

Taylor Tappan, Ph.D.
Geographer | University of Kansas

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2023- **Assistant Teaching Professor.** Dept. of Geography & Atmospheric Science. University of Kansas.
- 2023 **Adjunct Professor / Lecturer.** Dept. of Geography & Atmospheric Science. University of Kansas.
- 2023 **Adjunct Professor / Lecturer.** Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies. University of Kansas.
- 2021-22 **Graduate Teaching Assistant.** Dept. of Geography & Atmospheric Science. University of Kansas.
- 2020-22 **Graduate Research Fellow.** Center for Teaching Excellence. University of Kansas
- 2020-21 **Graduate Teaching Assistant.** Dept. of Geography & Atmospheric Science. University of Kansas.
- 2019 **U.S. Dept. of Education Fulbright-Hays Fellow.** Doctoral dissertation research abroad in Costa Rica.
- 2013-18 **Graduate Research Assistant.** University of Kansas *Central America Indígena Project*. Funded by a U.S. Dept. of Defense Minerva Initiative grant.

EDUCATION

- 2022 **Ph.D. in Geography (with honors)** | University of Kansas | Dissertation title: *Conservation through Parcellation: A Geographic Account of How Cabécar Communities Stopped an Arc of Deforestation in the Costa Rican Talamanca*. Chair: Peter Herlihy. Committee: Steve Egbert, Kelly Kindscher, Brent Metz, Abel Chikanda, Jerome Dobson.
- 2015 **M.A. in Geography** | University of Kansas | Thesis title: *A Cultural Historical Geography of Schools in the Honduran Mosquitia*. Chair: Peter Herlihy. Committee members: Jerome Dobson and Steve Egbert.
- 2010 **B.A.s (with distinction) in Geography and Spanish** | University of Kansas

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Rural geography of Latin America
- Indigenous peoples' culture history, territorialities, land uses, and property rights
- Remote sensing- and GIS-based land use/land cover change mapping
- Community-based participatory research mapping
- Improving DEIB and evidence-based teaching in geography curricula

COURSES TAUGHT

GEOG 100	World Regional Geography	GEOG 358	Principles of GIS (lecture/lab)
GEOG 102	Human Geography	GEOG 526	Remote Sensing I (lab)
GEOG 104	Physical Geography	GEOG 558	GIS Spatial Analysis (lab)
GEOG 105	Physical Geography (lab)	GEOG 726	Remote Sensing II (lab)
LAC 300	Pan-American Summit	LAC 302/602	Indigenous Miskitu language (elementary/intermediate)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2019 Peter H. Herlihy and **Taylor A. Tappan** "Titling Indigenous Miskitu Territory in Honduras." *Geographical Review* 109 (1). 67-86.
- 2018 **Taylor A. Tappan** and Peter H. Herlihy. "Mapping Miskitu Subsistence Use Change in Concejo Territorial Katainasta, Honduras." *Revista Geográfica de América Central* 61e (3). 609-622.
- 2017 John H. Kelly, Peter H. Herlihy, **Taylor A. Tappan**, Andrew M. Hilburn, and Matthew L. Fahrenbruch. "From Cognitive Maps to Transparent Static Web Maps: Tools for Indigenous Territorial Control in La Muskitia, Honduras." *Cartographica* 52 (1). 1-19.

Book Chapters

- 2022 Peter H. Herlihy, Matthew L. Fahrenbruch, & **Taylor A. Tappan**. "Regaining Ground: Indigenous Populations and Territories in Central America." In Robert Holden (ed.) *Handbook of Central American History*. Oxford University Press. 57-78.

