

Graham Pickren

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2015 - **Assistant Professor of Sustainability Studies**, Roosevelt University
- 2015 **Visiting Scholar**, University of Sydney (Australia), Business School (December)
- 2014 – 2015 **Postdoctoral Teaching and Learning Fellow**, University of British Columbia, Department of Geography and Vantage College
- 2013 – 2014 **Instructor**, University of Georgia, Department of Geography

EDUCATION

- 2013 **Ph.D.**, University of Georgia, Geography.
Understanding the Emerging E-Waste Regime: The Politics of Certification and Labeling in the Electronics Recycling Industry
Supervised by Dr. Nik Heynen
- 2008 **M.A.**, University of Georgia, Geography.
Invisible Housing: Social Movement Responses to the Studentification and Displacement of Urban Manufactured Housing Communities. Supervised by Dr. Nik Heynen
- 2005 **B.A.**, Virginia Commonwealth University, Sociology.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Urbanization • Technology, Environment, and Society • ‘Big Data’, Data Centers, and Web Infrastructure • Urban Political Ecology • Economic Geography • Sustainability and Policy • The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) • Service Learning

-PUBLICATIONS-

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Pickren, G. (Forthcoming) “The Global Assemblage of Digital Flow’: Critical Data Studies And The Infrastructures Of Computing”. *Progress in Human Geography*.

- McGrath-Champ, S., Rainnie, A., **Pickren, G.**, Herod, A. (2015) "Global Destruction Networks, the Labour Process and Employment Relations". *The Journal of Industrial Relations*. 57(4), September 2015, special issue on Supply Chains.
- Pickren, G.** (2014) "Making Connections Between Global Production Networks for Used Goods and the Realm of Production: A Case Study on E-Waste Governance". *Global Networks: a Journal of Transnational Affairs*. doi: 10.1111/glob.12071
- Pickren, G.** (2014) "Geographies of E-Waste: Towards a Political Ecology Approach to E-Waste and Digital Technologies". *Geography Compass*. 8(2): 111-124 doi: 10.1111/gec3.12115
- Pickren, G.** (2014) "Political Ecologies of Electronic Waste: Uncertainty and Legitimacy in the Governance of E-Waste Geographies". *Environment and Planning A*. 46(1): 26-45 doi:10.1068/a45728
- Herod, A., **Pickren, G.**, Rainnie, A., and McGrath-Champ, S. (2014) "Global Destruction Networks, Labour, and Waste". *The Journal of Economic Geography*. 14 (2): 421-441.
- Herod, A., **Pickren, G.**, Rainnie, A., and McGrath-Champ, S. (2013) "Waste, Commodity Fetishism, and the Ongoingness of Economic Life". *Area*. 45(3): 376-382 doi: 10.1111/area.12022
- Pickren, G.** (2012) "'Where Can I Build My Student Housing?' The Politics of Studentification in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia". *Southeastern Geographer* 52(2): 113-130.

Revise & Resubmit

- McPhee, S., and **Pickren, G.** "Blended Learning with International Students: A Multiliteracies Approach". *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Rainnie, A., Herod, A., McGrath-Champ, S., and **Pickren, G.** (forthcoming) "Wasted Commodities, Wasted Labour? Global Production and Destruction Networks and the Nature of Contemporary Capitalism" Kirsty Newsome, Philip Taylor, Jennifer Bair, and Al Rainnie (eds.) *Putting Labour in its Place*. Palgrave: London, UK.
- Herod, A., **Pickren, G.**, Rainnie, A., and McGrath-Champ, S. (forthcoming) "Innovation, Development and Global Destruction Networks" Harald Bathelt, Patrick Cohendet, Sebastian Henn, and Laurent Simon (eds.), *The Elgar Companion to Innovation and Knowledge Creation*. Edward Elgar: Cheltenham, UK.

Heynen, N. and **Pickren, G.** (2011) "Killing for Liberalism: How the U.S. Department of Peace might be Antithetical to a Non-killing Geography". In J. Inwood and J. Tyner (Eds.) *Non-killing Geographies*. Honolulu, Hawai'i: Center for Global Nonkilling.

BOOK REVIEWS

Pickren, G. (2012) *Recycling Reconsidered: The Present Failure and Future Promise of Environmental Action in the United States*. By Samantha Macbride, MIT Press. 2011. *Environment and Planning A* 44(6): 1523-1524.

