

Karis Jade Petty

Website: www.karisjadepetty.com

Email: k.petty@sussex.ac.uk

Sussex, UK.

I have submitted my PhD in anthropology at the University of Sussex, which investigates the perception of the South Downs for people who have impaired vision through an interdisciplinary approach that draws on Anthropology, Human Geography, Sociology, Sound Studies and Psychology. Topics I engage with include sensory perception, notions of the visual and non-visual, the more-than-human environment, embodiment, enskillment, conceptualising landscape and self, materialities and wellbeing. My viva is scheduled for September 2017. I start a Teaching Fellowship in Anthropology and International Development in September 2017. I have experience teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University of Sussex since spring term 2015, during which I completed my Higher Education Academy Associate Fellowship with a Merit. My record for successful teaching was recently acknowledged by students in a student-led teaching award for 'Outstanding or Innovative Undergraduate Teaching' in 2017. This acknowledged my inclusive pedagogy that aims to engage and empower students. I have a strong background in research administration, including working for Research Council Norway, the Centre for Global Health Policy, the BIOsport project and the British International Studies Association Global Health Working Group.

EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS

PhD, Anthropology (part-time), University of Sussex (2011-2017)

My research specialisms include sensory perception, the environment, subjectivity, embodiment, walking, place, phenomenology, and memory. My research proposal was used as an exemplar within the department. During my PhD, I have developed skills in:

- Formulating innovative, qualitative and sensory research methodologies to study perception and experience, for example using methods of apprenticeship and ethnography through the body to study sensory impairment.
- Acquiring and interpreting complex and ambiguous sensory data and phenomenological experience, for example regarding sensory rehabilitation.
- Cultivating a thorough understanding of the literature and ideas regarding perception and the environment interdisciplinarily, including Human Geography, Anthropology, Sound Studies, Psychology and Sociology.
- Presenting at international academic and inter-disciplinary conferences and symposiums, including European Association of Social Anthropologists 14th biennial conference and co-organising a panel at 'Wild or Domesticated: Uncanny in historical and contemporary perspectives to mind'.
- Academic publication and communicating research for public impact.

Apprenticeship in Inclusive Arts Facilitation, Carousel, Brighton (2013-2014)

This one-year apprenticeship was a practical and theoretical immersion into facilitating inclusive arts with people who have learning disabilities aged 18 plus with a multi-platform arts organisation. During this apprenticeship, I developed skills in:

- Planning and delivering engaging and varied weekly workshops aimed to empower a participant-led approach championed by Carousel.
- Collaborating to create performances with participants as part of a small team of directors, musicians and volunteers.

- Communicating with people who have very diverse ways of interacting, verbally and non-verbally, to facilitate authentic creative expression.

Bachelor of Anthropology, University of Sussex (2006-2009)

Grade: First class honours. During my degree, I undertook three primary ethnographic research projects; one of which was collaborative, for which I was elected Chair. These included experiences of the body in energy healing modalities, motivations for volunteering in inner-city charity shops (with Oxfam and DEBRA charity), and the perception of the South Downs for people who have impaired vision. These research projects used qualitative research methodologies, including participation, observation, photo elicitation, tours and semi-structured interviews in multiple settings. I received a First Class Honours for two of these projects and the other was a very high 2:1.

A-Levels, City College, Norwich (2004-2006)

Psychology (grade A), Sociology (grade A), and English Language and Literature (grade A).

TEACHING AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-facilitator, Participatory Disability and Kindness Assessment Training, University of Sussex (5-9 June 2017)

I co-facilitated the delivery of the ‘Participatory Disability and Kindness Assessment Training’ to postgraduate students who carried out an assessment of disability and kindness on the University of Sussex campus. This involved:

- Training students to design a participatory research methodology in small groups and then carry out fieldwork on the University of Sussex campus.
- Facilitating group analysis to co-create a final exhibition and establish the next steps.
- Documenting the process and co-creating a written report.

