With the semester in full swing, our community has become busier as faculty, staff, students, and visitors navigate our campus. Prioritize your transportation safety and the safety of others by checking out the Watch For Dawgs official website.

Follow us on social media!

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
Dr. Suzanne Birch Hosts a New 20- Episode Lecture Series

Dr. Suzanne Birch, Professor of Geography and Anthropology at UGA is the narrator and primary host for the new streaming series "Early Humans, Ice Stone and Survival." After more than a year in the making, the 20-episode lecture series debuted in April on the streaming service, Wonderium.

“The lectures span from our earliest origins in Africa to the emergence of agriculture, examines the role of climate and environmental change in driving these transitions, and how archaeological science is transforming this knowledge,” Birch said. The series also examines the initial peopling of Australia (ep 7) and North America (ep 15), the origins of music, language, art, and technology, and the origins of agriculture (the last four episodes). “It’s a very well-rounded exploration both in terms of temporal and spatial scope,” Birch said.

“We know people are interested in this topic. Yet, for some reason, pseudoarchaeology and conspiracy theories have dominated the narrative for the past several years,” she said, noting the shift in the History channel programming and one of its most popular shows, ‘Ancient Aliens’, as well as the Netflix show ‘Ancient Apocalypse’.

“Not only are these theories wrong, they are also dangerous in that many of them are rooted in colonial and racist, white supremacist ideologies. We need more programming that shares all the wonder and excitement of our ancient past without the need for false embellishment. It's interesting enough in its own right, and what makes it even more exciting is all that we can learn from the science,” Birch said.

The series “Early Humans: Ice, Stone, and Survival” is now streaming at Wondrium and also available as an audiobook through Audible. Learn more about Dr. Birch's research here!

PHD SPOTLIGHT

Jill Gambill, PhD candidate in Geography and Integrative Conservation (ICON), has been named Executive Director of Georgia Tech's new Coastal Equity and Resilience (CEAR) Hub in Savannah. Jill has also received a Senior Research Associate faculty appointment at Georgia Tech in the Institute for People and Technology. This appointment follows almost 13 years at UGA with Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, most recently serving as Coastal Resilience Specialist and Public Service Associate. Congraulations, Jill!

Learn more about Jill's research here!
CGR ASSISTS WITH SAVANNAH RIVER EXPANSION

Dr. Sergio Bernardes, the PI for the GIS/Database component of SHEP Monitoring Program, recently presented CGR's geospatial contributions to 12 federal and state agencies, including EPA, USFWS, USGS, the Army Corps, Departments of Natural Resources, and others. The SHEP project has brought over US$1.3 million to the Department of Geography at UGA and resources from SHEP have funded post-docs and graduate students, who assist with data processing/analysis and environmental database maintenance. For more information on SHEP, see here. Also, visit http://www.shep.uga.edu/ to learn more about the SHEP Monitoring Program, to access over 300 environmental reports and datasets, and to interact with the SHEP Map Portal.

CGR is helping the Department of Defense and the Army Corps of Engineers to monitor environmental impacts resulting from SHEP. The center is using GIS and other tools to assemble, analyze and share dozens of environmental layers for the project area, including real-time water quality from a network of stream gauges, fish movement, levels of cadmium in bird tissue, bathymetric surveys, as well as the monitoring of vegetation and associated vegetation restoration efforts.

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CGR ASSISTS WITH SAVANNAH RIVER EXPANSION

UGA Geography's Center for Geospatial research (CGR) has been assisting with the project to expand the depth of the Savannah River. The Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP) brings substantial resources to Georgia and the nation, as the deepening of the Savannah River allows for larger and more heavily-loaded vessels to use the Savannah Port. SHEP also brings environmental challenges and the need for monitoring the performance of the project's impact mitigation features.

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Graphic and text provided by Dr. Sergio Bernardes

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https://www.facebook.com/GeographyDepartmentUGA/

https://www.instagram.com/geographyuga/

https://twitter.com/UGagGeography

https://geography.uga.edu
UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 5th
12-3 pm
Athens Public Library

Join us for presentations from students in the Community GIS class at UGA, hosted by the Athens Housing Advocacy Team. Free lunch for the first 50 people, local housing resources, free "know your renter's rights" workshop.

