

DILNI ABEYRATHNE

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Geography | University of Kentucky
822 Patterson Office Tower
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
(859)948-9980 | dtab224@uky.edu

EDUCATION

MA	University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences Geography with Graduate Certificate in Digital Mapping GPA: 4.0	May 2026
BA	University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences Lewis Honors College Environmental & Sustainability Studies Graduated: <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> GPA: 4.0	May 2023
BA	University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences Lewis Honors College Geography (with minor in Mapping & GIS) Graduated: <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> GPA: 4.0	May 2023
BA	University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences Lewis Honors College. International Studies Graduated: <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> GPA: 4.0	May 2023

HONORS AND AWARDS

Ellen Churchill Semple Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research Paper University of Kentucky Department of Geography	2023
Gyula Pauer Cartography Award University of Kentucky Department of Geography	2023
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences	2022
Raitz Scholarship University of Kentucky Department of Geography	2022
Gamma Theta Upsilon Honor Society University of Kentucky	2022 – present
Joseph R. Schwendeman Award University of Kentucky Department of Geography	2021 & 2022 & 2023
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society University of Kentucky	2021 – 2022

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society University of Kentucky	2020 – present
Dean’s List University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences	2019 – 2023
Otis A. Singletary Scholarship University of Kentucky Lewis Honors College	2019 – 2023

RESEARCH & OTHER EXPERIENCES

Cartography Commission University of Wisconsin-Madison <u>Role:</u> Cartographer <u>Commissioner:</u> Dr. Pablo F. Gómez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expected publication 	May - June 2025
Mapshop University of Kentucky <u>Role:</u> Cartographer & Research Assistant <u>Advisor/supervisor:</u> Dr. Matthew W. Wilson <u>Website:</u> https://mapshop.as.uky.edu	July 2021 – July 2023
Undergraduate Research Thesis - Geography University of Kentucky <u>Role:</u> Student Researcher <u>Advisor/supervisor:</u> Dr. Ted Schatzki <u>Title:</u> “Natural Realities: An Exploration of Perceptions on the Nature and Characterization of Restoration Ecologies Related to Mountaintop Removal (MTR) Mining in Eastern Kentucky”	January – May 2023
Undergraduate Research Thesis – International Studies University of Kentucky <u>Role:</u> Student Researcher <u>Advisor/supervisor:</u> Dr. Diana E. King <u>Title:</u> “Towards a Green Solace: Collective Identity, Sustainability, and Wishes for a New World”	January – May 2023
Documenting Racialized Violence in Kentucky (DRVK) Internship University of Kentucky <u>Role:</u> Intern, Cartographer, ARC/GIS Undergraduate Director of Mapping <u>Advisors/supervisors:</u> Dr. Lynn Phillips, Dr. Nikki Brown, Dr. Melanie Goan <u>Website:</u> https://drvk.createuky.net	September 2021 to May 2023
Cartography Commission Scripps College <u>Role:</u> Cartographer <u>Commissioner:</u> Dr. Wendy Cheng <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published in <i>Island X: Taiwanese Student Migrants, Campus Spies, and Cold War Activism</i> 	January 2023
Cartography Commission University of Kentucky <u>Role:</u> Cartographer <u>Commissioner:</u> Dr. Lydia Pelot-Hobbs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference visual for the 2023 American Studies Association conference 	October 2022

Summer Research Undergraduate Fellowship (SURF)**May 2022 – August 2022**

University of Kentucky

Role: Student ResearcherAdvisor/supervisor: Dr. Nari SenanayakeTitle: “Prismed Natures? Ties between the Reclamation of Mountaintop Removal Mining Sites and the Construction of Nature in Appalachia and Beyond”**Paul Edwin Potter Internship****May 2022 – July 2022**

University of Kentucky, Kentucky Geological Survey

Role: Full-time Intern, Student Researcher, CartographerAdvisor/supervisor: Dr. William HanebergTitle: “From Perished Peaks to Sliding Slopes: Mapping Landslides and Environmental Justice on Select Mountaintop Removal Sites in Eastern Kentucky”**Undergraduate Research Thesis – Environmental & Sustainability Studies****January – May 2022**

University of Kentucky

Role: Student ResearcherAdvisor/supervisor: Dr. Betsy Beymer-FarrisTitle: “Sliver Amongst the Forest: A Guide to Silvopasture in Kentucky”**Cartography Commission****June – July 2021**

University of Kentucky

Role: CartographerCommissioner: Dr. Nari Senanayake**GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Digital Mapping (GEO 109-001/003/005)**August 2025 – December 2025**

University of Kentucky | Department of Geography

Role: Teaching Assistant (recitation leader, 3 sections)Advisor/supervisor: Dr. Nick Lally**Digital Mapping (GEO 109-004/011)****January 2025 – May 2025**

University of Kentucky | Department of Geography

Role: Teaching Assistant (recitation leader, 2 sections)Advisor/supervisor: Dr. Matthew Zook**U.S. Cities (GEO 220-001) & Cities of the World (GEO 222-001)****August 2024 – December 2024**

University of Kentucky | Department of Geography

Role: Teaching Assistant (grader)Advisor/supervisor: Dr. Andrew Wood & Dr. Lynn R. Phillips**MAP PUBLICATIONS**

Cheng, W. (2023). *Island X: Taiwanese Student Migrants, Campus Spies, and Cold War Activism* (1st ed.). University of Washington Press.

Senanayake, N. (2021). Theorising liminal states of health: A spatio-temporal analysis of undiagnosis and anticipatory diagnosis in the shadow of toxic pollution. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 00, 1–15.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12504>

PRESENTATIONS

Paul Edwin Potter Intern Showcase (poster) **2022**
University of Kentucky | Kentucky Geological Survey
Title: *From Perished Peaks to Sliding Slopes: Mapping Landslides and Environmental Justice on Select Mountaintop Removal Sites in Eastern Kentucky*

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS, LEADERSHIP, & SERVICE

Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition, Lexington, KY **August 2022 – December 2024**
Position: Community member, Greenthumb connection

Sri Lankan Student Association (SLSA), University of Kentucky **August 2021 – present**
Position: Community member, EMS (Event Management System)/Events Officer, Undergraduate Representation

Greenthumb, University of Kentucky **August 2020 – May 2023**
Position: Lead coordinator, Secretary, Co-Outreach Coordinator

Sustainability Future Leaders, University of Kentucky **October 2021 – May 2023**
Position: EMS Officer

Philharmonia Orchestra, University of Kentucky **August 2019 – April 2021**
Position: 2nd violinist

Sierra Club Climate Justice League, Sierra Club **February – May 2020**
Position: Student Fellow

Girls Group, Urban Impact **September – December 2019**
Position: Volunteer

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interests: environmental science, sustainability, human-nature relations, environmental thought and understanding, environmental justice, critical/feminist/post-humanist geographies, political ecology, connections between epistemology/ideology and environmental management

LANGUAGES

Sinhala: native language, native fluency in all areas
English: second language, native fluency in all areas
Spanish & Korean: intermediate & novice in all areas, respectively

SKILLS

Software: QGIS, ESRI ArcGIS Pro, Adobe Suite (Acrobat, Illustrator, and Photoshop), ERDAS Imagine, GitHub, Blender