

Curriculum Vitae

Dennis L. Gaffin

Associate Professor

Department of Anthropology

Undergraduate/ Graduate Faculty

1. Academic Degrees and Certification

Ph.D.	University at Buffalo	1987	Anthropology
M.A.	Binghamton University	1980	Anthropology
B.S.	Northeastern University	1972	Criminology
	Northwestern University		Sociology

2. Buffalo State College Appointment Record

a. Initial appointment	assistant professor	1989
b. Reappointments		1991, 1993, 1994
c. Promotion	to associate professor	1995
Appointment to Graduate Faculty		1995
d. Leaves	sabbatical leave	2000 one semester
	sabbatical leave	2007 one semester

3. Buffalo State College Instructional Record

ANT 101 Understanding Culture	every semester, two sections, always full: for first twelve years 120 students, last ten years 90 student sections for semester total of	180 students
ANT 303 Anthropology of Europe (self-designed new course)	every 4 th semester	20-25 students
ANT 315W Research Methods	Fall, 2009	25 students
ANT 327 Medical Anthropology - (cross-listed with Health and Wellness) revised,	every 4 th semester	20-30 students
ANT 365 Practicing Anthropology	every 4 th semester until 2007	15 students
ANT 384 Law, Culture, and Social Control (self-designed), 1989, '91,'94,		15 students
ANT 367 Culture and Ecology (self-designed) -	every 4 th semester,	15-25 students
ANT 381 Religion, Magic, and Culture (self-designed) every 4 th semester since 1999.		
	always full	60 students
ANT 389 Peasants (self-designed)	1989	11 students
ANT 412W Seminar in Cultural Anthropology (self-designed new course)	2011	15 students
ANT 488 Anthropology Internships 1992-1998 supervised placements and academic work of numerous students (see list of placements in supportive documentation under teaching)		
ANT 594 Culture and Ecology (combined with Ant 389) (self-designed)		3 grad students
HONORS 302/ANT 327 Medical Anthropology HONORS CLASS	spring 2000	19 students

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT COURSE INSTRUCTION

Independent Study Faculty J. Harris ("Virtual Culture") spring 2009
Independent Study Faculty J. Murszewski ("Health and Culture") fall 2009
Independent Study Faculty D. Thomann ("Medical Anthro in Tibetan India"), on site in India
with me as part of the international organization – Himalayan Health Exchange summer 2007
Independent Study Faculty L. Kozinski ("Revitalization Movements") fall 2006

ANT 303 Anthropology of Europe (course by contract) J. Hoekstra spring 2006
ANT 405W History of Anthropological Thought (courses by contract)
K. Deppa spring 2003
O. Gross spring 2003
R. Cuddahee fall 1998

Independent Study ANT 499 J. Campise summer 2003
Independent Study Faculty E. Villa ("Latin Ethnomusicology") spring 2002
Independent Study Faculty N. Padmanabna ("Sacred Text India") spring 2001
Independent Study Faculty S. McCollum ("Anthropology and Tourism") spring 2001

4. Professional Experience

University Faculty Positions:

Chairman (Acting), Buffalo State College Department of Anthropology. 2006-2008
Graduate School Faculty, Buffalo State College SUNY Great Lakes Center for Environmental
Research and Education 1995 - present
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Buffalo State College 1996 - present
Faculty, Himalayan Health Exchange, medical anthropology instructor for US college students
in India, summers 2005, 2007
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Buffalo State College 1989-95
Visiting Scholar, Hamilton College 1988-89
Instructor, Division of Social Sciences – Anthropology, Syracuse University/Utica College
1988
Instructor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
1985-86

Research Experience (independent research; research instruction; research admin).

Instructor of Ethnographic Research, BSC Anthropology Seminar ANT412W Fall 2010
Overseas ethnographic research, Ireland, 1999-2000 2001, 2002, 2004, 2006

Researcher (Canada)

- a. Sliammon (First) Nations (British Columbia) Mental Health (see below) 2008
- b. Health Canada: First Nations and Inuit Health Mental Health (see below) 2007
- BSC Center for the Development of Human Services minigrants – cultural diversity and cultural competence 997- 2006
- Great Lakes Center Environmental Stevenson Awards Committee 1996-8
- BSC Faculty Mini-Grant Committee Member (awarding panel) 1995-97
- Research Administration, BSC Chairman of Research Minigrants Committee 1993-5
- Fieldwork Research: Development anthropology and ethnobotanical research.
Dominica, Lesser Antilles 1990
- Research Director/ Chairman of Institutional Research Review Board: Central New York
Psychiatric Center; Anthropological and psychiatric research. Utica, NY; 1986-89
- Anthropological field research, New York State Department of Mental Health, 1988-89
- Research Methods Instructor, SUNY Buffalo, to international Fulbright grad students 1985
- Overseas Field Research: Twelve months fieldwork on law, conflict, and ecology.
Faeroe Islands, Scandinavia 1983-84
- Historical Research: Several months oral historical research on law, crime and religion in tsarist
Russia. Buffalo, NY 1982-83
- Research Director: Brandeis University/National Institute of Justice. Designed and
implemented experimental design justice and dispute resolution research, integrating intensive
research into on-going conflict resolution and human service program. Boston, MA 1978-79

