Yingru Li, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Curriculum Vitae (Updated 5/7/2025)

Department of Sociology
Howard Phillips Hall 406D, University of Central Florida
Orlando, FL 32816
Email: yingru.li@ucf.edu
Phone: (407) 823-1031

EDUCATION

- 2012   Ph.D., Geography, University of Utah

- 2006   M.A., Geography, University of Cincinnati

- 1999   B.A., Chinese Language and Literature, Shandong University, China

EXPERIENCE

- 2019 – Present   Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida

- 2015 – 2019   Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida

- 2012 – 2015   Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University

- 2007 – 2012   Research Assistant/Graduate Student, Department of Geography, University of Utah

- 2011   GIS Instructor, School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- 2009 – 2011   Research Associate, Department of Geosciences, Florida Atlantic University

- 2003 – 2006   Teaching Assistant/Graduate Student, Department of Geography, University of Cincinnati

- 1999 – 2004   Member/Manager of Information, the Henan Branch of China Telecom

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Social/Environmental/Regional Inequalities

- Health Disparities
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Spatial Statistics

Author Impact: Google Scholar Citations: 1,306; h-index—14; i10index—16

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS
(* indicates student/former student co-author; first author provides the greatest contribution)

Refereed Monograph:

Li, Yingru. *Health Disparities: Social, Spatial, and Environmental Dimensions*. Geographies of Health Series. Routledge (Accepted/in press).

Invited Journal Articles

Andre, E.*, Y. **Li**, D. Li, A. Donley, J.S. Carter, and B.P. Ng. 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the role of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. *Social Sciences*, 13(1), 38.

Li, **Y.**, D. Li, and C. King. 2022. Food insufficiency among job-loss households during the pandemic: The role of food assistance programs. *Sustainability*, 14(22), 14533.

Refereed Journal Articles

39) Tice, A., R. Xie, W. Zhang, N. Conner, **Y. Li**, C. Emrich, Q. Huo, and L. Thiamwong. 2025. Associations of frailty, fear of falling, and fall risk in community-dwelling older adults in Orlando, Florida. *Journal of Frailty Sarcopenia and Falls* 10(8), 18-27. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40035084/

38) Durr, C.* and **Y. Li.** 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the barriers to utilizing food assistance programs during and after Hurricane Ian and Nicole. *Journal of Poverty* (published online first). https://doi.org/10.1080/10875549.2024.2379768
(Impact factor: 1.0)

37) Andre, E.*, **Y. Li**, D. Li, A. Donley, J.S. Carter, and B.P. Ng. 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the role of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. *Social Sciences*, 13(1), 38. https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci13010038
(Impact factor: 1.7)

36) **Li, Y.,** S. Zhang, L. Wang, G. Lu, R. Pfeiffer, and Z. Zhou*. 2023. The association of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation and food insufficiency among households with children in the United States during COVID-19. *The Journal of Nutrition*, 153 (10), 3110-3121. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tjnut.2023.08.020
(Impact factor: 4.2)

35) Ng, B.P., B.C. Peach, D. Keith*, C. Park, and **Y. Li**. 2023. Factors associated with mental well-being of Medicare beneficiaries during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Clinical*

Gerontologist, 46 (5), 779-788.
https://doi.org/10.1080/07317115.2022.2151962
(Impact factor: 2.619)

34) Wang, S., L. Wang, Y. Zhao, G. Cao, and **Y. Li**. 2023. Empirical likelihood ratio tests for varying coefficient geo models, *Statistica Sinica*, 33, 1-22. doi:10.5705/ss.202021.0233
(Impact factor: 1.47)

33) **Li, Y.**, D. Li, and C. King. 2022. Food insufficiency among job-loss households during the pandemic: The role of food assistance programs. *Sustainability*, 14(22), 14533.
https://doi.org/10.3390/su142215433
(Impact factor: 3.889)

32) Du, T.* and **Y. Li**. 2022. Effects of social networks in promoting adults' physical activity among different sociodemographic groups. *Behavioral Sciences,* 12(9), 345.
https://doi.org/10.3390/bs12090345
(Impact factor: 2.286)

31) Ketchpaw, A.R., D. Li, S.N. Khan, Y. Jiang, **Y. Li**, and L. Zhang. 2022. Using structure location data to map the wildland-urban inter-face in Montana, USA. *Fire*, 5(5), 129.
https://doi.org/10.3390/fire5050129
(Impact factor: 2.726)

30) Smith, A.*, **Y. Li.**, and T. Du. * 2022. Unhealthy after school snacks: Socioeconomic disparities of food environments around public and private schools in the United States. *Papers in Applied Geography*, 8, 50-60.
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/23754931.2021.1943499
(Impact factor: 0.96)

29) **Li, Y.**, S. Wang, G. Cao, D. Li, and B.P. Ng. 2021. Disentangling racial/ethnic and income disparities of food retail environments: Impacts on adult obesity prevalence. *Applied Geography*, 137. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2021.102607
(Impact factor: 4.732; the top one journal in applied geography)

28) **Li, Y.**, L. Liu, J. Chen, and J. Zhang. 2021. Medical tourism of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases inpatients in central China. *Applied Geography* 127, 1-12.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2021.102391
(Impact factor: 4.732; the top one journal in applied geography)

27) Ng, B.P., T. Ladda, Q. He*, S.D. Towne Jr., and **Y. Li**. 2020. Characteristics and discrepancies between physiological and perceived fall risk in community-dwelling Medicare beneficiaries aged 65 years and older. *Clinical Gerontologist*.
https://doi.org/10.1080/07317115.2020.1833267
(Impact factor: 2.619)

26) Li, D., **Y. Li**, Q. Nguyen, and L.K. Siebeneck. 2020. A study on the GIS Professional (GISP) certification program in the U.S. *International Journal of Geoinformation* 9(9), 523.

https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi9090523
(Impact factor: 3.099)

25) **Li**, **Y.** and T. Du*. 2019. Do self- or parental perceptions of weight influence children and adolescents' dieting and family eating patterns? *Journal of Nutrition and Dietetic Practice* 3(1).
http://www.sciaeon.org/articles/Do-Self-or-Parental-Perceptions-of-Weight-Influence-Children-and-Adolescents-Dieting-and-Family-Eating-Patterns.pdf
(Impact factor: Not indicated)

24) **Li, Y.**, T. Du*, L. Huff-Corzine, B. Noyongoyo*, and K. Johnson*. 2019. Where's the fruit? Multidimensional inequalities in food retail environments around public elementary schools. *Child: Care, Health, and Development*, 45(4), 500-508.
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30995343
(Impact factor: 2.943)

23) Liu, Y., T. Zhang, J. Peng, Q. Liu, **Y. Li** and, Y. Hu. 2018. Linking GRNN and a neighborhood selection algorithm to assess land development suitability in low-slope hilly areas. *Ecological Indicators*, 93, 581-590.
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470160X1830342X
(Impact factor: 6.263)

22) **Li, Y.**, T. Du*, and J. Peng. 2018. Understanding out-of-home food environment, family restaurant choices, and childhood obesity with an agent-based Huff model. *Sustainability*, 10 (5), 1575-1589. https://doi.org/10.3390/su10051575
(Impact factor: 3.889)

21) Peng, J., J. Ma, Q. Liu, Y. Liu, Y. Hu, **Y. Li,** and Y. Yue. 2018. Spatial-temporal change of land surface temperature across 285 cities in China: An urban-rural contrast perspective. *Science of the Total Environment*, 635, 487-497.
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29677674
(Impact factor: 10.753)

20) **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2018. Assessing the impact of retail location on hotel development: Analysis of Manhattan hotels, 1822-2012. *Papers in Applied Geography*, 4, 21-33.
https://doi.org/10.1080/23754931.2017.1366356
(Impact factor: 0.96)

19) Li, X., X. Shi, A. Wang, and **Y. Li**. 2017. Heavy metals contamination and assessment in gas station dust of Xi'an, a mega-city of China. *Environmental Earth Sciences* 76, 288-297. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12665-017-6582-0
(Impact factor: 3.119)

