# Alyssa Sklar (she/her)

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## EDUCATION

### University of Michigan
Master of Science, School of Information, April 2024
Concentration: Library, Archives, and Digital Curation

Master of Science, School for Environment and Sustainability, April 2024
Concentration: Geospatial Data Sciences

Graduate Teacher Certificate, April 2024

### DePaul University
Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude,* Geography Department, June 2020
Major: Geography
Concentration: Geographic Information Systems/Geotechnology
Minor: Architecture & Urbanism

Geographic Information Systems Certificate, June 2020

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Student Instructor**, School of Information, University of Michigan, August 2023 – present
*SI 544: Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis*

**Graduate Student Instructor**, Earth & Environmental Sciences Department, University of Michigan, January 2021 – April 2023
*EARTH 408: Introduction to GIS for the Earth Sciences*

**Teaching & Lab Assistant**, Geography Department, DePaul University, September 2019 – June 2020
*GEO 242: GIS II: Community GIS*
*GEO 344: GIS III: Spatial Analysis for Sustainability*
*GEO 345/445: Programming in Python for GIS*

## RESEARCH

### University of Michigan
**Research Assistant**, Stephen S. Clark Library, October 2023 - present
*Analyzed pictorial maps depicting the United States from the 1920-1960s to understand how pictorial maps reflect and sustain political, economic, cultural, and social dynamics through symbology. Maps were examined applying Cultural and Human Geography as well as Political Ecology theories to identify subtextual narratives related to cultural caricaturization, capitalism and consumerism, American nationalism, enclosure and dispossession of land and exploitation of resources, and segregation in the depiction of labor and leisure activities.*

**Research Assistant**, UM- Flint, College of Innovation & Technology, March 2023 – present
*Aided in interdisciplinary active transportation research: "The e-bike boom: Examining key safety factors on e-bike potential to promote sustainability and equity in Detroit". Implemented community surveys with Qualtrics; cleaned and analyzed data with Python and R; conducted field experiments with heart rate sensors, GPS, and cameras; and performed GIS and statistical analyses with ArcGIS Pro and R.*

**Student Consultant**, School of Information, January - April 2023
*Supported the development of a civic technology tool to foster community engagement and aid in government transparency for residents of Dearborn, Michigan collaborating with the City of Dearborn's Department of Public Works (DPW) in SI 538: Citizen Interaction Design. Conducted user needs and stakeholder assessments, designed surveys, and prototyped a texting/tracking system for residents to report and stay informed about issues serviced by DPW.*

**Student Consultant**, School for Environment and Sustainability, January 2021 - April 2022
*Applied Remote Sensing and Machine Learning techniques to capture the spatial distribution of urban tree canopies, identify turfgrass, delineate native forest fragments, classify trees to genus, and inform land stewardship practices with the Office of Sustainability and Innovations at the City of Ann Arbor. Utilized R spatial libraries and ArcGIS Pro for data management, machine learning, classification, analyses, and data visualizations.*

**Geovisualization Assistant**, Department of History, October – December 2021
*Created geospatial data by geocoding historical sites and digitizing 15th century analog maps in ArcGIS Pro.*

## DePaul University
**GIS Student Consultant**, Geography Department, January – March 2019
*Collaborated in a community-based service learning (CbSL) partnership with the National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum to analyze geospatial data to map the descendants of the Brotherhood of the Sleeping Car Porters, generate data management and quality strategies, and produce multimedia cartographic displays.*

**Environmental & Social Initiative Student Consultant**, Geography Department, September – November 2018
*Collaborated in a community-based service learning (CbSL) partnership with the Alliance of the Southeast to conduct community outreach interviews and design infographics to promote education, employment, housing, and environmentally sustainable urban development with a 35+ community organization coalition to combat the effects of neighborhood gentrification by supporting a Community Benefits Agreement.*

## EXPERIENCE
### University of Michigan
**Data Curator & Project Consultant**, Engaged Learning Office, May 2023 – present
*Served as a domain expert for Library, Archives, and Digital Curation and lent support for Big Data Analytics and User Experience client-based courses and programs at the School of Information. Managed client/faculty relationship by developing a strong understanding of course learning objectives and project needs by leading client calls and scoping project proposals. Updated and implemented standards for data integrity in Salesforce.*

**GIS & Map Reference Assistant**, Stephen S. Clark Library, August 2021 – present
*Provided reference, research, and information services to patrons regarding maps, atlases, geographic data, and government information. Cataloged and constructed metadata in Alma using standards for cartographic materials. Applied preservation techniques to ensure the longevity of maps. Planned, designed, and curated materials for themed exhibits and events. Collaborated across Library departments including Circulation, Technical Services, and Communications and Marketing.*

