

# **NETHMI S. PERERA BATHIGE**

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## **EDUCATION**

**The Pennsylvania State University**, University Park, PA  
Doctor of Philosophy, Geography

*Expected Graduation: May 2028*

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

*Graduated: 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](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**

**American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting**, Honolulu, HI *April 2024*  
A feminist political ecology of climate resilient home gardening projects in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone

**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

### **Academic 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

**Invited Seminar: Critical Agrarian Studies Seminar Series, Social Scientists Association**, Colombo, Sri Lanka *July 2024*  
Climate Resilient Agriculture Projects in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone - a Feminist Political Ecology Analysis

## **FELLOWSHIPS/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS/HONORS/GRANTS**

**University Distinguished Graduate Fellow, The Pennsylvania State University**, University Park, PA *February 2024*

**Development Geographies Specialty Group, Gary Gaile Travel Award**, American Association of Geographers *April 2024*

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

**Graduate Student Congress, Conference Award**, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY *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, Lexington, KY *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  
**United World College Southeast Asia Scholarship**, UWCSEA, Singapore, Singapore

*December 2017*  
*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 – Intro to Global Environmental Issues*

*January 2023 – May 2023*

*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**

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*