Aleksandra Craine (neé Ilicheva), PhD

Education

Ph.D. Geography, 2026
University of Kentucky

M.A. Geography, **2011**
California State University, Northridge (CSUN)
With Distinction

B.A. Geography/Environmental Studies, 2007
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
Cum Laude

Professional Experience

Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Centre College, 2026-present;

Graduate Instructor in Geography, International Studies and Appalachian Studies, University of Kentucky, 2021-present;

Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky, 2020-present;

Geography Instructor, Moorpark College, 2017-2020;

Private Tutor, ESL, U.S Citizenship exam prep, 2016-2020;

Geography Instructor, Santa Barbara City College (SBCC), 2016-2017;

Self-employed, Research and Production Assistant, *LAtitudes: An Angeleno's Atlas*, Heyday Books and CSUN Dept. of Geography, 2013-2014;

Research Associate, Center for Geographical Studies, CSUN, 2012-2013;

Self-employed, Contract GIS work, College of Business and Economics, CSUN, 2012;

Teaching Assistant, Clark University, Graduate School of Geography, Fall 2011;

Teaching Associate, CSUN Department of Geography, 2009-2011;

Research Assistant, CSUN Department of Geography, 2009-2010;

Student Assistant, CSUN Department of Geography, 2009.

Publications

Craine, A. and C. Gardner. 2026. Becoming-imperceptible: Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) as a form of affective immanence. *cultural geographies: 14744740261465375*.

Craine, J. and A. Craine. 2026. Fields of becoming: Bourdieu, Deleuze, and the concept of beauty in *The Substance*, in *Geography's Media Turn: Exploring the digital, affective, and unseen*, ed. Lukinbeal, C. and S. Brunn, 263-270. Princeton, NJ: Springer.

Craine, A. and O. Klein. 2025. Spatial marginalization of emotional support: Understanding public response to animals on airplanes. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers.* 115 (2): 282-298.

Craine, A. Emotional Support Animals and the Ethics of Care. *AAG Animal Geography Specialty Group Blog*, 14 February 2022. http://box2252.temp.domains/~animami8/blog/

Ilicheva, A. 2010. Wild in the city: Past, present, and future. *The Yearbook of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers*. 72: 56-72.

Other training and certificates

New Maps Plus Graduate Certificate in digital mapping, 2022
University of Kentucky

Tree Collegiate and Citizen Arboriculture Training (TreeCATs), 2025
Urban Forest Initiative, University of Kentucky

Service, department and discipline

Ad hoc workshop organizer, Preparation for SEDAAG conference, 2023

First-year graduate student peer mentor, 2022-2023

Peer reviewer, *Geoforum*, 2023

Peer reviewer, *cultural geographies*, 2022

Workshop leader, "Teaching community college," student professional development workshop series, University of Kentucky, 2021

AAG Landscape Ecology Specialty Group, Student Awards Director, 2015

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers, Annual meeting organizer, Palm Springs, CA. October 2015 (2014-2015)

Service, community

Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter (BUNS), Santa Barbara (2015-2020), Secretary of the Board of Directors, shelter caregiver

ASAP Cats Animal Shelter, Santa Barbara (2015-2016), volunteer

Ventura County High Schools Geo Challenge, Volunteer/Judge (2015, 2019)

Cooper Ecological Monitoring, Friends of Griffith Park (2007-2008), volunteer

All Courses Taught

Geography 230: Severe Storms and Weather (University of Kentucky)
Geography 130: Physical Geography (online) (University of Kentucky)
Geography 172: Human Geography (classroom and online) (University of Kentucky)
Geography 161: Global Inequalities (University of Kentucky)
International Studies 200: Introduction to International Studies (University of Kentucky)
Appalachian Studies 200: Introduction to Appalachian Studies (classroom and online) (University of Kentucky)
Geography M01: Physical Geography (classroom and online) (Moorpark College)
Geography M01L: Physical Geography Lab (Moorpark College)
Geography M02: Cultural Geography (Moorpark College)
Geography 101L/Earth Science 141L: Physical Geography Lab (Santa Barbara City College)
Geography 105: Weather Lab (CSUN)
Geography 105OL: Weather online (CSUN)
Geography 102: Physical Geography Lab (CSUN)
IDCE 310: Introduction to GIS (graduate) (TA) (Clark University)
Geography 261: Global Dynamics of Health and Disease (TA) (University of Kentucky)

Honors and Awards

College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding TA Award, University of Kentucky, 2024

