

APSA 2018: Political Ethnography Working Group Schedule

Conveners: Tani Sebro (sebroth@miamioh.edu) and Osman Balkan (obalkan1@swarthmore.edu)

The Political Ethnography Working Group has four overlapping aims: (1) to build a network of scholars and researchers whose work employs ethnographic, interpretive, and qualitative research methods in order to understand and explain political phenomena, (2) to provide a space for the development of collaborative projects (workshops, special journal issues, edited volumes and grants) with a shared grounding in political ethnography as a research method, (3) to develop pedagogical strategies and best practices for teaching ethnographic methods in political science programs at the undergraduate and graduate level, and lastly, (4) to discuss the logistical challenges and ethical issues surrounding human-subject based research in political science. Political ethnography has been defined as being at once an immersive methodology while also cultivating a sensibility (Schatz 2008). As a working group, we seek to ascertain and cultivate new methodological insights into the growing repertoire of scholarship employing diverse ethnographic methods, including participant observations, structured and semi-structured interviews, collaborative ethnography, critical ethnography and decolonial methodologies that come to bear on the political. Email Tani Sebro (sebroth@miamioh.edu) and Osman Balkan (obalkan1@swarthmore.edu) to join the group meeting and to receive a detailed schedule of events.

The Political Ethnography Working Group Schedule:

Thursday, August 30,

Frontiers in Qualitative Methods
8:00 to 9:30am, Marriott, Berkeley, Panel

Interviews in the Field: New Perspectives and Applications
12:00 to 1:30pm, Marriott, Clarendon, Panel

Ethnographies of the State in Contemporary Political Science
4:00 to 5:30pm, Sheraton, Beacon G, Panel

Friday August 31

Openness, Ethics, Epistemology: From Abstract Principles to Research Practices
10:00 to 11:30am, Marriott, Dartmouth, Roundtable

The Political Ethnography Working Group Meeting (Open to all)
12:00 to 1:30pm, Marriott Falmouth

Methods Café
2:00 to 3:30pm, Hynes 210, Research Café

Saturday, September 1

Interviewing for Social Science Research: A Relational Approach
12:00 to 1:30pm, Marriott, Berkeley, Author meet critics

Interpretivist Approaches and their Implications
Sat, September 1, 2:00 to 3:30pm, Marriott, Berkeley, Panel

Rethinking Comparison I: Conceptualizing Comparison Through an Interpretive Lens
2:00 to 3:30pm, Marriott, Clarendon, Panel

Rethinking Comparison II: Conceptualizing Comparison from Cases
4:00 to 5:30pm, Marriott, Clarendon, Panel

Misunderstanding Ethnography: Evidence in Law, Journalism & Political Ethnography
4:00 to 5:30pm, Marriott, Berkeley, Roundtable

Sunday, September 2

A Comparative Perspective on Methods and Ethics in Conflict Studies
10:00 to 11:30am, Marriott, Salon C, Panel

The Critical Politics of Infrastructure
10:00 to 11:30am, Marriott, Harvard, Panel

Measurement, Mixed-Methods, and the Research Process
10:00 to 11:30am, Marriott, Berkeley, Panel