

CURRICULUM VITAE

Joseph P. Masco

Department of Anthropology
The University of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 834-7807 (office) (773) 702-4503 (fax)
jmasco@uchicago.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego (Anthropology)
Ph.D., March 1999
M.A., June 1991

University of Washington (The Comparative History of Ideas)
B.A., June 1986

POSITION:

2008- Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago
Member, Committee on the Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science, 2004-
Member, Committee on International Relations, 2004-
Associated Faculty, Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, 2008-

2001-8 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

2000-1 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

2006 *The Nuclear Borderlands: The Manhattan Project in Post-Cold War New Mexico* Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Winner, 2008 Rachel Carson Prize,
Society for the Social Studies of Science

Honorable Mention, 2007 John C. Cawelti Award
American Culture Association

Co-Winner, 2006 Robert K. Merton Prize
Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology, American
Sociology Association

[Reviewed by: American Anthropologist; American Scientist; American Ethnologist; The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists; Historische Anthropologie; Isis; Journal of Anthropological Research; New Mexico Historical Review; Savageminds.org; and Science, Technology & Human Values.]

Articles:

- (Forthcoming) "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Social Studies of Science (Winter 2010).
- (Forthcoming) "Counterinsurgency, *The Spook*, and Blowback" in John Kelly, Sean Mitchell, Beatrice Jauregui, and Jeremy Walton (eds) Anthropology and Counterinsurgency. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Winter 2010)
- (Forthcoming) "Life Underground: Building the Bunker Society" Anthropology Now (Fall 2009).
- (Forthcoming) "Atomic Health, Or How Nuclear Fear Shaped American Notions of Death" in Jonathan Metzl and Anna Kirkland (ed) Against Health. New York: New York University Press.
- 2008 "Rehearsing the End at the Titan Missile Museum" On Site 20: 36-39.
- 2008 "Target Audience" The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (June/July Issue): 23-31.
- 2008 "'Survival is Your Business': Engineering Ruins and Affect in Nuclear America" (Special Issue on *Imperial Debris* edited by Ann Stoler) Cultural Anthropology 23(2): 361-98.
- 2006 "5:29:45 AM" in Ivan Karp, Corrine Kratz, Lynn Szwaja, and Tomas Ybarra-Frausto (eds) Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations. Durham: Duke University Press, 102-6pp.
- 2006 "Fantastic City: Engineering Ruins in Cold War America" Cabinet 20: 85-88.
- 2005 "The Billboard Campaign: The Los Alamos Study Group and the Nuclear Public Sphere" Public Culture 17(3): 487-497.
- 2005 "'Active Measures', or How a KGB Spymaster Made Good in Post-9/11 America" Radical History Review 93: 285-300. [This "Homeland Security" issue of RHR won the "Best Special Issue" award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.]
- 2005 "A Notebook on Desert Modernism: From the Nevada Test Site to Liberace's 200-Pound Suit" in Susan Harding and Daniel Rosenberg (eds) Histories of the Future. Durham: Duke University Press, 19-49pp.
- 2004 "Mutant Ecologies: Radioactive Life in Post-Cold War New Mexico" Cultural Anthropology 19(4): 517-550.
- 2004 "Nuclear Techno-aesthetics: Sensory Politics from Trinity to the Virtual Bomb in Los Alamos" American Ethnologist 31(3):1-25.
- 2004 "The Family Room of Tomorrow" Cabinet 13 (Spring/Summer): 94-5.
- 2004 "Desert Modernism" Cabinet 13 (Spring/Summer): 66-74.

- 2002 "Lie Detectors: On Secrets and Hypersecurity in Los Alamos" Public Culture 14 (3): 441-467.
- 1999 "States of Insecurity: Plutonium and Post-Cold War Anxiety in New Mexico, 1992-6" in Jutta Weldes, Mark Laffey, Hugh Gusterson, and Raymond Duvall (eds) Cultures of Insecurity: States, Communities and the Production of Danger. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 203-231pp.
- 1996 "Competitive Displays: Negotiating Genealogical Rights to the Potlatch at the American Museum of Natural History" American Anthropologist 98(4): 837-852.
- 1995 "'It Is A Strict Law That Bids Us Dance': Cosmologies, Colonialism, Death, and Ritual Authority in the Kwakwaka'wakw Potlatch, 1849-1922" Comparative Studies in Society and History 37(1): 41-75.

