

Susannah Crockford

Curriculum Vitae

London School of Economics and Political Science

51 Henley Way
Ely, CB7 4YH

07923517686

susannah.crockford@ugent.be

susannah.crockford@gmail.com

ORCID iD: 0000-0002-5057-9263

Research Interests

Ethnography, narrative, and millenarianism. Spirituality and 'new age' in the United States. Climate change and eschatology. Social science methodologies in humanities research.

Experience

NARMESH / Post-Doctoral Researcher

January 2018- Present, Ghent University

Ethnographic interviews of personal narratives for ERC-funded project on the connection between humans, non-humans, and climate, see

<http://www.narmesh.ugent.be/about.html>

Inform / Research Officer

April 2017 - December 2017, London School of Economics

Ethnographic and sociological research on minority religions and alternative spiritualities for a non-profit associated with the LSE. Interviewing respondents for project on climate change and millenarianism. Responding to public enquiries for information.

Education

London School of Economics and Political Science / PhD

October 2011 - July 2017, Department of Anthropology

Thesis on spirituality in Northern Arizona passed 31 July 2017. 1 year MPhil, 2 year fieldwork, 1 year maternity leave, 2 year writing up. Published online with LSE thesis repository: <http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/3559/>

University of Amsterdam / MA (Research)

September 2008 - August 2010, Centre for the History of Hermetic Philosophy

Two-year research masters in western esotericism and religious studies

University of Cambridge / MA (Cantab)

October 2000 - June 2003, Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology

Undergraduate degree specialising in social anthropology

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Papers

2018. "Thank God for the Greatest Country on Earth: white supremacy, vigilantes, and survivalists in the struggle to define the American nation." Forthcoming. *Religion, State & Society*, Special Issue.

2018. Co-editing special issue of *Correspondences* on ethnography and

esotericism. Forthcoming.

2018. "How Do You Know When You're in a Cult? The Continuing Influence of the Peoples Temple and Jonestown in Contemporary Minority Religions and Popular Culture." Forthcoming. *Nova Religio: Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*

2011. "Entering the Crack Between the Worlds: Symbolism in Western Shamanism," in *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies* 13:2, 184-204

2010. "Shamanisms and the Authenticity of Religious Experience," in *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies* 12:2, 139-158

Book Chapters

2018. "Sedona, AZ" and "Ethnography" in: *Dictionary of Contemporary Esotericism*, ed. Egil Asprem. Brill. Forthcoming.

2013. "From Spiritualist Magnetism to Spiritism: the development of Spiritualist Magnetism in France, 1840-1870," in: *The Spiritualist Movement*, ed. Christopher Moreman. Praeger.

2009. "If you seek," in: *Hermes in the Academy: 10 years of the GHF*, festschrift for the Centre for the History of Hermetic Philosophy, eds. Joyce Pijnenberg and Wouter Hanegraaff. Amsterdam University Press.

Book Reviews

2018. Review of "Shameful Bodies" by Mary Michelle Lelwica. *BASR Bulletin*. Forthcoming.

2018. Review of "Norwegian New Age" edited by Ingvild Sælid Gilhus, Siv Ellen Kraft, James R. Lewis. *Nova Religio: Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*. Forthcoming.

2018. Review of "New Age in Latin America" edited by Angela Renée de la Torre Castellanos, Cristina Gutiérrez Zúñiga, and Nahayeilli B. Juárez-Huet. *Nova Religio: Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*. Forthcoming.

2017. Review of "New Age in the Modern West" by Nicholas Campion. *Nova Religio: Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* 20:4 May.

2015. Review of "Lure of the Arcane" by Theodore Ziolkowski. *Nova Religio: Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* 18:4, May.

2014. Review of "Food Waste" by David Evans, in *LSE Review of Books*.

<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/lsereviewofbooks/2014/12/08/book-review-food-waste-home-consumption-material-culture-and-everyday-life-by-david-evans/>

Conference Presentations

2017. "TEOTWAWKI, or, The End Of The World As We Know It: narratives of trust and suspicion among UK and US survivalists" workshop paper presented at 'Talk on Trust and Europe's Crisis of Representation', at the Woolf Institute, University of Cambridge, December 7-8.

