

Dr. Jeffrey Wescott

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Anthropology, 2012

University of California, San Diego

M.A. Anthropology, 2003

University of California, San Diego

B.A. Anthropology and Cognitive Psychology, 2001

State University of New York at Buffalo, Amherst, NY

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ANTHROPOLOGY AND OCEAN POLICY

Sea Education Association, Woods Hole, MA 2015 to Present

Instructor of record for courses: Ocean Science and Public Policy; Conservation and Management; Ocean Policy Research; Maritime Studies; Environmental Communication; Climate, Society and the Humanities; Advanced Climate Research Topics; Sense of Place; Marine Environmental History.

Program Director and Instructor for SEA programs *Climate and Society; The Global Ocean; Sustainability in Pacific Island Communities and Ecosystems; Climate Change And Coastal Resilience; Pacific Plastics Expedition.*

Instructor for additional programs *Protecting the Phoenix Islands; Marine Biodiversity and Conservation (US Atlantic Coast; Tahiti to Hawai'i; Aotearoa New Zealand to Tahiti); Summer Session (California Coast); Ocean Exploration/Atlantic Odyssey.*

Created and implemented new SEA programs *Climate and Society and Climate Change and Coastal Resilience.*

With Dr. Kara Lavender Law (SEA) and Dr. Jenna Jambeck (University of Georgia), co-designed and -implemented UGA-funded waste management research project in communities in Tonga, Fiji, and Aotearoa New Zealand (2018).

With NASA and the Department of Environment, Kingdom of Tonga, co-designed and -implemented SEA's Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai (HTHH) inaugural expedition (2018).

Ongoing: Developing academic partnerships with environmental and climate researchers and local communities in Aotearoa

CONTACT

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USA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania

American Society for Environmental History

New Zealand, Fiji, Hawai'i, American Samoa, Independent State of Samoa, Kingdom of Tonga, Kiribati, Sweden, and New England.

VISITING LECTURER, BIOLOGICAL OCEANOGRAPHY

University of Chicago – Marine Biological Laboratory,
Woods Hole, MA Spring 2021

Delivered undergraduate instruction focused on systems theory frameworks in interdisciplinary oceanographic research design.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

SCIENCE AND POLICY RESEARCHER

Waitt Institute, Washington, DC 2012-2013

Conducted marine policy and science research in the development of the Barbuda Blue Halo MPA project, Antigua and Barbuda.

DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Department of Anthropology, UCSD 2006-2011

Examined the intersections of environmental knowledge and postcolonial politics in communities of Nume and Lakon language speakers, Gaua Island, Vanuatu.

Recorded and produced a dictionary of the Nume language (~630 speakers) for distribution in Gaua schools.

Co-designed national biodiversity database for the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, Port Vila.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Pristine Grounds, *Plastics Histories: Narrating Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai*. In *Entire of Itself? Towards an Environmental History of Islands*, Milica Prokić and Pavla Šimková, eds. Pp. 327-348. Cambridgeshire, UK: White Horse Press. 2024.

We Sail for Stories: Fifty years of the blue humanities at Sea Education Association. With Richard King and Erin Bryant. In *The Ocean, Blue Spaces and Outdoor Learning*, Mike Brown, ed. Oxfordshire, UK: Routledge. 2024.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (first language)
German (intermediate)
Bislama (intermediate)