

Curriculum Vitae

Jason Minton Brown, PhD

Interdisciplinary Scholar of Environmental Humanities

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Resources, Environment and Sustainability. *University of British Columbia's Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability (IRES)*, September 2013 - October 2017
- Master of Forestry (M.F.), *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies*, May 2010
- Master of Arts in Religion (M.A.R.), Emphasis: Ecological Theology, *Yale Divinity School*, May 2011
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Anthropology with an emphasis in socio-cultural. Minor: International Development. *Brigham Young University*, April 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sessional Lecturer (Hired):** *University of British Columbia Faculty of Forestry, FRST 492 'Environmental Perception'* January - May 2018
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant:** *University of British Columbia GEOG 318 'Sustainability in a Changing Environment'* taught by Alec Blair, (Marking and discussion leader) September - December 2017
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant:** *University of British Columbia FRST 492 'Environmental Perception'* taught by Mike Meitner, (Marking and one lecture) January - April 2017
- **Adjunct Professor:** *Utah Valley University. Philosophy 2050 'Ethics and Values'*, September 2011 - May 2013
- **Adjunct Professor:** *Salt Lake Community College. Courses: Humanities 2300 'World Religions'; Humanities 2400 'Religious Diversity in the United States'*, September 2011 - December 2012
- **Teaching Fellow:** *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. FES 899 'Haiti: Sustainable development in a post-disaster context'* with Gordon Geballe. After the January 2010 earthquake, I worked with the Dean of the Yale Forestry School to create a course on Haiti. During the two week 2011 spring break 25 students traveled to Haiti as consultants to *Hospital Albert Schweitzer's Community Development Programs*. Responsibilities included curriculum development, trip planning, and teaching lectures on agroforestry, development discourse and history of deforestation in Haiti. Spring 2011
- **Teaching Fellow:** *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. FES 653 'Agroforestry Systems'* with Florencia Montagnini. As teaching fellow I delivered three lectures during class time on temperate agroforestry, agroforestry and development and agroforestry systems. Spring 2011

- **Teaching Fellow:** *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies*. FES 859/REL 931 ‘American Environmental History and Values’ with John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker. During this course I served mostly as an assistant to the faculty. I also scheduled two outside lectures/discussions by Derrick Jensen and Damian White. Spring 2011
- **Teaching Assistant:** *Brigham Young University*. ‘Introduction to Anthropology’ with Ruth Toulson. Responsibilities included grading papers, assisting students with papers and curriculum development. Academic Year 2006 - 2007

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Research Associate (Ecotheology):** *Vancouver School of Theology*, Faculty Sponsor: Pat Dutcher-Walls, September 2017 - September 2018
- **Graduate Research Assistant:** *Centre for Community Engaged Learning*, Sustainability Capstone Course SCIE 420. Developing curriculum and community-based organizational networks and long term project planning for the course. July - December 2017
- **PhD Dissertation Research:** Ethnographic and phenomenological research on the embodied spirituality and landscape management practices of Catholic monastic communities in the American West. Interviewed 50 monks using seated and walking interviews. Field work conducted December 2015 - June 2016
- **Graduate Research Assistant:** Terre Satterfield. Food Sovereignty, Environmental Values, Spirituality and Ecology. September 2013 - 2017
- **Rapid Assessment Research:** Agroforestry and Public Health Project with Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Dechappelle, Haiti. Spring 2011
- **Master of Forestry Capstone (non-thesis):** I conducted a survey of 19 Native American forest management agencies in cooperation with the *Inter-tribal Timber Council*. The survey looked at the percentage of Native American compared to non-natives employed by tribal forest management agencies. Greater control over forest agencies meant higher employment of Natives. Fall 2010
- **Research Assistant:** Professor Gary Bryner in the Political Science department at BYU. Duties include helping Professor Bryner research indigenous environmental practices as they relate to public policy. Academic year 2006-2007
- **Ethnographic Researcher:** Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, Guatemala. As part of a *National Science Foundation* funded research program I studied the traditional forest management institutions of highland K’iché Mayans and their relationship with the Guatemala Forest Management Agency (INAB). May - August, 2006

PUBLISHED AND SUBMITTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- ‘**Managing for the Spirit: The Spiritual Ecology of the Mormon Sacred Grove**’ Accepted, *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*
- ‘**Worlds and Worldviews: Resource Management, Re-enchantment and Landscape**’ Accepted, edited volume being published by *Finnish Anthropological Society*
- ‘**Thomas Merton, Wildness and the Sacramental Power of Place**’ *Merton Annual*, Vol. 29, 2016
- ‘**An Orange County Almanac: Adventures in Suburban Ecology**’ in Susan Cohen and Julie Dunlap (eds.) *Coming of Age at the End of Nature: A Generation Faces Living on a Changed Planet*. Trinity University Press. Oct. 2016

