

# Liliana Gil

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## APPOINTMENTS

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- 2023 **Lecturer**  
*NUS College, National University of Singapore*  
Responsible for leading the project-based experiential module “Just Tech: Tools for Designing Technologies,” common curriculum courses on social theory, and electives

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## EDUCATION

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- 2022 **Ph.D. in Anthropology, New School for Social Research**  
Dissertation: “Beyond Make-do Innovation: Practices and Politics of Technological Improvisation in Brazil”  
Committee: Hugh Raffles (chair), Miriam Ticktin, Mara Mills, Ivan da Costa Marques
- 2015 **M.A. in Anthropology, New School for Social Research**
- 2011 **Master’s degree in Medical Anthropology, University of Coimbra**  
Thesis: “Exhibiting Irritations: Experimenting Inside Art and Science”  
Advisor: Luís Quintais  
Research Visit: eight-month Fulbright Program at UC Berkeley, hosted by Paul Rabinow
- 2008 **Bachelor’s degree in Anthropology (Bio and Sociocultural), New University of Lisbon**

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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anthropology of tech, STS, digital futures, design, computing, work, development, sustainability, citizen science, crossings of art and science, inequality, post/decolonial and feminist theories, qualitative research, ethnographic methods, Latin America, global South

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed

- 2023 “Becoming a Repair Entrepreneur: An Ethnography of Skills Training in Brazil.”  
*Third World Quarterly*, special issue on Skills in the Global South. (accepted minor rev.)
- 2022 “A Fablab at the Periphery: Decentering Innovation from São Paulo.”  
*American Anthropologist*, 124, 4: 721-733. <http://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13769>
- Winner of the David Hakken Graduate Student Paper Prize by the AAA Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing

- 2016 “Method as Responsibility in Applied Research.” *Vis-à-vis: Explorations in Anthropology*, 13, 1: 97-113. (Co-authored with Filipa Queirós in a refereed graduate student journal)  
<https://vav.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/vav/article/view/27058>
- 2014 “A Relevância das Narrativas de Experiência da Doença: Desafios Conceituais e Metodológicos.” *Sociologia Online – Revista da Associação Portuguesa de Sociologia*, 7: 81-97. (Co-authored with Filipa Queirós and João Arriscado Nunes)  
<https://tinyurl.com/393bfmem>
- 2010 “«A Arte Pós-Darwin»: Política dos Artefactos e da Tecnologia a Partir de uma Experiência Etnográfica.” *Antropologia Portuguesa*, 27-28: 97-120.  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982\\_27\\_6](http://dx.doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982_27_6)

### **In Preparation**

“Tropical Designs: Electronics Production in an Amazonian City.” In preparation for *Annals of the History of Computing*, special issue on Logistical Histories of Computing.

### **Interviews, Podcasts, and Other Selected Work**

- 2018 “Teresa Caldeira on Urban Practices and Ethnographic Intimacy.” AnthroPod: The SCA Podcast, *Cultural Anthropology* website. <https://tinyurl.com/mnrv555z>
- 2017 “Palliative Care/Cuidados Paliativos.” *Facta – Revista de Gambiologia*, 4: 117-120.  
<https://issuu.com/gambiologia/docs/facta4/117>
- 2017 “Ethnography and Design.” AnthroPod: The SCA Podcast, *Cultural Anthropology* website. (Executive Producer for Tariq Rahman and Katherine Sacco; episodes 1, 2, and 3)  
<https://culanth.org/fieldsights/ethnography-and-design-1-disability-design-and-performance>
- 2017 “To Build This Other World Upon: An Interview with Stefanie Graeter.” Dialogues, *Cultural Anthropology* website. (Co-authored with Marianinna Villavicencio)  
<https://tinyurl.com/ycktcay6>
- 2012 “Medical Anthropology, Activists and Intellectuals. An Interview with Nancy Scheper-Hughes.” *Antropologia Portuguesa*, 29: 205-214.  
[https://doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982\\_29\\_13](https://doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982_29_13)
- 2011 “Exhibiting Irritations: Experimenting Inside Art and Science,” Master’s Thesis.  
<https://eg.uc.pt/handle/10316/18448>
- 2008 Recensão a *Picturing Personhood: Brain Scans and Biomedical Identity*, by J. Dumit. *Antropologia Portuguesa*, 24-25: 197-201.  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982\\_25\\_14](http://dx.doi.org/10.14195/2182-7982_25_14)