### Esri
**Industry Solutions Intern**, Mapping and Statistics, May – July 2022
*Curated digital content to users of the Remote Sensing & Imagery, National Mapping, National Maritime & Hydrography, and Aviation industries. Generated email newsletters in Salesforce*

*Marketing Cloud, assisted in website messaging and design in Adobe Experience Manager, event planning, performed industry competitive analyses, curated data collections, and connected users to tailored solutions at Esri's User Conference.*

**City of Ann Arbor**
**Greenbelt Program Intern**, Office of Sustainability and Innovations, May – September 2021
*Designed and implemented fieldwork surveys at 50+ locations to collect training data for Machine Learning/Classification with plotting and compass bearings, GNSS receivers, and ArcGIS Field Maps to identify tree species, genus, and diameter at breast height with special attention to native species.*

**DePaul University**
**Access Services Assistant**, John T. Richardson Library, August 2017 – June 2020
*Implemented and maintained organizational strategies for all library materials. Participated in stacks shifting projects, weeding, and development of Library collections. Engaged patrons to fulfill circulation, informational, and research needs. Aided in the digitization of library materials to fulfill document delivery requests. Trained and supervised new student employees and delegated daily shelving and circulation tasks.*

## FUNDED PROJECT

**Engagement, Career Training, and Outreach (ECO) Program Award**, University of Michigan Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR) through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations (NOAA) Cooperative Agreement, February – August 2023
*Funded project ($7,982) to develop user-friendly GIS curriculum for the University of Michigan's Earth Camp, the Earth and Environmental Sciences high school outreach program for college-bound underrepresented minority students in the Environmental Sciences. Modules focus on the basics of Esri ArcGIS through mapping exercises exploring Great Lakes environmental issues being studied by CIGLR with a focus on environmental justice.*

## EXHIBITS & PRESENTATIONS

"Beyond Symbology: Identifying Subtextual Narratives in Pictorial Maps", Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, East Lakes Division, Maumee Bay Lodge, Oregon, OH, November 2023

"Lines on the Land: Mapping Borders and Boundaries", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, October 2023

"cARTography: the artistry of maps", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, July 2023

"Are We There Yet? Vintage Travel Maps and Guidebooks", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, June 2023

"Going Medieval On You: A Cartographic Journey", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, May 2023

"Mapping the Beauty and Fragility of Our Planet", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, April 2023

"Illustrating the World: Pictorial Maps from the Clark Library Collection", University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Third Thursday Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI, March 2023

"Characterizing the Urban Tree Canopy of Ann Arbor, Michigan", University of Michigan, School for Environment and Sustainability, Capstone Conference, Ann Arbor, MI, April 2022

"Urban Remote Sensing & Superblocks: a case study of Barcelona, Spain", Annual Meeting of the American Associations of Geographers, West Lakes Division, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA, October 2019

## AWARDS

Bernadine Pietraszek Memorial Endowed Award from DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Chicago, IL, 2019

Judith Regnier Getch Endowed Award from DePaul University Geography Department, Chicago, IL, 2019

Dean's Excellence Award from DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Chicago, IL, 2018

## AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Geographers (AAG)
American Library Associations (ALA)
American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
Cartography and Geographic Society (CaGIS)
Gamma Theta Upsilon, the International Geographical Honor Society
North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS)
Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML)

## ACTIVITIES

Officer, American Library Association Student Chapter, University of Michigan, School of Information, 2023
Member, American Library Association Student Chapter, University of Michigan, School of Information, 2020-2023
Co-founder, Map Club pilot program, University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, 2023
Member, DePaul Geography Student Alliance, DePaul University, 2016-2020
Volunteer Architecture Docent, Chicago Architecture Center, 2016-2019

## SKILLS

**GIS & Remote Sensing**
QGIS; ArcGIS; GeoDA; ArcPy; Erdas Imagine; GNSS; Field Bearings; Leaflet
**Programming**
Python; R; SQL; HTML; CSS; XML; JSON; APIs; Linux Server Commands; Git; R-Shiny
**Graphic Design**
Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator
**Library Systems**
Alma; ILLiad; Voyager; Omeka S; MARC; Dublin Core; METS; MODS
**Additional Applications**
SPSS; Github; Salesforce; Adobe Experience Manager; Zotero; Canvas; Microsoft Suite; Google Suite