

Curriculum Vitae

Benjamin J. Currens

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- Objective** Combine quantitative hydrogeology and geochemistry with local knowledge to aid the development of science-based water management.
- Education**
- Master of Science degree candidate
Earth and Environmental Science**
University of Kentucky, Anticipated completion: May 2016
- Bachelor of Science in Earth and Atmospheric Science – Geological Sciences
and Development Sociology**
Cornell University, Dec 2011
Cum Laude
- Associates in Science – Math and Science**
State University of New York - Tompkins Cortland Community College,
May 2009
- Professional Experience**
- * **Research Specialist:** Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University, December 2011 – July 2013
 - * **U.S. Army:** Calvary Scout Section Sergeant, Rear Detachment NCOIC 1-33 Calvary Regiment, Rear Detachment NCOIC A Troop 1-33 Calvary Regiment, Mortar Platoon Section Sergeant A Company 3-187 RSTA/ Alpha Company 3-187 Infantry Regiment, Unit Prevention Leader A Troop 1-33 Calvary/A Company 3-187 Infantry Regiment, August 2000 – December 2006
- Research Experience**
- * **Thesis Research:** Numerical modeling of groundwater flow, stable isotope transport and diffusion within the Lower Wilcox aquifer of the Mississippi Embayment Aquifer System.
 - * **Post-baccalaureate:** Impact of mid-fiscal year 2011 budget recession on New York State Supplemental Nutrition Educators. Cornell University, Primary Investigators: Dr. Tom Hirschl and Dr. Jamie S. Dollahite
 - * **Post-baccalaureate:** Estimated quantification of global productive lands and change in global productive lands, 2000 – 2100. Cornell University, Primary Investigator: Dr. Charles Geisler
 - * **Post-baccalaureate:** Mapping Poverty in Upstate New York. Cornell University, Primary Investigator: Dr. Tom Hirschl
 - * **Undergraduate Research:** Geochemistry of the Union Springs Formation of the Marcellus Shale Subgroup. Cornell University, Faculty Advisors: Dr. Teresa Jordan and Dr. Louis Derry
 - * **Undergraduate Research:** Role of Anthocyanin in UV Protection. Tompkins Cortland Community College, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kelly Wessell
 - * **Undergraduate Research:** Performing the Ivy League Role. Tompkins Cortland Community College, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jeanne Cameron

* **Field Course:** Geologic Field Mapping, Central Andes, Argentina. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sue Kay and Dr. Matt Pritchard

Teaching Experience

- * **Teaching Assistant:** Endangered Planet – Intro to Env. Geology, EES 110
- * **Teaching Assistant:** Sustainable Planet – Geo. of Nat. Resources, EES 120
- * **Teaching Assistant:** Geology for Teachers, EES 160
- * **Teaching Assistant:** Hydrology and Water Resources, EES 385
- * **Teaching Assistant:** Quantifying the Bluegrass Water Supply, EES 185

Other Publications

***First Author: Currens, Benjamin.** 2014. *Common Hazards in Karst Terrain* (AEN-126). University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service.

***Second Author:** Geisler, Charles and **Benjamin Currens.** 2014. *Peak Farmland: Revealed Truth or Recreancy?* Research in Social Problems and Public Policy. Vol.21, 2014

***Working Paper: Currens, Benjamin** and Thomas A. Hirschl. July 2012. *Poverty in Tompkins County: Correcting Inflated Rates Due to Misclassification of College Students.* Program Policy Education and Action for Fighting Poverty and Economic Hardship in Upstate New York, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University.

* **Working Paper: Currens, Benjamin** and Thomas A. Hirschl. July 2012. *Housing Stress in Hamilton County, New York.* Program Policy Education and Action for Fighting Poverty and Economic Hardship in Upstate New York, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University.

* **Working Paper: Currens, Benjamin** and Thomas A. Hirschl. Nov 2012. *Poverty and Housing Stress in Schuyler County, New York.* Program Policy Education and Action for Fighting Poverty and Economic Hardship in Upstate New York, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University.

***Contributor: Field Site Map** for Ricketts, K. 2012. *What is the 'Value' in the Value Chain Approach? Smallholder Risk Assessment, Mitigation, and Coping Behavior Among High Value and Conventional Cocoa Chains in Ghana.* M.S Thesis, Cornell University.

Poster Presentations

Currens, Benjamin, Fryar, Alan, Sawyer, Audrey, Parris, Thomas, and Junfeng Zhu. *Deuterium and Oxygen-18 diffusion in a confined aquifer: a numerical model of stable isotope diffusion across aquitard-aquifer boundaries.* American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, December 2014.

Currens, Benjamin J. *An Examination of Organic Carbon and Trace Elements within the Union Springs Formation of the Marcellus Subgroup*. Engineering Learning Initiatives Undergraduate Research Poster Session, April 2012.

Oral Presentations

Currens, Benjamin, Fryar, Alan, Sawyer, Audrey, Parris, Thomas, and Junfeng Zhu. *Deuterium and Oxygen-18 diffusion in a confined aquifer: a numerical model of stable isotope diffusion across aquitard-aquifer boundaries*. University of Kentucky Earth and Environmental Science Rast-Holbrook Seminar Series, November 2014.

Cameron, Jeanne and **Benjamin J. Currens**. Oct 2008. *Performing the Ivy League Role*. New York State Sociological Association 56th Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY.

Awards

- * **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**, 2014
- * **Geological Society of America**, Research Grant, 2014
- * **Engineering Learning Initiatives**, Research Grant 2011
- * **New York State Sociological Association**, Best Undergraduate Paper 2008

Membership and Service

- * **Kentucky Geological Survey**: Volunteer, Lexington, KY, Water Resource Section, May 2015 - Present
- * **United States Geological Survey**: Volunteer, Ithaca, NY, Water Science Center, December 2011 – 2013
- * **Cornell Outing Club**: Caving Chair, May 2007 – May 2010
- * **National Park Service**: Volunteer, Jewel Cave National Monument, December 2005
- * **National Park Service**: Volunteer, Mammoth Cave National Park, June 2004
- * **Secretary**: Clarksville Underground, National Speleological Society Grotto, March 2005 – March 2006

Professional Memberships

- * **American Geophysical Union**
- * **American Institute of Professional Geologists**
- * **Alpha Kappa Delta**
- * **Geological Society of America**
- * **Phi Theta Kappa**
- * **National Speleological Society**
- * **National Groundwater Association**

Additional Skills and Information

- * **Technical**: Microsoft Office, ArcGIS, Atlas.Ti, Qualtrics, Python, HTML, CSS, SPSS, X-ray Fluorescence, X-ray Diffraction, Geologic Field Mapping, PCR techniques
- * **Linguistic Proficiency**: Spanish (Introductory)

*** Personal Interests:** Traveling, Creative Writing – Short Stories, Playwriting, Outdoor Activities (Fishing, Cycling, Rock Climbing, Caving)

References

Available Upon Request