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EDUCATION 2009-	University of Texas at Austin	Doctoral Candidate: Geography Emphasis: Urban and Cultural
2006-2009	University of California, Berkeley	Master Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning (MLA)
2004-2006	The Ohio State University	Master City and Regional Planning (MCRP)
1998-2003	University of Texas at Austin	B.A. Geography with Honors; History Minors: Spanish; Urban Studies

Current Position

January 2012 - Present Lecturer

Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

College of Environmental Design University of California, Berkeley

SPECIALTIES

Critical contemporary human geography in urban environments. Cultural landscapes; urban life and urban form; urban metamorphosis; urban inequality; mobility; food and space; Latino spatial practices and migration. landscape graphic representation; conceptual landscape design; documentary film making; landscape photography.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I examine every day bodily and social practices in urban environments; especially ephemeral cultural processes that morph the urban landscape. My research looks at the textures of space and place as it relates to geographic representations of space and non-representations of place making. My research focuses on how cultural foodways and associated social practices from Latin America transform the built environment of cities in the United States.

FOREIGN STUDY

2011	Invited to attend the Ohio State University China Architecture Tour, from Hong Kong to
	Beijing, China (three-week 14 city tour)
2010 & 2011	New York Film Academy, Florence, Italy (Summer four-week)
2010	Vesupucci Initiative, Fiesole and Florence, Italy (Summer one-week)
2010	Orbit Lingua Language School, Orbtello, Italy (Summer one-week)
2005	University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany (Summer)
2005	OSU Central European Architecture Tour (Summer)
2004	University of Guanajuato, Guanajuato, Mexico (Spring Semester)
2002	UT-Austin Geography – Oxford Program, Oxford, England (Summer Session-II)
2002	University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain (Spring Semester and Summer Session I)
2000 & 2001	University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain (Summer Sessions)

LANGUAGES

-Spanish: fluent

-German: high proficiency

-Portuguese: reading and writing ability

-Italian: rudimentary

EXPLORATORY TRAVEL:

North America: Canada, Mexico (12 states), United States (25 states)

Central America: Costa Rica, Panama

South America: *Argentina, Boliva, Peru, Uruguay*

Europe: Austria, Czechoslovakia, England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lichtenstein,

Netherlands, Portugal, Scottland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Vatican City

Asia: *China, Japan* Africa: *Egypt*

FELLOWSHIPS AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

2010		Vesupucci Initiative Doctoral Scholarship		
2010-	-2011	The National Academies Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship Honorable Mention		
2009-	-2010	University of California- Mexico/ United States Grant (UC MEXUS)		
2009-	-2010	The National Academies Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship Honorable Mention		
2009-	-2010	Graduate School Diversity Recruitment Fellowship (The University of Texas at Austin)		
March	h 2009	Mapping Oakland Project featured on the cover of the San Francisco Chronicle		
May 2	2009	One of two winners of the UC Berkeley Tommy Church Design Competition		
Dec 2	2008	UC Berkeley Landscape Architecture Beatrix Farrand Memorial Fellowship		
2008-	-2009	Awarded the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for German		
2008-	-2009	Awarded the American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA) Dangermond Fellowship for		
		research pertaining to: "GIS, Culture, and Oakland Typologies"		
2008-	-2009	UC Berkeley Landscape Architecture Continuing Student Fellowship		
2008		American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) Fellowship		
2007-	-2008	UC Berkeley Landscape Architecture Continuing Student Fellowship		
2006		Certificate of Appreciation from the Office of the Mayor, Columbus, Ohio		
2006		Outstanding Project Award for Rebuilding Mississippi Studio (City and Regional Planning)		
2006		Alumni Internship Project Award for: "The Emergence of a New Urban Fabric: Hispanics in the		
		Greater Hilltop Area, Columbus, OH" (City and Regional Planning)		
2003		Special Honors in Geography (College of Liberal Arts)		
2003		Award of Distinction in Cultural Geography (Geography Department)		
2003		Award of Distinction in Urban and Regional Analysis (Geography Department)		
2003		University Honors (Dean's Honor List)		
2002-	-2003	Gamma Sigma Alpha Greek Honor Society		
2002		Rapoport International Scholarship		