18) **Li, Y.**, W.M. Carter*, and L.E. Robinson. 2016. Social environmental disparities on children's psychosocial stress, physical activity and weight status in Eastern Alabama counties. *Applied Geography* 76, 106-114. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2016.09.011

(Impact factor: 4.732)

17) **Li, Y.**, H. Li*, Z. Liu, and C.H. Miao. 2016. Spatial assessment of cancer incidences and the risks of industrial wastewater emission in China. *Sustainability* 8, 480-498. https://doi.org/10.3390/su8050480
(Impact factor: 3.889)

16) ArchMiller, A.*, L. Samuelson, and **Y. Li**. 2016. Diurnal and spatial variability of growing season soil respiration in a 64-year-old longleaf pine forest. *Plant and Soil* 403, 419-435. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11104-016-2817-1
(Impact factor: 3.299)

15) Li, H.*, C. Wang, Y. Jiang, A. Hug, * and **Y. Li**. 2016. Spatial assessment of sewage discharge with urbanization in 2004–2014, Beijing, China. *AIMS Environmental Science* 3 (4), 842-857. https://doi.org/10.3934/environsci.2016.4.842
(Impact factor: Not indicated)

14) Li, H.*, **Y. Li**, M.K. Lee, Z. Liu, and C.H. Miao. 2015. Spatial-temporal analysis of heavy metal water pollution in transitional China. *Sustainability* 7, 9067-9087. https://doi.org/10.3390/su7079067
(Impact factor: 3.889)

13) **Li, Y.**, L.H. Robinson, M.W. Carter*, and R. Gupta. 2015. Childhood obesity and community food environment in Alabama's Black Belt region. *Child: Care, Health, and Development* 41(5), 668-676. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25324035
(Impact factor: 2.508)

12) **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2014. Multidimensional health care inequality in provincial China: A case study of Henan Province. *Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie* 105 (1), 91-106. https://doi.org/10.1111/tesg.12049
(Impact factor: 2.152)

11) Chen, X., X. Ye, M. Carroll, and **Y. Li**. 2014. Online flood information system: REST-based web service. *International Journal of Applied Geospatial Research* 5 (2), 1-10. https://www.igi-global.com/article/online-flood-information-system/111097
(Impact factor: Not indicated)

10) Wu, T.* and **Y. Li**. 2013. Spatial interpolation of temperature in the United States using residual Kriging. *Applied Geography* 44, 112-120. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2013.07.012
(Impact factor: 4.723)

9) **Li, Y.** 2012. China's regional inequality in human development. *Regional Science Policy & Practice* 4, 263-278. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1757-7802.2012.01072.x
(Impact factor: Not indicated)

8)   **Li, Y.** and L. Liu. 2012. Assessing the impact of retail location store performance: A comparison study of Wal-Mart and Kmart stores in Cincinnati. *Applied Geography* 32, 591-600. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2011.07.006
(Impact factor: 4.723)

7)   **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2010. A spatial-temporal analysis of health care and mortality inequalities in transitional China. *Eurasian Geography and Economics* 51, 767–787. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2747/1539-7216.51.6.767?journalCode=rege20
(Impact factor: 2.088)

6)   **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2010. The spatial-temporal hierarchy of regional inequality of China. *Applied Geography* 30, 303-316. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0143622809000745
(Impact factor: 4.723)

5)   Liu, Z., **Y. Li,** and Z. Li. 2009. Surface water quality and land use in Wisconsin, USA - a GIS approach. *Journal of Integrative Environmental Sciences* 6, 69-89. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15693430802696442
(Impact factor: 1.216)

Conference Papers (blind peer-reviewed)

4)   Hug, A.*, C. Mitra, **Y. Li**, and L.J. Marzen. 2013. Relationship between land cover and temperature in the Auburn—Opelika, Alabama urban Area. *Papers in Applied Geography* 36, 311-322. ISBN:099119750X, 9780991197507
http://applied.geog.kent.edu/AGCPapers/2013/P316-322/index.html

3)   Rahman, M.*, C. Mitra, L.J. Marzen, and **Y. Li**. 2013. Urban expansion and environmental parameters - A case study of Huntsville, Alabama. *Papers in Applied Geography* 36, 458-466. ISBN:099119750X, 9780991197507
http://applied.geog.kent.edu/AGCPapers/2013/P458-466/index.html

2)   Xie, Z., Z. Liu, and **Y. Li**. 2013. Validation of the Everglades Depth Estimation Network (EDEN) Water-surface Model. *Papers in Applied Geography* 36, 98-106. ISBN:099119750X, 9780991197507
http://applied.geog.kent.edu/AGCPapers/2013/P098-106/index.html

Scientific Report (blind peer-reviewed)

1)   Telis, P.A., Z. Xie, Z. Liu, **Y. Li**, and P.A. Conrads. 2015. The Everglades Depth Estimation Network (EDEN) surface-water model, Version 2. U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2014-5209. 42 p. https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20145209

Technical Report (non-refereed)

- Xie, Z., Z. Liu, and **Y. Li.** 2010. EDEN water-surface model: revision, validation, interpolation by subregion. EDEN report, USGS. Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL. 50 p.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW (*Denotes student/former student co-author)

- Gamage, M., D. Li, W. Shao, K. Curtain, S. Cohen, J. Liu, J. Cao, and **Y. Li**. A staged wildfire evacuation model for wildland-urban interface communities with transient populations in the United States. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* (R&R).

- Li, D., M. Gamage, J. Cao, Y. Jiang, **Y. Li**, L. Zhang, Q. Nguyen, T. Nguyen, and L.K. Siebeneck. Mapping the completeness and positional accuracy of OpenStreetMap road data at the county level in the contiguous U.S. *Transactions in GIS* (R&R).

- Nguyen, T., D. Kim, **Y. Li**, C. Emrich, J. Crook, L. Thiamwong, and R. Xie. Effect of Elevated Temperature on Physical Activity and Falls in Low-Income Older Adults Using Zero-Inflated Poisson and Graphical Model. *Information* (R&R).

- Toohy, K.*****, J. McCutcheon, **Y. Li**, L. Huff-Corzine, and J. Corzine. A geographic analysis of aggravated battery in Orlando, Florida. *Victims and Offenders* (under review).

GRANTS AND SELECTED PROPOSALS

- Li. D. (PI), S. Bao (Co-PI), and **Y. Li** (Co-PI). Dynamic integration of hurricane storm surge predictions with GIS-based coastal evacuation planning systems. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-University of Alabama. Budget: $700,000. (6.72% contribution; submitted on Feb. 25, 2025; pending)

- Thiamwong, L. (PI), R. Xie (Co-I), C. Emrich (Co-I), **Y. Li (Co-I)**, Y. Zhong (Co-I), and J. Crook (Co-I). Climate-creative communities to promote physical activity and health equity. Nation Institute of Health. Budget: $3,799,988. (2.46% contribution; submitted on Nov. 5, 2024; pending)

- Ng, B.P. (PI), **Y. Li (Co-I)**, D. Li (Co-I), and K.Y. Bao (Consultant). Assessing and addressing socio-environmental disparities in accessibility to the National Diabetes Prevention Program from a community perspective. Nation Institute of Health. Budget: $419,628 (17.63% contribution; submitted on Jun. 13, 2024; unfunded).

- Li, D. (PI), J. Gong (Co-PI), J. Liu (Co-PI), **Y. Li (Co-PI)**, R. Womack (Co-PI), and W. Shao (Consultant). CIVIC-PG Track A: Revealing the invisible in wildfire evacuation decision-making through community-engaged research and a cloud-based wildfire evacuation simulation toolkit. National Science Foundation. Budget: $75,000. (6.67% contribution; submitted on May 1, 2024; unfunded).

- Fu, X. (PI), A. Huang (Co-PI), S. Hou (Co-PI), and **Y. Li (Co-PI)**. Promoting AI knowledge and usage among senior citizens. National Endowment for the Humanities. Budget: $494,111 (20% contribution; submitted on Feb. 14, 2024; unfunded).

