

Curriculum Vitae

Benjamin Linder

University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Anthropology
Behavioral Science Building #2102
1007 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60607-7139
Email: blinde2@uic.edu

Education:

- Present PhD Candidate, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2018 M.A., Environmental and Urban Geography, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2013 M.A., Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2010 B.A., Anthropology and Religious Studies (Minor: History)
Indiana University, *Highest Distinction*

Research Interests:

space/place, Nepal, urbanism, transnationalism, cosmopolitanism, mobilities, popular culture, social theory

Grants:

- 2018 UIC Graduate Geography Grant (\$1000)
- 2016 Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowship (\$10,500)
- 2016 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship (*Declined*)
Summer Intensive Nepali, Cornell University
- 2015 UIC Chancellor's Graduate Research Award (\$8,000)
- 2015 Fulbright/IIE Student Research Grant (~\$15,000)
- 2014 Cornell University "Intensive Nepali" Tuition Award (\$5,000)
- 2012 Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis Grant (\$2,200 for work on *The Neighborhood of Saturdays*)

Awards and Honors:

- 2016 UIC "Image of Research" Competition, 3rd Place (\$200)
- 2014 UIC "Image of Research" Competition, Honorable Mention (\$100)

- 2013 Joshua Terry Graduate Fund (\$750)
- 2010 Phi Beta Kappa, Indiana University
- 2007-2010 IU Dean's List, All Undergraduate Semesters
- 2010 IU Incentive Grant (\$300)
- 2009 Founders Scholar, Indiana University
- 2007 IU Dean's Scholarship (\$12,000)

Publications:

Journal Articles

- Submitted* Linder, Benjamin. "(Re-)Writing Thamel: National Identity and the City-Setting in Contemporary Nepali Literature." Under review at *GeoHumanities*.
- Submitted* Linder, Benjamin. "'This Looks Like Chinatown!': Contested Geographies and the Transformation of Social Space in Jyatha." Under review at *City & Society*.
- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. "Of 'Tourist' Places: The Cultural Politics of Narrating Space in Thamel." *HIMALAYA, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies* 37(1): 41-56.
- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. "Linked (Im)mobilities and the Relational Politics of Movement in Post-Earthquake Nepal." *Journal of Cultural Geography* 34(2): 222-249.
- 2015 Grossman-Thompson, Barbara and **Benjamin Linder**. "Landscaping Otherness: The Charm of Inequity in Nepali Tourism." *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 1(1): 184-211.
- 2014 Grossman-Thompson, Barbara and **Benjamin Linder**. "'A Few Days Here is Plenty': The Value and Implications of Popular Sources for Tourism Development in Nepal." *International Journal of Leisure and Tourism Marketing* 4(2): 117-134.

Books

- In Process* Bedi, Tarini, **Benjamin Linder**, and Aditi Aggarwal (eds.). *South Asia on the Move: Mobilities, Mobilization, Maneuver*. Delhi: Cambridge University Press India
- 2018 Linder, Benjamin. *Thamel Through Time: Commemorating 50 Years of Kathmandu Guest House and Thamel*. Kathmandu: Kathmandu Guest House.

Book Chapters

- 2012 Linder, Benjamin. “‘That Was My Job Then’: Employment and Labor.” In *The Neighborhood of Saturdays: Memories of a Multi-Ethnic Community on Indianapolis’ South Side*, Edited by Susan B. Hyatt. Indianapolis: Dog Ear Press.
- 2012 **Linder, Benjamin** and Kristen Lewis. “‘When the Grocer Looks Out for You’: The Southside Business Community.” In *The Neighborhood of Saturdays: Memories of a Multi-Ethnic Community on Indianapolis’ South Side*, edited by Susan B. Hyatt. Indianapolis: Dog Ear Press.

Book Reviews and Bibliographies

- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. “*Mobile Lifeworlds: An Ethnography of Tourism and Pilgrimage in the Himalayas* by Christopher Howard.” *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 22(2): 471-475.
- 2017 Onta, Pratyoush, Andrew Nelson, and **Benjamin Linder**. “Some Recent Articles on Kathmandu: A Short Bibliography.” 3rd Version. Available at <http://www.martinchautari.org.np/files/bibliography/Bibliography-of-Some-Recent-Writings-on-Kathmandu_by_P.Onta-A.Nelson-B.Linder-version3.pdf>
- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. “*Thamel: Dark Star of Kathmandu* by Rabi Thapa.” *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 22(1): 179-184.
- 2016 Linder, Benjamin. “*Kathmandu* by Thomas Bell.” *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 21(1): 183-187.
- 2014 Linder, Benjamin. “*Mapping the Kathmandu Valley: With Aerial Photographs* by Erwin Schneider by Niels Gutschow and *The Kathmandu Valley: New Buildings, Sites Under Construction and Demolition, 1990-2011* by Niels Gutschow and Hermann Kreutzmann.” *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 19(2): 378-383.

