

# Julio Rodríguez Stimson, Ph.D.

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATOR & ANTHROPOLOGIST

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## PROFILE

Environmental communicator and anthropologist with more than six years of communications experience turning complex environmental research into clear, public-facing stories, reports, videos, web content, and policy-relevant insights. My work sits at the intersection of science, conservation, climate change, and the everyday lives of communities navigating growing environmental uncertainty. I also have nine years of ethnographic research experience across Latin America and the Caribbean, working with farmers, Indigenous communities, scientists, and NGOs. I am especially skilled at translating between technical experts, communities, and public audiences.

## SKILLS

- **Software:** Adobe Premiere, Photoshop, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, NVivo, Zotero, and web content management.
- **Languages:** bilingual/fluent in English & Spanish; intermediate French (B1); beginner Portuguese.
- **Communications:** writing, editing, translating, presenting, filmmaking, managing social media platforms.

## VIDEO PORTFOLIO

- **Lindblad Expeditions - National Geographic** [YouTube marketing videos](#).
- **Galápagos conservation videos** uploaded to the '[Charles Darwin Foundation](#)' YouTube channel from March 5 to November 5, 2014.
- **Amazonian videos** uploaded to the '[Comunidad Cofán Zábalo](#)' to support the Cofán people.

## EDUCATION

### University of Oxford, UK

- Ph.D. in Anthropology, 2019 – 2023.  
Thesis: *Galapagos Farmers: Risk and the Coexistential Rift*

### KU Leuven, Belgium

- M.Sc. in Social and Cultural Anthropology, 2014 – 2016. Magna cum laude.
- Erasmus Exchange Program, Heidelberg University, Germany, Winter Semester, 2015.

### Carleton College, Northfield, MN, USA

- B.A. in History, 2007 – 2011. Cum laude.

### British School, Quito, Ecuador

- International Baccalaureate Bilingual Diploma (English-Spanish), 2007. Valedictorian.

## COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

### Postdoctoral Researcher

*October 2023 – August 2024*

#### University of Maine, Orono, ME, USA

- Led the communications workstream for an NSF-funded interdisciplinary research project, translating scientific results into public-facing [articles and video animations](#).

### Video Chronicler

*April 2017 – January 2020*

#### Lindblad Expeditions - National Geographic, Worldwide

- Filmed, edited, and produced over fifty 30-minute videos to document expeditions aboard National Geographic ships in Galápagos, Antarctica, Alaska, Iceland, Svalbard, Panama, and Costa Rica.

### Environmental Communications Officer

*June 2017 – June 2018*

#### Charles Darwin Foundation, Galápagos, Ecuador

- Wrote, edited, and translated the 2016 – 17 [Annual Report](#) and [Galápagos Passport](#).
- Wrote, edited, translated, and uploaded [articles](#), press releases, web content, Facebook posts, and monthly e-newsletters.
- Developed donor-facing messaging and supported communications strategies.
- Filmed, edited, and produced videos promoting science and conservation.

### Communication/Public Information Intern

*January – March 2017*

#### United Nations Environment Programme (CMS/AEWA), Bonn, Germany

- Researched and drafted segments of the text for the 'Value of Spiritual Conservation' resolution presented at the Convention on Migratory Species' (CMS) COP 12.
- Wrote and published articles for CMS and World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2017.
- Wrote, edited, and produced three promotional videos.
- Managed the WMBD and CMS Facebook and Twitter/X pages.

### Film & Communications Intern

*February – August 2014*

#### Charles Darwin Foundation, Galápagos, Ecuador

- Key member of a small media team that raised \$1.3 million in unrestricted income from donors in 25 countries in 2014.
- Managed bilingual social media pages, increasing 'likes' from 1,000 to 10,000.
- Filmed, edited, and produced 20 short films about environmental conservation work.
- Wrote, translated, and uploaded articles to the website.
- Presented the Foundation's work on a cruise ship with hundreds of passengers.

### Film & Journalism Intern

*May – September 2013*

#### Archipelagos Institute of Marine Conservation, Samos, Greece

- Filmed, edited, and produced 10 short films about environmental conservation work.
- Edited posters, articles, and web content.

### Film & Education Intern

*September 2012 – February 2013*

#### Forbes Marshall, Pune, India

- Rewrote the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) brochure.
- Filmed, edited, and produced 23 short films about energy efficiency and CSR.
- Taught English at an NGO called Akanksha.

### Video Editor & Producer

*Summer 2009 & Winter 2010*

#### Shoestring Educational Productions, San Diego, CA, USA

- Co-producer and co-editor of 'A Direction Home,' a 55-minute documentary about a Vietnam veteran who overcame PTSD.
- Co-producer and co-editor of 'Balboa Park's Best Kept Secret,' a 30-minute documentary about the San Diego Veterans Museum and Memorial Center.

## PRESENTATIONS

- Seminar on Montserrat, HSMT series, Trinity Term, University of Oxford (2026).
- Society for Applied Anthropology, *The Everyday Practice of Applied Anthropology*, (2026).
- World Anthropological Union, *Unearthing Humanity* (2025)
- SHV30 Conference, Montserrat Island (2025).
- American Anthropological Association, *Praxis* (2024).
- Pathways Europe: Revisiting *What Is Wild for Coexisting*, Córdoba, Spain (2024).
- Town hall meeting, Galapagos (2023).
- American Anthropological Association, Seattle WA, USA (2022).

