

Jordan Kiper, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

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Academic Positions

- 2020 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL.
- 2019 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA.

Education

- 2018 **University of Connecticut**
Ph.D., Anthropology
M.A., Anthropology
Graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science
Graduate Certificate in Human Rights
- 2009 **Colorado State University**
M.A., Philosophy
- 2007 **University of Colorado at Colorado Springs**
B.A., Anthropology, Art History, and Philosophy

Publications

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- Under review **Kiper, J.**, Wilson, R., Lillie, C., Knapp, B., Gwon, Y., & Harris, L. The influence of propaganda on moral judgments: Evidence from a cross-cultural experiment and exploratory fEMG study.
- In press **Kiper, J.** Belief in human rights: An opportunity for cross-cultural cognitive science. In J. Musolino (Ed.), *The Cognitive Science of Belief*. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press.
- In press **Kiper, J.**, Stich, S., Machery, E., & Barrett, H.C. Experimental philosophy. In D. Ludwig, I. Koskinen, Z. Mncube, L. Poliseli, & L. Reyes-Galindo (Eds.), *Negotiating Local and Global Perspectives on Scientific Practice*. New York: Routledge
- In press **Kiper, J.** An obstacle to decolonizing Europe: White nationalism and its Cooption of Serbian Propaganda. *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures*.
- 2020 **Kiper, J.**, Gwon, Y., & Wilson, R.A. How propaganda works: Nationalism, revenge and empathy in Serbia. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 20, 403-430.

- 2020 **Kiper, J.**, & Sosis, R. The systemics of violent religious nationalism: A case study of the Yugoslav Wars. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, 14(1), 45-70.
- 2020 Wilson, R.A., & **Kiper, J.** Brandenburg in an era of populism: Risk analysis in the first amendment. *Law and Public Affairs*, 5(2), 57-121.
- 2019 **Kiper, J.** How dangerous propaganda works. In P. Dojčinović (Ed.), *Propaganda and International Criminal Law: From Cognition to Criminality* (pp. 217-236). New York: Routledge.
- 2019 **Kiper, J.** Cultivating Peace in the Heart of the Balkans. *Sapiens—Anthropology/Everything Human*. 22 February 2019: <https://www.sapiens.org/culture/yugoslav-wars-veterans/>
- 2018 **Kiper, J.**, & DiVietro, S. When and when not to forgive. In S. DiVietro & J. Kiper (Eds.), *Perspectives on Forgiveness: Contrasting Approaches to Concepts of Forgiveness and Revenge* (pp. vii-xxv). The Netherlands: Brill.
- 2018 DiVietro, S., & **Kiper, J.** Revenge and forgiveness in domestic violence intervention. In S. DiVietro & J. Kiper (Eds.), *Perspectives on Forgiveness: Contrasting Approaches to Concepts of Forgiveness and Revenge* (pp. 77-116). The Netherlands: Brill.
- 2017 Sosis, R., & **Kiper, J.** Sacred versus secular values: Cognitive and evolutionary sciences of religion and religious freedom. In T.S. Shah (Ed.), *Homo Religiosus? Exploring the Roots of Religion and Religious Freedom in Human Experience* (pp. 89-119). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2017 **Kiper, J.**, & Sosis, R. The Logic and location of strong reciprocity: Anthropological and philosophical considerations. In M. Li & D. Tracer (Ed.), *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Fairness, Equity and Justice* (pp. 107-128). New York: Springer.
- 2016 **Kiper, J.**, & Sosis, R. Shaking the tyrant's bloody robe: Evolutionary perspectives on intergroup conflict, religion, and ethnic violence. *Politics and Life Sciences*, 35(1), 27-40.
- 2016 **Kiper, J.**, & Sosis, R. Why terrorism terrifies us. In M. Taylor (Ed.), *Evolutionary Psychology and Terrorism: New Perspectives on Political Violence* (pp. 102-123). New York: Routledge.
- 2016 **Kiper, J.**, & Sosis, R. The Roots of intergroup conflict and the co-option of the religious system: An evolutionary perspective on religious terrorism. In J. Liddle and T. Shackelford (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Evolutionary Perspectives on Religion* (pp. 265-281). New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2015 Purzycki, B., **Kiper, J.**, Shaver, J., Finkel, D., & Sosis, R. Religion. In R.A. Scott & M. Stephens (Eds.), *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences* (pp. 1-16). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 2015 **Kiper, J.** War propaganda, war crimes, and post-conflict justice in Serbia: An ethnographic account. *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 19(5), 572-591.

