

## Peter Graham, PhD

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### EDUCATION

2019: Doctor of Philosophy, (Environmental Studies) Queen's University

Thesis title: *Traces of (Un-) Sustainability: Towards a Materially Engaged Ecology of Mind.*

My research builds upon the interdisciplinary framework of Material Engagement Theory, developed within the field of cognitive archaeology, to explore the societal challenge of sustainability and to answer such questions as: What is sustainability? Where does (un-) sustainability come from? Why is sustainability such a wicked problem?

2014: Master of Arts, (Educational Studies), Concordia University

Thesis title: *Meaning, Education, and Sustainability: Building Connectivity Through Dissociation.*

2009: Master of Arts, (Special Interdisciplinary Program, Social Sciences), Concordia University

Thesis title: *On the Illusory Nature of Sustainable Development: A Case Study of a Montreal Suburb.*

2008: Undergraduate Certificate (Adult Education), Concordia University

2005: Graduate Diploma (Community Economic Development), Concordia University

2004: Bachelor of Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Waterloo

1988: Bachelor of Arts (Economics), McGill University

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022- 2025: Part-time University Lecturer

Centre for Engineering in Society, Concordia University

ENGR 392 Impact of Technology on Society

2007 – 2025: Part-time University Lecturer

School of Community and Public Affairs, Concordia University

SCPA 201: Introduction to Public Policy

SCPA 215: Economics for Public Policy and Community Development

SCPA 412: Advanced Research Seminar

SCPA 543J: Contemporary Issues in CED (Sustainability)

2011 – 2025: Part-time University Lecturer

Loyola College for Diversity and Sustainability, Concordia University

LOYC 230: Globalization & Diversity

LOYC 330: Self, Culture & Development

LOYC 398: Directed Study

LOYC 398-03 Perspectives on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

LOYC 398B: Orientation/International Community Engagement

LOYC 398C: Internship in Sustainability

LOYC 420: Integrative Seminar

2019: Part-time University Lecturer

Department of Geography, Planning & Environment

GEOG 470: Environmental Management

2019 –2020: Part-time University Lecturer

Department of Education, Concordia University

ESTU 611: Educational Problems in Philosophical Perspective  
ESTU 635: Studies in Educational Change

2016: Teaching Fellow  
School of Environmental Studies, Queen's University  
ENSC 390: Sustainability

2012 & 2022: Part-time University Lecturer  
McGill School of Environment, McGill University  
ENV 400: Environmental Thought

2009 – 2022: Various other teaching and teaching assistant and research assistant contracts in Education, Environmental Studies, Writing courses for Engineers, and School of Community & Public Affairs

## PUBLICATIONS

- Graham, P., & Laval, S. L. (2024). The case for unsustainability in the university curriculum. *The International Journal of Sustainability in Economic, Social and Cultural Context*, 20(1), 117-135. doi: <https://doi.org/10.18848/2325-1115/CGP/v20i01/117-135>
- Graham, P. & Uptis, R. (2025) Chapter 1: The Matter of Reconciliation. In M. R. Carter, Y.-S. Huang, C. Mitchell, T. Strong-Wilson, D. Ranjan, T. Starlight, A. Weenie & M. Sorensen (Eds.). *Seasons of Change: Interdisciplinary Pedagogies for Reconciliation and Redress*. UBC Press.
- Graham, Peter. (2022). Wickedness Deciphered: Mediated Action and the Democratization of Agency. *The International Journal of Sustainability Policy and Practice* 18 (2): 1-12. [doi:10.18848/2325-1166/CGP/v18i02/1-12](https://doi.org/10.18848/2325-1166/CGP/v18i02/1-12).
- Graham, P., Brown, S., Goebel, A., Hovorka, A., Khan, C., Kuyvenhoven, C., Scheinman, E., Arshad-Ayaz, A., & Uptis, R. (2021). The emotional experience of sustainability courses: Learned eco-anxiety, potential ontological adjustment. *Journal of Education for Sustainable Development* 15(1), 1-15.
- Graham, P. (2020). *Traces of (Un-) Sustainability: Towards a Materially Engaged Ecology of Mind*. New York: Peter Lang.
- Graham, P.; Carter, M.; Uptis, R. & Currie-Williams, K. (2020). Beyond Ontological Autonomy: Finding One's Self in Relations. *Identity Landscapes: Contemplating Place and the Construction of Self*. Brill/Sense.
- Smith, M.; Speiran, S. & Graham, P. (2020) Megaliths, Material Engagement, and the Atmospherics of Neolithic Ethics: Pre-sage for the End(s) of Tourism. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*. 29, (2-3).
- Graham, P. (2019). Material Engagement Theory and Sustainability: The materiality of social change. *The Journal of Strategic Innovation and Sustainability (JSIS)* 14(2), <https://doi.org/10.33423/jsis.v14i3.2107>.
- Graham, P., & Arshad-Ayaz. (2016). Learned Unsustainability: Bandura's Bobo Doll Revisited. *Journal of Education for Sustainable Development*, 10(2), 1-12.
- Graham, P. (2011). On the illusory nature of sustainable development: A case study of a Montreal suburb. Saarbrücken, Germany: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & FUNDING

