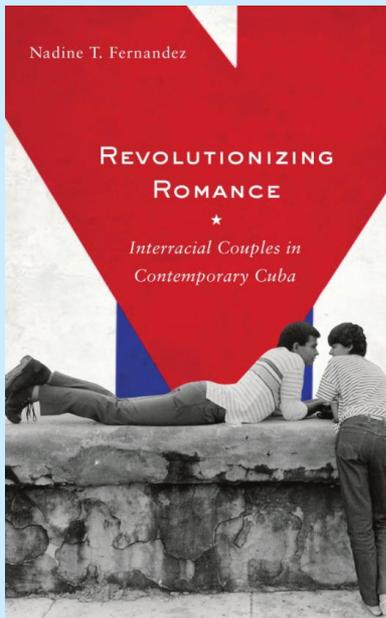
Topics

... resistance, rebellion and emancipation movements;



Topics

... legacies of unfree labour in physical and structural violence, intimate relationships, material environments, and contested memorialization.



Teaching

2 hr seminar and student-led activities

1 hr: lecture (on topic of *following* week)

Teaching

Key focus throughout the module: the analysis of objects such as statues, monuments, buildings, equipment, clothing, commodities, documents, paintings, e.g. ...



Tomb of the Unknown Slave, New Orleans



Decapitated statue of Josephine Bonaparte, Martinique



Manumission document, Qatar Digital Library

Resources

Along with scholarly ethnographies, we will consult textual, oral and visual sources e.g.

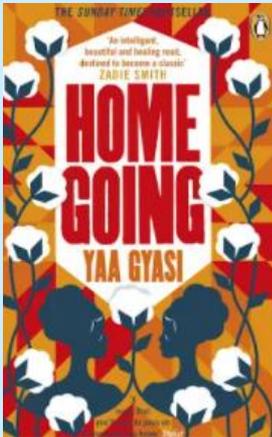
Websites ucl.ac.uk/lbs/ www.antislavery.org/ www.shadowofslavery.org/

Podcasts A drum tells histories of enslavement: shorturl.at/dloC0
Pollution as the “new slavery” in Martinique: shorturl.at/bmnsG

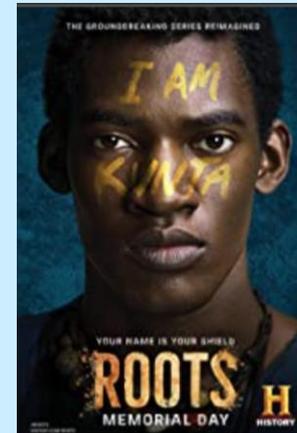
Videos Britain’s forgotten slave owners: shorturl.at/IJLP4

Blogs Legacies of slavery and US electoral demography: shorturl.at/syRSV

Novels



Films



Learning outcomes

1. demonstrate understanding of how unfreedom takes historically divergent forms, and of how it intersects with race, ethnicity, caste, gender and class
2. demonstrate understanding of transformations of slavery and unfree labour over time
3. demonstrate understanding of how slavery and unfree labour have shaped historical and contemporary political, economic, social and cultural life

Learning outcomes

4. demonstrate understanding of how slavery and its legacies challenge conventional narratives of global history
5. critically evaluate the forms, possibilities and limitations of emancipation programmes and resistance movements
6. apply anthropological analyses, such as of capitalism, colonialism, kinship, material culture and memory, to the study of past and present forms of unfreedom

Assessment

We will assess these learning outcomes through mid-term and final assessments.

Midterm assessment (25%):

1000 plan of the two assessments that will be in the final portfolio

The final assessment (75%) builds on the feedback on your mid-term assessment:

1000 word report on an object of your choice

2000 word essay on a topic of your choice relating to the module



Examples of student topics

Objects:

The slave ship the banjo Capoeira Congo Square, New Orleans Sugar

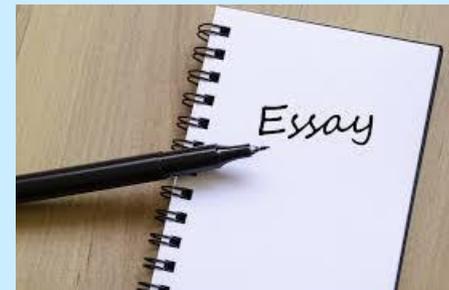
Essay topics:

Gendered resistance in transatlantic enslavement

Magdalene laundries, Ireland

Unfree labour in neoliberal capitalist economies

Rastafarianism and reggae music as cultural resistance



About the convenor

Alice Wilson, Senior Lecturer, Social Anthropology

My research addresses social, political and economic change in liberation movements and revolutions in the Arab region, including the liberation movements that emancipated enslaved persons in southern Oman in 1968, and in Western Sahara in 1975.

My research has examined how emancipation plays out in political, economic and social life.

Read about post emancipation electoral politics in Oman:
shorturl.at/bqvDF

Any questions?
alice.wilson@sussex.ac.uk

