

ALYSE BERTENTHAL

Wake Forest University Law School
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Wake Forest University School of Law

Assistant Professor of Law, July 2020-July 2023

Associate Professor of Law, July 2023-present

University of California, Irvine School of Law

Mysun Foundation Fellow in Environmental Justice, University of California – Irvine, 2018-2020

EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine, Ph.D., Criminology, Law & Society, 2018

The University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 2003

Yale University, B.A., Literature, 1998

PUBLICATIONS

The Green Fourth Amendment, __ UC DAVIS L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2026)

Environmentalists' Latent Abolitionism, __ UCLA L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2025)

Toxic Narratives, Toxic Communities, and Enforcement of Environmental (In)Justice, 99 WASH. U. L. REV. 1053 (2024)

Law's Artefacts: Personal Rapid Transit and Public Narratives of Hitchhiking and Murder, SOCIAL STUDIES OF SCIENCE (2024), <https://doi.org/10.1177/03063127241229071> (with Simon Cole)

Water Thieves, JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECOLOGY 31(1) (2024), <https://doi.org/10.2458/jpe.5427>

The Colour of Eco-Crime, 63 THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF CRIMINOLOGY 615 (2023)

The Alchemy of the Public Interest, 32 YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & THE HUMANITIES 1 (2021)

Scaling the Baseline: Technicalities and Environmental Regulation in Owens Valley, California, 43 LAW & POLICY 30 (2021)

The Reasonable Agency Standard: An Empirical Analysis, 2020 WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW 1 (2020)

Standing Up for Trees: Rethinking Representation in a Multispecies Context, 32 LAW & LITERATURE 355 (2020)

- Reviewed by Maneesha Deckha, "Legal Human Humility: Contending With the Representation of Trees and Other 'Nature' Beings," JOTWELL, at <https://equality.jotwell.com/legal-human-humility-contending-with-the-representation-of-trees-and-other-nature-beings/> (May 2021)

Environmental Justice in Context: Assumptions, Meanings, and Practices of Environmental Justice in Courts, 11 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE 203 (2018)

Science, Technology, Society, and Law, 13 ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE 351 (2018) (with Simon Cole)

The “Right Paper”: *Developing Legal Literacy Through Legal Self-Help*, 42 LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY 963 (2017)

Speaking of Justice: Encounters in a Legal Self-Help Clinic, 39 POLAR: POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY REVIEW 261 (2016)

The Calculus of the Record: Criminal History in the Making of U.S. Federal Sentencing Guidelines, 20 THEORETICAL CRIMINOLOGY 145 (2015) (with Mona Lynch)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

ABF/JPB Access to Justice Fellowship	2024
WFU Engaged Scholars Award	2024
WFU Provost’s Grant for Excellence in Research	2023
NC Strategic Partnerships Grant	2022
Mysun Foundation Fellowship	2018
Haynes Lindley Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	2017
Mellon/ACLS Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	2016-2017
Gil Geis Award for Excellence in Research	2017
Justice Lab Fellowship, Georgetown Law School	2016
National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant	2015-2016
UC Irvine Center for Law, Society and Culture Fellowship	2014-2015
Michelle Smith Pontell Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Graduate Study	2014
SSPF Summer Institute on Inequality and Pre-Dissertation Fellowship	2013
Microsemi/Peterson Fellowship	2012-2013
Social Ecology Merit Fellowship	2011-2012

COURSES TAUGHT

- Criminal Law
- Criminal Procedure – Investigation

- Selected Topics in Criminal Procedure: Discretion in Conservation Law Enforcement
- Environmental Justice

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate, Kecker & Van Nest LLP, San Francisco, CA, 2007-2009

Judicial Law Clerk, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, the Honorable A. Howard Matz, Los Angeles, CA, 2006-2007

Attorney, American Civil Liberties Union (Criminal Law Reform Project), Santa Cruz, CA, 2004-2006

Judicial Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the Honorable Richard A. Paez, Pasadena, CA, 2003-2004

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, “New Perspectives on Fourth Amendment Suspicion,” Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, 2025

Panelist, “Plural Publishing Personas: Writing for Law and Non-Law Audiences,” Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, 2025