- 2019: Queen's University "Dream Course," \$10,000  
2017: Senator Frank Carrel Fellowship, \$10,000  
2016: Senator Frank Carrel Fellowship, \$10,000  
2016: Queen's University Centre for Teaching & Learning research grant  
Title of research project: The Experiential Dimension of University Courses on Sustainability, \$1,000  
2015: Queen's University, Dean's Award, \$10,000  
2014: Concordia University, Early Graduation Bonus, \$5,000  
2014: Research assistant,

Researched Montreal University Education programs with respect to sustainability  
2012: Research assistant, Balance/Unbalance Conference  
Received funding for the Balance/Unbalance Conference team to continue research, workshop/presentation, and publication  
2006 – 2007: Research assistant,  
Sociology & Interdisciplinary  
Worked on a literature review on self and subjectivity  
2005: Research assistant, Community Development  
Prepared notes for the writing of a book chapter on empowerment

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

2023 – 2024: Concordia University  
Faculty Interest Group (FiG) on Education for Sustainability  
2020 – Present: Concordia University  
Loyola College for Diversity and Sustainability  
Part-time Faculty Hiring Committee Representative (CUPFA)  
2024 – Present: Curriculum Committee (LOYC)  
2016 – 2017: Queen’s University, School of Environmental Studies  
PhD student representative at Departmental & Graduate Studies meetings  
2012 – 2016: Concordia University  
School of Community and Public Affairs, Concordia University  
Part-time Faculty Hiring Committee Representative (CUPFA)

## PRESENTING/FACILITATING EXPERIENCE

2025: Guest lecture ESTU 642 Selected Topics in Educational Problems: Education for Climate Justice, Concordia University. Topic: Connecting with Others, Self and Place.

2025: CIRANO-CIREQ-RRECQ Environment and Resource Economics Workshops, April 25, 2025.  
Workshop theme: “Intended for researchers and doctoral students in economics who are interested in resource and environmental economics.”

Presentation title: Is ecoanxiety a misdiagnosis? An extended mind perspective

2025: In.Site2 and Sustainability across Disciplines, March 21, 2025

Presentation title: Seeing-as Sustainability: Imagining artfully in the Anthropocene

2025: Concordia University; SCPA Brown Bag Lunch series, February 11, 2025

Presentation title: *Seeing as* Sustainability: Imagining artfully in the Anthropocene

2024: McGill University Sustainability Research Symposium, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition. February 2, 2024

Symposium theme: *Sustainability in Education*

Presentation title: Education and Sustainability: A troubled history

2023: Nineteenth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability, Feb 1, 2023 – Feb 3, 2023, Conference theme: “Decentering Sustainability: Towards Local Solutions for Global Problems” at University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (via zoom). Paper presented: *The matter of reconciliation*

2021: Canadian Sociological Society (CAS-SCS) Annual Conference, Virtual Conference, June 2-4

Presentation title: *Wickedness Deciphered: Mediated Action and the Democratisation of Agency*

2019: Sustainability: Transdisciplinary Theory, Practice, and Action conference, University of Toronto, Mississauga, October 16–18, Conference theme: Transdisciplinary Theory, Practice and Action.

Presentation title: *Material Culture and (Un-)Sustainability: Beneath Representation.*

2019: Sustainability in the City and Beyond Conference, Concordia University, March 19–21.  
Presentation title: *Material Engagement Theory and Sustainability*

2019: Fifteenth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability, January 17–19, Conference theme: From Pedagogies for Sustainability to Transformative Social Change, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.  
Paper presented: *Material Engagement Theory & Sustainability: The Materiality of Social Change*

2018: Guest panellist in the course EDEM 690 Research Design,  
Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University

2017: Loyola College for Diversity & Sustainability, Lecture Series  
Lecture title: *Since When Does Environment Need a Psychiatrist?*

2017: Queen's University, School of Environmental Studies Speaker series,  
Doctoral seminar: *Does Material Engagement Theory Have Anything To Offer Sustainability Studies?*