Applied Anthropology, Administrative and Program Development Experience

- Sliammon (First) Nations, British Columbia, Canada. Research, evaluation, and policy and
practice recommendations for implementation of best practices and policies for
Aboriginal mental health (with Dr. A. Bodnar, University of Toronto/ Canadian
Aboriginal Mental Health (CAMH) (133 page report) 2008
- Health Canada: First Nations and Inuit Health (Federal Department). Research, evaluation, and
recommendations for policy and public education for best practices for Aboriginal
Suicide Prevention. (with Dr. A. Bodnar) (116 page report) 2007

Concerned Citizens of Centerville, NY research, report writing, advocacy, legal
testimony 2009-11

Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism,
Advisor, Facilitator 1992-5

New York State Office of Mental Health: Resident Social Scientist/Director for Research/Evaluation at Central New York Psychiatric Center: Research and evaluation, research consultancy/administration; clinical consultant on cultural and religious issues in patient care/programming in forensic psychiatry. Fellowship program instructor; field placement supervisor 1986-89

- 1) Community Mediator and Co-developer of publicly funded Hispanic human services program.
- 2) Director of EARN-IT restitution and community services program and Director of private Court Alternative Placement Program, independent restitution program for court-involved adults and juveniles including Hispanic, employment and alcohol/drug/mental health services and an integrated research program. Raised funds and recruited culturally diverse community Board of Directors in conjunction with local corporations

- 1) Northeastern University/Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
- 2) Salem State College/Essex (MA) Superior Court. Consultant on development, cultural issues and community involvement in alternative crime sentencing, dispute, and private business employment programs. Boston, MA 1979

Research and Evaluation Consultant: Boston University Law School Center for Criminal Justice. Designed/implemented research evaluation of controversial Massachusetts mandatory gun law. Boston, MA 1977

Boston University/Walpole State Prison: Co-originator and developer of education/dispute abatement program. Manager and teacher of race relations, violence reduction, and educational awareness courses for black, white, Hispanic maximum-security prisoners; Massachusetts 1976-77

American Friends Service Committee, New England Office: Justice Program Coordinator for court and prison projects Cambridge, MA 1976

5. Awards/Special Recognition

BSC Faculty Award for Promotion of Respect for Diversity and Individual Differences	2009
BSC Services for Students with Disabilities "Hero Award"	2002
SUNY Research Foundation Center for the Development of Human Services "Valuable Contributor"	1999
SUNY College at Buffalo Sponsored Programs Research Grant	1994
SUNY Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrants	1994-2003
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Institute of Social and Economics Research, Memorial University of Newfoundland	1990
Doctoral Fellowship in the Social Sciences, University of Buffalo	1985
Government Research Grant, Faeroe Islands, Scandinavia	1983

6. Current Professional and Academic Association Memberships

American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Anthropology and Environment Section (AAA)
Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness
Society for the Anthropology of Europe
Society for the Anthropology of Religion

(Previously) Association for the Practice of Anthropology

8. Scholarly Work/ Creative Activities

a. books published

2012 *Running with the Fairies: Towards a Transpersonal Anthropology of Religion*. Newcastle upon Tyne, England: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
1996 *In Place: Spatial and Social Order in a Faeroe Islands Community*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.

b. articles published

- 1998 *Ethos* article below chosen for inclusion (in condensed form) in *Being Human: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*. Prentice-Hall.
- 1997 Offending and Defending U.S. Rural Place: Valued Spaces and the Mega-Dump Battle in Western New York, *Human Organization*. Fall 56(3):275-284.
- 1996 "From 'Bugging Out' to 'Chilling Out': The Manipulation of Emotion and the Evocation of Reason in a Forensic Psychiatric Hospital", *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*. 20(2):199-228.
- 1995 The Production of Emotion and Social Control: 'Taunting', Anger, and the Rukka in the Faeroe Islands. *Ethos* 23(2):149-172.
- 1994 People as Landmarks: The Geographic Identities of Faeroe Islanders, *Landscape*, Vol. 32, 2:20-27.
- 1993 Landscape, Culture, and Personhood: Names of Places and People in the Faeroe Islands, *Ethnos*. Vol. 1, 2:53-72.
- 1991 Faeroe Islands: Clowning, Drama, and Distortion In *Deviance: Anthropological Perspectives* ed. by M. Freilich, D. Raybeck, and J. Savishinsky. Bergin and Garvey Press, 191-212.
- 1988 Ethnographic photographs on shepherding, sheep and nature in "Knitting in the Faeroe Islands" by Madelynn Fatelewitz, *Threads*, No. 16, April/May, 50-56.
- 1986 Being Jewish in Tsarist Russia: Indecency, Ostracism and Yiddishkayt in Oral History. *International Journal of Oral History*, February, Vol. 7, 19-48.

