

# CLAIRE NICHOLAS

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design  
203 Home Economics Building  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
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### EDUCATION

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Princeton University, Princeton, NJ  
2014 Ph.D. in Socio-cultural Anthropology

L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France  
2005 Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (D.E.A.) Social Anthropology and Ethnology

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX  
1999 B.A. Plan II Honors Program (College of Liberal Arts), Minor in French  
High Honors, Special Honors in Plan II / Theater and Dance, Concentration in  
Costume Design, High Honors

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### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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2016 – Present Assistant Professor of Textiles and Material Culture, Department of Textiles,  
Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2016 – Present Affiliated Faculty Member, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Nebraska-  
Lincoln

2014 – 2016 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Human Ecology, Material Culture and  
Design Studies Area, University of Alberta, Supervisor: Arlene Oak

2013 – 2014 Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Princeton University

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### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

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#### Refereed Articles

2018 Nicholas, C. & Oak, A. "Building consensus: Design media and multimodality in architecture  
education." *Discourse & Society* 29 (4): 436-454.

2018 "Rationalizing Cooperation: Moroccan Craft, Politics and Education." *Anthropology and  
Education Quarterly* 49 (2): 210-223.

2014 "Of Texts and Textiles: Colonial Ethnography and Contemporary Moroccan Material  
Heritage." *Journal of North African Studies* 19 (3): 390 – 412.

- 2010 “Moroccan Women Embroiderers: Technical and Ethical Reconfigurations.” *Ethnology* 49 (2): 105-128.

### Refereed Conference Proceedings

- 2018 Forren, J. & Nicholas, C. “Lap, Twist, Knot: Dichotomies of Intention in the Digital and Analogue.” *ACADIA 2018 Conference Proceedings* (October 15-20, Mexico City): 336-341.
- 2018 Nicholas, C. & Oak, A. “Digital, Analog, Discursive: Knowledge Practices and Sense-making in Design-build Architecture.” *Proceedings of DRS (Design Research Society)*, 1 (2018): 61-72.

### Book Chapters

- 2019 “The Building is the Social: Anthropological Perspectives on Design-Build Architecture Education.” In *Thinking While Doing: Explorations in Educational Design-Build*. Stephen Verderber, Edwin Cavanagh, Arlene Oak (eds.). Birkhauser / De Gruyter. (Forthcoming)
- 2015 “Creative Differences, Creating Difference: Imagining the Producers of Moroccan Fashion and Textiles.” In *After Orientalism: Critical Perspectives on Western Agency and Eastern Re-appropriations*. François Pouillon and Jean-Claude Vatin, eds. Leiden: Brill, pp. 236-250.
- 2012 “Sur les traces des objets anthropologiques: le façonnement du patrimoine vestimentaire marocain.” *Maghreb et Sciences Sociales* (Fall): 75-83.
- 2012 “Keeping out of the Kitchen: Cooking and Power in a Moroccan Household.” In *Food: Ethnographic Encounters*. Leo Coleman, ed. London: Berg, pp. 83-96.

### Manuscripts under Review

Forren, J. & Nicholas, C. “Lap, Twist, Knot: Symmetrical Exchange in Socio-technical Practice.” *Scroope* 28 (2019). Accepted with minor revisions.

“Frames of Reference: Cloth, Community, and Knowledge Ideology in Morocco.” Under review for *Museum Anthropology*.

### SELECT GRANT ACTIVITY & HONOURS

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- 2018 SSHRC Insight Development Grant (PI: James Forren, Dalhousie University)
- 2018 Layman SEED Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2018 Mari Sandoz Research Award, Mari Sandoz Heritage Society
- 2018 USDA-AFRI Rural Youth Entrepreneurship (Lead PI: Surin Kim)
- 2018 Pearle Francis Finigan Foundation (with Surin Kim)
- 2017 Sub-award, Thinking While Doing SSHRC Partnership Grant
- 2017 Betty Kirke Excellence in Research Award, Costume Society of America
- 2015 Support for the Advancement of Scholarship, Faculty of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Alberta, Research Award
- 2012 – 2013 Princeton Institute of International and Regional Studies Graduate Fellow, Princeton University
- 2010 – 2012 Woodrow Wilson Society of Fellows, Princeton University
- 2009 – 2010 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Grant
- 2005 – 2006 Research Fellowship, Formation doctorale, Anthropologie sociale et Ethnologie, l’EHESS

## **SELECT RECENT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

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### **Conference Organization**

- 2012 Co-organizer, graduate student colloquium “The Academe and the ‘Arab Spring’: Disciplinary Approaches to Revolution in the Middle East,” Princeton University, March 2