- Fu, X., A. Huang, S. Hou, and **Y. Li**. Promoting AI knowledge and usage among senior citizens. UCF limited submission. (Selected to proceed with a full proposal to NEH on behalf of UCF in Nov. 2023)

- Wang, L. (PI), S. Zhang, (Co-I), **Y. Li (Co-I)**, and G. Lu (Co-I). A Genome-informed, Behavior-incorporated, AI-Assisted (GBA) System for Improved Pandemic Prediction and Surveillance. Nation Institute of Health. Budget: $400,000 (20% contribution; submitted on Oct. 16, 2023; unfunded).

- Zhang, S. (PI), **Y. Li (Co-PI)**, L. Wang, (Co-PI), and G. Lu (Co-PI). Collaborative Research: IHBEM: Human-Behavior-Driven, AI-Powered, SEIR-Integrated Epidemiological Modeling and Simulation System for Pandemic Prediction, Prevention and Control. National Science Foundation. Budget: $1,000,000 (20% contribution; submitted on Apr. 14, 2023; unfunded).

- Vasu, S. (PI), A. Terracciano (Co-PI), and **Y. Li (Co-PI)**. Waste Methane to Energy Reclamation with Porous Media Combustors for Improved Health Outcomes of Socioeconomically Disparaged Communities. Department of Energy. Budget: $750,000 (13.33% contribution; submitted on Aug. 25, 2022; unfunded).

- Zhang, S. (PI), Wang, L. (Co-PI), **Y. Li (Co-PI)**, and G. Lu (Co-PI). An AI-Powered, Agent-Based, Hierarchical Multivariant Epidemiological Modeling System. National Science Foundation. Budget: $1,000,000 (20% contribution; letter of intent submitted on Apr. 1, 2022; unfunded).

- Wang, L. (PI), S. Zhang (Co-PI), **Y. Li (Co-PI)**, and G. Lu (Co-PI). PIPP Phase I: AI-GEM: An AI-Powered, Genome-Guided, and Epidemiology-Informed Modeling System for Pandemic Prediction, Prevention and Control. National Science Foundation. Budget: $800,000 (20% contribution; full proposal submitted on Oct. 1, 2021; unfunded).

- Li, D. (PI), **Y. Li (Co-PI)**, and X. Zhou (Co-PI). NSF-SCC-PG: Improving wildfire public safety through community engagement and a scalable simulation-based evacuation planning support system. National Science Foundation. Budget: $150,000 (13.33% contribution; submitted on Feb. 24, 2021; unfunded).

- Carter, S. (PI), R. Hinojosa, **Y. Li**, and H. Torres. Barriers to Success: Understanding the Lived Experiences of Hispanics attending a Hispanic Serving Institution through Interviews and Focus Groups. UCF Department of Sociology. Budget: $1500. Funding period: 2018. Role: Co-PI.

- Wei, Y.H.D. (PI), W. Xu, Y. Ning, X. Ye, **Y. Li**, J. Shen, and C. Miao. Space-Time Analysis of Intra-provincial Inequality in China: Economic Transition, Industrial Restructuring and Spatial Agglomeration (phase II), National Natural Science Foundation of China (41329001).

Budget: 2,000,000 Chinese Yuan (about $326,797). Funding period: 2013-2017. Role: Senior Personnel (10% contribution).

- Social Environmental Disparities, Psychological Stress, and Childhood Obesity. Budget: $10,000. The Auburn University Intramural Grants Program (101503-137060-2052). Funding period: Apr. 2015 – Aug. 2015. Role: PI (100% contribution).

- Socioeconomic Inequality of Childhood Obesity in the Black Belt Region of Alabama. Budget: $5,896. The Auburn University Intramural Grants Program (101503-137060-2052). Funding period: Mar. 2014 – Mar. 2015. Role: PI (100% contribution).

- Wei. Y.H.D. (PI). Space-Time Analysis of Intra-provincial Inequality in China: Economic Transition, Industrial Restructuring and Spatial Agglomeration (phase I), National Natural Science Foundation of China (41028001). Budget: 200,000 Chinese Yuan (about $31,746). Funding period: 2011-2013. Role: Member (20% contribution).

- Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Students Abroad. A Spatial-temporal Investigation on China's Social Economic Inequalities with a Multilevel GWR Modeling. Chinese Scholarship Committee. $6,000. Funding period: 2011-2012. Role: PI (100% contribution).

- Dissertation Research Improvement Grant. A Multilevel GTWR Modeling of Regional Inequality of China in a GIS Environment. University of Utah. $2500. Funding period: 2010. Role: PI (100% contribution).

AWARDS / HONORS

- First Day Faculty Recognition. Affordable Instructional Materials (AIM) Initiative. University of Central Florida. 2024-2025.

- Selective Research Sabbatical Award. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida. 2023-2024.

- Distinguished Scholar Award (mid-career). Regional Development Planning Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers. Spring 2023.

- Inaugural Pedagogical Innovation Award. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. Spring 2023.

- Fellow, George H.W. Bush Foundation. 2023.

- Research Intensive Course-Level Designation. Office of Undergraduate Research. University of Central Florida.
    - SYA 4354: GIS Applications (designated in fall 2022, taught in spring 2023)

- Quality Online Course Designation. Center for Distributed Learning. University of Central

Florida. 2021-2022.
- SYA 3352: Spatial Sociology (awarded in 2021)
- SYA 4354: GIS Applications (awarded in 2022)

- Distinguished Service Award. Regional Development Planning Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers. Spring 2022.

- Travel Award from the Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. Kent, OH. September 2016.

- Faculty Superhero, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University. 2014.

- Travel Award from COSAM, Auburn University to travel to the Annual Conference of AAG, Los Angeles, CA. 2013.

- Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Students Abroad. Chinese Scholarship Committee. 2012.

- The Best Graduate Student Paper Award. Core periphery inequality in provincial China: A case study of Henan Province. China Geography Specialty Group of AAG. 2012.

- The Best Graduate Student Paper Award. Health care, mortality, and economic transition of China. Regional Development Planning Specialty Group of AAG. 2011.

- First Prize of Graduate Student Poster Competition. Health care, mortality, and economic transition of China. University of Utah. 2011.

- Travel Award, University of Utah, to attend the AAG meeting, Seattle, WA, 2011.

- Travel Award, University of Utah, to attend the AAG meeting, Las Vegas, NV, 2009.

- Travel Award, UC GSGA, to attend the AAG meeting, Chicago, IL, 2006.

- Travel Award, UC GSGA, to attend the AAG meeting, Denver, CO, 2005.

- Excellent member, Henan Branch of China Telecom, 2000-2002.

- First / second / third class scholarships, Shandong University, 1995-1999.

Awards earned by my students:

- Evansha Andre (MA advisor: Yingru Li). Graduate McNair Fellowship, University of Central Florida. 2024-2028.

- Carvis Durr (Ph.D. advisor, Yingru Li). College of Sciences Dean's Conference Travel Award. Spring 2024.

- Evansha Andre (advisor and co-author, Yingru Li), Graduate Student Paper Award. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. Spring 2023.

- Evansha Andre (thesis committee chair, Yingru Li), MA Applied Project Award. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. Spring 2023.

- Jayasri Veerapandian (supervisor and co-author, Yingru Li), Best Undergraduate Student Paper Award. Regional Development Planning Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers. March 2023. Denver, CO.

- Kaitlyn Duron (supervisor and co-author, Yingru Li), Judges' Choice. Food and health: Assessing food retail environments in Great Orlando. Student Scholar Symposium, University of Central Florida. March 30, 2022.