- 2015 **Kiper, J.** Toward an anthropology of war propaganda. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, 38(1), 129-146.
- 2014 **Kiper, J., & Sosis, R.** Moral intuitions and the religious system: An adaptationist account. *Philosophy, Theology and the Sciences*, 1(2), 172-199.
- 2014 Sosis, R., & **Kiper, J.** Religion is more than belief: What evolutionary theories of religion tell us about religious commitments. In M. Bergmann & P. Kain (eds.), *Challenges to Religion and Morality: Disagreements and Evolution* (pp. 256-276). New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2013 **Kiper, J.** Why anthropology remains integral to cognitive science. *Topics in Cognitive Science – Journal of the Cognitive Science Society*, 6(1), 151-152.
- 2012 **Kiper, J.** Do human rights have religious foundations? *Religion and Human Rights*, 7(2), 109-131.
- 2011 **Kiper, J.** Henry Shue on basic rights: A Defense. *Human Rights Review*, 12(4), 505-514.

Volumes

- 2018 DiVietro, S., & **Kiper, J.** (Eds.), *Perspectives on Forgiveness: Contrasting Approaches to Concepts of Forgiveness and Revenge*. The Netherlands: Brill.
- 2018 **Kiper, J.** *Propaganda and Mass Violence in the Yugoslav Wars: A Post-Conflict Ethnography*. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Connecticut.

Commentaries and Books Reviews

- 2020 **Kiper, J.** Knowing across cultures. *Anthropology News*. September 30, 2020.
- 2020 **Kiper, J.** Toward an evolutionary-science based metaethics. *Religion, Brain and Behavior*, 10(3), 15-23.
- 2018 **Kiper, J., & Sosis, R.** Toward a More Comprehensive Theory of Self-Sacrificial Violence. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 41, 26-27.
- 2016 **Kiper, J.** Right views: The shared insights of Buddhism, biology, and existentialism. *Religion, Brain and Behavior*, 6(1), 88-91.
- 2015 **Kiper, J., & Meier, J.** The problems and origins of big gods. *Religion, Brain and Behavior*, 5(4), 298-305.
- 2014 Sosis, R., & **Kiper, J.** Why religion is better conceived as a complex system than a normative institution. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 37, 275-276.
- 2014 **Kiper, J.** Review of Edward Slingerland's *Trying Not to Try: The Art and Sciences of Spontaneity*. *Journal of the Cognitive Science of Religion*, 2(2), 164-169.
- 2014 **Kiper, J.** Beyond utopia: The history and future of human rights. *Warscapes*. September 16, 2014.
- 2014 **Kiper, J.** Review of *Buddhist Biology: Ancient Eastern Wisdom meets Modern Science* by David Barish. *The View of Life: Anything and Everything from an Evolutionary Perspective*. April 23, 2014.

2011 **Kiper, J.** It depends on what you mean by “altruism.” *Proceedings of the Kent State May 4th Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, No. 10:* <http://philosophy/kent.edu/journal/001001>.

Professional Presentations

Evaluating Information and Misinformation during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence for Epistemic Vigilance. (Presented with Kristopher Smith, Nadya Vasilyeva, H. Clark Barrett, Edouard Machery, & Stephen Stich). Presented at the following conferences:

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 47th Annual Meeting, 2021. Remote presentation, June 28, 2021.

Cognitive Science Annual Conference, 2021. Remote presentation, July 28, 2021.

Global Upheaval and the Convergence of Human Rights Claims. Anthropology of Consciousness Spring Meeting, 2021. Remote presentation, March 14, 2021.

Evidence in Propaganda Trials: Rethinking the Limits of Regulatory Frameworks. American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting, Vancouver, November 20, 2019.

Rehumanization among Veterans of the Yugoslav Wars: Rethinking Reconciliation and Post-Conflict Justice. Social Practice of Human Rights, Dayton University, Dayton, OH, October 3, 2019.

War Propaganda, Mass Violence, and Crimes against Humanity. War Frenzy: Exploring the Violence of Propaganda Conference, Princeton University, NJ, May 11, 2017.

An Anthropology of Propaganda. Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, April 27, 2017.

What Evolutionary Theory tells us about Religious Terrorism. International Conference on Religion, Violence, and Peace, Wake Forest University, NC, April 10, 2015.

Religion: “What it is” and “What it is like.” Teaching Religion, Columbia University, New York, NY, March 27, 2015.