- **“They Do Not Know How To Take Care of the Forest’: Analyzing State-sponsored “Decentralization” of Forest Management in Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán’** (First Author) IN John P. Hawkins, James H. McDonald, Walter Randolph Adams (eds). 2013. *Crisis of Governance in Maya Guatemala: Indigenous Responses to a Failing State* (eds.) University of Oklahoma Press.
- **‘Whither Mormon Environmental Theology?’** *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*. Summer 2011

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- **‘Sacred Groves’** *Sunstone Magazine* Spring 2013
- **‘An Orange County Almanac’** in *An Orange County Almanac and other essays* Joseph Zammit-Lucia (ED.) WOLF Foundation winning essay, 2013
- **‘Plotino Constantino Rhodakanaty: An Introduction to a Mormon Anarchist’** co-authored with Chris Nielson, *The Mormon Worker*, May 2010
- **‘The Beehive and the Steel Mill: Rethinking the Protestant Work Ethic’** *The Mormon Worker*, Vol. 1 No. 5 2008
- **‘The Zion-Babylon Dualism’** *The Mormon Worker* Vol.1 No. 3, 2008
- **‘Cooperation: A common Principle of Mormonism and Radicalism,’** *The Mormon Worker*, Vol.1 No.2, 2007
- **‘Buddhist Economics’** *Borrowed Earth Student Journal*, 2007
- **‘Who said Stewardship had to be Geometric?’** *Borrowed Earth Student Journal*, 2007
- **‘Sara Catalina Domínguez,’** *La Marca Hispánica*, BYU Spanish and Portuguese Department, 2004

Notable Online Publications

- **‘A Coyote Drank My Latte: Adventures in Suburban Ecology’** *City Creatures Blog* www.humansandnature.org October 24, 2017
- **‘Wildness in the City: An Encounter with two Barred Owls and their Dinner’** *City Creatures Blog* www.humansandnature.org July, 2017
- **‘Religious Abuse and Spiritual Practice for Survivors’** Sexual Assault Support Centre Blog www.gotconsent.ca. April 16, 2015
- **‘What it Means to be a Spiritual Ecologist’** *Contemplative Journal* www.contemplativejournal.org. April 14, 2015
- **‘The Wilderness of the Present Moment’ I & II** *Contemplative Journal* www.contemplativejournal.org. December 15, 2014

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES

- **‘Spiritual Ecologies and New Cosmologies Convergence’**: I was the core conceiver, organizer and curator for a three day conference exploring themes of inter-faith dialogue, eco-spirituality, ecology and cosmology. Twenty speakers, accompanied by a 15 artist art exhibit, at the Liu Institute for Global Issues, UBC. September 22 - 24, 2014
- **‘Sacred Space and the Mind of Believers’**: *Salt Lake Community College* Conference co-organizer and chair of proceedings. April 4, 2013

- **‘The Economic Model of Cooperatives: The Mormon Experience’**: panel discussion and lecture featuring Warner Woodworth and me. *Utah Valley University, Center for the Study of Ethics*, Nov. 16, 2012
- **‘Philosophy of Silviculture Science Symposium’**: With a grant from the Class of 1980, I planned, organized and facilitated a symposium on the political ecology of silviculture science and the social construction of old-growth forests at the *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies*. Speakers included James C. Scott, Chris Maser, Michael Barbour, Terre Satterfield and Klaus Puettmann. October 15 - 16, 2010

