

# DILNI ABEYRATHNE

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## EDUCATION

2019 - 2023  
**Environmental & Sustainability Studies (BA)**  
College of Arts & Sciences |  
University of Kentucky | GPA 4.0

2019 - 2023  
**Geography ( and minor in Mapping & GIS) (BA)**  
College of Arts & Sciences |  
University of Kentucky | GPA 4.0

2019 - 2023  
**International Studies (BA)**  
College of Arts & Sciences |  
University of Kentucky | GPA 4.0

## SKILLS

- Cartography & GIS
- Research & Writing
- Data Analysis & Management
- Interpersonal relations

## SOFTWARE

- QGIS
- ArcGIS Pro
- ERDAS Imagine
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Blender
- GitHub
- Microsoft Suite

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

Environment, sustainability, and geography student seeking to integrate mapping, conservation, sustainability theory, and social theory to change current systems of ideology, epistemology, and environmental action in order to encourage the development of sustainable living systems that are both environmentally- and socially-conscious.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Month of  
June 2021

### Cartographer (commission) for Dr. Nari Senanayake

📍 University of Kentucky

Designed an updated map of Sri Lanka's hotspots of chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology (CKDu) compared to its agroecological zones for Dr. Senanayake's recent research publication. Published in "Theorising liminal states of health: A spatio-temporal analysis of undiagnosis and anticipatory diagnosis in the shadow of toxic pollution" article in Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers.

July 2021  
to present

### Research Assistant

📍 University of Kentucky

Mapshop | Dr. Matthew W. Wilson

Analyzed urban tree canopy data for Lexington, KY in comparison to demographic data as an analysis of environmental justice. Analyzed and mapped 2010 & 2020 decennial census geometric and demographic data for Kentucky, emphasizing areas of change and no change. Currently exploring and mapping Lexington's Urban Services Boundary. Worked published on Mapshop's website (<https://mapshop.as.uky.edu>).

Sept. 2021  
to present

### ARC/GIS Undergraduate Director of Mapping 📍 University of Kentucky Documenting Racial Violence in Kentucky (DRVK)

Managed map creation and design for racial violence in Kentucky with emphasis on demographic analysis through historical records. Collected and corroborated relevant data and created 20+ maps (4-6 finalized), including two animated change-over-time maps. Currently working on redesigning former maps for publication on the DRVK website, creating a graphic for accusations preceding lynchings, and developing a database documenting Night Rider attacks in Kentucky. Worked published in DRVK's website (<https://drvk.createuky.net>).

Jan. 2022  
to May 2022

### Undergraduate Researcher

📍 University of Kentucky

ENS Thesis (ENS 400) with Dr. Betsy Beymer-Farris

Researched and wrote an extensive report (25+ pages) about the sustainability of silvopasture as both an ENS thesis and a documentation of positives, negatives, and the possibility of implementation for Alltech. Presented research at an Alltech conference in April.

May 2022  
to July 2022

### Undergraduate Researcher

📍 University of Kentucky

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship with Dr. Nari Senanayake

Researched the paradoxical connections between culture and nature in the ecological and psychosocial impacts of mountaintop removal mining and valley fill reclamation efforts in Appalachia with a focus on cultural ecology and the social construction of nature. Presented research at the Summer Undergraduate Research + Creative Symposium.

