

Curriculum vitae

Anna Niedźwiedz

Current Address:

Institute of Ethnology and
Cultural Anthropology
Jagiellonian University
ul. Gołębia 9
31-007, Kraków
Poland

e-mail: a.niedzwiedz@uj.edu.pl
cracoviana@gmail.com



profile on academia.edu:

<https://jagiellonian.academia.edu/AnnaNiedzwiedz>

Educational background:

- 2003 PhD Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Department of History, Jagiellonian University in Kraków
- 1997 MA Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków

Scholarly positions and teaching experiences:

- 2006-present: Lecturer and Research Fellow (Polish *Adjunkt*), Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland
- 2011 Fall semester: Visiting Professor at Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies, University of Rochester, USA
- September, 2006-June, 2007: Visiting Assistant Professor, University at Buffalo, Polish Studies and Department of Anthropology (sponsored by the Kosciuszko Foundation in NYC and Polish Studies at SUNY Buffalo), USA
- 2006 Spring semester: Visiting Lecturer at Collegium Civitas in Warsaw, Poland
- 2003-2006: Assistant (Polish *Aсистent z doktoratem*) at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland
- 2003-2006: Visiting Lecturer at Institute of Regional Studies, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland
- 2003-2006: Visiting Lecturer, Postgraduate Courses for School Teachers, Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland
- 1999-2003: Visiting Instructor, Institute of Geography and Spatial Management, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland
- 1997-2002: PhD Student and Teaching Instructor, Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland

Research grants rewarded by Polish national funds:

- 2010-2012: Research Grant rewarded by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education/National Science Centre: 'Popular Catholicism in Africa: An Anthropological Analysis on Example of Ghana'
- 2000-2001: Doctoral research grant rewarded by the Polish State Committee for Scientific Research: 'Image of Our Lady of Częstochowa as national and religious symbol'

Ethnographic field research projects initiated and led:

- 2009-2014: Life and religion: Catholicism lived in today's Ghana
- 2013-2014: Symbolism of new Catholic shrines within urban space of the city of Kraków: transnational, national and local (the Divine Mercy Shrine and Shrine of John Paul II)
- 2009: Jewish Culture Festival in Kraków: a rediscovery of diverse heritages within urban space
- 2007-2008: *Un-lived* and *lived* spaces of the Podgórze district in Kraków: loosing, inventing and re-inventing memory and heritage within underdeveloped urban area
- 2004-2011: Lived Catholicism in Poland (with particular focus on: (1) cult of images and visual/sensual dimension of religious experience, (2) symbolic space of religious shrines in post-communist Poland, (3) figure of pope John Paul II in the context of national and local mythologies, lived spaces and place-making processes, (4) Family of Radio Maryja as an example of radical traditionalistic religious community within post-communist society)
- 1999-2003: Image of Our Lady of Częstochowa as national and religious symbol

Selected international talks and conference presentations:

- 2014: 'National, Local, and Global: Kraków as a 'Lived Shrine' of John Paul II.' Conference: Religion in Urban Spaces (Göttingen, Germany).
- 2013: 'Old and New Paths of Polish Pilgrimages.' Conference: Itineraries, Gaps and Obstacles in Pilgrimage Studies: Research Traditions in a Global Context (Marseilles, France).
- 2013: 'Localizing the sacred in contemporary African Catholic community.' SIEF Congress: Circulation (Tartu, Estonia).
- 2012: 'Jasna Góra and Licheń: competing *national shrines* of Polish Catholics.' Conference: Pilgrimage and Sacred Places in Eastern Europe: Place, Politics and Religious Tourism (Zadar, Croatia).
- 2012: 'Movement and spatiality among Ghanaian Catholics as an expression of identities.' SIEF Working Group on Ethnology of Religion Conference: Religion on the Move: How Motion and Migration Influence Religion (Szeged, Hungary).
- 2011: 'Being Christian in Africa: Catholic Identity in Central Part of Ghana.' Viva Africa Conference: Multiple Identities in Postcolonial Africa (Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic).
- 2011: 'The Divine Mercy shrine in Poland: a new shrine for new times?' SIEF Congress: People Make Places – ways of feeling the world (Lisbon, Portugal).
- 2010: 'Popular Catholicism in Ghanaian Contexts.' EASA Conference: Crisis and Imagination (Maynooth, Ireland).
- 2010: 'The Radio Maryja Family: Continuity (and Change?) in Postsocialist Poland.' Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Conference: Religious Hegemony and Religious Diversity in Eastern Europe: Postsocialism vis-à-vis the Longue Durée (Halle, Germany).