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **‘Dwelling in the Wilderness: The Embodied Semiotics of Catholic Monks in the American West’**, *American Academy of Religion* 2017 Annual Meeting. November 18-21, 2017
- **‘Dwelling in the Wilderness: Landscape, Place and the Sacred Among Catholic Monks of the American West’**, *Green College Interdisciplinary Series*, Worlds of Wonder: People Making Places Sacred. October 11, 2017
- **‘Decolonizing Personal Spiritual Ecologies’**, panel presentation for the ‘Learning from Indigenous Traditions Roundtable’ at the *Mountains and Sacred Landscapes Conference*. India-China Institute and International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. April 21, 2017
- **‘Brother Sun Sister Moon: Creation Spirituality in Laudato Si’** Parish talk given at Saint Augustine’s Parish. October 6, 2016
- **‘Spiritual Ecology in the Salish Sea’** Workshop Organizer and Presenter. *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. April 12 - 16 2016
- **‘Worlds and Worldviews: Landscape, meaning and Natural Resource Management’** *The Society for Applied Anthropology*. March 30 - April 2, 2016
- **‘The Iconography of Climate Change’** *International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* Annual Conference. Jan. 14 - 18, 2016
- **‘The Re-enchantment of Spiritual Ecology’** *The Finnish Anthropological Society*. Landscapes, Sociality and Materiality. Helsinki, Finland, October 21 - 22, 2015
- **‘Religion and Ecology in the Anthropocene’** *The Parliament of the World’s Religions* 2015. Salt Lake City, October 16, 2015
- **‘Thomas Merton: Wilderness Archetype? Or, Lover of Place?’** *The International Thomas Merton Society* ‘Merton 100: Living the Legacy’ Conference. Louisville, KY. June 4, 2015
- **‘Why Ecology Needs Spirituality: The Salish Sea Spiritual Ecology Alliance’** BIL 2015 Vancouver, BIL is a counterpoint Un-conference convened during TED talks. March 22, 2015
- **‘Religion and Ecology in the Anthropocene’**: *Green College* Member Series talk delivered January 19, 2015
- **‘Managing for the Spirit: The Mormon Sacred Groves’**. Poster presentation *Society of American Foresters*, 2014
- **‘The New Cosmology: Where Religion and Science Meet’**: Presentation at an Ecology and Cosmology Conference hosted by the *Centre for Interactive Research in Sustainability (CIRS)*. October 9, 2013

- **‘The Paradoxical Embodiment of the Mormon Divine’**: *Sunstone Symposium* July 30, 2013
- **‘Canticle to the Sacred Grove: An encounter between Joseph Smith and St. Francis of Assisi’**: *Mormon Scholars in the Humanities*. March 16, 2013
- **‘Managing for the Spirit: Lessons on Forest Management from the Sacred Groves of Mormonism’**: Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainability: A Call to Stewardship conference, *Brigham Young University*. Nov. 8, 2012
- **‘The Beehive and the Steel Mill: The value of work in Mormon spiritual life’**: paper presented at the ‘Mormons and the Marketplace’ Mormon Studies Conference *Claremont Graduate University* April 12, 2012
- **‘Native Employment in Tribal Forestry Programs’**: Poster presented at the *Society of American Foresters* in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Oct. 2010
- **‘Native Employment in Tribal Forestry Programs’**: co-presented with Kyra Busch, *Inter-tribal Timber Council’s* Annual Symposium in Mescalero, New Mexico. Oct. 2010
- **‘Ward Economy: Reinventing the Beehive’**: panelist, *Sunstone Symposium*. Salt Lake City, Utah 2008
- **‘Cooperation: Common Principle of Mormonism and Radicalism’**: panelist, *Sunstone Symposium*. Salt Lake City, Utah 2007
- **‘Alone in the Desert: Progressive activism at BYU’**: Panelist, *Sunstone Symposium*. Salt Lake City, Utah 2007
- **‘Community Forestry in Light of Global Insecurity’**: *Society for Applied Anthropology (SFAA)* Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida 2007
- **‘The Politics of the Forest in Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán’**: *Salt Lake Community College* Undergraduate Conference in Anthropology Salt Lake City, Utah. Oct. 2007
- **‘Forest Politics in Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán’**: BYU Inquiry Conference, Provo, Utah. Nov. 2007

FORESTRY WORK

- **Volunteer Land Steward**: *Whatcom Land Trust*. 2015 - Present
- **Forest Restoration and Invasive Removal Volunteer**: *Pacific Spirit Park Society*, Vancouver, BC 2013 - 2014
- **Seasonal Forestry Technician**: U.S. Forest Service, Heber-Kamas District, Uintah-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Duties included cruising and measuring timber, marking boundaries. Wild land fire safety qualified, chainsaw safety (‘A’ faller), FS Certified Cruiser. 2012 and 2013 seasons
- **Forester**: *Yale Forests*, Eastford, CT. Forester management crew. 2011 season
- **Community Forester**: *Urban Resources Initiative (URI)*. Planting trees in New Haven, environmental education, nursery maintenance. Sept. 2010 - Dec. 2010
- **Intern, Forest Legacy Program**: *Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands* Responsibilities included baseline assessment, conservation easement monitoring, writing summaries of projects, urban tree inventory, basic GIS. Salt Lake City, UT. June 1 - August 2, 2010
- **Paid Intern**: *The Trust for Public Lands (TPL)* Responsibilities included baseline assessment, patented mining claims research, grant writing. Salt Lake City, UT. June 1 - August 2, 2010

