

Mounia EL KOTNI

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1. HIGHER EDUCATION

- May 2016 PhD, Cultural Anthropology, University at Albany, State University of New York. Dissertation: "Porque Tienen mucho Derecho." Parteras, *Biomedical Training and the Vernacularization of Human Rights in Chiapas*.
Committee: Jennifer L. Burrell (Chair), Elise Andaya, Walter E. Little.
*University at Albany Distinguished Dissertation Award 2015-2016 (Winner).
*Featured among Anthropology Works' 50 best dissertations in cultural anthropology, 2016.
- 2010 M.A. (*magna cum laude*), Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, EHESS Paris.
Master's Thesis: *Weaving Gender. Textile Production and Gender Relations in Chiapas, Mexico*. Committee: Sophie Desrosiers (Chair), Anath Ariel de Vidas.
- 2008 B.A. (*magna cum laude*), Cultural Anthropology, (Double majoring in English language and literature). Lyon 2 University, France.
- 2007 - 2008 Exchange student. University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2007 B.A. (*cum laude*), Political Science, Lyon 2 University, France Thesis: *Why getting involved? Humanitarian engagement at Doctors Without Borders, Lyon*.

2. PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2.1. Research

- 2016-2018 Postdoctoral Research Associate. Department of Anthropology, University at Albany, SUNY.
- 2017 Researcher, "Applying Anthropology for Social Innovation" La Fabrique des Territoires Innovants, Paris
- 2016
(3 months) Consultant "Participatory Research Action on Ageing in Rural France" La Fabrique des Territoires Innovants, Paris.

- 2016
(2 months) Consultant. "Living in Security: Mayan Transnational Lives in the New Millennium," Dr. Jennifer Burrell.
- 2014
(2 months) Research Assistant. Burrell, Jennifer and Ellen Moodie 2015. The Post–Cold War Anthropology of Central America. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 44.
- 2013
(4 months) Consultant. "Consolidating Lessons Learned from Projects Affecting Indigenous People," Interamerican Development Bank, Multilateral Investment Fund.
- 2013-2014 Research Assistant, Institute for Mesoamerican Studies, University at Albany.
- 2012-2013 Research Assistant, Ethnology laboratory, New York State Museum.

2.2. Teaching

- 2017 Instructor, "Birth through an intercultural lens", L'Horizon School for Childcare Workers. February 2017.
- 2014 - 2017 Instructor of Record. Department of Anthropology, University at Albany. "The Anthropology of Gender" (ANT 381). 4-Week online course.
- 2012-2013 Teaching Assistant. Department of Anthropology, University at Albany. "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology" (ANT 108).

2.3. Project Coordination

- 2016
(3 months) **Project Manager** Women in Tech program. Simplon.co, Paris. Organization of a 4-week training on deconstructing gender bias in STEM.
- 2014-2015
(9 months) **Adviser**, Women and Midwives Section. Organization of Indigenous Doctors of Chiapas, Mexico. Grant writing, social media manager & organization of community health workshops.
- 2011-2012
(10 months) **Network Coordinator**, Animafac, Paris. Management of a team of six staff members. Trainings on funding and cultural competency for student organizations; meetings with regional institutions, organization of a national Forum (12,000 visitors).
- 2011-2012
(9 months) **Project Manager** for Latin America. Etudiants et Développement, Paris. Network of student organizations with international cooperation projects. Organization of workshops in intercultural competency, and gender and development education.

3. PUBLICATIONS

3.1 Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Forthcoming** El Kotni, Mounia and Alba Ramírez. Las Constancias de Alumbramiento y el Control de la Partería en Chiapas. *LiminaR: Estudios Sociales y Humanísticos*. Vol. 15(2).
- In Review** Dixon, Lydia Z., Mounia El Kotni and Veronica Miranda. The Impact of Healthcare Reform in Mexico. A Tale of Three Midwives. Submitted to the *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*.
- In Review** El Kotni, Mounia. "The Hospital is Where Women Die:" Indigenous Women and Midwives Denounce Obstetric Violence in Chiapas, Mexico. Submitted to *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.
- Exp 2018.** El Kotni, Mounia and Alfonsina Faya-Robles, Médicalisation et sanitisation des corps féminins. Une analyse socio-anthropologique croisée des politiques de santé materno-infantile à destination des femmes pauvres au Brésil et au Mexique, Accepted for a special issue of *Cahiers des Amériques Latines*.
- In Process** El Kotni, Mounia, "Training midwives to control poor women's reproduction in Southern Mexico." In preparation for the Special Issue "Articulating Human Rights and Reproductive Governance: Ethnographic Engagements in Transnational Perspective," *Medical Anthropology: Cross-Cultural Studies in Health and Illness*. Exp. 2019.

