

Richard Jack Hames

Journalist, Researcher, Author

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Richard Hames is a journalist, lecturer and political theorist. He is the co-author of *Post-Internet Far Right* (Dog Section, 2021) and *The Rise of Ecofascism: Climate Change and the Far Right* (Polity Press, 2022) with Alex Roberts and the chief editor of *Crude Futures* (New Models, 2023). He is the host of Novara Media show 'Do Your Own Research'. He is currently working on a book about collapse that explores the nature of social structure, our contemporary catastrophic imaginary and the limits of our political norms.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Host, Product Lead and Reporter, Novara Media

June 2022 – Present

- Host of *Do Your Own Research*, a flagship Novara show about the systems that make the modern world possible. The show features an ever-expanding diagram of all the entities mentioned in the show, which serves as a visual guide to the world.
 - Interviews with Charles C. Mann on the history of global agriculture, Jason Moore on global capitalist ecology, Marek Poliks on Exocapitalism, David Harvey on surplus capital, cities, and Zohran Mamdani, Susannah Glickman on the changing shape of the military industrial complex, Anton Jäger on 'hyperpolitical' transformations in social structure, Alfred McCoy on the history of covert operations and the 'New Cold War', Quinn Slobodian and Ben Tarnoff on 'Muskism', Luke Kemp on the history and future of collapse, Daniel Trilling on the mainstreaming of the British Far Right, David Adler on Hondurasgate, Lisa Siraganian on expanded personhood, and Garrison Lovely on the threat of the 'AI jobs apocalypse', Trevor Paglen on the history of psyops, Eyal Weizman on the architecture of genocide, Hettie O'Brien on private equity, Thea Riofrancos on global rare earth mining, James Muldoon on AI supply chains and AI partners, James Pogue on the ideas of JD Vance and US Empire, John Lechner on Wagner Group, and Joshua Citarella on left media.
- Commissioned, researched, produced, hosted and edited *Novara FM*, one of the UK's most popular political podcasts.
 - Led coverage of the formation and launch of Your Party, including interviews with Jeremy Corbyn MP, Zarah Sultana MP, Zack Polanski AM, Shokat Adam MP, James Schneider, Pamela Fitzpatrick, Jamie Driscoll, Joe Todd, Oliver Eagleton and Rachel Godfrey-Wood.
 - Reported and hosted episodes on the French left, the politics, economics and science of rewilding, the strategy of Just Stop Oil, and two episodes on the policing of pro-Palestinian protests in the UK (the first Novara product shortlisted for the Amnesty Media Awards 2025).
 - Conducted interviews with Ash Sarkar, James Butler, and Aaron Bastani on the media from 2010-2025, Eskandar Sadeghi on contemporary Iran, Jasper Bernes on the future of revolution, Mohamad Junaid on the Kashmir conflict, Matthew Sitman on the future of Catholicism, Laurie Laybourn-Langton on global catastrophic risk, Elif Sarican on the Kurdish Movement, Khem Rogaly on European rearmament, David Adler on the 'Reactionary International', Ellen Clifford on the right to live, Stefania Maurizi on Wikileaks, Sam Hart on cryptocurrencies, James Pogue on global politics now, Joshua Citarella on the MAGA movement, Marek Poliks on AI, Richard Seymour on 'Disaster Nationalism', Elia Ayoub on Hezbollah, Malcolm Harris on Silicon Valley, Olly Haynes on French politics, Ajay Singh Chaudhary on climate politics and 'exhaustion', Yuan Yang on Chinese development, Sianne Ngai and Matthew Beaumont on Frederic Jameson, Anna Kornbluh on the aesthetics of 'immediacy', Tony Wood on Russian politics, Alberto Toscano on fascism, Quinn Slobodian on new cities, Jem Bendell on Deep Adaptation, Trevor Paglen on psyops, Søren Mau on Marxist theories of power, and Jordan Sjol on propaganda and climate change.
 - Produced 'Committed', a four part series about imprisoned Just Stop Oil activists.
- Led Novara's in-situ coverage of the 2024 US Presidential election, hosting 9 video reports over the course of 10 days in places from San Francisco to Dearborn, Detroit to New York, including interviews with families who had survived the Gaza genocide and interviews with members of the Socialist Rifle Association.
- Hosted report videos of the Your Party Founding conference, the 2024 UK General election (included in the BFI's permanent archive for historical significance), Tommy Robinson demonstrations, the DSEI arms fair, and far-right activities across the UK.
- Writing political analysis on the prospect of a new left party, water privatisation, the strategy of Just Stop Oil, legal challenges in politics, and the personalities and organising strategies of the far right.

