

# Laura Dev

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## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

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**Assistant Professor** **2022-Present**

**University of Wisconsin-Platteville**  
Environmental Sciences and Society Department

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

**University of California, Merced**  
Management of Complex Systems Department | Mentor: Tracey Osborne

## EDUCATION

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**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

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**Postdoctoral Research** **2020 – 2022**

**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 CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment (PHACE) Experiment | PI: Dana Blumenthal

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Publications

**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* (2022)

**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**

Juliet Lu, **Laura Dev**, Margiana Petersen-Rockney. “Criminalized Crops: Environmentality and the Production of Marginality.” *Political Geography* (Revise & Resubmit 2022).

### **In Preparation**

Tracey Osborne, **Laura Dev**, Silvia Cifuentes, Marcelo Santos daRocha Silva, Elisa Marchi, Seanna Howard, Lauren Withey. “The Climate Justice Imperative for Tropical Forests: Key Lesson from the Amazon.” *WIREs Climate Change*.

**Laura Dev.** Interspecies Entwinements. Monograph aimed at an academic press.

### **Reports & Other Publications**

Brian Ikaika Klein, Stephanie Postar, **Laura Dev**, Hilary Faxon, and Matthew Libassi. “How COVID is Reconfiguring Labor in Extractive Industries.” *Edge Effects Magazine*. (October 14, 2021). <https://edgeeffects.net/malagasy-gold/>

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

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS**

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### **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**

Student Research and Engagement Fund   UW-Platteville	2022
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**

UW-Platteville Sustainability Award   UW-Platteville	2022
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**

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“Collaborating with Plants: Amazonian Plant Diets and Interspecies Research.” Chacruna Community Forum Series, November 2021

“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**

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### **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

“The Forest for the Trees: Equivocations in tropical forest conservation and climate change mitigation efforts in the Amazon.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Virtual/New York, March 2022.

“Transplanting Ayahuasca Healing Practices Across Terrains of Power.” Workshop: *From Ritual to Justice: Toward a Decolonial and Feminist Approach to Ayahuasca*. SALSA-Society for the Anthropology of Lowland South America Annual Meeting, Virtual, June 2021

“The Unruly Commodification of Ayahuasca.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Virtual, April 2021.

“Criminalized Crops: Environmentality and the Production of Marginality.” Illicit Geographies Workshop. University of Alabama (Virtual), 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.” ENTiTITLE – 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

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### Course Instruction

#### University of Wisconsin-Platteville

2022 Instructor of Record | The Land Ethic Spring

2022 Instructor of Record | Guided Research Spring

#### University of California, Berkeley

2019 Graduate Student Instructor | Environmental Health & Development Spring

2018 Graduate Student Instructor | Political Ecology Fall

#### Colorado State University

2011 Graduate Teaching Assistant | Systems Ecology Fall

2011 Laboratory Instructor | Biology: Organisms & Populations Spring

2012 Laboratory Instructor | Biology: Organisms & Populations Spring

2009 Laboratory Instructor | Biology: Cells & Organisms Fall

2010 Laboratory Instructor | Biology: Cells & Organisms Fall

2010 Graduate Teaching Assistant | Ecology Spring

### 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**

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Wildland Firefighter Certification I   National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)	2022
Principles of Pedagogy   UC Merced	2021
Summer Institute for Preparing Future Faculty   UC Berkeley	2019
Graduate Student Inclusivity Training & Certificate Program   UC Berkeley	2018

## **SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT**

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### **Academic and Departmental Service**

#### **University of Wisconsin-Platteville**

UW-Platteville Sustainability Committee 2022

#### **University of California, Merced**

UAW Union Steward 2020 –  
2021

#### **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

#### **Front Range Student Ecology Symposium | Colorado State University**

Secretary of Organizing Committee 2011 –  
2012

Outreach and Advertising Committee Chair 2010 –  
2011

2010 Outreach and Advertising Committee Member 2009 –

### **Nonprofit Volunteer Work**

#### **Piri Piri Threadworks | Collaboration with Shipibo Meken Artisans Collective**

Co-Founder 2016 –  
Present

#### **Alianza Arkana | Pucallpa, Peru**

2019 Research Coordinator 2017 –

2019 Affiliate Researcher 2014 –

### **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

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#### **Foreign Language**

Spanish: Full professional proficiency

Shipibo: Basic Conversational proficiency

Mandarin: Basic Conversational proficiency