Book Reviews:

- 2008 "Risk in Real Time" a review of *Shouldering Risks: The Culture of Control in the Nuclear Power Industry* by Constance Perin (2005, Princeton: Princeton University Press). Current Anthropology 49(3): 527-8
- 1998 Review of *The Potlatch Papers: A Colonial Case History* by Christopher Bracken (1997, Chicago: University of Chicago Press). American Anthropologist 100(4): 1052-3.

Reprints:

- (Forthcoming) "Engineering Ruins and Affect" Excerpted and REPRINTED in Uli Linke and Danielle Taana Smith (eds) Cultures of Fear: A Critical Reader. London: Pluto Press.
- (Forthcoming) "'Survival is Your Business': Engineering Ruins and Affect in Nuclear America" (entire special issue of Cultural Anthropology with additional essays) REPRINTED as Imperial Debris edited by Ann Stoler. Durham: Duke University Press.
- 2006 "A Notebook on Desert Modernism: From the Nevada Test Site to Liberace's 200-Pound Suit" REPRINT in The Desert. Barcelona: ACTAR Press.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Research Fellowships:

American Council of Learned Societies, Ryskamp Fellowship, 2007-8

Grant for Research and Writing, Program on Global Security and Sustainability, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, 2004-6

National Endowment for the Humanities, Resident Research Fellow, School of American Research, 2004-5.

Richard Carley Hunt Fellowship, Wenner-Gren Foundation For Anthropological Research, 2000.

Grant for Research and Writing, Program on Global Security and Sustainability, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, 1999.

University of California Graduate Fellowship, The Humanities Research Institute (University of California Irvine). "Histories of the Future" collaborative research seminar organized by Dr. Susan Harding (UC, Santa Cruz), Winter/Spring 1997.

Dissertation Research Fellowship (Department of Anthropology, UC, San Diego), 1993-4.

University of California Regents Fellowship, 1989.

Grants, Honors, Awards:

W. Alton Jones Nuclear Threat Fellowship, from the Center on Violence and Human Survival at the John Jay College and the City University of New York, 2001.

Honorable Mention, DeBenedetti Prize in Peace History, for "States of Insecurity: Plutonium and Post-Cold War Anxiety in New Mexico, 1992-6", 2001.

George Haydu Essay Award (UC, San Diego), for: "Competitive Displays: Negotiating Genealogical Rights to the Potlatch at the American Museum of Natural History," 1997.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks:

2009 "The Anthropology of Disaster" Northwestern University, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, May 11.

2009 "State Secrets: Sensitive but Unclassified" *Global Governance and Shifting Sovereignties: Who Rules and How* conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 10.

2009 "The American Enemy" *The Professor and The Spy: Area Studies and the Politics of Global Security* conference, Rutgers University, February 13.

2009 "Domestic Nuclear Threat Perception: The Crucial Role of Film" Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Virginia, January 5th.

2008 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Science Studies Colloquium, University of California, San Diego, November 24th.

2008 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Environmental Politics Workshop, University of California, Berkeley, November 14th.

- 2008 "Counterinsurgency, *The Spook*, and Blowback" Science, Technology, Society and the State Workshop, University of Chicago, November 11th.
- 2008 "The Cinematic Bomb: Perception, Memory, Affect" Science, Technology, and Society Program, The University of Michigan, November 3rd.
- 2008 "State Secrets: Sensitive But Unclassified" *Scenes of Secrecy* Conference, Duke University, October 17th.
- 2008 "Nuclear Fear and Perception Management" Governing Board meeting, The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, Chicago, June 27th.
- 2008 Keynote Address: "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency Conference, The University of Chicago, April 25th.
- 2008 Keynote Address: "Engineering Ruins and Affect in Nuclear America" University of New Mexico Graduate Student Conference, April 19th.
- 2008 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" *Life For Sale* lecture series, University of Minnesota, April 9th.
- 2007 "The Nuclear Public Sphere" *Ethnografeast* Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, June 20-3.
- 2007 "'Survival is Your Business': Engineering Ruins and Affect in Nuclear America" American Locations Workshop, The University of Chicago, May 22nd.
- 2007 "The Invention of Biosecurity" Chicago Faculty Seminar: Epidemics in an Era of Globalization, The University of Chicago, May 4th.
- 2007 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Seminar on Science Technology and Society/Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, April 20th.
- 2007 "'Survival is Your Business': Engineering Ruins and Affect in Nuclear America" Science, Technology and Society Center/Department of Anthropology Workshop, University of California, Berkeley, April 19th.
- 2007 "State Secrets: Sensitive but Unclassified" invited paper for "Archival Productions and the Politics of Knowledge" Workshop, Center for the Study of Public Scholarship, Emory University, Atlanta, April 9th.
- 2007 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" The Environmental Studies/Science, Technology and Society Colloquium Series, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York, April 6th.
- 2007 "Bad Weather: On Planetary Crisis" Boas Lecture, Department of Anthropology Columbia University, New York, March 21st.
- 2006 "Emotional Management and the Nuclear State" Invited speaker, "Nuclear Culture" panel, Chicago Humanities Festival, Nov. 11th.