- **Sustainable Living Skills Intern and Programing Coordinator:** *Aprovecho Education Center*
Responsibilities included writing curriculum and teaching the Sustainable Forestry course, preparing and compiling a new Sustainable Forestry Reader, preparing a Social Ecology Reader, teaching a Social Ecology workshop, preparing weekly schedule for interns, scheduling field trips, scheduling speakers and instructors. Cottage Grove, OR. May 25 - August 31, 2009

RELIGIOUS AND INTERFAITH WORK

- **A Cosmic Liturgy:** Guided Meditation presented with *Salal and Cedar* a watershed discipleship group. September 22, 2017
- **Server and Sacristan:** Saint James Anglican Church, March 2017 - Present
- **Community Chaplain/Spiritual Director:** *Correctional Services Canada*, Vancouver, BC. 2014 - Present
- **Program Participant:** Hineni House Spiritual Intentional Community in collaboration with Saint Margaret's Anglican Church. August 2016 - Present
- **Co-Founder, Coordinator:** *The Salish Sea Spiritual Ecology Alliance (SSSEA)*. Group of academics, activists working in the Salish Sea area to connect spirituality and ecology. 2014 - 2017
 - **Workshop Presenter:** *Parliament of the World's Religions* 2015. Salt Lake City, UT. Oct. 15 - 19, 2015
 - 'Trees, Forests and Spirituality'
 - 'A Cosmic Liturgy Guided Meditation'
 - **Organizer and Session Coordinator:** Salish Sea Spiritual Ecology Alliance Convergence 2015 'Place-based Activism and Spiritual Practice'. Four sessions that presented spiritual practice and content surrounding the domains of Ocean, Forest, Farm and City. Sessions held at the Jericho Sailing Centre, Pacific Spirit Park, UBC Farm, and Saint Paul's Anglican Church respectively. September 13 - October 4, 2015
- **Wedding Officiant:** Jacob and Sara Brown's wedding ceremony. May 7, 2016
- **'Ora et Labora' retreatant:** Two week immersive monastic retreat at the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, CA. November 30 - December 15, 2015
- **Monastic Life Retreat Participant:** Abbey of Our Lady of Guadalupe Trappist Monastery one-month immersion residency. April - May 2014
- **Meditation Group Leader:** *Green College* Wellness Committee. September 2014 - September 2015
- **Spirituality and Ecology Outings Coordinator:** *Utah Interfaith Power and Light (UIPL)* September 2012 - August 2013
- **Sacred Groves and Creation Mysticism: A Participatory Workshop:** *Sunstone Symposium* July 25, 2012
- **Service Missionary:** Mormon (LDS) Church Service Mission. Santiago Mission, Dominican Republic, December 2001 - December 2003

AGROFORESTRY AND FARM WORK

- **Farm Worker:** Vine Maple Acres. 2015 season

- **Urban Farmer Volunteer:** UBC Farm. 2013, 2014 seasons
- **Organic Farm Volunteer:** Bell Organics, Draper, UT 2013 season
- **Leadership Program Assistant:** *The Environmental Leadership Training Initiative* (ELTI) a joint project of the *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies* and the *Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute* Responsibilities included assisting leadership program coordinator, translating workshop training materials and preparing web content. New Haven, CT. August 2009 - July 2010
- **Sustainable Living Skills Intern:** *Aprovecho Education Center*. Program participant, courses in Organic Gardening, Appropriate Technology and Sustainable Forestry. Cottage Grove, OR. June - August, 2007

DEVELOPMENT AND CHARITY WORK

- **Coordinator:** *Green College* Outreach Committee Charity Auction. Typhoon Haiyan (Red Cross) 2013; Doctors without Borders Ebola virus efforts 2014.
- **Volunteer Coordinator:** LDS Young Adult Branch tree planting workshop April 30, 2011
- **Field Coordinator:** 'Haiti: Development in post-disaster context' Public Health and Agroforestry Approaches to Malnutrition Spring 2011
- **Coordinator:** *Yale for Haiti Collaborative* After the earthquake in January of 2010 a group of students formed a group to respond to the earthquake. We organized an event called Haiti week to raise awareness about Haiti.
- **Volunteer and Fundraiser:** *Ulew Che Ja* (Earth, trees, water) As a volunteer I planted trees and tended a nursery with this small Maya community based forestry organization. Totonicapán, Guatemala Summer 2006. As a fundraiser, I raised over \$2,000 for tree planting in the Guatemalan Highlands through the BYU Hunger Banquet.
- **Co-Coordinator and Fund Raiser:** *Let Haiti Live!* Benefit Concert featuring Chilean folk group *Inti-Illimani* February 2005
- **Coordinator:** *Mormons for Equality and Social Justice*, Lower Provo River clean up, Summer 2007

