

**ANTHROPOLOGY (ANG) 6427**  
**The Social Lives of Things**

Prof. Susan D. Gillespie	Spring 2026
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<a href="http://www.people.clas.ufl.edu/sgillesp">www.people.clas.ufl.edu/sgillesp</a>	3 Credits

*“A crucial area of thought in all the social sciences at present is **the relationship between people and things**. ”<sup>1</sup>*

**Catalog Description:** Anthropological and related theories and approaches to the recursive social relationships enacted between humans and things focusing on things themselves, both human-made entities and human-manipulated substances.

**Course Overview:** In this advanced seminar in anthropological theory, we explore the burgeoning literature on things heralded by phenomenological philosopher Edmund Husserl’s famous slogan, “back to the things themselves” (ca. 1936). It helped to stimulate a scholarly shift known as the “(re)turn to things” or the “material turn” that began in the 1980s in social sciences and humanistic disciplines disenchanted by the over-emphasis on discourse, representations, and other ephemera. This shift was heralded in anthropology by Arjun Appadurai’s 1986 book, *The Social Life of Things*. Our focus is on anthropological and related approaches to *materiality*—the recursive relationships enacted between humans and things. More specific topics include thing theory, experiencing things (phenomenology), object agency and human-thing entanglement, the social lives of things-in-motion, relational ontologies, things as signs (semiotics), magical things, technology as making/unmaking things, things and the body, things and social identity, and the matter of mutable things, including invisibility, absence, decay, and loss.

**Course Design:** This course is designed for graduate students in Anthropology, History, Art and Art History, Sociology, Museum Studies, Media Studies, Design, Performance, and related fields dealing with the social and experiential aspects of materiality and “material culture.”

**Student Learning Objectives:** At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Identify theories of materiality and articulate their historical development.
- Recognize the ontological status of things in contrast to objects, how things “thing.”
- Distinguish the major theories of object agency.
- Explain how things act as signs in different sign modes, “thinking through things.”
- Articulate how and why things are considered magical.
- Apply object biography and object itinerary as investigative methods.
- Distinguish “gift” from “commodity” in Maussian and neo-Marxian concepts.
- Explain the role of making and unmaking in human-thing relationships.

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<sup>1</sup>Chris Gosden and Yvonne Marshall, “The Cultural Biography of Objects,” *World Archaeology* 31(2):169-178, 1999, p. 169.

- Evaluate the matter of things in terms of affordances and constraints, and potential and actualized properties, by which people are entangled with things.
- Recognize the dynamic role of taphonomy and decay in people-thing relationships.
- Discriminate various types of hybridity of bodies and things.
- Evaluate theories for the emergence of relationships between people and things, and between people through things.
- Explain the necessity of things in constructing and enacting identities.
- Apply one or more of these concepts and methods to their own research interests as an original paper and oral presentation.

**Canvas:** Go to [elearning.ufl.edu](http://elearning.ufl.edu): the syllabus and announcements are here, readings are listed under weekly modules, and discussion questions are to be posted here as well. Set your notifications to be contacted at least daily for new discussion board posts or comments from the instructor.

**Class Format:** This is a seminar, *not* a lecture course. Information for each class is drawn from the assigned readings. Every student is expected to bring the week's readings to class (hard copy or in digital format) and be prepared to participate fully in class discussions of the reading assignments.

**Readings:** This is a reading-intensive course. Required and some recommended readings can be downloaded as journal articles; book chapters are available in pdf form on Canvas. *VPN is required* to access e-journals from a non-University computer. In addition, three textbooks are required, and three are recommended. They are available for purchase and are on reserve in Library West.