- 2006 "Engineering Ruins in Nuclear America" invited paper for "Scarred Landscapes /Imperial Debris: Reflections on Ruins of Empire" conference, organized by Ann Stoler, Department of Anthropology, New School for Social Research, New York, Oct. 27-8.
- 2006 "Commentator" for the panel "Policy, Behavior, and Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Crucible of Strategic Culture" Joint Threat Assessment Center Workshop (International Studies Center), The University of Chicago, April 4.
- 2006 "On the Value of Synthetic Forests" invited presentation to the Political Ecology of Knowledge, Science and Technology Interdisciplinary Workshop, University of Wisconsin, March 6.
- 2006 "The Politics of Nuclear Fear" invited presentation to the International Studies Speaker Series, The University of Chicago, March 1.
- 2005 "Atomic Cinema: Public Pedagogy and the Semiotics of Nuclear Fear" invited presentation to The Semiotics Workshop, The University of Chicago, Nov. 17th, Chicago IL.
- 2005 "The Cinematic Bomb" School of American Research, April 28, Santa Fe.
- 2005 "Full Spectrum Dominance: Theorizing State Security" invited presentation to the Internment Project, Center for Law and Culture at Columbia University, April 20, New York.
- 2004 "Nuclear Terror in American Culture" invited presentation at The Second Nuclear Age: Nuclear Weapons, the New Terrorism and the Culture of Fear Conference, co sponsored by the CUNY Graduate Center and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, December 3, New York.
- 2004 "Active Measures, or How a KGB Spymaster Made Good in Post 9/11 America" School of American Research, Santa Fe, November 3.
- 2004 "Threat Assessments: The Nuclear State of Emergency" invited presentation to the Critical Theory Institute, "In Security" Project, University of California, Irvine, May 12-13, Irvine, CA.
- 2004 "Radioactive Life" invited presentation to the Department of Justice Studies, Arizona State University, April 23, Tempe, AZ.
- 2004 "Mutant Ecologies" Science, Technology, Society and the State Workshop, The University of Chicago, January 28, Chicago, IL.
- 2003 "Nuclear Phenomenology: The Technoaesthetic Production of the Bomb in Los Alamos" invited presentation to the Department of Anthropology, Cornell University, April 11, Ithaca, NY.
- 2003 "The Technoaesthetics of Nuclear Weapons Science" invited presentation to The Fishbein Center for the History of Science and Medicine, The University of Chicago, January 17, Chicago, IL.

- 2002 "Pedagogy and the New Nuclear Danger" presented at the Robert Jay Lifton Fellow's conference, The Center on Terrorism at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, November 15.
- 2002 Panelist, "Copenhagen Symposium" sponsored by the Court Theater, February 16, Chicago, IL.
- 2000 "Lie Detectors: On Secrets and Hypersecurity in Los Alamos" Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, October 2, Chicago, IL.
- 2000 "On Secrets and Security in Los Alamos" Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, February 25, Eugene, OR.
- 1998 "A Notebook on Desert Modernism: From the Nevada Test Site to Liberace's 200 Pound Suit," *Histories of the Future* Conference, Center for Cultural Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, April 10, Santa Cruz, CA.
- 1998 "The Plutonium Economy: Radioactive Nation-building in New Mexico" Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, February 20, Santa Cruz, CA.
- 1998 "Plutonium and Cross-cultural Anxiety in Post-Cold War New Mexico" Wesleyan University, Center for the Americas, February 3, Middletown, CT.
- 1997 "Nuclear Reservations" posted to the on-line conference "Cultures and Environments of Cultural Environmental Studies" sponsored by the American Studies Program at Washington State University, June 20-22.
- 1996 "The Los Alamos Public Sphere" Invited speaker, Special Meeting of the Representative Assembly of the Academic Senate to discuss the future of the University of California's management of the U.S. National Laboratories, UC, San Diego. May 7, La Jolla, CA.
- 1996 "International/Intercultural Relations in the Nuclear Borderlands: Post-Cold War New Mexico" Peace Studies Lecture Series, Center for International Studies, Cornell University February 29, Ithaca, NY.

