

Alexandra “Ola” Zalecki

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EDUCATION

Middlebury College

Bachelor of Arts in Geography with a minor in Spanish
Summa Cum Laude and with Honors for completion of Senior Thesis

“Who is the public in public libraries? Exploring the spatial variations of the changing dynamics of library services in Chicago, IL”

Middlebury, VT

May 2024

Relevant Coursework: Human Geography with GIS, Cartography, Mapping Global Environmental Change, Practicing Human Geography, Cartographic Design, OpenGIScience

Technical Skills: desktop GIS(QGIS, ArcGIS), web based GIS (Google Earth Engine, ArcGIS Online), Adobe Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop), RStudio, STATA, Github, Canvas

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Middlebury College, Department of Luso-Hispanic Studies

Research Assistant, Professor Miguel Fernández

Middlebury, VT

January 2024 - May 2024

- Researched 19th-century shipwrecks in Latin America and mapping the locations of sunken skips along the San Juan River in Nicaragua in ArcGIS story maps

Middlebury College, Department of Geography

Global Atlas Research Assistant, Professor Guntram Herb

Middlebury, VT

February 2022 - September 2023

- Conducted background research and collected and edited data for a variety of global topics to create an atlas textbook for introductory-level college courses in international studies
- Managed a team of 5 research assistants to create a working map template in QGIS and Adobe Illustrator to streamline map production
- Collaborated on completing at least 50 thematic maps in total

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Middlebury College, Department of Geography

Assistant in Science Instruction

Middlebury, VT

August 2024 - Present

- Assist in the preparation and instruction of classes in GIS and cartography
- Support and maintain GIS databases, software, labs and work areas
- Mentor and supervisor student lab monitors

The Newberry Library

Intern for the Smith Center for the History of Cartography

Chicago, IL

Summer 2023

- Alphabetized unprocessed USGS maps to easily cross-reference them with cataloged material to fill in gaps and consolidate space in the stacks
- Created and managed an inventory of unprocessed Rand McNally maps and French Marine maps
- Cropped and adjusted metadata for 150 map images for the online companion archive to the publication: Mapping Movement in American History and Culture
- Completed a file name check and BibID retrieval for 180 catalog entries for the Sacks map collection

Middlebury College, Department of Geography

GIS Database Design Intern, Bill Hegman

Middlebury, VT

September 2022 - May 2023

- Digitized a land management database in ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online to improve parcel record keeping for Middlebury College
- Coordinated with the college administration and differents to improve user experience of the new digital database

Addison County Regional Planning Commission*Planning Intern***Middlebury, VT***January 2023 - February 2023*

- Collected various types of economic and traffic data and prepared maps, graphs, and other visualizations to show land use and change along a road bypass
- Attended project meetings with local planners to identify project goals and later present results from my analysis
- Created a final report documenting analysis and a discussion of recommendations for future road bypass projects

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Globalscape: An Atlas**
Presented with Drew An-Pham, Annika Hoerner, Yidu “Alex” Xu and Madeleine Gallop
Summer Research Symposium at Middlebury College
- 2023 **Mapping the Impacts of the Alternate Truck Route in Morrisville, VT**
Spring Student Symposium at Middlebury College
- 2024 **The Coal Mine Next Door**
Mountain Cartography Workshop in Zakopane, Poland

HONORS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2020-2021 College Scholar
2021-2022 Dean’s List
2022 J Rowland Illick Scholarship
2022 Beinecke Scholarship nominee for Middlebury College
2023 J Rowland Illick Scholarship
2023 College Scholar
2024 J Rowland Illick Prize in Geography

PUBLICATIONS

Herb, G. H., Moorti, S., Fuentes-George, K., (2024). Middlebury Atlas of Globalization. Forthcoming April 2024, PONS Langenscheidt GmbH, Stuttgart, Germany

Description of Contribution: Conducted background research, collected data, and created maps for the atlas.

VOLUNTEER WORK

Tutors4Ukraine*Remote Tutor***Middlebury, VT***April 2022-August 2022*

- Provided one-on-one English and Polish language tutoring and instruction to develop reading and speaking skills
- Developed weekly grammar-based lesson plans and made annotations of student learning and progress
- Provided supplemental academic support and writing activities for the student outside of tutoring sessions

Connections for the Homeless*Interpreter and Translator***Evanston, IL***Summer 2021*

- Interpreted and translated conversations and verbal instructions between Polish and English
- Reviewed and translated government documents and forms in both languages
- Facilitated effective communication between the organization and the client.

CERTIFICATES

- 2019 Seal of Biliteracy in English and Polish