

Nina Roberts

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Geography and Geographic Information Science
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PhD Candidate & Graduate Teaching Assistant
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Problems in urban geography including gentrification, displacement, inequality, and the impact of climate-driven redevelopment on urban populations. Ongoing research interrogates climate justice in the American Southwest through a theoretical lens engaging critical urbanist, eco-socialist, and Marxian political economy.

EDUCATION

- May 2023
(expected) **Doctor of Philosophy, Geography**
Currently ABD, dissertation in progress
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Scholar
Dissertation working title): *Seeking the “Urban Resilience Fix”: Balancing Economic Growth, Climate Change, and Social Justice in the American Southwest*
Advisor: Dr. David Wilson
- August 2016 **Master of Arts, Geography and Environmental Studies**
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois
Thesis title: *Tourism and Gentrification in the Land of Enchantment: The Discourses of Capital and Colonialism in Early Twentieth-Century Santa Fe, New Mexico*
Advisor: Dr. Dennis Grammenos
- May 2006 **Bachelor of Arts, Board of Governors and Geography**
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois
Honors Scholar • Alpha Chi • *Summa cum Laude*
- December 2010 **Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois
- June 2000 **Certificate in the Liberal Arts**
University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Basic Program of Liberal Education for Adults: 4-year study of the Western Canon

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 ***Climate Havens from the Sun Belt to the Rust Belt: Resilience, Growth, and Exclusion in the 21st century American City.*** 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (virtual conference, April 2021)
- 2019 ***Tourism and Gentrification in the Land of Enchantment: The Discourses of Capital and Colonialism in Early Twentieth-Century Santa Fe, New Mexico.*** 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Washington, DC (April 2019).
- 2015 ***Tourism and Gentrification in the Land of Enchantment: The Case of Santa Fe, New Mexico.*** 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Chicago, IL (April 2015).
- 2013 ***Aspen Mortality and Defoliation in the Santa Fe National Forest of New Mexico.*** 21st Annual Northeastern Illinois Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium. Chicago, IL (April 2013)
- 2012 ***Cerro Grande Wildfire of New Mexico: Modeling Fire Behavior in an Era of Climate Change.*** 20th Annual NEIU Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2012).
- 2011 ***Land Use Change in Northeastern Illinois: Losing Agricultural, Open, and Vacant Lands at the Turn of the 21st Century.*** 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Seattle, WA (April 2011).
- 2010 ***The Appropriation of Indigenous Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico: Tourism and the Production of Place in the Land of Enchantment.*** 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Washington DC (April 2010).
- 2009 ***Tourism in Santa Fe: Appropriation of Culture in the Land of Enchantment.*** 2009 Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Chicago, IL (March 2009), and 2009 Annual Meeting of the Illinois Geographical Society, Chicago, IL (April 2009).
- 2006 ***Geographic Literacy at the Freshman and Senior Levels: A Survey of Students at Northeastern Illinois University.*** Annual Meeting of the Illinois Geographical Society, Glen Ellyn, IL, and 14th Annual NEIU Student Research & Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2006).
- 2005 ***The Geosurvey: A Study of Earth-Related Knowledge in Three Academic Disciplines.*** 13th Annual NEIU Student Research & Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2005).
- 2005 ***Ranking Livability of Cities with GIS.*** 13th Annual NEIU Student Research & Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2005).
- 2004 ***The Effects of Geography Education on the Geographic Literacy of College Honors Students.*** Honors Council of the Illinois Region Spring Conference, Elmhurst, IL (2004), and 12th Annual NEIU Student Research & Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2004).
- 2003 ***The Cultural Landscape of Chicago: A Photographic Essay.*** 11th Annual Northeastern Illinois University Student Research & Creative Activities Symposium, Chicago, IL (April 2003).

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

Spring 2008 Roberts, N. (2008). **Geographic literacy at the freshmen and senior levels: A survey of students at Northeastern Illinois University.** *Bulletin of the Illinois Geographical Society*, 50(1), pp. 27-53.

INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Summer 2020 Geography 204: Cities of the World (Online)
Summer 2019 Geography 204: Cities of the World (Online)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2020 Geography 101: Global Development and Environment (Online)
Spring 2020 Geography 101: Global Development and Environment (Online)
Fall 2019 Geography 104: Social and Cultural Geography
Spring 2019 Geography 106: Geographies of Globalization
Fall 2018 Geography 104: Social and Cultural Geography

Teaching Recognition

Summer 2020 Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students (Geography 204)
Fall 2019 Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students (Geography 104)
Fall 2018 Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students (Geography 104)

Guest Lecturer

2014, 2016 Lecturer in several graduate and undergraduate geography courses
by invitation of Dr. Dennis Grammenos, Northeastern Illinois University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

2015-present **Freelance Academic Editor**

- Specialize in editing academic research articles for non-native English speakers
 - Edited articles published in high-ranking peer-reviewed journals
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NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2006-2018 **Office Administrator, Northeastern Illinois University**

- Dept. of Accounting, Business Law and Finance – College of Business and Management
- Office of the Dean – College of Arts and Sciences

2009-2013 **Interfaith volunteer**

- Committee membership and leadership roles
- Various institutions in Evanston, Illinois, and Chicago, Illinois

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2018 Participant, Graduate Academy on College Teaching, workshops presented by Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2012, 2013 Member, Northeastern Illinois University Interfaith Committee
- 2014-2018 Participant, NEIU Annual Learn and Lead Symposia, yearly professional development workshops and seminars held at Northeastern Illinois University
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AFFILIATIONS

Affiliate Student, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Member, American Association of Geographers
Member, Illinois Geographical Society
Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
Member, Alpha Chi National College Honors Scholarship Society

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

PhD Program, University of Illinois

August 2021	Charles R. Alexander Fellowship, Department of Geography & GIS
January 2021	George Beatty Fellowship, Department of Geography & GIS
Elected Spring 2020	Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society
August 2018	Awarded teaching assistantship with full tuition funding

Master of Arts, Northeastern Illinois University

April 28, 2017	Outstanding Student Award, Department of Geog. & Envir. Studies
April 28, 2017	Academic Achievement Award, G&ES Department
April 28, 2017	Scholarship and Service Award, G&ES Department
April 2008, 2012, 2013	University Awards of Merit in Recognition of Outstanding Research

Bachelor of Arts

May 2006	<i>Summa cum laude</i> Honors Scholar (4.0 GPA)
April 2006	Level II University Honors Program Certificate
Elected February 2004	Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society
April 2003, 2004, 2005	Honors Merit Tuition Award (full scholarship, junior & senior years)
April 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006	Award of Merit in Recognition of Outstanding Research
Fall 2002—Spring 2005	Dean's Honors List, all semesters
Spring/Fall 2003, Fall 2004	Dean's Honors Scholars List
April 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006	High Academic Achievement Award
April 2003, 2004, 2005	Highest Academic Achievement in Honors