Large format maps by country

Costa Rica

- 2022 *Land use and land cover in western Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Reserve, 1986*. 1:24,000-scale. Produced from Landsat TM multispectral imagery as part of a 2019 research collaboration with the Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association. Cartographer: **Taylor Tappan**.
- 2022 *Land use and land cover in western Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Reserve, 2018*. 1:24,000-scale. Produced from Sentinel-2 multispectral imagery as part of a 2019 research collaboration with the Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association. Cartographer: **Taylor Tappan**
- 2021 *Reperto de Parcelas de Viviendas Cabécares en las Reservas Indígenas de Oso-Molejones y Shara*. 1:7,000-scale. Produced through participatory research mapping fieldwork during a 2019 research collaboration with the Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association. Cartographers: **Taylor Tappan** and Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association.
- 2021 *Reperto de Parcelas de Viviendas Cabécares en las Comunidades de Nimarí y Dorbata*. 1:7,000-scale. Produced through participatory research mapping fieldwork during a 2019 research collaboration with the Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association. Cartographers: **Taylor Tappan** and Cabécar Chirripó Indigenous Association.
- 2018 *Reserva Indígena Cabécar de Chirripó*. 1:25,000 and 1:40,000-scale. Five maps covering 750km². Produced by Central America Indígena Research Team in collaboration with Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica and Asociación de Desarrollo Integral de la Reserva Indígena Cabécar de Chirripó. Web. www.prmapping.res.ku.edu.

Guatemala

- 2018 *Departamento de Sacatepéquez*. 1:40,000-scale. Map covering 550km². Produced by *Central America Indígena Research Team* in collaboration with Universidad de San Carlos, Guatemala and Instituto Geográfico Nacional de Guatemala. Web. www.prmapping.res.ku.edu.

Honduras

- 2017 *KATAINASTA, Auhya Yari, BAKINASTA, BAMIASTA, BATIASTA, DIUNAT, Tawahka, and WAMAKKLISINASTA*. 1:50,000-scale. Eight maps covering 7,000km². Produced by *Central America Indígena Research Team* in collaboration with MASTA, FITH, UPNFM, World Bank's PATH II, GiZ, Honduran Forestry Conservation, United Nations Development Program, MOPAWI. Web. www.prmapping.res.ku.edu.

RESEARCH FUNDING

External awards

- 2021 U.S. Dept. of Education Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) for Maya-Kaqchikel indigenous language (Guatemala). Funded through University of Kansas Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$33,000** (funded, award declined)
- 2021 National Science Foundation (NSF) ICER-GEOPaths-Grad Opportunities GO. *Building a Land-Use Monitoring System for Indigenous Rainforest Territories in Central America Through Stem Education in Geospatial Technologies* (with Peter Herlihy, PI). \$347,044 (submitted, not funded)
- 2019 U.S. Dept. of Education Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (Costa Rica). **\$23,736**
- 2018 *Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers Field Study Award* for dissertation research in Talamanca region of Costa Rica. **\$1500**
- 2017 *DigitalGlobe Foundation Imagery Grant*. High resolution multispectral imagery for pre-dissertation research in Costa Rica (**satellite imagery for research**)
- 2011 U.S. Dept. of Education *Foreign Language Area Studies Scholarship* (FLAS) for Miskitu language in Nicaragua on University of Kansas Study Abroad. Funded through University of Kansas Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$7500**

University awards

- 2021 *Revolutionizing Academia Learning Community for Implementing Effective Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*. KU Center for Teaching Excellence. **\$1000**
- 2018 *General Research Fund Competition* (P. Herlihy PI; T. Tappan co-PI) for publishing digital atlas of eastern Honduras's indigenous Muskitia Region. University of Kansas Libraries. **\$7412**
- 2018 *Charles Stansifer Fellowship* for dissertation research in Costa Rica. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$5000**
- 2018 *KU Graduate Student Writing Incentive Fund* for dissertation research in Costa Rica. **\$2400**
- 2018 *Pierre A. Stouse Memorial Award* for dissertation research in Costa Rica. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$1000**
- 2017 *KU Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Scholarship* for pre-dissertation research in Costa Rica. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$2600**
- 2017 *International Programs Travel Grant* for pre-dissertation research in Costa Rica. University of Kansas. **\$1500**
- 2015 *Tinker Foundation Research Grant* for exploratory research in Costa Rica. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$1500**
- 2012 *Kollmorgen Graduate Research Scholarship* for M.A. research in Honduras. KU Dept. of Geography and Atmospheric Science. **\$500**
- 2012 *Latin American Studies Field Research Grant* for M.A. research in Honduras. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$2000**
- 2012 *Pierre A. Stouse Memorial Award* for M.A. research in Honduras. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$750**
- 2010 *Tinker Foundation Research Grant* for exploratory research in Honduras. KU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. **\$1200**

