

CURRICULUM VITAE

# Francesca C. Howell

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*Empathetic/Intellectual/Engaging/Motivator*

SIGNIFICANT ACADEMIC ABILITIES AND SKILLS

- Teaching, including in international settings and foreign languages
- Writing, research and editing
- Advising/counseling
- Curriculum development and pedagogical knowledge
- Interviewing skills, developed in diverse professional arenas and doctoral studies
- Public speaking and presenting, including in Spanish & Italian

MOST PERTINENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**NAROPA UNIVERSITY**, Boulder, CO — 2002-2006; 2012-2016

Adjunct Faculty in Environmental Studies and Environmental Leadership; College Core Courses taught in 2015 & 2016: BA — **Geography, Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape**; MA — **The New Science and its Cultural Applications**; and additionally in 2016: MA — **Environmental Leadership Capstone**. Advised MA students on capstone thesis work, their “Applied Leadership Projects”.

As Adjunct faculty 2002-2006 & 2012-2016 taught classes and led workshops in the BA and MA programs; topics included four semesters of **Deep Ecology in Context**; in the MA in Environmental Leadership: **Environmental Justice** and **Indigenous Models of Leadership**. Advised numerous BA and MA students on thesis projects. Assisted in all areas of curriculum development, pedagogical strategies, admissions student interviews and selection, study abroad advising, etc

**MA Academic Advisor** — 2004 to 2006

While teaching was also MA Advisor; maintained databases and files on approximately 35 students; role also required personal meetings with students to advise on coursework, thesis projects, career planning, etc.

Adjunct Faculty in School of Extended Studies — 2003 to 2005

Taught various topics in the School of Extended Studies, including **Creative Writing**.

**CHERRY HILL SEMINARY**, Columbia, SC — 2014-2016

Adjunct Faculty – MA in Theology and Religious History; aided in designing new **Certificate in Environmental Leadership**, 2016

2014 - Taught on-line course in **Rhetoric, Writing and Research for Graduate Scholarship**.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, Boulder, CO — 2003-2005**

Assistant Instructor in the Italian Department

Helped with language instruction and the creation of a theatre production in Italian

**HOWELL INTERNATIONAL INC., Boulder, CO — 1997-2001**

Director

Assisted in the creation and development of a financial firm specializing in international and domestic business advisory. Duties included all levels of administrative tasks, writing and research as well as daily work with student interns and a wide range of US and international clients; the development of business strategy for small start-up businesses, venture capital, acquisitions, etc. Routinely aided in developing and maintaining relationships with clients from widely diversified cultures, such as Latin America, the Middle East and Europe.

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE****THE CENTER FOR ENGLISH STUDIES, NY, NY**

Teacher of ESL classes, business and accent correction courses — 1984 to 1988

All levels of students; designed many courses and **public speaking** workshops.**THE ITALIAN SCHOOL, “LA SCUOLA D’ITALIA”, NY, NY**

Teacher of elementary school English and adult ESL courses, all with Italians — 1985 to 1986.

Designed and carried out a variety of courses, for all ages. Children were bi-lingual, English-Italian, or ESL Italian students.

**THE CHILEAN-NORTH AMERICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE, Santiago, Chile**

Teacher of ESL/EFL; personally designed public speaking workshops — 1981 to 1983

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Dept. of Italian, Washington, DC**

Teaching and Editing Assistant in Italian Dept. — 1978 to 1979

*(Full professional CV available listing other fields, involvements and positions, upon request.)***EDUCATION****THE OPEN UNIVERSITY, UK — Doctor of Philosophy in Religious Studies, 2011**Dissertation: *Sense of Place and Festival in Northern Italy: Perspectives on place, time and community*

Supervisors: Dr. Graham Harvey and Dr. Marion Bowman

My research and dissertation define a unique interdisciplinary critical intersection, drawing from religious studies, environmental studies, archeology, anthropology and philosophy. The ethnographic study was based on over one hundred interviews, carried out in Italian. The ultimate

analysis offers fresh perspectives on relationship with place, materiality and community, among other theories. I am currently adapting the dissertation for publication by Bloomsbury Academic.

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, UK— Masters of Philosophy, 1993**

Thesis: *National Sovereignty and Environmental Conservation in Latin America*.

