

LAURA B. JOHNSON, PHD

Humboldt State University

Laura.Johnson@Humboldt.eduLauraBJohnson.comEDUCATION**Ph.D. Geography**, received August 2016

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich.

Department of Geography, Nature-Society Sector

Graduate Specialization in **Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change**Dissertation Title: *Toward a relational agro-food system: The case of the Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture High Country Farm Tour***M.A. International Studies**, received July 2011

East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.

Graduate Certificate in Economic Development

Field Experiences in Ghana and France

B.A. Journalism and Mass Communication, received May 2008

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C.

School of Journalism and Mass Communication, News-Editorial Sequence

English Minor

Study Abroad in Florence, Italy

TEACHING AND ADVISING**Multi-disciplinary Lecturer**

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Humboldt State University

- ENST 195, Emotions in the Anthropocene – S21, 22 students
- AHSS 108, Nature, Culture, and Food – S21/F20/F19/S19/F18, ~25 students
- GEOG 301, Int'l Environmental Issues & Globalization – S21/S19/S18, ~80 students
- GEOG 300, Global Awareness – F20/F19/F18/F17, ~75 students
- GEOG 300, Global Awareness (online) – SUM20/19/18/17, ~20 students
- SOC 665, Community, Ecology, and Social Action – F19, 14 students
- ANTH 317, Women and Development – F18/F16, ~20 students
- GEOG 105, Introduction to Human Geography – S18, 67 students
- ENST 295, Power, Privilege and Environment – F17, 47 students
- ENST 120, Introduction to Environmental Studies – S17, 30 students
- SOC 302M, Forests and Culture (depth experience) – S17, 10 students
- CRIM 487, Community Action Research – S17, 18 students
- SOC 370, Environmental Inequality and Globalization – F16, 37 students

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Instructor

Humboldt State University

- Yoga for Ecological Grief, S21/F20

Global Humboldt First-Year Learning Community Faculty

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Humboldt State University

Summer 2018 – Present

Major Faculty Advisor

Environmental Studies Program, Humboldt State University
Fall 2016 – Present

Study Abroad Faculty

Office of Study Abroad, Michigan State University

- Freshman Seminar Abroad, Interpreting Landscapes in Ireland – Summer 2016; 14 students
- Freshman Seminar Abroad, Sustainability in New Zealand – Summer 2015; 15 students

Geography Instructor

Department of Geography, Michigan State University

- GEO 432, Environmental Ethics – Fall 2015; 22 students
- GEO 151, Introduction to Human Geography – Spring 2015; 155 students

Online Geography Instructor

Department of Geography, Michigan State University

- ISS 310V, People and Environment – Fall 2011, Summer 2012, Fall 2012 and Summer 2015; 100-150 students
 - *ISS Outstanding Teaching Award 2012-2013*
- GEO 221V, Introduction to Geographic Information – Summer 2014; 80 students
- GEO 330V, Geography of US and Canada – Summer 2013; 30 students
- GEO 204V, World Regional Geography – Spring 2012; 150 students

REFEREED ARTICLES

Johnson, L. (2019). Becoming ‘enchanted’ in agro-food spaces: Engaging relational frameworks and photo elicitation with farm tour experiences. *Gender, Place and Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography*, 25(11), 1646-1671.

Johnson, L., & Schnakenberg, G. (2017). Gendering strategies for civic agriculture: The case of Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture and the High Country Farm Tour. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 55, 181-192.

Johnson, L., Schnakenberg, G., & Perdue, N. (2016). Placing local food systems: Farm tours as place-based sustainability education. *The Journal of Sustainability Education, Special Issue on Place and Resilience*, 11.

Johnson, L., Howell, J., & Evered, K. (2015). “Where nothing was before”: (Re)producing population and place in Ghana’s Volta River Project. *Journal of Cultural Geography*, 32(2), 195-213.

Bulla, B., **Johnson, L.**, Kline, C., Bryant, B., & Wilborn, L. (2014). Exploring resident attitude along a pre-production, production and consumption continuum (research note). *Anatolia*, 25(3), 474-478.

Kline, C., **Johnson, L.**, Boone, K. & Hao, H. (2013). Visitor awareness of local issues at emerging destinations: Experiences gleaned from a study abroad course in Ghana. *Tourism Review International*, 17(3), 195-210.