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Conference presentations

- 2023 "Cadastral-based Forest Conservation in Chirripó Indigenous Reserve, Costa Rica." *Conference of Latin American Geography*. January 3-7, 2023, Tucson, AZ.
- 2022 "Parceling the Rainforest: How Cabécar Communities Are Reshaping Forest Tenure Dynamics in Costa Rica's Largest Indigenous Territory." *American Association of Geographers*. February 25-March 2, 2022. New York, New York (online).
- 2021 "Indigenous Livelihoods, Land Tenure, and Forest Conservation in Central America: A Case Study from Costa Rica's Chirripó Reserve." *34th International Geographical Congress*. August 16-20, Istanbul, Turkey (online).
- 2020 "Indigenous Territories, Land Tenure, and Forest Conservation in Alto Chirripó, Costa Rica." 1st Place, *Graduate Research Competition, University of Kansas Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies*. June 1, Lawrence, KS.
- 2018 "Constructing and Legitimizing Indigenous Miskitu Territory through 25 Years of Land and Resource Use Mapping." *Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers*. May 21-22, San José, Costa Rica.
- 2016 "Developing Baseline Geographic Information through Participatory Research Mapping in Alto Chirripó Indigenous Reserve, Costa Rica." *American Association of Geographers* annual conference. March 29-April 1, San Francisco, CA.
- 2015 "Land Rights and Stability in Indigenous Societies of Central America." *Minerva Meeting and Program Review Conference*. September 9-10, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 "Establishing a New Indigenous Territory for the Miskitu in Honduras." *Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers*. May 26-30, Fortaleza, Brazil.
- 2013 "The Role of Schools in Shaping Miskitu Settlement Landscapes and Territoriality in the Honduran Mosquitia." *American Association of Geographers* annual conference. April 9, Los Angeles, CA.

Invited presentations

- 2023 "A Landscape View of Indigenous Land Rights and Forest Conservation in Central America." University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Dept. of Geography & Environmental Sciences. 14 April 2023. La Crosse, WI.
- 2021 "Territory, Titling, and Transformation of Neotropical Forests." *Colloquium Series at Dept. of Geography and Atmospheric Science, University of Kansas*. September 10, Lawrence, KS.
- 2020 "People and Polygons: A Hidden Layer of Land Use and Land Tenure in Costa Rica's Largest Collective Territory." *Colloquium Series at Dept. of Geography and Atmospheric Science, University of Kansas*. October 30, Lawrence, KS.
- 2019 "Prácticas y métodos claves en Investigación Cartográfica Participativa." *Escuela de Ciencias Geográficas de la Universidad Nacional*. May 13, Heredia, Costa Rica.
- 2019 "La producción de información geográfica fundacional en la Reserva Indígena Cabécar de Chirripó." Research brief for members of the U.S. Embassy's Office of Press and Cultural Affairs and the Asociación de Desarrollo Integral de la Reserva Indígena Cabécar de Chirripó. April 24, Grano de Oro, Turrialba, Costa Rica.

- 2016 “Desarrollando Información Geográfica de Base a través de las Investigaciones Cartográficas Participativas (ICP) en la Mosquitia Hondureña.” Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) *Mesoamerican Conference on Open Tenure*. May 16-20, Sololá, Guatemala.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2023 Co-lead organizer for the KU Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies’ conference *Indigenous Responses to Climate Change in Latin America*. Funded by the Center’s Title VI NRC grant. Lawrence, KS (September 28-30).
- 2021-22: Revolutionizing Academia Learning Community Fellow to improve Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in geography curricula. Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas.
- 2020-21: Doctoral Representative for Dept. of Geography and Atmospheric Science Faculty Meetings. University of Kansas.
- 2017-18 Co-lead organizer for 35th Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) in San José, Costa Rica (May 20-22, 2018).

