



University  
of Victoria

# GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM

## DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

### Reflections on Seeing: Photovoice and Pen and Ink Drawing as Ethnographic Tools

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CLE A207



Option to view the talk via Zoom for those unable to come in person will be available – you may be limited to viewing only and quality will differ depending on connection. See [website](#) for details.

In this talk I focus on two visual methods used in my research on tourism development in Peru and discuss their logistics and links to ethnographic authority and representation. First, for a photovoice project local people were asked to take photos illustrating ways in which tourism was affecting them and their community. While the resulting images stimulated conversation and provided different viewpoints of the issue, it also became evident that the method's standard format did not fit well with the specific cultural context and needed adjusting.

Second, I used pen and watercolour to depict specific situations, mostly working from photographs and memory after the end of fieldwork. This method facilitated the process of synthesis and analysis and allowed me represent information in a fluid and open-ended way. The specific sketch-like style makes no claim to completeness but rather emphasizes subjectivity and clearly positions the researcher/artist as part of knowledge construction. Using specific examples from tourism research, I argue that these two methods can help decentre the anthropologist's authority and expand our ethnographic lens both visually and cognitively.

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

[www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/anthropology/research/colloquium/index.php](http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/anthropology/research/colloquium/index.php)