

MOISÉS KOPPER, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2012–2016: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Anthropology

Degree obtained with the highest distinctions
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Dissertation: Architectures of Hope: An Ethnography of Brazil's Economic Mobility
Advisor: Professor Arlei S. Damo (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul)
Co-Advisor: Professor João Biehl (Princeton University)

2010–2012: Masters of Arts (MA) in Social Anthropology

Degree obtained with the highest distinctions
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Thesis: From Street Vendors to Entrepreneurs: The Making of a Popular Shopping Mall in Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Advisor: Professor Arlei S. Damo (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul)

2005–2010: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Social Sciences

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Thesis: Participative Democracy and the Art of Rhetoric: The Agency of Community Leaders in the Public Sphere of Porto Alegre, Brazil
Advisor: Professor Arlei S. Damo (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul)

WORK EXPERIENCE

2017–to the present: Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Germany. Supervision: Prof. Dr. Jens Beckert.

2016–2017: Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Metropolitan Studies, University of São Paulo. Supervision: Prof. Dr. Adrian Gurza Lavalle.

2014–2015: Visiting Student Research Collaborator, Department of Anthropology, Princeton University. Supervision: Prof. Dr. João G. Biehl.

2011: Visiting Graduate Student, Universidad Nacional de San Martín; Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social, Argentina. Supervision: Prof. Dr. Sergio Visacovsky.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ethnography and Social Theory; Urban Anthropology; Political and Economic Anthropology; Information, Economic Expertise, and Algorithmic Governance; Class and Social Mobility; Infrastructures and Wellbeing; Neoliberalism, Statecraft and Development; Popular Culture; City as Home; Latin American Societies; Brazil.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Prize “Heloisa Alberto Torres” for the Best Anthropology Paper, Brazilian Anthropological Association, Natal, 2014.

Best Paper of the VII National Encounter of Consumption Studies, Rio de Janeiro, 2014.

MA Thesis nominated for the “Prêmio ANPOCS de Teses Universitárias em Ciências Sociais”, Associação Nacional de Pós-Graduação e Pesquisa em Ciências Sociais (ANPOCS), 2013.

Prize “UFRGS Jovem Pesquisador 2009,” XXI Salão de Iniciação Científica, Pró-Reitoria de Pesquisa da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), 2009.

Prize “Pessoa em Destaque 'Ruben Kirschner',” City Council of Picada Café, RS, Brazil, 2009.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Postdoctoral Studies Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany), 2017-2019.

Postdoctoral Studies Fellowship, The São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP – Brazil), 2016-2017.

International Exchange Fellowship, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES – Brazil), 2014 – 2015.

Doctoral Studies Fellowship, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq – Brazil), 2012 – 2016.

Masters Studies Fellowship, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES – Brazil), 2010 – 2012.

Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq – Brazil), 2007 – 2010.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

From Street Vendors to Tradesmen: The Making of a Popular Shopping Mall in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Porto Alegre: Simplíssimo, 2014.

Book Manuscript

Architectures of Hope: Infrastructural Citizenship and Class Mobility in Brazil's Public Housing. Under peer review.

Articles In Preparation

“Infrastructures of Participation: Bottom-Up Bureaucracies and Poverty Governance in Brazilian Grassroots Movements.”

“Crafting Peripheries through Public Policies: Distended Governance, Middle-Class Makings, and the Politics of Visibility in Brazil's Public Housing.”

“My House, My Life: Becoming Middle-Class Citizens in Brazil's Public Housing System.”

“Mirrors of the Nation, Deflections of the Subject: Middle-class narratives and its transience in Brazil.”

“*Housing Hope*: Living through Consumption in Brazil's Public Housing Policy.”

Articles currently under Review

“Architecting Hope: A house yet to come.” Photo Essay. *Anthropology Now*.

“Architecting Mobility: The Techno-Politics of Brazil's New Middle-Class.” *History of Political Economy* (Duke University Press). Dossier: Measuring Matters: Histories of Assessing Inequality,” edited by Pedro Ramos Pinto and Poornima Paidipaty. 2020.

Articles in Refereed Journals

“Housing Movements at the Margins of the City: Worthiness and Struggle in the Peripheries of São Paulo” (with Matthew Richmond). Dossier: Social Movements, State Power, and Strategy:

The Challenges of Organizing under Progressive Governments. *Latin American Perspectives*. 2019 (forthcoming).