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 2014 -- Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG)
- 2013 -- American Association of Geographers (AAG)
- Latin American Specialty Group
 - Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group
- 2021 -- International Geographical Union (IGU)
- 2020-22 University of Kansas Center for Teaching Excellence Advanced GTA Development Group
- 2015-21 University of Kansas Latin American Graduate Organization (LAGO)

LANGUAGE AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

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| Spanish | Advanced fluency in Spanish |
| Miskitu | Intermediate fluency in indigenous Miskitu of Honduras and Nicaragua |
| Maya-Kaqchikel | Basic fluency in indigenous Maya-Kaqchikel of Guatemala |
| Cartography and GIS | Advanced proficiency in map-making and spatial analysis using ESRI ArcGIS and Adobe Photoshop software |
| Remote Sensing | Advanced proficiency with satellite image processing and raster analysis using ERDAS Imagine, ESRI ArcGIS, and Adobe Photoshop software |
| Grant Writing | Broad experience applying for research grants at university- and national- level competitions |
| Pedagogy | Broad training in evidence-based teaching that promotes diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging |
| International collaboration | Broad experience organizing and leading participatory research mapping workshops in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico |

INTERNATIONAL FIELDWORK

Costa Rica

- 2022 Submit maps and GIS data to local collaborators. Affiliated institutions: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica; Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Cabécar de Chirripó.
- 2018-19 Dissertation research on land tenure and forest conservation in Chirripó Indigenous Reserve. (15 months). Affiliated institutions: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica; Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Cabécar de Chirripó.
- 2014-18 Participatory research mapping study of land use areas and Cabécar toponyms in Chirripó Reserve. 17 trips (1-2 weeks each). Affiliated institutions: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica; Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Cabécar de Chirripó.
- 2017 Pre-dissertation research on land use/cover change in Chirripó Indigenous Reserve. 1 trip (2 months). Affiliated institutions: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica; Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Cabécar de Chirripó.

Guatemala

- 2021-22 Maya-Kaqchikel language and culture study in community of Patzún. 3 trips (4-6 weeks each)
- 2014-18 Participatory research mapping study of Maya-Kaqchikel communities' toponyms in Sacatepéquez Department. 16 trips (1-2 weeks each). Affiliated institutions: Universidad de San Carlos; Instituto Geográfico Nacional de Guatemala.

Honduras

- 2013-18 Create baseline maps for Miskitu indigenous territories through participatory research mapping. 20 trips (1-10 weeks each). Affiliated institutions: Miskitu Indigenous Federation (MASTA); Tawahka Indigenous Federation (FITH); Francisco Morazán National Pedagogic University (UPNFM); World Bank's Honduran Land Administration Program (PATH II); Honduran Forestry Agency (ICF); German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ); Honduran Property Institute (IP); National Federation for Autochthonous Groups in Honduras (CONPAH).
- 2010-12 M.A. field research on origin and diffusion of elementary education in Honduran Muskitia region. 2 trips (6 weeks each).

Mexico

- 2010-11 Conduct undergraduate and early graduate research on forest cover change in the Huasteca region of San Luis Potosí. 3 trips (2 weeks each).
- 2008 Conduct undergraduate research on *México Indígena Project* in Oaxaca to study the effects of government-sponsored land privatization on indigenous Zapotec *ejidos* and *comunidades agrarias*. 1 trip (2 weeks).

Nicaragua

- 2009-13 Research and teach indigenous Miskitu language and culture on KU Study Abroad. 3 trips (2009, 2011, 2013; 6 weeks each).

Panama

- 2014 Research indigenous Wounaan-Emberá land tenure in Panamá City and in Darién Province. 1 trip (2 weeks).