Boone, K., Kline, C., **Johnson, L.**, Milburn, L.A., & Rieder, K. (2013). Development of visitor identity through study abroad in Ghana. *Tourism Geographies*, 15(23), 1-24.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Martusewicz, R. & **Johnson, L.** (2016). EcoJustice Education. In van der Tuin, I. (Ed.) *Gender: Nature*. Macmillan Reference USA.

Johnson, L. (2015). "Why are you here?" Toward reflexivity, positionality and multivocality at the intersections of research and tourism. In Slocum, S.L., Kline, C. & Holden, A. (Eds.) *Scientific Tourism: Researchers as Travelers*. Routledge.

SCHOLARLY BOOK REVIEWS

Johnson, L. (2013). Review of *Critical Debates in Tourism*, by Tej Vir Singh. Channel View Publications, 2012. *Tourism Analysis*, 18(6).

Johnson, L. (2012). Review of *The Unheard Truth: Poverty and Human Rights*, by Irene Khan. W.W. Norton & Company, 2009. *Gendered Perspectives on International Development*, 27(3), pp. 31.

SELECT NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Johnson, L. (Fall 2021). The sacred whole. *Deep Times: A Journal of the Work that Reconnects*. <https://journal.workthatreconnects.org/2021/09/20/the-sacred-whole/>

Johnson, L. (2021, September 29). Living spaciously in times of contraction. *Resilience.org*. <https://www.resilience.org/stories/2021-09-29/living-spaciously-in-times-of-contraction/>

Johnson, L. (2021, April 26). A meditation for rooting radically in self and place. *Science and Nonduality (SAND)*. <https://www.scienceandnonduality.com/article/a-meditation-for-rooting-radically-in-self-and-place>

Johnson, L. (2021, April 8). Caring for (more-than-natal) kin in times of loss. *Resilience.org*. <https://www.resilience.org/stories/2021-04-08/caring-for-more-than-natal-kin-in-times-of-loss/>

Johnson, L. (2020, September 9). Intersections at the site of breath. *Good Grief Network* (reprinted by [Resilience.org](https://www.resilience.org)). goodgriefnetwork.medium.com/intersections-at-the-site-of-breath-701ca7665e37

Johnson, L. (2020, April 20). Here in these end-beginning times. *Tikkun* (reprinted by [Resilience.org](https://www.resilience.org) and *Science and Nonduality*). <https://www.tikkun.org/here-in-these-end-beginning-times>

Johnson, L. (2019, October). Mattole Valley grown and aged. *Sensi, Emerald Triangle*, 20-23.

https://issuu.com/sensimediagroup/docs/2019.10_et_oct_2019_lr

Johnson, L. (2019, August 23). Desert alignment. *Empty Mirror Literary Magazine*.
<https://www.emptymirrorbooks.com/personal-essay/desert-alignment>

Johnson, L. (2019, August 16). Practices for eco-grief. *Resilience.org*.
<https://www.resilience.org/stories/2019-08-16/practices-for-eco-grief/>

Johnson, L. (2019, July 15). ‘Are you in right relation?’ *Permaculture Women Magazine*.
<https://medium.com/permaculturewomen/are-you-in-right-relation-cf61a2f04c70>

Johnson, L. (2019, March 3). Small garden knowledge changing the greater landscape.
Journal of Wild Culture.
<https://wildculture.com/article/small-garden-knowledge-changing-greater-landscape/1793>

Johnson, L. (2019, February). Herbal renewal: Community-supported herbalism is reviving our relationships with plants and place. *Taproot Magazine, REVIVE issue*, 18-21.

Johnson, L. (2018, Dec. 2). How personal grief connects us to shared compassion. *Lion’s Roar*.
<https://www.lionsroar.com/birdy>

Johnson, L. (2017, April 20). ‘Grab it by the horns:’ Harnessing the environmental, and political, power of our local food system (cover story). *North Coast Journal*, 28(16), 16-21.
www.northcoastjournal.com/humboldt/grab-it-by-horns/Content?oid=4892798

Anderson, A., Jessup, E., Bitton, P., Haynes, M., Patino, M., Mone, C., King, A., **Johnson, L.**, & Cava, J. (Spring 2017). The Local Food Guide: Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity Counties. *Locally Delicious*.