“House-ing Urban Kin: Family Configurations, Household Economies, and Inequality in Brazil’s Public Housing.” *Articulo (Journal of Urban Research)*, Dossier “Urban Kinships. Everyday Kinship and the Making of the City,” 2019 (forthcoming).

“Technologies and Subjects of Participation: The political mobilization of street vendors in Porto Alegre, Brazil.” *Etnográfica* (Lisbon, Portugal), 2019 (in Portuguese, forthcoming).

“Public Policies and their Afterlives: Worthiness and Housing Citizenship in Brazil.” *Revista Brasileira de Ciências Sociais* (Journal of the Brazilian Association of Research in Social Sciences), 2019, 34(99):1-24 (in Portuguese).

“From State to Social Entrepreneurship: Everyday Bureaucracies, Moral Risk and Vulnerability in a Land Regularization Startup in São Paulo” (with Isabella Ide). Dossier: Bureaucracies, Everyday, and Values. *Brazilian Journal of Sociology*, 2019, 7(15):30-52 (in Portuguese).

“Porous Infrastructures and the Politics of Upward Mobility in Brazil’s Public Housing.” *Economic Anthropology*, 2019, 6(1):73-85.

“Porous Infrastructures: Living through Consumption in Brazil’s Public Housing Program.” *Política e Trabalho* (Journal of the Federal University of Paraíba), 2018, 48:57-74 (in Portuguese).

“*Rolezinhos* and the New Urban Landscape of Contemporary Brazil (with Louise Scoz de Faria).” *Anuário Antropológico* (Journal of the University of Brasília), 2018, 42(2):239-266 (in Portuguese).

“The Emergence and Evanescence of Brazil’s New Middle Class.” *Horizontes Antropológicos* (Journal of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul), 2018, 50:335-376 (in Portuguese).

“From Street Vendors to Tradesmen: The Making of a Popular Shopping Mall in Porto Alegre, Brazil.” *Caderno CRH* (Journal of the Federal University of Bahia), 2016, 28(75):591-605 (in Portuguese).

“My House, My Life: Experts, Class Formation and the Invention of a Housing Market in Contemporary Brazil.” *Horizontes Antropológicos* (Journal of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul), 2016, 45:185-215 (in Portuguese).

“From Informal Markets to a Non-Hegemonic Politics of Value: Porto Alegre, Buenos Aires and the Production of Street Objects and Subjects.” *Revista de Antropologia* (Journal of the Universidade de São Paulo), 2015, 58(2):235-262 (in Portuguese).

“Designing Brazil’s New Middle Class: Economic Science and Welfare Policies in the Making of a Social Category.” *Urbanities (Journal of the Commission on Urban Anthropology)*, 2015, 5(2):20-32.

“At the Limits of Intervention: The Critical Anthropology of Didier Fassin.” *Mana (Journal of the National Museum of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro)*, 2014, 20:355-370 (in Portuguese).

“VMDL: Notes on *Rolezinhos*, Narratives of Class, Networks and the City” (with Louise Scoz de Faria). *Novos Debates (Journal for debates in anthropology of the Brazilian Anthropological Association)*, 2014, 1:12-18 (in Portuguese).

“Following the Paths of the ‘Romantic Road’: The Constitution of a Touristic Itinerary in Southern Brazil.” *Campos (Journal of the Federal University of Paraná)*, 2013, 14:95-119 (in Portuguese).

“Times of Transition: The Reconfiguration of Street Markets and the Implementation of a Popular Shopping Mall in Porto Alegre, Brazil.” *NORUS (Journal of the Federal University of Pelotas)*, 2013, 1:95-119 (in Portuguese).

“Politics, Economics, and Symbolic Mediation: Ethnographic Notes on the Constitution of Social Leadership in the Experience of the Camelódromo of Porto Alegre, Brazil.” *Cadernos de Campo (Journal of the University of São Paulo)*, 2012, 20:33-50 (in Portuguese).

“Participative Democracy and the Art of Rhetoric: The Agency of Community Leaders in the Public Sphere of Porto Alegre, Brazil.” *Papeles de Trabajo (Journal of the Instituto de Altos Estudios Sociales, Buenos Aires)*, 2012, 6:198-224 (in Portuguese).

“Between Economic Subjectivities and Subjective Economies: The Camelódromo of Porto Alegre and the Experiences of the Transition Process.” *Iluminuras (Journal of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul)*, 2011, 12:102-140 (Published in Portuguese).

