

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Andrew Shryock, Ph.D., Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and professor of anthropology in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2025.


Professor Shryock received his B.A. from Georgia Southern College in 1984 and his M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan in 1987 and 1993. He joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as assistant professor in 1999 and was promoted to professor in 2011.

Professor Shryock specialized in the study of Middle Eastern societies and Arab/Muslim immigrants in North America. He did ethnographic research on the transition from oral to literate history among Bedouin in Jordan. In Detroit, his research and public programming culminated in films, museum exhibitions, and several books on the city's Arab communities. He explored hospitality as a moral system and developed new ways of writing about the deep history of humans and their ancestors. Professor Shryock won numerous grants and fellowships (Fulbright, NSF, ACLS, Guggenheim); he was a visiting fellow at both the Institute for Advanced Study and the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences. Shryock's published works include *Nationalism and the Genealogical Imagination: Oral History and Textual Authority in Tribal Jordan* (1997), *Islamophobia/Islamophilia: Beyond the Politics of Enemy and Friend* (2010), *Deep History: The Architecture of Past and Present* (2011), and *Beyond Refuge in Arab Detroit* (2025). From 2006-2016, he edited the journal *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.

As an instructor of Anthropology 101, Professor Shryock introduced thousands of students to the discipline. He was named a Thurnau Professor for his contributions to the undergraduate curriculum; for his work with dissertators he received the Rackham Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award. Shryock was a senior fellow in the Michigan Society of Fellows, a member of the LSA Executive Committee, and chair of the Department of Anthropology (2015-2021).

The Regents now salute this distinguished researcher and teacher by naming **Andrew Shryock, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus and professor emeritus of anthropology**.

Requested by:



Jon Kinsey
Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2025