

MOMOH, EMMANUEL ONUCHE

Ph.D. Candidate | Geography Graduate Group

University of California, Davis

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SUMMARY

A mixed methods geographer and educator with 10+ years of experience, passionate about food security, environmental justice, and community empowerment. My research centers on understanding the complex interactions between humans and their environment, particularly within underserved and immigrant communities. I am dedicated to fostering inclusive learning environments and leading impactful projects that promote positive change.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTEREST

GIS & Spatial Analysis	Health Geography
Food Security	Environmental Justice
Food Justice & Sovereignty	Political Ecology
Alternative Food Networks	Immigration & Immigrant Communities
Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems	African Geography

EDUCATION

2026	PhD in Geography, University of California Davis <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Dissertation</u>: Geographies of Cultural Food Insecurity: Spatial Inequality and African Immigrant Food Access in U.S. Urban Areas.
2021	M.Sc. in Geography-Environmental Resource Management, Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Thesis</u>: The Effect of Community-Based Natural Resource Management on the Sustainable Livelihood of Cashew Farmers in Dekina Local Government Area, Kogi State, Nigeria.
2013	Post Graduate Diploma in Education, National Open University of Nigeria
2012	B.Sc. Geography and Planning, Kogi State University Anyigba, Nigeria <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Undergraduate Research Project</u>: Effects of Land Use/Land Cover Change on Agricultural Land in Anyigba, Kogi State, Nigeria.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND COLLABORATIONS

2025 – Ongoing ***Neighborhood Inequality Lab***

- Conduct spatial analysis of heat exposure across neighborhoods using R, integrating temperature data and socioeconomic indicators such as income, race/ethnicity, age, disability status, and car ownership.
- Integrate canopy cover data to evaluate its role in mitigating urban heat disparities.
- Analyze *SafeGraph* cell phone data to assess how neighborhood-level travel patterns affect individual and community heat exposure.
- Perform statistical modeling to identify correlations between mobility behavior and differential heat risks.
- Visualize spatial patterns and disparities using GIS tools and data visualization techniques for academic presentations.
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members to interpret findings and shape community-informed heat resilience strategies.

2023 – Ongoing ***African Food Basket***

- Secured initial project funding by successfully writing and submitting a competitive research-to-action grant proposal.
- Launched and led the African Food Basket (AFB) initiative to address food insecurity and promote cultural inclusion among African international students.
- Designed and implemented a mixed-methods research framework, including a structured survey and semi-structured interview protocols, to examine the impact of culturally tailored gardens on food security, cultural identity, and social integration.
- Recruited, mentored, and supervised a team of undergraduate and graduate student interns, providing guidance on data collection, community engagement, and leadership development.
- Conducted geospatial analysis of African food source locations relative to student housing and mobility patterns using survey and spatial data.
- Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data to assess the outcomes of the AFB intervention, identifying improvements in food access, community cohesion, and cultural continuity.

2022 – Ongoing ***Equity, Land, and Food System Lab, UC Davis***

- Led data collection on web-scraping publicly available data on California Alternative Food Networks.
- Coordinated weekly meetings and ensured the project objectives are met.
- Cleaned and prepared the dataset along with American Community Survey data and analyzed the data using QGIS and Python. Two manuscripts are in preparation from this analysis.

- Led a team to collect and evaluate 428 California general plans from a novel [California general plan database](#) to understand how cities plan for food & agriculture.
- One manuscript from this study has been published by the Journal of Planning Education and Research, another is currently in preparation.

2023 – Ongoing ***UC Davis Center for Regional Change***

- I led a team to analyze semi-structured interview transcripts collected by Yolo County officials who work on the Yolo Basic Income project, one of the first 100 guaranteed income programs in the United States.
- In line with grounded theory, I led the team to read a subset of these transcripts, identify emerging themes, and create a coding tree, which was applied to the rest of the transcripts on the Dedoose qualitative data management tool.
- I also collaborated with the quantitative team to conduct various inferential and predictive analyses on the quantitative data from the long-form survey using Python.
- Created Graphics, wrote reports, and presented findings to Yolo County Officials and the Center for Poverty and Inequality Research (CPIR) Graduate Student Retreat, University of California, Davis, California, on September 18, 2024
- Contributed to Drafting and formatting two manuscripts for this study, both of which were presented at the 2024 CPIR retreat

2016 ***Nigerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Presidential Committee for Small Arms and Light Weapons***

- Led nationwide survey on small arms and light weapons, contributing to policy recommendations.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring, 2025 ***Associate Instructor, Human Ecology Department, UC Davis.***

- Designed and independently taught an undergraduate course on Community Development, including creating the syllabus, lectures, assignments, and in-class activities.
- Supervised a teaching assistant, holding weekly meetings to provide guidance on grading, course content, and student support.
- Facilitated interactive discussions and lectures to engage students in critical thinking around community development.
- Oversaw assessment design and ensured consistency in grading and feedback provided by the teaching assistant.
- Managed all course logistics, including Canvas site organization, student communication, and final grade submission.