“Ethnography of a Market in Transition: The Constitution of the Camelódromo in Porto Alegre, Brazil and the Reconfiguration of Informal Work.” *Teoria & Sociedade (Journal of the Federal University of Minas Gerais)*, 2011, 19: 230-255 (in Portuguese).

“Between the Street and the ‘Cage’: Ethnography of the Discursive Strategies of a Community Leader and his Role as a Political Mediator.” *Revista Todavia (Journal of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul)*, 2010, 1:55-80 (in Portuguese).

Book Chapters

“Political Accountabilities, Social Numbers, and Peripheral Territorialities: The economy of public housing in the outskirts of São Paulo.” In: *Peripheral Spaces*. São Paulo: Centro de Estudos da Metrópole, Fapesp, 2019 (in Portuguese, forthcoming).

“Signs of a New Brazil: Market Research Institutes and the Configuration of Low-Income Consumption at the Base of the Pyramid.” In *Low-Income Consumption in Brazil: Approaches from Anthropology and Sociology* edited by Hilaine Yaccoub. Rio de Janeiro: Mundo do Marketing Press, 2015:63-98 (in Portuguese).

“La Invención de la Nueva Clase Media Brasileña: De la Antropología de los Números a las Políticas de Movilidad Social”. In *Clases Medias: Nuevos Enfoques y Estudios Comparativos en Europa y América Latina* edited by Ezequiel Adamovsky, Sergio Visacovsky and Patricia Vargas. Buenos Aires: Paidós, 2014, (in Spanish).

Book Reviews and Other Publications

Review of the book “Constellations of Inequality: Space, Race and Utopia in Brazil” (University of Chicago Press, 2017), by Sean T. Mitchell. *Logos: a journal of modern society & culture*. Forthcoming, 2019.

Review of translation to Portuguese of the book “Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment” (University of California Press, 2013), by João Biehl. Forthcoming, 2019.

Review of the book “Guerra dos Lugares: a Colonização da Terra e da Moradia na era das Finanças” (Boitempo Press, 2015), by Raquel Rolnik. *Civitas*, 2017 (in Portuguese).

Review of the book “Las Sospechas del Dinero: Moral y Economía en la Vida Popular” (Paidós Press, 2013), Ariel Wilkis. *Horizontes Antropológicos*, 2015, 21:400-405 (in Portuguese).

Visual Anthropology Exhibition

Architecting Hope: A house yet to come

Photo Exhibition, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) 18th meeting, Florianopolis, Brazil, 2018.

Ethnography in the City: Perspectives from Porto Alegre and Buenos Aires

Instituto de Filosofia e Ciências Humanas, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2012.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES (SELECTED)

“Timing Infrastructures: Cartographies of wellbeing and consumption in Brazil’s social housing market.” Paris | France, Journées d’étude “Vers une Sociologie Économique de la Ville,” SciencesPo; Centre de Sociologie des Organisations, October 2018.

“Middle-Class Sensorial.” Barcelona | Spain, 36th International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association. Roundtable “In Search of the Middle: Histories and ethnographies of middle-class in Latin-America” (organizer and presenter), 2018.

“Architectures of Hope: Infrastructural Citizenship and Class Mobility in Brazil’s Public Housing.” Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Research Seminar, May 2nd, 2018.

“Architectures of Hope: Housing Infrastructures and the Politics of Class Mobility in Brazil.” Potsdam | Germany, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Network Meeting, 2018.

“*Infrastructuring* Class: Waiting and Hoping through Materialities in Brazil’s Public Housing.” Washington D.C., American Anthropological Association 116th Annual Meeting, Panel “Porous Infrastructures: Entanglements of Materiality and Sociality in Latin America” (organizer and presenter), 2017.

“Architecting Mobility: The sociotechnical politics of middle-class in Brazil.” Cambridge | UK, Conference “Measuring Matters: Histories of Assessing Inequality,” Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge, July 2017.

“Arquitecturas de la Esperanza: Ciudadanía, Consumo y Movilidad de Clase en la política de vivienda en Brasil.” Buenos Aires | Argentina, Instituto de Altos Estudios Sociales, Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Graduate School Conference, 2017.

“Porous Infrastructures: The faces of mobility in recent Brazil.” São Paulo, Science and Technology Studies 6th Meeting, 2017.

“The Social Life of Mobility.” Brasília, Brazilian Sociological Association 18th Meeting, Roundtable “The destiny of Brazil’s ‘New Middle Class:’ trajectories and dislocations,” 2017.