PRESENTATIO	ONS
Feb 2012	Presented on "Taco Trucks in Virtual Places": Association of American Geographers
	Conference; New York City, New York.
Oct 2011	Presented on "Identifying Place in Oakland, California: Using GIS to Synthesize Spatial
	Perceptions of Demographically Distinct Neighborhoods in Oakland, CA.": Association of
4 !! 0044	South Western American Geographers Conference (SWAG); Austin, Texas.
April 2011	Presented on "Measuring the Social Constructs of Space: Using GIS to Quantify Boundary
	Perceptions of Demographically Distinct Neighborhoods in Oakland, California": Association
Oct 2010	of American Geographers Conference; Seattle, Washington. Presented on "Raised throughout Oklahoma: Cultural Landscapes of Oklahoma through my
OCI 2010	fathers perspective." Southwestern Division of the Association of American Geographers
	Conference; Tahlequah, Oklahoma.
April 2010	Invited to Present at the symposium "Positioning Global Systems" at the Yale School of
	Architecture: "Measuring the Social Constructs of Space: Using GIS to Quantify Boundary
	Perceptions of Demographically Distinct Neighborhoods in Oakland, CA "
April 2009	Invited to Present at a Sociology class at Mills College, Oakland, California: "Geographic
	Information Sciences in the Social Sciences."
June 2008	Presented on "Japanese Gardens on the West Coast" at The International Japanese Gardens
	Symposium hosted by the Kyoto University of Art and Design; Kyoto, Japan

PAP	ERS (All	papers a	availa	able	upon	reque	st)
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May 2012	Measuring the Social Constructs of Space: Using GIS to Quantify Boundary Perceptions of
	Demographically Distinct Neighborhoods in Oakland, California (Pending Publication)
May 2012	Taco Trucks in Virtual Places (Pending Publication)
May 2011	Raised throughout Oklahoma: Cultural Landscapes of Oklahoma through my father's perspective. (Rewriting for Publication)
May 2010	Hood Walter J., Lemon Robert D. En-Meshing Mexico City: Rethinking Mexico City's Infrastructure within a Hydrological Framework. UC MEXUS Web Publication
March 2009	Reinterpretting the Japanese Garden: The Hayward Japanese Garden in Hayward, California.
	Published in The Journal of Academic Society of Japanese Gardens.
March 2006	The Emergence of a New Urban Fabric: Hispanics in the Greater Hilltop Area, Columbus, OH
	City plan produced for the City of Columbus, Department of Development, Neighborhood
	Services
May 2003	The Identities of the Iberian Peninsula: A Cultural Geography of the People and Landscape
	Undergraduate Honors Thesis supervised by Professor Terry G. Jordan-Bychkoy

WORKING DISSERTATION

The Taco Truck Transfigurations: The Spatiality of Orderly Disorder

The taco truck is a symbol of Mexican culture that reinforces identity for the immigrant, but it often also represents an unwelcome cultural change to the existing community hegemony. This dichotomy creates tension between ethnicities and divergent stakeholders, which frequently manifests in community and planning meetings as well as everyday interactions. The social unease over these contested landscapes creates new urban policies, which ultimately marginalize the spaces that taco trucks, and their Spanish-speaking owners and customers, can inhabit. More than simply a place to get a cheap lunch, taco trucks in Hispanic communities function as lightening rods of controversy and bellwethers of racial tolerance. Furthermore, most of these establishments take place in public and semi-public urban spaces and at times owned and operated by illegal immigrants. Comparing and contrasting Sacramento, California and Columbus, Ohio, my dissertation examines the taco truck's diverse identities through the cultural practice and consumption of cuisine as place making. It then looks at the regulations that revolve around the taco truck's reality at both the community and city planning level as a contested landscape. Next it surveys the taco truck's celebration amongst blog communities in virtual space and the coupling of virtual and built environments. It concludes by illustrating how the mere informal practice of eating at a taco truck on the street contributes to restitching the fragmented post-modern city.

