

Laura Dev

Social Sciences & Management 231 | University of California, Merced | Merced, CA 95343

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. | Environmental Science, Policy & Management **July 2020**

University of California, Berkeley

Society & Environment Division

Dissertation title: “Plants & Pathways: More-than-human worlds of power, knowledge, and healing”

Committee: Nancy Lee Peluso (Chair), Carolyn Merchant, Charles Briggs

Examination Fields: (1) Political Ecology of Forest Resources;
(2) Indigenous and Feminist Science and Technology Studies (STS);
(3) Environmental Anthropology and Multispecies Ethnography;
(4) Amazonian Ethnobotany

M.S. | Graduate Degree Program in Ecology **May 2012**

Colorado State University

Thesis title: “Timing is important: The seasonality of precipitation can influence how ecosystems respond to grazing”

Advisors: Julia Klein, Cynthia S. Brown

B.S. | Biology & Mathematics **May 2006**

Tufts University

magna cum laude

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Scholar in Public Political Ecology **2020 – 2022**

University of California, Merced

Management of Complex Systems Department | Mentor: Tracey Osborne

Research Associate **Spring 2020**

University of California, Merced

Kawsay Ñampi: Indigenous-led Climate Change Mitigation in the Amazon Rainforest | PI: Tracey Osborne

Asesor - Community-Based Participatory Research & Facilitation 2017 – 2020

Alianza Arkana | Pucallpa, Peru

Farmacia Viva Indígena Sanken Yaka: Living Indigenous Pharmacy
Medicinal Forest Preserve in the Shipibo Community of Paoyhan

NSF East Asia & Pacific Summer Institute Summer 2011

Chinese Academy of Sciences | Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research | Tibet

“Grazing and climate change: Does the timing of seasonal water availability influence sensitivity to yak grazing on the Tibetan Plateau?”

Graduate Student Researcher 2010 – 2011

Shortgrass Steppe LTER | Nunn, CO

Nutrient Network Experiment | PIs: Cynthia Brown and Julia Klein

Biological Sciences Technician 2009

USDA Agricultural Research Service | Fort Collins, CO

Rangeland Resource Research Unit, Prairie Heating and CO₂
Enrichment (PHACE) Experiment | PI: Dana Blumenthal

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Laura Dev. “Healing in the Chthulucene: Becoming Beyond Human with Medicinal Plants.” *Dialogue and Universalism*, 29 no. 3 (November 2019)

Ashton Wesner, Sophie Sapp Moore, Jeff Vance Martin, Gabi Kirk, **Laura Dev**, and Ingrid Behrsin. “Left Coast Political Ecology: A Manifesto.” *Journal of Political Ecology* 26, no. 1 (October 6, 2019): 529–44. <https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.23539>.

Laura Dev. “Plant Knowledges: Indigenous Approaches and Multispecies Listening Toward Decolonizing Ayahuasca Research,” in Labate, Beatriz C. & Cavnar, Clancy (Eds). *Plant Medicines, Healing and Psychedelic Science: Cultural Perspectives*. (Cham: Springer, 2018).

In Review

Laura Dev, Karly Marie Miller, Lauren Withey, Juliet Lu, Tracy Hruska. “Ambiguous Spaces, Empirical Traces: Accounting for Ignorance when Researching Around the Illicit.” *Progress in Human Geography* (Revise and Resubmit – originally submitted October 2019).

In Preparation

Juliet Lu, **Laura Dev**, Margiana Petersen-Rockney. “Criminalized Crops: Environmentality and the Production of Marginality.” *Political Geography* (to submit January 2020).

Laura Dev. “Plant Vitality and Indigenous Labor: An Environmental History of Ucayali, Peru.” *Environmental History*.

Laura Dev. “Trouble with Trees: More-than-Human Visioning in the Creation of a Medicinal Forest Garden.” *Environment and Planning E: Space and Nature*.

Laura Dev, Kelly Hopping. “Does the timing of seasonal water availability influence sensitivity to yak grazing on the Tibetan Plateau?” *Oecologia*.

Reports

Paul Roberts and **Laura Dev**. “Learning from the Peruvian Amazon.” Val Hammond Research Report. (West Sussex, UK: Roffey Park Institute, 2016).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

Extramural Grants & Fellowships

James Duke Ethnobotanical Fellowship ACEERS	2014
Graduate Research Fellowship NSF	2011
East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute NSF	2011
Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) NSF	2004

Internal Grants & Fellowships

Sustainable Forestry Continuing Fellowship ESPM, UC Berkeley	2019
College of Natural Resources Summer Fellowship UC Berkeley	2018
Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship – Shipibo UC Berkeley	2015
Berkeley Graduate Fellowship UC Berkeley	2012

Awards

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award UC Berkeley	2019
Community Engaged Research Award Graduate Diversity Council	2018
Graduate Student Award Association of Environmental Professionals	2018
Distinguished Fellows Video Competition – Third Place UC Berkeley	2017

INVITED TALKS

“Plant Knowledges: Indigenous Approaches and Multispecies Listening Toward Decolonizing Ayahuasca Research.” Cultural and Political Perspectives on Psychedelic Science Symposium, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA, United States, August 2018

“Healing as an Ecology of Selves: Ritual as resistance, research as ritual.” Ecology and Religion Summit, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA, United States, April 2016

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panels Organized

“Methods of engagement: Feminist approaches to collaborations in studying beyond the human.” 4S – Society for Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, LA, United States, September 2019

“Encounters with the Illicit: Characterizing Landscapes of Ignorance.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, United States, April 2019

Papers Presented

“Criminalized Crops: Environmentality and the Production of Marginality.” Illicit Geographies Workshop. University of Alabama (Online), October 2020.