Associate Lecturer, ‘Landscape, Walking and the Senses’, University of Sussex (March 2017; Associate Tutor in April 2014 and April 2016)

I was the Associate Lecturer on a module investigating sensory perception, mobilities, the environment, sensory methodologies, embodiment, enskillment and distinguishing self in relation to the environment. My role as Associate Lecturer involved:

- Research-led module design based on my PhD research, including formulation of the thematic focus, creation of reading lists and framing assessment.
- Creating the activities and managing logistics for a two-day fieldtrip as part of the module, which included using a student-led approach in activities where possible.
- Planning and leading seminars and workshops both indoors and outdoors.
- Supporting students in their assessment through module design, formative feedback, office hours and email correspondence.
- Partnering with Brighton University to collaboratively deliver aspects of the module.

Associate Tutor, ‘Visual Anthropology’, University of Sussex (autumn term 2016)

This module examined theories and applications of visual anthropology, investigating the complex legacies of visual representation in anthropology to explore cross-overs between anthropological and other relevant visual epistemologies in the social sciences and arts. It investigated the use of visual methodologies and data in anthropological research, and the presentation and consumption of anthropological knowledge with a focus on photography, film and virtual media. This module addressed visuality itself as a domain of anthropological inquiry, exploring ways of seeing in culturally and

historically specific contexts as well as other sensory ways of engaging with the environment. This role involved:

- Using audio-visual learning materials to productively and creatively address the visual nature of the course content, for example handling photographs, viewing short films and clips, and engaging with visual materials that students were invited to create.
- Creating an inclusive learning environment, for example through mapping discussions on the SMART interactive whiteboard to support students who have poor auditory memory to follow conversations, whilst demonstrating connections between ideas that facilitated further unpacking of these.

Associate Tutor, 'Ethnographic Film', University of Sussex (autumn term 2016)

This module introduced first year students with diverse interests and backgrounds to the discipline of anthropology through the medium of ethnographic film. It addressed some of the central concerns of the discipline, including fieldwork and ethnography, sameness and difference, ritual, kinship, gender, race and ethnicity, and globalisation. The films were selected to acquaint students with different regional contexts and issues relating to the representation of culture. This course offered a practical introduction to ethnographic film, in which students created and were assessed in a group filmmaking project. This role included:

- Supporting first year, first term students in their Higher Educational transition, which required considerable proactivity in resolving students' problems and advising.
- Teaching as part of team that included one module convenor and two associate tutors to establish consistency in our teaching resources, methods and assessment.
- Tutoring students in producing a short film and presentation for assessment.
- Supporting the group awarded the highest grade to present at the Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival.

Associate Tutor, 'Anthropology of Exchange, Money and Markets', University of Sussex (spring term 2015)

This module examined how anthropologists conceptualise, research, and generate new understandings of the human activities that comprise economic life. It involved rethinking concepts such as work and leisure, poverty and wealth, gifts and commodities, money and markets, and the term 'economy' itself, to critique some of the universalisms of mainstream economics through which capitalism has become naturalised. This module was concerned with systems of exchange, non-industrial economies, and livelihood systems to consider concerns including class, money, debt and shopping; factories, fair trade, globalisation and bioeconomies; and new strategies and practices of resistance. This role involved:

- Facilitating bi-weekly seminars of around fifteen students, planning sessions with engaging content whilst encouraging a participant-led approach which developed incrementally.
- Tutoring students in preparation for their first exam at university through integrating study skills in exam techniques, including revision, planning answers, engaging with question, time management and assessment criteria.
- Marking to strict deadlines and managing my workload with conflicting priorities.

Senior Student Mentor, University of Sussex (September 2011 - July 2014)

I was responsible for coordinating a team of four student mentors to provide one-to-one support, group workshops and virtual mentoring sessions to anthropology students to develop their study skills. This has involved:

- Creating content for, planning and delivering workshops collaboratively. My area of focus was dyslexia support, primary and secondary research skills, and essay writing.
- Administrative duties included room booking, setting up equipment and workshop spaces, keeping attendance records, creating Powerpoints and hand-outs, taking minutes during team meetings and providing my manager with regular updates.

