

Education

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Los Angeles, CA Doctor of Philosophy, Geography	Expected Jun 2023
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Los Angeles, CA Master of Arts, Geography	Jun 2020
University of Southern California (USC) Los Angeles, CA Bachelor of Science, Policy, Planning, and Development	May 2013

Teaching Experience

Remote Sensing Image Processing for Urban Forestry: R / Python Tutorial Instructor Half-Day Workshop , CalGIS 2023	Mar 2023
Learn to Process Multisource Remote Sensing Imagery in R and Python Instructor, 35 participants (sold-out) 6-hour Short Course , ESA & CSEE 2022	Aug 2022
Cartography (GEOG-180) Geography, UCLA Instructor, 24 students	Jun 2021 – Jul 2021
GIS Programming and Development (GEOG-181C) Geography, UCLA Teaching Associate, 33 students	Apr 2021 – Jun 2021
Cartography (GEOG-167) Geography, UCLA Instructor, 55 students	Aug 2020 – Sep 2020
Introduction to GIS (GEOG-7) Geography, UCLA Teaching Assistant, 24 students	Jan 2020 – Mar 2020

Research Experience

Optimizing the Planning and Management of Los Angeles County's Urban Forest LA County	Aug 2020 – Present
Awarded 3-year research grant awarded by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to automate individual tree species identification using multisource airborne remote sensing (VHR, LiDAR, and imaging spectroscopy).	
Individual Tree Segmentation Using LiDAR in Tahoe Basin Dr. Sassan Saatchi, NASA JPL	Mar – Jun 2022
Segmented single tree point clouds using discrete-return LiDAR and an adaptive mean shift algorithm.	
SHIFT Field Campaign Dr. Dana Chadwick, NASA JPL & Dr. Elsa Ordway, UCLA	Jan & May 2022
Collected terrestrial plant samples during the NASA JPL SBG precursor SHIFT campaign to study plant trait changes during the transition from the wet to dry season in the Sedgwick and Dangermond Reserves near Santa Barbara, CA	
Global Analysis of Tropical Dry Forest Extent Dr. Thomas W. Gillespie, UCLA	Aug 2018 – Sep 2020
Compared climatic definitions of tropical dry forest extent for conservation assessment using remote sensing and geospatial programming.	
Impact of Urban Form on Thermal Comfort Dr. V. Kelly Turner, UCLA	Aug 2019 – Jul 2020
Modeled mean radiant and land surface temperatures at fine resolutions to understand thermal comfort in underrepresented neighborhoods in California, and a new urbanist development in Tucson, Arizona using remote sensing, geospatial programming, and microclimate modeling.	
Housing Development and Design in Los Angeles Liz Falleta, USC	Aug 2012 – May 2013
Ascertained historical records and tenant data on three multi-unit, architecturally significant housing projects in Los Angeles to highlight the importance of well-designed, multi-unit housing for future development. Falletta, L. (2019). By-right, By-design: Housing Development Versus Housing Design in Los Angeles. Routledge.	

Selected Publications

- Ocón JP**, Ibanez T, Franklin J, Pau S, Keppel G, Rivas-Torres G, et al. (2021) Global tropical dry forest extent and cover: A comparative study of bioclimatic definitions using two climatic data sets. *PLoS ONE* 16(5): **e0252063**.
- Ordway, E. M., Elmore, A. J., Kolstoe, S., Quinn, J. E., Swanwick, R., Cattau, M., ... & Wilson, C. (2021). Leveraging the NEON Airborne Observation Platform for socio-environmental systems research. *Ecosphere*, 12(6), **e03640**.
- Turner, V. K., Rogers, M. L., Zhang, Y., Middel, A., Schneider, F. A., **Ocón, J. P.**, ... & Dialesandro, J. (2022). More than surface temperature: mitigating thermal exposure in hyper-local land system. *Journal of Land Use Science*, 17(1), **79-99**.
- Madson, A., Dimson, M., Fortini, L. B., Kawelo, K., Ticktin, T., Keir, M., ... & Gillespie, T. W. (2022). A Near Four-Decade Time Series Shows the Hawaiian Islands Have Been Browning Since the 1980s. *Environmental Management*, **1-16**.
- Ocón, J. P.**, Stavros, E. N., Steinberg, S. J., Robertson, J., & Gillespie, T. W. Using Multi-source Remote Sensing Imagery to Identify Urban Tree Species. *Progress in Physical Geography*. In Review.
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- Ocón, J. P.**, Stavros, E. N., Steinberg, S. J., Robertson, J., Ordway, E. M., Ferraz, A., DeLisle, C., Le, K., & Gillespie, T. W. Urban tree segmentation using GIS, very high resolution imagery, and lidar in Los Angeles County. *In preparation for submission for publication*.
- Zhou, B., **Ocón, J. P.**, Stavros, E. N., Steinberg, S. J., Robertson, J., Le, K., & Gillespie, T. W. What's the point? Individual tree species identification using a fusion of LiDAR point-clouds and 4-band imagery in urban Los Angeles County. *In preparation for submission for publication*.

