In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

**Doctor of Philosophy**

**David Krantz**

will defend his prospectus

**Shmita Inspiration:**

Biblical Ideas for a Sustainable Future

Friday, November 20, 2020
(4 Kislev 5781)
9:00 a.m. MST
https://asu.zoom.us/j/82060711377

Faculty, students, and the public are invited.

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Evan Berry, Co-Chair
Dr. Paul Hirt, Co-Chair
Dr. George Basile, Member
Dr. Hava Samuelson, Member

**Abstract**

The academic field of sustainability may be new, but the ideas behind it could be thousands of years old. This work seeks to gain a better understanding of how the modern notion of sustainability, while not necessarily developed from biblical thought, nonetheless reflects the biblical concept and practice of shmita — the sabbatical year — and how shmita addresses the environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainability. The normative goal of this scholarship is to bridge secular and religious knowledge and people, and in so doing hopefully inspire the biblically minded to adopt more sustainable practices and inspire sustainability practitioners to consider biblical ideas in planning a sustainable future.