Inclusive Arts Facilitator, Carousel Arts Charity, Brighton (January 2012 - December 2014)

Following my apprenticeship in Inclusive Arts Facilitation, I was employed as an Inclusive Live Arts Facilitator on an inner-city project based in Brighton with people aged 18 plus. This role involved:

- Planning and co-leading weekly thematic workshops to produce performances.
- Co-directing performances.
- Facilitating a bi-monthly participant-led steering committee.
- Mentoring participants to develop their interests and independent practice alongside the project.
- Negotiating expectations of participants and various stakeholders; and assisting directors and producers with varying interests and approaches.
- Interviewing participants as part of the methodology.

COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

Panel Secretary for Evaluation of Research in Social Sciences in Norway, Research Council of Norway (May 2017 - present)

The Research Council Norway (RCN) are conducting an evaluation of Social and Cultural Anthropological Research in Norway, following the previous evaluation in 2011. My role as Panel Secretary for Anthropology involves:

- Supporting the panel through assisting the RCN in organising the meetings.
- Preparing panel meetings together with chair and main secretariat, including creating agendas, distributing tasks and managing panel communications.
- Assisting panel members in using the ICT-platform for the evaluation and managing the content.
- Taking part in and minuting panel meetings.
- Conducting interviews with evaluated institutions.
- Drafting panel report.

Centre Administrator, Centre for Global Health Policy, University of Sussex (2012 - July 2017)

I coordinate the daily running of the research centre, managing the administrative coordination of the 'Pharmaceuticals and Security' €1.2 million grant research project funded by the European Research Council with regards to their impact, events and communications. This involves:

- Engaging diverse international participants in collaborative workshops and research dissemination events, including our annual conferences of 150 delegates and regular workshops of around 30-50 participants.
- Leading the planning and delivery of events, which includes logistics, communications (including social media), compiling reports, supporting collaborative outcomes and facilitating the creation of networks.
- Contributing to preliminary research for a new external research bid.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite to manage the budgets, create mailing lists, design Powerpoint presentations and draft reports.

Communications Manager, BIOSport Project, University of Sussex (2014 - 2015)

I supported the upstart the Economic and Social Research Council £440,000 funded project 'Emerging intersections of biomedicine and elite sport: institutions, practices and ethics'. This included:

- Developing online communications networks as part of their research methodology using Twitter.
- Networking with diverse participants in the biomedicine industry (academic and non-academic) to secure their engagement in the project through Twitter.

- Supporting research group members in learning to use Twitter and establish best practice for multiple users.

Web-content manager, British International Studies Association (2014 - February 2017)

I was responsible for central management of the British International Studies Association Global Health Working Group website. This involved:

- Independently working to established design guidelines.
- Sourcing and publishing new content for a British International Studies Association funded event series.
- Liaising remotely with academics from different institutions to create an online profile with minimum supervision.

Information Assistant, Communications and Marketing Division, University of Sussex (June 2011 - December 2012)

My role as Information Assistant involved:

- Signposting and processing incoming enquiries from press, academics, researchers, students and the public within the communications division.
- Administrative and research based tasks to support the division.
- Excellent in-person, telephone and online communication skills.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Walk Leader, Healthwalks, Brighton and Hove City Council (March 2010 - January 2013)

I trained as a walk leader with Healthwalks programme and volunteered to create recreational walking opportunities for people who have impaired vision. This role included:

- Risk assessing existing Healthwalks routes in terms of accessibility for walkers who have impaired vision.
- Partnering with Brighton and Hove Rangers to create new risk assessed routes to add to the scheme.
- Reach out to invite participants to the scheme and coordinating their participation.
- Leading walks for people who have impaired vision as their sighted guide.
- Collecting and managing each walker's personal and health related information.