“My House, my Life: Becoming Middle-class citizens in Brazil’s Public Housing System.” Porto Alegre, II Iberian-American Meeting of Socioeconomics, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2015.

“Performing Global Middle Classes in Developing Countries: Intersecting Economic Science, Statistics and Numbers.” New York, Annual Conference of the Commission on Urban Anthropology, 2015.

“From the Hilltop to the Asphalt’: Political Materialities, Middle-Class Subjectivities and Public Housing in Brazil.” Princeton, Oikos Seminar – Affects, Economies and Politics of House-ing, 2015.

“*Housing Affect: Shifting Familial Arrangements and Practices of Care in Contemporary Brazil.*” Boston, Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting, 2015.

“‘My House, My Life:’ Becoming Middle-Class Citizens in Brazil’s Public Housing System.” San Diego, American Ethnological Society Annual Meeting, 2015.

“Between Citizenship and Consumption: The Invention of Brazil’s New Middle Class.” Lisbon, First Conference of the International Association of Human and Social Sciences in Portuguese Language, 2015.

“Between Consumption and Citizenship: The Invention of Brazil’s New Middle Class and the Politics of Public Housing.” Washington D.C., American Anthropological Association 113th Annual Meeting, 2014.

“Between Consumption and Citizenship: The Invention of the ‘New Middle Class’ and the Politics of Housing in Contemporary Brazil.” Rio de Janeiro, Graduate Research Seminar, National Museum, 2014.

“Brazil’s New Middle Class and the Social Production of Indebtedness” (with Carolina Leal). Rio de Janeiro, VII National Encounter of Consumption Studies, 2014.

“Anthropology and Social Classes in Contemporary Brazil.” Porto Alegre, Seminar “Ethnographies of the Economy and Politics,” 2014.

“Ethical Dilemmas Researching Popular Groups in Economic and Political Intersecting Domains.” Porto Alegre, Seminar “Ethical challenges in fieldwork,” 2013.

“From the New Middle Class to Low-Income Housing: Social and Spatial Mobility in Contemporary Brazil.” Córdoba, X Reunión de Antropología del Mercosur, 2013.

“The Invention of the New Middle Class and the Housing Market: an ethnography of Social and Spatial Mobility in Contemporary Brazil.” Salvador, 16th Meeting of the Brazilian Sociological Society, 2013.

“The Invention of Brazil’s New Middle Class: Notes on the Anthropology of Numbers and Social Mobility.” Rio de Janeiro, a Princeton-National Museum Conference, Ethnography Across Borders, 2013 (Presented in English).

“Numbers, Moralities and Mobilities: The ‘New Middle Class’ and the New Housing Policies in Contemporary Brazil.” Porto Alegre, Seminar “A Moral em Perspectiva: Explorações de Pesquisa,” 2013.

“From Street Vendors to Entrepreneurs: Ethnography of a Shifting Street Market.” São Paulo, 28th Meeting of the Brazilian Anthropological Association, 2012.

“Ethnography of a Market in Transition: The Constitution of Porto Alegre’s ‘Camelódromo’ and the Reconfiguration of Informal Work.” Pelotas, 3rd International Seminar of Social Sciences, 2012.

“From the ‘Camelódromo’ to the New Middle Class: Money, Work and Moralities in Reconfiguration.” Porto Alegre, International Seminar “Perspectivas Cruzadas sobre as Finanças e o Consumo,” 2012.

“Brazil’s ‘New Middle Class:’ From an Economy of Crisis to the Politics of Social Mobility.” Buenos Aires, 3rd Seminario-Taller Investigación Histórica y Etnográfica sobre las Clases Medias, 2012.

“Between the Public and the Private: The Political Economy behind the Legalization and Reconfiguration of Informal Work in Porto Alegre, Brazil.” Buenos Aires, VI Jornadas de Estudios Sociales de La Economía, 2011.

“Politics, Economy, and Symbolic Mediation.” Belém, 27th Meeting of the Brazilian Anthropological Association, 2010.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2017 – Current: Principal Investigator, “The political economy of low-income housing in contemporary Brazil:” analysis of comparative and multi-method data on the long-term economic, political and subjective effects of public housing policies aimed at the urban poor in contemporary Brazil; completion of a book manuscript.

2016 – 2017: Principal Investigator, “*Minha Casa Minha Vida* and the Faces of Mobility in Contemporary Brazil:” extensive mixed-method research (fieldwork, interviews and quantitative survey with public housing beneficiaries) on the long-term economic, political and subjective “afterlives” of housing projects in present-day Brazil.