Shaking the Tyrant’s Bloody Robe: Evolutionary Perspectives on Intergroup Conflict, Religion, and Ethnic Violence. Ethnic and Religious Conflict Conference, Arizona State University, AZ, February 27, 2015.

“I Should Help, but I Wouldn’t”: The Psychology of Revenge and Its Application in Domestic Violence Intervention. Forgiveness and Revenge: Probing the Boundaries, Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom, July 10, 2014.

A Tentative Model of Prosecutorial War Propaganda and Criminal Speech in International Law. Language Fest, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, April 24, 2014.

A Theoretical Framework towards Understanding the Role of Third-Person Cognition in the Evolution of Cooperation and Religious Systems. (Presented with Richard Sosis). Seventh Annual Conference for the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, SUNY, New Paltz, NY, April 11, 2014.

Is there a Coherent Causal Connection between War Propaganda and Violence? Tenth Anniversary Human Rights Institute Conference: Contexts of Human Rights, Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut, Storrs, September 18, 2013.

Moral Distance: At the Intersection of Propaganda, Perpetrators, and Prosecutors. ARIL and Cross Currents Conference, Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University, New York, NY, July 17, 2013.

How Peer-pressure Moderates the Effect of War Propaganda: Experimental Evidence for Understanding Wartime Injustices. Institute for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Society, Chapman University, Anaheim, CA, June 7, 2013.

Moral Intuitions and the Religious System: An Adaptationist Account. (Presented with Richard Sosis). Colloquium on Philosophy, Theology and the Sciences, Center for Theological Inquiry, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 23, 2013.

Signaling Trust and Coping with Uncertainty: The Value of Religious Ritual. Religion and Failure: A Weekly Seminar Series in the Anthropology of Religion, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, March 28, 2013.

War Propaganda and Support for Mass Violence: An Ethnographic Account. AAAS Annual Conference, General Poster Session, Boston, MA, February 17, 2013.

"We Defended Our Country: That is Not a Crime:" Serbian Veterans and War Crime Investigations in Post-War Serbia. Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, February 4, 2013.

Religion is more than Belief: What Evolutionary Theories tell us about Religious Commitments. (Presented with Richard Sosis). Knowing in Religion and Morality Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, September 8, 2012.

Forgiveness is Costly: The Evolution of Forgiveness and Its Philosophical Implications. Forgiveness: Probing the Boundaries, Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom, July 12, 2012.

To What Extent Does Propaganda Cause Violence? The Law and Society Association International Conference, Honolulu, HI, June 8, 2012.

Do Human Rights Have Religious Foundations? Human Rights in a Global Perspective Conference, Howard University School of Law, Washington, DC, September 30, 2011.

Sacred vs. Secular Values: Cognitive and Evolutionary Sciences of Religion and Religious Freedom. (Presented with Richard Sosis) Religious Freedom Project, Georgetown University, Washington, DC., May 3, 2011.

The Adaptive Value of Story Telling. Society for Psychological Anthropology Meeting, Santa Monica, CA, April 3, 2011.

It Depends On What You Mean by "Altruism." Kent State May 4th Philosophy Conference, Kent State University, Kent, OH, March 12, 2011.

Henry Shue on Basic Rights: A Defense. Third Annual Graduate Human Rights Conference: The Ideals & Realities of Social & Economic Rights, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, April 16, 2010.

Laying Down a Path in Walking: Embodied Cognition. (Presented with Darko Saranac) Space and Time across Language, Disciplines and Cultures Conference, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, April 9, 2010.

Quantum Theory, Quantum Minds, and the Hard Problem of Consciousness. The American Philosophical Association, Central Division Conference, Chicago, IL, April 18, 2008.

Can Physical Science Solve the Problems of Phenomenal Consciousness? Mind, Brain and Experience Conference, Colorado University, Denver, CO, April 11, 2008.

Incoherence Revealed: David Gauthier's Game Theory and Argument for Impartiality. The Inter-Mountain West Philosophy Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, March 28, 2008.

The Incompleteness of Quantum Consciousness. The International Humanities Conference, Honolulu, HI, January 14, 2008.

Love and Compassion: Gandhi, King, and the Philosophy of Peace. The Inter-Mountain Philosophy Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, February 11, 2005.

Curated Exhibits

Recovery and Reconciliation after the Yugoslav Wars: A Study in Portraits and Legacies of those Who Now Fight for Peace (co-curated with Robin Albarano). Thomas J. Dodd Research Center Hallway, Connecticut, Storrs, CT, February 10 to March 14, 2017.