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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### Awards

- 2020 **David Hakken Graduate Student Paper Prize, CASTAC, GAD, AAA**  
Awarded by the Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology, and Computing of the American Anthropological Association for “A Fablab at the Periphery”
- 2020 **Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, New School for Social Research**  
Awarded to six NSSR graduate student instructors. Nominated by students for work done as a Teaching Fellow at Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts
- 2009 **Merit Scholarship Award, University of Coimbra**  
Top fourteen students (<1%) at the Faculty of Sciences and Technology
- 2007 **Merit Scholarship Award, New University of Lisbon**  
Top six students (<1%) at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences

### External Grants and Fellowships

- 2021-22 **Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**  
--- for dissertation write-up, awarded by the American Council of Learned Societies
- 2019-20 **National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant**  
--- for fieldwork in Brazil, awarded by the Science, Technology, and Society Program with co-review by the Cultural Anthropology Program
- 2019 **Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant**  
--- for fieldwork in Brazil
- 2013-17 **Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology Doctoral Fellowship**  
--- for graduate studies at The New School
- 2010-11 **Fulbright Program Research Grant**  
--- for master’s thesis research on sci-art at the University of California, Berkeley

### University Grants and Fellowships

- 2018-20 **Dissertation Fellowship, New School for Social Research**  
--- for dissertation research
- 2017-19 **Janey Program in Latin American Studies Fellowship, The New School**  
--- for summer research and year-round participation in the Janey Workshop
- 2016 **India China Institute Starr Summer Travel Research Grant, The New School**  
--- for exploratory research in India (Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore)
- 2015-18 **Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Grant, New School for Social Research**  
Multiple travel grants for pre-dissertation fieldwork
- 2015-18 **Prize Fellowship, New School for Social Research**  
Stipend and full tuition doctoral fellowship
- 2013-15 **NSSR Provost’s Merit Scholarship, The New School**  
Partial tuition scholarship
- 2011 **Visiting Scholar Grant, Portuguese Studies Program UC Berkeley**  
Small grant for Portuguese scholars at University of California, Berkeley

## TEACHING

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- 2022 **Teaching Assistant, Artificial Intelligence, Creativity & Social Justice**  
*Parsons School of Design, The New School*  
Led discussion section of Jeongki Lim and Andrew Shea's university-wide course on AI  
Prepared class activities for 25 undergraduate students (in-person)  
Advised and graded students on their reading responses and final creative projects
- 2020 **Part-time Lecturer, Modern Social Thought**  
*Division of Social Sciences, Yale-NUS College*  
Taught mandatory common curriculum course on modern social theory  
Prepared lectures and class activities for 18 undergraduate students (in-person)  
Advised and graded students on their reading responses, midterm exam, and essays
- 2020 **Teaching Fellow, World Histories of Anthropology**  
*Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts, The New School*  
Designed a 15-week undergraduate introductory course to anthropology  
Prepared lectures and class activities for 13 undergraduate students (in-person and online)  
Advised and graded students on their reading responses and final papers
- 2018 **Teaching Assistant, Critical Foundations of Anthropology**  
*Department of Anthropology, The New School*  
Assisted Abou Farman in mandatory seminar for anthropology master's students  
Co-led class discussions on classical social theory  
Advised 17 graduate students on their reading responses and final papers
- 2015-17 **Guest Lecturer, Introduction to Cultural Studies**  
*Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts, The New School*  
Taught a total of 7 full sessions for McKenzie Wark on cultural and media studies  
Prepared and delivered 75-minute lectures to up to 90 undergraduate students