Sighted Guide, London Blind Ramblers Club (February 2009 - March 2011)

I volunteered as a sighted guide for walkers who have impaired vision with the London Blind Ramblers Club. This involved:

- Commuting to London to meet the club and chaperoning a large group of the ramblers to visit sighted rambling clubs within a forty-minute train journey of London.
- Sighted guiding walkers who have diverse sensory impairments.
- Skills in inter-personal communication, listening, and understanding the diversity of vision impairments and the potential impacts.
- Active problem solving in terms of accessibility.

Volunteer, East Sussex Association of Blind and Partially Sighted People (March 2009 - April 2011)

I supported twice monthly social activities for members of the association and provided one-to-one support in assisting people who have impaired vision with technological interfaces. Through this role included:

- Training as a sighted guide.
- Developing a knowledge and experience in supporting people who have multiple disabilities.
- The capacity to quickly and sensitively identify another's abilities and respond accordingly.
- Sensitivity and professionalism in supporting and motivating members who were experiencing challenges, particularly people in rehabilitation for their impaired vision or experiencing mental health issues such as depression, anxiety or agoraphobia.

PUBLICATIONS

Petty, K.J. June 2017. 'How do people with impaired vision experience the South Downs?'. Guest blog for the [South Downs National Park Authority](https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/how-the-visually-impaired-perceive-wild-places/). Accessible here: <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/how-the-visually-impaired-perceive-wild-places/>.

Petty, K.J. May 2016. 'Unearthing the senses in our experience of woodlands'. Guest Blog for the Woodland Trust. Accessible here: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blogs/woodland-trust/2016/05/unearthingsenses/>.

Petty, K. 2015. 'Walking through the woodlands: Learning to listen with companions who have impaired vision', in Bull, M. and Back, L., *The Auditory Culture Reader*. Bloomsbury.

PRESENTATIONS

'Sensing the landscape: Recreational walking in the South Downs National Park for people who have impaired vision' at the South Downs Research Conference, Sussex, England, 6th July 2017.

'Cultivating the ecological self through sensory engagement with nature', at the 'Emerging Paradigms in Wellbeing Research: Nature, Mindfulness and Spirituality' symposium, 27 June 2017, University of Sussex, England.

'Reappraising the visual with respect to an ethnography of people who have impaired vision', on the 'Visual world of difference' panel at the Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival, 29 March - 1 April 2017, Bristol, England.

Co-organised a workshop panel titled 'Uncanny Landscapes' at the 'Wild or Domesticated: Uncanny in historical and contemporary perspectives to mind' interdisciplinary conference, 20-22 September 2016, Helsinki, Finland. Presented a paper titled 'Perception, the environment and the uncanny: Sensing the woodlands with a psychic medium who has impaired vision'.

'A world within reach: a sensorial anthropology of unseen landscapes and the experience of impaired vision', presentation and workshop for an inter-disciplinary audience at the 'Language, Landscape and the Sublime' symposium and creative gathering, June 29-30 2016, Dartington Hall and Sharpham House, Devon, England.

"Blind people need to teach sighted people how to listen": ethnography through the body in an anthropology of sensory perception' on the 'Doing ethnography through the body' panel at the European Association of Social Anthropologists 14th biennial conference, 'Anthropological legacies and human futures', 20-23 July 2016, Milan, Italy.

‘Perception, the environment and the uncanny: Sensing the woodlands with a psychic medium who has impaired vision’, paper presentation at ‘Wonder and the Natural World’ conference, June 20 – 23 2016, at Indiana University Bloomington, USA.

RESEARCH IMPACT

My PhD research has engaged with various charities and organisations within the East Sussex community, including Brighton and Hove City Council Healthwalks scheme, East Sussex Association for Blind and Partially Sighted People, 4Sight Rambling Club for Blind and Partially Sighted People, City Synergy Sports and Social Club for Blind and Partially Sighted People, and the London Blind Ramblers. This research is applied to assist with the development of an inclusive and accessible Healthwalks programme for people who have impaired vision. The Healthwalks programme provides opportunities for group walking in inner city Brighton and the parklands within or on the outskirts of the city. I now developing my impact outputs to reach broader audiences.

