

Olivia Orosco

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Department of Geography
University of Washington
Smith Hall 408, Box 353550
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EDUCATION

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|--------------------------|-----|---|
| 2022–
2027 (expected) | PhD | University of Washington
Department of Geography, Candidate
Committee: Megan Ybarra, Victoria Lawson, Melanie Malone,
Radhika Govindrajan, Sonia De La Cruz |
| 2020 – 2022 | MA | University of Washington
Geography; Graduate Certificate in American Indian and Indigenous Studies
Thesis: “Landscapes of Un-Caring: Latina Caregivers’ Experiences in the
COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond”
Committee: Megan Ybarra, Victoria Lawson, Sonia De La Cruz |
| 2015 – 2018 | BA | Willamette University
Environmental Science, Politics Minor; <i>summa cum laude</i> with honors
Thesis: “The Cascadia Fault Earthquake: A GIS Approach to Vulnerability in
Salem, OR ”
Study Abroad: International Honors Program: Climate Change, the Politics of
Food, Water and Energy (Bolivia, Vietnam, Morocco) |

RESEARCH

environmental justice, care work, race, gardens, plant relations

Publications (*denotes first author)

Orosco, O (in submission process) “Escaping Damage: Toward Desire-Centered Garden Research for Communities of Color”

Orosco, O* and M Ybarra. (2025) “The Datification of Environmental Injustice.” *Capitalism Nature Socialism (CNS)*. 36(3), 109–125. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10455752.2024.2448671>

Orosco, O. (2025) “A Turn Toward Caring Research: Iterative Consent, Reflexive Multilingual Methods, and Reciprocal Knowledge Production.” *The Professional Geographer*. 77(4) 487-493. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2024.2404892>

Public Scholarship (Websites, Zines, Radio, Photojournalism – not peer-reviewed)

Orosco, O, B. Guzman and G. Yoon (2021) *Stories From Aileen’s- A Zine*. 40-page zine created from interviews with women who work along Pac Highway.

- Orosco, O.**, Prof Lorenzen, J. and students of SOC 358: Social Change and Resistance (2019) "Prioritizing Equity & Inclusion: Updating the City of Salem's Comprehensive Plan" <https://tinyurl.com/2p8xumzx>. Submitted to City of Salem, OR. June 10 2019.
- Orosco, O.** (2018) "The Cascadia Fault Earthquake: A GIS Approach to Vulnerability in Salem, OR." <https://willamette.digication.com/envs-495-social-landscape/current-work>. Published December 2018.
- Orosco, O** and Pockell-Wilson. C. (2018) "Environmental Privilege and Green Marketing." Worldviews Wednesday on KMUZ Willamette Wake Up. <https://kmuz.org/kmuz-programs/willamette-wake-up/>. Aired June 13, 2018.
- Orosco, O.** (2018) "The Local and the Global of Environmental and Climate Justice." Worldviews Wednesday on KMUZ Willamette Wake Up. <https://tinyurl.com/2s3ucjz8>. Aired Jan 24, 2018.
- Mariën, H. and **Orosco, O.** (2017) *I Am, Because We Are*. Poem book published from "Journeys of My Life" workshops with college access program youth.
- Orosco, O.** (2016) "Payments for Ecosystem Services: A Photojournalism Approach." 20 page photobook from grant funded research in Guatemala's Western Highlands.

AWARDS & HONORS

2025	AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship Alternate
2023	UW Geography Outstanding Departmental Service Award
2022	UW Edward L. Ullman Masters Award for Excellence in Scholarship
2018	Willamette Senior Certificate Award (Service to the Associated Students)
2018	Willamette Academic Excellence in Environmental Science
2018	Willamette Colonel Percy Willis Prize (Associated Student Body Service Award)
2018	Willamette Hull Initiative Award (Community Service Learning Award)
2018	Willamette Phi Beta Kappa Junior Inductee

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025	UW GSEE Dissertation Fellowship (\$31,500)
2024	UW Department of Geography Howard Martin Research Grant (\$3,000)
2021	UW Harry Bridges Labor Center Grant (\$5,000)
2021	UW Department of Geography Howard Martin Research Grant (\$1,500)
2021	Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship (three years tuition and stipend)
2020	UW GSEE Excellence Award: Doctoral Recruitment Fellowship (\$24,000)
2017	Willamette Green Fund Grant (\$3,000)
2016	Willamette College Colloquium Summer Research Grant (\$3,500)

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- 2026 (upcoming) “Geographies of Care: Relationality, Embodiment, and Re-Imagining Care Praxis Juntxs Roundtable.” Latinx Geographies Specialty Group Fall Workshop Series. Nov 6.
- 2022 “Landscapes of Un-Caring: Latina Caregivers’ Experiences in the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond.” GEOG 403. University of Washington. April 28.
- Harry Bridges Labor Center Awards. University of Washington Nov 14. 2021.
- 2021 “Tacoma LNG and Pipeline Politics.” CHID 250 Writing the World: The Digital & Otherwise. University of Washington. Nov 15.
- 2021 with Nicolay, A. “Love, Study, Struggle: Conversations About Education, Activism, Liberation.” SOC399 Education/Power/Resistance. Willamette University. Sept 16.
- 2019 with Kirkland, M., Prof Lorenzen, J. and Rosas Barajas, M. “Prison Gerrymandering.” Oregon State Legislature Ways and Means Committee. April 5.
- 2018 “Latinx Youth Outdoor Experiences.” Straub Environmental Center Executive Director and Advisory Board Meeting. Salem, OR. April 19.