Thursday, May 11th
3:30 pm
GEOG Room 200C

Join us in celebrating our 2023 Geography graduates. Reserve your tickets here! Please note that tickets are currently limited to 4/graduate.

May 15-17
Georgia Center for Continuing Education & Hotel

The 2023 Georgia Climate Conference aims to support and accelerate Georgia's efforts to take practical steps to minimize the risks and maximize the opportunities associated with a changing climate.

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Departmental Events:

Course Evaluations
Available Now

Click here to complete your Spring 2023 Course Evaluations! Student feedback on instructional effectiveness is an important tool. Your comments are appreciated!

Final Exam
May 3 - May 8 Week

Good luck on your final exams of the semester! Please remember that help is always available at UGA for those who need it. Click here for a list of UGA's various mental health resources.
OPPORTUNITIES AROUND CAMPUS

Fresh Express is a new student-led emergency food assistance program, striving to serve University of Georgia students with balanced meals. Sign up here.

Join us every Friday for International Coffee Hour from 11:30am to 1:00pm in the Memorial Hall Ballroom! 11:30am - 1:00pm | Memorial Hall Ballroom

THE UGA GREEN LABS PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UGA UTILITY & ENERGY MANAGEMENT INVITES YOU TO
JOIN THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY FREEZER CHALLENGE

WIN A NEW ULTRA-LOW FREEZER FOR YOUR LAB!

The Freezer Challenge is a global competition designed to promote best practices in cold storage management for freezers, refrigerators, and cold rooms.

Join the competition and gain credit for any action taken now through July 1, 2023!

For assistance, contact anna.lentz@uga.edu
UGA Green Labs | greenlabs.uga.edu

Spring 2023 Course Evaluations Available April 21 - May 14

Please follow these five simple steps to completing your course evaluation.
1. Scan the QR to the right
2. Login using your UGA MyID and password. Your identity will not be associated with your responses.
3. Select the course/instructor to evaluate. Evaluations must be completed for each course listed.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete your evaluation. Unless otherwise specified, responses are required to all questions. You may enter “No Comment” or “NC” in the short answer section if you wish.
5. Click the Enter Evaluation button to submit your evaluation. Once you submit, you will not be able to make changes. If you need to complete evaluations for additional courses, return to Step 3.

Course Evaluations Site:
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https://twitter.com/ugaGeography

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Knowing how to plan, prepare, and respond to disasters is an increasingly employable skill set among government agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector.

At the Institute for Disaster Management (IDM), we strive to make the student experience the best that it can possibly be – from engaging coursework and hands-on training to rigorous research experiences and meaningful interactions with fellow peers, faculty, and staff.

The minor consists of 15 hours of engaging and applicable coursework, focusing on the societal impacts and causes of natural and human-made hazards, including how these disasters can be mitigated, planned for, and adapted to. Add it at any time on Athena, no application required!

For more information, contact the undergraduate program coordinator, Dr. Michelle Ritchie at Michelle.Ritchie@uga.edu or book a meeting at calendly.com/michelleritchie/meet

LEARN MORE BY VISITING IDM.PUBLICHEALTH.UGA.EDU OR SCAN THE QR CODE
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!

Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2023! We couldn’t be more proud of all our talented and strong-willed graduates who have persevered through an unexpected college experience, both the highs and the lows. While it is a bittersweet moment to say goodbye to our graduating seniors and grad students, we are excited to see where all of your journeys lead you and share in all of your future accomplishments to come, starting with this one. Congrats, grads! You did it!

Spring Undergraduate Class of 2023

Miranda Bergstrand, Kathryn Boyle, Kade Chapman, Karissa Chilcote, Emma DiPuma, Chase Fiveash, Matthew Gale, PJ Gudz, William Harrison, Steven Janke, Piper Krase, Keelan Lacock, Sam Lovell, Killian McSweeney, Miles Montello, Alex Pry, Casey Serrano, Rebecca Shoppy, Jada Smith, Jonathan Tarantino, Benjamin Thigpen, Seth Thompson, Nicholas Taborsak, Christian Walker, Claudia-Michele White. Summer Graduates: Bailey Cook, Emma Kate Cowan, Elijah Humphries, Evan Vickers

Please download the new UGA Safe app from the Google Play or Apple App stores. Login using your UGA MyID or register as a guest to take advantage of a variety of safety features. For more information, please visit the UGA Office of Emergency Preparedness website.