c. Professional applied anthropology reports and writings (unpublished)

- 2008 "Sliammon Nations Mental Health" (with Dr. A. Bodnar)
- 2007 "Aboriginal Suicide Prevention" (with Dr. A. Bodnar)
- 2006-1997 Center for the Development of Human Services minigrant reports on cultural diversity and cultural competence projects.
- 1994 Legal brief/testimony submitted to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Administrative Law Judge and designated parties regarding proposed "Southern Tier Sanitary Landfill."
- 1988 "Restraints at Central New York Psychiatric Center: A Special Report", evaluation study for the New York State Office of Mental Health, .
- 1988 "Patient Interviews: A Preliminary Report", research and evaluation report for the New York State Office of Mental Health, Central New York Psychiatric Center
- 1987 Everyday People as Living Legends: The Art of Social Control in a Faeroese Village, doctoral dissertation, SUNY Buffalo.
- 1987 "Voodoo, Trance States, and Rosicrucianism." A Special Report for the Central New York Psychiatric Center, New York State Office of Mental Health,
- 1987 "Anthropology, Corrections, and Mental Health", New York State Office of Mental Health report
- 1987 "Mental Illness, Criminality and AIDS", Co-script writer of training video with C. Cram. New York State Office of Mental Health.
- 1980 "Crime as Adaptive Strategy: A Theory of Criminal Anthropology" master's thesis.

d. Book reviews

- 1997 Book Review (solicited) of *No Nation is an Island*. *American Anthropologist*. September 99(3):667-8.
- 1996 Book review (solicited) of textbook *Cultural Anthropology* by Marvin Harris for Harper Collins Publishing, New York; unpublished
- 1995 Book review of *Sauna as Symbol: Society and Culture in Finland* for 2/95 Bulletin of The Society for the Anthropology of Europe.

e. Reviewer for external research foundation proposals; peer reviewer for journals

National Science Foundation	reviewer for research grant proposals	2009, 2010
'Social Science Journal'	peer reviewer	2011
'Human Ecology: An Interdisciplinary Journal'	peer reviewer	2001
'Journal of Anthropological Research'	peer reviewer	2007
'Human Organization (Journal of Applied Anthropology)'	peer reviewer	2006

f. Grants

SUNY Research Foundation Provost's Incentive Grant (for fieldwork)	2009	\$4000
SUNY Research Foundation Incentive Award (for fieldwork)	2005-6	\$6692
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	2003	\$1600
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	2002	\$1500
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	2001	\$1500
SUNY Research Foundation Research Grant	1999	\$2000
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	1998	\$1500
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	1996	\$1500
Center for the Development of Human Services MiniGrant	1994	\$1500
BSC Faculty MiniGrant to conduct research on Dominica	1990	\$1800
BSC Sponsored Programs Grant (to develop internship site Dominica)	1994	\$1000
Memorial University of Newfoundland Institute for Social and Economic Research		
declined)	1984	\$7000
Faeroe Islands Government Research Grant	1983	\$5000
University at Buffalo Doctoral Fellowship	1981	\$9000
Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (at Brandeis University)	1978	\$200,000

Grant proposals (not funded)

Social Science Research Council "New Directions in the Study of Prayer"	2011
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U.S. Library of Congress Larson Fellowship in Health and Spirituality	2009
Fichter Grant – Association for the Study of Religion	2007
National Science Foundation	2005

g. work in progress

n.d. “Technology, Culture, and Nature”, completed first draft book manuscript of five essays. Unpublished .

