**Rajesh Sigdel**

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**EDUCATION**

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO** Greensboro, NC

**Doctor of Philosophy, Geography May 2023**

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY** Kalamazoo, MI

**Master of Science, Geography May 2019**

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

**GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY** Allendale, MI

**Master of Science, Biology 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** Kathmandu, Nepal

**Bachelor of Science 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 ACTIVITES**

**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)