
MATTHEW HOFFMAN

University College of Agriculture and Rural Development
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Education

Cornell University	PhD, Development Sociology	01/2011
Cornell University	MS, Rural Sociology /City and Regional Planning	05/2003
UC Santa Cruz	Certificate in Ecological Horticulture	10/1997
School for International Training	BA, Human Ecology	05/1995
Lycée Mater Dei	High School, Brussels, Belgium	06/1990

Occupational Experience

Associate Professor	Norwegian College of Ag. & Rural Development	09/2021-present
Assistant Professor	University of Southern Maine	08/2017-08/2022
Fulbright Scholar	Centre for Rural Research, Trondheim	03/2016-07/2017
Adjunct Faculty	New York University	08/2015-01/2016
Polson Fellow	Cornell University	08/2014-10/2015
Visiting Researcher	Centre for Rural Research, Trondheim	03/2014-07/2014
Visiting Assistant Professor	New York University	08/2011-09/2013
Adjunct Instructor	School for International Training	02/2011-05/2011
Teaching Assistant	Cornell University	08/2010-12/2010
Research Fellow	UC Berkeley	09/2008-09/2009
Fulbright Fellow	Norwegian U. of Science and Technology	08/2007-08/2008
Teaching and Research Assistant	Cornell University	08/2000-05/2006
Alpine Rescue	Mount Snow, Dover, VT	11/1996-04/2000
Farming	Self-employed, Marlboro, VT	10/1997-09/2000
Rural Development Intern	Tillers International, Kalamazoo, MI	04/1994-11/1994

Grants and Fellowships awarded for Research

Rooting New Immigrant Traditions in Maine's Soil (2021-2024). Working with new immigrant community associations and farmers in southern Maine, this USDA-funded project seeks to connect their culinary traditions to local agriculture. Six students are employed, learning survey and interview research methods.

Rebuilding the Northeast Grainshed (2020-2022). Funded by the USDA's Regional Food System Partnership Program, this project aims to rebuild supply chains for cereal crops in the Northeast. The working group that I am leading has conducted a needs assessment and is making policy recommendations. Employs four students.

The Future of Common Grazing in Europe (2018-2022). A team project funded by the Norwegian Research Council and based at the Norwegian Institute for Bioeconomy — an interdisciplinary investigation of the legal, cultural, and economic conditions necessary to maintain the use of upland grazing areas in the face of societal change.

Fulbright Fellowship (2016-2017). Based at the Centre for Rural Research and the Norwegian Institute for Bioeconomy, studying cooperation in natural resource management. Also collaborated on projects related to rural development policy and sustainable intensification on small farms. Partial support from both CRR and NIBIO.

Leverhulme Visiting Fellowship, University of the West of England (2013-2014). Declined.

Community Forestry Research Fellowship, UC Berkeley (2008-2009). Conducted a survey and focus groups in Southern Vermont and worked with public bodies to identify and pursue solutions to problems of collective action in the production of non-commodity landscape benefits. Both the research and community work focused on issues of recreational access, wildlife habitat, and sprawl.

Research Travel Grant, Cornell Graduate School (2008). Compiled case studies of community ownership in the Western Islands of Scotland. The focus of this research was to understand the role of community land ownership in achieving community development goals.

Fulbright Fellowship (2007-2008). Studied common-property arrangements for the management of forest and grazing land in Norway, also assessing the community development implications of various tenure types. Initiated ongoing research on cross-boundary cooperation for game management on private property.

Community Forestry Pre-dissertation Research Fellowship, U.C. Berkeley (2007). Identified appropriate cases in Vermont for a study of how communities overcome problems of collective action in the maintenance of forest-based non-commodity benefits. This research resulted in a list of community forestry cases in Vermont and an evaluation of the challenges they face.

International Research Travel Grant, Mario Einaudi Center (2007). Conducted preliminary research on the community land movement in the Scottish highlands. This trip began the research that I continued in the Western Islands in 2008 and laid the foundation for my understanding of how land ownership patterns affect community development opportunities.