**Required Books (on reserve)**

1. Candlin, Fiona, and Raiford Guins, eds. (2009) *The Object Reader*  
Routledge. 978-0415452304 paperback –buy it used (~\$36)
2. Tilley, Christopher, et al., eds. (2006) *Handbook of Material Culture* (a library e-book)  
Sage Publications. 978-1446270561 paperback (~\$23)
3. Hicks, Dan, and Mary Beaudry, eds. (2010) *Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*  
paperback (2018) Oxford University Press. 978-0198822554 (~\$45)

**Recommended Books (on reserve)**

1. Boivin, Nicole (2008) *Material Cultures, Material Minds: The Impact of Things on Human Thought, Society, and Evolution*. paperback (2010)  
Cambridge University Press. 978-0521873970 buy it used (~\$30)
2. Ingold, Tim (2013) *Making: Anthropology, Archaeology, Art and Architecture*  
Routledge. 978-0415567237 paperback (~\$32)
2. Appadurai, Arjun (1986) *The Social Life of Things*.  
Cambridge University Press. 978-0521357265 paperback (~\$25) [*pdf of book on Canvas*]

**Contacting the Instructor:** The preferred method is by email, either through Canvas or directly. Please put the course name or number in the subject line. If the topic is urgent, please indicate that.

**Attendance:** Because this seminar is designed around in-class discussions of the reading material, missing class will prove detrimental to your understanding of that material as well as to the other students' understandings, because your contribution will be lost. More than one absence and frequent tardiness will be noted and could result in a drop in the final letter grade (e.g., from A to A-). Failure to be prepared for or to participate in discussion is not much different from being absent.

**Class Participation Requirements:** All students are expected to discuss all the readings each week. Readings must be finished *before* class meets so that you have thought about and are prepared to discuss them. Notes must be taken on each reading and brought to class. In addition, each student is expected to **post** (at least) **four specific relevant questions or comments that lead to discussion** drawn from at least **four** different readings. They are to be posted on the Canvas discussion board for each week by **NOON on Tuesday afternoon before class**. You must read what is already posted there before uploading your questions to avoid duplication. If someone has already taken your question, compose a different one. You are also expected to read *all* postings before class, and **respond to at least four** of them (responses are in addition to questions) by **8:00 pm** Tuesday evening. You may respond to questions drawn from the same reading from which you created a question, as long as it is a different question from the one you asked. *Everyone is expected to have read all questions and responses before class begins* Wednesday morning. The panels are expected to use those questions, as well as their own, to direct discussion. Posting and reading questions and responses (akin to reflective reading essays) make up 50% of the class participation grade (50 points). The other 50% is based on active and informed contributions to in-class discussion each week. Passive individuals who prefer instead to listen to others or students with DRC letters should talk to the Instructor for additional assignments to make up for the lack of oral participation.

*Participation Rubric [for each class period]:* 3 pts: engaged and informed, asking and answering questions throughout the class period; 2 pts: engaged but with fewer contributions on only some readings; 1 pt: had little to say except when prompted; was late to class; 0.5 pt: was present but said virtually nothing.

**Student panels** are responsible for leading discussion of special topics in the last half of the semester. Panels are assigned on a “first-come” basis. The panel should meet before that class to decide the important questions to be discussed, and panel members are encouraged to consult with me. Panels will disseminate their discussion questions by discussion board to the rest of the class by **7:00 pm Tuesday** before the Wednesday class meeting, relying in part on the questions posted by other students.

**Research Paper and Presentation:** Students will formulate and develop an *original* analysis of empirical data using a selection of these theories, concepts, and methods on a topic relevant to the course and their research interests. The data must emphasize material phenomena— anthropogenic objects, structures, or features and their making (or unmaking), as well as “natural” or physical substances—rather than discourse or direct observation, although the latter may be used as secondary sources of information from historical documents, participant observation, or justified analogy. Paper topics must be pre-approved by mid-semester. An in-class professional quality powerpoint oral presentation (15 minutes) is required together with the final paper. The paper should be in the format of a publishable article (c. 8000 words of text), double-spaced, 12 point font, suitable for a journal such as *Journal of Material Culture*, **OR** the content section of a grant submission (NSF, NEH) for students lacking a finished analysis. See syllabus for due dates of presentations and final papers.