2024 – Ongoing ***Summer Instructor, UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education Program***

- Taught International Agricultural Development and Intercultural Research Project to summer exchange students from Asian countries..
- Developed the course syllabus, created all class materials, and designed engaging activities tailored to the needs of international students.
- Adapted complex academic readings by simplifying and translating materials into easily digestible handouts, making the content accessible to students for whom English was not a first language.
- Focused on key themes in agricultural development, including sustainable practices, program planning, and food security in international contexts.

2022 – 2025 ***Teaching Assistant, UC Davis
Community Development Courses taught:***

- *CRD 001: The community*
- *CRD 141: Organization of Economic Space*
- *CRD 152: Community Development*
- *CRD 156: Community Economic Development*
- *CRD 158: Community Governance*
 - Facilitated weekly lab and discussion sections to reinforce lecture content across a range of community development topics, including economic development, spatial organization, governance, and community theory.
 - Taught students how to collect, clean, and analyze socioeconomic and spatial data using tools such as *PolicyMap*, *OnTheMap*, census datasets, Google Maps Asset mapping, data analysis and Microsoft Excel.
 - Guided students in conducting qualitative assessments of community assets and challenges, incorporating both field-based and desk-based research methods.
 - Graded exams, essays, and assignments, providing constructive feedback to support students' analytical, writing, and critical thinking skills.
 - Supported student learning through regular office hours, one-on-one consultations, and group instruction tailored to diverse academic backgrounds.
 - Collaborated with faculty to adapt and improve course content based on student performance and feedback.

Environmental Design Course:

- *LDA 001: Introduction to Environmental Design*
 - Led lab sessions on core design concepts, including spatial analysis, site planning, and environmental aesthetics.

- Guided students during field studies to observe and analyze built environments, helping them connect theoretical frameworks with real-world applications.
- Proctored exams, graded assignments, and supported students' learning through individualized feedback and group discussions.

Plant Science courses taught:

- ***PLS 49: Introduction to Organic Crop Production Practices***
 - Led discussions that supplement faculty lectures, facilitated engaging lab sessions, graded assignments, exams, and essays. Provided detailed feedback to students on how to improve their writing skills.
 - Held weekly office hours to assist students with course material, answer questions, provide additional support as needed, and offer personalized guidance.
 - Organized and coordinated field trips to bridge theoretical knowledge with real-world agricultural practices

2018 – 2021

Assistant Lecturer, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Federal Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State, Nigeria

- **Courses taught:** Environmental Science and Ecology, Landscape Planning, Land Use Planning, Natural Resource and Environmental Planning, Environmental Management, and Land Economics.
- Created all class materials and designed engaging activities tailored to the needs of students from diverse backgrounds.
- Fostered an inclusive and participatory, encouraged critical thinking, and facilitated meaningful interactions, ensuring students gained a deep understanding of the subject matter.
- Led various seminar presentations where students actively contributed to discussions, presented their research findings, and engaged in collaborative learning.

2013 – 2018

Geography Instructor, Government Science Secondary School Egume, Kogi State, Nigeria

- Facilitated a dynamic and engaging learning environment for students from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds.
- Designed and executed lesson plans, conducted lectures, and led discussions.
- Developed and graded class assessments and provided constructive feedback.
- Designed and executed out-of-class activities, including local field trips and site assessments.
- Guided and advised students through their post-secondary career and educational choices.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 2024-25 Continuing Green Fellowship awarded by the UC Davis Sustainable Living and Learning Communities to for expansion of [African Food Basket Project](#) (\$5,500)
- 2024 UC Davis Graduate Research Award (\$3000)
- 2024 UC Davis Professors For The Future (PFTF) (\$3000)
- Completed a 10-week seminar on College Teaching - Acquired skills necessary to prepare and teach college courses.
- 2023 Green Fellowship awarded by the UC Davis Sustainable Living and Learning Communities to implement the [African Food Basket Project](#) (\$5,500)
- 2023 GMaP Career Development Workshop Award (\$1000)
- 2021 Nigerian Tertiary Education Trust Fund [TETFund] study the impact of urban green infrastructure on carbon storage and biodiversity conservation (#1,400,000)

GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS/PANELS

- 2025 NUT 291: “The role of culturally tailored gardens in improving the food security of international students-A case study of the African Food Basket” *Institute of Global Nutrition, UC Davis*. February 26, 2025
- 2025 Geo 200E: “Developing Dissertation Proposal and Getting through the PhD Qualifying Exams” *Geography Graduate Group, UC Davis*. February 18, 2025
- 2024 Ross, J. A., **Momoh, E. O.**, Dixon, C., & Haralson, L. (2024). Yolo County Food Justice Movements. *Panel Presentation at the Terra Madre Americas, Slow Food Leaders' Summit, Slow Food International, Sacramento, California*, May 19, 2024.
- 2024 Raj, S., Mines, A., **Momoh, E. O.**, and Strubeck, A. (2024). Food as Infrastructure: Reimagining the role of community gardens in urban planning. Panel Presentation at the *American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii*, on April 19, 2024.
- 2022 “Underdevelopment, Health and Disease” *History department. UC Davis*. October 14, 2022

PUBLICATIONS

1. Raj, S., **Momoh, E. O.** & Brinkley, C. (2025). Teaching Students How to Read and Assess Plan Content. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 0(0)

2. **Momoh, E. O.** (2025). A Historical and Analytical Timeline of the African Geographical Review. *African Geographical Review*, 44(2), 202 - 219.
3. Ifatimehin O. A., **Momoh, E. O.** & Eneche, P.S.U. (2022). The Cashew Plantation: Green Growth for Environmental Management and Sustainable Livelihood in Dekina, Nigeria. *Innovations*, 71(05), 859 – 869
4. Igiekhume, M. J., **Momoh, E. O.**, Jubril, A. A., Okpugwo, E., & Erayanmen, R. I. (2021). Assessment of Public–Private – Participation of Solid Waste Management: A Case Study of Warri, Nigeria. *Asian Review of Environmental and Earth Science*, 8(1), 1-9.
5. Bada, O. A., Alhassan, A. I., **Momoh, E. O.**, Olotu, Y., Osagioduwa, M., Dirisu, H. I., & Ayilaran, C. I. (2021). Assessment of Urban Domestic Water Demand and Supply in Edo North, Nigeria. *Indian Journal of Production and Thermal Engineering*, 1(2), 7-10.
6. **Momoh, E. O.**, Olotu, Y., Olatunde, F. O., Akharia, O. O., Igiekhume, M. J., & Oseni, N. (2021). Evaluation of Socio-economic Impacts of Deforestation in Edo State, Nigeria. *Journal of Forests*, 8(1) 37-44
7. Tokula, A. E., Eyimoga, H. A., **Momoh, E. O.** & Oguiche, J. O. (2020). Spatial Pattern of Solid Waste Generation and Management Practices in Lokoja Urban, Kogi State, Nigeria. In A. F. Abdulssalam, A. A. Adepetu, & Zaharadden (Eds.), *Ecosystem dynamics and disaster risk management*. M.O. Press & Publishers (pp. 415 – 426).

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

1. Brinkley, C. & **Momoh, E.O.** (2025). California’s Transparent Food Network. (*Under review by Food Policy*)
2. Smith, M.M., **Momoh, E.O.**, Fielder, S., Brinkley, C.K., Kagawa, R. & Choe, D.E. (2025). One-Year Treatment Effects of the Yolo Basic Income Program. (*Awaiting submission to Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*)
3. Brazil, N., Frost, C., **Momoh, E.O.** (2025). The implications of Neighborhood Mobility Networks on Urban Heat Exposure. (*In preparation*)
4. Raj, S., **Momoh, E. O.**, Galarza, A. & Brinkley, C. (2025). Evaluating Food and Agriculture Planning in California. (*In Preparation for Journal of American Planning Association*)
5. **Momoh, E. O.**, Menendez, K., Regalado, S. T., Suleiman, A. B., Brinkley, C. (2025). Basic Income as a intervention to improve housing stability and parental and child health and wellbeing - the lived experience of participants. (*In preparation*)
6. **Momoh E. O.** (2025). African Food Basket: A Cultural Perspective to Immigrants Food Security. (*In Preparation*)

CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED

1. Brazil, N., Frost, C. & **Momoh, E.O.** (2025). The Implications of Neighborhood Mobility Networks on Urban Heat Exposure. Presented at the *International Population Conference, Brisbane, Australia*, July 17, 2025.
2. **Momoh, E. O.** (2025). Cultivating Food Security, Cultural Memory, and Belonging Through Diasporic Gardening. Presented at *the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS) and the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society (AFHVS) 2025 Conference at Oregon State University, Corvallis*, June 18 – 21, 2025
3. Brinkley, C. K. & **Momoh, E.O.** (2025). California Transparent Food Networks. Presented at *ASFS & AFHVS 2025 Conference at Oregon State University, Corvallis, June 18 – 21, 2025*
4. Brazil, N., Frost, C., **Momoh, E.O.** (2025). The implications of Neighborhood Mobility Networks on Urban Heat Exposure. Poster Presented at the 36th Annual *Undergraduate Research Scholarship and Creative Activities Conference, University of California, Davis*, April 25 – 25, 2025
5. Brinkly, C.K., **Momoh, E. O.**, Vang, A., & Castro, A. (2024). Yolo County Basic Income (YoBI). Panel Presentation at the *Center for Poverty and Inequality Research Graduate Student Retreat, University of California, Davis*, on September 18, 2024
6. **Momoh, E. O.** (2024). African Food Basket Project: A Cultural Perspective to Immigrants' Food Security. Paper Presented at the *American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii*, April 16-20, 2024.
7. **Momoh, E. O.**, Raj, S., & Brinkley, C. (2023). Participatory Action Research for Civic Engagement through Plan Evaluation. Paper presented at the *American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado*, March 23-27, 2023.
8. Galarza, A., **Momoh, E. O.**, Raj, S., & Brinkley, C. (2023). Evaluating Food and Agriculture Planning in California. Paper presented at the *American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado*, March 23-27, 2023.
9. Ifatimehi, O. O., **Momoh, E. O.**, & Eneche, P.S.U. (2021). The cashew plantation: green growth for environmental management and livelihood sustainability in Dekina LGA, Kogi State. Paper presented at the *Institute of Climate Change Studies, Energy and Environment, University of Nigeria Nsukka (ICCSEE-UNN) 2021 International Virtual Conference in partnership with Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Abuja, Nigeria*, February 9-10, 2021.
10. **Momoh, E. O.**, Mustapha, D., & Jimoh, B. A. (2020). Effects of community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) on the sustainable livelihood of cashew farmers in Dekina, Kogi State. Paper Presented at the *School of Environmental Studies National Conference (SESNAAC 2020), Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State, Nigeria*, September 8-9, 2020.

11. Mustapha, D., **Momoh, E. O.**, & Jimoh, B. A. (2020). The environmental effects of indiscriminate on-street parking along the major route corridors in Auchi, Edo State. Paper presented at the *School of Environmental Studies Virtual National Conference (SESNAAC 2020)* Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State, Nigeria, September 8-9, 2020.
12. Tokula, A. E., Eyimoga, H. A., **Momoh, E. O.**, & Oguiche, J. O. (2019). Spatial pattern of solid waste generation and management practices in Lokoja Urban, Kogi State, Nigeria. Paper Presented at the *Association of Nigerian Geographers 60th Annual Conference (KASU 2019)*, Kaduna State University, Kaduna State, Nigeria, 13th to 17th October 2019.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2023 - Present **Lead, [African Food Basket Project](#)**

- Secured funding, designed planting plans, managed interns/volunteers, collaborate with other campus units to distribute culturally preferred food to African international students, organized food events.
 - [African Food Potluck and Okra-chili cook off](#) (09/11/2023)
 - [African End of Winter Potluck](#) (03/23/2024)
 - [Heritage on a Plate](#) (06/29/2024)
 - Okra Party and Potluck (09/11/2024)
 - International Spring Food Fest (03/22/2025)

2024 - Present **Founder and President, African Graduate and Professional Students Association**

- Founded the African Graduate Students and Scholars Association as a forum for networking, collaboration, mentoring, and communication among UC Davis African Graduate and Professional Students and Post-Doctoral Scholars.

2023 - 2025 **DEI Committee Member, [Chancellor's Graduate & Professional Student Advisory Board](#)**

MEDIA COVERAGE AND EXHIBITION OF RESEARCH/PROJECTS

- [Reimagining Food Security: Towards Equitable Food Systems](#), by Emmanuel Momoh, published by *The Guardian News* on June 03, 2024
- [My mission to curb cultural food insecurity in diaspora – Emmanuel Momoh](#), published by *Vanguard News* on April 18, 2024
- Place Holder: Living Precariously: an exhibition of African Food Basket Project at *Verge Center of Arts, Sacramento, California*, November 27 - December 9, 2023

SCHOLARLY SERVICE/PEER REVIEWS

- Reviewer, Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems

- Reviewer, African Geographical Review
- Reviewer, Journal of Ecology and the Natural Environment
- Reviewer, African Journal of Biotechnology
- Reviewer, African Journal of Environmental Science and Technology
- Reviewer, International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
- Reviewer, African Journal of Agricultural Research
- Reviewer, ISABB Journal of Health and Environmental Science

REFERENCES

Catherine Brinkley, Ph.D. - (Ph.D. Major Advisor)

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