

## Marvin Joseph F. Montefrio

Assistant Professor  
Division of Social Science (Environmental Studies)  
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### EDUCATION

- 2014      Ph.D. Environmental and Natural Resources Policy  
State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
Dissertation: Growing low carbon commodities in the uplands: Integration of indigenous smallholders in biofuels and rubber production regimes in the Philippines (Committee: David Sonnenfeld [chair]; Valerie Luzadis; A.H. Peter Castro; Philip McMichael; and Carol Pierce Colfer)
- 2014      Masters of Public Administration (Environment and International Development)  
Certificate of Advanced Studies in Conflict Resolution  
Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs
- 2007      Master of Science in Environmental Management  
National University of Singapore
- 2004      Master of Science in Environmental Engineering  
National University of Singapore
- 2001      Civil Engineering  
University of the Philippines, Diliman

### EXPERIENCE

- 2015 -      Assistant Professor of Social Science (Environmental Studies), tenure-track,  
Yale-NUS College, Singapore
- 2014 - 2015      Associate Professor (tenure-track), Department of Political Science, De La  
Salle University, Metro Manila, Philippines
- 2008 - 2013      Visiting Instructor/ Teaching Assistant, Department of Environmental Studies,  
SUNY-ESF
- 2009      Research Intern, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,  
Division for Sustainable Development, Policy Analysis and Networks  
Branch, New York
- 2006 - 2008      Research Assistant, Tropical Marine Science Institute, National University of  
Singapore, Singapore
- 2004 - 2006      Environmental Consultant, United Envirotech Limited, Singapore

## PUBLICATIONS

\* denotes student co-author

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 24) Montefrio, M.J.F., Lee, X.R.\*, and Lim, E.\* Aesthetic politics and community gardens in Singapore. *Urban Geography* (forthcoming)
- 23) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2020). The ‘Queen of Greens’ comes to the tropics: (De)territorialization of kale’s socio-material relations in the Philippines. *Geoforum*, 116, 24-32.
- 22) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2020). Cosmopolitan translations of food and the case of alternative eating in Manila, the Philippines. *Agriculture and Human Values*, 37(2), 479-494.
- 21) Montefrio, M.J.F., De Chavez, J., Contreras, A. and Erasga, D. (2020). Hybridities and awkward constructions in Philippine locavorism: Reframing global-local dynamics through assemblage thinking. *Food, Culture & Society*, 23(2), 102-116.
- 20) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Dressler, W. (2019). Declining food security in a Philippine oil palm frontier: The changing role of cooperatives. *Development and Change*, 50(5), 1342-1372.
- 19) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Sin, H.L. (2019). Elite governance of agritourism in the Philippines. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 27(9), 1338-1354.
- 18) Montefrio, M.J.F. & Johnson, A.T.\* (2019). Politics in participatory guarantee systems for organic food production. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 65, 1-11.
- 17) Dressler, W., Smith, W, and **Montefrio, M.J.F.** (2018). Ungovernable? The vital natures of swidden assemblages in an upland frontier. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 61, 343-354.
- 16) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2017). Social-ecological transformations and land control in a growing oil palm landscape in the Philippines. *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 44(4), 796-816.
- 15) Dressler, W., de Koning, J., and **Montefrio, M.J.F.** (2016). Land sharing not sparing in the “green economy”: The role of livelihood bricolage in conservation and development in the Philippines. *Geoforum*, 76, 75-89.
- 14) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2016). Cooperation and resistance: Negotiating rubber in upland Philippines. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 46, 111-120.
- 13) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Dressler, W.H. (2016). The green economy and constructions of the “idle” and “unproductive” uplands in the Philippines. *World Development*, 79, 114-126.
- 12) Montefrio, M.J.F., Luzadis, V.A., and Sonnenfeld, D.A. (2015). Social construction of the environment and farmer intentions to cooperate in biofuels and rubber production in upland Palawan, the Philippines. *Ecological Economics*, 116, 70-77.
- 11) Feola, G., Lerner, A., and **Montefrio, M.J.F.**, Jain, M. & Nicholas, K.A. (2015). Farmers responses to multiple stresses in the face of global change: Assessing five case studies to enhance adaptation. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 39, 48-78.
- 10) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2014). State versus indigenous peoples rights: Analysis of stable system parameters, policy constraints and the process of delegitimation. *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*, 16(4), 335-355.

