Jeremy M. Sorgen

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RESEARCH AREAS

Tribal sovereignty in cultural and natural resource governance; environmental ethics and environmental justice; community-engaged and mixed-method research; philosophy of science and research ethics.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Northeastern University, Oakland
2023 – Assistant Research Professor and Provost Impact Fellow
Graduate School of Business and Public Policy, Mills College

University of California, Berkeley
2025 – Research Affiliate, Cannabis Research Center
2024 – 2025 Visiting Scholar, Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management
2021 – 2023 Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management

EDUCATION

PhD **University of Virginia**, Religious Studies, 2021
MA **Graduate Theological Union**, Ethics and Social Theory, 2015
BA **New York University**, Social and Cultural Analysis, 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Edited Volumes

Forthcoming **Sorgen, J.** *Field Ethics: A Practical Philosophy of Value Change.* Under contract with SUNY Press, Environmental Philosophy and Ethics series. Full manuscript submitted 2026; anticipated publication 2027.

2024 **Sorgen, J.**, Bloomfield, E., Bartel, R. (eds.). Engaged Scholarship, special issue of *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* 18:4.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2026 LaRosa, S., Butsic, V., **Sorgen, J.**, Nelson, P., and Sowerwine, J. "Mapping Indigenous California: Agency and Tribal Perspectives on Ancestral Territorial Representation," *Land Use Policy* 169. DOI: 10.1016/j.landusepol.2026.108153

2026 **Sorgen, J.** "Field Philosophy and Community Engaged Research," special issue of *Public Philosophy Journal*, forthcoming.

2026 **Sorgen, J.** "Settler Futures on the Eastern Shore: In Search of Value Change," *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* 46:2–3. https://doi.org/10.5406/21564795.46.2.3.04

2025 **Sorgen, J.**, Nelson, P., Butsic, V., LaRosa, S., Gaughen, S., Crosby, E., Geary, R., and Sowerwine, J. "Unchecking the Box: Overcoming Barriers to Meaningful Consultation," *Environmental Science and Policy* 169. DOI: 10.1016/j.envsci.2025.104085

2025 **Sorgen, J.**, Nelson, P., Butsic, V., LaRosa, S., Gaughen, S., Crosby, E., Geary, R., and Sowerwine, J. "Tribal Sovereignty in Land Use Decision Making: Evaluating Cultural Resource Law in California," *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 8(2): 1–26. https://doi.org/10.1177/25148486251322629

2025 **Sorgen, J.**, LaRosa, S., Sowerwine, J., Butsic, V., Nelson, P., McCavour, M., Gaughen, S., and Starkey, A. "Cannabis Impacts on Native Lands: On the Need for Inclusion of Native Perspectives in Extension Work," *Journal of Extension* 63(2). https://doi.org/10.34068/joe.63.02.19

2024 **Sorgen, J.** "What Are Universities For? From Public Scholarship to the Engaged University," *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture* 18.4. https://doi.org/10.1558/jsrnc.25072

2024 **Sorgen, J.**, Bartel, R. C., and Bloomfield, E. F. "Engaged Scholarship in Times of Crisis," *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture* 18.4. https://doi.org/10.1558/jsrnc.28271

2023 Kurz, D., Middleton, A., Chapman, M., Huber, B., McInturff, A., **Sorgen, J.**, Van Houtan, K., Wilkinson, C., Withey, L., and Brashares, J. "Including Rural America in Academic Conservation Science," *Frontiers in Conservation Science* 4:1227227: 1–6. https://doi.org/10.3389/fcosc.2023.1227227

2022 **Sorgen, J.** "King, Lévinas, and the Moral Anatomy of Nonviolent Transformation," *Journal of Religious Ethics* 50.2: 219–238. **https://doi.org/10.1111/jore.12385**

2020 **Sorgen, J.** "Beyond the Anthropocentrism Debate: An Adaptive History of Environmental Ethics," special issue of *Environmental Ethics* 42.2: 99–112. https://doi.org/10.5840/enviroethics202011911

2020 **Sorgen, J.** "Deliberating on Dewey: A Pragmatic Response to Jeffrey Stout's Public Philosophy," *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* 41.2–3: 96–113. https://doi.org/10.5406/amerjtheophil.41.2-3.0096

Book Reviews

2021 *A Language of Things: Emanuel Swedenborg and the American Environmental Imagination* by Devin Zuber. *Berkeley Journal of Religion and Theology* 7.1: 193–99.

