

Eric H. Thomas, Ph.D.

Business Address: Department of Environmental Conservation
University of Massachusetts, Amherst 01003-9285
Telephone: +1 (617) 417-1909
E-mail: ehthomas@umass.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Ecology, Frontiers, Aquaculture, Fishing, Development, Environmental Justice

APPOINTMENTS

2021-Present Associate Program Director, Masters in Sustainability Science (MS3) Program
2020-Present Lecturer in Environmental Anthropology
Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts,
Amherst

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D. 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*

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2024 Thomas, E. H. Quotas, Catch Shares, and Fisheries Transformation in Latin America. *Marine Policy* (in preparation)
2023 Thomas, E.H. Routine losses, “continuous improvement,” and warming oceans: Managing Risk on Chile’s Aquaculture Frontier. *Latin American Perspectives* (forthcoming)
2023 Thomas, E.H. Fishers who don’t fish: Redistribution and community in times of crisis. *American Ethnologist*. 50(1):75-89. <https://doi.org/10.1111/amet.13113>
2021 Mendoza, M., Greenleaf, M., and **Thomas, E.H.** Green Distributive Politics: Legitimizing Green Capitalism and Environmental Protection in Latin America. *Geoforum*. 126:1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2021.07.012>
2021 Thomas, E.H. Sanitary Crises and “No Contact” Aquaculture: Chilean Fish Farming During the Pandemic. *Culture, Agriculture, Food, and the Environment*. 43(1):14-24. <http://doi.org/10.1111/cuag.12265>
2018 Thomas, E.H. Crisis and catastrophe on Chiloé: Collective memory and the (re)framing of an environmental disaster. *Cultural Dynamics* 30(3):199-213. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0921374018795236>

INVITED REVIEWS

- 2022 Thomas, E.H. *Coastal Lives: Coastal Lives: Nature, Capital, and the Struggle for Artisanal Fisheries in Peru* by Maximilian Viatori and Héctor Bombiella. *American Anthropologist*. 123(4):437-438. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13708>
- 2017 Thomas, E.H. Territories of Possibility. *Cultural Dynamics* 29(4):328-332. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0921374017740457>
- 2017 Thomas, E.H. *Capitalism in the Web of Life* by Jason W. Moore. *Journal of Political Ecology* 24. <https://doi.org/10.2458/v24i1.21075>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Thomas, E.H. Democracy and Development in Chilean Patagonia. *Anthropology News*. August 29. <https://www.anthropology-news.org/articles/democracy-and-development-in-chilean-patagonia/>
- 2022 Thomas, E.H. Aquaculture Development in Massachusetts: Challenges and Opportunities from an Anthropology Perspective. *University of Massachusetts, Amherst* (white paper)
- 2021 Vicarelli, M., Htut Tin, Y.Y., Leue, M., Shrestha, A., Barlow, M., Connor Maresca, D., Danylchuk, A., Darst, R., DeConto, R., Dutka-Gianelli, J., Duff, J., Fay, G., Fitzimmons, J., Heiss, J., Hellman, K., Kahl, K., Lloyd, S., Pagsuyoin, S., Rolfe, M. **Thomas, E.H.** Valova, I. Climate Resilience: A Survey of Massachusetts Municipalities. *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*.
- 2021 Thomas, E.H. Making Maps on the Coast of Patagonia: Class, Power, and Industrial Expansion. *Practicing Anthropology* 43(1):30-34. <https://doi.org/10.17730/0888-4552.43.1.30>
- 2018 Thomas, E.H. 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. https://doi-org.libproxy.lib.unc.edu/10.1007/978-3-319-91983-6_6
- 2016 Thomas, E.H. *El Producto Más Democrático Que Hay: Chilean Frontier Constellations after Pinochet*, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. (master's thesis)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 *Negotiating Sustainability: Understanding Environmental Governance through Bureaucratic Engagement*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Seattle, November (Organizer)
- 2022 *Doing Anthropology Beyond Anthropology*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Seattle, November (Discussant)
- 2021 *Uncertainty as Corporate Social Technology: Managing Political Risk in Industrial Aquaculture*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 18.
- 2021 *"We are deprived": Fishing Families and the Fight for Environmental Justice in Southern Chile*. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) Annual Meeting (remote) March 24.

- 2021 *Growth without Development: The Uneven Distribution of Aquaculture Benefits in Chilean Patagonia*. International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) Fisheries and Aquaculture Commons Conference (remote) March 9.
- 2019 *The Power of a Comuna: Territory and the Emergent Politics of Distribution along Chile's Aquaculture Frontier*. American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Vancouver, 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, May 27.
- 2019 *Contaminated Wilderness: Patagonia, Pollution, and the Politics of Firewood*. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) Annual Meeting, Portland, 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 Meeting, San Jose, November 16.
- 2018 *Working the Frontier: Multiple Livelihoods and Political Identity in Aysén, Chile*. Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Congress, Barcelona, 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 Meeting, Minneapolis. November 20.

INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS

- 2022 *What is Environmental Justice?* Natural Resource Conservation 309: Natural Resource Policy and Administration. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. April 5.
- 2021 *"Nadie nos pesca": Connecting Human Rights & Environmental Justice in Chile*. Institute of Diversity Sciences Climate Seminar. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. April 15.
- 2021 *Seafood Markets, Production Systems, and Supply Chains*. International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) Fisheries and Aquaculture Commons Conference. March 10.
- 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. 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.

EXTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021 Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources AGR-AQUA-2021
- 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

- 2020 MSP Research Support Funds, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 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 Thomas F. Ferdinand Research Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

COURSES TAUGHT

- Geography 696: Directed Readings in Political Ecology (Graduate Seminar)
- Geography 420: Political Ecology
- Natural Resource Conservation 494EJ: Social Movements and Environmental Justice
- Geography 693: Critical Approaches to Development (Graduate Seminar)
- Natural Resource Conservation 554: Sustainable Food Systems
- Geography 102: Diversity, Globalization, and Sustainability

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, Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas, Universidad de Chile

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Associate Director, Masters in Sustainability Science (MS3) Program, UMass Amherst
- Proposal Review Panel, Maine Sea Grant
- Reviewer, *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *Current Anthropology*, *Human Organization*, *Ethnohistory*, *Historia Critica*, *Journal of Political Ecology*, *Geoforum*, *Cultural Dynamics*

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Spanish Language, Conversational and reading proficiency.
- French Language, Conversational and reading proficiency.
- Proficient in ArcGIS Spatial Analysis Software

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Anthropological Association (AAA)
- Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA)
- National Geographic Society (NGS)