Minkoff-Zern, L.A., Levkoe, C., Van Sant, L., **Johnson, L.**, Sbicca, J., Gallaher, C., Block, D., & Hedberg, R. (2017, April 9). Uncertain future for US food system. *Finger Lake Times*.
www.fltimes.com/opinion/guest-appearance-uncertain-future-for-us-food-system/article_179d7f84-1cb5-11e7-9262-e7b606eef0a3.html

Johnson, L. (2014). Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture High Country Farm Tour Blog.
<http://farmtour.brwia.org/blog/category/2014-featured-farms>

Johnson, L. (2013, September 11). The farmer in the corporation: For small-scale farmers and the environment, the stakes are high as Wal-Mart redefines the meaning of local agriculture (cover story). *City Pulse*, 8-10.
<https://lansingcitypulse.com/article-9284-the-farmer-in-the-%20corporation.html>

Johnson, L. (2013, June 12). Farmers markets 101: From apples to zucchinis (cover story). *City Pulse*, 9-12.

Johnson, L. (2013, March 27). Growing together: Community supported agriculture cropping up across mid-Michigan. *City Pulse*, 26-27.

INVITED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Johnson, L.** Yoga for ecological grief: A practice for grounding and embodiment (invited workshop). Post-Capitalism Conference, Virtual, Cooperation Humboldt and HSU ENST/NAS/PSCI/SOC/CFA, April 22-25, 2021
- Perdue, N. & **Johnson, L.** Backyard geographies: Permaculture as reconciliation ecology (panel presentation – presented by N. Perdue). California Geographic Society Meeting, Big Bear Lake, CA, May 1-3, 2019.
- Orion Environmental Writers Workshop: Orion in the Wilderness (invited workshop participant). American Museum of Natural History Southwest Research Station, Cave Creek Canyon, AZ.
- Johnson, L.** On capitalism and world ecology: A framework of ‘cheapening’ (panel presentation – presenter). Zero Waste Conference, Humboldt State University, November 5-9, 2018.
- Frye, J., Maguire, J., Zerbe, N., **Johnson, L.**, Simpson, S., & Scheerer, D. Cultivating community: Humboldt food sovereignty (panel presentation – presented by J. Frye). AFHVS/ASFS 2017 *Migrating Food Cultures: Engaging Pacific Perspectives on Food and Agriculture*. Occidental College, Los Angeles CA, June 13-17, 2017.
- Johnson, L.**, Schnakenberg, G., & Perdue, N.A. Placing local food systems: Farm tours as care- and place-based education (panel presentation – presenter). Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA., March 29-April 26, 2016.
- Johnson, L.** Opening new spaces for agro-food reconnections: The case of the Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture High Country Farm Tour (panel presentation – presenter). Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Chicago, I.L., April 21-25, 2015.
- Johnson, L.** Experiencing caring places: Farm Tours as care- and place-based education (panel presentation – presenter). Ecojustice and Activism Conference: Art, Activism and Ecojustice Education, Eastern Michigan University, March 19-21, 2015.
- Johnson, L.** Imagining a relational food system: The case of Farm Tours in North Carolina’s High Country (panel presentation – presenter). American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 3-7, 2014.
- Johnson, L.** Glimpsing agro-food (re)connections: Employing photo elicitation interviews to understand visitor Farm Tour experiences (panel presentation – presenter). SouthEastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) Annual Meeting, Athens, G.A., November 23-25, 2014.
- Johnson, L.** Neo-agrarianism and the "beginning of thought": Interlinking agrarianism, ecofeminism, care ethics and relational geographies (panel presentation – presenter). Ecojustice and Activism Conference: Belonging: Learning Together to Value Human and More-Than-Human Communities, Eastern Michigan University, March 27-29, 2014.

