Winter 2016 Colloquia Series

Date: Wednesday, January 20
Time: 3:15 – 5PM
Location: Social Sciences 1, room 261

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The Glimpse: Remediating Indigeneity and Critique in the Ayoreo Video Project

How can we envision effective critical engagements with the non-sensical violence against life on our planet? To address this perplexing dilemma, the talk draws on the experimental video imagery recently created by Ayoreo-speaking people of the Paraguayan and Bolivian Gran Chaco. It explores how unauthorized Indigenous self-imagery and the minor conditions of its production may offer untimely correctives to the visual economies, temporal causalities, perceptual registers and political lexicons often presumed to define the so-called “Anthropocene.” In doing so, the talk examines how Ayoreo remediations of self and world may charter novel axes for ethnographic critique.

Lucas Bessire is assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Oklahoma. He is the author of Behold the Black Caiman: A Chronicle of Ayoreo Life (University of Chicago Press, 2014).