(Sociale Antropologie) Jochem Kootstra - This anthropological research re-evaluates technological engineering in the current *Entanglement Age*, in which the engineers are getting more entangled with technology by colliding the natural-artificial, human-nonhuman, subject-object; think of bioengineering or constructing self-driving cars. Now, objects are able to make autonomous decisions *with* us, and even *for* us; which brings about new ethical dilemmas. To understand such emerging technological and ethical challenges, ethnographic research is done at prestigious engineering universities in Boston, such as MIT. Jochem Koostra argues that to channel such environmental perturbations that now touch the natural-artificial, a transdisciplinary approach is more appropriate than working from within silos.

Thesis

(Sociologie) Timo Korstenbroek - If the recent Dutch elections have shown us anything, it is that the appeal of populism has not lost its power. Although many journalists and scholars alike speak of its dangers and try to unravel what undergirds the populist movement, almost no research has been done aimed at understanding those constituents making populism the force it is. This research argues their identity to originate in nativism: a sense of loss of their native homeland and root-culture. However, for it is presumed that this root-culture is predominantly viewed as a white culture, this study operationalizes a concept called ‘white anger’ to address this nativism. Furthermore, insofar, no research at all has been undertaken that takes into regard the context wherein these white angry citizens increasingly express their opinion: the virtual community. Timo Korstenbroek argues that a perceived wrongful distribution drives the nativist discourse on the Dutch national identity. Additionally,
three distinct typical users will be introduced differing in both their modes and goals of expression. Finally, it is shown how these users’ online behaviour ironically reinforces a divide they themselves want to overcome.