Presenter, “Partnering for Impact: How Government, Research, and Philanthropy Collaborate to Make a Difference,” North Carolina Office for Strategic Partnerships, 2024

Presenter, “Research for Conservation Law Enforcement,” National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs at the Association Fish & Wildlife Agencies Annual Meeting, 2024

Presenter, “Environmentalists’ Latent Abolitionism,” Georgia State University, 2024

Presenter, “Toxic Narratives, Toxic Communities,” Florida International University, 2023

Presenter, “Enforcing Environmental Justice,” Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Puerto Rico, 2023

Presenter, “Water Thieves,” Works-in-Progress Session, National Resources Law Teachers Institute, Monterey, CA, 2022

Presenter, “Enforcing Environmental Injustice,” Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship, online, 2022

Invited Speaker, “The Rights of Nature and the Imagination,” Stanford University, online, 2022

Presenter, “Criminalizing Water Mis-Use,” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, online, 2022

Presenter, “Enforcing Environmental Justice,” University of Richmond School of Law, online, 2022

Panelist, “What the Winston Weaver Fire Tells Us About Social and Environmental Justice,” WFU Law School, Winston Salem, NC, 2022

Panel Organizer/Moderator, "Teaching from a 'Law and...' Perspective," AALS, online, 2022

Panelist, "What's Law Got To Do With It?: A Forward-Looking Retrospective," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, online, 2021

"Wildlife Forensics: A Comparative Cultural Perspective," Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, online, 2021

Invited Speaker, "Helping Ourselves to Justice: Perspectives on Legal Self-Help," Laboratoire de Cyberjustice, Université de Montréal, online, 2021

"The Alchemy of the Public Interest," AALS Annual Meeting, online, 2021

Panelist, "Re-Presenting Qualitative Scholarship," AALS Annual Meeting, online, 2021

Invited Participant, "The Alchemy of the Public Interest," Rural Legal Scholars Workshop, online, 2020

Invited participant, NSF A2J Workshop, Northwestern Law School, Chicago, IL, 2019

Presenter, "Representing Trees," Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., 2019

Invited participant, Civil Rights Retreat, Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, Rancho Mirage, CA, January 5-6, 2019

Invited participant, "Municipal Power and the Rural 'Non-Place': Los Angeles and the Owens Valley, California, 1900-1940." Princeton University Program in American Studies Graduate Student Conference, Princeton, NJ, 2016

Panel Organizer, "Law Matters: Legal Bodies, Practices, and Spaces," Law & Society Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2015

Presenter, "The Emergence of the 'Right Paper': An Examination of the Form(s) of Relations in a Legal Self-Help Clinic," American Ethnological Society Spring Meeting, 2015

Presenter, "An Appealing Practice: On Legal Forms, Writing Acts, and the Making of Law," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2014

Presenter, "Law in Translation: The Construction of Legal Narratives," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2013

SELECTED SERVICE

Wake Forest Law School

Member, Academic Rules and Discipline Committee, 2022 – present

Faculty Adviser, First Generation Law Students, 2022 – present

Faculty Adviser, American Constitution Society, 2022 – present

Co-Chair, Intellectual Life Committee, WFU Law School, 2021 – 2024

Faculty Adviser, Public Interest Law Organization, 2021 – present

Member, Student Wellbeing Committee, Summer 2022 – 2023

Member, Experiential Education Committee, 2021-2022

Wake Forest University

Faculty Representative, WFU Board of Trustees Committee on Academic Affairs, 2023 – present

Faculty Representative, WFU Strategic Framework Planning Committee, 2023

Affiliate, Race, Inequality, and Policy Initiative, 2022 – present

Convener, EJ and the Humanities Faculty Seminar, 2022-2023

Member, Center for Energy, Environment & Sustainability, 2020 – present

Other

Member, Steering Committee, Emerging Insights on Access to Justice, 2024

Member, Steering Committee, Summit on Environmental Justice, Racism and the Law, 2023

Member-Scholar, Center for Progressive Reform, 2022 – present

Member, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Organization of Scientific Area Committees, Legal Task Group and Wildlife Forensic Biology Subcommittee, 2021 – present

Chair, American Association of Law Schools Law & Anthropology Section, 2021 – 2022; Board Member 2022 – 2024

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York