2020 *Religion Without Violence: The Practice and Philosophy of Scriptural Reasoning* by Peter Ochs. *Journal of Scriptural Reasoning* 19.1.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Over $1.6 million in external funding.

2026–28	$224,000	**California Department of Cannabis Control (DCC)**, "Pathways to Partnership with the Tribal Cannabis Market." **Co-PI and proposal lead**; prime awardee UC Davis ($698,537), as state eligibility was restricted to California public institutions.
2025–28	$698,515	**California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)**, "Cannabis Impacts and Remediation on Tribal Lands," **PI.**
2025–29	$70,000	**Campbell Foundation**, "Expanding the Sovereign Market," **PI.**
2024–26	$150,000	**National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**, Community and Cultural Resilience, "Hitch Stories: Intergenerational Pomo Storytelling," **Co-PI and proposal lead**; prime awardee UC Berkeley, as I was not PI-eligible.
2023–25	$46,412	**California Humanities**, "Hitch Stories," **Co-PI and proposal lead**; prime awardee UC Berkeley, as I was not PI-eligible.
2022–23	$15,400	**Social Science Research Council**, "Publicly Engaged Scholarship," **PI.**
2020–21	$12,000	**UVA Environmental Resilience Institute**, "Faith-Based Adaptive Management," **PI.**
2020	$5,000	**UVA Environmental Resilience Institute**, Peyton Sustainability Fellowship.
2017–18	$5,000	**Andrew Mellon Foundation**, "Ecological Methods Lab," Collaborative Research at Virginia's Eastern Shore. **PI.**
2017	$3,000	**German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**, summer language fellowship.
2014–20	$35,000	**William & Alice Hinckley Foundation**, Graduate Research Award.

POLICY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Policy Reports and White Papers

2026 "Licensed and Unlicensed Cultivation Across Ban and Permit Jurisdictions," final report for California DCC. Contributor.

2025 "By Tribes, For Tribes," Tribal consultation policy template and flowchart enabling Tribes to establish their own consultation policies with agency partners. Lead author.

2025 "Examining Tribal Sovereignty over Cannabis Permitting on Native Ancestral Lands," final report for California DCC. Lead author.

2025 "Oakland in Transition: A Report on the *Talking Transition* Survey," policy report and brief on a community survey (n = 9,334) on housing and homelessness, public safety, and economic development for the City of Oakland. Lead author.

2025 American Academy of Religion, "Guidelines on Valuing Public Scholarship in Tenure and Promotion." Major contributor.

2022 "Policy Findings and Recommendations Regarding California Cannabis," report for California DCC. Contributor.

Agency Briefings and Policy Consultation

2026 Preliminary findings on unlicensed cannabis cultivation, presented to Tribal environmental directors, EPA Region 9 Regional Tribal Operations Committee, San Francisco, September.

2026 Preliminary findings on unlicensed cannabis cultivation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Cannabis Restoration Grant Program, July.

2026 Research briefing on Tribal cultural resource consultation, California Department of Cannabis Control, January.

2025 Advised the California Natural Resources Agency updated Tribal consultation policy, August.

2025 "Co-Designing Clear Lake Water Futures," presented to the socioeconomic and technical subcommittees of the Clear Lake Blue Ribbon Committee, August.

2025 "By Tribes, For Tribes" workshop on Tribal consultation policy template, UC Berkeley, May.

Public Scholarship and Community Products

2026 Hitch Stories StoryMap. Public-facing cultural history of Xabatin (Clear Lake, CA) from Pomo perspectives. https://arcg.is/0iby4m0

2026 Hitch Stories oral history archives created and delivered to Robinson Rancheria, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, Big Valley, Scotts Valley, Elem Indian Colony, and Middletown Rancheria; materials included in the California Native American Studies Model Curriculum and the Lake County Department of Education K-12 Curriculum.

2026 Presentations to Tribal councils; storytelling workshops with Clear Lake Tribes; outreach and youth engagement at community events.

2024 "Resources for Tribes," webpage on the Berkeley Cannabis Research Center website.

2023 "Enacting Indigenous Ontologies," *Contending Modernities* "Theories of Land" series.

2015 "Havana Motor Club," full-length documentary film, Perlmutt Productions, Cuba.

