

**Deborah Heath** Associate Professor of Anthropology,  
Director of the Gender Studies Program  
*Alter Ego:* **Wine Enthusiast**



**Origin story:** I've always appreciated the food and wine from particular places. My research on anthropology and food led me to the concept of *terroir*, the taste of place, and this has led me to explore wines from many different places.

**Why wine?** Wine and winemaking are complex—on the palette, in the vineyard, and in the cellar; wine is endlessly interesting. I am always learning something new. And wine really does connect both art and science—with a dash of magic.

**How does your alter ego relate to your professional identity?**

As an anthropologist, my academic and personal interests have always been intertwined. That's how I ended up in anthropology in the first place—we do our work in the world. We spend time in the library too, but our primary research is done through engaging with the world. With my research on wine and food, I feel blessed to be able to work and play at the same time!

**Other egos:** Downhill skiing (a former ski instructor), car racing (owns an Audi TT modified for racing).

*“One of my great joys is that my work and avocational pleasures are intertwined.”*

