

# CLAUDIO SOPRANZETTI

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Zrínyi utca 14, Office 408  
1051, Budapest

SopranzettiC@ceu.edu  
Telephone: (+44) 07522141527  
www.claudiosopranzetti.com

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Central European University	2019-
All Souls Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Oxford University	2013-2019
Affiliated Faculty, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Oxford University	2013-2019
Research Associate, Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities	2014-2019
Visiting Professor, Kyoto Center for Southeast Asian Studies	2017
Visiting Professor, Chulalongkorn University	2014

### EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA  
Ph.D., Social Anthropology, September 2013  
Dissertation Title: The Owners of the Map: Motorcycle Taxis Drivers, Mobility, and Politics in Bangkok.

University of Rome "La Sapienza", Rome, Italy  
BA, Anthropology, *cum laude*, May 2005  
Honor Thesis: Constructing a Historical Structural Anthropology: Stanley Tambiah's Attempt.

### AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Margaret Mead Book Award for <i>Owners of the Map</i>	2019
All Souls Public Life Grant	2018
Oxford Fell Fund Research Grant	2016
Kyoto CSEAS Visiting Research Fellowship	2016
All Souls Public Life Research Grant	2015
Oxford All Souls Postdoctoral Fellowship	2013
NUS Asia Research Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship (Declined)	2013
Society for Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology (SUNTA) Graduate Essay Prize	2012
Cora-DuBois Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Cora-Dubois Foundation	2012
Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University	2012
Research Grant, William E. Braden 1941 Fund, Harvard Asia Center	2013
Summer Research Grant, Teschmacher Fund, Harvard Asia Center	2011
Research Grant, Geographic Analysis Center, Harvard University	2011
Merit-Time Fellowship, Harvard University	2011
Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation	2009
International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council	2009
Sheldon Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard University	2009
ENTTS Fellowship, Chulalongkorn University	2009
Pre-dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Asia Center	2008
Distinction of Excellence for General Exams, Harvard University	2008
Language Development Grant, Harvard Asia Center	2007

### PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS

*The King of Bangkok: an Anthropological Graphic Novel*, ADD Editore (Italy), 2019 [Thai translation, Reading Thai Press, 2019]

*Owners of the Map: Motorcycle Taxis Drivers, Mobility, and Politics in Bangkok*, University of California Press, 2018, Winner of the 2019 Margaret Mead Award [Thai Translation, Fa Diaw Gan Press, 2019; Italian Translation, Edizioni Meltemi, 2020]

*Red Journeys: Into the Thai Red Shirt Movement*, University of Washington Press and Silkworm Books, 2012

## **PUBLICATIONS – PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES**

A New Informality: digitalization and ride-sharing apps in Bangkok, submitted to *Geoforum*, forthcoming December 2019

Thai Constitutional Authoritarianism, *RISE: Journal of International Relations and Political Economy*, Vol.3, No.3, 2018

Shortcuts: Why Read the Classics?, *HAU*, Vol.7, No.3. 2017 (co-edited)

The Tightening Authoritarian Grip on Thailand, *Current History*, Vol. 116, No. 791, 2017

Framed by Freedom: Emancipation and Oppression in post-Fordist Thailand, *Cultural Anthropology*, Vol.32, No. 1, 2017

Thailand's Relapse: The Implications of the May 2014 Coup, *Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol.75, No. 2, 2016

Political Legitimacy in Thailand, *Cultural Anthropology Hot Spot*, 2014

Introduction to Thailand Hot Spot, *Cultural Anthropology Hot Spot*, 2014 (co-edited with Eli Elinoff, Felicity Aulino, and Ben Tausig)

The Owners of the Map: Motorcycle Taxi Drivers and Time/Space Decompression in Thai Street Protests, *City and Society*, Vol. 26, No.1, 2014 – Awarded the 2012 SUNTA Graduate Essay Prize

Provincializing Bangkok: Isan from 'not yet' to 'now', *South East Asia Research*, Vol. 20, No.3, 2012 (co-authored with Eli Elinoff)

Burning Red Desires: Isan Migrants and the Politics of Desire in Contemporary Thailand, *South East Asia Research*, Vol. 20, No.3, 2012

Angkor Wat: Restoration Practices and Symbolic Uses, *Meridiana*, Vol.56, No.1, 2010 (in Italian)

Cars and Carts: Marketing, Circulation, and Fluidity in Bangkok's Central Business District, *International Journal of Thai Studies*, Vol. 23, No.1, 2009

## **PUBLICATIONS – CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES**

Mass Politics and Red Shirts, editor, *The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Thailand*, Routledge, 2019

Competing Powers: Thai politics since 1932, Pavin Chachavalpongpun, ed. *Coup, King, Crisis: Thailand's Troubled Politics and the Royal Succession*, NUS Press, 2019