- Kenisha Johnson (supervisor and co-author, Yingru Li), Undergraduate Paper Competition Award. Regional Development Planning Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers. April 7, 2017. Boston, MA.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (*Denotes graduate student co-author; # Denotes undergraduate student co-author)

International

- **Li, Y.**, L. Thiamwong, D. Kim, C. Emrich, R. Xie, J. Crook, and Y. Zhong. 2024. GIS Analysis of Physical Activity and Fall Risk amid Global Warming: Roles of Community Environments. The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), Seattle, WA. Nov. 15. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11692448/

- Tice, A., N. Conner, W. Zhang, Q. Huo, **Y. Li**, C. Emrich, R. Xie, and L. Thiamwong. 2024. Frailty, fall risk, and fear of falling positively associated in community-dwelling older adults. The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), Seattle, WA. Nov. 15. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11692952/

- Kim, D., L. Thiamwong, C. Emrich, **Y. Li**, and R. Xie. 2024. Fall risk and fear of falling of low-income older adults: The mediating and moderating impact of health literacy. The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), Seattle, WA, Nov. 15. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11693315/

- Ng, B.P., G.T. Hawkins, J. LaManna, **Y. Li**, and C. Park. 2024. Out-of-pocket health care spending among Medicare Beneficiaries by sex, age, and race/ethnicity. Annual Conference of International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research. Atlanta, GA, May 5.

- **Li. Y.**, E. Andre*, C. Durr*, and A. McClarty*. 2024. Association of food assistance program participation and food insecurity during unexpected crises. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Honolulu, HI, Apr. 19.

- **Li. Y.** 2023. Food insecurity and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation among households with children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (virtual). Mar. 27.

- Veerapandian, J.[#] and **Y. Li.** 2023. Spatial accessibility to charitable food assistance programs: Considering community social vulnerability. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Mar. 25.

- Ali, R.*, **Y. Li**, and S. Jang. [#] 2023. Spatial disparity of charitable food assistance programs and social vulnerability in the southeastern United States. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (virtual). Mar. 24.

- **Li, Y**. 2022. The role of food assistance programs in alleviating food insufficiency among job-loss households during the pandemic. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Feb. 27.

- **Li, Y**., S. Wang, G. Cao, D. Li, and B.P. Ng. 2021. Disentangling racial/ethnic and income disparities of food retail environments and obesity prevalence. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Seattle, Apr. 9.

- **Li, Y.**, L. Liu, and J. Chen. 2020. Domestic medical tourism of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases inpatients in central China. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Denver, Apr. 6-10 (conference cancelled).

- Ng, B.P., K. Kiyoung, J. Lamanna, **Y. Li**, and G. Tiu. 2020. Food insecurity, participation of diabetes self-management education and support, and physical activity among Medicare beneficiaries with type 2 diabetes. International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Conference (virtual), May 18-20.

- Du, T.* and **Y. Li.** 2020. Social network and physical activity in unequal physical and social environments. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Denver, Apr. 6-10 (conference cancelled).

- Toohy, K.*, L. Huff-Corzine, J. Corzine, and Y. Li. 2019. Of space, time and crime: Spatial and temporal patterning of violent crimes. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, Nov. 15.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2019. Do self- or parental perceptions of weight influence children and adolescents' dieting and family eating patterns? Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. D.C., April 4.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2018. Out-of-home eating and the impact on childhood obesity. The 26st Geoinformatics Conference. Kunming, China. June 29.

- **Li, Y.,** T. Du*, and B. Noyongoyo*. 2018. Exploring the role of community gardens in enhancing food security. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. New Orleans, LA. April 10.

- Du, T. * and **Y. Li**, 2018. Examining the effects of social network on physical activities through Latent Class Analysis and spatial analysis. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. New Orleans, LA. April 11.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2017. Simulating restaurant choices with agent-based model. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Boston, MA. April 7.

- Johnson, K. [#] and **Y. Li**, 2017. Assessing food environment around public elementary schools in the U.S. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Boston, MA. April 7.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*, 2016. Social disparities, uneven food environments, and childhood obesity. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA. August 22.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*, 2016. Assessment of multi-level food environments and childhood obesity. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. San Francisco, CA. April 2.

- Du, T.* and **Y. Li**, 2016. What impact the hotel distribution and performance in Manhattan through history? Evidence of GIS-based analysis from 1820-2012. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. San Francisco, CA. March 30.

- **Li, Y.,** L. Robinson, and M.W. Carter*. 2015. Social environmental disparities and childhood obesity in Alabama's Black Belt region. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Chicago, Illinois. April 21.

- Li, H.* and **Y. Li.** 2015. Spatial-temporal analysis of heavy metal water pollution and the impact on public health in China. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Chicago, Illinois. April 24.

- **Li, Y.** and H. Li*. 2014. Spatial analysis of heavy metal water pollution in China. The International Conference of Geo-Simulation and Crime Geography. Guangzhou, China. July 4.

- **Li, Y.** and L. Robinson. 2014. Childhood obesity and food environment in Alabama's Black Belt Region. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Tampa, Florida. April 11.

- Li, H.* and **Y. Li.** 2014. Spatial-temporal analysis of heavy metal water pollution in China. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Tampa, Florida. April 10.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Wu. 2013. Residual kriging for spatial prediction of air temperature in the U.S. The 21st Geoinformatics Conference. Kaifeng, China. June 22.

- **Li, Y.** 2013. Psychosocial inequality and child obesity. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Los Angeles, CA. April 11.

National

- Duron, K.[#] and **Y. Li.** 2022. Assessing food retail environments around Head Start programs and daycares in Greater Orlando. Applied Geography Conference. Oct. 22.

- Andre, E.* and **Y. Li.** 2022. Food insecurity among university students and the effectiveness of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. Applied Geography Conference. Oct. 20.

- **Li, Y.** 2021. Food insufficiency among job-loss families and the role of food assistance programs during the pandemic. Applied Geography Conference (Virtual), Oct. 14.

- Li, D., **Y. Li**, Q.C. Nguyen, and L.K. Siebeneck. 2020. Mapping the certified GIS Professionals (GISPs) in the U.S. Applied Geography Conference (Virtual), Oct. 19.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2017. Examining social network and children's eating behaviors with Latent Class Model. Applied Geography Conference. Bahamas, November 14.

- **Li, Y.** 2016. Social inequalities of food environments and childhood obesity. The Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. Kent, OH. September 23.

- **Li, Y.** and L. Robinson. 2014. Socioeconomic inequalities of childhood obesity and food environments. Applied Geography Conference. Atlanta, October 16.

- Carter, M.W.*, **Y. Li**, and L.E. Robinson. 2014. Socioeconomic disparities, physical activity environment, and childhood obesity in Alabama's Black Belt region. Applied Geography Conference. Atlanta, October 17.

- Du, T.* and **Y. Li**. 2014. A spatial-temporal analysis of hotel locations in Manhattan, New York City. Applied Geography Conference. Atlanta, October 16.

Regional and State

- Kim, D., L. Thiamwong, C. Emrich, **Y. Li,** R. Xie, Y. Zhong, J. Crook & N. R. Lighthall. 2025. Roles of Fall Risk Appraisal Matrix: Multidimensional Approaches to Prevent Falls. 2025 Sigma Theta Tau Theta Epsilon Chapter 33rd Annual Scholarship Day, Orlando, FL, Apr. 1.

- Andre, E.*, Y. Li, L. Thiamwong, D. Kim, and R. Xie. 2025. Gender-Specific Differences in Fall Risk and Physical Activity and the Role of the Neighborhood Environment. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. Charlett, NC, Apr. 11.

- Andre, E.* and **Y. Li.** 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the effectiveness of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA, Apr. 4.

- Durr, C.*, **Y. Li**, and A. McClarty*. 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the barriers to utilizing food assistance programs during and after Hurricane Ian and Nicole. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA, Apr. 5.

- **Li, Y.** 2023. Food insecurity among households with children: The role of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program during the global pandemic. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. Myrtle Beach, SC, Mar. 31.

- **Li, Y.**, S. Wang, and G. Cao. 2020. Disentangling racial/ethnic and income disparities of food retail environments and obesity prevalence. The 83rd Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. Jacksonville, Apr. 2. (Conference canceled)

- **Li, Y.** and T. Du*. 2017. Simulating restaurant choices with Agent-based model. THATCamp. Orlando, FL. February 25.