- 9) Montefrio, M.J.F., Ortiga, Y.Y., and Josol, M.R.C\*. (2014). Inducing development: Social remittances and the expansion of oil palm. *International Migration Review*, 48(1), 216-242.
- 8) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2013). The green economy and land conflicts. *Peace Review*, 25(4), 502-509.
- 7) Josol, M.R.C.\*, and **Montefrio, M.J.F.** (2013). Understanding the resilience of swidden agro-ecosystems interacting with rubber and oil palm production regimes in the Philippines. *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, 37(7), 812-833.
- 6) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Sonnenfeld, D.A. (2012). Global-local tensions in contract farming of biofuels involving indigenous communities in the Philippines. *Society & Natural Resources*, 26(3), 239-253.
- 5) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2012). Privileged biofuels, marginalized indigenous peoples: the co-evolution of biofuels development in the tropics. *Bulletin of Science, Technology and Society*, 32(1), 41-55.
- 4) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Sonnenfeld, D.A. (2011). Forest, fuel, or food? Competing coalitions and biofuels policymaking in the Philippines. *Journal of Environment and Development*, 20(1), 27-49.
- 3) Montefrio M.J.F., and Obbard J.P. (2010). Economics of biodiesel derived from waste cooking oil in the Philippines. *Energy Sources, Part B: Economics, Planning and Policy*, 5(4), 337-347.
- 2) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Obbard, J.P. (2010). Recovery and pretreatment of fats, oil and grease from grease interceptor for biodiesel production. *Applied Energy*, 87(10), 3155-3161.
- 1) Montefrio, M.J.F., Ng, K.S., Lee, Y.K., Torio, E., Chua, M.H., de Sales-Papa, L., and Obbard, J.P. (2007). A sustainable approach to the remediation of the Payatas Disposal Facility in Metro Manila, Philippines. *The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability*, 2(7), 41-52.

#### Editor-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 3) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2020). Interrogating the “productive” home gardener in the time of pandemic lockdown in the Philippines. *Food and Foodways*, 28(3), 216-225.
- 2) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2020). Food insecurity and *bayanihan* in the locked-down Philippines. *Gastronomica*, 20(3), 57-59.
- 1) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Wilk, R. (2020) Transecting “healthy” & “sustainable” food in Asia and the Pacific. *Food, Culture & Society*, 23(2), 102-116.

#### Guest Editorship

Montefrio, M.J.F., and Wilk, R. (2020). Transecting “healthy” & “sustainable” food in Asia and the Pacific. Special issue in *Food, Culture & Society*, 23(2)

### Book Chapter

- 3) Montefrio, M.J.F., and Abasolo, A.O\* (2021). From a Superstar to banal staple? Tracing the complex commoditization of kale. In: McDonnell, E., and Wilk, R. (Eds.), Critical approaches to superfoods. Bloomsbury. (forthcoming)
- 2) Montefrio, M.J.F. (2016). Confronting the “unproductive” upland discourses in biofuels development. In: Le Bouthillier, Y., Cowie, A., Martin, P., McLeod-Kilmurray, H. (Eds.), The law and policy biofuels, pp. 59-80. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.
- 1) Montefrio, M.J.F., & Obbard, J.P. (2011). Production and utilisation of biodiesel derived from waste cooking oil: A feasibility study of its application in Marikina City, Philippines. In: Lye L.H. et al (eds.), Sustainability matters: challenges and opportunities in environmental management in Asia, pp. 1-36. Singapore, Singapore: Pearson Education South Asia.