BLOGS

Contributor and Co-Editor, Sustainability Studies @ Roosevelt University.
RUsustain.wordpress.com

GRANTS & AWARDS

Under Review

\$340,000 Principal Investigator. 'Bringing the Clouds down to Earth: A Comparative Study of Data Center Geographies and Regional Development'. Three-year project on data centers as a driver of urban, economic, and environmental change. *National Science Foundation – Geography and Spatial Sciences, Regular Research Award*. Submitted September 2016. Co-PIs: Mél Hogan (Communications, University of Calgary); Vicki Mayer (Communications, Tulane University).

In Preparation

\$13,000 Co-Principal Investigator. 'From Deindustrialization to Petcoke: Confronting Environmental Injustice in Chicago Through Experiential Learning'. *The Joyce Foundation*. December 2016.

Received

\$5,000 *Research Award* (2015). Roosevelt University, Office of the Provost.

\$5,000 *Visiting Scholar Travel Award* (2015). Awarded by the University of Sydney Business School, Australia.

\$4,000 *Travel Award* (2014). Summer Institute in Economic Geography in Frankfurt, Germany, July 19-26. Awarded by the journal *Economic Geography*, Goethe University, and the University of Georgia Department of Geography.

\$250 *Travel Award* (2013). Funding for presenting a paper at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting. Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers.

- \$500 *Travel Award* (2013). Funding for presenting a paper at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting. Awarded by the University of Georgia Graduate School.
- \$1,000 *Green Governance: Governing the geographies of used electronics through voluntary certification labels* (2012). Association of American Geographers Research Grant.
- \$1,400 *Improving Electronic Waste Recycling* project (2012). University of Georgia Campus Sustainability Grant.
- \$500 *Travel Award* (2012). Funding for presenting a paper at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting. Awarded by the University of Georgia Graduate School.
- €8,000 *Solving the E-Waste Problem (StEP) E-Waste Summer School* (2011) September 10-23 in Western Europe. Funded by the United Nations University.
- \$900 *Travel Award* (2009). Funding for presenting a paper at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting. Awarded by the University of Georgia Graduate School.
- \$18,500 per year *Graduate Teaching Assistantship* (2007-2013). Awarded by the University of Georgia Department of Geography.

HONORS AND INVITATIONS

Visiting Scholar (2015) University of Sydney Business School (Australia)

Invited Participant (2014). *7th Summer Institute in Economic Geography*. Weeklong international conference, competitive application. Held at Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany, July 20th - 26th.

The Matthew Miller Award (2012). "In recognition of your dedicated service, active involvement, and commitment to the University of Georgia Geography Department". Department of Geography at the University of Georgia.

Invited Participant (2011), *Antipode's 3rd Institute for the Geographies of Justice*. Weeklong international conference, competitive application. Held at the University of Georgia, May 30th-June 3rd.

University of Georgia Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (2009-2010). Annual Award which recognizes the top 10% of all University teaching assistants.

TEACHING (Instructor of Record)

Roosevelt University, Sustainability Studies (August 2015 – present)	
SUST 310 <i>Energy and Climate Change</i>	Course focuses on drivers of climate change as well as policy solutions. Fall 2016, 12 students.
SUST 240 <i>Waste, Environmental Justice, and Policy</i>	Course using waste to demonstrate the intersections of social, economic, political, and environmental relationships. Fall 2015, 16 students.
SUST 320 <i>Sprawl, Transportation, and Planning</i>	Course on the built environment and related issues of sustainability. Fall 2015, 23 students.

University of British Columbia, Vantage College (new program for first-year international students) (July 2014 – May 2015)	
GEOG 121 <i>Geography, Globalization, and Modernity part 1. Co-taught with Dr. Siobhán McPhee (geography)</i>	Historical geography course on the development of the modern world, 1750 - 1914. Fall 2014, 85 students.
VANT 148 <i>Vantage College Multidisciplinary Research Project. Co-taught with Dr. Mark Lam (psychology)</i>	Course on social science epistemologies and research methods. Fall 2014 and Winter 2015, 85 students
GEOG 122 <i>Geography, Globalization, and Modernity part 2. Co-taught with Dr. Siobhán McPhee</i>	Historical geography course on the development of the modern world, 1914 – present. Winter 2015, 100 students

University of British Columbia, Department of Geography (July 2014 – May 2015)	
GEOG 364 <i>Globalization, Cities, and Regions.</i>	Urban geography course on global cities. Winter 2015, 30 students.