LANGUAGE		WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Sinhala (native tongue, fluent)</i></li><li>• <i>English (second language, fluent)</i></li><li>• <i>Spanish (basic proficiency)</i></li><li>• <i>Korean (beginner)</i></li></ul>		<div><div>May 2022 to July 2022</div><div><div>Intern/Cartographer</div><div><i>Paul Edwin Potter Internship   Kentucky Geological Survey</i></div><div>University of Kentucky</div><div>Researched and mapped 880 landslides on six mountaintop removal sites in eastern Kentucky (old and recent) with a focus on environmental justice and ecological change and stability. Self-taught and utilized ArcGIS Pro and created five derivative maps to help with analysis. Presented research in poster form at the Potter Intern Showcase in July.</div></div></div>	
HOBBIES		<div><div>Month of Oct. 2022</div><div><div>Cartographer (commission)</div><div><i>for Dr. Lydia Pelot-Hobbs</i></div><div>University of Kentucky</div><div>Designed a map detailing carceral and freedom sites in New Orleans. Final map will be featured in the annual American Studies Association conference in the fall of 2023.</div></div></div>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Reading books</i></li><li>• <i>Writing (short stories, books)</i></li><li>• <i>Photography</i></li><li>• <i>Drawing</i></li></ul>		<div><div>Month of Jan. 2023</div><div><div>Cartographer (commission)</div><div><i>for Dr. Wendy Cheng</i></div><div>Scripps College</div><div>Designed a map illustrating the locations of campus spying incidents in U.S. universities. The final map will be featured in Dr. Cheng's upcoming book about Taiwanese student migration, activism, and campus surveillance during the Cold War period</div></div></div>	
ORGANIZATIONS & LEADERSHIP			
<div><div><div>Sierra Club Climate Justice League</div><div><i>Feb. 2020 - May 2020   Sierra Club   Fellow</i></div><div>Youth program facilitated by the Sierra Club to aid youths in stepping into sustainability and environmental activism and advocacy. Explored sustainability as told through the lenses of various specialists, professionals, and community activists. Attended and contributed to a virtual Earth Day event at the culmination of the program.</div></div><div><div>Greenthumb</div><div><i>Aug. 2020 - present   UK Organization   Co-Outreach Coodinator, Secretary, Co-Coordinator</i></div><div>Student organization focused on sustainability and environmental activism. Served as Co-Outreach Coordinator (Aug. 2020 - May 2021) and aided in media presence and planning events. Served as Secretary (Aug. 2021 - May 2022) and documented meeting minutes. Additionally, helped facilitate a campaign to encourage the University of Kentucky to divest from fossil fuels and invest in green energy. Influenced creation of an endowment and a Spring 2022 sustainability-focused financial investment class. Currently leading Greenthumb as Co-Coordinator and working on rebuilding and revitalizing operations.</div></div><div><div>Sustainability Future Leaders</div><div><i>Oct. 2021 - present   UK Organization   Communications Officer</i></div><div>Student organization focused on sustainability advocacy, education, and career exploration. Founding member. Handled communications with other organizations and individuals and recently expanded role to aid in event planning.</div></div><div><div>Sri Lankan Student Association</div><div><i>Oct. 2022 - present   UK Organization   Undergraduate Officer</i></div><div>Student organization for those idenfying of Sri Lankan heritage or have an interest in Sri Lanka. Currently serving as the undergraduate representation officer and newsletter designer.</div></div></div>			
AWARDS			
<div><div><div>Otis A. Singletary Scholarship</div><div><i>awarded May 2019</i></div><div>UK's top scholarship. Highly selective.</div></div><div><div>Dean's List</div><div><i>awarded for Fall 2019 - present (all majors)</i></div><div>Given for maintaining a GPA above 3.6.</div></div><div><div>Alpha Lambda Delta</div><div><i>inducted March 2020, current member</i></div><div>National honor society for first-year success.</div></div><div><div>Phi Kappa Phi</div><div><i>inducted Oct. 2021, member until Aug. 2022 (currently inactive)</i></div><div>All-discipline national honor society. Oldest and most selective.</div></div></div>		<div><div><div>Joseph R. Schwendeman Award</div><div><i>awarded May 2021 &amp; 2022</i></div><div>Given for the highest grade point average in the Department of Geography.</div></div><div><div>Gamma Theta Upsilon</div><div><i>inducted April 2022, current member</i></div><div>International geographic honor society.</div></div><div><div>Raitz Scholarship</div><div><i>awarded May 2022</i></div><div>Presented to support undergraduate academic merit and diversity.</div></div><div><div>SURF Research Award</div><div><i>awarded for May 2022</i></div><div>Selective summer grant for undergraduate research.</div></div></div>	