Conference Travel Award, Graduate Student Council, University of Kentucky, 2023

Kentucky Society of Mapping Professionals Scholarship, 2021

Summer Research Fellowship, University of Kentucky, 2020

Royster Excellence Award, University of Kentucky 2020 (renewed for three years)

The Robert and Karen Newcomb Graduate Fellowship in Geography, CSUN, 2011

Thesis Research Grant, CSUN 2010

Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) 2008 SoCal Competition Awards, opinion and copyediting

Santa Monica College *Corsair* Newspaper "Best Beat Reporter," 2008

Invited Talks

Craine, A. "Spatial Marginalization of Emotional Support: Understanding the Animal-Human Dynamics of Care." Work in Progress Series. Animal Geography Working Group of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS). Online. November 2023.

Ilicheva, A. 2011 "Plenty of trash in the sea: garbage, animals, and ocean space."
Los Angeles Geographical Society. Los Angeles City College, May 2011.

Conference Sessions

Co-organizer and co-chair (with Courtney Berne), "New intersectionality in human-animal relations" (hybrid session). Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Honolulu, HI. April 2024.

Conference Presentations

Craine, A. 2025. "Becoming-imperceptible: Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) as a form of affective immanence." Annual Meeting, South Eastern Division of the American Association of Geographers. Lexington, KY. November 2025.

Craine, A. 2025. "Becoming-imperceptible: Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) as a form of affective immanence." Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Detroit, MI. March 2025.

Craine, A. 2024. "Spatial Marginalization of Emotional Support: Understanding the Animal-Human Dynamics of Care." Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Honolulu, HI. April 2024.

Craine, A. 2023. "Spatial Marginalization of Emotional Support: Understanding the Animal-Human Dynamics of Care." Annual Meeting, South Eastern Division of the American Association of Geographers. Norfolk, VA. November 2023.

Craine, A. 2023. "Spatial Marginalization of Emotional Support: Understanding the Animal-Human Dynamics of Care." Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Denver, CO. March 2023.

Craine, A. 2022. "The futures of Animal Geography: Where have we been and where are we going?" Panelist, Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Online. February 2022.

Craine, A. 2021. "Sunaura Taylor and the ethics of care." Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers. Online. April 2021.

Craine, A. and J. Hayes. 2018. "Climate change and tree growth: Increasing variability in southern California precipitation." Annual Meeting, Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Reno, NV. October 2018.

Ilicheva, A. 2014. "Exploring Population Density in Proximity to Freeways in Los Angeles, CA" (Poster). Annual Meeting, Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Tucson, AZ. September 2014.

Ilicheva A. and J. Craine. 2013. "Kill them all: *Spartacus* versus capitalism and empire." Annual Meeting, California Geographical Society. Los Angeles, CA. May 2014.

Ilicheva A. and J. Craine. 2013. "Kill them all: *Spartacus* versus capitalism and empire." Annual Meeting, Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. South Lake Tahoe, CA. October 2013.

Ilicheva, A. 2011 "Plenty of fish in the sea: geographies of abundance, sustainability, and ethics in regard to non-mammalian marine animals." Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers. Seattle, WA. April 2011.

Hayes, J. and A. Ilicheva. 2011. "Stand structure and dendroecology of Valley Oak in the Santa Monica Mountains." Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers. Seattle, WA. April 2011.

Ilicheva, A. 2011 "Plenty of trash in the sea: garbage, animals, and ocean space." Annual Meeting, California Geographical Society. Bishop, CA. May 2011.

Ilicheva, A. "Wild in the city: past, present and future." Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers. Washington, DC. April 2010.

Ilicheva, A. 2009. "Wild in the city: past, present and future." Annual Meeting, Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. San Diego, CA. September 2009.

Professional Membership

Kentucky Society of Mapping Professionals

Association of American Geographers (AAG)
- Landscape Specialty Group
- Animal Geography Specialty Group
- Disability Geography Specialty Group

South Eastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG)

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (APCG)

California Geographical Society (CGS)

Language Skills

Fluent in Russian
Intermediate Spanish

References

Dr. Tony Stallins, Professor of Geography, University of Kentucky, ja.stallins@uky.edu

Dr. Ted Schatzki, Distinguished Professor of Geography, Philosophy and Sociology, University of Kentucky, schatzki@uky.edu

Dr. Lynn Phillips, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Kentucky, lphil2@uky.edu

- Evaluated teaching

Dr. Matthew Wilson, Chair and Professor of Geography, University of Kentucky, matthew.w.wilson@uky.edu

- Evaluated teaching