#### **Components of Final Grade:**

1. Timely posting of *informed* discussion questions and responses each week: 50 pts, 25% of grade
2. Active participation in every class discussion and performance as panelists: 50 pts, 25% of the grade
3. Original research paper or grant proposal: 80 pts, 40% of grade
4. Oral presentation: 20 pts, 10% of grade

TOTAL: 200 pts

**Make-up Policy:** Students with excused absences will not be penalized for missed discussion but are expected to learn the material on their own and to submit discussion questions and responses.

**GRADES:** Letter grades are assigned at the end of the semester, based on a total of 200 points. See the grading scale below. See [University policy](#)

A	A-	B+	<b>B</b>	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
180-200	176-179	170-175	160-169	156-159	150-155	140-149	136-139	130-135	120-129	116-119	115 -0
4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	.67	0.00

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**  
**see Canvas Modules for all Assignments**  
 full required reading lists start p. 6

Week	Date	Topic
1	1/14	Introduction: Materiality and the Return of Things
2	1/21	Early Social Theory: Marx and Mauss on Things
3	1/28	Phenomenology: Experiencing Things
4	2/4	Thing Theories Today: Things, Objects, Materials
5	2/11	Object Agency and Relational Ontology: Entanglement and Thingworlds
6	2/18	Following Things-in-Motion: Biography, Itinerary, Duration, Stoppages
7	2/25	Semiotics: The Meanings of Things
8	3/4	Magical Things (panel 1); <i>research project approval deadline</i>
9	3/11	Making/Unmaking Things: Technology and Art (panel 2)
		<i>spring break</i>
10	3/25	Things and the Body: Hybrids and Cyborgs (panel 3)
11	4/1	Things and Identity: Self, Person, Community, Authenticity (panel 4)
12	4/8	Absent Things: Loss, Decay, Rubbish, Ruins (panel 5)
13	4/15	individual meetings to finalize paper
14	4/22	oral presentations [last day of class]
15	4/29	final papers due, hard copy, by noon

**ACCEPTANCE OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** By remaining registered in this class, you indicate your agreement to accept the course requirements and expectations as stated in this syllabus. These are in addition to other general University requirements and codes of conduct as stated in official documents. *Please fill out the grad information form on Canvas by the second class meeting.*

In this class, students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings, lecture material, and other subject matter presented in this course, or beyond the course, as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates, their instructor, and the authors of those readings. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint or belief.

### **Course, Department, and University Policies**

This course complies with all UF academic policies. For information on those policies and for resources for students, please see this [link](#).

**Religious observances:** Students seeking modification of due dates for class participation, assignments, and exams for religious reasons (e.g., holiday observances) should contact the instructor in advance and request this modification; it will then be granted. Students are not penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Please make requests early in the semester.

**Procedure for conflict resolution:** Any issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact Prof. John Krigbaum (krigbaum@ufl.edu, (352) 294-7540), Chair of Anthropology. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the [University Ombuds Office](#) (352-392-1308) or the [Dean of Students Office](#) (352-392-1261).

If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, including the use of AI, or have concerns about completing an assignment on time, please consult with the instructor.

If you are not using a UF computer, you must **use the UF VPN client** when accessing electronic materials course reserve materials as well as e-books, on-line journals, databases, etc. offered by the library. The VPN client is easily installed and configured, and provides easy access to electronic materials using off-campus computers. For more information on using the VPN client, go to <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/login/vpn.html>

## **Week 1. Introduction: Modernity, Materiality, the (Re)Turn to Things**

Candlin, Fiona, and Raiford Guins

2009 Introducing Objects. In *The Object Reader*, pp. 1-18.

Tilley, Christopher, et al.

2006 Introduction. In *Handbook of Material Culture*, pp. 1-6.

Keane, Webb

2006 Subjects and Objects. In *Handbook of Material Culture*, pp. 197-202.

Van Dyke, Ruth M.