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Invited Talks

- 2023 "Ethnographic Methods for Unboxing Tech." Smart Cities – History of Urban Data in Urban Planning, Urban Studies Program, Yale-NUS College, Singapore.
- 2022 "Studying Tech in/From Latin America." Labor Tech Research Network Launch. ESOCITE/Society for Social Studies of Science Joint Meeting, Cholula, Mexico.
- 2022 "Can the Innovation Tools Dismantle the Innovation House?" Code-X Machina: Prácticas de Código Crítico en las Artes, MedialabMx and Centro Multimedia - CENART, Mexico.
- 2021 "The Brazilian 'Electronics Paradise': Repair Work and Skill in Santa Efigênia." Anthropology of Work, Department of Anthropology, University of Lucerne, Switzerland.
- 2019 "Um Fab Lab na Periferia: Modelos em Trânsito e Inovação Inclusiva em São Paulo." COPPE, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2011 “The Work of Art in the Age of Biotechnology. An anthropological consideration of BioArt.” Portuguese Studies Lecture Series, University of California, Berkeley, USA.

### **Selected Conferences and Workshops**

- 2022 “Tropicalizing Electronics: Forest, Factories, and Techno-Adaptation.” ESOCITE/Society for Social Studies of Science Joint Meeting, Cholula, Mexico.
- 2022 “Tropical Factories: Histories of Tech Production in Manaus, 1960s-present.” SIGCIS, SHOT Special Interest Group for Computing, Information & Society, New Orleans, USA.
- 2022 “The Uses of Improvisation in Techno-Art and Activism.” International Conference of the Brazilian Studies Association. Georgetown University, Washington, USA.
- 2021 “An Urban History of Electronics: Hobbyists, Dealers, and Repairers.” Histories of Maintenance and Repair Workshop. Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg, Esch-Belval, Luxembourg.
- 2021 “Learning to Fix: Brazilian Lessons for an Obsolete World.” The Social Life of Skills Workshop, University of Melbourne, Australia.
- 2020 “The Brazilian ‘Electronics Paradise:’ Repair Work, Expertise, and Global Connections in Santa Efigênia.” Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Annual Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA.
- 2019 “A FabLab in the Periphery: Reconfiguring Innovation from São Paulo.” Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA.
- 2019 “Desafios de um Estudo Empírico sobre Improvisado e Tecnologia.” GEICT Workshop/LE-E Seminar, University of Campinas and Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil.
- 2018 “Technological Improvisation: Reinventing Innovation from Brazil.” Speculative Futures Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA.
- 2018 “The Question of Location in Science Studies: Thinking with Latin America.” The Janey Program in Latin American Studies Workshop, New School for Social Research, NY, USA.
- 2017 “Quick-fix as Innovation? Thoughts from Brazil.” Maintainers II: Labor, Technology, and Social Orders, Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey, USA.
- 2016 “Geographies of Improvisation.” Chat n’ Chai Student Fellows, The New School India China Institute, New York, USA.
- 2013 “The constitution of subjects in health literacy. Theoretical considerations from narrative based research.” Beyond Biosocialities in Medical Anthropology, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 2012 “Letting stories breathe: narrative and experience of asthma.” Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark. (with Filipa Queirós, João Arriscado Nunes, Carlos Barradas, and Rita Serra)
- 2011 “Affect from a blossom: art, ethics and nature.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- 2011 “Contemporary Moral Uncertainties of BioArt.” Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting, Los Angeles, USA.
- 2010 “Arte e Ciência: política dos artefactos e da tecnologia a partir de uma experiência etnográfica.” III Seminário de Memória e Cultura Visuais, Cabeceiras de Basto, Portugal.