- 2010: 'Religious Experience among Members of the Family of Radio Maryja.' SIEF Working Group on Ethnology of Religion Conference: Experiencing Religion. New Approaches Towards Personal Religiosity (Warsaw, Poland).
- 2009: 'Religion Through Senses: Popular Polish Catholicism and its Media.' Global Seminar: Media, Religion, Culture Project: Sensations. Religious Mediations and the Formation of Identities (Accra, Ghana).
- 2009: 'Ritualization of Space.' Department of Religious Studies, Jagiellonian University Conference: Ritual Today (Kraków, Poland).
- 2009: 'Kraków and John Paul II: Myth and Symbolism of Urban Space.' Kölner ethnologisches Kolloquium (Cologne, Germany).
- 2009: 'Walk the Nation into Being: Pilgrimage in Poland' (invited lecture), Norface Capacity Building Workshop, Summer School: Lived Religion on the Move (Ravenstein/University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands).
- 2009: 'Kraków: 'the Pope's City'.' Conference UNESCO Chair in Urban Design and Conservation Studies: Jerusalem – Kraków holy cities (Jerusalem, Israel).
- 2009: 'Contemporary Popular Polish Catholicism and Transnational Relations?' Max-Planck-Institut für Ethnologische Forschung workshop: The Catholic Church and Religious Pluralism in Lithuania and Poland: An Anthropological Study of Public and Private Meanings of Religion in Postsocialist Society (Lipnica Murowana, Poland).
- 2008: 'National or Trans-national? Catholic Shrines in Contemporary Poland.' ISORECEA Conference: Religion, Identity and Life Courses (Kraków, Poland).
- 2008: 'Our Lady of Częstochowa: Religious or National Symbol of Poland?' University of Washington Polish Studies Endowment Committee Distinguished Speakers Series (Seattle, USA).
- 2008: 'Our Lady of Częstochowa: Religious or National Symbol of Poland?' The Polish Studies Center (Bloomington, USA)
- 2008: 'Is Contemporary Popular Catholicism National or Trans-national?' Skalny Center Seminar (Rochester, USA)
- 2008: 'Nationalism and Catholicism: the cult of Mary as a mass movement in Poland.' EASA Conference: Experiencing Diversity and Mutuality (Ljubljana, Slovenia).
- 2008: 'Popular Religion and Popular Media: Case of Poland.' Conference on Media, Religion and Culture: Dialogues in Diversity (Sao Paulo, Brasil).
- 2007: 'Podgórze District in Kraków: Discovering a Heritage.' Conference of the Polish Society of the Urban Ethnology (Warsaw, Poland).
- 2007: 'Figure of Mother of God as a Symbol of Resistance during and after Communism in Poland.' Conference: Religious Tradition, Communism and Cultural Re-evaluation: Transnationalism in Post-1989 Eastern European Cultures of Remembrance (Bautzen, Germany).
- 2007: 'Religion and Nationality – the Polish Case During and after Communism (story about symbols, rituals and myths).' Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion (Phoenix, USA).
- 2007: 'Queen and Mother: The Marian Image in Polish Culture.' Conference: The Power of Marian Pilgrimage (Ravenstein/University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands).
- 2006: 'Images of Mother of God in Polish Religiosity.' Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies Seminar (Rochester, USA).
- 2006: 'Religious and National Symbols in the Underground Iconography and Literature of the Martial Law (1981-1983) and Post-Martial Law Period in Poland.' Conference: Underground

Publishing and the Public Sphere, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Berlin, Germany).

- 2006: 'The Political and Popular Use of Sacred Images in Post-Communist Poland.' Conference on Media, Religion, and Culture, The Sigtuna Foundation (Stockholm/Sigtuna/Uppsala, Sweden).
- 2000: 'The Holy Icon of Częstochowa: Its Contexts, Meaning and the Political Usage in Contemporary Polish Mythology.' EASA Conference, Younger Scholars Forum (Kraków, Poland).

Individual exhibitions:

- April-May, 2011: Senses of Africa: Photographs 'on the margins' of anthropological research in Ghana, Ethnographic Museum in Kraków, Poland.