With the Summer semester beginning, our community will remain busy as faculty, staff, students, and visitors navigate our campus. Prioritize your transportation safety and the safety of others by checking out the Watch For Dawgs official website.

Follow us on social media!
Congratulations Class of 2023! (Cont.)

**Spring Graduate Class of 2023**
Lishen Mao, Ph.D., Scott Markley, Ph.D., Christian Pettersen, Ph.D., Jue Yang, Ph.D.

### 2023 GLOBE PAPER COMPETITION WINNERS

**The Globe Award for Conceptual Advancement** recognizes conceptual innovation in graduate student work.

**Winning paper:** (Un)Abstracting Place Through Black and Indigenous Scholarship: A Critical Analysis of the Anti-CRT Movement in Oklahoma  
Maya B Henderson & Amber Orozco (unpublished)

This paper applies a theory of abstraction of place to the public classroom space to grapple with the unfolding violence of the anti-CRT movement through Oklahoma state legislation, such as the banning of books with content related to themes of race, gender and sexuality. The authors skillfully investigate the classroom space to showcase the praxis of (un)abstraction by Black and Indigenous organizations, such as the Sovereign Community School and Foundation for Liberating Minds, who are organizing towards more liberating and safer education spaces.

**The Globe Award for Methodological Advancement** recognizes methodological innovation in graduate student work.

**Winning paper:** Developing a place-time-specific transmissibility index to measure and examine the spatiotemporally varying transmissibility of COVID-19  
Hao Yang, Xiaobai Angela Yao, Ruowei Liu, Christopher Whalen (published in Annals of the American Association of Geographers)

This paper employs cutting-edge machine learning methods to spatiotemporally estimate the COVID-19 reproduction number at a local level. Its innovative approach provides valuable insights into COVID-19 transmission patterns, making it a standout in geography and public health research. The paper communicates the importance of the research and its potential contributions to both COVID-19 and geography research.

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Georgia Center for Continuing Education & Hotel

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Wednesday, May 17th
GEOG Room 200D
Zoom
11am

Join us for a talk by Dr. Song Gao titled "GeoAI for Human Mobility Analytics and Location Privacy Protection" Scan the QR code to register for a live broadcast of the lecture via Zoom.

Saturday, May 13th
Cellar Theatre,
UGA Fine Arts Bldg.
8pm

Join us for a staged reading of UGA Franklin College Writer Alan Flurry's Play Too Wonderful for Anybody. The event will also be held on May 16 at 8 p.m. in the Cellar Theatre as an adjacent event of the 2023 Georgia Climate Conference.

Monday, May 29th
Campus-Wide
Holiday

Offices & campus closed in observation of Memorial Day. No classes will be held.

Departmental Events:

Course Evaluations
Available Now

Click here to complete your Spring 2023 Course Evaluations!
Student feedback on instructional effectiveness is an important tool. Your comments are appreciated!

Grades Due
Dec. 9-14th
Final Grades for the 2023 Spring Semester will be due on Monday, May 15th at Noon. Please be sure to have all grades submitted before the deadline.

Final Friday Coffee Break
June Date TBD
Main Geography Office

Join us on the final Friday of each month for coffee and other refreshments in the main Geography office. This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends/colleagues!
**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

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**Construction Advisory**

**Sanford Stadium**

Construction activities for Phase 1 of the Sanford Stadium South Side Improvements will begin on November 28, 2022 and continue through August 2023.

A portion of sidewalk will be closed on the east side of Sanford Drive between Field Street and Hooper Street. A temporary crosswalk will be added for crossing at Sanford Drive in line with the east Tate Student Center pedestrian bridge.

**Poultry Complex Construction**

The north portion of D. W. Brooks Drive and the sidewalks within the construction fence will be closed for the duration of construction. Temporary walkways along with existing sidewalks around the perimeter of the construction site will remain open to allow access for pedestrian traffic around the construction site. Please refer to the map linked below and contact the Office of University Architects at (706) 542-3605 if you have any questions.

