

Jonathan Wald

Centre for Engineering in Society, Concordia University
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Education

PhD in Anthropology, McGill University 2022
MA in Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley 2015
BA with First Class Joint Honours in Philosophy and Anthropology, McGill University 2013

Positions Held

Lecturer, Centre for Engineering in Society 2024-present
Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science, Concordia University
Postdoctoral Fellow, Sociology and Anthropology 2024
Concordia University
Lecturer, Anthropology and the Institute for the Study of International Development 2019-2025
McGill University
Lecturer, Science and Technology Studies 2023-2024
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Research Interests

Science and technology studies; climate governance; disaster management; Brazil; genealogy and conceptual history; anthropology of ethics and morality; critical public health, critical theory

Publications

Jonathan Wald, "The Facts are Not Enough," *Theorizing the Contemporary*, *Fieldsights*, February 11, 2025. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/the-facts-are-not-enough>

Jonathan Wald, "Genocide and a Tapeworm: Flusser's Post-Catastrophic Fabulism," *Flusser Studies* 36 (2023).

Jonathan Wald, "Horror," *Environmental Humanities* 14, no. 2 (2022): 367-370, doi.org/10.1215/22011919-9712434

Jonathan Wald. "Indefinite Accounting: Inventorying Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Minas Gerais, Brazil." *Hot Spots*, *Fieldsights*, June 23, 2022. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/indefinite-accounting-inventorying-greenhouse-gas-emissions-in-minas-gerais-brazil>

Jonathan Wald, "Breaking the Cosmic Speed Limit?: A Case Study for Science and Technology Studies," in *Showing Theory to Know Theory: Understanding Social Science Concepts through Illustrative Vignettes*, edited by Patricia Ballamingie and David Szanto (2022): doi.org/10.22215/stkt/wj22.

Jonathan Wald, "A Philosophical Anthropology of Order Itself," *Science as Culture*, (2021): doi.org/10.1080/09505431.2021.2012649.

Jonathan Wald, "Eco-Horror: Facing Climate Change in Minas Gerais, Brazil." *Platypus: The CASTAC Blog*. February 18, 2020. <http://blog.castac.org/2020/02/eco-horror-facing-climate-change-in-minas-gerais-brazil/>.

Jonathan G. Wald, "Peter Sloterdijk's Philosophical Temperaments: From Plato to Foucault," *Foucault Studies* 22 (January, 2017): 273-75, doi.org/10.22439/fs.v0i0.5250.

Jonathan G. Wald, "A Haptic Anthropology of Science (Myers's Rendering Life Molecular: Models, Modelers, and Excitable Matter)," *Current Anthropology* 57, no. 4 (August 1, 2016): 533-34, [doi:10.1086/687564](https://doi.org/10.1086/687564).

Jonathan Wald, "Two Models of Culture, Two Models of Toleration," *Pensées Canadiennes* 11 (2013): 88-102.

Works in Progress

- Ungrounded: Reflexivity in Climate Science, Politics, and Ethics*, book project in development with “Critical Studies in Risk and Disaster,” University of Pennsylvania Press.
- “Transversality,” chapter accepted for *Diversifying Theory in STS: Latin American Perspectives*, edited by Noela Invernizzi and Leandro Rodriguez-Medina, Palgrave Macmillan.
- “Surrender to the Weird: Examining the Horrors of the Climate Crisis in Minas Gerais, Brazil,” article under review at *Configurations*, the journal for the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA)
- “Opening the Labinar: Case-Based Collaboration in Undergraduate Social Science Education,” article under review at *Teaching Sociology*.
- “A Conceptual History of Neutrality in Library Science,” article in preparation for *Science, Technology, and Human Values* cowritten with Emily Jaeger-McEnroe.
- “Beyond Critical Public Health,” editorial in preparation for *Critical Public Health* cowritten with Sandra Hyde.

Fellowships and Awards

Programme de bourses d'excellence pour étudiants étrangers, FRQNT	CAD\$35,000	2024
Wolfe Chair Graduate Fellowship, McGill University	CAD\$7,000	2019-2020
Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, SSHRC	CAD\$166,667	2017-2020
Margaret Lock Prize in Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University	CAD\$1,000	2018
Samuel Lapitsky Scholarship, McGill University	CAD\$2,300	2016
Global Research & Innovation Fellowship, NSF/USAID	USD\$10,000	2014
Stanley Brandes Fellowship for Ethnographic Research, UCB	USD\$3,000	2014
Dow-Hickson Scholarship, McGill University	CAD\$2,000	2012
Reverend Domenico Roberto Gualtieri Prize, McGill University	CAD\$750	2012

Invited Presentations

- “The Future of Climate Ethics: STS Tools for Assessing the Emergence of Moral Thinking,” European Association for the Study of Science and Technology and Society for the Social Study of Science Joint Annual Meeting, Amsterdam, July 2024.
- “Beyond Cynicism and Naivete: Ethical Complexities of Climate Governance,” Society for the Social Study of Science Annual Meeting, Honolulu, 2023.
- “Ethnography of/as Politics,” The Concordia University Ethnography Lab, 2023
- “Ethical experimentation at the end of the world: Lessons from the trenches of the climate crisis in Brazil,” Research Centre for the Future of Cities, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, 2023
- “Do Something Real: Doubt and Aspirational Realism in Brazilian Climate Politics,” Asociación Latinoamericana de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología and Society for the Social Studies of Science Joint Annual Meeting, Puebla, 2022
- “Here be Dragons: Inquiry Beyond ‘World’s’ End,” Society for the Social Study of Science Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2021.
- “Yearning for Reality: Locality, Materiality, and *Conscientização* in the Climate Crisis.” University of Pennsylvania EnvironLab Virtual Conference, Philadelphia, 2021.
- “Strategic Morals: Ethical Experimentation in Brazilian Environmental Governance.” Canadian Anthropology Society and American Anthropological Association Joint General Meeting, Vancouver, 2019.
- “To Govern the Climate: Lessons from State Climate Scientists in Brazil.” Society for the Social Study of Science Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 2019.