University of Georgia, Department of Geography (Spring 2009 – May 2014)	
GEOG 3640 <i>The Geography of Human Rights</i>	Upper-level course on human rights and geopolitics. Fall 2013, 30 students.
GRSC 7770 <i>Graduate Teaching Assistant Seminar</i>	Graduate-level course providing pedagogical training to new teaching assistants in Geography. Fall 2012, 6 students
GEOG 1101 <i>Introduction to Human Geography.</i>	Introductory course covering the various sub-fields of human geography. Spring 2009 – Spring 2014. Thirteen sections.

-PRESENTATIONS-**PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

Pickren, G. (2016) "Ethnographies of Infrastructure: Adaptive Reuse, Fiber Optics, and Railroads". *Association of American Geographers* annual meeting in San Francisco, March 29 – April 2.

Pickren, G. (2016) "The Global Assemblage Of Digital Flow': Big Data And New Geographies Of Infrastructure". *Dimensions of Political Ecology* at the University of Kentucky, February 26-27.

Pickren, G., and McGrath-Champ, s. (2015) "Geographies of Making: Urban Makerspaces as Hubs for Economic Alternatives?". *Asia-Pacific Researchers in Organization Studies* at the University of Sydney, Australia; December 10th.

Pickren, G. (2015) "Critical Pedagogy in an English as a second language (ESL) setting". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers* in Chicago; April 25th.

Herod, A, **Pickren, G.,** Rainnie, A., and McGrath-Champ, S. (paper presented by Andy Herod) (2015) "Waste recycling as a source of raw materials for new products – exploring the concept of Global Destruction Networks". *International Symposium on Social Sciences and Management* in Tokyo; Feb 3-5.

Pickren, G. (2014) "Factories of the 21st Century': Data Centers, Cloud Computing, and the Search for an Energy Fix". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers* in Tampa; April 12th.

Pickren, G. (2013) "Waste Geographies and Value Chain Studies". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers* in Los Angeles; April 9th-13th.

Herod, A, **Pickren, G.,** Rainnie, A., and McGrath-Champ, S. (paper presented by Al Rainnie) (2013). "Global Destruction Networks, labour, and waste". *31st International Labour Process Conference* ("The Missing Link: Integrating Labour with Global Value Chains"). New Brunswick, NJ; March 18th-20th.

Pickren, G. (2013) "Global Destruction Networks, labor, and waste". *The Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*. University of Kentucky; February 28th-March 3rd.

Pickren, G. (2012) "Waste or resource? Accounting for agency in e-waste recycling networks". *19th Annual Critical Geography Conference*. University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill; November 2nd-4th.

Pickren, G. (2012) "Politics, scale, and materiality in the certification of electronic waste recyclers". *The Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*. University of Kentucky; April 13th.

Pickren, G. (2012) "Green Labeling: Reforming electronics recycling through voluntary labeling schemes". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers*. New York City; February 25th.

Pickren, G. (2011) "Factories with fences': The prison e-waste recycling factory at the intersection of green governance and labor market discipline". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers*. Seattle, Washington; April 15th.

Pickren, G. (2011) "Greening the Prison: The Possible Contradictions of Prison Labor Certification". *The Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*. University of Kentucky; February 19th.

Pickren, G. (2009) "Modernity's 'Other': Poisoned Landscapes and Unskilled Workers in the 'Smart' Digital Age". *The 16th Annual Critical Geography Conference*. University of Georgia; October 23rd.

Pickren, G. (2008) "Invisible Housing: Social Movement Responses to the Studentification and Displacement of Urban Manufactured Housing Communities". *The 15th Annual Critical Geography Conference*. Ohio University; October 3rd-4th.

Pickren, G. (2008) "Invisible Housing: Social Movement Responses to the Studentification and Displacement of Urban Manufactured Housing Communities". *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers*. Boston, Massachusetts; April 18th.

Pickren, G. (2007) "Invisible Housing: Social Movement Responses to the Studentification and Displacement of Urban Manufactured Housing Communities". *The Mini-Critical Geography Conference*. University of Kentucky; October 5th.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS ORGANIZED

Pickren, G., and Bowen, J. "The Political Ecology of Urbanization: UPE Beyond the City?". Session organized at DOPE 2016.