FILMS

Transfusión (April 2013) Written, Produced and Directed

Transfusión is a documentary film set in Columbus, OH about food, life, immigration, and the exchange of culture in unexpected places. While the west side of the City (the Greater Hilltop Area) struggle to come to terms with how to handle the emergence of taco trucks, a black neighborhood on the East side (the King-Lincoln district) has invited a taco truck into one of the most impoverished areas of Columbus to help revitalize the community. For the City of Columbus the trucks are more than just about food, they're about immigration, race, community acceptance, and the exchange of life in the inner city.

Official Selection at the following Film Festivals:

Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland, Ohio

¿Tacos or Tacos? (December 2010) Written, Produced and Directed

Austin has witnessed the growth of two different types of food trucks over the last few years; taco trucks that serve immigrants, and trendier food trucks that create new hybrid cuisines. "¿Tacos or Tacos?" is a short documentary about the emergence of new food cultures of Austin and how they are shaping community identity in the city. Moreover, it is about how food trucks transform the urban environment to create a place and space where particular customs are practiced and continued. Through juxtaposing immigrant taco trucks on the East side of Austin to the new trendier food trucks in the eclectic and eccentric neighborhood of South Austin, the film elucidates that taco trucks are more than just a place to eat for Mexican immigrants.

Official Selection at the following Film Festivals:

Sonoma International Film Festival, Sonoma, California Latin American Film Festival, Austin, Texas Hill Country Film Festival, Fredricksburg, Texas Santa Rosa International Film Festival, Santa Rosa, California Best Short, La Jolla, California Latino Magazine Festival for Hunger Awareness in Latino Communities

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Berkeley

Fall 2012 & Fall 2013 -Lecturer
PROCESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Graduate Seminar. This course posits environmental planning at the confluence of economic and social changes and challenges within the United States, more specifically California. This course draws from theory, history, law, policy, and ecological processes to construct a critical analysis of the role of environmental planning, its influences and potential impacts. The course also emphasizes the process of environmental planning as it relates to human land uses, where planning ideals and competing social ideologies are often highly contested.

Fall 2013 -Lecturer

LD ARCH 12 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Freshman introductory course to environmental sciences as applied to urban design. Landscape Architecture 12 is designed to introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of environmental science as a basis for sustainable development, planning, and design. The course combines lectures that provide a broad overview of the discipline with lab/discussion sections to give students hands-on field experience with local environmental issues such as stream ecology, air pollution, energy use, biogeochemical cycling, and introduces general concepts and specific strategies for sustainable design. The lab/discussion sections for LA12 are primarily field-based to get you away from the books and into the real world, experiencing your local environment. Some lectures cover material related to section work, while other lectures are intended to introduce students to a wider range of environmental issues and scientific problems.

Summer 2012 -Lecturer and Studio Instructor [IN]LAND SUMMER [IN]STITUTE

The [IN]LAND program introduces students to the different scales and aspects of landscape architecture and environmental planning. "People and Processes" describes the overall theme for the program, in which we investigate how to evince and design for social and natural processes in the urban environment. The sixweek program is divided into two studio projects. Project sites are located within the San Francisco Bay Area so that we can visit them.

Spring 2012 & Spring 2013 -Lecturer

LD ARCH 141 THE AMERICAN LANDSCAPE: MULTI-CULTURAL DIFFERENCE AND DIVERSITY Co-taught with Professor Walter Hood. This course will compare and contrast the nature of African American, American Indian, and European American relationships with the American Landscape. Traditional patterns of land use within each subculture will be explored, and juxtaposed against prevailing theory and ideology. Social patterns of use, perception, attached meaning and sense of place, and the transformation of the environment as the result of social change are some of the topics to be discussed

Spring 2012 -Assistant Studio Instructor
LD ARCH 102 CASE STUDIES IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Assistant Instructor to Professor Walter Hood. This is a landscape architecture graduate studio that introduces students to decision making processes in landscape design. The course stresses the shaping and coordination of ideas from initial concept to complete design product. Basics of the course cover landscape typologies, systematic diagramming, as well as social and environmental analysis. Students are informed how to analyze the opportunities and constraints of landscape site factors and apply them considerately to their design concept(s). Graphic design representation and complimentary presentation methods are also covered.