2015 Materiality in Practice: An Introduction. In *Practicing Materiality*, ed. by Ruth M. Van Dyke, pp. 3-32. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Hicks, Dan

2010 The Material Culture Turn: Event and Effect. In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 25-98.

Domanska, Ewa

2006 The Material Presence of the Past. *History and Theory* 45(3):337-348.

Fowles, Severin

2010 People Without Things. In *An Anthropology of Absence: Materializations of Transcendence and Loss*, ed. by Mikkel Bille, Frida Hastrup, and Tim Flohr Sørensen. New York: Springer.

## **Week 2. Early Theorists on Things – Marx and Mauss: Exchange/Commodities/Alienation/Gifts**

Woodward, Ian

2007 *Understanding Material Culture*. London: Sage. Chapter 3: “The Deceptive, Suspicious Object: Marxist and Critical Approaches,” pp. 35-56.

Marx, Karl

1867 The Fetishism of Commodities and the Secret Thereof. *Capital*, Vol. one, Part I: Commodities and Money, Chapter One: Commodities, Section 4. 7 pp, plus end notes.  
1999; <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/ch01.htm#S4>

Hornborg, Alf

2021 Objects Don’t Have Desires: Toward an Anthropology of Technology beyond Anthropomorphism. *American Anthropologist* 123(4):753-766. (online; DOI: 10.1111/aman.13628)

Carrier, James G.

2006 Exchange. In *Handbook of Material Culture*, pp. 373-383.

Mauss, Marcel

1954 *The Gift: Forms and Functions of Exchange in Archaic Societies*. [1925] Trans. by Ian Cunnison. London: Cohen & West. Read “Introductory: Gifts and Return Gifts” pp. 1-5.

AND

Chapter 1: “Gifts and the Obligation to Return Gifts” in *The Object Reader* 2009:21-31.

Weiner, Annette B.

1985 Inalienable Wealth. *American Ethnologist* 12(2):210-227.

Miller, Daniel

2001 Alienable Gifts and Inalienable Commodities. In *The Empire of Things: Regimes of Value and Material Culture*, ed. by Fred Myers, pp. 91-115. Santa Fe: School of American Research.

### Week 3 Phenomenology and Experiential Approaches

Gosden, Christopher

1994 *Social Being and Time*. Oxford: Blackwell. excerpt from Chapter 5: "Concepts of Being" pp. 101-122 only.

Dant, Tim

2005 *Materiality and Society*. Maidenhead, UK: Open University Press. Chapter 5: "Being-with Materiality" pp. 84-107.

Thomas, Julian

2006 Phenomenology and Material Culture. In *Handbook of Material Culture*, pp. 43-59.

Ingold, Tim

2011 *Being Alive: Essays on Movement, Knowledge and Description*. London: Routledge. Chapter 6: "Point, Line, Counterpoint: From Environment to Fluid Space, pp. 76-88.

Knappett, Carl

2004 The Affordances of Things: A Post-Gibsonian Perspective on the Relationality of Mind and Matter. In *Rethinking Materiality: The Engagement of Mind with the Material World*, ed. by Elizabeth DeMarrais, Chris Gosden, and Colin Renfrew, pp. 43-51. Cambridge University McDonald Institute Monographs.

Costall, Alan

2006 On Being the Right Size: Affordances and the Meaning of Scale. In *Confronting Scale in Archaeology: Issues of Theory and Practice*, ed. by Gary Lock and Brian Leigh Molyneaux, pp. 15-26. New York: Springer.

Lash, Ryan, Meredith S. Chesson, Elise Alonzi, Ian Kuijt, Terry O'Hagan, John Ó Néill, and Tommy Burke

2023 Sensational Ensembles: Picnicking and Pilgrimage on Inishark Island, Co. Galway, Ireland, AD 1650-1960. *Current Anthropology* 64(4). doi.org/10.1086/726446.

### Week 4 Thing Theories Today: Things, Objects, Materials

Heidegger, Martin

1971 The Thing. In *Poetry, Language, Thought*. Translation & Introduction by Albert Hofstadter, pp. 165-182. New York: Harper & Row. Originally *Das Ding* (1951). Reprinted in *The Object Reader*, pp. 113-123.