Decolonizing Whiteness: White Voices in Rhodes Must Fall, with Arthur (Eirich), Anastassia Baichorova, Claudio Sopranzetti, JanaLee Cherneski, Max Harris, and Roné McFarlane, Rhodes Must Fall Movement, Oxford, ed. *Rhodes Must Fall: The Struggle to Decolonize the Heart of the Empire*, ZED Books, 2018

Mobilizing and Immobilizing the City, Setha Low, ed. *Routledge Handbook of Anthropology and the City: Engaging the Urban and its Future*, Routledge, 2018

The Politics of Simplification, Richard Sennet, ed., *Designing Politics: The Limits of Design*, LSE Press, 2016

Stanley Tambiah, John McGee and Richard Warms, eds. *Theory in Social and Cultural Anthropology: An Encyclopedia*, Sage Publications, 2013

## **PUBLICATIONS – REVIEWS, BLOG ENTRIES and OP-EDS**

Review of Gramsci's Common Sense by Kate Crehan, *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol.90, No.4, 2017  
Review of Interrupted Revolutions by Tyrell Haberkorn, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, Vol.44, No.1, 2013  
The Enigma of Thai Elections, *Manifesto*, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
The Mysterious Disappearances of Thai Activists, *Internazionale*, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
It's Time We Listened to the Plight of Thai Dissidents Abroad, *Al-Jazeera*, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019  
A Specter is Haunting Asia: Authoritarianism, *University of California Press Blog*, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018  
Going Back to Our Talent for Finding Cracks, *University of California Press Blog*, November 29<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Southeast Asian's Middle Classes and the Specter of Authoritarianism, *New Mandala*, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2018  
Last Orders in Bangkok, *New Mandala*, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017  
Abhisit's Gift, *New Mandala*, February 7<sup>th</sup> 2011  
The "Alternative Facts" of a Coup, *Al-Jazeera*, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017  
From Love to Fear: the Rise of King Vajiralongkorn, *Al-Jazeera*, April 11<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Will Bangkok Prove Greater than Those who Would Remake It?, *Khaosod*, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Thailand Under the Junta: Paranoia and Conspiracy, *Al-Jazeera*, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Lecturer, Key Issues in Anthropology, Central European University	2019
Lecturer, Anthropology of Capitalism, Oxford University	2018
Visiting Lecturer, Global Urban Governance, University of Rome	2018
Lecturer, LAPE (Laboratory of Ethnographic Practices), Tor Bella Monaca, Rome	2018
Tutor, UNIPOP: Free University, Milan	2017
Lecturer, Intro to Anthropology: Theories and Approaches, Oxford University	2016-2017
Tutor, Intro to Anthropology: Theories and Approaches, Oxford University	2016-2017
Lecturer, Space, Place, Power, Oxford University	2015-2017
Lecturer, Mobility & Mobilization, Oxford University	2014
Visiting Lecturer, Sustainable Urban Development, Oxford University	2016
Writing Fellow, Harvard Anthropology Department	2011-2012
Instructor, Junior Tutorial: Individual Thesis Development	2012
Instructor, Junior Tutorial: Mobility and Mobilization	2011
Guest Lecturer, Urbanization in Southeast Asia, Chulalongkorn University	2010
Guest Lecturer, Methods of Urban Research, Chulalongkorn University	2010
Teaching Assistant, Language and Culture, Prof. Steve Caton	2009
Teaching Assistant, Culture of Southeast Asia, Prof. Mary Steedly	2008

## **TEACHING AWARDS and CERTIFICATES**

Associate Professor Accreditation – Italy	2018
Associate Professor Accreditation – Cataluña	2017
Harvard Bok Center's Teaching Certificate	2012
Finalist for "Best Teaching Fellow" Levenson Teaching Award	2012
Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	2012

## **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS**

Watching the Rice Grow, Senior Architecture & Urban Design Studio	2017-present
Laboratoire International Associé (LIA) MediterraPolis	2017-present
Comics and Graphic Novels: The Politics of Form	2017-present
Theatrum Mundi, member of the network of urbanists, architects and artists	2016-present
Asia-Europe People Forum (AEPF)	2016-present
European Network for Ethnographic Theory	2017- 2018
Academic Board Member, Oxford Future of Cities Programme	2013-2019

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

## Claudio Sopranzetti

Senior Editorial Board, Commoning Ethnography	2017- present
Collaborator in LAPE (Laboratory of Ethnographic Practices)	2017- present
Organizer and Founder of Oxford City Debates, Oxford University	2015-present
Convener of the Future of Cities Seminar and Film Series, Oxford University	2013-present
Editorial Board, Naresuan University Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences	2013-present
Academic Committee, UNIPOP Free University, Milan	2017-2018
Editorial Board, HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory	2017- 2018
All Souls College, General Purpose Committee	2015-2017
Coordinator Southeast Asia Seminar, Oxford University	2013-2014
Thai Film Series Committee, Harvard University	2011-2012
Coordinator Southeast Asia Working Group, Harvard University	2007-2009
Coordinator Southeast Asia Conference Series, Harvard Asia Center	2007-2008