Journalism and Creative Writing

- 2018 Linder, Benjamin. “‘The Birds Will Eat My Bones’: Perhaps a Eulogy for an Impossible Saint.” *LaLit: A Literary Magazine*. Available online at <<https://www.lalitmag.com/2018/02/the-birds-will-eat-my-bones-perhaps-a-eulogy-for-an-impossible-saint/>>
- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. “A Dirge for Kathmandu.” *HIMALAYA, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies* 37(2): 115-117.
- 2017 Linder, Benjamin. *Beyond the Creeping Light*. Kathmandu: Vajra Books.
- 2017 Gill, Peter and **Benjamin Linder**. “Thamel By Rickshaw” *ECS Nepal* #186 (May 2017): 70-73.

2017 Linder, Benjamin. "Intoxication, Music, Revelations: A Conversation with Rabi Thapa on Thamel." *The Record* (April 6). Available online at <<http://www.recordnepal.com/perspective/thamel-dark-star-of-kathmandu/>>

Presentations and Invited Lectures:

- 2018 "This Looks Like Chinatown!': Contested Geographies and the Transformation of Social Space in Jyatha, Kathmandu." Paper presented at the Second City Anthropology Conference in Chicago, IL on March 10.
- 2017 "A Global Sense of Thamel: The Production of Cosmopolitanism between London, Hong Kong, and Kathmandu." Paper presented at the 5th Himalayan Studies Conference in Boulder, CO on September 3.
- 2017 "Transnational Mobilities and Cosmopolitan Place-Making in Kathmandu, Nepal." Paper presented at the 47th Annual Conference of the Urban Affairs Association in Minneapolis, MN on April 20.
- 2017 "Placing Thamel and Writing the City" Public lecture invited by the Literary Association of Nepal in Kathmandu, Nepal on April 9.
- 2017 "Transnational Mobilities and Cosmopolitan Transformations in Thamel." Public lecture invited by Martin Chautari's Discussion Series in Kathmandu, Nepal on April 2.
- 2016 "Thamel as Borderland: The Spatial Production of Cosmopolitanism in Thamel." Paper presented at the 5th Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network in Kathmandu, Nepal on December 13.
- 2016 "Placing Practice, Practicing Place: Global Mobilities and the Production of Thamel." Public lecture delivered at United States Education Foundation/Fulbright office in Kathmandu, Nepal on May 3.
- 2016 "Historical Ethnography: Notes from Thamel." Guest lecture invited by the Department of Anthropology at Tribhuvan University in Kirtipur, Nepal on March 30.
- 2016 "Creating Place in Kathmandu: Tourism, Cosmopolitanism, and the Production of Thamel." Paper Presented at the South and Central Asia Fulbright Conference in Jaipur, India on March 1.
- 2014 "Thamel as Hyperspace." Paper presented at the 43rd Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, WI on October 19.
- 2014 "Tourism, Media, and 'Hyperspace' in Kathmandu, Nepal" Paper presented at the Second City Anthropology Conference in Chicago, IL on March 8.

Research Experience:

- 2016-2017 Dissertation Research (7 months)
Hong Kong, China; Kathmandu, Nepal
Funded by the CAORC Multi-Country Research Fellowship
- 2016 Dissertation Research (2 months)
London, United Kingdom
Funded by UIC Chancellor's Supplemental Research Award
- 2015-2016 Dissertation Research (10 months)
Kathmandu, Nepal
Funded by Fulbright
- 2013 Preliminary Research (2 months)
Kathmandu, Nepal, May-July
Partially funded by the Joshua Terry Graduate Fund
- 2011 Exploratory Research (6 weeks)
Kathmandu, Nepal, March-April

Teaching Experience:

- 2018 Instructor, "Concepts in Geography" (Spring), University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant, "Economic Geography" (Fall), University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2015 Teaching Fellow, Cornell-Nepal Study Program (CNSP) at Tribhuvan University in Kirtipur, Nepal. (Supervisor: Dr. Janak Rai)
- 2014 Graduate Teaching Assistant, "Human Evolution" (Spring) and "World Cultures: Introduction to Social Anthropology" (Fall), University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2013 Graduate Teaching Assistant, "World Cultures: Introduction to Social Anthropology" (Spring) and "Introduction to Cultural Geography" (Fall), University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2012 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Cultural Geography, University of Illinois at Chicago

Professional Experience:

- 2015 Residential Coordinator, Cornell-Nepal Study Program (CNSP) at Tribhuvan University in Kirtipur, Nepal. (Supervisor: Banu Oja)
- 2011-2012 Research and Editorial Assistant, *The Neighborhood of Saturdays: Memories of a Multi-Ethnic Community on Indianapolis' South Side*. Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hyatt)

Departmental Service:

- 2017-2018 Graduate Conference, Public Relations Committee
- 2013-2014 Second Year Speaker Series, Publicity Committee
- 2013-2014 Graduate Conference, Planning Committee (Vice Chair)
- 2012-2014 Graduate Employee Organization (Secretary and Department Steward)
- 2012-2013 Graduate Conference, Planning Committee (Discussant Liaison)

Referee For:

Studies in Nepali History and Society
South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies
Vajra Books (Kathmandu, Nepal)

Languages:

English (native); Nepali (advanced)