

RUPAK SHRESTHA

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Belonging, Migration, Citizenship, Development, Refugees, Indigeneity, Memory, Visual Methods, South Asia

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2022 - Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN
- 2021 - 2022 Pre-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science and International Relations and Global Affairs (IRGA) Program, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL

EDUCATION

- 2022 PhD, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO

Dissertation Title: *The Border Came Between Us: Securing Development, Surveillance and Securitization, and Refugee Memory and Placemaking in Nepal*
Committee: Jennifer Fluri (advisor), Joe Bryan, Carole McGranahan, Anu Sabhlok, Emily Yeh
- 2016 Graduate Certificate in Development Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO
- 2015 M.A. Geography, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- 2012 B.A. *with honors*, Geography, Tourism, GIS, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 Department of Geography, Macalester College
Instructor of Record
Visual Storytelling (Fall 2022)
Political Geography of South Asia (Fall 2022)
- 2021 - 2022 Department of Political Science and IRGA Program, Eckerd College
Instructor of Record
Everyday Politics in South Asia (Spring 2022)
Urban Politics: Who is the City for? (Winter 2022)
Borders and Belonging (Fall 2021)
- 2015 - 2022 Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder
Instructor of Record
Mountain Geography (Spring 2022 and Summer 2020)
Human Geographies (Summer 2021)
Mountain Geography (Summer 2020)
World Regional Geographies (Summer 2017)

Teaching Assistant

Geography of American Cities (Spring 2021, Dr. Heide Bruckner)
Place, Power, and Culture (Fall 2017, Dr. Najeeb Jan; Spring 2020, Dr. Azita Ranjbar)
Mountain Geography (Fall 2019 and Summer 2019, Dr. Peter Blanken)
Climate Politics and Policy (Spring 2019, Dr. Xi Wang)
Environment - Society Geography (Spring 2016, Dr. William Travis)
Human Geographies (Fall 2015, Dr. Jonah Holmes)

2013 – 2015 Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography, Miami University
Global Forces, Local Diversity (Spring 2014, Fall 2013, Dr. Susan Jakubowski)

PUBLICATIONS

2022. **Shrestha, Rupak**, and Jennifer Fluri. "Geopolitics of security and surveillance in Nepal and Afghanistan: A comparative analysis". *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/23996544221115952>
2021. **Shrestha, Rupak**, and Jennifer Fluri. "Geopolitics of Humour and Development in Nepal and Afghanistan". In *The Palgrave Handbook of Humour Research*, edited by Elisabeth Vanderheiden and Claude-Hélène Mayer. Palgrave Macmillan. 189-203. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78280-1_10
2021. Shrestha, Rupak. Book Review of *Geocultural Power: China's Quest to Revive the Silk Roads for the Twenty-First Century*, by Tim Winter. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15387216.2021.1894966>
- Shrestha, Rupak. "Affective Borderings: Sovereignty and Placemaking at the Nepal/China Borderlands." *Political Geography* (Accepted, Minor Revision)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2022 Course Development Award, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Humanities For All Time Grant, Macalester College, \$1000
- 2021 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship for Scholars from Marginalized Communities, Eckerd College, \$50,000
- 2020 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Colorado Boulder, \$13,165
- 2020 ABRN Conference Grant, Asian Borderlands Research Network, €400
- 2019 Mabel Duncan Award, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder, \$1,500
- 2019 International Travel Grant, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder, \$500
- 2019 DeSana Graduate Research Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder, \$692.50
- 2018 China and Inner Asia Council Research Travel Grant, Association for Asian Studies, \$2,000
- 2017 National Science Foundation - Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award, \$15,991

- 2017 Asian Geography Specialty Group Graduate Student Paper Award, AAG, \$150
- 2016 Jennifer Dinaburg Memorial Research Fellowship, University of Colorado Boulder, \$2,000
- 2016 Ragaei El Mallakh Memorial Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder, \$500
- 2016 DeSana Graduate Research Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder, \$450
- 2016 Travel Grant, United Government of Graduate Students, University of Colorado Boulder, \$300
- 2015 Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences Award, CU Boulder, \$1,000
- 2015 Travel Grant, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder, \$300
- 2015 PhD funding package, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder, \$120,713
- 2015 Summer Writing Grant, Department of Geography, Miami University, \$1,800

CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

Invited Talks and Panels

- 2022 Lecture -- *Securing Development, Surveillance, and Intimate Social Worlds: Tibetan Refugees and Chinese Influence in Nepal*, The Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College
- 2021 Speaker -- *Research Bites*, College Program Series, Eckerd College.
- 2021 Panelist -- *Author Meets Critics: Intimate Geopolitics: Love, Territory, and the Future on India's Northern Threshold* by Sara Smith, Annual Meeting of the AAG.
- 2021 Lecture -- *Surveillance, Secrecy, and Social Worlds: Tibetan Refugees and Chinese Extraterritorial Sovereignty in Nepal*, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL.
- 2021 Panelist -- *Southwest of China? Identity, borders and conflict in contemporary Asia*, Kyushu University (with La Trobe University), Fukuoka, Japan. [Virtual Roundtable](#).
- 2019 Discussant -- *Borders and Boundaries*, The Annual Kathmandu Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya, Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2019 Lecture – *Social and Political Life of Mountains*, GEOG 3251: Mountain Geography, Dr. Peter Blanken, University of Colorado Boulder

Recent Conference Presentations, Panels, and Workshops

- 2022 Paper -- *"History ties us to this place": Territorial Amnesia, Placemaking, and Belonging*, Annual Meeting of the AAG, New York. Virtual Session
- 2022 Chair/Co-Organizer -- *Environment, Infrastructure, and Development Politics in Nepal and Himalaya*, Annual Meeting of the AAG, New York. Virtual Session

- 2021 Paper -- *Indigeneity and Intimate Social Worlds at the Borderlands*, Nepali Academics in America Inaugural Conference. Virtual Session
- 2021 Organizer/Chair -- Indigenous Knowledges and Sustainable Development, Nepali Academics in America Inaugural Conference. Virtual Session
- 2021 Chair/Moderator -- *Nationalism, Perceptions and Geopolitics*, AAG Political Geography Specialty Group Preconference. Virtual Session
- 2020 Paper -- *Bordering Ethnicity and Indigeneity in the Himalayas*, Asian Borderlands Conference - "Borderlands Futures: Technologies, Zones, Co-existences", Seoul, South Korea. Virtual Session
- 2020 Panelist -- *Decolonizing Nepal and Himalayan Geographies*, Annual Meeting of the AAG, Denver, CO. Virtual Session
- 2019 Paper -- *The border came in between us: extraterritoriality, intimacy, and dissensus at the Nepal-China borderlands*, The Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI
- 2019 Paper -- *Tibetan refugee subjectivities and intimacy in the Nepal-China borderlands*, Annual Meeting of the AAG Great Plains / Rocky Mountain Division, Lawrence, KS
- 2019 Participant -- Critical Geography South Asia Workshop on "Feminist and Queer Urban Geographies", IISER Mohali, Punjab, India
- 2018 Paper -- *Seasonal Migration, Dispossession, and Precarity: A Narrative of Brick Factory Migrant Laborers in Kathmandu, Nepal*, Association for Asian Studies AAS-in-Asia Conference, New Delhi, India
- 2017 Chair -- *Change, Inequality, and Development in Nepal*, Himalayan Studies Conference V, Boulder, CO
- 2017 Panelist -- *Geographies of Nepal: Development, Politics, Ecologies across Himalayan landscapes*, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA
- 2016 Panelist -- *Fieldwork in Human Geography*, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, CA

RESEARCH AND PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

- 2021 - 2021 Graduate Research Assistant, "Security, Leadership, and Development in Afghanistan" with Dr. Jennifer Fluri, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 – 2021 Field Interviewer, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, conducted by RTI International for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Boulder County, CO

- 2016 – 2017 Convener and Co-Organizer, “Himalayan Studies Conference V”, Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies, Boulder, CO
- 2016 – 2017 Graduate Research Assistant, “Drone Project” - Project Society, Integrated Remote and In Situ Sensing with Dr. Emily Yeh and Dr. Lorraine Bayard de Volo, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2014 – 2015 Graduate Assistant, International Studies Program with Dr. Carl Dahlman, Miami University

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2021 – present Board Member, Asian Geography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers
- 2020 – present Founding Team Member, ARUNA Global South
- 2019 – present Editorial Advisory Board Member, International Journal of Bhutan and Himalaya Research
- 2018 – 2022 Executive Committee Member, Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies
- 2020 – 2021 Board Member, Political Geography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers
- 2019 – 2020 Graduate Coordinator, Tibet Himalaya Initiative, University of Colorado Boulder, and 2016-2017
- 2013 – 2014 Graduate Liaison, Geography and Planning Society, Miami University
- 2012 – 2013 Student Director, Cartography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers
- 2011 – 2012 Senior Student Representative, National Executive Committee, Gamma Theta Upsilon

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Association of Geographers, since 2011
- Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies, since 2014
- Tibet Himalaya Initiative | Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, since 2015
- Association for Asian Studies, since 2017
- Association for Borderlands Studies, since 2020
- Aruna Global South, since 2021

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- ArcGIS
- Adobe Illustrator
- MAXQDA
- Adobe Lightroom
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Google/Microsoft Suite

LANGUAGES

- Nepali (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- Newari (Excellent)
- Hindi (Advanced)
- Tibetan (Beginner)
- Spanish (Beginner)