3.2. Textbook Chapters

- Forthcoming** Dixon, Lydia Z, Vania Smith-Oka and Mounia El Kotni, "Teaching about Childbirth In Mexico: Working across Birth Models," in Davis-Floyd, Robbie (editor), *Birth in Seven Cultures: a Cross-Cultural Investigation*. Waveland Press.
- Forthcoming** El Kotni, Mounia. Structural Violence as a Cause of Maternal Mortality and Morbidity among Indigenous Women in Chiapas, Mexico. In Schwartz, David (editor), *Maternal Health, Pregnancy-Related Morbidity and Death Among Indigenous Women of Mexico & Central America: An Anthropological, Epidemiological and Biomedical Approach*. Springer.

3.3. Editor/Columnist

- In Process** co-editor with Elyse Singer of a Special Issue "Articulating Human Rights and Reproductive Governance: Ethnographic Engagements in Transnational Perspective," *Medical Anthropology: Cross-Cultural Studies in Health and Illness*. Exp. 2019.

- 2016 El Kotni, Mounia. Long-Distance Ethnography. *Anthropology News*. American Anthropological Association.
- 2016 Co-editor. Childbirth in the Americas series. *Anthropology News*. with Eliza Williamson. American Anthropological Association.
- 2016 Williamson, Eliza and Mounia El Kotni. Introduction to the Childbirth in the Americas series. *Anthropology News* 57(2): e3.
- 2016 El Kotni, Mounia. Reforming Pregnancy Care and Childbirth in Chiapas. Childbirth in the Americas series. *Anthropology News* 57(2):e7-e8.
- 2015 El Kotni, Mounia. Plant Use in Women's Reproductive Health in Chiapas. Photo Essay. *Newsletter of the Society for Medical Anthropology* 3(2).
- 2015-present Newsletter Contributor. Council on Anthropology and Reproduction.
- 2013 - 2015 Blog Contributor. Association Mâ. Web.

3.4 Scholarly reviews

- Forthcoming Book Review (Invited). Ostrach, Bayla 2017 *Health Policy in a Time of Crisis. Abortion, Austerity and Access*, New York and London: Routledge, 189 p. *Anthropology-News*, June 2017.
- 2017 Book Review. "Haunting Images: A Cultural Account of Selective Reproduction in Vietnam by Tine Gammeltoft." *Anthropologica*, 59(1):171–172.
- 2016 Book Review (Invited). Hinojosa, Servando Z. *In this Body: Kaqchiquel Maya and the Grounding of Spirit*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2015, 249 p. *Anthropology and Humanism* 41(2):226-228.
- 2015 Book Review. *Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies. Migrant Farmworkers in the United States*. Seth Holmes. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press, 2013, 234 pp. *Student Anthropologist* 4(1):65-66.
- 2010 Book Review. TAUBE Karl, *Mythes aztèques et mayas*, Paris, Editions du Seuil, 1995, 155 p. European Institute in Science of Religions. ([Link](#))
- 2010 Book Review. BAUDEZ Claude-François, *Une histoire de la religion des Mayas. Du panthéisme au panthéon*, Paris, Bibliothèque Albin Michel Histoire, 2002, 472 p. European Institute in Science of Religions. ([Link](#))
- 2010 Book Review. RECINOS Adrian, *Popol Vuh : Le Livre des Indiens Mayas*

Quichés, Paris, Albin Michel, 1991, 213 p. European Institute in Science of Religions. ([Link](#))

Magazines

- 2015 El Kotni, Mounia Les sages-femmes traditionnelles du Chiapas : Une approche holistique de la grossesse et de l'accouchement. *Grandir Autrement*. Hors-Série 9.

Media Coverage

- 2017 “#Hackeuses! Le numérique au féminin,” interview for the *SNCF Foundation* <https://www.fondation-sncf.org/fr/hackeuses-numerique-feminin/>
- 2017 *Les Expertes*, promotional video for an international platform of female experts <https://web.facebook.com/LesExpertes/videos/1435872956446301/>
- 2017 Bardou, Florian, Auteur, Auteure ou Autrice ? A Paris, une Dictée d'un Genre Nouveau. *Libération*. January 21, 2017.
- 2015 Pang, Amelia, First Female Mariachi Band in New York Empowers More Than Women. *The Epoch Times*. March 6, 2015.

4. INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES

- 2016 "In the Hospital, mothers die. Obstetric violence in Mayan Mexico". Paris Diderot University, December 13.
- 2016 Governing the Reproduction of the Nation. Birth Certificates and the Control of Indigenous Midwifery in Southern Mexico. Anthropology Department, University of Notre Dame, November 14.
- 2016 The many faces of midwifery in contemporary Mexico. Graduate Seminar of the Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute, City University of New York. May 18.
- 2016 "*Al gobierno no le importa*": de la résistance publique à l'indifférence, portraits de sages-femmes Mayas face à la médicalisation de la santé reproductive au Mexique. Toulouse 2 Jean-Jaurès University. February 8.
- 2015 Improving Indigenous Maternal Health in Chiapas: the Unintended Consequences of Public Health Policies. IREX Scholars Meeting. Global Institute for Health and Human Rights, University at Albany, November 16.
- 2015 Más que Recetas. El Recetario de las Parteras de la OMIECH desde la Ecología Política. Video presentation during the public Seminar "La Partería en Chiapas". OMIECH. San Cristóbal de las Casas. November 10.

- 2015 Understanding Indigenous Midwives' Rights in the framework of *Ich'el ta Muk'*. Graduate Seminar "Human Rights, Humanitarianism and Development (ANT670)", Jennifer Burrell. Department of Anthropology, University at Albany, November 5.
- 2015 La Interculturalidad en los Servicios de Salud y el Desplazamiento de la Partería Tradicional en Chiapas. Undergraduate Seminar "Knowledge and Cultural Diversity: Ethical and Epistemological Problems", Ángel Ruiz Tovar. Department of Intercultural Development and Management, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). May 29.
- 2015 La Césarienne: Regards Croisés France-Mexique. Discussant, Association Mâ. Rennes, France, March 18.
- 2014 Experiencing Equity at the Escuelita Zapatista. Presentation at the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies, UAlbany. with Jeanne Simonelli. February 28.
- 2012 Promoting Equity. Women's Organizations in Chiapas, Mexico. Undergraduate Lecture Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (ANT108), Elise Andaya, Department of Anthropology. November 13.
- 2012 Returning after an intercultural project. Discussant. Radio program: Hors du Bocal. ([Link](#)). March 7.

5. CONFERENCES

5.1 Organized Sessions

- 2016 Articulating Human Rights and Reproductive Governance: Ethnographic Engagements in Transnational Perspective. Panel Organizer. American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Minneapolis. November 16-20.
- 2015 Humanizing Childbirth: Negotiating Women's Reproductive Rights in the Face of Obstetric Violence. Panel Chair. American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Denver. November 19-22.

5.2 Presentations

- 2017 Formations des sages-femmes Mayas au Mexique : Intersection de rapports de domination et de hiérarchisation des savoirs médicaux, Journée d'études « Soigner : aider ou dominer ? Les rapports de pouvoir en santé sexuelle et reproductive », AMADES CERTOP, Université de Toulouse Jean-Jaurès, March 24.
- 2017 Medicalization and Sanitarization of female bodies. Comparative anthropological

perspectives on maternal health policies in Mexico and Brazil - with Alfonsina Faya. Migrant and Health Trajectories around Childbirth. Views from Research and Practice. Brussels, Belgium, February 2-3. Available at: https://perinatmigrant.sciencesconf.org/data/pages/El_Kotni_et_Faya.pdf