### Under Review

Kwok, Y.\*, **Montefrio, M.J.F.**, & Tandoc, E. Navigating discipline and indulgence: The strategic performance of contradiction in social media food posts. (revise and resubmit)

### In Preparation

Montefrio, M.J.F., and Sin, H.L. Between food and spectacle: The complex reconfiguration of rural production in agritourism.

Montefrio, M.J.F., and Lee, X.R. From community building to food security: The complex layers of politics of community gardening in Singapore.

Lim, E., and **Montefrio, M.J.F.** Trash talk: Historicising food waste discourses in Singapore.

Dressler, W., and **Montefrio, M.J.F.** Living precariously—gendered labour politics in an expanding oil palm frontier in the southern Philippines.

### Non-Refereed Publications

Dressler, W., & **Montefrio, M.J.F.** (2018, May 10). Palawan’s indigenous food, forests threatened. *Philippine Daily Inquirer, Opinion*

Montefrio, M.J.F. (2015). Conflict management manual for forest communities in the Philippines. International Tropical Timber Organization.

Dressler, W., & **Montefrio, M.J.F.** (2015, May 2). Stop prejudice against indigenous people’s kaingin. *Philippine Daily Inquirer, Opinion*

Montefrio, M.J.F. (2013). Partnership regimes for the production of biofuels and natural rubber in upland Philippines. Final report to the Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia, International Development Research Center.

Montefrio, M.J.F. (2012). Poverty and climate change. In Philander, S.G. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change*, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Montefrio, M.J.F. (2012). Small farmers. In Philander, S.G. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change*, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Carter, S., Haas, J., Liu, C., **Montefrio, M.J.F.**, Pettus, K. & Stauber, J. (2011). Strategic visioning: Agriculture, natural resources and climate change in North and West Africa. Prepared for the Near East Foundation, Syracuse, New York.

## **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

- 2020 “Urban-rural linkages, food security, and extreme weather events in the Philippines”, NUS Humanities and Social Science Seed Grant”; SGD 30,000  
 “Knowledge production and the assemblage of urban agriculture in Manila and Bangkok: A comparative analysis”, Yale-NUS Internal Grant; SGD 20,000  
 “Cultivating future food activists: Teaching the theories and practice in urban agriculture movements”, Yale-NUS Teaching Innovation Grant; SGD 5,000
- 2017 Academic workshop grant; Yale-NUS College; SGD 20,000
- 2015 Research start-up grant; Yale-NUS College; SGD 30,000  
 Ambassador Carlos J. Valdes Chair in Political Economy; De La Salle University (offer turned down)
- 2014 Interdisciplinary Research Grant; University Research Coordinating Office, De La Salle University; USD 8000
- 2013 Fellowship; International Tropical Timber Organization; PI: Marvin Montefrio; USD 4400
- 2012 International Network for Coupled Human and Natural Systems Fellowship, National Science Foundation  
 Research Travel Award; Pack Environmental Institute; SUNY-ESF; USD1500
- 2011 Dissertation Fieldwork Fellowship Award; International Development Research Center; PI: Marvin Montefrio; CAD 19,000  
 Alumni Memorial Scholarship; SUNY-ESF; USD 1000
- 2008 Campus sustainability grant; NUS; PI: Jeffrey Obbard; Co-PI: Marvin Montefrio; SGD 12,000
- 2008 Shell Award for Best Dissertation [Thesis, MSc in Environmental Management]; Shell Group of Companies, Singapore
- 2006 3<sup>rd</sup> International Summer Academy on Energy and Environment Scholarship; German Academic Exchange Commission (DAAD), Germany; EUR 1000
- 2005 Mondialogo Worldwide Engineering Award – Special Jury Recognition for Outstanding Achievement; United Nations (UNESCO) and DaimlerChrysler; PI: Marvin Montefrio; USD 20,000
- 2001 Top-notch (top 10) in the Philippine Civil Engineering Licensure Examination; Professional Regulations Commission of the Philippines