9. Professional Presentations – academic and applied anthropology

- 2002 “Cultural Competence Enhancement for CDHS Trainers”, Buffalo, NY
- 2001 “Cultural Competence Needs Assessment Findings”, Center for the Development of Human Services Trainer Institute, Lake George, NY
- 1995 “Culture, Community, and Economic Development” Cattaraugus County Planning Board
- 1995 “Making and Claiming Places: Language, Sentiment, and Use-Value in Rural Land(scape)” American Anthropological Association conference, Washington, D.C.
- 1994 “Culture and Economic Development” at invitation of county legislator Sandra Wylie, to Route 16 Business Development Corridor Group.
- 1994 WBUF and WPIG radio station interviews on New York State Department of Environmental Conservation proceedings and proposed Western New York mega-landfill
- 1994 “Offending and Defending U.S. Rural Place: Valued Spaces and the Mega-Dump Battle” American Anthropological Association conference, Atlanta, GA.
- 1994 “Similarities in Academic and Applied Anthropology: The Applied Anthropologist as Ethnographer”, Northeast Anthropological Association (NEAA) conference, Geneseo, NY.
- 1993 “The Emotions of Place and the Places of Emotions” at American Anthropological Association annual conference, Washington, DC.
- 1992 “South America- The Relationship of Man to Plants” at Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens Society. Buffalo, NY
- 1988 “Professional versus Folk Psychiatry: Anthropological Perspectives on Community, Patient, and Doctor Views of Mental Health” SUNY Health Science Center Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds. Syracuse, NY
- 1989 “The Ecology and Sociology of Naming Places and People in a Maritime Community” at American Anthropological Association annual conference, Washington, DC.
- 1985 “Everyday Deviance in the Faeroe Islands” at American Anthropological Association annual conference, Chicago, IL.
- 1984 “The Faeroese Rukka and Non-conformity” at American Ethnological Society annual meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- 1983 “Looking for Deviants: Anthropology and Nonconformity” at Northeast Anthropological Association annual conference, Syracuse, NY.
- 1980 “Restitution: A Community Approach” at Third National Symposium on Restitution, Washington, DC.

10. Public, University and Professional Service.

a. public service (selected)

Testimony at numerous public, governmental and legal hearings 1992-2009

For Practicing Anthropology (ANT 365) developed practicum course for anthropology students collecting environmental anthropology data on site in rural communities of Southern Tier 2000

Applied anthropology community research, advocacy, and organizational development for NY Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Concerned Citizens of New York. 1994-7

For example, obtained, after significant community work, 26 professional, group, and organizational letters of support for *amicus curiae* legal brief to Administrative Law Judge of the NY State DEC. Worked with numerous organizations such as the Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club, Western Conference of the United Methodist Church, Kingbrook Development Corporation, Alfred University, St. Bonaventure University faculty, the Interfaith Center for Environmental Stewardship, and the Seneca Nation of Indians Environmental Protection Office. 1994-7

Informal, pro-bono advisor to Cattaraugus County Department of Planning, Tourism, and Economic Development 1995-97

Pro-bono consultant, organizational development, fund-raising, cultural issues, research and evaluation, Concerned Citizens of Cattaraugus County 1991-2007

Docent Trainer Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens 1991-2

b. professional service (selected)

I am a participant in a community work group with anthropologists, social service providers, lawyers, teachers, and businessmen in Cattaraugus County addressing cultural relations problems between Senecas and whites in and around Salamanca, New York. 2012-

Informal doctoral dissertation research advisement 2010 - 2012
Joshua Nash University of Adelaide, Australia
Micheal Douma Florida State University

Consultant for ethnographic film on Faeroe Islands, "Ocean Drifters",
Kealakekua, Hawaii 1999-2001

c. college service (selected)

Chair (Acting) Department of Anthropology 2008-2010

Senate Professional Welfare Committee 1991-2

Anthropology Department Internship Coordinator 1989-1999

d. school service (selected)

Placement and supervision on site of student in independent study in north India with the
Himalayan Health Exchange 2007

With FNSS Dean's office funds, hired and supervised anthropology major research assistant to
transcribe interviews from fieldwork in Ireland 2006

Faculty Mentor Student Research and Creativity Lynn-Rizzo George 2004

Arab-American Student Association faculty sponsor 1994-96

Placed and supervised student in foreign fieldwork/internship placement Dominica 1993

SUNY College at Buffalo: Development of supervised student fieldwork/research site on the
Island of Dominica 1990-91

e. department service (selected positions and tasks)

Department Chair (Acting) 2008-10

Supervised research and poster presentation, Research and Creativity Forum,
Chrissy Krolewicz spring 2010

Volunteered and taught course ANT 315W for first time to fill in for professor on leave
fall 2009

Chairman of Search Committee for full-time archaeology position 2005

Volunteered to replace an instructor resigning after the third week of classes in ANT 381.
I assumed full responsibilities of the part-time instructor, adding two sections to my already full
teaching load, teaching an overload five days a week fall 2004

Conducted anthropology seniors focus group (for departmental improvement) fall 2004

Department improvement committee chair/researcher 2000