2017. "'This is My Story, Not Yours': Constructing Millenarian Narrative in Sedona, Arizona, USA," conference paper presented at the annual meeting of the British Association for the Study of Religions, at the University of Chester, September 4-6.

2017. "Aliens Among Us: Arizonan perspectives on post-Trump social reality," conference paper presented at Anthropology in London, at University College London, June 13.

2017. "We Are Not New Agers: spirituality, othering, and appropriation in neoliberal capitalism," and "Mapping Contemporary Esotericism in the Ethnographic Present: the case of 'new age' spirituality in Sedona, USA" conference paper and invited panel member at the 6th Conference of the European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, in Erfurt, Germany, June 1-3.

2015. "We Are What We Eat: dietary regulations in 'new age' spirituality", conference paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy

of Religion, Atlanta GA, November 21-24.

2015. "Power Vortexes: creating sacred space in Northern Arizona," conference paper presented at the Biennial Conference of the Finnish Anthropological Society, at the University of Helsinki, October 21-22.

2014. "316 and the Leap of Faith: reading the future present in contemporary American Science Fiction," conference paper presented at Strangers in Strange Lands: Symposium on Anthropology and Science Fiction, at the University of Kent, Canterbury, November 15-16.

2011. "Symbolism in Contemporary Western Shamanism," conference paper presented at the 3rd Conference of the European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, in Szeged, Hungary, July 6-10.

Other Publications

2017. "Survivalists", "Standing Rock Sioux", "Environmental Millenarianism", "Rastafari", "Technological Millenarianism", "Church of Jesus-Christ of Latter-day Saints", online profiles for the Centre for the Critical Study of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements,

<https://censamm.org/resources/profiles>

2017. "For many undocumented migrants at the US-Mexico border, in the absence of federal government help, faith groups offer the only hope." LSE US Centre Blog.

<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2017/10/19/for-many-undocumented-migrants-at-the-us-mexico-border-in-the-absence-of-federal-government-help-faith-groups-offer-the-only-hope/>

2017. "Visa overstayers in Northern Arizona reveal complex motivation behind undocumented migration." LSE US Centre Blog.

<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2017/07/17/visa-overstayers-in-northern-arizona-reveal-complex-motivation-behind-undocumented-migration/>

2017. "Why building a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border is a symbolic monument not sensible immigration policy." LSE US Centre Blog.

<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2017/02/21/why-building-a-wall-on-the-us-mexico-border-is-a-symbolic-monument-not-sensible-immigration-policy/>

2016. "Surviving with Guns in Rural Arizona." *Anthropology News*, online version. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/AN.205/abstract>

2008. "Science in the 19th century: a view from the Tower," online exhibition of works related to mesmerism, phrenology, physiognomy, electricity and magnetism from the Cambridge University Tower Collection.

Service

2016. Research Assistant for Professor Katy Gardner, Head of Department, Anthropology, London School of Economics

2015. Peer reviewer for *Ethnic and Racial Studies*

2014-2016. Moodle editor for Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics

References

Professor Marco Caracciolo / UGent

marco.caracciolo@ugent.be

Primary Investigator, NARMESH Project

Professor Matthew Engelke / LSE

m.engelke@lse.ac.uk

PhD thesis supervisor

Dr Fenella Cannell / LSE

f.cannell@lse.ac.uk

PhD thesis supervisor

Professor David Graeber / LSE

david.graeber@icloud.com

PhD examiner

Languages

French; Latin - intermediate

German; Dutch - basic

Prizes and Awards

2017 Firth Prize for best paper in the Seminar on Anthropological Theory at the Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics

2015 LSE Photo Prize

2011-2016 Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Studentship

2002 King's Scholar, King's College, University of Cambridge