Peer-reviewed Journal articles

Hoffman, Matthew. 2018. "Private Property in the Context of Community." *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* 77(1):125-148.

Hoffman, Matthew. 2017. "The role of public land use planning in facilitating conservation on private land." *Natural Areas Journal* 37(4):556-563.

Hoffman, Matthew and Bjørn Egil Flø. 2016. "Reconciling local control with appropriate scale in Norwegian moose management." *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning* 19(2):183-196.

Hoffman, Matthew. 2015. "Community Commons in Norway: the role of common property in Norwegian outfield management." *FAO Land Tenure Journal* 2015(1):146-171.

Hoffman, Matthew. 2013. "Why Community Ownership? Understanding Land Reform in Scotland." *Land Use Policy* 31:289-297.

Book Chapters

Hoffman, Matthew. 2018. "The role of land reform in rural development: productivity or democracy?" Pp. 275-285 in Zurayk, R., E. Woertz, and R. Bahn (eds), *Crisis and Conflict in Agriculture*. Wallingford, UK: CABI.

Hoffman, Matthew. 2008. "The Social Foundation of Sustainable Agriculture," pp. 315-331 in C. Hinrichs and T. Lyson (eds), *Remaking the North American Food System*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.

Hoffman, Matthew. (Forthcoming.) "Reinventing Property as a Tie of Belonging in Modern Scotland." Chapter in edited volume on *Land and Water*, by Jo Guldi and Michael Murphy. Michigan State University Press.

Book Reviews

Hoffman, Matthew. 2016. Review of *Northern Neighbors: Scotland and Norway since 1800*, edited by John Bryden, Ottar Brox, and Lesley Riddoch. *Rural Sociology* 81(2):285-288.

Hoffman, Matthew. 2022. Review of *Building Community Food Webs*, by Ken Meter. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development* 11(3):1-3.

Selected Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

“Key Characteristics of Norwegian Commons.” Invited talk at *The Future of Common Grazing in Europe* project meeting at the University of Cumbria in Ambleside, England on June 6th 2019.

“Common property in Norway and Scotland – a comparison in historical perspective.” Invited talk at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in Ås on June 18th 2018.

“Lappeteknikk for landskapet – behovet for samarbeid i bruk og forvaltning av privateide landskapet.” Invited talk at the *Mot ei framtid for utmarksbeite* seminar in Oppdal, Norway, May 29-30, 2018.

“The Public Interest in Private Land.” Presentation and chaired session at the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management in Umeå, Sweden, June 19-22, 2017.

“Democracy and Hunting in Norway and Scotland.” Invited talk at the James Hutton Institute in Aberdeen, Scotland on May 8th 2017.

“The role of land reform in rural development: increasing productivity or increasing democracy?” Invited talk at Sciences Po, Paris, France as part of the *Crisis and Conflict in the Agrarian World* symposium, March 1-3, 2017.

“Forests and People.” Presented at the annual Fulbright Seminar at the University of Oslo, Norway on February 16th 2017.

“Is the rise of fascism a consequence of our failure to embrace socialism?” Invited talk on Karl Polanyi at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim on February 3rd 2017.

“Managing Private Rights in Shared Landscapes.” Presented at Biosmart WP5: The Role of Rights in the Transition to a Smart Bioeconomy in Trondheim, Norway, August 24-25, 2016.

“The role of planning at the intersection of food systems and rural development.” Invited talk in the Planning and Architecture department, The New School, New York, NY on May 4th 2016.

“Land Tenure and Rural Community Development.” Presented at the Watson Institute’s Land and Water Conference at Brown University, Providence, RI, September 4-5, 2015.

“From Sole and Despotic Dominion to Property as a Place of Belonging.” Presented at the 26th European Society for Rural Sociology Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland, August 18-21, 2015.

“Cities and Agriculture in Historical Perspective.” Invited talk in the Architecture and Urban Design Program, New York University, Manhattan, NY on March 30th 2015.

“Private Property in Shared Landscapes.” Invited talk in the Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on January 30th 2015.

“The Role of Property and Democracy in Rural Development.” Invited talk at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio on December 1st 2014.

