



# Wednesday Seminars

SOMMERSEMESTER 2018

**Tony Crook**

***Climate Change Cosmologies***

Donnerstag 24.05.2018, 17.00, HS C, IKSA, NIG, Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Wien, 4. Stock



**Tony Crook** is senior lecturer at the Department of Social Anthropology of the University of St Andrews. He received his PhD from Cambridge in 1997 and was involved in a major research project on

'Property, Transactions and Creations: New Economic Relations in the Pacific' till 2002. Much of his work has been focused on the Ok Tedi mine in Papua New Guinea.

[https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/anthropology/staff\\_profiles/dr-tony-crook/](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/anthropology/staff_profiles/dr-tony-crook/)

## ...kommende Termine

30.05.2018 **Paul "Jim" Roscoe**

**Climate Change and the End-Times:  
Anticipating Apocalyptic Responses  
to Climate Change**

06.06.2018 **Tereza Kuldova**

**On the Rise of Popular Support of  
Outlaw Bikers: When Fictions and  
Weakening States Collude**

When it comes to climate change, anthropologists are increasingly paying attention to cultural cosmologies - but with a curious neglect and striking reluctance to pay ethnographic attention to Euro-American cultural history. How do long-standing cultural assumptions about metaphysical interconnectedness between the air, breath and spirit inform perceptions and responses to climate change? In this 50th anniversary year of the Apollo 8 'earthrise' images and the explosion in environmental consciousness attributed to it, this seminar takes an ethnographic look at two prominent figures. Firstly, Margaret Mead - closely involved in the first Earth Day in 1970 and the UN Stockholm conference in 1972, co-chaired one of the first interdisciplinary conferences on the atmosphere in 1975, and was involved in redrafting the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. Mead saw the atmosphere as something all of humanity shared equally, and the potential for a cultural form able to 'make the world safe for difference.' Secondly, Al Gore - organised the first Congressional hearings on global warming in the 1980s, ex-Vice President of the USA, leading climate advocate. Gore wrote "Earth in the Balance" in 1992, which uses 'holography' to fashion a radical eco-theology, and starred in "An Inconvenient Truth" in 2006, which continues an engagement with the 'breath'. What might an ethnography covering the transformative decades since anthropogenic climate change was recognized in the late 1960s tell us about climate change, about ourselves and about anthropology?