Conference Presentations:

- 2008 "Discussant and Workshop Leader" for *American Empire and the Exportation of Democracy* Midwest Faculty Seminar, The University of Chicago, October 30-31.
- 2008 "Author Meets Critics: *The Nuclear Borderlands: The Manhattan Project in Post-Cold War New Mexico* by Joseph Masco" Society for the Social Studies of Science/European Association for the Study of Science and Technology joint Annual Meeting, August 22, Rotterdam.
- 2007 "Author Meets Critics: Robert K. Merton Award Panel" American Sociology Association Annual Meetings, August 11-12, New York.
- 2007 "Commentator" for the invited panel "Terrorism and the Security State" Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis. March 31st.

- 2006 "The American "Enemy"" presented on the panel "Miscommunication, Misrecognition, and Meconnaissance" organized by Matt Tomlinson and Emiko Ohnuki Tierney, American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, November 15, San Jose, CA.
- 2006 "The Anthropology of Secrecy" on the panel "New Ethnographies of Concealment: Secrecy, Power, and the Anthropological Project" organized by Marianne Ferme and Yahuda Goodman, American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, November 16, San Jose, CA.
- 2005 "Terror, Inc" presented on the panel "Affect: What is it Good For?" organized by William Mazzarella, American Anthropology Association Annual Meetings, December 1, Washington DC.
- 2005 "Sensitive but Unclassified: Secrecy and the Counter-Terrorist State" presented on the panel "Borderliners: Unruly Secrets and the Technopolitics of Knowledge" organized by Paul N. Edwards. Social Studies of Science and Society Annual Meetings, October 23, Pasadena, CA.
- 2004 "Engaging the New Normal: Terror, Homeland Security, and American Power" organizer/participant of invited workshop, Society for Cultural Anthropology Annual Meeting. May 1, Portland, OR.
- 2001 "Mutant Ecologies: The Logics of National Sacrifice" presented on the panel "Transnational Capital, Local Resources, and the State" organized by Aletta Biersack, American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, December 2, Washington, DC.
- 2001 "Timebombs: Colonizing the Future to Save the Present in Los Alamos" presented on the panel "Technoscientific NatureCulture: Ecologies of Power/Knowledge" Society for Cultural Anthropology Meeting, held jointly with the annual meetings of the American Ethnological Society and the Canadian Anthropological Society/Société Canadienne d'Anthropologie, May 3, Montreal, Canada.
- 2000 "On Nuclear Trauma: Post-Cold War Los Alamos" presented on the panel "Talking Trauma" organized by Stefan Senders, American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, November 19, San Francisco, CA.
- 1998 "Millennial Futures: Nuclear Weapons Science at Los Alamos" presented on the panel "Half Lives: Manifest Destiny in the Nuclear Age" Organized by Joseph Masco, American Studies Association Annual Meeting. November 19-22, Seattle, WA.
- 1996 "Shooting a Bullet With a Bullet: PATRIOT Missile Testing in 'Indian Country'" presented on the panel "Space of History and Identity in Native American Futures." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 20-24, San Francisco, CA.
- 1995 "Nuclear Reservations: Plutonium and 'National Security' in Post-Cold War New Mexico" presented on the panel "Weapons, Waste, and War; The Politics of Mutation" organized by Adriana Petryna and Mariana Ferreira. American

Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 15-19, Washington, DC.

- 1994 “Nuclear Borderlands: Atomic Discourse in the Land of Enchantment”
presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting “Borders and Bonds: Society and Customs in a World of Regions, October 27-30, Nashville, TN.

TEACHING

Nature/Culture

The Anthropology of Science

The Anthropology of Security

Science Studies III: The Information Age

Science Studies II: Reinventing the Body

Science Studies I: Military Science and War

Big Science and the Birth of the National Security State

Ethnographic Narrative

Public, Privates, Secrets

Uncanny Modernities

Systems I

Utopia (co-taught with William Mazzarella)

Proposal Preparation (co-taught with Jean Comaroff)

Self, Culture, and Society II

Self, Culture, and Society III