2008 "Lower East Side Squatter Culture" oral history archive, Tamiment Library & Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives, New York University.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025 Northeastern GIS Day StoryMap presentation, second place for "Hitch Stories."

2021 UVA nomination for the CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities.

2019 International Association for Environmental Philosophy (IAEP), best graduate essay ($500).

2015 Association for Dispute Resolution of Northern California, Promise Award.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH MENTORING

Methods Instruction and Curriculum Development

2025 Designed "Qualitative Methods for Sustainability" (SBTL 3300), upper-division course, Northeastern University.

2025 Qualitative thematic analysis training for UC Berkeley graduate students.

2020 "Climate Justice" course for Religion, Race, and Democracy Institute, University of Virginia.

Research Mentoring and Advising

Trains doctoral and undergraduate researchers in qualitative and mixed methods, including semi-structured interviewing, thematic coding, and spatial analysis.

2025 – 2026 Tayte Adderly (PhD, public policy and systems modeling) and Ximena de la Mora (PhD, marine and environmental science), participatory systems modeling of Clear Lake water futures, Northeastern University.

2025 Anna Ibru (PhD, interdisciplinary design and media), research on Landback and property regimes, Northeastern University.

2025 Victor Mendevil (PhD, English), Hitch Stories intergenerational oral history project, Northeastern University.

2024 Oscar Navarro (PhD, criminal justice) and Taylor Pittman (MA, public policy), *Talking Transition* community survey and policy report for the City of Oakland, Northeastern University.

2022 – 2025 Seth LaRosa (PhD, environmental policy), Tribal cultural resources and Hitch Stories projects, UC Berkeley, Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management. Co-author on four publications, including first author of "Mapping Indigenous California" (*Land Use Policy*, 2026).

2023 – 2026 Supervised nine undergraduate research assistants across state- and federally-funded projects, including a full-time co-op research assistant (Spring 2026), Northeastern University and UC Berkeley.

Guest Lectures and Workshops

2026 Guest lecture, Environmental Ethics, Northeastern University, March.

2024 "California Native Lands," Environmental Social Movements, Northeastern University.

2023 "Indigenous Site Protection," History of Native American Land, Colonialism, and Heritage Preservation, UC Berkeley.

2020 "Community-Based Adaptive Management," Foundations of Policy Analysis, American University.

Graduate Teaching Assistantships, University of Virginia

2015 – 2018 Teaching assistant for seven courses in ethics and religious studies, including Religion, Ethics, and the Global Environment; Theological Bioethics; Theology, Ethics, and Medicine; and Introduction to Christian Ethics (graduate level). Led weekly discussion sections, exam preparation, and student evaluation.

PRESENTATIONS

50+ conference presentations and invited talks; selected below.

Recent and Selected Conference Presentations

2026 "Cannabis in Indian Country: Foundations, Frameworks, and the Future," moderator, National Cannabis Research Conference, San Diego, CA, October.

2026 "Field Ethics: Bridging Moral Theory and Environmental Practice," presenter, International Society for Environmental Ethics and Nordic Ethics Network, Umeå, Sweden, October.

2026 "The 'Human' in the Age of AI," moderator, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture, Venice, Italy, October.

2026 "Native Science and Spatial Epistemologies," presenter, American Academy of Religion, Religion and Ecology unit, online, June.

2026 "A System's Perspective of Clear Lake," presenter, NULab Spring Conference, Northeastern University, May.

2026 "Hitch Stories," presenter, California Tribal GIS Conference, University of Redlands, CA, May.

2026 "Unsettling Property Regimes: Landback and Near-Term Strategies Beyond the Settler State," moderator, American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, CA, March.

2025 "Field Philosophy and Community Engaged Research" Public Philosophy Network biennial conference, Hamilton, Ontario, October.

2024 "What Is a Tribal Cultural Resource?," American Academy of Religion, Indigenous Religions and Religion and Ecology units, November.

2022 "Lessons of the Ethnographic Turn in Religious Ethics," American Academy of Religion, Ethics unit, November.

2020 "Managing Change: Environmental Policy for Environmental Justice," Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, July.

2020 "By Faith and Fossil Fuels: Cultural Strategies of Life," American Academy of Religion, Religion and Ecology unit, December.

