

# **The Department of Anthropology**

*2009-2010 Colloquium Series*

*Presents:*

## **Charles Hilton**

Department of Anthropology  
Grinnell College

**Friday, November 20, 2009**

**4:00 P.M.**

**40 Schaeffer Hall**

*“Livestock-raiding, violence, and the impact  
on human health across three pastoralist  
groups in northern Kenya”*

Cattle-raiding and the violence associated with it are a pervasive feature of the lifeways of pastoralist groups in northern Kenya like the Turkana, Pokot, and Samburu. These livestock raids have a number of consequences for many communities. Successful raiders are able to capture large numbers of cattle, sheep, and goats for use by their immediate family and extended kin as well as make incursions into landscapes with desirable pasture and water points. Pastoralist communities that have been the targets of such raids not only suffer the loss of life that regularly occurs since the introduction of weapons like the AK-47 but also experience the loss of their livestock with its key cultural role and displacement from lands they once grazed. Not surprisingly, such livestock raids can produce short- and long-term health consequences including psycho-social and nutritional stress that have a profound impact on many members of these communities. Chuck Hilton will discuss a large-scale on-going collaborative anthropological research project sponsored by the National Science Foundation that is investigating the effects of livestock raids in Samburu, Turkana, and Pokot pastoralists of northern Kenya.

*If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the Department of Anthropology in advance at 335-0522.*