

# JESSICA CROTEAU

Haverford College  
Environmental Studies  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Haverford College** **July 2025 – Present**  
Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the John B. Hurford '60 Center for the Arts and Humanities

## EDUCATION

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**Johns Hopkins University** **August 2020 – July 2025**  
Ph.D. in Political Science  
Major concentration: Political Theory  
Minor concentration: Law and Politics  
Dissertation: *In Praise of Decline: A Transvaluation of Eco-Values*  
Dissertation Committee: Jane Bennett, William Connolly, Anand Pandian, PJ Brendese, and Gisela Heffes

**Johns Hopkins University** **August 2020 – December 2023**  
Master of Arts: Political Science Cumulative 3.9 GPA

**Colorado State University** **August 2017 – August 2019**  
Master of Arts: Political Science, Concentration in Political Theory and Environmental Politics Cumulative 3.9 GPA  
Thesis: Mind the Gap: The Value Action Gap, Nudges, and an Ecosocial Vision

**Honors Program at Colorado State University** **August 2011 – May 2015**  
Bachelor of Arts: Political Science Cumulative 4.0 GPA  
Bachelor of Science: Business Administration, Finance concentration  
Honors Thesis: The Morality of the Decriminalization of Prostitution: An Exploration of the Ethics of Criminalizing Prostitution

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Published

2025. "Toxic Immortality: Rethinking Decline and Plastics with Lucretius," *New Political Science* 48 (2)  
• Winner of the 2024 William E. Connolly Award for "the best political theory paper in contemporary democratic thought" at the Western Political Science Association

2024. "Time in the Anthropocene," *Oxford Political Review*, April 13, 2024. Originally published in Issue 11: Time.  
<https://oxfordpoliticalreview.com/2024/04/13/time-in-the-anthropocene/>

### Forthcoming Book Chapters

"Political Ecology" in Springer's *Handbook of Environmental Philosophy*

### Under Review

- "In Praise of Decay, Toward a Politics of Compost," revise and resubmit at *Contemporary Political Theory*
- "Zombies of Empire: On Waste and the Continuities of Colonialism," resubmit at *Theory, Culture & Society*
- "For a Fermented Myth of Democracy" at *Democratic Theory*
  - Part of special issue "Democracy and Ecology in a Time of Crisis"
- "Staying with Decay: Fungi, Ethics, and the Limits of Repair" in *Soziologie und Nachhaltigkeit (SuN)*
  - Part of special issue "More-than-Human Figurations"

## FELLOWSHIPS

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- Johns Hopkins University Scholar-Teacher Award Fellowship (declined) 2025-2026
- Alexander Grass Humanities Institute Graduate Research Fellowship (declined) 2025-2026
- Fellow for the Ecological Design Collective 2024-2025
- Department of Political Science Doctoral Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University 2020-2025

## AWARDS

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- Sponsored Participant for Bauhaus-Weimar Summer Lab: Nature-Thinking 2025
- William E. Connolly Award for “the best political theory paper in contemporary democratic thought” at the Western Political Science Association 2024
- Sponsored Participant for the Cornell School of Criticism and Theory from the Krieger School and Johns Hopkins University 2021

## GRANTS

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- Haverford College, “Tri-Co Philly Engagement Grant” 2025

## INTERVIEWS

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Johns Hopkins Arts & Sciences Magazine: *From Trash to Treasure*

<https://magazine.krieger.jhu.edu/2025/05/from-trash-to-treasure/>

Johns Hopkins University Office of Sustainability Spotlight: *Exploring Decomposition, Destruction, and Decline*

<https://sustainability.jhu.edu/news/sustainability-spotlight-exploring-decomposition-destruction-and-decline/>

## CONFERENCES

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### Panels Organized

- Beyond Utopia: Reimagining Revolution and Decline in a Fragile World 2025  
selected as the Theme Panel for the Western Political Science Association’s 2025 conference
- Power and Balance: Re-thinking Hierarchies, Equality, and Freedoms with the More-Than-Human World 2025  
at the Western Political Science Association
- Reimagining World-Making: Ideals, Concepts & Processes of Oppositional Politics at the 2024  
American Political Science Association
- Compost Politics: Deaths and New Directions in Eco-Materialism at the Western Political Science Association 2024
- Matters of Disintegration and Vitality: Critical Perspectives on Environmental Thought and Politics 2023  
at the American Political Science Association (accepted but did not attend due to labor strike)
- The Materiality of Emergence at the Western Political Science Association 2023