Conference Paper & Panel Presentations (*denotes sessions organized)

- 2026 “Gardens of Desire: Place-making and Healing Geographies in Gardens of Color.” Negotiating Place: Unmaking, Crafting, and Re-imagining the City. Association of American Geographers Conference. March 17.
- *2023 “Iterative Consent as Method: A Turn Toward More Ethical Research.” Telling Our Own Stories? Collaboration and Contingency in Knowledge Production 1, 2, 3. Association of American Geographers Conference. March 26.
- 2022 “Landscapes of Un-Caring: Latina Caregivers’ Experiences in the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond.” Interlocking Oppressions and COVID-19 Session. Association of American Geographers Conference. March 4.
- 2018 Panelist and Moderator. “Alumni Voices: International Fellowships and Careers.” Fund for Education Abroad Alumni Conference, George Washington University. D.C. Nov 15.

Community Conversations

- 2022 & Panelist, “Ford Foundation Fellows Panel.” The Graduate School. University of Washington. Seattle, WA. Oct 26.
- 2021 Tech Support and Map Maker. “Taking Our Power Back: Indigenous Sovereignty and Pipeline Politics,” Zoom webinar, hosted by Seattle 350. February 18. published at: <https://youtu.be/msXO-ruT4G0>
- 2019 Organizer and Translator. “Place It: Community Visioning Workshop with James Rojas” McKay High School Auditorium, Salem, OR. February 28.
- 2018 with Flint, L. “Oregon Department of Corrections Facilitated Dialogue Program: Opportunities for Victim Awareness and Education.” Restorative Justice Summit at Willamette University. Salem. OR. April 27.

- 2018 Organizer and Panelist. “Study Abroad Journey Panel.” Willamette Academy College Access Program. Salem, OR. April 12
- 2017 with Lyons, G. “Stability: Refugee and Migrant Housing Efforts in the Salem Community.” Immigrant and Refugee Symposium, Willamette University. April 27.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Courses

Fall 2026 GEOG 478: Social Justice and the City
Instructor of Record, University Of Washington

Spring 2024 GEOG 327: Critical Remote Sensing,
TA and Lab Instructor, University of Washington

Fall 2023, Winter 2024 GEOG 360: GIS and Mapping,
TA and Lab Instructor, University of Washington

Spring 2019 SOC 358: Social Change and Resistance
Community Research and Teaching Assistant, Willamette University. Salem, OR.

Workshops and Programs

- 2022-24 BLOOM BIPOC Youth Garden Fellowship, Wa Na Wari. Seattle, WA. Summer.
- 2018 with Prof. de Onis, C. and Saldaña, M. Willamette Academy Week Long Summer Camp on Identity, Community and Communication. Salem, OR. June 26-July 1.
- 2017 with Mariën, H. Journeys of Our Lives Project, three workshop series on migration and storytelling. Willamette Academy. Salem, OR. April 7, 12, 21.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2025-current **Grant Manager**, Trees for Our Future, Seattle, WA
Managed timeline, personnel, deliverables and interagency communication for a multiyear 190k Seattle Parks Foundation, Trees and People Coalition and WA Department of Natural Resources grant on tree canopy and early childhood education.
- 2019 – 2020 **Bilingual Admin Coordinator**, Tacoma Community House, Tacoma, WA
Responsible for all administrative staff management and duties at non-profit focused on immigration, advocacy, employment and education.
- 2019 **Bilingual Student/Tutor Coordinator**, Mid-Valley Literacy Center, Salem, OR
Worked alongside the Executive Director and Communications Manager to run daily success of a small immigrant focused non-profit.
- 2017 **Environmental Justice Intern**, Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC), Portland, OR
Developed and implemented legislative and communication based environmental justice projects for the CCC, including member interviews and profiles.

2016 –2018 **Language in Motion Program Director**, Willamette University Community Service-Learning Office, Salem, OR
Responsible for a volunteer program facilitating cross-cultural sharing between Willamette students and the Salem-Keizer schools and community.

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of American Geographers (AAG)

LANGUAGES

English (native)

Spanish (heritage language- reading, writing, speaking)

French (low level speaking and reading, 9 months of immersion classes in 2014)

Wolof (basic, 9 months of resident experience in 2014)