

Isaac Javier Rivera

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EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle

Ph.D, Geography (Spring, 2023)

“Mapping the Terms of Freedom & the Ongoing Refusal of Settler Imaginaries”

Dissertation Committee: Sarah Elwood (Chair), Victoria Lawson, Megan Ybarra, Jean Dennison, and Anna Hoffmann

Graduate Certificate in American Indian & Indigenous Studies (2021)

University of Colorado, Denver

M.A, Geography & Applied Geospatial Science (2018)

Graduate Certificate in Development Studies (2015)

B.A, Geography (2013)

GIS Certificate (2013)

The Summer Institute on Global Indigenities (SIGI), University of Washington (2019)

Latin American Summer School on Social Issues (LASI), Universidad Católica de Chile at Villarica (2018)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

digital geographies: critical cartography & GIS, critical data studies, science & technology studies, geovisualization, geohumanities

economic geography: racial capitalism, development, political ecology, urban studies, environmental justice

Indigenous & Latinx geographies: settler colonial studies, social movements, political geography, knowledge production

AWARDS

2022, Howard Martin Medal for Extraordinary Achievement in Scholarship, Teaching and Service. Department of Geography, University of Washington.

2022, Best Graduate Student Paper Award | AAG Digital Geographies Specialty Group
Undoing Settler Imaginaries, (Re)Imagining Digital Knowledge Politics

2021, Edward Ulman Graduate Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research | UW Geography

2020, AAG Digital Geographies Specialty Group Award for Scholarship on Racial Justice

2016, Best Graduate Student Research Project, 19th annual CU Denver Research Symposium for North East Denver Change.

2013, Best Undergraduate Paper, regional AAG Conference, Omaha, Nebraska.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023. GSEE Writing Fellowship | UW Graduate School | Dissertation Completion
2022. Gerlach Fellowship | UW Geography | Dissertation Completion
2022. Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Honorable Mention
2021-2022. Howard Martin Dissertation Award | Department of Geography at UW (\$1,100)
2021-2022. Collaborative Learning & Interdisciplinary Pedagogy | Comparative History of Ideas Fellow (\$27,000)
2020-2021. Blau Award for Excellence in Research | Simpson Center for the Humanities (\$1000)
2020-2021. UW Center for American Indian & Indigenous Studies, AIIIS Mellon Scholar (\$10,000)
2019. Simpson Center for the Humanities, Digital Humanities Summer Fellow (\$8,500)
2019. Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, Honorable Mention
2019. Summer Institute on Global Indigenities (SIGI) Fellow, University of Washington
2013. Continuing Education Grant, University of Colorado Boulder (\$500)

PUBLICATIONS

Works in Progress

Rivera, I.J., Towards Accountable Digital Geographies. *Dialogues in Human Geography*. Invited Submission for paper series on Re-imagining Geography and Praxis. (Submitted September 2022, in review)

Rivera, I.J. and Eagle, V, (Re)Mapping Native Denver. *GeoHumanities* (In preparation for Winter 2023 Submission)

Rivera, I.J., Land Grab Knowledges and the Cartographic Performance of Settler Imaginaries. *Antipode* (In preparation for Winter 2023 Submission)

Peer Reviewed Articles

2023, **Rivera, I.** Undoing settler imaginaries: (Re)imagining digital knowledge politics. *Progress in Human Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03091325231154873>

2022, **Rivera, I.**, Elwood, S., & Lawson, V. (2022). Portraits for change: Refusal politics and liberatory futures. *Environment and Planning D: Society and space*, 40(4), 627-645.

2021, Simon, G. L., Peterson, C., Anderson, E., Berve, B., Caturia, M., & **Rivera, I.** Multiple Temporalities of Household Labour: The Challenge of Assessing Women's Empowerment. *Development and Change*, 52(2), 289-315.

2019, **Rivera, I.** Digital Enclosure and the Elimination of the Oceti Sakowin: The Case of the DAPL, *Society & Space Online Forum*
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/digital-enclosure-and-the-elimination-of-the-oceti-sakowin-the-case-of-dapl>

2016, Dickinson, K. L., A. J. Monaghan, **I. J. Rivera**, L. Hu, E. Kanyomse, R. Alirigia, J. Adoctor, R.

