Sources on
Anthropology and Law
Christopher Fennell

Interdisciplinary studies in Anthropology and Law (also called “Legal Anthropology”) include the following general subject areas (among others): human rights; the clash of non-western and western cultural beliefs and related legal structures; legal pluralism in multicultural settings; rights of minorities and religious groups; criticisms of racial concepts; rights of indigenous peoples, including land claims and intellectual property rights in their cultural beliefs and knowledge; non-western and alternative methods of dispute or conflict resolution; and analysis of the cultural dynamics at play within western legal systems.

Set forth below is a non-exhaustive list of books, articles, and other resources that address a number of these issues. Part I lists books and articles. Part II lists journals that publish primarily on related topics. Part III lists some internet resources, including associations, online journal archives, law and anthropology resources, and legal studies information.

Please note: Sources presenting interdisciplinary studies concerning Social Norms and Law are listed in a separate bibliography. Also available online are the syllabus and a list of potential paper topics for this Anthropology and Law seminar.

Other available resource lists include:

Sources on Racism, Law, and Social Sciences;
Sources on Social Norms and Law; and
Sources on Analysis of Social Group Identities.

I. Books and Articles


Barnes, Mario L. 2015. Foreword: Criminal Justice for Those (Still) at the Margins -- Addressing Hidden Forms of Bias and the Politics of which Lives Matter. 5 *University of California Irvine L. Rev.* 711-733. The Interplay of Race, Gender, Class, Crime and Justice. 5 *University of California Irvine L. Rev.* 711-943 (collection of articles).


Black, Donald. 1981. The Relevance of Legal Anthropology. 10 Contemporary Sociology 43-46.


Collier, Jane F. 1975. Legal Processes. 4 Annual Review of Anthropology 121-44.


French, Jan H. 2004. Mestizaje and law Making in Indigenous Identity Formation in


Jereb, Alanna M. 2017. Comment. The Bathroom Right for Transgender Students and How the Entire LGBT Community can Align to Guarantee This. 7 *Wake Forest J. L. & Policy* 585-606.


Monforte, Tanya. 2017. Broad Strokes and Bright Lines: A Reconsideration of Shari’a Based Reservations. 35 Colum. J. Gender & Law 1-69.


(1972); 10 *International Legal Materials* 289 (1971).


**II. Subject Matter Journals**

The journals listed below publish many articles of interest to this topic area. One should also use the available law review search engines, such as Lexis and Westlaw, to search for interdisciplinary studies published in law reviews and policy journals.


*Law and Social Inquiry*, University of Chicago Press.


Yale Journal of Law and Humanities, Yale University.

III. Internet Resources

Associations

American Anthropological Association, Human Rights
http://www.americananthro.org/

American Anthropological Association, Issues related to Minority Groups and Race:
http://www.americananthro.org/

American Anthropological Association, Public Policy Issues:
http://www.americananthro.org/

Association for Political and Legal Anthropology:
http://politicalandlegalanthro.org/

Law and Society Association:
http://www.lawandsociety.org/

Cultural Survival:
https://www.culturalsurvival.org

Association for Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities:
http://lawculturehumanities.com/

Lawyers’ Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation:
http://www.culturalheritagelaw.org/

Intellectual Property Issues in Cultural Heritage:
http://www.sfu.ca/ipinch/resources/readings

Law and Anthropology

Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
Teaching Resources, Syllabi
https://politicalandlegalanthro.org/teaching-resources-2/

Center for Heritage and Society (U. Mass.):
http://www.umass.edu/chs/index.html
Law and Social Inquiry Journal:  

Law and Society Review: 
http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/%28ISSN%291540-5893

Siberian Studies Journal, Issue on Cultural Property: 
http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/cultprop.html

Max Plank Institute Working Papers:  
https://www.eth.mpg.de/5876713/2021

International Human Rights Resources (Amnesty Int’l):  
https://www.amnesty.org/en/

Law and Economics resources: 
http://lawecon.lp.findlaw.com/

Social Science Research Network: 

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO):  
http://en.unesco.org/

UNESCO Convention on Intangible Heritage:  

Who Owns Native Culture? (M. Brown)  
http://web.williams.edu/AnthSoc/native/

NAGPRA Learning (Indiana Univ.)  
http://learningnagpra.indiana.edu/nagpra-education/Educational%20Resources.php

Webinar Series in Honour of Sally Engle Merry (1944-2020)  

**General Legal Studies Resources**

U.S. Supreme Court web site:  
https://www.supremecourt.gov/

Oyez project:  
https://www.oyez.org
U.S. Code Search:

Famous Trials:
https://famous-trials.com/

Proceedings of the Old Bailey, London, 1674-1834:
http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/

A Century of Lawmaking (Library of Congress, American Memory):
http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html

Yale’s Avalon Project:
http://avalon.law.yale.edu

Lexis-Nexis:
http://www.lexisnexis.com

FindLaw:
http://www.findlaw.com/

State and Local Governments:
http://www.statelocalgov.net/index.cfm

[Last updated: Aug. 2, 2022]