“Property and Community.” Polson Lecture (invited talk) at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on October 31st 2014.

“How Urban Demand in Europe Drove the Development of American Agriculture.” Invited talk in the SVA Products of Design MFA Program, Manhattan, NY on October 7th 2014.

“The Public Trust Doctrine in Norwegian Law and Nature Management.” Presented at the Special Symposium on Local Rights and Global Politics in Trondheim, Norway on May 12th 2014.

“Is Education the Sticking Point?: Problems of collective action in landscape conservation.” Presented at the 26th International Congress for Conservation Biology in Baltimore, MD, July 21-25, 2013.

“As if Freedom and Unity were Opposite: A discussion of the structural and cultural barriers to conservation on private land in America with reference to a case study in Vermont.” Invited talk at the Centre for Rural Research, Trondheim, Norway, on June 11th 2013.

“A Voice in the Wilderness: Cultural barriers to land use planning as deliberative democracy.” Presented at the Conference on Communication and Environment in Uppsala, Sweden, June 5-10, 2013.

“How Feeding the City Shapes the Countryside.” Invited talk in the Architecture and Urban Design Program, New York University, Manhattan, NY on April 9th 2013.

“Food and the Environment.” ISERP seminar series on interdisciplinary research with Dickson Despommier and Amy Trubeck at the Earth Institute, Columbia University, Manhattan, NY on February 15th 2013.

“Why Sustainable Agriculture Requires Democratic Institutions.” Invited talk at Green Mountain College, Poultney, Vermont on January 23rd 2013.

“The Commodification of Food.” Invited talk at The New School for Design, Manhattan, NY on October 5th 2012.

“Gender and Alternative Food Networks.” Presented at the joint annual meeting of the Society for Food Studies and the American Food and Human Values Society in New York City, June 20-24, 2012.

“Agricultural Multifunctionality and Problems of Collective Action.” Invited talk at Williams College, Williamstown, MA on March 12th 2012.

“Why Community Ownership?: Understanding Land Reform in Scotland.” Presented at the Re-thinking Development Conference at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, November 10-12, 2011.

“Reconciling Local Control with Landscape-Level Management: Nested Institutions for Moose Management in Norway.” Presented at the 17th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management in Madison, Wisconsin, June 4-8, 2011.

“Land Use Planning in a Vermont Town: A Tragedy in Two Acts.” Invited talk at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA on April 14th 2011.

“Community Ownership in Norway: inspiration and warnings for land reformers in Scotland.” Invited talk at the Community Assets Roundtable in Inverness, Scotland on November 23rd 2010.

“Why entrepreneurship is not enough: the need for public policy in support of small-farm agriculture.” Invited talk at Marlboro College, Marlboro, VT on October 7th 2010.

“Parish Commons in Norway: The Role of Common Property in Outfield Management.” Presented at the 58th Annual Meeting of the New York State Sociological Association in Dryden, NY on October 2nd 2010.

“Why Buy-Local Campaigns are not Enough: The limitations of markets and the need for public policy.” Presented at the Rural Heritage Institute at Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT on June 18th 2010.

“Obstacles to Community Planning: What we have learned.” Presented at the Community Forestry and Environmental Research Partnerships annual conference on St. Helena Island, SC, September 9-13, 2009.

“Obstacles to Community Planning: An agenda for research.” Presented at the Community Forestry and Environmental Research Partnerships annual conference near Craftsbury, VT, September 24-28, 2008.

“Community Forestry in Vermont.” Presented at the Community Forestry Research Fellows annual conference in Brandon Springs, TN, September 5-9, 2007.

“Civic Agriculture in the Green Mountains.” Festschrift contribution presented at A Commemoration of the Life and Scholarship of Thomas Lyson at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on June 23rd 2007.

“Agrarian Landscapes and Public Goods.” Presented at the joint annual meeting of the Society for Food Studies and the American Food and Human Values Society in Boston, June 7-11, 2006.

“Agricultural Stewardship and Community: How Social Relationships Support Sustainable Practice.” Presented at the Inter-Ivy Sociology Symposium at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on April 8th 2006.

