



Seminars series *Cultures of Mountain Peoples in Comparative Perspective*

## ***Animal rearing, hunting and sacrifice in the high Andes, ancient and modern: a comparative perspective***

**Denise Arnold**

Instituto de Lengua y Cultura Aymara, La Paz, and UCL-University College London, London, UK

A common idea in the Andean region is that rituals to the mountains are part of a social contract between local populations and these powerful places, directed towards stabilising ecological systems and controlling resource management in their surrounding areas. But mountains also serve as a crucial point of reference for superhuman powers, to constrain the extent of human intervention in a certain environment, and respond to the excessive abuse of extracting too many minerals, or too many animals or plants, by devouring the humans within its domain. This indigenous Andean deontics and its history, is my interest here. This seminar starts at 15:00.

Professor Denise Y. Arnold is an Anglo-Bolivian anthropologist (PhD, UCL 1988) who specializes in the Andes. She is Senior Research Fellow (Hon.) at UCL, at the University of London, and directs the Instituto de Lengua y Cultura Aymara in La Paz, Bolivia. Her recent publications include *Situating the Andean Colonial Experience*. Ayllus tales of History and Hagiography in the Time of the Spanish (Arc Humanities Press 2021) and *Crítica de la razón andina* (ed. with Carlos Abreu Mendoza, Contra Corriente, University of North Carolina Press, 2018). Prof. Arnold will participate online.

## ***Correspondences between contemporary Aymara and the uywiri-mountains (Bolivia)***

**Koen de Munter**

Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago de Chile

In my talk I will share some experiences about how Andean families relate with uywiri-mountains, seen from the perspective of an anthropology of life, which I conceive as the study of the sympoiesis between human and other-than-human becomings and presences. I draw upon Ingold's recent writings about correspondence and attentionality in order to study, together with the Aymara relatives, how the uywiri can be said to raise, protect and educate people and how they are, in turn, visited by humans in intense and respectful ways. These corresponding dynamics however are not void of contradictions and frictions, both local and global. This seminar starts at 17:00.

Koen de Munter is a Belgian philologist, anthropologist (University of Ghent) and a painter. He works as an associate professor at the Anthropology Department of Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago de Chile. He has been carrying out fieldwork with Aymara families in Bolivia since 1995, first studying intercultural dynamics and postcolonial frictions and currently focusing on what might be learned from ecological-social practices in Aymara cosmopraxis. In 2017 he co-edited a volume on *Ecology and Reciprocity* with Plural Editores in La Paz. Prof. de Munter will participate in presence.

**Hybrid, Wednesday 08 September, 15:00-19:00**

Campus unibz Bressanone/Brixen, viale Ratisbona 16, room 2.21 or Zoom: [LINK](#)

(to access the online meeting, please click the word LINK, alternatively: ID meeting: 943 3273 6079, passcode: 803419)

More Information: <https://mountaincultures.events.unibz.it/>