

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

METHODS INTENSIVE MASTER CLASS 2023



Anthropology of Knowledge

Lyle Fearnley

Department for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

PUBLIC LECTURE:25 JUL 2023

14:00-15:30 MCR (HYBRID)

Pandemic Origins:

The Anthropology of Knowledge in Time

WORKSHOP I:

26 JUL 2023

09:00-14:00 R265

(INCLUDING 1HR LUNCH)

Anthropology of Knowledge Beyond the Human

WORKSHOP II:

27 JUL 2023

09:00-14:00 R265

(INCLUDING 1HR LUNCH)

Concepts of Time in the Anthropology of Knowledge:

WORKSHOP SPACES ARE LIMITED AND PRIOR REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED VIA IMPRS-OFFICE@MPIWG-BERLIN.MPG.DE. SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION. Singapore University of Technology and Design

In this public talk, I will trace a genealogy of anthropological debates on the nature of knowledge, including its relationships to magic, science, religion, and rationality, from nineteenth-century evolutionary studies to contemporary laboratory ethnographies. Drawing on my own research into the scientific search for the origins of pandemics such as COVID-19, the talk will show how recent anthropological research has grappled with incorporating historicity and temporality into the project of cultural translation.

In Workshop I, we will examine and compare how anthropologists treat knowledge and rationality in 1) the classical culture paradigm; and 2) contemporary works that challenge the epistemological closure and anthropocentrism of cultural accounts of knowledge.

In Workshop II, we will explore how recent anthropologists are experimenting with reintroducing historical time and temporality into their accounts of knowledge and culture. For the sake of demonstration, the workshop will focus on the concept of "survival" and its capacity to draw new links between past and present.



