Stanford



Richard McGrail

COLLEGE Lecturer, Civic, Liberal, and Global Education

Bio

BIO

I earned my PhD in Anthropology here at Stanford in December, 2024. My dissertation described what daily life was like at two therapeutic group homes for children California's foster care system.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- COLLEGE Lecturer, Civic, Liberal, and Global Education

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- B.A., The University of Texas at Austin , Anthropology (2005)
- M.A., Columbia University , Anthropology (2010)
- Certificate, University of Alaska Southeast , Outdoor Skills and Leadership (2020)
- Wilderness First Responder, National Outdoor Leadership School , Outdoor Education ahnd Leadership (2017)

SERVICE, VOLUNTEER, AND COMMUNITY WORK

- Court Appointed Special Advocate (8/30/2012 - 5/1/2016)

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Ethnographic research describes the daily lives of children in California's foster care system who live in therapeutic residential group homes. Research questions how relationships of trust and attachement are formed between children and their adult caregivers, as well as among the children themselves.

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Just Biotech: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind in Global Biotechnologies: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)
- Why College? Your Education and the Good Life: COLLEGE 101 (Aut)

2025-26

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Just Biotech: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind in Global Biotechnologies: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)

- Why College? Your Education and the Good Life: COLLEGE 101 (Aut)

2024-25

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Justice in Biotechnologies: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)