- 2016 Claiming Rights to Resist State-Sponsored Trainings: Indigenous Midwives in Mexico. American Anthropological Association annual meeting. Minneapolis, Nov. 16-20.
- 2015 The Hospital is Where Women Die: Traditional Indigenous Midwives' Narratives of Obstetric Violence in Chiapas, Mexico. American Anthropological Association annual meeting. Denver. November 19-22.
- 2015 Why Don't You Learn Tsotsil? Learning Tseltal, Being Scolded in Tsotsil, and the Challenges of a Multilingual Fieldsite. New England Council on Latin American Studies (NECLAS). Tufts University. November 8.
- 2015 Risky Births in Southern Mexico. State Discourse, Women's Decisions and Indigenous Midwives' Resistance. European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) meeting. Brighton, England. September 9-11.
- 2015 Caminando Juntas. Construyendo una Colaboración Transnacional con Parteras, de Francia a Chiapas. Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology meeting. Oaxaca, Mexico. March 26-28. With Micaela Icó Bautista and Alice Bafoin.
- 2014 Refuerzando Vínculos Transnacionales: los Textiles como Expresión de la Identidad Triqui en el Norte de Estados Unidos. 1er Encuentro de Textiles Mesoamericanos (TEXTIM). Oaxaca, Mexico. October 17-18. With Ashley Bishop and Walter E. Little.
- 2014 A Través las Tramas del Tiempo: Conectando el Pasado al Presente con los Textiles en la Era Digital. 1er Encuentro de Textiles Mesoamericanos (TEXTIM). Oaxaca, Mexico. October 17-18. With Walter E. Little and Ashley Bishop.
- 2014 Indigenous Midwives Responding to Gendered Structural Violence in Chiapas, Mexico. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) annual meeting. Albuquerque. March 18-22. With Micaela Icó Bautista.
- 2013 The Integration of Gender in International Cooperation Projects: Questioning "Empowerment". Rockefeller College Graduate Symposium. Albany. March 13.
- 2013 Indigenous Women's Healthcare Access in Chiapas: Defending Reproductive

Rights. American Anthropological Association annual meeting. Chicago. November 19-23.

2013 Artisans in the World Market... and Anthropologists in the Museum” New England Council of Latin American Studies (NECLAS), Wheaton College. November 9.

6. SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2015 University at Albany Dissertation Research Fellowship Award, 2014-2015. Project: “The Impact of Biomedical Training on Traditional Midwives' Practices in Chiapas, Mexico: Tales of Resistance.” [\$1,000]

2007 - 2008 Explor’a Sup Scholarship. For outstanding Student Studying Abroad. Rhône-Alpes Region [€3,500]

2004 - 2006 Merit Scholarship. For outstanding French students. French Government [€2,700]

7. DISTINCTIONS, HONORS, AWARDS

2017 Anthropology Works’ [50 Best Dissertations in Cultural Anthropology, 2016](#).

2016 Committee on World Anthropologies Travel Award. American Anthropological Association.

2016 University at Albany Distinguished Dissertation Award (Winner).

2016 UAlbany Benevolent Association Award. Project: Analysis of Mayan Women’s Accounts of Obstetric Violence.

2016 David Scotchmer Essay Award (Winner), for the essay "'The Hospital is Where Women Die': Indigenous Midwives Denounce Obstetric Violence in Mexico", Institute for Mesoamerican Studies, University at Albany.

2015 Emerging Leaders in Anthropology Program (Winner), National Association of Student Anthropologists, Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology.

2015 Zora Neale Hurston Travel Award (Winner). Association for Feminist Anthropology.

2015 Karen R. Hitchcock New Frontiers Fund Award. Initiatives for Women,

University at Albany. Project: "Disseminating Research Results: Raising Awareness about Mayan Midwives' Struggle"

- 2015 UAlbany Graduate Student Association Professional Development Award, to attend the 2015 American Anthropological Association Meeting.
- 2014 UAlbany Benevolent Association Award. Project: "Defending Indigenous Midwifery in Chiapas: an Encounter".
- 2014 UAlbany Graduate Student Association Professional Development Award, to attend the 2014 Society for Applied Anthropology meeting.
- 2013 De Cormier Scholarship, Institute for Mesoamerican Studies at UAlbany. Project: "Defining and Defending Women's Rights in Chiapas".
- 2013 Initiatives for Women Award, University at Albany, Project: preliminary dissertation fieldwork.
- 2013 New York State / Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU) Professional Development Award.

8. GRANTS AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

- 2014 AWESOME Foundation Grant (Editor). Project "Sharing Knowledge: An Encounter of Indigenous Midwives", to the benefit of the Association Mâ and OMIECH ([Link](#)) [\$1,000].
- 2011 Grundtvig Lifelong Learning Program, European Union (Editor). Project: "Wiki-Week for Development". On behalf of Etudiants et Développement [€25,600].

9. PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

9.1. Public Service

- 2017-present **Feminist Circle** [Groupe de Réflexion Féministe] (founder), monthly meetings.
- 2017 Mentor. Hackaton for Equal Rights, French Ministry of Women's Rights, Paris, March 3-5.
- 2015 Interpret (Spanish to English). Helping Babies Breathe workshop. San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas. May 22.
- 2015 Interpret (Spanish to English). Operation Smiles surgery campaign, San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, April 16-17.

- 2015 Jury member Commission evaluating student organization projects in Latin America, Etudiants et Developpement, Paris, France, March 21.
- 2013 - 2016 Administrator, Facebook page Las que Luchan ([Link](#))
- 2012 - present Board Member, Association Mâ ([Link](#)) (elected).
- 2012 - 2016 Student Associate of the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies ([Link](#)).
- 2012 - 2014 Representative, Anthropology Graduate Student Organization, UAlbany (elected).

9.2. Professional Memberships

United States

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

- Society for Medical Anthropology (SMA)
- Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA)
- Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (SLACA)

Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA)

- Gender-Based Violence Topical Interest Group.

Europe/France

European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)

Société d'Histoire de la Naissance (SHN)

Anthropologie Médicale Appliquée au Développement et à la Santé (AMADES)

Groupe d'Etudes Mésoaméricaines (Gemeso).

10. ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD RESEARCH

- 2017 Ethnographic field research, Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala. Research project "Living in Security," Dr. Jennifer Burrell [June-July, 4 weeks]
- 2016 Ethnographic field research, Creuse, France for the project "Ageing in Rural France," La Fabrique des Territoires Innovants [October, 2 weeks]
- 2016 Ethnographic field research, Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala. Research project "Living in Security," Dr. Jennifer Burrell [June-July, 4 weeks].
- 2014-2015 Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork. Highlands Chiapas. [9 months]
- 2014 Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork. San Cristóbal de Las Casas. January [4 weeks]
- 2013-2014 Fieldwork with homebirth midwives in the Albany Capital Region. [6 months]
- 2013 Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork. San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas. [9 weeks]

2009 Master's Fieldwork. San Cristóbal de Las Casas and Tenejapa, Chiapas. [4 weeks]

11. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2017 Masterclass “Maternity in Colonial and Postcolonial Contexts,” Dr. Rabab Abdulhadi (San Francisco State University), EHESS Paris, May 19.
- 2016-2017 Research Unit on Migration and Society (URMIS), monthly research seminar, Paris-8 Diderot University.
- 2015 Symposium “Passerelles Recherche-Consultance”. EHESS Paris. November 26.
- 2014 - 2015 Monthly Seminar “La Partería en Chiapas”. PROIMMSE-UNAM. Co-organizer and participant. San Cristóbal de Las Casas [9 months].
- 2013 Symposium: Encuentro Pueblos y Frontera 2013: Megaproyectos de desarrollo en el Sureste de México: lógicas y resistencias. PROIMMSE-UNAM, San Cristóbal de Las Casas, May 29-31.
- 2013 Seminar “Roles de género y construcción del cuerpo. Transgresión y delito”. Dolores Juliano (Universidad de Barcelona). San Cristóbal de Las Casas, June 10-14.

12. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

12.1. Professional Service

- 2017 Adele E. Clarke book award (Repronetwork) Committee member. Chair: Lara Freidenfelds.
- 2017-2019 Social Media co-manager, Association for Feminist Anthropology. American Anthropological Association.
- 2016-2018 Membership Coordinator, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction. Society for Medical Anthropology, American Anthropological Association.
- 2015-2017 Co-editor. Association for Feminist Anthropology News Column. *Anthropology News*. with Emily DeWet. American Anthropological Association.
- 2013 - 2016 Community Manager. Gender-Based Violence Topical Interest Group ([Link](#))

12.2. Undergraduate Theses and Directed Research

2015-2016 External Reader, Undergraduate thesis. Ramírez, Alba, *Mujeres y parteras. La atención del embarazo y parto en la periferia norte de San Cristóbal de Las Casas*. Autonomous University of Chiapas (UNACH).

13. LANGUAGES

<u>French</u> :	Native speaker	<u>Arabic</u> :	Full Oral Fluency(Moroccan)
<u>English</u> :	Full Professional Fluency	<u>Maya-Tseltal</u> :	Conversational Fluency
<u>Spanish</u> :	Full Professional Fluency	<u>Japanese</u> :	Beginner [2004-2007]

14. REFERENCES

Jennifer L. Burrell, Associate Professor

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