Pickren, G. (2012) Session Organizer for "Political Ecology, Culture, and Waste I, II, and III" (Three sessions). *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers* in New York City; February 25th.

Pickren, G. (2011) Session Organizer, "What do we do with all this stuff? Exploring the materiality of the 'digital age'". Transdisciplinary workshop organized for *The Making Ends Meet Workshop - Interpretive/Critical Research Across the University on Media, Communication, Culture, and Representation* at the Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia, March 26th.

INVITED WORKSHOPS

Pickren, G. (2012) Panelist at post-film discussion of *Blood in the Mobile*, a film about conflict mining. *EcoFocus Film Festival*, University of Georgia, March 27th.

Pickren, G. (2011) “Green Labeling: Governing the geographies of used electronics through voluntary certification”. Presentation given at the *Solving the E-Waste Problem (StEP) E-Waste Summer School* at Philips High-Tech Campus in Eindhoven, Netherlands on Friday September 16th.

Group Presentation (Solving the E-Waste Problem Summer School) (2011). “Closing Loops – Complexities and solutions in managing e-waste”. Three hour workshop organized for the *World Resources Forum* in Davos, Switzerland; September 19th.

INVITED LECTURES

Pickren, G. (2014) “Digital Technologies and the Environment”. Lecture for Dr. Denver Nixon’s 348 Globalization and Environment. Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, November 6th.

Pickren, G. (2011) “The Materiality of the Digital Age”. Lecture for Dr. Amy Ross’s Geography 2010 People, Places and Cultures (Honors). Department of Geography, University of Georgia, October 27th.

Pickren, G. (2011) “The Materiality of the Digital Age”. Lecture for Dr. Peggy Kreshel’s Freshman Year Odyssey Seminar ‘Branding and the Age of Consumerism’ in the Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communication, October 20th.

Pickren, G. (2010) “The Myth of Green Capitalism?” Lecture for the Georgia Workshop on Culture, Power, and History, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia. April 27th.

Pickren, G. (2007) “Poverty in Athens”. Lecture for Dr. Amy Ross’s Geography 1101 People, Places, and Cultures. Department of Geography, University of Georgia, November 27th.

Pickren, G. (2007) “Poverty in Athens”. Lecture for Matthew Mitchelson’s Geography 3620 Economic Geography. Department of Geography, University of Georgia, November 19, 2007.

CONSULTING

Pickren, G. (June 2011). “Due Diligence for Recyclers”. Legal research for the NGO Basel Action Network, Seattle, WA.

MEDIA, SERVICE, & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Lead organizer with UGA Office of Sustainability and UGA Hillel, *Dawgs Ditch the Dumpster*. May 1st-May 9th, 2012. Event held to collect items from the dorm move-out week at UGA. Collected items are donated to local charities and non-profits. Donated \$15,000 worth of items. Funded by UGA Office of Sustainability Grant.

Co-organizer with UGA Office of Sustainability and Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department, *The Earth Week Recycling Happy Hour*. April 19th, 2012. Event allows campus and non-campus community to drop-off difficult to recycle items such as electronics, Styrofoam, batteries, and lamps.

Interview on Georgia Public Broadcasting, WUGA 91.7fm about Earth Week events organized in Athens. Aired on 4/16/12.

Session Convener/Research Mentor, *The 2011 Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium* at the University of Georgia, April 4th, 2011.

Pickren, G. Conference Organizer, *10th Annual Geography Undergraduate Conference* at the University of Georgia Department of Geography April 17th, 2009.

JOURNAL REFEREE FOR

Environment and Planning A

Journal of Economic Geography

Geoforum

Antipode

Progress in Human Geography

Competition and Change

Global Networks: A Journal of Transnational Affairs

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2015 -	Sustainability Strategic Plan implementation committee, Roosevelt University
2014-2015	Program and curricula development for Vantage College, University of British Columbia
2011-2012	Chairperson, Geography Graduate Student Association, University of Georgia
2009-2010	Graduate Student Association Representative, University of Georgia
2008-2009	Graduate Student Faculty Representative, University of Georgia

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2007-2008 Volunteer with Mad Housers (building homes for the homeless),
Athens, GA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of American Geographers (AAG)
Cultural & Political Ecology Specialty Group (AAG)
Economic Geography Specialty Group (AAG)