

NETHMI S. PERERA BATHIGE
Department of Geography, University of Kentucky,
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EDUCATION

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Master of Arts, Geography

Expected Graduation: May 2024
GPA:4.0/4.0

Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN
Bachelor of Arts, Biology and Geography
Concentrations: Community and Global Health, Food, Agriculture and Society

Graduated: May 2022
GPA:3.64/4.0

Smith College, Northampton, MA
Sustainable Futures Precollege Program

Completed July 2017

United World College Southeast Asia, Singapore, Singapore
International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

Graduated: May 2018
IB Score: 38/45

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Feminist Political Ecology, Critical Agrarian Studies, Water, Climate Adaptation, Food Security, Dietary Diversity, Sustainable Agriculture, Food Policy, Organic Agriculture, South Asia

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Perera Bathige, N.S. and Moseley, W.G. (2023), Snapshot of a crisis: food security and dietary diversity levels among disrupted conventional and long-term organic tea-smallholders in Sri Lanka. Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sjtg.12511>

Bathige, Nethmi, "Food security and dietary diversity among conventional and organic tea-smallholders in Central and Southern Sri Lanka" (2022). *Geography Honors Projects*. 72.
https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/geography_honors/72

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Graduate Student Researcher

June 2023 – August 2023

A Feminist Political Ecology of Climate Resilient Home Garden Projects in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone, MA Thesis, Advisor: Dr Nari Senanayake

Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN
Undergraduate Student Researcher

August 2021 – May 2022

Food Security and Dietary Diversity among Conventional and Organic Tea-Smallholders in Central and Southern Sri Lanka, Undergraduate Senior Honors Thesis, Advisor: Dr. William Moseley

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Papers Presented

Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Norfolk, VA *November 2023*
"We Treat Our Water Like Gold": A feminist political ecology of climate-resilient home gardens in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone

American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, CO *March 2023*
A Discourse Analysis on Climate Smart Agriculture Projects in Sri Lanka

Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA *November 2022*
Snapshot of a Crisis: Food Security and Dietary Diversity Levels among Disrupted
Conventional and Long-Term Organic Tea-Smallholders in Sri Lanka

Midwest Undergraduate Geography Symposium, St. Peter, MN *April 2022*
Food Security and Dietary Diversity among Conventional and Organic Tea-Smallholders
in Central and Southern Sri Lanka

American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting (Held Virtually) *March 2022*
Food Security and Dietary Diversity among Conventional and Organic Tea-Smallholders
in Central and Southern Sri Lanka

Campus Talks

Invited Lecture for GEOG 113:World Regional Geography, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *March 2022*
Food Security and Dietary Diversity among Conventional and Organic Tea-Smallholders in Central
and Southern Sri Lanka

FELLOWSHIPS/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS/HONORS/GRANTS

The Food Connection Student Opportunity Grant, University of Kentucky *May 2023*

Graduate Student Congress, Conference Award, University of Kentucky *April 2023*

Geographies of Food & Agriculture Specialty Group Award, American Association of Geographers *March 2023*

David A. Lanegran Award in Geography, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *May 2022*

Barnhardt and Withing Funds for Graduate Research Support, University of Kentucky *March 2022*

Teaching Assistantship (Tuition + Stipend), University of Kentucky *February 2022*

Action Fund Grant, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *January 2022*

Gamma Theta Upsilon Travel Award, International Geographical Honor Society *January 2022*

Collaborative Summer Research Grant, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *February 2021*

Kofi Annan Scholarship, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *December 2017*

Davis UWC Scholarship, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *December 2017*

Campus Residence Grant, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN *December 2017*

United World College Southeast Asia Scholarship, UWCSEA, Singapore, Singapore *May 2016*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Geography, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN

Teaching Assistant – Health GIS *January 2022 – May 2022*

Teaching Assistant - People, Agriculture, and the Environment *September 2020 - October 2020*

Department of Geography, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

Recitation Leader – Global Dynamics of Health and Disease *August 2023 – December 2023*

Recitation Leader – Digital Mapping *January 2023 – May 2023*

Recitation Leader – Global Dynamics of Health and Disease *August 2022 – December 2022*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Congressional Hunger Centre, Washington D.C.

Zero Hunger Intern (Remote Internship)

May 2021 - July 2021

Center for Asian and Pacific Islanders USA, Minneapolis, MN

Food Shelf Intern

May 2021 – July 2021

Arundel Metrics, Saint Paul, MN

Public Health Data Communications Intern

January 2021 - March 2021

Urban Roots, Saint Paul, MN

Market Garden Program Intern (Hybrid Internship)

September 2020 - May 2021

Urban Roots, Saint Paul, MN

Market Garden Program Intern (In-Person Internship)

September 2021 – May 2022

The Campus Center, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN

Summer Conference Assistant for Campus Operations

May 2019 – August 2019

International Student Center, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN

International Student Pre-Orientation Program Mentor

August 2019 – December 2019

De Witt Wallace Library, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN

Library Student Access and Research Aide

September 2018 – March 2020

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Dimensions of Political Ecology (DOPE) Conference & Political Ecology Working Group, University of Kentucky

Co-Chair

May 2023 - Present

Gamma Theta Upsilon Geography Honors Society, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN

Co-President

August 2021 – May 2022

MEMBERSHIPS

Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers

September 2023

American Association of Geographers

November 2022 - Present

Specialty Groups: Development Geography

Geographies of Food and Agriculture

Cultural and Political Ecology

Graduate Student

Geography Honors Society (Gamma Theta Upsilon)

March 2021 - Present

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

MN 350, Minneapolis, MN

Food Systems and Policy Agenda Team, Volunteer

August 2020 - December 2020

Lives of Commitment Program, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN
Pre-Orientation Program Member and Sophomore Leader

September 2018 - March 2020

Daraja Global Concern, United World College Southeast Asia, Singapore
Volunteer

August 2016 – May 2018

Green Fingers Local Service, United World College Southeast Asia, Singapore
Volunteer

August 2016 – May 2018