The program was carried out in both English and Spanish; it focused on the Andean and Amazonian native cultures, history and ecosystems. Supervisor: Dr. David Lehmann

The thesis topic arose out of my international conservation work throughout South America, including at significant international conferences. It was highly interdisciplinary, drawing from theories and literature in political science and international law, among other disciplines. Much of the research was carried out in Spanish.

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, School of Languages and Linguistics, Washington, DC  
Bachelor of Science in Languages & Linguistics, 1979 — Languages studied = French & Italian  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE AND SLL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Received the School of Languages and Linguistics academic award for outstanding achievement and scholarship in a field of concentration throughout four undergraduate years. Was employed as a student-teacher and editor on academic texts as an undergraduate. Lived one full academic year on study abroad in Florence, and passed oral and written exams in Italian.

**ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

*Food, Festival and Religion: Materiality and place in Italy*, London and NY: Bloomsbury Publishing, forthcoming.

“**Bellisama and Aradia: Paganism Re-emerges in Italy**”, in *Modern Pagan and Native Faith Movements in Europe: Colonial and Nationalist Impulses*. Rountree, K. ed. NY and Oxford: Berghahn Publishers, May 2015.

“**Heterotopia, Community and Sense of Place: Performing land and folding time in the Badalisc festival of Northern Italy**”, *Folklore*, Vol. 124. Issue 1. April 2013.

“**The Goddess Returns to Italy: Paganism and Wicca reborn as a new religious and social movement**”, in *The Pomegranate – The International Journal of Pagan Studies*, Vol. 10.1. 2008.

*(Other titles of publications in the popular press, in the US and abroad, available upon request.)*

**A SELECTION OF ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PAPERS**

**THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION, NATURE AND CULTURE**, The New School, New York, April 2017

- Paper: “Materiality of Place: Finding Sacredness and Resilience through Bonds with Place”

**THE 11th CONFERENCE ON CONTEMPORARY PAGAN STUDIES**, annual conference, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, January 2015

- Paper: “The Other-than-Human and the Dark: A Deep Ecological View”

**THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION**, annual conference Chicago, ILL., Nov. 2012 – panel on Religion in Europe

- Paper: “Celticity, Place and Power — Civil Religion and Materiality in Northern Italy’s ‘Celtic New Year’ Festival”

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY**, Milton Keynes, UK, February 2011 – Cross Cultural Identities Research Group

- Paper: “Culture and Place: Perspectives on Place from Northern Italy”

**UNIVERSITY OF BANGOR**, North Wales, Sept. 2009 – British Association for the Study of Religion (BASR)

- Paper: “Dragons, Druids, and Other Companions for Sunday in the Park: Fieldwork on Northern Italy’s Local festivals”

**UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM**, July 2009 – International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture (ISSRNC)

- Paper: “Dragons, Witches and Polenta: Sense of Place and Festival in Northern Italy”

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**, May 2008 – INFORM/CESNUR conference on New Religious Movements

- Paper: “The Goddess Returns to Italy — Paganism and Wicca as a New Religious and Social Movement”

*(I have presented many other papers in conferences and held myriad workshops on varied topics, throughout the US, Europe and South America.)*

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

The American Academy of Religion; The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture; The Parliament of World Religions; Life member - Clare Hall, The University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

### **ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Founding member and current campaigner/activist for *Boulder Rights of Nature*, a community organization working with government and state offices, and local nonprofits; organizer/presenter Rights of Nature Film Festival
- Counselor for The Boulder Safehouse, a women and children's shelter
- Volunteer Naturalist for Boulder County, leading public programs, hikes, etc. Participated in wildlife monitoring teams; led workshops for school groups, in Spanish as well as English
- Volunteer organizer, teacher and director in many nonprofit/charity organizations and schools: US, Italy, UK; the *Lega Nazionale per la Difesa del Cane*, national dog shelter in Milan, Italy
- Coached elementary, middle school, high school and university drama productions, in US and Europe
- Fifteen+ years experience in professional theatre, TV and radio, including in Italian and Spanish (Separate acting CV available)
- Life member — The Sierra Club and The Nature Conservancy
- Fluent in Italian and Spanish; proficient in French
- Comfortable with Mac and PC programs — eg Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Skype, ISIS, PeopleSoft; have worked daily with numerous university search engines and databases
- Interests and hobbies include: running, hiking, skiing, nature & animals; acting, singing & dance; meditation; international issues, languages, history and travel.