Nicholas E. Williams, Ph.D.

Academic Background

2015 Doctor of Philosophy, Sociocultural Anthropology

University of California, Santa Barbara

2010 Masters of Arts, Sociocultural Anthropology

University of California, Santa Barbara

2006 Bachelors of Arts, Anthropology

Environmental Studies Certificate University of Wisconsin – Madison

Professional Experience

2019-present Lecturer

California Polytechnic State University

Natural Resources Management & Environmental Science

2017-2019 Assistant Teaching Professor

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Interdisciplinary & Global Studies Division

2015-2017 Postdoctoral Fellow

University of Colorado Boulder

Department of Environmental Studies

2007-2008 Research Assistant

The International Small-Group Tree Planting Program

Research and Teaching Interests

Socio-ecological systems Project-based learning Anthropology of development Political ecology Mixed-methods research Climate adaptation Race & ethnicity

Grants and Fellowships

2020-2023 Agricultural Research Institute System Grant, California State University. (Co-I)

2013-2014 Fulbright U.S. Student Program Research Award, Nicaragua. (PI)

Internal

2021 Community-engaged Research Fellowship, Cal Poly.

2020-2021 Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity Grant Program, Cal Poly. (Co-I)

2019 Global Lab Fellow-in-Residence, WPI.

2015 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.

2013	Dean's Advancement Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2013	Graduate Student Association pre-doctoral travel grant, UC Santa Barbara.
2012-2013	Spaulding-Service Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2010-2013	Anthropology Summer Fieldwork Grants, UC Santa Barbara.
2010-2011	Luce Environmental Science to Solutions Fellowship.
2008-2014	Graduate Fee Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2009	Graduate Tuition Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2005	IES Abroad High Academic Achievement Scholarship.
2010-2011	Luce Environmental Science to Solutions Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2008-2014	Graduate Fee Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2009	Graduate Tuition Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara.
2005	IES Abroad High Academic Achievement Scholarship.

Publications

- **Williams, Nicholas E.**, Seeta A. Sistla, Daniel B. Kramer, Kara Stevens, and Adam B. Roddy. *Resource users as land-sea links in coastal and marine socio-ecological systems.* Conservation Biology, in press.
- Carrico, Amanda R., Heather B. Truelove, **Nicholas E. Williams**. 2019. *Social capital and resilience to drought among smallholding farmers*. Climatic Change 115(2):195-213.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Daniel B. Kramer. 2019. *Agricultural biodiversity maintenance in a coastal socio-ecological system*. Human Ecology 47(1): 111-120.
- Burchfield, Emily, **Nicholas E. Williams**, and Amanda R. Carrico. 2018. *Assessing the expansion of a traditional drought adaptation strategy among rice farmers in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone*. Regional Environmental Change 18(8): 2495-2503.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.**, Amanda R. Carrico, Indika Edirisinghe, and P.A. Jayamini Champika. 2018. Assessing the impacts of agrobiodiversity maintenance on food security among farming households in Sri Lanka's dry zone. Economic Botany 72(2): 196-206.
- Kramer, Daniel B., Kara Stevens, **Nicholas E. Williams**, Seeta A. Sistla, Adam B. Roddy, and Gerald Urquhart. 2017. *Livelihood transitions between land and sea in a region undergoing rapid globalization*. PLoS ONE 12(10): e0186683.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Amanda R. Carrico. 2017. *Examining adaptations to water stress among farming households in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone*. Ambio 46(5): 532-542.
- Sistla, Seeta A., Adam B. Roddy, **Nicholas E. Williams**, Daniel B. Kramer, Kara Stevens, and Steven D. Allison. 2016. *Agroforestry practices promote biodiversity and natural resource diversity in Atlantic Nicaragua*. PLoS One 11(9): e0162529.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2016. *The political ecology of 'ethnic' agricultural biodiversity maintenance in Atlantic Nicaragua*. Journal of Political Ecology 23: 223-245.

Gutiérrez, Nicholas L., Sarah R. Valencia, Trevor A. Branch, David J. Agnew, Julia K. Baum, Patricia L. Bianchi, Jorge Cornejo-Donoso, Christopher Costello, Omar Defeo, Timothy E. Essington, Ray Hilborn, Daniel D. Hoggarth, Ashley E. Larson, Chris Ninnes, Keith Sainsbury, Rebecca L. Selden, Seeta Sistla, Anthony D.M. Smith, Amanda Stern-Pirlot, Sarah J. Teck, James T. Thorson, **Nicholas E. Williams**. 2012. *Eco-labels: A reliable indicator of stock status for seafood consumers*. PLoS One 7(8): e43765.

