

# FRANCK BILLÉ

## Curriculum Vitae

### Office address

Cambridge University  
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## POSITIONS HELD

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**Project Coordinator** for the project 'Where Rising Powers Meet: China and Russia at Their North Asian Border', Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge, U.K. (September 2012-August 2015)

- Management of a team of 20 researchers based in Europe and Asia
- Planning and organization of annual conference
- Day to day administration (website, data collection/archiving)

**College Research Associate**, King's College, Cambridge (2014-2015)

- Organization and running of a weekly Border Studies reading group

**Visiting Scholar**, Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley (February-March 2013)

**Postdoctoral Researcher**, Department of Social Anthropology/Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit, Cambridge, U.K., 2010-2012

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. Social Anthropology**, Cambridge (2011)

**M.A. Social Anthropology**, SOAS, London (2002)

**M.A. Chinese Studies**, SOAS, London (2001)

**B.A. Russian and Arabic**, Westminster, London (1999)

## MONOGRAPHS

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**2015** Sinophobia: Anxiety, Violence, and the Making of Mongolian Identity. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press

**In preparation.** Somatic States: Cartography, Geobodies, Bodily Integrity

## EDITED VOLUMES

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**In preparation.** Speaking Volumes: Sovereign Spaces, Material Boundaries, and the Territorial Imagination (co-edited with Jeffrey Twu)

**Under contract.** Yellow Perils (co-edited with Sören Urbansky), University of Hawai'i Press

**2012** Frontier Encounters: Knowledge and Practice at the Russian, Chinese and Mongolian Border (co-edited with Caroline Humphrey and Grégory Delaplace). Cambridge: Open Book Publishers.

## ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

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Under review. "Skinworlds: Borders, Haptics, Topologies". Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Under review. "Bright Lights Across the River: Competing Modernities at China's Edge", in *The Art of Neighbouring*, edited by Martin Saxer and Zhang Juan. Chicago University Press.

Forthcoming. 模仿性竞争：中俄边境城市的建筑演化 [Mimetic Rivalry: Reflections on the Evolution of Sino-Russian Border Architecture,] in 后冷战时期中俄跨境跨地区合作的微观考察 [Studies of Crossborder Interregional Cooperation Between China and Russia after the Cold War,] edited by Yang Cheng. Shishi Chubanshe: China.

Forthcoming. "Phantom Pains in Manchuria: Dreams, Loss, and Projection," in *Northeast Asian Borders: History, Politics and Local Societies*, edited by Olga Shaglanova and Yuki Konagaya. Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology.

2014. "Territorial Phantom Pains (and Other Cartographic Anxieties)". *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 32 (1): 163-178.

2014. "Surface Modernities: Open-Air Markets, Containment and Verticality in Two Border Towns of Russia and China", *Ekonomicheskaya sotsiologia* No. 15:2 (March), pp. 154-172. Published simultaneously in Russian as "Современность в пространственном измерении: открытие рынки, герметичность и вертикальность в двух приграничных городах России и Китая" pp. 76-95.

2014. "Nationalism, Sexuality and Dissidence in Mongolia". *Routledge Handbook of Sexuality Studies in East Asia*, ed. Mark McLelland and Vera Mackie. London: Routledge, pp.162-173.

2014. "Batu Khan" in *Dictionary of Chinese Biography*, ed. Kerry Brown, pp.748-760. Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire Publishing.

2013. "Indirect Interpellations: Hate Speech and 'Bad Subjects' in Mongolia". *Asian Anthropology*, 12:1, pp.3-19.
2012. "Представления о границе в Китае и России: Попытка концептуализации проблемы." *Zhurnal sotsiologii i sotsialnoi antropologii*, Vol. XV: 3(62): 155-172.
- 2012 "Concepts of the Border in the Russian and Chinese Social Imaginaries" in *Frontier Encounters: Knowledge and Practice at the Russian, Chinese and Mongolian Border*, eds. F. Billé, C. Humphrey & G. Delaplace. Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, pp. 19-32.
- 2010 "Sounds and Scripts of Modernity: Language Ideologies and Practices in Contemporary Mongolia". *Inner Asia*, 12(2) (2010): 231-252.
- 2010 "Different Shades of Blue: Gay Men and Nationalist Discourse in Mongolia". *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, Vol. 10, Issue 2: 187-203.
- 2009 "Cooking the Mongols / Feeding the Han: Dietary and Ethnic Intersections in Inner Mongolia". *Inner Asia*, 11 (2009): 231-56.
- 2008 "Faced with Extinction: Myths and Urban Legends in Contemporary Mongolia", *Cambridge Anthropology* Vol. 28 (1): 34-60.