- Johnson, K.* and **Y. Li**, 2017. Assessing food environment around public elementary schools in the U.S. THATCamp. Orlando, FL. February 25.

Before 2013

- **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2012. Multidimensional health care inequality in provincial China: A case study of Henan Province**.** Annual Meeting of the SEDAAG. Ashville, NC. November 19. (Regional conference)

- **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2012. Health care, mortality, and China's transition. The Maps on the Hills Event of Utah Legislative session. Salt Lake City, UT. Feb. 29. (Regional conference)

- **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2012. Core-periphery inequality in provincial China: A case study of Henan Province. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. New York City, NY. Feb. 27. (International conference)

- **Li, Y.** and Y.H.D. Wei. 2011. Health care, mortality, and China's transition. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Seattle, WA. April 13. (International conference)

- **Li, Y.**, Y.H.D. Wei, and X. Ye. 2009. Beyond convergence: Geographies of regional inequality of China. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Las Vegas, NV. March 25. (International conference)

- Liu, L. and **Y. Li**, 2007. Discerning competing and agglomerative effects on retail store performance: an example of Wal-Mart and Kmart stores in Cincinnati. Second Global Conference on Economic Geography. Beijing, China. June 28. (International conference)

- **Li, Y.** and L. Liu. 2006. Agglomeration effects on retail performance: A case study of Wal-Mart and Kmart in the Greater Cincinnati area. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Chicago, IL. March 11. (International conference)

- **Li, Y.** and L. Liu. 2005. A GIS based locational analysis on Wal-Mart and Kmart stores in Cincinnati with modified Huff models. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Denver, CO. April 9. (International conference)

INVITED TALKS / PANELS

- Invited panelist, UCF FIRE Research Mentor Fair. College of Medicine. Oct. 21, 2022.

- Invited panelist, UCF Sociology Virtual Graduate Fair Open House. Oct. 20, 2022.

- Invited panelist. Signature Panel: Urban Planning and Resilience during the Global Pandemic. Regional Development Planning Specialty Group, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Feb. 26, 2022.

- Invited panelist. Panel: Economic Equality. Future of Florida Summit. University of Florida. Feb. 12, 2022.

- **Li, Y.** 2020. Multidimensional Disparities in Food Retail Environments: Impacts on Obesity Prevalence. College of Nursing, University of Central Florida. October 9, 2020.

- **Li, Y.** 2017. Spatial statistics and case studies in environmental health. Henan University, Kaifeng, China. December 19.

- **Li, Y.** 2016. Social Inequalities of food environments and childhood obesity. The Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. Kent, OH. September 23.

- **Li, Y.** 2016. Spatial assessment of heavy metal water pollution and the risk on public health in transitional China. East China Normal University. Shanghai, China. May 24.

- **Li, Y.** 2015. Does psychosocial stress influence social environmental disparities on southern children's physical activity and weight status? Louisiana State University. Baton Rouge, LA. December 4.

- **Li, Y.** 2015. Social environmental disparities and public health: a GIS analysis. The State University of New York at Binghamton. April 4.

- **Li, Y.** 2015. Social environmental disparities and public health: a GIS analysis. Indiana University of Pennsylvania. March 25.

- **Li, Y.** 2014. Social environmental disparities and public health: a spatio-temporal analysis. University of Miami. December 1.

- **Li, Y.** and L. Robinson. 2014. Socioeconomic disparities, food environment, and childhood obesity. Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China. July 3.

- **Li, Y.** and T. Wu. 2014. Air temperature estimation with residual kriging. Peking University, Beijing, China. May 23.

- **Li, Y.** and L. Liu. 2013. Retail location and store performance: A comparison of Wal-Mart and Kmart stores. Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China. July 3.

- **Li, Y.** 2013. Applications of spatial statistics and case study. Henan University, Kaifeng, China. May 27.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Central Florida

Courses Taught

- Summer 2025   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Summer 2025   Directed Independent Research (SYA 6918)

- Summer 2025   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4912)

- Summer 2025   Dissertation Research (SYA 7980)

- Spring 2025   Applied Social Statistics (SYA 3400C, web-based)

- Spring 2025   Research Analysis (SYA 6455)

- Spring 2025   Dissertation Research (SYA 7980)

- Spring 2025   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4912)

- Fall 2024   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2024   GIS in Society (SYA 6536, mixed mode)

- Fall 2024   Dissertation Research (SYA 7980)

- Summer 2024   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Summer 2024   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Spring 2024   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Fall 2023   Directed Independent Research (SYA 6918)

- Summer 2023   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Spring 2023   GIS Applications (SYA 4352, web-based)

- Spring 2023   Research Analysis (SYA 6455)

- Spring 2023   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Fall 2022   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2022   GIS in Society (SYA 6536, mixed mode)

- Fall 2022   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4912)

- Summer 2022   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Summer 2022   Research Report (SYA 6909)

- Spring 2022   GIS Applications (SYA 4352, web-based)

- Spring 2022   Research Analysis (SYA 6455)

- Spring 2022   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4906)

- Spring 2022   Research Report (SYA 6909)

- Spring 2022   Directed Research (SYA 6918)

- Fall 2022   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2022   GIS in Society (SYA 6536)

- Summer 2021   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Spring 2021   GIS Applications (SYA 4352, web-based)

- Spring 2021   Research Analysis (SYA 6455, Video Streaming)

- Fall 2020   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2020   GIS in Society (SYA 6536, Video Streaming)

- Fall 2020   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4912)

- Summer 2020   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Summer 2020   Directed Independent Research (SYA 6908)

- Spring 2020   GIS Applications (SYA 4352)

- Spring 2020   Research Analysis (SYA 6455)

- Fall 2019   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2019   GIS in Society (SYA 6536)

- Fall 2019   Directed Independent Research (SYA 6908)

- Fall 2019   Dissertation Research (SYA 7980)

- Summer 2019   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Summer 2019   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Spring 2019   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Fall 2018   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2018   GIS in Society (SYA 6536)

- Fall 2018   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Spring 2018   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352)

- Spring 2018   Advanced Topics in GIS in Society (SYA 6458)

- Spring 2018   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Fall 2017   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3352, web-based)

- Fall 2017   Directed Independent Research (SYA 7919)

- Spring 2017   GIS in Society (SYA 6356)

- Spring 2017   Undergraduate Internship (SYA 4906)

- Spring 2017   Directed Independent Research (SYA 6908)

- Fall 2016   Special Topic: GIS Applications (SYA 4932)

- Fall 2016   GIS Applications (SYA 6452)

- Fall 2016   Directed Independent Study (SYA 3905)

- Spring 2016   Spatial Sociology: Intro GIS (SYA 3930)

- Spring 2016   Directed Independent Research (SYA 4912)

- Spring 2016   Directed Independent Study (SYA6918)

- Fall 2015   Social Power and Inequality (SYA 3530)

Courses Developed

- GIS Applications (SYA 6452)

- GIS Applications (SYA 4354)

- GIS and Health in Society (SYA 6359, approved in spring 2022)

- Advanced Topics in GIS (SYA 4358)

- Geographic Information Systems for Public Health and Society (SYA 4410)

Development of Teaching and Certificate Programs

- Proposed to develop the Spatial Sociology minor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida (2022—2023, approved).