E. Kaspar, A. R. Oduro and C. Wiedinmyer. Changing weather and climate in Northern Ghana: comparison of local perceptions with meteorological and land cover data. *Regional Environmental Change*. 17(3), 915-928.

2016, Piedrahita, R., K. L. Dickinson, E. Kanyomse, E. Coffey, R. Alirigia, Y. Hagar, **I. Rivera**, A. Oduro, V. Dukic and C. Wiedinmyer. Assessment of cookstove stacking in Northern Ghana using surveys and stove use monitors. *Energy for Sustainable Development* 34(1): 67-76.

2015, Dickinson, K.L., E. Kanyomse, R. Piedrahita, E. Coffey, **I. Rivera**, J. Adoctor, R. Aligiria, D. Muvandimwe, M. Dove, V. Dukic, M. Hayden, D. Diaz-Sanchez, V. Adoctor, D. Anaseba, Y. Slichter, N. Masson, A. Monaghan, A. Titati, D. Steinhoff, Y-Y. Hsu, R. Kaspar, B. Brooks, A. Hodgson, M. Hannigan, A. R. Oduro, and C. Wiedinmyer. 2015. Research on Emissions, Air quality, Climate, and Cooking Technologies in Northern Ghana (REACCTING): Study rationale and protocol. *BMC Public Health* 15:26. doi:10.1186/s12889-015-1414-1.

Peer Reviewed Book Reviews

Rivera, I. (2021), Digitize and Punish: Racial Criminalization in the Digital Age by Brian, Jefferson, University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 2020. *The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe Canadien* 65(2).

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

2021, [*\(Re\)Mapping Native Denver*](#) with Viki Eagle at the Museum of Anthropology at the University of Denver

- Co-curated community exhibit featuring art and photography by Denver's Indigenous community that maps Indigenous-liberatory geographies.

Rivera, I. (2019), *Gender Violence and Indigenous Resistance*. A conversation with Yvonne Swan and Nick Estes at the University of Washington

<https://simpsoncenter.org/news/2019/06/gender-violence-and-indigenous-resistance>

2019-2021, **Public Contributions** with the **Relational Poverty Network**

- Podcast Series, *Reimagining A Black Sense of Place Under Siege: COVID-19 & The Police State*. 2020.
- Podcast Series, *New Poverty Politics for Changing Times: What Emerging Nationalist Populisms Mean for Poverty and Inequality*. <http://depts.washington.edu/relpov/category/podcasts/2019-2020>.
- UW installation of Real Change Portrait Project, public pedagogies with UW Honors students and Real Change
<https://www.washington.edu/uaa/2020/03/06/uw-honors-students-use-art-to-disrupt-the-narrative-on-homelessness/> 2020.
- Website development: Educational materials on relational poverty knowledge. 2019-2021.

2018-2019, *Digitizing the Sacred*, **Simpson Center** Digital Humanities Fellowship Project

2012-2013, *Geography for the People Initiative*, Open source remote sensing and environmental justice in North Denver for **undergraduate** geospatial certificate.

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

2019 – Present, **The Relational Poverty Network.**

University of Washington | Department of Geography

Research Assistant

2016 – 2018, **The Fourth World Center for the Study of Indigenous Law and Politics**

University of Colorado Denver | Department of Political Science

Research Associate

2016 – 2018, **The Facility for Advanced Spatial Technology (The FAST Lab)**

University of Colorado Denver | College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Lead Geospatial Consultant

2016 – 2018, **The University of Colorado Boulder | Department of Geography**

Graduate Research Assistant | Territorial Forest Governance in North Eastern Nicaragua

2015 – 2018, **The University of Colorado Denver**

Department of Geography and Environmental Science

Graduate Research Assistant | Political Ecology of carbon markets in India (NSF Funded)

2015-2016, **Colorado Center for Community Development (CCCD)**

Department of Architecture and Planning | University of Colorado Denver

GIS Manager

2013 – 2016, **The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)**

Division of Atmospheric Chemistry | Project REACCTING (NSF & EPA Funded)

Interdisciplinary Research Assistant

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Graduate Committee Membership

Nikki Canning. Masters of Science, School of Marine and Environmental Affairs at UW-Seattle, An Overview of the Geographic Information Study Guide. 2022

University of Washington – Instructor of Record

GEOG 295: Writing the World: The Digital & Otherwise (Winter 2023)