“Trouble with Trees: More-than-human practices toward creating a ‘medicinal forest garden’.” Environmental Justice in Multispecies Worlds Conference, Madison, WI, March 2020

“(Re)generative equivocations in the creation of a ‘medicinal forest garden’.” 4S – Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, United States, September 2019

“Trouble with Trees: Collaborations beyond the human in the creation of a ‘medicinal forest garden’.” International Union of Forest Research Organization - Conference on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). Vancouver, BC, Canada, August 2019

“A plant-centric view of ayahuasca’s cosmopolitical engagements with more-than-human economies.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, United States, April 2019

“Healing in the Chthulucene: Becoming beyond human with medicinal plants.” International Society for Universal Dialogue Annual Meeting, Lima, Peru, July 2018

“The Role of Plants in Knowledge Production: Collaborators or Objects of Study.” Psychedelic Science Conference, Oakland, CA, United States, April 2017

“Shipibo healing rituals recontextualized in changing ecological, economic, and social contexts.” ENTiTLE – European Network of Political Ecology Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden, April 2016

“The seasonal timing of precipitation and temperature mediate rangeland vegetation response to grazing.” Poster Presentation, Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, United States, August 2013

“Does the seasonal timing of precipitation influence grassland sensitivity to grazing?” Front Range Student Ecology Symposium, Fort Collins, CO, United States, February 2011

“Global change and grazing in North American grasslands: A regional study across precipitation regimes using field experiments and modeling.” Poster Presentation, Front Range Student Ecology Symposium, Fort Collins, CO, United States, February 2010

“Modeling Cancer Mathematically.” Young Mathematicians Conference, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States, August 2004

TEACHING POSITIONS

Course Instruction

University of California, Berkeley

Graduate Student Instructor Environmental Health & Development	Spring 2019
Graduate Student Instructor Political Ecology	Fall 2018

Colorado State University

Graduate Teaching Assistant Systems Ecology	Fall 2011
Laboratory Instructor Biology: Organisms & Populations	Spring 2011
	Spring 2012
Laboratory Instructor Biology: Cells & Organisms	Fall 2009
	Fall 2010
Graduate Teaching Assistant Ecology	Spring 2010

Guest Lectures

“Plants and Healing: Indigenous worlds and interspecies practices”, Religion, Psychology, and Modern Literature, University of San Francisco (November 2020)

“Kawsay Ñampi: Conservation of the Living Forest”, Amazonian Cultures and Conservation: Rebuilding Relations from the Ground Up, UC Santa Cruz (February 2020)

“Situated Knowledges & Plant Knowledges: Indigenous approaches and interspecies listening”, Political Ecology, UC Berkeley (November 2018)

“Environmental Ethics: Holding open questions in science, work, and life”, Top Ten Global Environmental Problems, UC Berkeley (April 2015, April 2016, April 2018)

“Plants, Healing, and Environmental Change”, Environmental Philosophy and Ethics, UC Berkeley (November 2017)

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATES

Summer Institute for Preparing Future Faculty UC Berkeley	2019
Graduate Student Inclusivity Training & Certificate Program UC Berkeley	2018

SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Academic and Departmental Service

University of California, Merced

UAW Union Organizing	2020 –
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Environmental Science, Policy, and Management | UC Berkeley

Graduate Student Mentor, Society & Environment Division	2018 – 2020
Space Coordinator, Society & Environment Division	2018 – 2019
Faculty Liaison, Society & Environment Division	2018 – 2019
Graduate Student Association	2014 – 2019

Left Coast Political Ecology Network

Organizing Committee	2018 – 2019
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Front Range Student Ecology Symposium | Colorado State University

Secretary of Organizing Committee	2011 – 2012
Outreach and Advertising Committee Chair	2010 – 2011
Outreach and Advertising Committee Member	2009 – 2010

Nonprofit Volunteer Work

Piri Piri Threadworks | Collaboration with Shipibo Meken Artisans Collective

Co-Founder	2016 –
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Alianza Arkana | Pucallpa, Peru

Research Coordinator	2017 – 2019
Affiliate Researcher	2014 – 2019

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Foreign Language

Spanish: Full professional proficiency

Shipibo: Conversational proficiency

Mandarin: Conversational proficiency

Data Analysis

Qualitative analysis in MaxQDA

Theoretical and Bayesian modeling in Matlab and R

Spatial analysis in ArcGIS