## TEACHING

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- 2012 & 2013     **"Theories of the City"**  
A series of lectures on the anthropology of cities, co-taught with Caroline Humphrey, Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge
- 2012 & 2013     **"Anthropology of Inner Asia"**  
A series of lectures and seminars co-taught with several colleagues, Mongolian and Inner Asia Studies Unit, University of Cambridge
- 2011/12           **'Introduction to Anthropological Theory'**  
**'Identity and Difference'**  
Undergraduate Supervision, small group seminars (3-4 students)  
Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge

## GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

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- 2015 "Border Architecture: Mimesis, Orientalism, Gigantism". Centre for Chinese Studies, February 11, Manchester
- 2014 "Skinworlds: Borders, Haptics, Topologies". CUSAS. 13 November, University of Cambridge
- 2013 "Border Cities between Russia and China". 19 March 2013, Guest Lecture, Department of Geography, University of California Berkeley

- 2013 “Surface Modernities: Open-Air Markets, Containment and Verticality in two Siberian Border Towns”. Senior Seminar. 8 February 2013, University of Cambridge
- 2013 “Phantom Pains: National Loss, Maps and Bodily Integrity”. CUSAS. 17 January, University of Cambridge
- 2011 “Violent Interpellations: Hate Speech and ‘Bad Subjects’ in Contemporary Mongolia”. Seminars in Anthropological Theory, 23 February 2011, UCL, London

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

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- 2011-2012 Newton Trust / HEFCE, Postdoctoral Research Award
- 2009 Ling Roth Scholarship (Writing-up Award), University of Cambridge
- 2009 H. M. Chadwick Fund (Conference Travel Grant), Cambridge
- 2009 Wyse Fund, Trinity College, University of Cambridge
- 2008 Sigrid Rausing Grant, Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies, Cambridge
- 2005 Sigrid Rausing Grant, Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies, Cambridge
- 2005-2006 Richards Fund Grant (Fieldwork Research), University of Cambridge
- 2004-2008 Full doctoral scholarship, University of Cambridge
- 2004-2007 Full doctoral scholarship, Leeds University (declined)

## **REVIEWING & EDITORIAL**

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**Member of the Editorial Board** for the book series *Asian Borderlands* (Amsterdam University Press)

**Reviewer** for *Anthropological Theory*, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Inner Asia

## **CONFERENCES & PANELS**

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### **ORGANIZED CONFERENCES**

- 2015 Emergent Trends on the China-Russia Border, Cambridge, March 16-17
- 2013 ‘Where Rising Powers Meet’ Project Workshop, Cambridge, June 6-7

**ORGANIZED PANELS AND WORKSHOPS**

- 2015 “Speaking Volumes” Writing Workshop, Cambridge, June 15
- 2015 The Yellow Peril: Evolving Discourses in Global Perspective, Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 26, Chicago. Co-organized with Sören Urbansky
- 2014 3D Borders: Spatialized Sovereignties and Bordering Practices in China and Russia, 113th American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 6.
- 2012 Distance, Relatedness, and the Cartographic Imagination, 111th American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November, 17.
- 2013 Falling off the Map: Peripherality and Remoteness on the Border, EastBordNet Conference “Relocating Borders: A Comparative Approach”, Berlin, January, 11.

**CHAired SESSIONS**

- 2014 The Russian- Chinese Border: a ‘Strategic Partnership.’ 8 January, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan
- 2009 New Perspectives on Culture, Power and Identity, 107th American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (December)

**PRESENTATIONS**

- 2014 “Liquid Border: On Flows, Currents and Unruly Rivers”. AAA Annual Meeting: Producing Anthropology, December 3-7, Washington DC
- 2014 “Surface Modernities: Open-Air Markets, Containment and Verticality in Two Cities on the Sino-Russian Border”. RGS-IBG. August 28, London
- 2014 “Mimesis and Rivalry: Reflections on the Evolution of Sino-Russian Border Architecture”. International Workshop “Sino-Russian Cross-Border Dynamics in the Post-Soviet Era”. July 24-25, Shanghai
- 2014 “Liquid Border: Unruly Rivers, Electric Currents, Trade Flows”. Tumen River Triangle in Northeast Asia workshop. 23 May, Cambridge
- 2014 “Manchurian Phantom Pains”. The Russian-Chinese Border: a ‘Strategic Partnership.’ 8 January, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan
- 2013 “Bright Lights Across the River: Competing Modernities at China’s Edge”. Brown Bag Talk Series. 21 March, Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley
- 2013 “Cultural Echolocation: Centrality and Remoteness in the Russian Far East”. All Talks Considered Series. 14 March, University of California Berkeley

