

# Eric H. Thomas, Ph.D.

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Ecology, Resource Frontiers, Aquaculture, Fisheries, Development, Economic Anthropology

## EDUCATION

2020 PhD. Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Dissertation: *Making the Frontier: Contested Development on the Coast of Patagonia.*  
2019 Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2016 MA Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2009 BA Anthropology, Hamilton College, *Magna Cum Laude*

## PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2020-2021 Lecturer, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
2019-2020 Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellow  
2018-2019 University of North Carolina Center for Global Initiatives Graduate REACH Fellow  
2017-2018 Affiliated Scholar, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile  
2016-2017 Graduate Teaching Coordinator, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2014-2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

## EXTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2019 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies  
2019 John Bodley Student Award, Society for Applied Anthropology  
2018 Early Career Grant, National Geographic Society (Grant No. EC-215R-18).  
2017 Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research, American Philosophical Society  
2015 Tinker Foundation Pre-Dissertation Field Research Grant

## INTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2018 James Peacock REACH Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2018 Graduate Student Transportation Grant, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2018 Mellon Conference Travel Award, Institute for the Study of the Americas, Chapel Hill  
2018 Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2017 Graduate School Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2016 Mellon Conference Travel Award, Institute for the Study of the Americas, Chapel Hill  
2016 Thomas F. Ferdinand Summer Research Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
2015 Harriet J. Kupferer Graduate Investigators Fund, Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Mendoza, M., Greenleaf, M., and Thomas, E. The Politics of Green Distribution in Latin America. *Geoforum*. (in preparation)
- 2020 Thomas, E. Fishers who don't fish: Redistribution and community in times of crisis. *American Ethnologist*. (under review)
- 2020 Thomas, E. Routine losses, "continuous improvement," and warming oceans: Managing Risk on Chile's Aquaculture Frontier. *Latin American Perspectives*. (under review)
- 2018 Thomas, E. Crisis and catastrophe on Chiloé: Collective memory and the (re)framing of an environmental disaster. *Cultural Dynamics*. 30(3):199-213.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Thomas, E. Making Maps on the Coast of Patagonia: Class, Power, and Industrial Expansion. *Practicing Anthropology*. (under review)
- 2018 Thomas, E. Seeing the Forest for the Trees: The Firewood Trade in Southern Chile. In *Chiloé: The Ethnobiology of an Island Culture*. A. Daughters and A. Pitchon, eds. New York: Springer.
- 2017 Thomas, E. Territories of Possibility. *Cultural Dynamics*. 29(4):328-332. (review essay)
- 2017 Thomas, E. *Capitalism in the Web of Life* by Jason W. Moore. *Journal of Political Ecology* 24. (book review)
- 2016 Thomas, E. *El Producto Más Democrático Que Hay: Chilean Frontier Constellations after Pinochet*, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. (master's thesis)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 "We are deprived": Fishing Families and the Fight for Environmental Justice in Southern Chile. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM. March 19. \*conference canceled due to COVID-19
- 2019 *The Power of a Comuna: Territory and the Emergent Politics of Distribution along Chile's Aquaculture Frontier*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, November 23.
- 2019 *After the Syndicates: Contamination and Collective Action in Remote Fishing Communities in Southern Chile*. Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Congress, Boston, MA, May 27.
- 2019 *Contaminated Wilderness: Patagonia, Pollution, and the Politics of Firewood*. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 22, 2019.
- 2019 *Disruptive Flows: Currents, Contamination, and the Limits of Control*. North Carolina Conference on Latin American Studies (NC/CLAS). Chapel Hill, NC, February 23.
- 2018 *Paper Fishers: Quotas, Monetary Transfers, and the Transformation of Island Life in Chilean Patagonia*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Conference, San Jose, CA, November 16.
- 2018 *Working the Frontier: Multiple Livelihoods and Political Identity in Aysén, Chile*. Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Congress, Barcelona, Spain, May 23.
- 2017 *Reframing the Crisis: Mobilizing Collective Memory on Chiloé*. Southeastern Conference on Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) Annual Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, March 23-26.
- 2016 *El Producto Más Democrático Que Hay: The Place of Firewood in Chilean Frontier Constellations*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, November 20.

## INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS

- 2020 *Routine Losses, Continuous Improvement, and Warming Oceans: Managing Risk in Chilean Salmon Aquaculture*. Faculty Seminar. Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. April 2.
- 2020 *Climate Change as Corporate Social Technology: Chile's Aquaculture Frontier*. Environment and Ecology 237: Food, Environment, and Sustainability. Environment, Ecology, and Energy Program. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. March 5.
- 2019 *Aquaculture and Development in the Global South*. Anthropology 151: Food and Culture. Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. October 24.
- 2019 *Non-Native Species, Shadow Ecologies, and the Making of an Aquaculture Frontier*. Environment and Ecology 567: Ecological Analyses and Application. Environment, Ecology, and Energy Program. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. September 24.
- 2017 *Después del subsidio: el conocimiento local y la transformación de la industria de la leña en Aysén*. XV Seminario en Investigación Antropológica Contemporánea, Instituto de Sociología, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago de Chile. November 8.
- 2017 *At Whose Expense? Aquaculture and the Transformation of the Chilean Frontier*. Environment and Ecology 237: Food, Environment, and Sustainability. Environment, Ecology, and Energy Program. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill April 11.
- 2015 *Modernism and Discourses of Modernity in the Development Sector* Anthropology 320: Anthropology of Development. Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. February 12.

## COURSES TAUGHT

- 2020 Geography 696: Directed Readings in Political Ecology
- 2020 Natural Resource Conservation 494: Environmental Decision Making

## GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

- 2017 Anthropology 102: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- 2016 Anthropology 101: Introduction to Anthropology
- 2016 Anthropology 151: Food and Culture
- 2015 Anthropology 101: Introduction to Anthropology
- 2015 Anthropology 320: Anthropology of Development
- 2014 Anthropology 101: Introduction to Anthropology

## OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017 Human Dimensions of Climate Change Instructor, Duke TIP, Duke University
- 2016 Anthropology and Archaeology Instructor, Duke TIP, University of Georgia
- 2016 Anthropology and Archaeology Instructor, Duke TIP, Rice University
- 2013 English Instructor, Universidad de Chile, Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas
- 2010-2012 English Instructor, KIC Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Reviewer, *Journal of Political Ecology*

Reviewer, *Geoforum*

Reviewer, *Cultural Dynamics*

## **PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

Proficient in ArcGIS Spatial Analysis Software

Spanish Language, Conversational and reading proficiency.

French Language, Conversational and reading proficiency.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA)

National Geographic Society (NGS)