Dissertation and Reports

- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Amanda R. Carrico. 2017. *The effectiveness of agricultural adaptation strategies for Sri Lankan farmers. Proceedings of* National Building Research Organisation Symposium. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Carrico, Amanda R. and **Nicholas E. Williams**. 2017. *Factors Associated with the Resilience of Dry Zone Farmers during the 2014 Drought. Proceedings of* National Building Research Organisation Symposium. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Seeta A. Sistla. 2016. *The impacts of agricultural development initiatives on Biodiversity and agroecological health in the Pearl Lagoon Basin*. Unpublished policy report for the Foundation for the Autonomy and Development of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua (FADCANIC).
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Seeta A. Sistla. 2015. *Agriculture and on-farm biodiversity in the Pearl Lagoon Basin*. Unpublished policy report for the climate resilience research center at Bluefields Indian and Caribbean University.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2015. The dynamic interrelationships between ethnicity and agrobiodiversity in the *Pearl Lagoon Basin, Atlantic Nicaragua*. Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Teaching

Ecosystem Management (undergraduate capstone course), Cal Poly.

Research Planning (graduate seminar), Cal Poly.

Research Methods and Data Analysis (graduate seminar), Cal Poly.

Environmental Sciences and Management Project (graduate seminar), Cal Poly.

Environmental Management, Cal Poly.

Human Dimensions of Natural Resources Management, Cal Poly.

Ethnicity and the Land, Cal Poly.

Social Science Research for the Interactive Qualifying Project, WPI.

Global Food Systems, UC Santa Barbara.

As teaching assistant:

Introduction to Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.

Environmental Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.

Coupled Human and Natural Systems, UC Santa Barbara.

Introduction to the Social and Cultural Environment, UC Santa Barbara.

Global Food Systems, UC Santa Barbara.

Introductory Cultural Anthropology, UC Santa Barbara.

Presentations, Posters, and Invited Talks

- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2020. *Small-scale farmers' responses to a changing world* (invited). California Polytechnic State University, CA.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2020. *Small-scale farmers' responses to a changing world* (invited). Idaho State University, ID.
- Robinson, Laura A. and **Nicholas E. Williams**. 2019. Supercharging project-based learning through effective library collaborations (invited). Institute on Project-Based Learning. Worcester, MA.
- Robinson, Laura A. and **Nicholas E. Williams**. 2018. Effective mindsets for teaching information use in project-based learning (invited). Institute on Project-Based Learning. Worcester, MA.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Amanda Carrico. 2017. *The effectiveness of agricultural adaptation strategies for Sri Lankan farmers.* National Building Research Organisation Symposium. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** and Amanda Carrico. 2016. *Examining adaptations to water stress among farming households in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone* (poster). American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
- Sistla, Seeta A., Adam B. Roddy, **Nicholas E. Williams**, Daniel B. Kramer, Kara Stevens, and Steven D. Allison. 2016. *Agroforestry practices promote biodiversity and natural resource diversity in Atlantic Nicaragua* (poster). American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2016. Farmers' adaptation to climate change in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone. Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, WI.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2016. Food security and food sovereignty: the paradox of development in *Caribbean Nicaragua* (invited). University of Colorado. Boulder, CO.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2016. *Ethical quandaries in international and applied research* (invited). Hampshire College. Amherst, MA.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2016. *Agricultural adaptations among smallholder farmers in Sri Lanka*. Ministry of Disaster Management. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Williams, Nicholas E. 2014. Ethnic dimensions of agricultural biodiversity on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast (invited). Centro Cultural de Nicaragua Indigenous Roundtable hosted by the U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua. Managua, Nicaragua.
- **Williams, Nicholas E.** 2013. *The role of ethnic identity in building sociocultural and ecosystem resilience in the Pearl Lagoon Basin, Atlantic Nicaragua*. Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting.

Denver, CO.

Williams, Nicholas E. 2011. *Political economy and ethnic identity in Atlantic Nicaragua*. Conference on Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean. San Diego, CA.

Synergistic Activities, Professional Development, and Service

- Center for Project-Based Learning Institute Faculty (WPI), 2018-2019.
- Bayesian Modeling for Ecological and Social Scientists. U.S. National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), invited participant. 2016.
- U.S. National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, and the Synthesis Centre within the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research Halle-Jena-Leipzig "Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services" socioenvironmental synthesis project, working group member. 2014-2016.
- Reviewer: Climatic Change; Water; Environment, Development and Sustainability; Environmental Management; Economic Botany; Journal of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition
- Broom Center for Demography, graduate research fellow. 2014-2015.
- UCSB ScienceLine volunteer. 2010-2015.
- UC Santa Barbara Academic Communities for Excellence Program WEB DuBois Event, graduate student volunteer. 2011.
- Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), member.
- Society of Economic Botany (SEB), member.

Languages and Certifications

- Spanish (Advanced)
- R (statistical software)
- Wilderness and Travel Medicine First Aid Certification