### INVITED LECTURES and KEYNOTES

Food and Politics: the Case of Genuino Clandestino, Cambridge University	May 2019
Toward an Anthropology of Antifascism in Italy, Reed College	November 2018
Transforming Ethnographic Research into Graphic Narratives, Gottingen University	November 2018
Informality and Digitalization among Transportation Providers, Humboldt University	October 2018
New Urban Identities, University of Florence	June 2018
Mobility and Mobilization: Politics of Transportation in Asia, Tiblisi University	May 2018
The Rise of Southeast Asian Authoritarianism, Stanford University	March 2017
The Fragility of State Power, Harvard University	February 2016
Flexible labour and Political Mobilization, University of Sussex	September 2015
Relapse Symptoms: the Thai coup, University of Prague	December 2014
The Cage of Freedom: mobility and labor in Thailand, COMPAS, Oxford University	November 2014
Gramsci in Thailand, Guest Lecture, Chulalongkorn University	June 2014
(Im)mobilizing Thai capital, City and Society Series, Cambridge University	February 2014
Moving in the cracks: street protest and the fragility of power in the Thai capital, SOAS	January 2014
Urban Mobility and Fragility of Power, Swarthmore College	November 2013
Politics of Everyday Life, Southeast Asian Series, Yale University	October 2013
The Owners of the Map, Thai Forum, Leeds University	February 2013
The City Made and Unmade, Friday Seminar, Harvard University	January 2013
(Im)mobilizing Bangkok, Jepson School of Leadership, University of Richmond	July 2012
Bangkok Streets and Politics, Department of Southeast Asian Studies, Universität Passau	September 2011
Mobility and Mobilization, Public Space Working Group, CUNY	September 2011
Landscapes of Mobility, Architecture Lecture Series, Chulalongkorn University	January 2011
Mobilizing the City, Bangkok Research Seminar	January 2011

### NON-ACADEMIC COLLABORATIONS

Macerata Anti-fascist League, Funding Member, 2017-present

The King of Bangkok, Ethnographic Graphic Novel on Thai politics with cartoonist Sara Fabbri and editor Chiara Natalucci, 2015-2019

Rhodes Must Fall Oxford, Organizing Member, 2016-2018

The Bridge, Ethnographic Radio show on the City of Oxford with Max Harris, Tara Paterson, Sizwe Mpfu-Walsh, 2015-2016

Motorcycle Taxis Experience Room, Art project in collaboration with Agnes Dherbeys (photographer), Benjamin Tausig (ethno-musicologist), Aphiwat Seangpatthasima (documentary-maker), and Harvard Geographical Analysis Center, 2012-2013

## Claudio Sopranzetti

Urban Influencer, Design for the other 90%: Sustainable Cities, an exposition at the UN Headquarters and book by Cynthia Smith for the Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian National Design Museum, 2011

What Shall We Do When We lose Our Way?, Art project in collaboration with Thai Museum Serve at Bangkok Art and Culture Center, 2011

Regenerating Public Spaces in Minburi Old Market Community, Participative architecture intervention in collaboration with Carla Betancourt (architect) and CASE (Community Architects for Shelter and Environment), September 2009-March 2010

### SELECTED INTERVIEWS and MEDIA COVERAGE

Esquire, The Dark Side of Thailand	20 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
Sky Art, the King of Bangkok tells the History of Modern Thailand	23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2019
Art Tribune, The King of Bangkok: a Preview	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2019
Washington Monthly, The Tragedy of Thailand	April 2018
Bangkok Post, Weaving Through Bangkok, Weaving Through Life	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
KhaoSod English, Kinokinuya Pulls Oxford Researcher's Book	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2017
Radio 3 - 'Tutta la citta' ne parla, Contemporary Italian Social Movements	5 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 (Italian)
France 24 – FOCUS, Thai Junta Continues to Stifle Dissent	29 <sup>th</sup> October 2015
New York Review of Books, Thailand: Revolution by Motorcycle?	23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2014
Al Jazeera, Thailand's army declares war on 'vice'	18 <sup>th</sup> July 2014
La Repubblica, Gli Ultimi Antropologi	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2013 (Italian)
Associate French Press, Politics of Two Wheels in Thailand's Capital	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2011
Der Standard, Thaksin tut etwas für die Armen	3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2011
Matchon, When the northeasterners understand the world	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2011 (Thai)
Liberation, Le pouvoir thaïlandais courtise les motos-taxis	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2011
The Economist, Enter the orange shirts: the capital's two-wheeled political class	17 <sup>th</sup> February 2011
Bangkok Post, The art of motorsai politics	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2010
Thai PBS, Motorcycle taxi and politics	17 <sup>th</sup> August 2010 (Thai)
Al Jazeera TV, Thai "orange vests" a transport tool	24 <sup>th</sup> July 2010

### LANGUAGES

Italian (Native); English (Advanced); Thai (Advanced); Spanish (Intermediate); French (Beginner)