

1. My name is Olivia Oliva (last name pronounced oh-LEE-va).
2. I use she/her/hers pronouns!
3. My contact number is (785)224-3033.
4. My only experience with field work was a trip to Pittsburg, Kansas, to see and take samples of coal waste piles for my research program (BESST) at KU. I was assisting in research by KGS about critical mineral mining and how these gob piles are affecting the local community. I was able to see the projects that KDHE is doing in that area and see my team take samples of a few coal waste piles to be assessed later to see if there are any critical minerals in the waste that could be reclaimed and useful.
5. Something that fascinates me is genealogy and anthropology. I think it is fascinating how different people's features are adaptations from the conditions that their ancestors came from (i.e., nose shape/size, skin pigmentation, and body shape). I also believe that we feel a connection to certain areas/climates because it is related to our evolution, and where our ancestors lived. I think my fascination with where humans come from and how we have adapted to our environments plays into my interest in environmental science, more specifically, environmental justice, because it has shown me that we are not separate from the environment, but an ever-changing part of it, just like plants and animals.
6. I feel that I lack in my Excel skills to analyze data, so I will take any opportunity to meet with a professor/GTA for extra guidance if that is possible.