Brown, Bill

2001 Thing Theory. *Critical Inquiry* 28(1):1-22. Reprinted in *The Object Reader*, pp. 139-152.

Grosz, Elizabeth

2001 The Thing. In *Architecture from the Outside: Essays on Virtual and Real Space*. pp 167-184. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. Reprinted in *The Object Reader*, pp. 124-138.

Knappett, Carl

2011 *An Archaeology of Interaction: Network Perspectives on Material Culture and Society*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chap. 8: Meshworks of Things, pp. 172-190.

Fowler, Chris, and Oliver J.T. Harris

2015 Enduring Relations: Exploring a Paradox of New Materialism. *Journal of Material Culture* 20(2):127-148.

Ingold, Tim

2007 Materials Against Materiality. *Archaeological Dialogues* 14(1):1-16.

Olsen, Bjørnar

2013 The Return of What? In *Reclaiming Archaeology: Beyond the Tropes of Modernity*, ed. by Alfredo González-Ruibal, pp. 289-297. London: Routledge.

## Week 5 Object Agency and Relational Ontology: Entanglement and Thingworlds

Kaulingfreks, Ruud

2009 The Broken Mug. In *The Object Reader*, pp. 454-455.

Jones, Andrew M., and Nicole Boivin

2010 The Malice of Inanimate Objects: Material Agency. In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 333-351.

Gell, Alfred

1998 *Art and Agency: An Anthropological Theory*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Chap. 2: "The Theory of the Art Nexus," pp. 12-23 excerpt on object agency

Robb, John

2004 "The Extended Artefact and the Monumental Economy: A Methodology for Material Agency" In *Rethinking Materiality: The Engagement of Mind with the Material World*, ed. by Elizabeth DeMarrais, Chris Gosden, and Colin Renfrew, pp. 131-139. Cambridge: McDonald Institute.

Gosden, Chris

2006 Material Culture and Long-Term Change. In *Handbook of Material Culture*, pp. 425-442.

Alberti, Benjamin, and Yvonne Marshall

2009 "Animating Archaeology: Local Theories and Conceptually Open-Ended Methodologies." *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 19(3):344-356.

Hodder, Ian

2011 Human-thing Entanglement: Towards an Integrated Archaeological Perspective. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (n.s.) 17:154-177. Lays out his model of entanglement, described more fully in his 2012 book.

Coole, Diana, and Samantha Frost

2010 Introducing the New Materialisms. In *New Materialisms: Ontology, Agency, and Politics*, ed. by Diana Coole and Samantha Frost, pp. 1-43. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

## Week 6 Following Things-in-Motion

Appadurai, Arjun

1986 Introduction: Commodities and the Politics of Value. In *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*, ed. by Arjun Appadurai, pp. 3-63. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Kopytoff, Igor

1986 The Cultural Biography of Things: Commoditization as Process. In *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*, ed. by Arjun Appadurai, pp. 64-91 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Bauer, Alexander A.

2019 Itinerant Objects. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 48:335-352.

Gell, Alfred

1998 *Art and Agency: An Anthropological Theory*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Chap. 9: Conclusion: The Extended Mind, excerpt pp. 232-258

Strathern, Marilyn

1996 Cutting the Network. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 2(3):517-535.

Joy, Jody

2009 Reinvigorating Object Biography: Reproducing the Drama of Object Lives. *World Archaeology* 41(4):540-



556.

Joyce, Rosemary A., and Susan D. Gillespie

2015 Making Things Out of Objects that Move. In *Things in Motion: Object Itineraries in Anthropological Practice*, ed. by Rosemary A. Joyce and Susan D. Gillespie, pp. 3-19. Santa Fe: School of Advanced Research Press.

Van Dyke, Ruth M.

2023 O Pedrón: Time and a Stone in Northwest Iberia. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 23(2):219-239.

## **Week 7 Material Signs: The Meanings of Things**

Preucel, Robert W., and Alexander A. Bauer

2001 Archaeological Pragmatics. *Norwegian Archaeological Review*. 34(2):85-96.

Baron, Joanne P.