## **INVITED TALKS (\* Indicates Keynote)**

- 2020 “Food futures in the anthropocene: Place-based, just, convivial.” Launceston, Tasmania. University of Tasmania\*
- 2019 “Aesthetic politics in urban agriculture,” School of Geography, University of Melbourne
- 2019 ““The queen of greens’ comes to the tropics: The articulations of kale from the Euro-Americas to the Philippines,” Department of Geography, National University of Singapore
- 2017 “” Master of Environmental Management National University of Singapore

- 2016 “Biofuels: promises and discontents,” College of Alice and Peter Tan, National University of Singapore
- 2013 “Agro-Industrial Production of Low-Carbon Commodities: Constructions of the Green Economy and the (Un)Productive Uplands in the Philippines,” Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- 2012 “Fostering Inter- and Trans-Disciplinary Environmental Thinking in Philippine Schools,” Philippine Council for Peace and Global Education
- 2011 “Collective Action Theories for Environmental Management: Focus on the IAD and SES Frameworks,” Palawan State University, Philippines
- 2010 “Food, Forest and Fuel: Saliency of Issues and Biofuels Advocacy Coalitions in the Philippines,” Xavier University – Ateneo de Cagayan, Philippines
- 2008 “Southeast Asia’s Troubled Waters: The Cases of the Mekong and the Singapore Straits. International Waters: Global Economy and Sustainability Symposium. Syracuse University
- 2006 “Sustainable Waste Management: A Case Study in the Philippines,” School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore

## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- Between food and spectacle: The complex reconfiguration of rural production in agritourism. 3<sup>rd</sup> Agrarian and Food Studies Workshop (March 2020, Singapore University of Technology and Design)
- Everyday aesthetic politics in urban agriculture. Association of American Geographers Meetings 2019. (April 2019, Washington DC)
- “The Queen of Greens” comes to the tropics: Articulations of kale in the Philippines. Workshop on Critical Perspectives on Superfoods. Indiana University, Bloomington. (25-27 March 2019, Bloomington, Indiana)
- Governing organic agri-food and the privileging of ‘model farms’ in the Philippines. 10<sup>th</sup> International Convention of Asia Scholars. (19-23 July 2017, Chiang Mai, Thailand)
- The cosmopolitan palate and the selective and ephemeral taste for organic eating in the Philippines. Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Meetings. (14-17 June 2017, Los Angeles, USA)
- (Re)Defining Sustainable Food Discourses in Philippine Cosmopolitan Spaces. International Sociological Association Forum. (10-14 July 2016, Vienna, Austria)
- Food insecurity and the green economy project in ancestral domains in the Philippines. International Sociological Association Forum. (10-14 July 2016, Vienna, Austria)
- (Re)Defining the local in the global: the cultural politics of food in Philippine cosmopolitan spaces. Organizer of panel on Globalization and the Cultural Politics of Emerging Food Trends in the Philippines. 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Philippines. (6-8 July 2016, Dumaguete, Philippines)
- Food security in the era of green economy in the Philippines. Association of American Geographers Meeting 2016. (March 2016, San Francisco)
- Environmental Narratives of Frontier Lands and the Green Economy Project in the Philippines. Philippine Political Science Association Conference. (12-13 April 2015, Dipolog City, Philippines)
- Exploring new directions in the study of cultural politics of food in the Philippines. Philippine Studies Conference. (12-14 November 2014, Manila, Philippines)