## PH.D. BLOG ARTICLES

- Coeditor of [Weather Matters](#), concerning the human dimensions of climate change, 2020 to 2023.
- [Galapagos Eutopia](#), Weather Matters
- [Coping with Uncertain Times: Farmers, the Pandemic, and Climate Change in Galapagos](#), Weather Matters
- [Striving for Coexistence: Is Galapagos Goat Cheese the Solution?](#), Geography Directions
- [In the Field](#), Royal Geographical Society

## AWARDS

- ‘School of Anthropology & Museum Ethnography Doctoral Scholarship’, Oxford University, 2019 – 2021.
- ‘Frederick Soddy Postgraduate Award’ (Ph.D. fieldwork grant), Royal Geographical Society (with the IBG-Institute of British Geographers), 2020 – 2021.
- Distinction on senior thesis, Carleton College, Northfield, MN, USA, 2011.

## FORTHCOMING WORK

- Stimson, J. R., Ciftci, M. M., Rothenberg, M., Tuitt, S., McElroy, C., Bivar, V., Mather, T. A., and Pyle, D. M. (2026). Energy transition in post-disaster Montserrat: Challenges and futures of geothermal development. *Energy Policy*. [Under review].
- Stimson, J. R. & Thornton, T. (2026). Voices from the Galapagos: How farmers perceive climate change, *Journal of Rural Studies*. [Under review].
- Stimson, J. R. (2026). Fractured paradise – Galapagos farmers and the coexistential rift, Palgrave Macmillan [Book manuscript in preparation, contract signed, due December 2026].

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Postdoctoral Research Associate: Montserrat Island

September 2024 – Present

#### University of Oxford, UK

- Conducted ethnographic and archival research on community perspectives of geothermal energy, critical mineral extraction from geofluids, and the Soufrière Hills volcano, island of Montserrat.
- Collected over 100 interviews during five months of fieldwork and facilitated two UK-based focus groups; currently analysing data and drafting four journal articles in collaboration with the research team.

### Postdoctoral Research Associate: Guatemala

October 2023 – August 2024

#### University of Maine, ME

- Investigated the interplay between mosquito-borne diseases & tourism in Guatemala.
- Produced three co-authored academic publications.

### Doctoral Research: Galapagos Islands

October 2019 – November 2023

#### University of Oxford, UK

- Researched the compounding risks faced by Galapagos farmers, including climate change, agricultural pests, and COVID-19. Coined the ‘coexistential rift’ concept, describing a cycle of debt and alienation.
- Conducted a year of participant observation during three farm stays and collected over 200 interviews during a year of ethnographic research.

### Master’s Research: Amazon Rainforest

October 2014 – July 2016

#### KU Leuven, Belgium

- Conducted two months of ethnographic research on the environmental, political, and economic difficulties facing the Cofán Community of Zábalo in the Ecuadorian Amazon. Recorded 70 hours of interviews and used participant observation.
- Produced 10 short videos to support the community.

### Bachelor’s Research: Basque Country

August 2010

#### Carleton College, MN

- Conducted archival research on ETA’s relationship with clergy in the Basque Country.
- Interviewed Xabier Zumalde, ETA’s first military leader.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Postdoctoral Research Associate

September 2024 – Present

#### University of Oxford, UK

- Taught undergraduate tutorials in ‘Introduction to Anthropological Theory’ and ‘Social Analysis and Interpretation’ at the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography.

### Postdoctoral Research Associate

October 2023 – August 2024

#### University of Maine, Orono, ME, USA

- Taught undergraduate course ‘Ecotourism: Principles, Trends, and Issues’
- Co-taught graduate course ‘Qualitative Data Analysis in Natural Resources’.
- Mentored graduate students on NVivo and qualitative methods.

### ESL Instructor

January 2014 – February 2014

#### Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Cumbayá, Ecuador

- Taught a one-month intensive advanced English course to undergraduate students.

### North American Language & Culture Assistant

October 2011 – May 2012

#### Xunta de Galicia, Pontevedra, Spain

- Taught English listening and speaking skills to students aged 9-16 at a rural school.

### Spanish Teaching Assistant

January – June 2011

#### Carleton College, Northfield, MN, USA

- Taught listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills for introductory Spanish.

## SELECT ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Stimson, J. R. (2026). The geographical imaginaries of Galapagos: Scientific laboratory, tourist paradise, bureaucratic prison, or lifeworld? *Journal of Political Ecology*, 33(1), 10402.
- Rothenberg, M., Stimson, J. R., & Roach, M. (2026). “One more river to cross”: Creativity, tradition, survivance, and solastalgia in 30 years of volcanic crisis on Montserrat. In A. Richards & R. Ansano (Eds.), *Intangible cultural heritage and emergencies in the Caribbean*. Routledge. [In Press].
- Stimson, J.R. (2023). Farming Paradise: Covid-19 and the Coexistential Rift. *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, 15(1).