WORKING GROUPS

‘Inclusive Teaching and Mental Health’ cross-disciplinary working group, University of Sussex

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- [European Association for Social Anthropologists, presenting at the Biennial conference 2016.](#)
- [Higher Education Academy](#), Research Fellow, trained spring 2015.
- [Walking Artist Network.](#)

RELEVANT TRAINING

Teaching

‘Starting to teach’, University of Sussex (spring term module 2015)

This module is part of the Higher Education Academy teaching qualifications, earning a Research Fellowship. Through this module I gained core skills and methodologies essential for creating engaging and diverse learning environments in higher educational settings, assessment, and ongoing professional development. This module addressed ethical issues, supervision and pastoral care.

‘Behaviour for Learning with Younger Years’, University of Sussex (1st June 2017)

This training addressed strategies for managing behavior when leading sessions with secondary school aged students as part of the Widening Participation agenda. This workshop addressed how to involve the full class and deploy strategies to keep interest high and restlessness low through dynamic pedagogies focused on making new information interesting and fun to learn with strong learning outcomes and objectives.

Audio-visual production

‘Ethnographic filmmaking in a digital age’, University of Sussex (June 2016)

This was an intensive three-day summer school which provided the technical and conceptual tools to produce ethnographic films using readily available audio-visual technologies. This course considered the implications for using moving image as part of ethnographic research, focusing on creative, conceptual and ethnographic choices. I developed practical shooting skills, including working with light and sound, framing, exposure, movement, interview and natural situations. This course introduced practical editing skills and use of moving image into presentations and online publications.

Creative expression

- **‘Expressive Arts and Performance’** workshop, Glyndebourne, Sussex, 28 February 2013.
- **‘Walking with Awareness’**, walking artists workshop, Manorbier, Pembrokeshire, Wales, 26-29 July 2013.
- **‘Second Sight’** workshop, Fabrica Gallery, Brighton, 20 August 2012. This multisensory workshop led by artist Naomi Kendrick involved learning tools for a sensorial approach to interpretation in galleries and museums. This used Melanie Manchot exhibition ‘Gathering’ as a practical example.

Design

‘Introduction to Permaculture’ with Brighton Permaculture Trust, 7-8 December 2013.

Communication (University of Sussex, 2011-2013)

- **Creativity in academic writing** (2-day workshop).
- **Cultural Awareness and global communication** - overcoming language difficulties.
- **Working with distressed and angry students** - interpersonal skills.
- **Performing your paper** - public speaking and communication skills.
- **Managing your professional relationships** - working as part of a team and professional networking.
- **Conferences and networking** - creating and maintaining professional links.
- **Building your academic web presence** - online networking and software.
- **Undertaking a literature review** - research and dissemination in short reports.
- **Personal effectiveness** - time management and project work.
- **Tell the World about it! Media training for researchers** - BBC presenters advising on public engagement.

Health and Safety

- **Health and Safety** (University of Sussex, 2012).
- **Risk assessment for events and workspaces** (University of Sussex, 2012).
- **First Aid**: British Heart Foundation (2011) and St John’s (2013).

Disability

- **Vision Awareness training** - sighted guiding people who have impaired vision (East Sussex Association for Blind and Partially Sighted People. Trained in both 2009 and 2012).
- **Disability awareness** - conceptions of disability in public sectors (University of Sussex, 14 March 2012).
- **Understanding Dyslexia** - what dyslexia is and how it affects learning and writing (University of Sussex, 16 May 2012).

INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES

When I am not writing and researching, I can be found growing food, walking, kayaking, and exploring new places.

References available upon request.

Updated 2 August 2017