- “Based on a True Story: Realism and Horror.” Philopolis Montréal, Montreal, 2019.
- “Feral Disasters, Feral Recovery: Ecosystem-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and the Governance of Nature,” Feral: A Nearly Carbon-Neutral Conference, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 2018.
- “Introduction to Michel Foucault,” Philopolis Montréal, Montreal, 2017.
- “Building a New World, Again: Emerging Biotechnological Economies,” American Anthropological Association General Meeting, Minneapolis, 2016.
- “Dreams of a Glucose Economy,” Concordia University Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Students’ Association Annual Conference, Montreal, 2016.
- “Thinking About Morality With Orchids,” Ethics, Aesthetics, and Agency in the Anthropocene, Berkeley, 2015.

Refereed Panels Organized

- “Changing Climates, Changing Selves: Ethical Reflexivity in the Climate Crisis,” Society for the Social Study of Science Annual Meeting, Honolulu, November 2023.
- “Beyond Critical Public Health - A Conversation,” American Anthropological Association General Meeting, Baltimore, November 19, 2021, co-organized with Sandra Hyde.
- “Confronting Worlds: The Concept of 'World' and its Stakes,” Society for the Social Study of Science Annual Meeting, Toronto, October 8, 2021, co-organized with Julianne Yip.

Teaching Experience

Concordia University	2024-2026
ENGR 392 : Impact of Technology on Society (80 students)	
ENCS 393: Social and Ethical Dimensions of Information and Communication Technology (50 students)	
ENGR 201: Professional Practice and Responsibility (600 students)	
ENCS 333: Research Methods, Ethics, Law and Regulation for Computational Biology (25 students)	
McGill University	2019-2025
ANTH 202: Sociocultural Anthropology (320 students)	
ANTH 227: Medical Anthropology (77 students)	
ANTH 343: Anthropology and the Animal (80 students)	
ANTH 355: Theories of Culture and Society (78 students)	
INTD 497: Governing Complex Ecosystems (45 students)	
INTD 497: Experts, Science, and the Politics of Development (32 students)	
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	2023-2024
STSO/INQR 1100: Science, Technology, and Society (131 students)	
STSO 2300: Environment and Society (38 students)	
STSO 4560: Gender, Technology, and Society (10 students)	
STSO 4960: Governing Complex Ecosystems (11 students)	

Collaborative Research

Ethnography Lab, Concordia University 2018-present
Team member in collaborative ethnographic projects focusing on methodology and interdisciplinarity.

Secretaria de Estado de Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Sustentável, 2017-2018
Consultant and researcher for the Minas Gerais state environmental regulatory agency where I evaluated international collaborations and translated communications with European environmental agencies.

Universidade Federal do Minas Gerais 2017-2018
Visiting researcher conducting participatory observation research on Brazilian environmental politics in the with Social Studies of Science program, part of the department of Production Engineering.

University Service

Sustainability Committee Member 2023
Department of Science and Technology Studies, RPI
Coordinate events pertaining to on-campus sustainability initiatives.

Anthropology Department Delegate 2020-2023
McGill Course Lecturers and Instructors Union
Represented anthropology course lecturers at the university-wide labour union.

Writing Group Facilitator 2020-2021
Department of Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
McGill University, Concordia University
Organized a daily, online writing session for faculty and graduate students at two universities.

Vice President, Finance and Events Coordinator 2015-2019
Anthropology Graduate Students' Association
McGill University
Elected to manage budget (~\$2,000CAD) for departmental graduate association.
Coordinated academic and non-academic events for graduate students. These events included an annual academic conference drawing approximately 400 participants.

Co-Director 2018-2019
Panthro-MTL
Co-organized an initiative to build networks and coordinate events between anthropology graduate students at McGill University, Concordia University, and the Université de Montréal.

Public Outreach

Workshop Organizer

2024

Community Engaged Ethnography

Organized and facilitated a collaborative workshop with community members from Concordia University and the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on community engagement in research and teaching.

Judge

2023

International Development Policy Case Competition

Evaluated case proposals for a cross-Canada undergraduate policy competition regarding sexual and reproductive rights in rural Colombia.

Co-founder and Co-director

2011-2013

Espace Philopolis Montréal

Co-organized Philopolis Montreal: an annual, four-day, public, bilingual, philosophy conference in collaboration with students at l'Université de Montréal, l'Université du Québec à Montréal, and Concordia University. The event drew approximately 1,000 participants.

Languages

English (Fluent), French (Advanced), Portuguese (Advanced)

Reference Contact Information

1. Professor Kregg Hetherington (Postdoctoral supervisor)

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University

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Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1M8

2. Professor Abby Kinchy (Department chair during RPI lectureship)

Professor, Department of Science and Technology Studies, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

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110 8th Street
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3. Professor Eduardo Kohn (Doctoral supervisor)

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