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND GENDER EQUALITY ACTIVISM

- **Office Volunteer:** *Sexual Assault Support Centre* (SASC). Organize workshops and materials for sexual violence awareness among men at UBC. 2014 - 2015
 - **Healthy Masculinities Workshop:** *Sexual Assault Support Centre* (SASC) Workshop Facilitator, UBC. March 2, 2015
- **President:** *BYU Eco-Response* scheduled meetings, speakers and events around environmental issues at BYU and promoted the annual 'America Recycles Week' activities on campus. 2006 - 2007
- **Co-coordinator:** *Amnesty International Student Chapter* Organized meetings and letter writing campaigns, and a successful Fair Trade Chocolate campaign at the BYU bookstore. 2004 - 2006

ARTS AND MEDIA

- **Creator and Producer:** 'Experiencing the Sacred: Where Spirit Meets World in Vancouver', Weekly radio program examining religious and spiritual practice in Vancouver airing on CFRO Vancouver Coop Radio 100.5 FM September 2016 - July 2017
- **Exhibit Curator:** 'Spiritual Ecologies and New Cosmologies Convergence' September 22 - 24, 2015

- **Featured Artist:** December Featured Artist on Chicago Review of Books blog *Arcturus*.
- **Featured Cover Illustration:** *Ecumenica: Journal of Theatre and Performance*, Spring/Fall 2016

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

- ‘Certified Cruiser’ *U.S. Forest Service*, 2013
- ‘Woody Plants of Utah’ *Utah Valley University* Botany course. Apr. 29 - May 4, 2013
- ‘Beer Brewing’ *University of Utah* Continuing Education, 2013
- ‘Mushroom Cultivation’ *University of Utah* Continuing education, 2013
- ‘Traditional Woodworking Wood Furniture I & II’ *Traditional Building Skills Institute* Ephraim, UT Oct. 2011, Jan, 2012, Jan. 2013
- ‘Chainsaw Safety’, *US Forest Service*. May 2011
- ‘Chainsaw Safety Training Game of Logging Levels I & II’ *Yale Meyers Forest*, Eastford, CT May 7-8, 2011
- ‘Organic Orchardng Workshop’ with Michael Phillips *Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association* (MOFGA) May 8, 2010
- ‘Wild land Fire Fighting’, US Forest Service (S-130, S-190) *Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies* (FES) January 28 - 31, 2010
- ‘Horse Logging’ *Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association* (MOFGA). October 9 - 11, 2009
- ‘Reinventing Small Business: Introduction to Worker-Ownership’ *Yestermorrow* Warren, VT May 16, 2009
- ‘Watershed Restoration’ *Permaculture Institute* Las Vegas, NM, May 12 - 17, 2008
- ‘Permaculture Design Course’, *Permaculture Institute* Las Vegas, NW, April 26 - May 10, 2008

COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP

- **Assistant Editor:** *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* 2016 - Present
- **Member:** IUCN’s Specialist Group in Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas (CSVPA), Newsletter Editor and contributor. 2014 - 2017
- **Member:** Thomas Merton Society of Canada Board, 2014 - 2016
- **Chair:** Sustainability Committee, Green College, UBC, Dec. 2013 - Dec. 2014
- **Former Member:** *Utah Forest Restoration Working Group* (UFRWG). Oct. 2012 - 2013
- **Former Member:** Adjunct Working Conditions Advisory Panel, a Sub-Committee of the Utah Valley University Faculty Senate. Sept. 2012 - 2013

AWARDS

- **First Prize** (\$2,500), *Web of Life Foundation* (WOLF) 2011 Essay Competition: ‘An Orange County Almanac’
- **Ethics Pedagogy Research Stipend**, Center for the Study of Ethics, *Utah Valley University*. Engage students in discussion of environmental ethics after a daylong conference. April 3, 2013

Brown, Jason

ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

- *International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*
- *Society of American Foresters*
- *The International Thomas Merton Society*
- *American Academy of Religion*