Presentations & Contributed Talks

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| Optimizing the planning and management of Los Angeles County's urban forest
Presentation , California GIS Conference (CalGIS) | Mar 2023 |
| What's the point? Individual urban tree species identification using a fusion of LiDAR point-clouds and 4-band imagery
Contributed Talk , American Association of Geographers (AAG) | Mar 2023 |
| Urban tree identification using GIS, VHR, and LiDAR in Los Angeles County
Lecture , International Network Urban Biodiversity and Design (URBIO) | Nov 2022 |
| Optimizing the planning and management of Los Angeles County's urban forest
Lightning Talk , Partners in Community Forestry (PCF) | Nov 2022 |
| Probabilistic urban tree inventories with mixed-pixel imaging spectroscopy
Lightning Talk , Ecological Society of America (ESA) | Aug 2022 |
| A scalable remote sensing model for urban forest inventory
Contributed Talk , Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS) | Jul 2022 |
| Picking up traces: An interdisciplinary approach to multispecies storytelling
Presentation , Nature Art & Habitat Residency (NAHR) | Dec 2021 |
| Applications of LARIAC Data in Urban Forest Planning and Management
Presentation , Los Angeles Region Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC) | Oct 2021 |
| A Global Bioclimatic Analysis of Tropical Dry Forest Extent and Cover
Contributed Talk , Ecological Society of America (ESA) | Aug 2020 |
| Bioclimatic definitions of tropical dry forest improve our ability to map this critically endangered biome
Contributed Talk , Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS) | Aug 2020 |
| Transformative Climate Communities: Informing Adaptation Planning through Cool Urban Design Interventions in Southern California
Contributed Talk , American Meteorological Society (AMS) | Jan 2020 |

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Professional Service

Associate Editor Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences (JESS), Springer	Apr 2022 – Present
Landscape Exchange Network for Socio-environmental systems (LENS) Graduate Student Steering Committee Member NSF: DEB-2054939	Mar 2020 – Present
Leveraging Ecological Research Networks to Understand Socio-Ecological Systems from Landscapes to Continents Symposium, Int. Assoc. for Landscape Ecology – North America	Mar 2023
Non-member Contributor AAG COVID-19 Rapid Response Subcommittee	May 2020
President and Social Chair Geography Graduate Student's Association, UCLA	Sep 2019 – Jun 2020
Graduate Student Rep, Geography Graduate Student Advisory Board, UCLA	Sep 2019 – Jun 2020

Professional Development

Geo for Good Summit 2022 Conference with curated Google Earth Engine tutorials and presentations, Mountain View, CA	Oct 2022
SHIFT Science Team Meeting In-person/virtual workshop hosted by NASA JPL at NCEAS, Santa Barbara, CA	Sep 2022
Landscape Exchange Network for Socio-environmental Systems Research Workshop Preliminary workshop (one of five planned workshops) hosted by LENS, Annapolis, MD	May 2022
Integrating Machine Learning into Geographic Research AAG Learning Series for Graduate Students, Virtual	Feb 2021
People, Land, & Ecosystems: Leveraging NEON for Socio-Environmental Synthesis National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), Annapolis, MD	Feb 2020
Machine Learning for Spatial and Temporal Analysis GIScience 2016, McGill University, Université Laval and University of Saskatchewan, Montreal, QC, CA	Sep 2016

Honors & Awards

K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award, Finalist AAC&U Future Leaders Society	Jan 2023
Spring 2021 Residency Nature Art & Habitat Residency	Mar 2021
Graduate Dean's Scholar Award Graduate Division, UCLA	Jun 2019, 2020
Geospatial @ UCLA Summer Fellowship Geography, UCLA	Jun 2019
Mars Exploration Zone Map Competition, Second Place ICA & NASA	Jan 2017
Distinguished Budget Award Government Financial Office Association	Jun 2016
Student Recognition Award Sol Price School of Public Policy, USC	May 2012

Professional Experience

Sole Proprietor Concrete Couture Designs (CCD), Los Angeles, CA	Jan 2015 – Present
Assistant Administrative Analyst City Manager's Office, City of Santa Monica, CA	Sep 2017 – Sep 2018
Administrative Technician City Manager's Office, City of San Mateo, CA	Sep 2013 – Jun 2016
Planning Intern Planning Department, City of West Covina, CA	Sep 2012 – Feb 2013

Professional Associations

American Association of Colleges and Universities Future Leader Society Full Member	Jan 2023
Society for Advancement of Chicanos & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Student Member	Jun 2022
Sigma Xi Research Honor Society Full Member	Dec 2021
Political Ecology Working Group (PEWG) Student Member	Feb 2021
American Geophysical Union (AGU) Student Member	Aug 2020
Ecological Society of America (ESA) Student Member	Feb 2020
American Association of Geographers (AAG) Student Member	Oct 2019
Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS) Student Member	Sep 2016