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EDITORIAL

Letter from the Editors of COMPASS: The Student Anthropology Journal of Alberta

We are excited to share Volume 3, Issue 2 of COMPASS, the student anthropology journal of Alberta. Due to the high volume of submissions we received in our 2023 revival of COMPASS, we were able to release two issues this year. With this issue, we are also happy to introduce Uthman Khan, a first year PhD student in the Department of Anthropology and the newest member of our managing editorial team.

COMPASS, and its predecessor Diversipede, were originally founded with a goal of creating a welcoming, low-stakes, and inclusive student publishing environment. COMPASS provides students with academic authorship opportunities or the chance to foster their reviewing and editing skills—and for some students, both!

We would like to give many thanks to the people involved with the production of the second issue of our third volume. Graduate students within and beyond the department contributed their reviewing and copy editing expertise. We received invaluable support and encouragement from the University of Alberta Library Publishing Department.

The current issue contains a range of articles spanning the four fields of anthropology, from an award-winning paper from the Richard Frucht Memorial Lecture Series on stone tool use among capuchins, to the dangerous messaging of media consumed by young girls, to the role of mythopoeticism for postcolonial linguistics. Students in Tonya Simpson’s inaugural forensic anthropology course substantially contributed to this issue. As such, our biological anthropology section contains several timely and important topics in forensic anthropology.

As editors of COMPASS, we are also dedicated to providing opportunities for the dissemination of anthropological experiences and knowledge in less conventional academic formats, including audiovisual mediums. This issue signifies a step towards this goal, with Hande Gür’s editorial feature, “An Ode to Visual Anthropology,” containing her award-winning image of her field research. We hope this will inspire students to do the same. In alignment with this objective, we aim to organize a field photography competition for Volume 4, fostering a platform for students to showcase their own visual explorations within anthropology.

We are delighted to share this second issue of our third volume, and are looking forward to continuing this momentum with Volume 4 in 2024. To students, we hope you will consider COMPASS as a venue for your work, or join COMPASS’s editorial team in the future.

Sincerely,

Hande Gür, Uthman Khan, and Rachel Simpson
Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs, and research stations are primarily located on the traditional territory of Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, and Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe nations; lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7, and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.
IN THIS ISSUE

EDITORIAL FEATURES

An editorial and an image: An ode to visual anthropology
Hande Gür
pp. 103–105

ARTICLES

Linguistic Anthropology

Decolonizing discourse: Using mythopoeticism to overcome colonial linguistics
Elliot Goodell Ugalde
pp. 106–118

Biological Anthropology

Body farms: A field of opportunity
Séamus Rudden
pp. 119–132

Prominent methods and theories in the estimation of body mass from skeletal remains
Kyra O’Neill
pp. 133–146

New methods for establishing time of death when dealing with natural mumification from bog environments
Tristan Mula
pp. 147–160

The effects of Neurofibromatosis Type 1 on pseudoarthrosis and the forensic implications
Alyssa Hildebrandt
pp. 161–171

Archaeology

Stone tools and our primate relatives: A comparative analysis with human lithics and predictions for the future*
Prithvi Singh Kahlon
pp. 172–189

*This article stems from research that was presented at the 29th Annual Richard Frucht Memorial Lecture Series and Student Conference (2023). It was awarded the runner up prize for Best Undergraduate Podium Presentation.
Sociocultural Anthropology

How the lion groomed the lamb: The effects of media on young girls
Brianne I. Bertram
pp. 190–195