- As a core member, initiated and developed the Undergraduate GIS Certificate Program. https://www.ucf.edu/degree/geographic-information-systems-certificate/ (2015—present)

- As a core member, initiated and developed the Graduate GIS Certificate Program. https://catalog.ucf.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=4&poid=1377&returnto=239 (2015—present)

- As a committee member, initiated and developed the Medical Sociology Program, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. (2017—present)

Auburn University

- Spring 2015   GIS Applications (GEOG 5850/6850)

- Fall 2014   Economic Geography (GEOG 5350/6350)

- Fall 2014   Quantitative Analysis and Spatial Analysis (GEOG 5700/6700)

- Spring 2014   Seminar in Geography (GEOG 6970)

- Spring 2014   Quantitative Analysis and Spatial Analysis (GEOG 5700/6700)

- Spring 2014   GIS Applications (GEOG 5850/6850)

- Fall 2013   Global Geography (GEOG 1010)

- Fall 2013   Economic Geography (GEOG 5350/6350)

- Spring 2013   Quantitative Analysis and Spatial Analysis (GEOG 5700/6700)

- Spring 2013   Seminar in Geography (GEOG 5970/6970)

- Fall 2012   Economic Geography (GEOG 5350/6350)

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- Fall 2011   GIS in Public Health (EAB 795)

University of Cincinnati (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

- Fall 2005   Introduction to Computer Cartography (GEOG 574)

- Spring 2005   Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GEOG 580)

- Winter 2004   Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GEOG 580)

- Fall 2004   Introduction to Computer Cartography (GEOG 574)

MENTORING (UCF)

Graduate Student Committee (Chair):

- Carvis Durr (Ph.D. student, expected to graduate in Summer 2025). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  Dissertation: Food insecurity among university students during and after Hurricane Ian and

Nicole.

- Evansha Andre (MA, graduated in Summer 2022), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  Applied Project: Food insecurity among university students and the effectiveness of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic.

- Ting Du (Ph.D. graduated in Spring 2020), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida (Lead co-chair).
  Dissertation: "Understanding the role of social networks in influencing physical activity in unequal physical and social environments with geospatial techniques"

Graduate Student Committee (Member):

- Breana Lambert (MA student), 2024 – present. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Applied project: Do job Ads in construction have a 'man-date'? Uncovering gendered language that builds barriers.

- Aaron Sean Combs (MA student), 2024 – present. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Applied project:

- Andrea Olmeda (MA student), 2024 – present. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Applied project: Infant mortality and accessibility challenges to healthcare.

- Nahim Dewan (Ph.D. Candidate), 2023 – present. School of Public Affairs, College of Community Innovation and Education, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: Racial and ethnic disparities in dental care utilization and coronary artery disease prevention (CAD).

- Jaquelyn Fernandez-Reiss (Ph.D., graduated Summer 2023), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: A community-based research approach to understanding health and health equity in the Central Florida Region.

- Kayla Toohy (Ph.D., graduated Summer 2022), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: Homicide patterns in urban places: A geospatial analysis of homicide in

Baltimore, MD.

- Tyler Copeland (MA, graduated in May 2022), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Thesis: Budgetary unoccupied aerial systems for environmental surveying: A social perspective.

- Charles Seaman (MA, graduated in Aug. 2021), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Project: Understanding the effects of "Medically Underserved" designation.

- Courtney Wilson (Ph.D., graduated in Aug. 2021), Department of Public Affairs, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: Using Geographic Information Systems to analyze the effect of residential location on student academic success.

- Rebecca DeCesare (Ph.D., graduated in May 2021), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood: A study of collective efficacy at institutions of higher education and the impact on crime rates.

- Wilmer Alvarezirizarry (Ph.D., graduated in May 2021), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: Assess the impact of healthcare fraud and social disorganization on community health.

- Nicholas Altizer (MA, graduated in May 2021), Department of Sociology, University
  (Committee member)

- Matthew Hiesterman (2014-present, Ph.D. student), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: "Neglected but Not Forgotten: An analysis of the perceptions of Unmet Health Services for Puerto Rican Veterans"

- Sarah Sacra (Ph.D. graduated in May 2018), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Dissertation: "Domestic stalking, violation of protective orders, and homicide in Chicago neighborhoods: the influence of social disorganization and gender inequality"

- Rhena South (M.A., graduated in May 2017), Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida.
  (Committee member)
  Thesis: "Understanding arson through community resilience"

Undergraduate Student Mentoring:

- Adeline Agnew. 2025. Sociology, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: Physical activity and fall risk: The role of multilevel environments.

- Gray Tateishi. 2024 – 2025. Sociology, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: Spatial disparities of charitable food assistance programs in relation to community social vulnerability in Central Florida.

- Katherine Alvarez. 2023 – 2024. Environmental Science. University of Central Florida. (HUT Committee member)
  Thesis: Analyzing barriers in mental health care utilization among undocumented Latino immigrant communities.

- Jayasri Veerapandian and Edgar Moncayo. 2021- 2023. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: Socio-environmental inequalities in food assistance programs in Orange County.

- Kaitlyn Duron. 2021- 2023. Sociology, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: Comparing food retail environments around Head Start programs and day care centers in Central Florida.

- Yumi Wolfgang, 2020-2021. Sociology, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: GIS analysis of social inequalities and Asian American's well-beings.

- Sonia J. Morales and Erica Shuttera, 2018. Sociology, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: Visualizing crime and emergency stations at UCF with GIS.

- Rachel Kinder, 2016. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. (HUT Committee member)
  Thesis: The association between sexuo-economic relation and homicide: An analysis of yearly gross income and homicide. Honors in the Major Thesis.

- Jacqueline Meyer, 2016. Department of Biology, University of Central Florida. (HUT Committee member)
  Thesis: A retrospective study: modeling *Dendroctonus frontalis* population based on climate and stand factors. Honors in the Major Thesis.

- Kenisha Johnson. 2016-2017. A GIS-based study on food environments surrounding elementary schools in the U.S. Funded by the LEAD Scholars Assistantship Program, University of Central Florida in spring 2016. (Supervisor)

- Joseph Restucci. Spring, 2016. A GIS-based study on food environments surrounding elementary schools in the U.S. Funded by the LEAD Scholars Assistantship Program, University of Central Florida. (Supervisor)

- Maria Scott. Spring, 2016. A GIS-based study on food environments surrounding elementary schools in the U.S. Funded by the LEAD Scholars Assistantship Program, University of Central Florida. (Supervisor)

Graduate Research and Teaching Assistants
- Carla Cox (Spring 2025)
- Sylvia McMillon (Fall 2024)
- Sara Tehrani (Summer 2024)
- Lisa Rodriguez (Summer 2023 and 2024)
- Halley Spencer (Spring 2023)
- Halley Spencer (Fall 2022)
- Edi Mucka (Summer 2022)
- Carvis Durr (Spring 2022)
- Sarah Da Silva (Fall 2021)
- Alana Innerbichler (Summer 2021)
- Erica Edmonston (Fall 2020, spring 2021)
- Kristina Davis (Summer 2020)
- Andrea Smith (Fall 2019, Spring 2020)
- Josalie Condon (Fall 2017)
- Ting Du (2015 – 2020)
- Nathan Jagoda (Spring 2018, Summer 2019)
- Rina South (2015-2016)
- Kayla Toohy (2018)

Students' Research Presentations

- **Andre, E.**, Y. Li, L. Thiamwong, D. Kim, and R. Xie. 2025. Gender-Specific Differences in Fall Risk and Physical Activity and the Role of the Neighborhood Environment. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. Charlett, NC, Apr. 11.

- Li. Y., **E. Andre**, **C. Durr**, and **A. McClarty**. 2024. Food insecurity and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation among households with children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Oahu, HI, Apr. 19.

- **Andre, E.** and Y. Li. 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the effectiveness of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA.

- **Durr, C.**, Y. Li, and **A. McClarty.** 2024. Food insecurity among university students and the barriers to utilizing food assistance programs during and after Hurricane Ian and Nicole. The Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA.

- **Veerapandian, J.** and Y. Li. 2023. Spatial accessibility to charitable food assistance programs: Considering community social vulnerability. Annual Meeting of the AAG (virtual). Mar. 25.

- **Ali, R.**, Li. Y., and S. Jang. [#]2023. Spatial disparity of charitable food assistance programs and social vulnerability in the southeastern United States. Annual Meeting of the AAG (virtual). Mar. 24.

- **Duron, K.** and Y. Li. 2022. Assessing food retail environments around Head Start programs and daycares in Greater Orlando. Applied Geography Conference. Oct. 22.

- **Andre, E.** and Y. Li. 2022. Food insecurity among university students and the effectiveness of food assistance programs amid the global pandemic. Applied Geography Conference. Oct. 20.