Courses Taught

Community Development (HLB Fall 2021 and Spring 2022). A double course, combining introductory sociology with community development, research methods, and field experience.

Intro to Food Systems (USM Fall and Spring 2017-2020) provides undergraduates with an introduction to why food and agriculture have become a crossroads for scholars and activists concerned with a broad array of issues, including those related to the environment, public health, community development.

Power and Social Justice (USM Fall and Spring 2017-2021) examines how power and powerlessness are constructed in society, covering a wide variety of examples.

Food Systems Planning (NYU Spring 2012 and 2013, fall 2015) is also a general introduction to the logic of planning, with a focus on the need for non-market (but not necessarily public) institutions to manage the positive and negative externalities of agriculture and other primary sector industries.

Urban Agriculture (NYU Spring 2013) engaged students in hands-on work at the NYU Urban Farm Lab and used fieldtrips to demonstrate the many ways that food production is adapted to the urban environment. Students reflected critically on the ability of different modes of production to articulate with different social goals.

Research Methods (NYU Fall 2012) provides a broad introduction to social scientific research. A wide variety of methods (primarily qualitative) are introduced for gathering and analyzing information. Emphasis is placed on understanding the logic of scientific inquiry and on the development of good thinking and writing skills.

Food Systems I: Agriculture (NYU Fall 2011 and 2012) provides an introduction to how our food system works and how it has changed over time. Emphasis is placed on understanding the forces behind these changes and how the structure of agriculture affects society.

New Student Seminar (NYU Fall 2011–Spring 2013) introduces new graduate students to the department, providing them with advice about how to manage the challenges and enjoy the rewards of being a student.

Food Systems II: Markets (NYU Spring 2012) offers an in-depth look at conventional and alternative modes of food distribution, as well as the relationships and paradigms in which each mode is embedded. Focuses on exploring how alternative modes of distribution and consumption can support more sustainable modes of food production.

Contemporary Issues in Food Studies (NYU Fall 2011) is an undergraduate course that uses both popular and academic literature to introduce students to debates about the environment, public health, hunger, community development, and other issues related to food and agriculture.

Environment and Development (SIT Spring 2011) takes as its point of departure the tension that exists between humanity’s urgent need for economic development (almost 25% of the world’s population is unable to meet their basic needs) and the fact that we are already in a state of overshoot, with our global ecological footprint exceeding the earth’s carrying capacity and compromising the functionality of natural systems. From this grim vantage point the class considers what sustainable development can really mean and examines the hopeful possibilities for how humanity can equitably satisfy its needs on a finite planet.

Environmental Sociology (Cornell Fall 2010) provided an introduction to environmental issues as social problems, introducing non- sociology majors to the ways that human impact on the environment is influenced by institutional and other social forces.

Gender and Society (Cornell Fall 2005) provided students with an introduction to the social construction of gender. Through both popular and academic literature they became familiar with contemporary gender issues and how ideas about gender have changed over time. I had responsibility for two sections of this course.

Introduction to Sociology (Cornell Fall and Spring 2001-2003) offered a complete introduction to the study of society. Students learned about a wide range of social issues, the investigative methods that sociologists use, and the body of theory that informs social analysis. I had responsibility for two sections of this course every semester for five semesters. I have taught this course both with and without a textbook.

Public Service

Campus Food Security Committee (2018-present). In response to the high level of food insecurity, as well as homelessness and general precarity amongst the student population, I have embarked on a project with students, social service agencies in Portland, and USM staff to improve student access to basic services.

[Additional current service listed under professional responsibilities.]

Advisor to the Scottish Land Commission (2018-2019). Based on my research and writing about land reform in Scotland, I was invited to serve as advisor to the new Scottish Land Commission, reviewing reports and participating in meetings at the James Hutton Institute in Aberdeen.

Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (2016). Assisted the VHCB in developing an approach to measuring the impact of conservation. I reviewed the literature, conducted interviews with leaders of conservation organizations and agencies throughout the state, and presented a report with recommendations.