2012 – 2016: Principal Investigator, “Ethnography of Brazil’s New Middle-Class:” interviews with economists, sociologists, marketers and businessmen in Brazil and the USA.

2012 – 2016: Principal Investigator, “Ethnography of Brazil’s Public Housing Policy:” fieldwork and interviews with public housing beneficiaries, state officials, social workers, community leaders and real estate brokers.

2012 – 2014: Archival Research at the “Arquivo Público do Rio Grande do Sul” (Porto Alegre), “Acervo Benno Mentz” (Porto Alegre), and “Fundação Biblioteca Nacional” (Rio de Janeiro).

2008 – 2011: Principal Investigator, “The Relocation of Street Vendors to a Shopping Mall:” fieldwork and interviews with street vendors, state representatives, politicians and entrepreneurs.

2007 – 2009: Principal Investigator, “Ethnography of the Participatory Budget in Porto Alegre:” fieldwork in participatory forums and grassroots movements, interviews with community leaders.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

2016 – 2017: Research Assistant, Project “Inequality, Social Conditions, and Public Policy in Contemporary Brazil.” Center for Metropolitan Studies, University of São Paulo (research coordinated by Marta Arretche).

2016 – 2017: Research Assistant, Project “Alternative forms of governance in urban areas and their connections to the State.” Center for Metropolitan Studies, University of São Paulo (research coordinated by Marta Arretche).

2012 – 2015: Research Assistant, Project “Race and Citizenship in the Americas.” Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton University (research coordinated by João Biehl and Pedro M. Monteiro).

2012 – 2015: Research Assistant, Project “German Immigration to Brazil and the Mucker War.” Department of Anthropology, Princeton University (research coordinated by João Biehl).

2012 – 2016: Research Assistant, Project: “Mega-Sports Events in Brazil.” Department of Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (research coordinated by Arlei Damo).

2011 – 2013: Research Assistant, Project: “From Downtown to Periphery: an Engaged Ethnography with Dwellers of ‘Chocolatão’ Neighborhood.” Department of Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (research coordinated by Arlei Damo).

2007 – 2009: Research Assistant, Project: “Culture and Participative Democracy.” Department of Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (research coordinated by Arlei Damo).

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Graduate Courses Taught

- Instructor of the course “Collaborative Development: Policies, Markets, Materialities.” Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Cologne, to be taught, Summer Term 2019.

Undergraduate Courses Taught

- Instructor of the course “Economic Anthropology”. Department of Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, 2013.
- Teacher assistant of the course “Contemporary Challenges in Anthropology”. Department of Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, 2010.

Undergraduate Advising

Isabella Hay Ide, Center for Metropolitan Studies, University of São Paulo, 2016-2017.

Undergraduate Senior Thesis Committee Member

Rafael Rocha Cardozo, Senior Thesis in Social Sciences: “Street Vendors and the New Socio-Spatial Configuration of the *Centro Popular de Compras*” (2012).

Yasmine Carneiro Monteiro, Senior Thesis in Social Sciences: “Fighting for Land: Militant Engagements and Popular Education in the *Movimento dos Trabalhadores Sem-Terra* organization” (2013).

Rodrigo Lopes Rodrigues, Senior Thesis in Social Sciences: “Readings on Consumption in Social Sciences” (2013).

Marco Ribeiro, Senior Thesis in Social Sciences: “Circuits of Technological Objects in a Slum in Porto Alegre, Brazil”. (2016).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

Member of the American Anthropological Association (Association for the Anthropology of Policy); Latin American Studies Association; the Brazilian Studies Association; the Brazilian Anthropological Association; the Brazilian Society of Sociology.

Selection Committee of the Rosebery-Nash Graduate Student Award, The Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, 2018.

Article reviewer for the journals: Journal of Development Studies; Civitas—Journal of Social Sciences; Horizontes Antropológicos; Revista Brasileira de Sociologia; Política e Trabalho; Mediações; Universitas Humanistica; Pesquisas e Práticas Psicossociais.

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

English – professional fluency in speaking, reading, and writing

Portuguese – native fluency in speaking, reading, and writing

German – advanced speaking, reading, and writing (C1 level, Common European Framework of Reference)

Spanish – advanced reading, speaking, and writing

French – advanced reading

Quantitative Analysis: SPSS

Qualitative Analysis: Atlas.ti