### Discussant

- “Hope Springs Eternal: So Why Is Everybody Selling It?” at the Western Political Science Association 2025
- “Author-meets-critics: Sharon Krause’s Eco-Emancipation: An Earthly Politics of Freedom” at 2024  
the Western Political Science Association

### Select Paper Presentations

- “In Praise of Decay, Toward a Politics of Compost” at the Norbert Elias Foundation’s conference A Climate of (De-)Civilization? Shifting Dynamics between Nature and Society 2025
- “In Praise of Decay, Toward a Politics of Compost” at Northwestern University’s Graduate Student Political Theory Workshop 2024
- “Zombies of Empire and Colonialism: Decline as Decolonialism” at American Political Science Association 2024
- “Graves to Gardens: The Politics of Life, Death, and Renewal in a Recycled World” at Western Political Science Association 2024
- “Architects of Deterioration” at the Andrea Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy at the University of Pennsylvania 2024
- “Toxic Immortalities: Plastics and an Eco-Philosophy in Praise of Decline” at International Studies Association Northeast 2023
- “Morbid Materialism: Lucretian Materiality and Potentiality in Deaths” at Western Political Science Association 2023
- “From Critique to Celebration: Exploring a Selective Attentiveness to Affirmation with Friedrich Nietzsche and Walt Whitman” at Western Political Science Association 2022
- “The Artist and the Philosopher: Deleuze and Guattari, Klee, and the Grammar of Inquiry” at the Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought Graduate Conference 2021

## TEACHING

### Haverford College

Garbage: The Politics, Problems, and Possibilities of Pollution

Fall 2025

### Johns Hopkins University

The Animal and the Other: Intersections of Race, Animal Rights, and Law

Spring 2024

Graves to Gardens: The Politics of Compost

Fall 2023

### Guest Lecturer

“Ghosts: A Conceptual Technology for Plastics” at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

October 2024

“Political Parties” at Baltimore’s Polytechnic Institute

November 2023

### Training

Johns Hopkins Teaching Academy Certificate of Completion

Spring 2024

Johns Hopkins Teaching Institute

Summer 2023

Teaching K-Ph. D

Fall 2023

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee member for Clay Morgan Award for the Best Book in Environmental Political Theory

2024-2025

*Western Political Science Association*

Executive Council Environmental Politics and Theory Related Group

November 2023 - Present

*American Political Science Association*

Ecological Design Collective Coordinator

August 2024 – August 2025

*Ecological Design Collective*

Census Open Innovation Labs Intern, 2024 Indigenous Communities Focused Sprints

September-December 2024

*United States Census Bureau*

<b>Reviewer for Campus as a Living Lab Sustainability Grants</b> <i>Johns Hopkins University Office of Sustainability</i>	June 2024
<b>Group Facilitator for Johns Hopkins Teaching Institute</b> <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>	June 2024
<b>Political Science Undergraduate Coordinator</b> <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>	July 2023 – July 2024
<b>Research Assistant</b> Dr. Anand Pandian of Johns Hopkins Anthropology <i>Baltimore, MD</i>	April 2023 – April 2024
<b>Racial Politics Working Group, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science</b> <i>Baltimore, MD</i>	2022 - 2024
<b>Johns Hopkins University's Graduate Racial Politics Summer School Co-creator</b> <i>Baltimore, MD</i>	2022 - 2023
<b>Environmental Justice Leadership Forum</b> <i>Washington DC</i>	2022
<b>Cornell School of Criticism and Theory</b> <i>Cornell University at Ithaca, NY</i>	2021
<b>Johns Hopkins University's Political Science Graduate Colloquium Coordinator</b> <i>Baltimore, MD</i>	2021 - 2022

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

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APSA Environmental Politics and Theory, Program Co-Chair	2023 - Present
American Political Science Association, Member	2022 - Present
Environmental Political Theory Working Group, Member	2023 - Present
Western Political Science Association, Member	2020 - Present
Association for Political Theory, Member	2022 - Present

## NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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<b>Hewlett Packard - Environmental Sustainability</b> <i>Fort Collins, CO</i>	June 2019 – July 2020
<b>United Nations - Environmental Sustainability</b> <i>New York Headquarters, Department of Management</i>	May 2018 – November 2018
<b>Hewlett Packard - Environmental Program Management Intern</b> <i>Fort Collins, CO - 40 hours/week during summer and 25 hours/week during school year</i>	June 2011 - August 2015