## EVENTS ORGANIZED AND MODERATED

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- 2022 Chair, “Circulation of Knowledge.” Panel at ESOCITE/4S Joint Meeting, Cholula, Mexico.
- 2020-21 Coordinator, “FICT x Sing.” Anthropology and speculative fiction project with Yale-NUS students and alumni in Singapore, collaboration with Osaka University in Japan.
- 2019 Moderator, “O Fim das Salas de Informática? E agora?” Panel at Campus Party Brasil, Municipal Secretary of Innovation and Technology, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2018-19 Organizer, Workshops on DIY Microscopy, FabLab Livre SP, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2015 Co-organizer, “Gambiarrando” Photo Exhibition, Barraco #55, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2014-15 Co-organizer, “Out of Sight” Film Series, New School for Social Research, NY, USA.

## OTHER SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Interdisciplinary Research Teams

- 2015 **Barraco #55 - Platform for Art & Research**  
Scholar-in-Residence in collaborative research and media project about improvised fixing in Complexo do Alemão, Rio de Janeiro
- 2012-13 **Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra**  
Junior Researcher to João Arriscado Nunes in project about public knowledge on health and health information, funded by the Harvard Medical School – Portugal Program
- 2011 **International Ocean Institute, University of Malta**  
Research Intern to Alicia Said and Alan Deidun in project on marine protection, supported by the European Union Leonardo da Vinci Program
- 2010 **Centre for Research in Anthropology, New University of Lisbon**  
Junior Researcher to Maria Cardeira da Silva in project about Africanist Jill Rosemary Dias’ collection, funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology

### Individual Research Assistantships

- 2017 **Department of Anthropology, The New School**  
Research Assistant to Miriam Ticktin
- 2017 **Parsons School of Design, The New School**  
Research Assistant to Jilly Traganou in Global Urban Studio: Rio de Janeiro
- 2015 **Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts, The New School**  
Research Assistant to McKenzie Wark in project about the 1930s-40s Social Relations of Science movement in the UK
- 2014-15 **Department of Anthropology, The New School**  
Research Assistant to Hugh Raffles

### Editorial

- 2017-19 ***Cultural Anthropology* website**  
Contributing Editor, part of AnthroPod: The SCA Podcast team
- 2009-12 ***Antropologia Portuguesa* journal and website**  
Assistant Editor supporting the editorial board

## **Administrative**

2015-17 **Graduate Institute for Design, Ethnography & Social Thought, The New School**

Program Assistant to Hugh Raffles at GIDEST, an experimental institute for research at the intersection of social theory, art, and design, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

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## **SERVICE**

2023 Referee for *IJURR – International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*  
2020 Faculty Meetings Student Representative, Anthropology Student Association, NSSR  
2018 Referee for *Design and Culture*  
2016-17 Treasurer, Anthropology Student Association, New School for Social Research  
2013-15 Student Representative, Dean’s Advisory Council, New School for Social Research

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## **LANGUAGES**

Portuguese (native), Spanish (intermediate), French (basic)

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## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Anthropological Association; Brazilian Association for Social Studies of Science and Technology; Brazilian Studies Association; Society for Social Studies of Science; Society for the History of Technology.

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## **REFERENCES**

### **Hugh Raffles**

Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Graduate Institute for Design, Ethnography & Social Thought, The New School

Email: [rafflesh@newschool.edu](mailto:rafflesh@newschool.edu)

### **Miriam Ticktin**

Associate Professor of Anthropology, The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Email: [mticktin@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:mticktin@gc.cuny.edu)

### **Mara Mills**

Associate Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University

Email: [mmills@nyu.edu](mailto:mmills@nyu.edu)

### **Ivan da Costa Marques**

Professor of History of Science, Techniques and Epistemology, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Email: [imarques@nce.ufrj.br](mailto:imarques@nce.ufrj.br)

### **Christina Helen Tarnopolsky (teaching only)**

Associate Professor of Social Sciences, Yale-NUS College

Email: [christina.tarnopolsky@yale-nus.edu.sg](mailto:christina.tarnopolsky@yale-nus.edu.sg)