Vermont Farm to Plate (2013-2016). I served as a member of the Aggregation and Distribution Working Group, which seeks to expand market access for locally produced food, and the Farmland Access and Stewardship Working Group, which promotes good land stewardship and farmer access to land.

Vermont Forest Roundtable (2008-2016). Convened by the Vermont Natural Resource Council to address issues of forest fragmentation in Vermont and provide feedback to the legislature on forest-related issues.

Forest Stewardship Committee (2013-2015). This was a steering committee for a project of the Windham Regional Planning Commission, the purpose of which was to map the multiple uses and values of the region's forested landscape and to explore strategies for protecting these.

NYU Urban Farm Lab (2012-2013). In the summer of 2012 I produced a design for the NYU garden on Houston Street, along with a budget and a curriculum. The proposal won a \$28,000 Green Grant from the University and, after slowly making its way through the Landmarks Preservation Commission, finally won approval from the city of New York. In 2013, I organized student, faculty, and community volunteers to lay out and plant the garden.

Dummerston Planning Commission (2009-2011). Vice-chair since March 2010. My project was to work on alternative strategies for managing housing density and location while maintaining both wildlife habitat and housing affordability. I also served on the zoning subcommittee and chaired the farm subcommittee.

Dummerston Conservation Commission (2008-2011). I joined the Conservation Commission as part of my work with the town to identify and deal with obstacles to community planning. My work in this regard focused on issues of recreational access, wildlife habitat, and sprawl.

Steering Committee member, Dummerston Town Forum (2006-2007). This event brought community members together for a two-day intensive discussion about the town's future. Six action teams were formed to work on various community projects, some of which are on-going.

Professional Memberships and Selected Responsibilities, past and present

American Sociological Association – member
International Association for Society and Natural Resources – member and *SNR* journal reviewer
Society for Conservation Biology – member and reviewer of abstracts for annual conference
Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society – member and member of the 2012 organizing committee for the joint annual conference with the Association for the Study of Food and Society
North American Food Systems Network – founding member
European Society for Rural Sociology – member
Natural Areas Association – member

<i>Journal of Rural Studies</i> – reviewer	<i>Rural and Community Development Journal</i> – reviewer
<i>International Journal of the Commons</i> – reviewer	<i>Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning</i> – reviewer
<i>Landscape Research</i> – reviewer	<i>Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship</i> – reviewer
<i>Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems</i> – reviewer	<i>Maine Policy Review</i> – reviewer
<i>African Journal of Agricultural Research</i> – reviewer	<i>Food, Culture, and Society</i> – reviewer
<i>Progress in Development Studies</i> – reviewer	Book proposal reviewer for Edinburgh University Press
<i>Sustainability</i> – reviewer	Book proposal reviewer for Routledge
<i>Gastronomica</i> – reviewer	

Fork, Pen & Plow – faculty supervisor for student-run food studies journal until 2014
Organizer: The Role of Municipal Governance in Building Sustainable Food Systems – a symposium of leading food policy makers and planners in New York City at the New York University Law School (2013)
Organizing committee chair: *Universities Fighting World Hunger* annual conference (2019)
Project reviewer for the University of Vermont’s “spire of excellence” in Food Systems research
Research proposal reviewer for the National Science Foundation
Application reviewer for the Fulbright Scholar Program

Fulbright National Screening Committee (2019-present)
Editorial Team, *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development* (2020-present)
Northeast Grain Partnership Board member (2020-present)
Consultant to the Virginia Tech Humanities Food Studies Program (2021)
Food Solutions New England network team member (2021-present)
USM Food Studies Program executive committee and various subcommittees (2017-present)

Additional Training

Property Law	University of Maine Law School	2020
Renewable Energy Policy/Planning	University of Iceland (COST Action)	2017
Forestry condensed program	River Valley Technical Center, Springfield, VT	2005
Game of Logging, levels 1-3	Windham County Woodland Owners Association	2003
Wilderness Rescue and Leadership	SOLO, Conway, NH	1996
Emergency Medical Technician	Massachusetts; National Registry	1992; 1996

Languages

English:	native speaker
Norwegian:	advanced
French:	intermediate