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Follow us on social media!
Graduate Student Parking Registration Tips

Please Remember:
Registration for a parking permit does not guarantee that you will be awarded a parking permit. For your best chances of receiving a parking assignment, please see the following steps.

Priority Parking Map tips. Look for the following areas where you have greatest priority:
- Graduate Residents: PURPLE lots
- Graduate Assistants: GREEN lots
- Graduate Commuters: GREEN lots

Helpful tips:

Register Early!
Register early! The round one parking registration deadline is June 23, 2023. Round 1 is the first and largest round of permit assignments, and fewer permits will be available in rounds 2 and 3.

Limited Space:
Please keep in mind that Parking availability on campus is extremely limited and is not guaranteed. Parking assignments will be awarded during the year as there is availability. If you are awarded a permit, please be sure to accept it!!

Priority Areas:
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If you do not wish to park a car on campus, or do not receive a parking permit, please keep in mind that navigating campus is easier than ever with the following options:

FREE BUS SERVICE: UGA and Athens-Clarke County buses are fare-free. View routes at routes.uga.edu and on the UGA Mobile App.

BULLDOG BIKE SHARE: Students can rent these GPS-enabled, electric pedal assist bikes and leave them at the nearest bike share hub when finished.

WALKABLE CAMPUS!

Scan to view the parking priority map
https://tps.uga.edu/maps/permit/
If you’re out and about in Athens this weekend, you may see some familiar faces on the front page of today’s Athens Banner Herald! For the past several months, students in Dr. Jerry Shannon’s Community GIS class have been collaborating with the Athens Housing Advocacy Team (AHAT) and other community members in order to conduct a comprehensive analysis of ACC’s eviction data. The goal of the collaborative effort is to better understand our local housing crisis while also filling significant knowledge gaps through a close analysis of ACC’s data.

The data for this project was acquired in collaboration with the Athens Housing Advocacy Team (AHAT), a grassroots activist group organized to empower, educate, and advocate for working class tenets in Athens-Clarke County. Dr. Shannon’s Community Mapping Lab connected with AHAT through Geography Ph.D. student Jess Martinez and Geography M.A. student Vanessa Raditz, both AHAT members.

Students in Dr. Shannon’s Community GIS class poured over hundreds over jargon heavy court documents detailing evictions cases filed in Athens-Clarke County. Alongside other community members, the students then presented the details of their analysis at Athens-Clarke County Public Library earlier this month. Their findings detail specific patterns of housing issues in the county such as eviction hotspots and landlords who’ve made multiple eviction filings. The full results of the collaborative effort are now publicly accessible. “It’s one thing to kind of know generally about evictions or a problem in the community,” said Shannon. “It’s another one to be able to see it on a map and see it described accurately.” Read the full Athens Banner Herald Article here!
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Fausto Sarmiento Awarded Denali Recent Accomplishment Award

Fausto Sarmiento, Professor of Mountain Science in UGA’s Department of Geography has been awarded the Denali Recent Accomplishment Award during this year’s American Association of Geographers (AAG) meeting in Denver, CO. This award is distributed annually by the AAG’s Mountain Geography Specialty Group (MGSG) in recognition of “scholarly, applied or other significant contributions to Mountain Geography within the past three years that support the mission of MGSG.”

According to the Mountain Geography Specialty Group, Dr. Sarmiento was given this award “for his recent contribution to Mountain Geography (only the latest in your long standing contributions to the field) as the sole editor of "Montology Palimpsest: A Primer of Mountain Geographies" which provides a modern take in learning about mountains and is a transdisciplinary, decolonial presentation of mountains as socioecological systems.”

Congratulations Dr. Sarmiento!

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

UGA Geography and Atmospheric Sciences professor Dr. Marshall Shepherd was the commencement speaker for Georgia Gwinnett College. During his speech, Shepherd shared with students that their college degrees provide access for a “bigger and better future” and challenged them to use their talents for a greater purpose. “Our society needs contributions from everyone,” he said. “What mantle will you take up for the betterment of our society and the world in general?”

-From Georgia Gwinnett College News; Photo by Carter Cooper
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