- **Duron, K**. 2022. Food and health: Assessing food retail environments in Greater Orlando. Student Scholar Symposium. Mar. 30.

- **Veerapandian, J. and E. Moncayo**. 2022. Assessing spatial accessibility to community-based food assistance programs considering social vulnerability index and public transportation in Orlando. Student Scholar Symposium. Mar. 30.

- **Smith, A. and T. Du**. 2020. Unhealthy after school snacks: Socioeconomic disparities of food environments around public and private schools in the United States. Applied Geography Conference (Virtual), Oct. 19.

- **Du, T.*** and Y. Li. 2020. Social network and physical activity in unequal physical and social environments. Annual Meeting of the AAG. Seattle, Apr. 6-10 (conference cancelled).

- **Toohy, K.***, L. Huff-Corzine, J. Corzine, and Y. Li. 2019. Of space, time and crime: Spatial and temporal patterning of violent crimes. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, Nov. 15.

- **Du, T.** and Y. Li, 2018. Examining the effects of social network on physical activities through Latent Class Analysis and spatial analysis. Annual Meeting of the AAG. New Orleans, LA. Apr. 11. (Ph.D. student)

- **Du, T.** 2018. Examining the impacts of social network on children's eating behaviors with Latent Class Model. Graduate Research Forum. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Apr. 7. (Ph.D. student)

- **Lambert**, **J.** 2018. HIV and spatial dependence in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Graduate Research Forum. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Apr. 7. (Ph.D. student)

- **Morales, S.J. and E. Shuttera**, 2018. Visualizing crime and emergency stations at UCF with GIS. Showcase of Undergraduate Research. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Apr. 5. (Undergraduate students)

- **Johnson, K.** and Y. Li, 2017. Assessing food environment around public elementary schools in the U.S. Annual Meeting of the AAG. Boston, MA. Apr. 7. (Undergraduate student)

- Li, Y. and **T. Du**. 2017. Simulating restaurant choices with agent-based model. THATCamp. Orlando, FL. Feb. 25. (Ph.D. student)

- **Johnson, K.** and Y. Li, 2017. Assessing food environment around public elementary schools in the U.S. THATCamp. Orlando, FL. Feb. 25. (Undergraduate student)

- **Du, T.** and Y. Li, 2016. What impact the hotel distribution and performance in Manhattan through history? Evidence of GIS-based Analysis from 1820-2012. Annual Meeting of the AAG. San Francisco, CA. Mar. 30. (Ph.D. student)

- **Johnson, K. and M. Scott**. 2016. Assessing the food environment around elementary schools in the U.S. with GIS analysis. Showcase of Undergraduate Research. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Apr. 5. (Undergraduate students)

Undergraduate Student Advising

- 20-25 students/semester, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2016-2024)

Other Mentoring Activities

- Guest speaker, Proseminar, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida. Fall, 2015 – 2022, 2024.

- Panelist, FIRE Research Mentor Fair organized by College of Medicine, University of Central Florida, on Oct. 21, 2022.

- Panelist, Sociology Recruitment Virtual Open House, University of Central Florida, Oct. 20, 2022.

- Rifa Ali, 2021-2023. Focused Inquiry & Research Experience, College of Medicine, University of Central Florida. (Mentor)
  Project: The spatial distribution of charitable food assistance programs and the social vulnerability across the U.S. cities.

- Supervised our graduate student (Tracy Martins) to teach Spatial Sociology (SYA3352) in spring 2022 and summer 2022.

- Panelist, Sociology Qualifying Exam Panel Session. Oct. 21, 2021.

- Panelist, Sociology Graduate Pro-Seminar Course, University of Central Florida. Fall 2017-2022.

- Gave a presentation on academic writing at the panel session organized by the Sociology Graduate Student Association, UCF, Mar. 4, 2021.

- Panelist, FIRE Research Mentor Fair organized by College of Medicine, UCF, on Oct. 23, 2020.

- Advised our graduate student (Andrea Smith) to complete a research study and give her first research presentation at the annual Applied Geography Conference on Oct. 19, 2020.

- Attended FIRE Research Mentor Fair organized by College of Medicine, UCF, on Oct. 23, 2020.

- Supervised our graduate student (Kayla Toohy) to teach Spatial Sociology (SYA3352) in spring 2019, 2020, and 2021.

MENTORING (Auburn University)

Graduate Student Committee (Committee Chair)

- William M. Carter (M.S.), Aug. 2013 – May 2015, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University
"Socioeconomic Disparities, Community Physical Environment, and Childhood Obesity in Alabama's Black Belt Region"

- Huixuan Li (M.S.), Aug. 2013 – May 2015, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University
"Spatial-Temporal Analysis of Heavy Metal Water Pollution and the Impact on Public Health in China"

- Ting Du (M.S.), Aug. 2013 – Aug. 2015, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University
"A GIS-based Analysis of the Hotel Locations Choice in Manhattan, New York, 1820-2012"

Graduate Student Committees (Committee Member)

- Althea ArchMiller (Ph.D., School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University, 2015)

- Chris Smith (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2015)

- Brian Johnson (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2015)

- Brian Norris (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2015)

- Jeff Caudill (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2014)

- Kelly Ervin (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2014)

- Andy Hug (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2014)

- Holly Pak (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2014)

- Mahjabin Rahman (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2014)

- Drew Tunner (MS, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2013)

Undergraduate student

- 10 students (Department of Geoscience, Auburn University, 2013-2015)

Graduate Teaching/Research Assistants

- Mitch Carter
- Ting Du
- Andy Hug
- Huixuan Li

SERVICE

Department

- Committee chair, Personnel Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2024 - present.

- Committee chair, Qualifying exam committee (methods). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, Spring & Summer 2025.

- Search committee member, Assistance Professor in Medical Sociology. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2024-2025.

- Committee member, Graduate Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2024 - 2025.

- Committee member, Collective Impact Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2024 - present.

- Committee member, Qualifying exam committee (HFC). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, Summer and Fall 2024.

- Search committee member, Assistance Professor in Criminology. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2022-2023.

- Committee member, Appeal Grading Committee (SI). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, Spring 2023.

- Committee member, Personnel Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2019- 2023.

- Committee member, Undergraduate Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2022 – 2023.

- Committee member, Social Media Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2021 – 2023.

- Committee member, Qualifying exam committee (SI). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, Spring 2022.

- Committee chair, Qualifying exam committee (HFC). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2021 – 2022.

- Committee member, DEI Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2021– 2022.

- Co-chair, Structural Inclusivity Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2020 – 2021.

- Committee member, Training/Speakers Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2020 – 2021.

- Committee member, Graduate Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2018 – 2020.

- Library representative, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2017-2019.

- Committee member, Medical Sociology Program. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2017 – 2019.
- Search committee member, Assistant Professor in Medical Sociology. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2018.

- Committee member, Undergraduate Committee. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2016 – 2018.

- Committee member, Qualifying exam committee (SI). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2017 – 2019.

- Committee member, Qualifying exam committee (HFC). Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2017 – 2019.

- Search committee member, Lecturer in Sociology. Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida, 2015 – 2016.

- Co-Chair, Seminar Series Committee, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2012 – 2015.

- Committee member, Department Curriculum Committee, Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2013 – 2015.

- Committee member, Geography Curriculum Committee. Department of Geosciences, Auburn University, 2013 – 2015,

College and University

- Committee member, Sabbatical Committee. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida, 2024 – present.

- Committee member, Research Committee. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida, 2022 – 2023.

- Ad hoc reviewer, UCF Research Foundation: Understanding and Advancing Racial Equity on Social Media, 2022.

- Committee member, RIA Committee. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida, 2021– 2022.

- Committee member, Sabbatical Committee. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida, 2020 – 2021.

- Committee member, Undergraduate GIS certificate Committee. University of Central Florida, 2018 – present.

- Committee member, Graduate GIS certificate Committee. University of Central Florida, 2018 – present.
- Reviewer, UCF Seed Funding Program. University of Central Florida. Oct. 2019.

- Reviewer, UCF Undergraduate Research Journal. University of Central Florida. 2019.