2021 Peirce and Archaeology: Recent Approaches. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 50:187-202.

Preucel, Robert W.

2020 In Defence of Representation. *World Archaeology* 52(3):395-411.

Knappett, Carl

2005 *Thinking Through Material Culture: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. Chapter 5: "Networks of Meaning: A Sociosemiotics of Material Culture" pp. 85-106

Keane, Webb

2005 Signs are Not the Garb of Meaning: On the Social Analysis of Material Things. In *Materiality*, ed. by Danny Miller, pp. 182-205. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Cipolla, Craig N.

2023 When Smoking Pipes Grow Fins: Revisiting the Matter-Meaning Dualism in Archaeology. *Current Anthropology* 64(5):550-580.

**Case Studies:** read **one** of the following to discuss in class

Crossland, Zoe

2014 *Ancestral Encounters in Highland Madagascar: Material Signs and Traces of the Dead*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chap. 1: Uncertain Signs and the Power of the Dead, pp. 31-55.

Bauer, Alexander A.

2002 Is What You See All You Get? Recognizing Meaning in Archaeology. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 2(1):37-52.

Wallis, Neill J.

2013 The Materiality of Signs: Enchainment and Animacy in Woodland Southeastern North American Pottery. *American Antiquity* 78(2):207-226

Parmentier, Richard J.

1985 Diagrammatic Icons and Historical Processes in Belau. *American Anthropologist* 87:840-852.

Gal, Susan

2017 Qualia as Value and Knowledge: Histories of European Porcelain. *Signs and Society* 5(S1):S128-S153.

Mattson, Hannah

2023 Qualia in Late Precolonial Pueblo Rock Art: An Exploration of Conventionalized and Sensorial Experience in Rio Grande Style Petroglyphs. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 23(1):51-75.

## Week 8 Magical Things

Pels, Peter

- 2010    Magical Things: On Fetishes, Commodities, and Computers. In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 613-633.

Weiner, Margaret J.

- 2013    Magic, (Colonial) Science and Science Studies. *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 21(4):492-509.

Gell, Alfred

- 1999    The Technology of Enchantment and the Enchantment of Technology. In *The Art of Anthropology: Essays and Diagrams*, ed. by Eric Hirsch, pp. 159-186. London: Athlone Press. originally 1992  
reprinted 2009 in *The Object Reader*, pp. 208-228

Taussig, Michael

- 2009    In Some Way or Another One Can Protect Oneself from the Spirits by Portraying Them. In *The Object Reader*, pp. 195-207.

Gell, Alfred

- 1998    *Art and Agency: An Anthropological Theory*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.  
Chap 7: The Distributed Person, excerpt, pp. 96-101

Pietz, William

- 1985    "The problem of the fetish" Part I, *Res: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 9: 5-17

Gosden, Chris

- 2012    Magic, Materials and Matter: Understanding Different Ontologies. In *Materiality and Social Practice: Transformative Capacities of Intercultural Encounters*, ed. by Joseph Maran and Philipp W. Stockhammer, pp. 13-19. Oxford: Oxbow Books.

### Case Studies - Read one the following:

Borić, Dušan

- 2003    'Deep Time' Metaphor: Mnemonic and Apotropaic Practices at Lepenski Vir. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 3(1):46-74.

Nakamura, Carolyn

- 2004    Dedicating Magic: Neo-Assyrian Apotropaic Figurines and the Protection of Assur. *World Archaeology* 36 (1):11-25.

Davidson, James M.

- 2004    Rituals Captured in Context and Time: Charm Use in North Dallas Freedman's Town (1869-1907), Dallas, Texas. *Historical Archaeology* 38(2):22-54.

Wilkie, Laurie A.

- 2000    Magical Passions: Sexuality and African-American Archaeology. *Archaeologies of Sexuality*, ed. by Robert A. Schmidt and Barbara L. Voss, pp. 129-142. New York: Routledge.