- Occasional hosting and co-hosting Novara Live.
- Initiated and scripted Novara's *Back to Basics* series of explainer videos.
- Initiated Novara's *Reckoning* project to document the complicity of the UK media in the Gaza genocide.
- Acted as an internal workflow consultant, using my Notion skills to develop more efficient solutions for teammates. I have been responsible for organisation-wide tech upgrades, and have delivered training on browsers and the use of LLMs in journalism.

Author, Crude Futures Substack (London)

February 2022 – present

Writing on contemporary 'collapse culture', the critique of 'collapsology', and the integration of AI risk, climate change, and demographic challenges.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Faculty, Brooklyn Institute for Social Research

October 2025-present

I am currently helping to scope and plan the BISR's expansion into London.

Writer, Spike Art Magazine

January 2026

An article on the 'Discord Spring', articulating global developments in the use of new social media platforms for protest and their connection to 'vernacular skills'.

Instructor, New Centre for Research and Practice (New York)

February – September 2025

I delivered a series of eight lectures constructing a novel theory of social collapse and articulating its significance for emancipatory politics, under a framework I call 'critical collapsology'.

Trainer, Movement Research Unit (London)

March – October 2024

Organising, researching and delivering training on topics from the use of chatbots by researchers to OSINT practice and Freedom of Information requests.

Coding Tutor, Curriculum Designer and Regional Coordinator, MAMA.codes (London)

May 2018 – June 2022

I designed coding curricula in Scratch and C# for Unity and delivered coding lessons to an ever-broader range of ages. As a researcher and consultant...

Consultant, Diaspora Alliance (New York)

November 2024 – February 2025

I produced training materials on a briefing document explaining the topic of 'ecofascism' for staff as they XXXX.

Organiser, Plan C (London)

October 2018 – October 2022

Involved in many political projects on topics from climate change to the far right to energy bills.

Founding Member, Kin Co-op (London)

January 2024 – October 2024

I participated in the collective design and launch of mechanisms for the governance of a novel form of co-op, integrating a credit union, a housing co-op, a co-operative investment wing, and a collection of savings groups.

Handbook Steward, 2024 Election Tech Handbook, Newspeak House (London)

January 2024 – August 2024

I compiled the most comprehensive overview of current political technologies in the UK and coordinated a community of hundreds of developers, designers and campaigners to deliver projects, attracting 10,000 visitors to our site and hundreds to our hackspace.

Interviewer, Verso Books (London)

November 2023

I conducted interviews with Søren Mau and Matteo Pasquinelli on their works *Mute Compulsion: A Marxist Theory of the Economic Power of Capital* and *The Eye of the Master: A Social History of Artificial Intelligence*.

Researcher, CAII/The Syllabus (Amsterdam)

November 2022 – February 2023

Conducted a literature review on the relationship between the far right and climate change, following the publication of my book *The Rise of Ecofascism*, which was used towards The Syllabus project 'The Right Climate'.

Host and Researcher, 12 Rules for WHAT (London)

November 2018 – June 2022

Founded and hosted over 60 episodes of a popular research podcast on the topic of the far right and anti-fascism.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Critical Collapsology (forthcoming): Presents a framework I call ‘critical collapsology’, which orientates the disparate field of collapsology towards our present society, illuminates its ethical stakes, and proposes a philosophically rigorous path in light of catastrophic, but not existential, risks.

Crude Futures (New Models, 2023)

Having convened a reading group on the topic of collapse, I brought together a team of writers and designers from around the world in a two-week in-person studio in France. We produced a 93-page magazine and the *How it Happens* card game. An expanded version of the magazine was published by STACK Magazines in Spring 2024. The card game we produced was featured in *The Seashore of Endless Worlds* exhibition at Le Commun in Geneva.

EDUCATION

Newspeak House Fellowship, The London College of Political Technology (London) October 2023 – August 2024

- Courses include: Mechanism Design, Sociotechnical Systems, Open Source and Future Crafting.
- Nominated Cohort Student Rep and invited to deliver parts of the ‘Political Organising’ module.

Post-Planetary Universal Design, New Centre for Research & Practice (New York) March 2022 – June 2023

- Full Scholarship (awarded for Academic Excellence).
- Courses include: *Extinction and Exuberance: On Why Anything Matters* and *AI And the Cybernetic Lifeworld*.

MA Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths - University of London (London) October 2018 – August 2019

- Distinction (awarded an Excellence Fee Waiver and Master’s Scholarship for Academic Excellence).
- Courses included: Software Studies and Media Ecology. Dissertation Project: *Spectres of Von Mises: Austrian Economics and Artificial Intelligence Design* (Awarded 90).

BMus Composition, Royal Academy of Music (London) September 2011 – June 2015

- First Class Honours (awarded the Peter Latham Gift for Academic Achievement, the Mary Burgess Prize and a Commendation in the Alan Bush Prize). Dissertation Project: *Music. Mediation. Freedom.* (Awarded 85).