- Agro-industrial production of low-carbon commodities: Constructions of the green economy and the (un)productive uplands in the Philippines. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. (8-13 April 2013, Los Angeles)
- Contract farming and micro-level land control: ‘Smallholder’ oil palm development and the exclusion of indigenous peoples. Maxwell School Graduate Student Symposium on Investigating Inequalities. (28 March 2013, Syracuse University, New York)
- Influence of social–environmental constructions in decisions regarding biofuels and rubber production in upland Palawan. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. (3-7 December 2012, San Francisco)
- Growing low carbon commodities on ancestral domains: Decision-making in oil palm production regimes in upland Palawan. 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Philippines, panel on Palawan Environments and Global-Scapes. (28-30 October 2012, Michigan)
- Household decision-making in collaborative management regimes involving high value crops (biofuels and rubber) production in upland Palawan, Philippines. 36th EEPSEA Biannual Workshop. (7-11 November 2011, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
- The salience of discourse coalitions in biofuels policymaking: The Philippine case. Designing Law and Policy for the Transition to Sustainable Energy: The Case of Biofuels. (8-10 June 2011, Ontario, Canada)

## TEACHING

### Yale-NUS College

- |         |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | Social Theory and Environment<br>Ecological Economics<br>Introduction to Environmental Studies<br>Food and Sustainability<br>Urban Agriculture (half course)                 |
| 2019-20 | Social Theory and Environment<br>Applied Environmental Research<br>Introduction to Environmental Studies                                                                     |
| 2017-18 | Capstone Scaffolding in Environmental Studies<br>Agrarian Change and Environmental Transformations<br>Social Theory and Environment<br>Introduction to Environmental Studies |
| 2016-17 | Introduction to Environmental Studies<br>Agrarian Change and Environmental Transformations<br>Ecological Economics<br>Environmental Conflict and Collaboration               |
| 2015-16 | Comparative Social Inquiry (Common Curriculum)<br>Ecological Economics                                                                                                       |

### De La Salle University

- |         |                                                                                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2014-15 | Foundations of Public Policy (Graduate Course)<br>Methods for Undergraduate Research |
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Environment and Society  
Science, Technology and Society

### SUNY-ESF

2012-13 Quantitative Survey Methods (Graduate Course)  
2010-11 Biomass and Bioenergy  
Social Theory and the Environment  
2009-10 Cultural Ecology  
Social Theory and the Environment  
2008-09 Cultural Ecology

### **ACADEMIC & PUBLIC SERVICE**

2016 Organizer, Agrarian and Food Studies Workshop in Singapore, Yale-NUS College, Singapore  
2014 Collaborative project with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on Conflict Management in the Philippine Uplands. This resulted in the creation of a Conflict Management manual distributed to upland farming organizations in the Philippines  
2012 Panel Participant, Roundtable on Stories for a Sustainable Future, Wisdom Thinkers Network, Syracuse  
2010 Member, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Environmental Studies, SUNY-ESF  
2010/09 Conference organizer, First and Second International Biophysical Economics Meeting, SUNY-ESF  
2010 Graduate Representative, Graduate Program in Environmental Science, Graduate Students Association, SUNY-ESF  
2006/05 Research leader, Environmental Research Group for the Sustainable Design of Payatas Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility in the Philippines, University of the Philippines – National University of Singapore research collaboration

### **PEER REVIEW SERVICE**

*Geoforum (2020); Sustainability (2019); Journal of Sustainable Tourism (2019); The Geographical Journal (2019); Capitalism, Nature, Socialism (2019); Food, Culture & Society (2019); Political Geography (2018); World Development (2017); Ecological Economics (2016, 2018); Journal of Peasant Studies (2019; 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015); Agriculture and Human Values (2016); Canadian Journal of Development Studies (2016); Society and Natural Resources (2019, 2015, 2014); Human Ecology (2015, 2014); Journal of Rural Studies (2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012); Journal of Environment and Development (2011); Natural Resources Forum (2010); Energy Science and Engineering (2011)*

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association of American Geographers; Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society; International Sociological Association; International Network of Research on Coupled Human and Natural Systems (CHANS-Net)