Hill, Jude

- 2007    The Story of the Amulet: Locating the Enchantment of Collections. *Journal of Material Culture* 12(1): 65-87.

Hall, Mark A.

- 2011    The Cult of Saints in Medieval Perth: Everyday Ritual and the Materiality of Belief. *Journal of Material Culture* 16(1): 80-104.

Brown, Peter

2009 Praesentia. In *The Object Reader*, pp. 177-194. (from 1981 *The Cult of the Saints*)

Harrison, Rodney

2003 "The Magical Value of These Sharp Things": Colonialism, Mimesis and Knapped Bottle Glass Artefacts in Australia. *Journal of Material Culture* 8(3):311-336.

Saunders, Nicholas J.

1999 Biographies of Brilliance: Pearls, Transformations of Matter and Being, c. AD 1492. *World Archaeology* 31(2): 243-257.

Pels, Peter

1998 The Spirit of Matter: On Fetish, Rarity, Fact, and Fancy. In *Border Fetishisms: Material Objects in Unstable Places*, ed. by Patricia Spyer, pp. 122-149. New York: Routledge. E-BOOK

## **Week 9 Making/Unmaking Things: Technology/Art**

Ingold, Tim

2001 Beyond Art and Technology: The Anthropology of Skill. In *Anthropological Perspectives on Technology*, ed. by Michael Brian Schiffer, pp. 17-31. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press.

Pfaffenberger, Bryan

2001 Symbols Do Not Create Meanings—Activities Do; Or, Why Symbolic Anthropology Needs the Anthropology of Technology. In *Anthropological Perspectives on Technology*, ed. by Michael Brian Schiffer, pp. 77-86. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.

Ingold, Tim

2013 *Making: Anthropology, Archaeology, Art and Architecture*. London: Routledge.  
Chap. 2: The Materials of Life, pp. 17-31.

Harman, Graham

2010 Technology, Objects and Things in Heidegger. *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 34(1):17-25.

Warnier, Jean-Pierre

2009 Technology as Efficacious Action on Objects ... And Subjects. *Journal of Material Culture* 14(4):459-470.

Dobres, Marcia-Anne

2010 Archaeologies of Technology. *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 34(1):103-114.

Naji, Myriem, and Laurence Douny

2009 Editorial. *Journal of Material Culture* 14(4):411-432.

### **Select one additional reading from this list of case studies:**

Hollenback, Kacy L., and Michael Brian Schiffer

2010 Technology and Material Life. In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 313-332.

Knappett, Carl, Lambros Malafouris, and Peter Tomkins

2010 Ceramics (as Containers). In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 588-612

Pollard, Joshua

2001 The Aesthetics of Depositional Practice. *World Archaeology* 33:315-333.

Sillar, Bill

1996 The Dead and the Drying: Techniques for Transforming People and Things in the Andes. *Journal of Material Culture* 1(3):259-289.

Coupaye, Ludovic

2009 Ways of Enchanting: *Chaînes Opératoires* and Yam Cultivation in Nyamikum Village, Maprik, Papua New Guinea. *Journal of Material Culture* 14(4):433-458.

Catapoti, Despina, and Maria Relaki

2020 Why the Neolithic is (R)evolutionary. *Journal of Material Culture* 25(3):289-308.

## **Week 10 Things and the Body**

Crossland, Zoë

2010 Materiality and Embodiment. In *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*, pp. 386-405.

Sofaer, Joanna R.

2006 *The Body as Material Culture: A Theoretical Osteoarchaeology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 4 "Material Bodies," pp.62-88.

Mauss, Marcel

1973 Techniques of the Body. *Economy and Society* 2:70-88.  
(1935 *Les techniques du corps*) Read Chapter 1: The Notion of Techniques of the Body, pp. 70-76.

Bourdieu, Pierre

1977 *Outline of a Theory of Practice*. Trans. by Richard Nice. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. excerpt: The Dialectic of Objectification and Embodiment, pp. 87-95, from Chapter 2

Warnier, Jean-Pierre

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