- 2013 "On the Spatiality of Trade in two Siberian Border Towns: Surfaces, Verticality and the Subterranean". 28 February, ISEES, University of California Berkeley
- 2013 "Doubly Remote: Narratives of Peripherality and Abandonment in a Siberian Border Town". 'Relocating Borders' EastBordNet Conference. 11 January, Berlin
- 2012 "Echolocating the Self: Centrality and Remoteness in the Russian Far East". 2012 AAA Annual Meeting: Borders and Crossings, 13-18 November, San Francisco
- 2012 "Bright Lights Across the River: Competing Modernities at China's Edge". 2012 AAA Annual Meeting: Borders and Crossings, November 13-18, San Francisco
- 2012 "Collaborative Denial: The Museums of Heihe (China) and Blagoveshchensk (Russia)". 11 July, EASA, Nanterre, France.
- 2012 "Territorial Phantom Pains and Other Cartographic Anxieties". 23 May, CRASSH, Cambridge.
- 2012 "The China-Russia Interface: Trade, Modernity and Representation in Two Cities on the Amur River". 6 March 2012, MIASU Seminar, Mongolia and Inner Asia Study Unit, Cambridge.
- 2012 "Between East and West? Trade, Modernity and Representation on the Russian-Chinese Border". The Art of Neighbouring: Old Crossroads and New Connections along the PRC's Borders, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 2-3 March 2012, Singapore.
- 2011 "Territorial Phantom Pains and Other Cartographic Anxieties". 2011 AAA Annual Meeting: Traces, Tidemarks and Legacies, November 16-20, Montréal.
- 2011 "Abjected Selves: The Chinese as Excess in the Mongolian Social Imaginary". 3 May 2011, MIASU Seminar, Mongolia and Inner Asia Study Unit, Cambridge.
- 2010 "On Ideas of the Border in the Russian and Chinese Social Imaginary". North Asian Borders Project Workshop, Mongolia & Inner Asia Studies Unit, 17 November 2010, University of Cambridge.
- 2010 "Monumentality and the Colossal. On the Seductiveness of Totalitarian Architecture". Magic Circle, 19 March 2010, Scott Polar Institute, Cambridge.
- 2009 "Extolling the Nation: Embeddedness and the Limits of 'Resistance'". 2009 AAA Annual Meeting: The End/s of Anthropology, 2-6 December 2009, Philadelphia.
- 2009 "The Mongolian Blue Spot: Symbolism, Limitations, Potentialities". Study of Mongolian Symbolism: Quest and Perspectives, 9-10 September 2009, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- 2009 "The 'China threat:' Narratives of extinction and survival in Mongolia". Third International Conference: Past and Present of the Mongolic Peoples, 26-28 August 2009, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

- 2009 “A failed performance: Mongolian perceptions of the Chinese”. ‘Central Asian Visions of the Other’ Symposium, 8 June 2009, Leeds.
- 2009 “Resisting resistance: Women and Nationalist Discourse in Mongolia”. Conference of the Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth, 6-9 April 2009, Bristol.
- 2009 “Forceful inclusions: Ethnic constructions in Mongolia”. Magic Circle, 27 February 2009, Scott Polar Institute, Cambridge.
- 2008 “Dangerous neighbours: Myths of extinction in contemporary Mongolia”. 6 May 2008, MIASU Seminar, Mongolia and Inner Asia Study Unit, Cambridge.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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2014. “Border Companions: Navigating Borderlands”, *Inner Asia* 16, pp. 209-211
2013. “Not Quite Shamans: Spirit Worlds and Political Lives in Northern Mongolia” by Morten Axel Pedersen (2011), *Current Anthropology* 54:2, pp.243-244
2013. “Chinese Walls in Time and Space: A Multidisciplinary Perspective” by Roger Des Forges, Minglu Gao, Liu Chiao-mei, Haun Saussy, with Thomas Burkman (2009), *Inner Asia*. Vol. 15, pp. 194-196
2012. “Le corps mongol: Techniques et conceptions nomades du corps” by Gaëlle Lacaze (2012), *Inner Asia* 14:2, pp. 408-410
2012. “The Spectacular State: Culture and National Identity in Uzbekistan” by Laura L. Adams (2010), *Central Asian Survey* 31:2 (June), pp. 229-230.
2010. “The Horse-head Fiddle and the Cosmopolitan Reimagination of Tradition in Mongolia” by Peter Marsh (2009), *Central Asian Survey* 29:3, pp. 365-367.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Anthropological Association, Member  
 European Association of Social Anthropology, Member  
 Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit, Affiliated Researcher  
 King’s College, Research Associate

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

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Fluent: French, Russian and Italian.  
 Intermediate: Chinese, Mongolian and Spanish.  
 Reading knowledge: Swedish, Danish and German.

## U.S. RESIDENCE STATUS

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Permanent resident status pending (expected Summer 2015).