What Makes an Encounter Ethnographic?

A talk by

Kathryn Dudley

Monday, September 12th at 4.00 pm
Room 105, 10 Sachem St. / Dept. of Anthropology

“What is ethnography, why do we do it, and how does it produce knowledge?

In this talk, I attempt to conceptualize the interpersonal field in which we seek to understand others, ourselves, and ‘something else’ that is variously and inadequately called mind, culture, or aliveness.”

Kathryn Dudley is Professor of Anthropology & American Studies at Yale University, and faculty director of the Initiative on Ethnography & Oral History. Questions about what ethnography is and does—as an aesthetic genre, political practice, and interpersonal field of knowledge construction—are at the center of Dudley’s teaching and scholarly work. Trained as an anthropologist, Dudley is committed to a transdisciplinary vision of ethnography as a mode of inquiry at the cutting edge of queer theory, ethnic studies, performance studies, environmental studies, and public humanities. Current work tracks the affects, materialities, and temporalities that subtend the postindustrial imaginary.