### **Panel Organization**

- 2018 Co-organizer (with Arlene Oak), “Space and (In)Stability: Social Lives of the Built Environment,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 14-18
- 2016 Co-organizer (with Arlene Oak), “Managing Mess: Exploring How to Design and Conduct Research into Design Practice,” Design Research Society Bi-Annual Conference, June 27-30
- 2015 Co-organizer (with Arlene Oak), “From one Thing to Another: Technologies of Representation in Design and Making,” Society for Social Studies of Science annual meeting, November 11-14
- 2012 Co-organizer (with Talia Dan-Cohen), “Blueprints, Models and other Mediating Forms: Towards an Anthropology of Design,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 14-18

### **Papers / Posters Presented**

- 2018 Oak, A. & Nicholas, C. “Evaluating Traces: Situating Design for Future Consideration,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 14-18
- 2018 “In the Loop: Moroccan Embroidery Samplers and Points of Social Attachment,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 14-18
- 2018 Nicholas, C. & Oak, A. “Digital, Analog, Discursive: Knowledge Practices and Sense-making in Design-build Architecture,” Design Research Society (DRS) Bi-annual Conference, June 25-28
- 2018 Oak, A. & Nicholas, C. “Discourses of Design-build: Recognizing Complexity in Public Interest Architecture,” Architecture, Media, Politics, Society Conference, February 22-23
- 2017 “Textiles, Craft, and Precarity in Colonial and Post-Colonial Morocco,” ITAA Annual Conference, November 14-18
- 2017 “Hand – Eye – Mouse – Power Tools: Modalities of Sense-Making in Architecture Education,” Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, Aug. 30 – Sept. 2
- 2017 “Dress, Gender, and Revolution in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Morocco,” Costume Society of America Annual Symposium, May 29-June 4
- 2016 “The Color of Tradition: Craft, Community, and Textile Expertise in Morocco,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 16-20

- 2015 “Work in Progress: Moroccan Textile Craft in a Living Museum,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 18-22
- 2015 “In Search of Convergence: Making Design Media Analogous in an American University Architecture Studio,” Society for Social Studies of Science annual meeting, November 11-14
- 2013 “Crafting Consumers for a Social Economy: Trade Fairs and Fair Trading in Morocco,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 20-24
- 2012 “Best Laid Plans: Moroccan Textile Design and Speculative Technologies,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, November 14-18

## **RECENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- 2018 Instructor, Clothing & Society: You Are What You Wear, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2018 Instructor, Museums: Theory and Practice, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2018 Instructor, Textiles, Technology & Culture, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2017 Instructor, Gender and Material Culture, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2017 Instructor, Body, Dress and Identity, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2017 Instructor, History of Textiles, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2016 Instructor, Artifact Analysis / Material Culture Research Methods, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2016 Instructor, History of Quilts in the Western World, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2016 Instructor, Gender and Material Culture, Department of Human Ecology, University of Alberta
- 2015 - 2016 Instructor, Dress and Culture, Department of Human Ecology, University of Alberta
- 2015 Co-Instructor (with Dr. Arlene Oak), Material Culture, Identities & Interpretations, Department of Human Ecology, University of Alberta (Fall 2015)
- 2014 Co-Instructor, Ethnographic Research Methods, Philadelphia University, Kanbar College of Design, Engineering and Commerce, Spring

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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- 2018 – Present      Material and People: Social Characterization of New Materials in Architecture (SSHRC Insight Development Grant, PI: James Forren, Co-PIs Claire Nicholas, Letitia Meynell, Ted Cavanagh)
- 2018 – Present      Leveraging Community Connections, Local Issues, and Youth High Tech Entrepreneurship Education to Nurture Rural Economic Opportunities (USDA-AFRI Rural Youth Entrepreneurship, Lead PI: Surin Kim, Co-PIs Maria de Guzman, Ashu Guru, Claire Nicholas)
- 2017 – Present      Therapeutic Textiles: Impacts of Interior Textiles and Clothing on Experiences of Aging and Well-Being in Care Settings (Individual USDA HATCH project, Layman SEED Award)
- 2017 – Present      Crafting Culture in the Middle of Everywhere: An Arts-based Project on Intercultural Empathy Building and Entrepreneurship (with Surin Kim). Research-Extension workshop series on textile craftmaking and entrepreneurship with several community partners.
- 2014 – Present      Thinking while doing: Connecting insight to innovations in the construction sector, SSHRC Partnership Grant (PI Ted Cavanagh, Dalhousie University). Ethnographic fieldwork and analysis of pedagogy and the design process in architectural design-build education in North American schools of architecture.
- 2015                  Preliminary ethnographic research on design and architecture education and community engagement in Morocco. Summer.
- 2009 – 2010        Dissertation research, ethnographic fieldwork in Marrakech and El Jadida regions on textile craft and development policy. Archival research in Nantes (France) and Rabat. June 2009 – September 2010.
- 2004 – 2005        Ethnographic fieldwork and archival research for DEA on Moroccan dress, Nantes, Paris, Morocco. 6 months.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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Design Research Society  
American Anthropological Association  
Society for Social Studies of Science  
Costume Society of America  
International Textile and Apparel Association