Professional Activities and Service:

- 2011-present: Ethnographic Quarterly Journal of Jagiellonian University *Prace Etnograficzne* [*Ethnographic Works*]: member of Editorial Board
- 2010-present: International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF): member of the Executive Board of the SIEF Working Group on Ethnology of Religion
- 2008-present: European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)
- 2007-present: Polish Institute of Anthropology (PIA): Jagiellonian University's representative
- 2006-present: Polish Society of Urban Ethnology (PTEM)
- 2004-present: Polish Ethnological Society (PTL)

Convenor and Co-convenor of Conference Panels:

- 2013: panel 'Fluidity, Mobility and Versatility of the Sacred', SIEF Congress: Circulation (Tartu, Estonia), with Clara Saraiva and Peter Jan Margry.
- 2013: panel 'Anthropology of Religion' [held in Polish], Polish Anthropological Institute, First Congress of Polish Anthropology (Warsaw, Poland).
- 2010: panel 'Ethnographies of Catholicism', EASA Conference: Crisis and Imagination (Maynooth, Ireland), with Ingo Schröder.

Selected international exchange programmes and research support:

- 2011: 1-week research study at African Studies Centre, Leiden, the Netherlands
- 2009: 1-week research study at Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands
- 2009: 2-week research study at University of Cologne, Germany
- 2008: 2-month research study at Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, USA
- 2005: 6-week Scholarship for a Research Scholar, Department of Anthropology, University at Buffalo, USA
- 2005: 1-week research study at Collegium for Advanced Studies, Helsinki University, Finland
- 2004: CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies) International School of Culture and Heritage, Komensky University, Bratislava, Slovakia

Selected media appearances and expertise:

- Editor in Chief of a special supplement to *Tygodnik Powszechny* (national weekly) dedicated to history of Polish ethnography and its “founding father” Oskar Kolberg (February 2014)
- Articles, interviews, comments on anthropological and social issues, as well as on books and ethnographic exhibitions: published in Polish press (*Gazeta Wyborcza*, *Tygodnik Powszechny*, *Przekrój*), broadcasted in radio and on national TV
- 1999-2004: co-worker of *Gazeta Wyborcza* (the biggest Polish daily)

TEACHING AREAS and TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Courses taught at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland:

- Visual Anthropology (2008-present)
- Ethnology of Poland (2008-present)
- Anthropology of Religion (2014)
- Ethnography and Culture of Contemporary West Africa: Example of Ghana [course taught in English for Polish and for international students] (2011-2012)
- Undergraduate Thesis Writing Seminar and Tutorial (2011, 2012/2013)
- Kraków: city and its myths [course taught in English for international students] (2007-2009)
- Religion and Religiosity in Contemporary Societies (2008)
- Symbolism of Urban Space (2008)
- Polish Folklore and Traditional Culture (1999-2006)
- Popular and Lived Religion (2003-2004)
- Everyday Life in Polish People’s Republic [as a supply lecturer] (2003-2004)
- Culture, Customs and Religiosity Within the History and Space of the City of Kraków (2003-2005)
- Popular Religion and Religiosity: Theory and Ethnography (including field research project tutoring) (2004-2006)

Undergraduate course taught at University of Rochester, USA:

- Introduction to History of Poland (2011 Fall semester)

Undergraduate courses at University at Buffalo, USA:

- Cities and Their Stories (2006 Fall semester)
- Symbolism in Polish Folk Culture (2006 Fall semester)
- Images in Culture: Sacred and Profane (2007 Spring semester)
- Religions and Nationality: The Polish Experience (2007 Spring semester)

Course taught at the Collegium Civitas in Warsaw, Poland:

- Popular Religion and Cult of Marian Images in Poland (2006 Spring semester)

Course taught at the Institute of Regional Studies, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland

- Culture – Tradition – Custom: Anthropological Approaches (2003-2006, 2008-2009)

Course taught at the Postgraduate Studies for Teachers, Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland:

- Regional Cultural Heritage (2003-2004)

Course taught at the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland:

- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology (2000-2003)

Additional administrative duties related to teaching, pastoral care and institutional management performed at Jagiellonian University in Kraków:

- 2012-present: member of Departmental Commission dedicated to improvement of teaching quality
- 2012: Head of Departmental Board responsible for adjusting the BA and MA Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology programmes to EU directives
- 2012-present: member of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology Board
- 2008-present: member of the Faculty of History Board (Faculty of History)