A Legacy of Veteran Expressions after War: Every Veteran's Life tells a Story and Every Veteran Leaves a Legacy (co-curated with Robin Albarano). Thomas J. Dodd Research Center Gallery, Connecticut, Storrs, CT, January 1 to February 28, 2017.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

- 2021 Faculty Development Grant. University of Alabama at Birmingham.
- 2020 John Templeton Foundation, Geography of Philosophy Project, Subaward
- 2017 Human Rights Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Human Rights Institute. University of Connecticut.
- 2016 Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Anthropology Department. University of Connecticut.
- 2016 Dennison Nash Fellowship, Anthropology Department, University of Connecticut.
- 2016 Spring Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2015 Excellence in Teaching, Office of the Provost, University of Connecticut.
- 2015 Research Excellence in Law Grant (Co-Pi), University of Connecticut School of Law.
- 2014 Dennison Nash Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2014 Dean Ross MacKinnon Endowment, University of Connecticut.
- 2013 Human Rights Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2013 Department of Anthropology Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2013 IRES Graduate Fellowship, Institute for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Society 2nd Annual Graduate Student Workshop, Chapman University, CA.
- 2013 Coolidge Fellowship, ARIL and Cross Currents Colloquium, Union Seminary, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- 2012 The Annual Paper Competition for Graduates in the Anthropology Department at the University of Connecticut.
- 2012 Human Rights Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2012 Department of Anthropology Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut.

- 2011 The Annual Paper Competition for Graduates in the Anthropology Department at the University of Connecticut.
- 2010 Department of Anthropology Summer Fellowship, University of Connecticut.
- 2010 European Science Days Fellowship, Johannes Kepler University, Steyr, Austria.
- 2007 The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs Undergraduate Essay Contest in Philosophy.
- 2007 The Eldon Steven's Award: Outstanding Senior Thesis for the 2006-2007 Academic Year, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2006 Curiosity Unlimited Scholarship, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2006 Letters, Arts and Sciences Scholarship, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2006 Alumni Scholarship, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2005 Benjamin Brown Fellowship for Independent Research Abroad, University of Colorado.
- 2005 Award Presenter at the Inter-Mountain Philosophy Conference 2005, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2004 Janis Tharp Student Enrichment Fund, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2004 University of Colorado Independent Scholar Award.
- 2004 Alumni Scholarship, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
- 2004 Richard & Jane Francis Scholarship for Philosophy, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Teaching History

Courses Taught at the Undergraduate Level

Cognitive Science: A Philosophical Introduction, Colorado State University.
 Comparative Religion, University of Alabama at Birmingham
 Culture, Language and Thought, University of Connecticut.
 Human Rights and Transitional Justice, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
 Human Rights in Democratizing Countries, University of Connecticut.
 Introduction to Biological Anthropology, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
 Introduction to Human Rights, University of Connecticut
 Other People's Worlds, University of Connecticut.
 Propaganda, Fake News, and Hate Speech, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
 Social Anthropology, University of Connecticut.
 World Religions, University of Connecticut.

Courses Taught at the Graduate Level

Human Rights and Transitional Justice, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
 Propaganda, Fake News, and Hate Speech, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Teaching Assistantships

Appreciation of Philosophy, Colorado State University.
History and Philosophy of Scientific Thought, Colorado State University.
Introduction to Anthropology, University of Connecticut.
Moral and Social Problems, Colorado State University.
World Philosophies, Colorado State University.

Foreign Language Instruction

English as a Second Language (ESL), Goodwin College.

Professional Affiliations

American Anthropological Association
American Psychology Law Society
Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
Cognitive Science Society
International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion
Law and Society Association
Society for the Anthropology of Religion
Southeastern Human Rights Network

Professional Service

Reviewer

Academic Journals

Current Anthropology
Journal of Global Ethics
Philosophy Compass
Philosophy and Psychology
Religion, Brain and Behavior

Academic Texts

Routledge
Sage
Taylor and Francis

Grants

National Science Foundation (NSF) reviewer

Professional Skillsets

Foreign Languages

Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian (proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking)
Latin and Classical Greek (working proficiency in reading)
Spanish (limited working proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking)

Modeling, Statistical Packages, and Programing

R, SPSS

References

Professor Richard Sosis

*James Barnett Professor of Humanistic
Anthropology*

Professor Clark Barrett

*Professor of Biological Anthropology and
Evolutionary Psychology*

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Professor Richard Wilson

*Gladstein Chair and Professor of
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Candace Alcorta

Research Scientist

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