CHID 480: Abolition & Abundance as Method (Spring 2022)

CHID 480: Abolition Geographies (Winter 2022)

CHID 250: Writing the World: The Digital & Otherwise (Autumn 2021)

SMEA 550: Environmental Equity & Justice (Graduate Seminar, School of Marine & Environmental Affairs, Spring 2021)

GEOG: 306 GIS & Mapping (Autumn 2020)

GEOG: 258 Digital Geographies (Summers 2020, 2021, 2022)

University of Washington – Teaching Assistant

2021, Winter, GEOG: 274 Geographies of Environmental Justice
2019, Spring, GEOG: 406 GIS Databases & Programming
2019, Winter, GEOG: 306 GIS & Mapping
2018, Autumn, GEOG: 208 Geography of the World Economy

University of Washington – Reader/Grader

2022, Spring, GEOG: 495 Critical Remote Sensing

Metropolitan State University – Faculty Affiliate and Instructor

2018, Summer, GEOG: 280 Geographic Information Systems

University of Colorado Denver – Instructor of Record

2018, Spring, PSCI: 4011/5011 GIS in Indigenous Studies (co-taught with Prof. Glenn Morris)

University of Colorado Denver – Teaching Assistant

2017, Spring, PSCI: 4011/5011 GIS in Indigenous Studies
2015, Autumn, LDAR 5540: Introduction to GIS
2014, Spring, LA 5542: The Landscape of Hunger
2013, Spring, ENVS 1342: Environment and Society

INVITED LECTURES & COLLOQUIA

2023, Mapping Otherwise & The Assembly of Native Counter-Cartographies, UW Department of Geography, Colloquium Series. 20 January, 2023.

2022, Portraits for Change: Homelessness and Refusal Politics. UW Center for Health Innovation and Policy Science Seminar Series on Homelessness. 18 May, 2022 (with V. Lawson & S. Elwood)

2021, Undoing Settler Imaginaries, Re-Imagining Digital Knowledge Politics. University of Calgary, Social Justice in the City Working Group. 29 October, 2021.

2021, University of Arizona, School of Geography, Development, & Environment, Colloquium Speaker, Undoing Settler Imaginaries, Re-Imagining Digital Knowledge Politics. 22 October, 2021.

2021, Abolition in Digital Geographies. University of Nevada Reno, Department of Geography, Colloquium Speaker. 10 February, 2021.

2021, The Digital Political Geographies of Indigenous Resistance. University of Washington, Center for American Indian Studies, AIIS Scholar Lecture. 1 February, 2021.

2021, The Digital Political Geographies of Indigenous Resistance. Ohio State University, Department of Geography, Invited Lecturer for Dr. Deondre Smiles. 26 January, 2021.

2020, The American Indian Movement & The Chicana Struggle for Self-Determination. Pima Community College, Invited Lecturer for Diego Martinez-Lugo. 21 September, 2020.

GUEST LECTURES

2020, Doing Geography, Doing Interdisciplinarity
Santa Fe High School, AP Geography

2019, Racial Capitalism and The Politics of Indigeneity
University of Washington, GEOG 514: Feminist Geographies

2018, Vectors of Dispossession
University of Washington, GEOG 315: Understanding Geography

2017, Dispossession, Legality, and the Map: Voices of the Fourth World
University of Colorado Boulder – COMM 2360: Campaigns & Revolutions

2017, Geographies of Dispossession: A history of Latin America
University of Colorado Boulder – GEOG 1982: World Geography

2013, The Politics of Fracking
University of Colorado Denver - ENV5 1342: Environment and Society

SESSIONS & CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2023, Accountable Digital Geographies. The Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers Conference (AAG), Denver, CO. (Co-Organized with Viki Eagle)

2022, On Indigenous Peoples' Terms: Unsettling Landscapes through ReMapping Practices.
American Anthropological Association (AAA), Seattle WA. (Co-Organized with Viki Eagle)

2021, Abolition in Digital Geographies. The Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers Conference (AAG), Seattle WA. (Co-Organized with Daniel Gonzalez)

2020, Relational Poverty sub-conference of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), co-organized with Vicky Lawson and Sarah Elwood. (Accepted, Canceled due to COVID-19 crisis)

2020, Towards Emancipatory Digital Geographies, American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver CO (Accepted; canceled due to COVID-19)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Papers

