

Rajesh Sigdel

1323 Concord Place Drive 3D
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

rajesh.sigdel@wmich.edu
(419) 420 – 5555

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO
Doctor of Philosophy, Geography

Greensboro, NC
May 2023

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Master of Science, Geography

Kalamazoo, MI
May 2019

- Concentration in Geographic Information Science (GIS)
- Current GPA 3.84 / 4.0

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
Master of Science, Biology

Allendale, MI
August 2017

- Concentration in Aquatic Science, Natural Resource Management
- Awarded with Graduate Dean Citation for Academic Excellence
 - Award for Excellence Service to the Community/Profession
- GPA 3.527 / 4.0

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
Bachelor of Science

Kathmandu, Nepal
August 2012

- Concentration in Environmental Science

AWARDS

2018 First Place in the Master's level paper presentation at East Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers meeting. October 19, 2018. Ada, Ohio.

2011-12 Near East and South Asia undergraduate exchange scholarship funded by the Fulbright program. Host institution: Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

RESEARCH / WORK EXPERIENCE

Fall 2018 Investigated urbanization patterns of Kathmandu Valley as a part of my thesis research under Dr. Chansheng He. (In progress)

Summer 2018 Collected ground truth data to generate spectral signatures for the classification of land cover in Nepal.

Spring 2018 Created a habitat Suitability Model for the One Horned Rhinoceros in Nepal using "Fuzzy And" overlay technique in GIS (Class project).

Summer 2017 Collected and analyzed bed load and sediment over a period of three months in Indian Mill Creek, a third order stream in Western Michigan.

Spring 2017 Collected and analyzed macro-invertebrates for pollution monitoring in Indian Mill Creek. Collected and analyzed bed load and sediment in Indian Mill Creek.

Fall 2016 Created an impervious surface map and a land cover map of Indian Mill Creek watershed using remote sensing and analyzed the results.

Spring 2016 Analyzed the change in the fluvial geomorphology of Indian Mill Creek

PUBLICATIONS

- 2018** Sigdel, Rajesh. "Understanding Urbanization of the Kathmandu Valley using Landsat imageries." Master's Thesis, Western Michigan University (In progress).
- 2016** Sigdel, Rajesh. "Assessment of Environmental Stressors in the Indian Mill Creek Watershed." Master's project, Grand Valley State University.
<https://www.lgrow.org/news/2017/11/27/assessment-of-environmental-stressors-in-the-indian-mill-creek-watershed>

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS / PRESENTATIONS

- 2019** Sigdel, Rajesh. *Understanding the Land Use/Land Cover Change (LULC) Process in the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal*. Expected date of presentation: April 3, 2019. Washington, D.C.: American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting.
- 2018** Sigdel, Rajesh. *Grabbing the issue by the horn: Using habitat suitability analysis to fight Rhinoceros poaching in Chitwan National Park*. October 19, 2018. Ada, Ohio: East Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting.
- 2016** Sigdel, Rajesh. *Sacredness of Rivers in Nepal*. June 26, 2016. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Grand River Water Festival.

GRANTS / FUNDINGS

- 2018** Graduate Research Grant for "Understanding Urbanization of Kathmandu Valley using Landsat Imageries". Amount: \$1600.00
- 2018** Lucia Harrison endowment fund for "Understanding Urbanization of Kathmandu Valley using Landsat Imageries". Amount: \$1000.00
- 2016** Grand Valley State University Presidential Research Grant for "Assessment of Environmental Stressors in the Indian Mill Creek Watershed". Amount: \$1500.00

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- 2017-18** First president of the Nepalese Student Association at Western Michigan University.
- 2015-17** Board member of the Bhutanese Association of Michigan (Refugee Organization).

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- 2018** Participated in Mapathon at Western Michigan University using Open Street Map as a part of Geography Awareness Week.
- 2015-17** **West Michigan Asian American Association.**
- Taught English language to Bhutanese refugees.

- Planned for and helped set up various events like free health checkups, free food distribution etc.
- Translated flyers and documents from English to Nepalese.
- Aided in preparing agendas for board and public meetings.
- Planned and helped set up events like the celebration of “World Refugee Day”.

2016 Grand Valley State University.

- Organized Nepalese International Dinner in partnership with the university.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2019 Graduate Teaching Assistant – Western Michigan University

- GEOG 3800 – US and Canada
- GEOG 3820 – Mexico and the Caribbean
- GEOG 3830 – Geography of Europe

Fall 2018 Graduate Teaching Assistant – Western Michigan University

- GEOG 2050 – Human Geography
- GEOG 3820 – Mexico and the Caribbean

Spring 2018 Graduate Teaching Assistant – Western Michigan University

- GEOG 3500 – Conservation and Environmental Management

Fall 2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant – Western Michigan University

- GEOG 3500 – Conservation and Environmental Management

SOFTWARE SKILLS

- ArcGIS for Desktop 10.5
- ArcGIS Online
- R version 3.5
- Environment for Visualizing Images (ENVI)
- Python (basic skills)