- Johnson, L.** & Kline, C. (Not so) Dark Tourism: The case of Ghana's Lake Volta and Akosombo Dam (panel presentation – presented by Carol Kline). International Critical Tourism Studies Conference V: Tourism Critical Practice: Activating Dreams into Action, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, June 25-28, 2013.
- Johnson, L.** “Where nothing was before”: The re-making of place, state and citizen in the case of Ghana’s Akosombo Dam (panel presentation – presenter). Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, C.A., April 9-13, 2013.
- Johnson, L.** Seeking ties that bind: Synthesizing literatures on place, food and “agri-tourism” (panel presentation – presenter). Ecojustice and Activism: Intergenerational Learning for Just and Sustainable Communities, Eastern Michigan University, March 22-23, 2013.
- Johnson, L.** Bright visions of progress: Articulations of modernization and development in the case of Ghana’s Volta River Project (panel presentation – presenter). African Studies Association (ASA), Philadelphia, P.A., November 28-December 1, 2012.
- Johnson, L.** Agents of change, sites of resistance: Exploring interactions between place loss, cultural preservation, tourism and agency in Ghana’s heritage industry (panel presentation – presenter). Africanist Graduate Student Conference, Michigan State University, October 19-20, 2012.
- Johnson, L.** “Development? What sort of development is this?” Socio-ecological impacts of large dams and their contestation – a gendered perspective (panel presentation – presenter). (Dis)locating justice, Center for Women and Gender Studies 19th Annual Graduate Student Conference, University of Texas at Austin, March 29-30, 2012.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Johnson, L.** Seeking ties that bind: The nexus of place, agriculture, food and tourism. (poster presentation – presenter). Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society Annual Meeting, East Lansing, MI, June 19-22, 2013.
- Johnson, L.** Kline, C. & Boone, K. Development of visitor identity through study abroad experiences (poster presentation - presenter). National Extension Tourism Conference, Charleston, SC, March 9-11, 2011.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- The Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship**, spring 2016
Michigan State University, \$6,000
- Graduate Office Fellowship**, summer 2015
Michigan State University, dissertation research community dissemination, \$1,600
- Doctoral Study Abroad Fellowship**, 2014-2015
Michigan State University, \$6,000

Gender, Justice & Environmental Change Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2014
Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University, \$3,000

Graduate Office Fellowship (GOF), summer 2014
Michigan State University, dissertation research supplies, \$954

Integrative Studies in Social Sciences (ISS) Outstanding Teaching Award, 2012-13
Michigan State University, \$500

Gender, Justice & Environmental Change Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2013
Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University, \$11,000

Graduate Office Fellowship (GOF), summer 2013
Michigan State University, pre-dissertation research, \$1,500

Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, 2012-2013
US Department of Education, Twi, \$15,000
Awarded via MSU's Center for Advanced Study of International Development (CASID)

Kenneth E. and Marie J. Corey Research Enrichment Fund Award, summer 2012
Michigan State University, pre-dissertation research, \$600

Graduate Office Fellowship (GOF), summer 2012
Michigan State University, pre-dissertation research, \$2,300

OTHER ACADEMIC HONORS

Graduate Student Research Paper Competition Winner, third place, April 2015
Department of Geography, Michigan State University

Gamma Theta Upsilon International Geographic Honor Society member
Inducted spring 2014

2013 Best of MSU Journalism Award, Feature Writing
Society of Professional Journalists, Michigan State University Chapter

- 1st place: "The farmer in the corporation," City Pulse
- 2nd place: "Farmers Markets 101: From Apples to Zucchini's," City Pulse

RESEARCH AND OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, January 2014 – May 2015
Department of Geography, East Lansing, M.I.

- Conducted research and provided logistical support for renowned multidisciplinary human-environment scholar Dr. Emilio Moran, primarily involving updating books for new editions

Graduate Research Assistant/Lecture Series Coordinator, January 2010 – May 2011
Center for Sustainable Tourism, Greenville, N.C.

- Conducted research, completed literature reviews and edited papers on resident perception of tourism in Ghana and student reflections on study abroad programs in Ghana for submission to academic journals
- Coordinated guest lectures of national prominent sustainable tourism professionals

Program Coordinator/Graduate Assistant, August 2009 – May 2011

Office of International Affairs, Greenville, N.C.

- Served as program coordinator for “World Through Our Eyes,” an outreach program that paired ECU international students with K-12 classrooms in eastern N.C. Students delivered interactive presentations on various global issues, countries and regions while facilitating cross-cultural exchange

SERVICE TO THE FIELD, UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT

Cooperation Humboldt Little Free Pantry Host and Volunteer

Fall 2017 – Present

Club Faculty Advisor

Campus Center for Appropriate Technology (CCAT), Humboldt State University

September 2018 – Present

Club Faculty Advisor

Healing Vibrations Club, Humboldt State University

September 2018 – Present

Club Faculty Advisor

Earth Guardians, Humboldt State University

September 2018 – Present

Club Faculty Advisor

Global Connections Club, Humboldt State University

September 2016 – May 2017

Geographies of Food and Agriculture Specialty Group Newsletter Editor

Association of American Geographers

March 2015 – April 2017

Cultural Geography Specialty Group Graduate Student Representative

Association of American Geographers

April 2015 – April 2016

Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) Co-President and Founding Member

Michigan State University chapter

January 2015 – December 2015

‘Composting Steward’

Department of Geography, Michigan State University

October 2014 – December 2015

Conference Program Committee

Ecojustice and Activism Conference, Eastern Michigan University

January 2015 – March 2015

Conference Program Committee

North Carolina Community Garden Project

September 2014 – October 2014

Colloquium Series Coordinator

Department of Geography, Michigan State University

May 2012 – May 2013

Community Outreach Liaison

Students for Sustainable Tourism, East Carolina University

January 2011 – May 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Book Reviewer, January 2017 – August 2017; January 2009 – January 2011
Kirkus Reviews, New York, N.Y.