The University of Texas at Austin

Summer 2013 - Instructor

GRG 337 THE MODERN AMERICAN CITY

An upper division course to urban geography. The course examines social and economic spatial relationships of cities. The course first focuses on American class ideologies and the formation of urban space during industrialization. It then examine how capital accumulation and technology often polarizes and abstracts space as well as how these processes affect individual movements, access to resources, and the public realm. Additionally we look at how different human practices and/or performances of race, ethnicity, gender, and/or sexuality activate as well as transform the experience of urban space.

Fall 2010 - Graduate Student Instructor

GRG 305 THIS HUMAN WORLD

A freshman introductory course to human geography, including human-environment relations, cultural patterns and processes, and geography's relation to other fields of study. Delivered course lectures on urbanization, the american city structure, as well as other aspects of human geography. In addition lead small weekly discussion sections and explained spatial theories and processes.

University of California, Berkeley

Spring 2010 - Visiting Scholar/ Studio Instructor

EN-MESHING MEXICO CITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN AN ECOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Landscape Architecture graduate design studio co-taught with Professor Walter J. Hood. Course includes a week of instruction in Mexico City, collaboration with the Landscape Program at UNAM, with follow up work at UC Berkeley. Travel funded by the University of California MEXUS Grant.

Fall 2008 - Graduate Student Instructor (GSI)

ED1 INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

A freshman introductory course to Urban Studies, Landscape Architecture, and Architecture. Course taught with Professor Linda Jewell. Lecture on urban geography and hold discussion sections on architecture design theory as well as critique student individual design work.

Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009 -Graduate Student Instructor (GSI)

LD ARCH 132 COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and AutoCAD. Course introduces students the power of GIS in land managment, urban and environmental planning, and architectural design with ecological and social processes. Course taught with geography professor John Radke.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2009 Fall The University of Texas at Austin Department of Athletics

Mentored and tutored student athletes

2009 Spring Surface Design, San Francisco, California, (Internship)

2008 Summer Grupo de Diseño Urbano, Mexico City, Mexico, (Landscape Architecture, Architecture, and Urban Design firm headed by Mario Schjetnan)

- -Projects:
- -Zumpango, Mexico- Helped design, plan, and grade the main plaza and the central park for a new city of 200,000 habitants north of Mexico City.
- -Palenque Park Visitors Center, Chiapas, Mexico- worked on site analysis and design concepts
- -El Salvador Housing Development, Queratero, Mexico- helped complete site analysis and master planning for an urban housing project for 82,000 habitants.

2007-2008 University of California, Berkeley

- Graduate Student Researcher (GSR) for the Geographic Information Science Center (GISC)

2004-2006 City of Columbus, Department of Development, Neighborhood Services

- Community Planning; Demographic studies; GIS Mapping; Survey writing; Spanish translation; community brochure design; helped create community leadership handbooks

1995-1999 East Texas Machinery, Lufkin and Longview, Texas

- Computer Technician

GEOGRAPHIC AND PLANNING RELATED SKILLS

- Spatial analysis and statistical analysis in geography and planning
- Facilitate and organize community meetings
- Survey Writing

Photography Skills

- -Videographer. Work primarily with 7D and HD Canon Camcorder AX-H1
- -Edit on Final Cut Pro 7 and 10.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

2004-2006 Worked extended hours with communities in Columbus, Ohio.

1998-2001 Mentored Hispanic sixh grade students at Barrington Elementary School

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- -Received Private Pilot's License (1997); Instrument Flight Rating (1999); Commercial Flight Rating (2001); received all training for Certified Flight Instructor exam (2001)
- -Student/Faculty Liaison for the student chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley

COMPUTER SKILLS

-Final Cut Pro; Microsoft Office; Adobe CS5 Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, GoLive; AutoCAD 2005, 2007, 2009; Rhinoceros 3D; Sketch Up; ARC GIS 9.2.