

BENJAMIN COX

EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Doctoral Candidate, Department of Anthropology – 2010 – present
Master of Arts, Anthropology – August 2013

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Master of Arts, Social Sciences (Anthropology) – March 2009; GPA 3.7/4.0
Thesis: “Conjuring Somalia: Contestations of Regulatory Authority and Maritime Piracy”

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies (African Religions, Islam) – January 2005

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Horn of Africa, security, counter/piracy, sovereignty, jurisdiction, international law, legal pluralism, law and disorder, informal economies, maritime regulatory regimes, violence and the state, postcoloniality

ACADEMIC HONORS, APPOINTMENTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2013-14	Herbert F York Global Security Fellow, UC Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation, Ben Horne Award - doctoral research on “Building Universal Jurisdiction in Kenya: Securing the High Seas Against Piracy in the Somali Basin”
2012-13	Graduate Student Representative, Department of Anthropology, UCI
2012	Graduate Student Researcher, Institute for Money, Technology, and Financial Inclusion (IMTFI), UCI, summer
2012	Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies Summer Seed Grant, UCI
2012	Graduate Student Researcher, UCI and Intel Labs Collaboration: Mapping Ecologies of Alternative Economic Practice; winter
2011	Summer FLAS, Summer Cooperative African Language Institute, University of Florida Beginner Somali Training
2011	Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies Summer Seed Grant, UCI
2011	Africa-Middle East Faculty Working Group, School of Humanities, Summer Grant, UCI
2011-12	Center for Law, Society, and Culture Collaborative Activities Grant, UCI: A Reading Group on “Jurisdiction, Power, and the Frontiers of Empty Space”
2010-12	Editorial Assistant, Critical Investigations into Humanitarianism in Africa (CIHA) blog
2010	Social Science Merit Fellowship, UC Irvine
2007	University Unendowed Merit Fellowship, University of Chicago
2005	National Society of Collegiate Scholars
2001-2005	Robert C. Byrd Scholarship
2001-2005	Echols Scholarship, University of Virginia

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PUBLICATIONS

Dec 2012 "Of Flagships and Sea Changes," IN Anyadike-Danes, Chima Michael, Michael Briante, Emily Brooks, Benjamin Cox, Padma Govindan, Ellie Harmon, Melissa King et al. "Reflections on American Anthropology: A Conference at UC Irvine." American Anthropologist 114, no. 4 (2012): 584-592.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Nov 2013 UC IGCC Herbert York Fellowship Symposium, Livermore, CA
"Building Universal Jurisdiction in Kenya:
Securing the High Seas Against Piracy in the Somali Basin"

Dec 2012 Conference Co-Organizer: UCI and Africa: Expanding Engagements, Ongoing Dialogues, Irvine, CA
Moderator, panel: NGOs, Consortia, and Sharing Virtual and Practical Knowledge

Nov 2012 2012 AAA Conference, San Francisco
"Slippery Borders: The Figure of the Pirate, the High Seas, and Somalia"

Jun 2012 2012 Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI
"Contests of Failure: The Figure of the (Somali) Pirate and Law"
accepted, but unable to attend

Jun 2011 2011 Law and Society Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA
"Contradictions of Regulation on the High Seas: Maritime Piracy and Somalia"

Oct 2010 Love and Terror: A Forum, Participant
UC, Irvine: The Center for Ethnography with the support of the UCI Humanities Collective

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Wint, 2013 Teaching Assistant, Psychological Anthropology, Sheila O'Rourke, UCI

Spr, 2012 Teaching Assistant, Origins of Global Interdependence, Tom Douglas, UCI

Wint, 2012 Graduate Student Researcher, Mapping Ecologies of Alternative Economic Practice, Intel/ Bill Maurer

Fall, 2011 Teaching Assistant, Economic Anthropology, Julia Elyachar, UCI

Spr, 2011 Teaching Assistant, Modern Iran, Roxanne Varzi, UCI

Fall, 2010 Teaching Assistant, African and African-American Music, Robert Garfias, UCI

2011 Editorial Assistant, Critical Investigations in Humanitarianism in Africa (CIHA) blog

2011-12 Coordinator, An interdisciplinary Reading Group on "Jurisdiction, Power, and the Frontiers of Empty Space"