- Wrote pre-publication nonfiction book reviews for America's premier independent literary review journal, published in print and on websites including BarnesandNoble.com and Amazon.com

Freelance Columnist, February 2013 – January 2014

City Pulse, Lansing, Mich.

- Wrote a monthly column on local agro-food systems and sustainability in Lansing, published in the city's alternative weekly newspaper reaching 55,000 readers per week
- Wrote other food- and community-themed articles, including two cover stories

International NGO Volunteer, June 2010 – August 2010

Network of Women in Growth (NEWIG), Ghana, West Africa

- Participated in community outreach initiatives to raise awareness of women's rights and domestic violence in Tefle, Ghana, in collaboration with the Network of Women in Growth. The outreach activities focused on women's rights, health and business training

Contributing Writer, June 2010 – August 2010

GlobalPost Student Correspondent Corps, www.globalpost.com

- Published articles and photos for the digital international news site, corresponding from Ghana

Freelance Grant Writer, February 2010 – May 2010

Africa Rising, Raleigh, N.C.

- Wrote a funded grant proposal for a village-level African-run development organization in Kenya, the Africa Economic Foundation. The organization was awarded a grant by The International Foundation to develop local water resources, local agricultural projects, and small businesses

Proposal Writer/Analyst, August 2008 – July 2009

SRA International, Arlington, Va.

- Gathered and analyzed qualitative data through interviews and focus groups for various projects in the Environmental and Organizational Services branch of SRA

International, a government consulting company that works in the areas of national security, civil government and global health

- Wrote and edited proposals and white papers for government agencies including FEMA and DoD
- Granted a Top Secret security clearance

Publicity Intern, June 2008 – August 2008

Little, Brown and Company, New York, N.Y.

- Wrote press releases, coordinated campaigns and tracked publicity and reviews of book titles as well as general industry news from best-selling authors such as David Sedaris and Alice Sebold

Editorial Intern, June 2007 – May 2008

Carolina Alumni Review magazine, Chapel Hill, N.C.

- Wrote news and feature articles for the bimonthly, award-winning alumni magazine

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Work that Reconnects (current member)

Association of American Geographers (current member)

Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society (past member)

American Anthropological Association (past member)

SouthEastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (past member)

Society of Environmental Journalists (past member)

African Studies Association (past member)

Triple G: The Geography Graduate Group, Michigan State University (past member)

Students for Sustainable Tourism, East Carolina University (past member)

Graduate Student Association of International Studies, East Carolina University (past member)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CERTIFICATIONS

Yoga for Ecological Grief five-week series, Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020
HSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), online

Trauma-Conscious Yoga Method Certification, July 2020 – February 2021
Trauma Conscious Yoga Institute, 25-hour online certification

RYT 500 Certified Yoga Teacher, received June 2020
TheraYoga Method, Arcata, CA

Journey of Grief: Holding Space for Wholeness in a Broken World, Spring 2020
7-week virtual training facilitated by Terry Chapman, D.Min, and Carolyn Baker, PhD

Work that Reconnects Facilitator Development Group, participated May – August 2019
Online course

Yoga for Eco-Grief Workshop, facilitated April 20, 2019
Om Shala Yoga, Arcata, CA

Community Mindful Flow and Restore, weekly yoga class September 2018 – May 2019
Om Shala Yoga, Arcata, CA

Bhakti Yoga and Music Immersion Workshop, participated April 2018
Om Shala Yoga, Arcata, CA

RYT 200 Certified Yoga Teacher, received April 2018
Om Shala Yoga, Arcata, CA

Farm Intern, May 2017 –August 2017
Tule Fog Farm, Arcata, CA

World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF), August 2015
Tewa, New Zealand

Hunter Park GardenHouse and CSA volunteer, August 2012 – December 2014
Allen Neighborhood Center, Lansing, Mich.

Urban Gardener Certification, completed (6-week course + 40 volunteer hours) 2014
Allen Neighborhood Center, Lansing, Mich.