2017: Canadian Geography Association, Ontario Division  
Paper presentation: *Material Engagement Theory: A Geography for Ecopsychologists?*

2017: Queen's University, School of Environmental Studies Speaker series,  
*Exploring the Experiential Dimension of Sustainability Courses*  
Cassandra Kuyvenhoven and Peter Graham

2016: Indigenous Peoples and the Extractive Industry: Impacts and Alternatives, University of Ottawa  
Presentation title: *What is a Resource? A Critique of Western Economic Knowledges*

2014: Panellist, Concordia Graduate Symposium in Education  
Topic: Education for Sustainable Development

2012 – 2014: Presenter/Researcher, Balance/Unbalance Workshop at Concordia University  
Topic: Research on Education and Sustainability

2012: Presenter, Degrowth in the Americas Conference in Montreal  
Workshop title: *Changing the Growth Channel: Maps to Degrowth*  
(90-minute workshop in the theme of experiencing degrowth)

2011: Panellist, Ecocity World Summit 2011 in Montréal  
Session Title: *Paradigms and Metrics for Ecocity Economics*  
Presentation Title: Epistemology: The Necessary Foundation of Ecocity Economics

2011: Guest speaker, John Abbott College  
Topic: Values and Consequences: Use Value, Exchange Value, and Constitutive Value

2010: Guest speaker, John Abbott College  
Topic: Worldviews and Nature Parks

2010: Workshop facilitator, Padua Centre  
Topic: Economics for the Soul

2010: Guest speaker, Roslyn Elementary School  
Spoke with students in the enriched program about sustainable development.

2008: Guest speaker, John Abbott College Earth Day Event  
Topic: Social Justice and Earth Systems

2007: Concordia University Sustainability Conference “Blueprints for Change”  
Subject: Economic Aspects of Sustainable Development  
Workshop title: Economic Orthodoxy and Sustainable Development; Peaceful Coexistence or Mutual Exclusion?

2007: Guest speaker, McGill University Green  
A panel discussion about sustainable development as the Green Party of Canada Shadow Cabinet critic for Finance and EFR

2007: Guest speaker, John Abbott College  
Humanities Department Course: Moral Dilemmas (2 sections)  
Topic: Climate Change as a Moral Controversy  
2006: Guest speaker, West Island Association of the Visually Impaired  
Title: Social Aspects of Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities

2006: Guest lecturer, Concordia University  
Course: SCPA 203, Community and Public Affairs in Quebec and Canada  
Topic: Green Politics

2004 & 2005: Summer camp educator, Ecomuseum, Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue  
Designed and implemented a summer program for 12- and 13-year-olds.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2023: Concordia University, Independent student  
POLI 628 Ethics and Values in Public Policy Making

2014: Queen’s University, Centre for Teaching Learning Workshops  
Are your students engaged?  
Positive psychology in the classroom  
Recognizing and responding to students in distress  
Engaging students in higher order thinking

2014: Teaching development, Concordia University  
Teaching morally controversial topics

2013: Teaching development, Concordia University  
Appreciative pedagogy

2011: CTLS Training Day  
Emotional intelligence  
The perils of perfectionism

2010: Concordia University  
Ph.D. seminar in University Teaching (10-week course)

2010: Concordia University  
Faculty development workshop: Critical thinking  
2010: CTLS Training Day  
Developing interactive lessons  
Mind mapping 5

2009: Concordia University  
Moodle website course

2009 Concordia University  
Faculty development workshop: Incorporating play into the classroom

2009: Concordia University  
Faculty development workshop: Student plagiarism and the role of assessment in preventing it.

## CURRENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

Environmental Studies Association of Canada  
Common Ground Research Network

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & ACTIVISM

2004 2014: Terra Cotta Conservation Area Project, Pointe Claire  
President (Director 2004 – 2007)

2009: Green Party of Canada  
Shadow cabinet critic for Democratic Reform  
2007 2009: Green Party of Canada  
Shadow cabinet critic for Finance and Ecological Fiscal Reform  
Critiqued two federal budgets in Ottawa for the GPC  
2005 – 2008: Green Coalition Verte (a coalition of local environmental organizations)  
Treasurer (re-joined Board of Directors 2018-2019)  
2004 – 2008: Ecomuseum, Ste. Anne de Bellevue  
Volunteer docent

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZING EXPERIENCE

2005: Concordia University  
Organized and moderated a conference on the social and environmental impacts  
of various landscapes: Indigenous and non-indigenous perspectives.

## LANGUAGES

Native English speaker, functionally fluent in French

## CITIZENSHIP

U.S.A. by birth, naturalized Canadian citizen

## REFERENCES

Available upon request