2023, (Re)Mapping Native Denver
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver CO

2022, (Re)Mapping Native Denver

- Annual Meeting of the American Association of Anthropology (AAA), Seattle WA
- 2022, Undoing Settler Imaginaries, (Re)imagining Digital Knowledge Politics. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) (online)
- 2021, Spatializing Indigenous Peoples Freedom in Digital Geographies and Everywhere Else
Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at UW (online)
- 2021, Refusing Settler Colonialism from 'Place Against Empire'
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) (online)
- 2020, Situating the Geoweb in/out of Racial Capitalism
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver CO
(Accepted; canceled due to COVID-19)
- 2019, Digitizing the Sacred: Water, Struggle, and the Digital Geographies of Oceti Sakowin
Public Scholarship in the Digital Humanities, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC
- 2019, Earth Writing, Vector Abstraction, and the GIS: Towards Vectors of Dispossession
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Washington DC
- 2018, Algorithms of dispossession: Counter mapping in the age of big data
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), New Orleans
- 2018, Cookstoves, Empowerment, and the Economic Subject: Who's Responsible for Climate Change? Dimensions of Political Ecology (DOPE), University of Kentucky, Lexington
- Panel presentations
- 2022, Shoaling The Americas: Building Relations across Abya Yala
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), (online)
- 2021, Critical and Creative Practices for Enacting Data Justice | Refusing Algorithmic Governance
Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association (ASA), (online)
- 2021, Digital Geographies and Racial Justice | Digital Geographies Specialty Group
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), (online)
- 2020, Creative, Critical, Digital: Doing GeoHumanities
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver CO
(Accepted; canceled due to COVID-19)
- 2019, Re-centering Indigenous Methodologies: Reimagining Doctoral Education

HASTAC Conference, Vancouver, BC.

2019, Science & Technologies of Racial Capitalism

Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Washington D.C

2018, Struggles for Land, Housing, Food, and Environmental Justice in the Gentrifying City

Bioneers Conference, Boulder CO

2017, Denver Displacement: Confronting Local Gentrification and Homelessness

Spaces of Struggle, Radical Planning Conference

Discussant

2016, North/East Denver Change. a2rU Alliance for the Arts. The Power of Critical Public Humanities in the 21st Century Academy. University of Colorado Denver

2016, What does a decolonial geography look like? Occupying the Academy: Being, thinking, doing Decolonization. Denver University

SERVICE

2021-Present. Elected board director of the Indigenous Geographies Specialty Group (IPSG) of the American Association of Geographers (AAG)

2021-Present. Member of the committee for Latinx pedagogies, Latinx Geographies Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers (AAG)

2020, UW Geography Search Committee for Digital Geographies/Data Science faculty hire

2019-2020, Member of the UW Geography Colloquium Committee

2018-2020, Secretary to the Latin American Studies Graduate Student Association at UW

2017-2018, Graduate Student Assistant to the Network of Concerned Geographers (NCG)

2017-2018, Data to Policy Executive Committee, University of Colorado Denver

2016- 2018, Student representative, CU-Denver College of Liberal Arts and Sciences IT committee

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2021-Present, (Re)Mapping Native Denver

2018-Present, Relational Poverty Network

2015-2017, North East Denver/Change

2014-2015, SkyTruth Frack Finder Program

2013-2015, Board of Directors for 350 Colorado

2012-2013, United Community Action Network (UCAN) North Denver Environmental Justice

2012-2014, Geography for The People Initiative

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

Big Data & Society

ACME - An International Journal for Critical Geographies

TECHNIQUES & METHODS

ArcGIS: Desktop, Enterprise, ArcOnline, ArcPro

FOSS4G: QGIS, CARTO, Map Box, Google Earth Engine, PostgreSQL

Quantitative Methods: R, Python, Qualtrics, Applied Spatial Statistics, Webcrawler

Qualitative Methods: Ethnography, Participatory, Archival, Social Surveys, Qualitative GIS

Geovisualization: Digital Ethnography, Visual methods

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2018-Present, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA)

2018-Present, American Studies Association (ASA)

2016-Present, The Relational Poverty Network (RPN)

2013-Present, The American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Indigenous Studies Specialty Group

Latinx Geographies Specialty Group

Black Geographies Specialty Group

Digital Geographies Specialty Group

Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group