

by Chris Strauber a few seconds ago

# Sovereignty, Settler Colonialism, Territoriality and Resistance

Audra Simpson, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Columbia University Jessica Cattelino, Associate Professor of Anthropology, UCLA. Tufts University, April 20th, 2017



**Chris Strauber**  
@cstrauber

Tonight's @sawyer\_chat discussion is on Sovereignty, Settler Colonialism, Territoriality and Resistance. #chatsovereignty



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**Chris Strauber**  
@cstrauber

Our guests are Audra Simpson from Columbia and Jessica Cattelino from UCLA. #chatsovereignty



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Professor Simpson's works at Tufts: [tufts.summon.serialssolutions.com/search?ho=t&s...](https://tufts.summon.serialssolutions.com/search?ho=t&s...) #chatsovereignty



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Professor Cattelino's works at Tufts: [tufts.summon.serialssolutions.com/search?ho=t&s...](https://tufts.summon.serialssolutions.com/search?ho=t&s...) #chatsovereignty



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NOW Audra Simpson & Jessica Cattelino @TuftsUniversity #chatsovereignty  
[pic.twitter.com/wyVy6Ala6z](https://pic.twitter.com/wyVy6Ala6z)

 SAWYER SEMINAR @SAWYER\_CHAT · 4 DAYS AGO



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Mohawk Interruption, from 2015, mentioned in introduction.[library.tufts.edu/record=b265897...](https://library.tufts.edu/record=b265897...)  
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Cattelino's High stakes: Florida Seminole gaming and sovereignty  
[library.tufts.edu/record=b191523...](https://library.tufts.edu/record=b191523...) #chatsovereignty

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Getting The Water Right, an exhibition on the cultural politics of water in the Everglades. [lensmagazine.org/getting-the-wa...](http://lensmagazine.org/getting-the-wa...) #chatsovereignty



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Discussion of barriers in academia to study of indigenous peoples. What counts as an area in area studies? #chatsovereignty



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Simpson and Cattelino both told in graduate school that "indigeneity" and "sovereignty" were "not anthropological concepts" #chatsovereignty



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Sovereignty was not viewed as an anthropological question. #chatsovereignty



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Political Science not necessarily interested in native issues either. #chatsovereignty



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critical political theory's discussions of sovereignty (Agamben, Foucault) neglects to acknowledge Indigenous sovereignty #chatsovereignty



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@cstrauber

Reference to Agamben's important work, Homo Sacer, as beginning to theorize native sovereignty [tufts.on.worldcat.org/oclc/838809618](https://tufts.on.worldcat.org/oclc/838809618) #chatsovereignty



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Native casinos are an expression of political power and control. #chatsovereignty



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Simpson: Indigeneity is the ongoing exception, encampment, containment unseen in political theory definitions of sovereignty #chatsovereignty



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Theory-building in anthropology comes from talking to people. #chatsovereignty



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Simpson: "sober attention" to the details of memory, history, experience; a record "articulating to a boundary" #chatsovereignty



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Cattelino: examines assertion of Indigeneity, not in "culture," but in political practices that negotiate interdependencies #chatsovereignty




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Simpson: Wolfe's "settler colonialism" as logic of elimination and emplacement, structure not an event, opened explanations [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Cattelino: the multiple, manifold forms of U.S. land, water, money issue from settler colonialism [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Much discussion of Wolfe's Settler Colonialism and the Transformation of Anthropology. [library.tufts.edu/record=b259335...](http://library.tufts.edu/record=b259335...) [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Conciliatory, apparently handsome, and brutalizing is a catchy commentary on Justin Trudeau, pipeline builder [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Agamben and Wolfe's work cited as important, but limited in important ways. [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Minch: is "cultural loss" always subject to salvage ethnography, or is another kind of cultural political work possible? [#chatsovereignty](#)

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This is a good thing to keep in mind. All of the discussion has been about the limits of scholarship on indigenous issues. [#chatsovereignty](#) [twitter.com/sawyer\\_chat/st...](https://twitter.com/sawyer_chat/st...)

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Minch: even as we reconceive sovereignty as graduated, layered, contested, etc. is "sovereignty" the most useful concept? [#chatsovereignty](#)

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**lisa lowe**  
@driftinghouse

Simpson: while "culture" weaponized by settler state, yet continuing need to politically contest and rearticulate "culture" [#chatsovereignty](#)

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Hooley: is there 'comparative' resistance? does a single paradigm of 'settler colonialism' limit imagination of resistance? [#chatsovereignty](#)

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**Sawyer Seminar**  
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Hooley: does centering settler colonialism obscure past or futures of resistance?  
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