

Alternative Mobilities

Dr. Patrick Laviolette

Form: 15h, lectures with elements of discussions and workshops

Level of studies: I or II cycle of studies (limit: 15 students)

ECTS: 3

Assignments and evaluation: Class participation and final Essay (approx. 3000 max, including references)

Place: Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Gołębia 9, room 9.

Timing: the course will be time-blocked and held in May/June 2023:

29/05/ 2023	16:00-19:15	4h
30/05/ 2023	16:00-19:15	4h
31/05/2023	16:00-19:15	4h
1/06/2023	16:00-18:15	3h

Course description

This course aims to introduce students to various alternative transport themes within an interdisciplinary anthropological and cultural studies framework. The main theme is the more or less random and stochastic form of travel known as *auto-stop*, *trampen* or hitchhiking. Some of the conceptual and theoretical perspectives employed include phenomenology and the senses; hermeneutics and semiotics – all of which fit into wider ethno-methodological, visual, literary as well as artistic modes of representing mobility genres that are not so welcome in a neoliberal world of privately owned or purchased transportation.

Readings

Laviolette, P. 2016. Why did the anthropologist cross the road. *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*. 81(3): 379-401.

Laviolette, P. 2020. Getting to the other side. In *Hitchhiking: Cultural Inroads*. London: Palgrave (pp.1-29).

Mahood, Linda 2018. Get your motor running: Risk, ritual, and rite of passage travel. In *Thumbing a Ride: Hitchhikers, Hostels, and Counterculture in Canada*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Noske, Barbara 2018. Introduction. In *Thumbing It: A Hitchhiker's Ride to Wisdom*. Glebe, NSW: Gleebooks.

O'Regan, Michael. (2018). The hitchhiker as bricoleur anthropologist. *Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society*, 42(3), 58–60.

Purkis, Jonathan. 2022. Chapter 10 -- Good news from Vilnius: The rich life of hitchhiking in former communist countries. *Driving with Strangers: What Hitchhiking Tells Us about Humanity*. Manchester: Univ. Press.

Reid, Jack 2020. Intro. You never have to drive very far to find a hitchhiker. In *Roadside Americans: The Rise and Fall of Hitchhiking in a Changing Nation*. Chapel Hill: UNC Press.

Tobar, Héctor. 2020. Section 1. In *The Last Great Road Bum*. London: New York: Macmillan. 3-31.