2019 "On Habits and Values: Prolegomena to an Embodied Environmental Ethics," International Association for Environmental Philosophy, Pittsburgh, PA, November. *Winner, best graduate student essay prize.*

2019 "Adapting Ethics Beyond the Anthropocentrism Debate," International Society for Environmental Ethics, Oregon, July.

Invited Talks, Webinars, and Community Presentations

2026 "Unlicensed Cannabis Geographies in California," presenter, Cannabis Research Center, March.

2026 "Decolonizing Sustainability," Sustainability Week, Mills College at Northeastern University, March.

2025 "Tribal Sovereignty in Land Use Decision Making," presenter, Cannabis Research Center webinar, January.

2025 Intergenerational Knowledge Summit, organizer and speaker, Clear Lake, CA, June.

2025 Roundtable response, *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* online lecture series, April.

2024 "Bridging the Gap: Public Scholarship and Career Impacts," American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November.

2024 "Tribal Cultural Resource Management in California," C2C Research Seminar, September.

2023 "Strengthening Tribal-Agency Partnerships," UCANR Tribal Partnerships Forum, July.

2023 "Publicly Engaged Scholarship," panelist, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, Tempe, AZ, February.

2022 "AB 52, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Intergovernmental Consultation," Region 9 Tribal EPA Conference, South Lake Tahoe, CA, November.

2022 "Examining Tribal Sovereignty in Cannabis Permitting," research talk, California County Commissioners Conference and County Cannabis Program Forum, October.

2021 "Grassroots Environmental Ethics," research talk, Ethnographies of Public Life Colloquium, University of Southern California, April.

2020 "Environmental Decision-Making and Environmental Justice," research talk, Environmental Resilience Institute, University of Virginia, October.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 – 2021 **Program Manager**, LA County COVID Response Team, Los Angeles, CA. Led eight staff on emergency response across fifty homeless shelters, managing infection control, testing, outreach, and vaccine clinics in coordination with agency funders, service providers, and city partners.

2019 – 2020 **Advocacy and Policy Fellow**, Franciscan Action Network, Washington, DC. Supported by a UVA PhD Plus Fellowship ($10,000). Worked with lobbyists, citizen groups, congressional offices, and industry on federal energy and environmental policy reform; led a just transition campaign with the Washington Interfaith Staff Committee advocating for miners' rights.

2013 – 2014 **Program Associate**, Ignite Institute, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA. Developed organizational strategy, programming, and business plan.

2008 – 2010 **Research Assistant**, Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, New York, NY. Recruited and interviewed 200+ people experiencing homelessness for a Housing First and harm reduction study at Columbia University.

SERVICE

Professional and Disciplinary Service

2026 – present Convener, Rights of Nature working group, developing metrics for evaluating movement outcomes.

2024 – present Board Member At-Large, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. Reviewed 50+ conference abstracts (2026) and 40 paper proposals (2025).

2024 – 2029 Steering Committee, Special Seminar on Publicly Engaged Scholarship, American Academy of Religion.

2024 Taskforce member, American Academy of Religion, "Guidelines to Value and Support Public Scholarship in Tenure and Promotion."

2024 NSF Ethics of Climate Interventions Working Group.

2023 Reviewed seed grant and policy fellow applications, Community to Community Impact Engine.

2023 Reviewed 77 grant applications, Sacred Rites Public Scholarship Program.

2022 Organized summer workshop at UC Berkeley for the special issue on engaged scholarship, *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*.

2017 Organizer, Virginia Graduate Colloquium on "Normativity, Method, Religion," UVa.

Institutional Service

2026 Reviewer, Digital Humanities Certificate graduate student projects, Northeastern University.

2026 Convener, Native California Reading Group, Northeastern University.

2026 Panels and talks, Sustainability Week, Mills College at Northeastern University.

Peer Review

2026 *Journal of Urban Affairs*.

2020 – 2021 *Environmental Ethics*; *Political Theology*; *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, LANGUAGES, AND MEMBERSHIPS

Training Social Science Research Council Summer Institute, Santa Fe, NM (2021, competitive admission); NCFDD Faculty Success Program (2024); Tomorrow's Professor Today teacher training, University of Virginia (2016–17); NEH Global South program on Cuba (2016, $2,500); Rockwood Art of Leadership Institute (2014).

Languages Research competency in German, French, and Spanish.

Memberships American Association of Geographers; International Society for Environmental Ethics; International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture; American Academy of Religion; Public Philosophy Network.