

## **Rajesh Sigdel**

1911 Walker Ave Apt C  
Greensboro, NC 27403

Email: Upon request  
Phone: Upon request

### **EDUCATION**

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**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**

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| <b>2019</b>    | Second Place in 3 Minutes Thesis Competition at Western Michigan University. Spring 2019. Kalamazoo, MI.   |
| <b>2018</b>    | 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. |
| <b>2011-12</b> | Near East and South Asia undergraduate exchange scholarship funded by the Fulbright program. Host institution: Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI. |

### **RESEARCH / WORK EXPERIENCE**

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| <b>Fall 2018</b>   | Investigated urbanization patterns of Kathmandu Valley as a part of my thesis research under Dr. Chansheng He. (In progress)               |
| <b>Summer 2018</b> | Collected ground truth data to generate spectral signatures for the classification of land cover in Nepal.                                 |
| <b>Spring 2018</b> | Created a habitat Suitability Model for the One Horned Rhinoceros in Nepal using "Fuzzy And" overlay technique in GIS (Class project).     |
| <b>Summer 2017</b> | 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**

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- 2019** Praskievicz, S. Sigdel, R. (2019). Recruitment of large woody debris following the 2016 Chimney Tops 2 wildfire: Great Smokey Mountains National Park, Tennessee. (in review)
- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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