- Committee member, Research Committee. College of Sciences, University of Central Florida, 2018 – 2019.

- Faculty Advisor, University of Central Florida Geospatial Information Society. 2016 – present.

- Reviewer, UCF Undergraduate Research Journal. University of Central Florida. 2016.

- Initiated the GIS Speakers Series and invited the first speaker (Dr. Fahui Wang), Apr. 19 – 20, 2016.

- Proposing and developing the Graduate and Undergraduate GIS Certificate Programs. 2015 – present.

- Establish and maintain the GIS lab in Research Park. Aug. 2015.

- Served as a judge of Graduate Research Forum. Apr. 5, 2016, and Apr. 3, 2018.

- Reviewer, Auburn University Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship, Auburn University, Oct. 2012.

Professional Services

- Editorial board member, *Applied Geography,* 2022 – present.

- Reviewer editor, *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities,* 2022 – 2024.

- External Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion, Dr. Xi Gong, University of New Mexico, 2023-2024.

- Editorial board member, *Journal of Forensic and Crime Studies,* 2016 – 2022.

- Editorial board member, *Today Science,* 2012-2015.

- Chair, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, Apr. 2020 – Apr. 2021.

- Vice chair, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2019 – 2020.

- Organized/chaired a paper session (virtual), Health Equity and Socioeconomic Disparities, at the AAG Annual Conference which was scheduled on Apr. 8, 2021.

- Organized and hosted a signature panel (virtual), Urban Planning and Resilience during the Global Pandemic, at the Annual Meeting of AAG on Apr. 9, 2021.

- Organized and hosted the Regional Development and Planning Signature Fieldtrip (virtual): Seattle's Transforming Downtown at the Annual Meeting of AAG on Apr. 9, 2021.

- Organized the evaluation of scholar and student research awards. Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2020 and 2021.

- Organized/chaired a paper session for the AAG Annual Conference which was scheduled on Apr. 8, 2020. Health and healthcare disparities (Conference canceled).

- At large member, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2018 – 2019.

- Director of Developed Countries Program, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2016 – 2018.

- Coordinator, Business Geography Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2016 – 2017.

- Organized a paper session for the AAG Annual Conference held in New Orleans, LA. Apr. 11, 2018. Social disparities, environment, and health.

- Organized a paper session for the AAG Annual Conference held in Boston, MA. Apr. 9, 2017. Socioeconomic inequalities and public health.

- Chaired a paper session for the AAG Annual Conference held in Boston, MA. Apr. 7, 2017.

- Co-organized and chaired a paper session for the Applied Geography Conference held in Atlanta, GA, Oct. 14-17, 2014.

- Chaired a paper session for the AAG Annual Conference held in Tampa, FL, Apr. 8-12, 2014.

- Co-organized/chaired a paper session for the 21st Geoinformatics Conference held in Kaifeng, China. Jun. 20 – 22, 2013.

- Chair of Developing Countries Program, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2012 – 2015.

- Newsletter Editorial Committee, Center for Spatial Information Science and Systems, Chinese Professors of GIS 2011.

- Student Representative, Regional Planning and Development Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2011 – 2012.

- CPGIS Newsletter Editorial Committee, Center for Spatial Information Science and Systems, 2010 – 2011.

- Secretary for the International Conference on Globalization, Innovation, and Urban-Regional Development, Shanghai, China, 2009.

Journal Referee:

- Annals of Association of American Geographers

- Applied Geography (17)
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine
- Auburn University Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship
- Annals of Geographic Information Systems
- Climate Research (2)
- Environment and Planning A (2)
- Frontiers (8)
- GeoJournal
- GeoForum
- Geographical Research
- Growth and Change
- Habitat International (4)
- Health Sociology Review
- Human Ecology Review (2)
- Homicide Studies (5)
- International Journal of Geo-Information
- International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology
- Journal of Applied Geography (3)
- Journal of Forensic and Crime Studies
- Journal of Moravian Geographical Reports
- Land
- Natural Hazards
- Papers in Applied Geography (4)
- PLOS ONE
- Regional Study
- Social Currents
- South African Geographical Journal
- Stochastic Environmental Research and Risk Assessment (2)
- Sustainable Cities and Society (1)
- Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie (3)
- Today Science (5)
- Universal Journal of Marketing and Business Research

Community Service

- Collaborate with over 10 senior centers in Orlando, 2024 – present.

- Collaborate with communities (e.g., Tahoe Conner Community) in City Truckee and City Encinitas, California on a project on wildfire evacuation, 2021 – present.

- Served as a reviewer for the 16th Asian Urbanization Conference, 2024.

- Served as a fellow for George H.W. Bush Foundation. Jan – Dec. 2023.

- Interviewed by New York Times and the article was published on Aug. 17, 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/17/business/kmart-stores-reuse.html

- Participated in the project of spatial-temporal variations of crime patterns with the Orlando Police Department, Orlando, FL, 2019.

- Participated in the project of Youth Food Insecurity, Orlando, FL, 2016-2017.

- Participating in the project of Age Friendly Communities and provided services for aging people, Winter Park, FL, 2015-2017.

- STEM Day: The Geospatial Avengers: The Power of Geospatial Technologies and Mapping in Society. Nov. 6, 2015

- Judge, Alabama Science and Engineering Fair, Mar. 2015

- Judge, Alabama Science and Engineering Fair, Mar. 2013

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Selected)

- Attended the training: Teaching with Generative AI: From Principle to Practice. Nov. 2024.

- Attended the training: Video Editing in Adobe Premiere for Beginners. Jul. 2024.

- Attended the event, Dr. Adia Wingfield's talk "Professional Work in a Post-Racial Era: Black Health Care Workers in the New Economy." Sept. 2022.

- Attended the online session, Publishing for Social Science Grad Students. Apr. 2022.

- Attended the online training, Culturally Responsive Mentoring. Aug. 2021.

- Attended the Inclusive Curriculum and Creating More Inclusive Classes workshops, Mar. and May 2021.

- Attended the COS Distinguished Speakers Series: A Well-Dressed Lie and Naked Truth: The Black and Southern Roots of American Sociology. Feb. 12, 2021.

- Virtual webinar: Confronting the Canon: Decolonizing and Diversifying Your Department's Curriculum. American Sociological Association. Oct. 7, 2020.

- Attended FIRE Research Mentor Fair organized by College of Medicine, UCF, on Oct. 23, 2020.

- Attended the Inclusive Communication workshop organized by ODI, UCF, in Oct. 2020.

- Attended the AKD Teaching & Learning Workshop (virtual): Teaching about race. Nov. 12, 2020.

- The National Science Foundation site visit. University of Central Florida. D.C. Feb. 23-25, 2017.

- Completed the IDL 6543. Spring, 2016. University of Central Florida.

- Attended the Summer Faculty Development Conference, May 2016 and May 2018 University of Central Florida.

- Attended the NIH regional workshop, 5/11 – 5/13, 2016, Baltimore, MD.

- Attended the NSF workshop, 3/30 – 3/31, 2016, San Francisco, CA.

- Assistant Professor Development Program. 2015-2016. University of Central Florida.

- NSF IUSE Program Webinar. University of Central Florida. September 21, 2015.

- Attended NFTS (New Faculty Teaching Scholars, 1 year program) organized by Biggio Center, Auburn University. Fall 2012-Spring 2013.

- Selected to attend the Grantsmanship workshop, Auburn University, Apr. 3-4, 2013.

- Evaluation of Teaching by Small Group Instruction Feedback (SGIF) for Economic Geography (GEOG 5350/6350) organized by the Biggio Center, Auburn University (Fall 2012).

- Attended a seminar on 'Building your career portfolio' organized by Biggio Center, Auburn University, (Fall 2012).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of American Geographers (AAG)
- American Sociological Association (ASA)
- AAG Specialty Groups: Health & Medical Geography, GIS, Regional Development and Planning, China, Asian Geography, Business Geography
- International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences (CPGIS)
- Regional Studies Association (RSA)
- Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG)
- Southern Sociological Society (SSS)